

Hello fellow club members,

The curling season is fast approaching as is the opening of our club. The AGM is scheduled for Oct 5 and we are planning to accommodate members at the club as well as virtually through a web application – ZOOM! Details will be forwarded to you closer to the meeting date.

Many of you are wondering what safeguards will be in place at the club for our return to play.

This is what you can expect:

- Players are to arrive at the club 15 minutes before their scheduled game time – dressed for play, warmed up and ready to play
- At this time entry will be via the front doors only
- When entering the club players are required to wear masks
- Players will be required to do a self-assessment for Covid symptoms – if you do not feel well – do not enter the club
- Players have to register their attendance before beginning play (hopefully via a CurlON secure APP)
- Players will either proceed to their locker to change from street shoes and to store their coats or into a clearly defined area, by the glass, to do the same
- When it is time for the game to start players will proceed out to the ice area to begin play
- After the game players will exit the ice and retrieve their street shoes and coats
- Players are encouraged to socialize in the lounge after their game and enjoy their favorite beverage - 40 minutes is allocated after each draw. There will be 60 minutes between games which allows for cleaning in the lounge and no cross traffic between draws
- Players exit via the back door only.

MASKS

- Members are required to wear a mask at all times when in the club with 2 exceptions:
 - 1) When seated at a table in the lounge
 - 2) Wearing of masks is optional in the ice area when playing the game

LOCKERS

- Members are permitted to use lockers – we are asking that shared lockers are only with people within your ‘bubble’ – also lockers are required to be wiped down periodically - paper towel and disinfectant spray will be provided for you to do this
- Members are required to wear masks in the locker rooms please do not overcrowd the locker rooms at any time
- Hand sanitizer will be available in the locker rooms
- Access to the locker rooms will be via the door closest to sheet 1 and exit via the door closest to sheet 6 – these doors will be clearly marked plus there will be directional arrows

BATHROOMS

- Bathrooms will be cleaned regularly by the club cleaning contractor
- Paper towel and disinfectant spray will be available in each washroom for members to clean up their own ‘touch points’ a garbage can will be outside the washroom to dispose of the waste towel
- Please use common sense and do not overcrowd the washrooms (members are required to wear a mask)

LOUNGE

- We are fortunate at the STCC to have a large lounge area that will allow us to have enough tables to seat 48 with physical distancing
- Four people per table – whenever a person gets up from a table they are required to wear a mask
- There will be a physical barrier (plexi-glass) in place between the bar staff and members
- Bar staff will be equipped with PPE
- Please do not create a long line up at the bar – there will be standing areas clearly marked on the floor
- We are in the process of securing a ‘tap’ terminal for contactless payment at the bar

GAME PLAY

- Games will follow the Curling Canada Protocol – this has already been sent out to the membership – if you need that information please ask. Instructions will be posted at both ends of each sheet
(this protocol actually allows for physical distancing on the ice during the game).
- No hand shaking before the game, no coin tosses. Even though the scoreboards will be cleaned try to avoid using them (e.g. use a phone or other counting device if possible)
- Game finish times are critical to make the system work – so no end to begin 15 minutes prior to the finish of your scheduled game time.
- Games can be of any length (6, 7, 8 ends) as pre-determined by your league.

TRAFFIC FLOW

- You will not be required to remember all of this – there will be plenty of signage, directional arrows and reminders in the club
- Traffic flow has been designed to minimize interaction and maximize adherence to physical distancing

CLEANING and SANITIZING

- We are very pleased to share with you that one of our members (yet again) has stepped up to help. Chris Krasowski with ALL CLEAR DISINFECTING is bringing state-of-the-art sanitizing to our club
Chris's company provides expert Covid remediation and Chris has offered to perform a disinfection of our club that gives a 30 day protection shield. Chris has also offered to do this on an ongoing basis at our club. In addition, he has given us some very supportive advice toward your board's efforts in this area – thank you Chris
- Cleaners will be cleaning the club daily
- Bar staff will be wiping down the tables, chairs and touch points in the lounge after each draw
- Ice techs will be wiping down rock handles and scoreboards before each game
- There will be hand sanitizing stations at both the front and back door areas as well as throughout the club including the ice arena

MEMBER PARTICIPATION

- **None of this will be as effective if you are not willing to participate fully in these safety measures – we trust that you will be as diligent in caring for your fellow club members as you are with yourself.**
- **Please remember that circumstances can change rapidly - we only have to look back to last March and remember what has transpired since – who would have thought?**
- **There a lot of changes – however there are also changes at the grocery store, restaurants, banks etc.**
- **Basically a lot of this is common sense – maintain physical distancing as much as possible and wear a mask!**

We hope that this somewhat lengthy message will allay some of your concerns about returning to play. We realize that for some of you even a minimal risk is too much and for others the comfort of returning to play right now is just not there.

We hope to see you in January or, failing that, next season.

Without a doubt the safety of our members is our biggest concern. Some of you have expressed concern over the financial ramifications of installing the ice and then not having enough participation to make it worthwhile. Some of you have also expressed concern over the occurrence of a “second wave” and a return to ‘lock down’. These are legitimate concerns and ones that we have considered. We also took into account that we have fixed costs throughout the year whether we curl or not – these bills still have to be paid. We are hoping that with all the measures that we have put in place that a majority of our members will return to play. With early registration set to roll out we will garner information on what member participation will look like for the season before getting too deep into the start-up process.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM personally or perhaps virtually and also to seeing you on the ice.

Colin Sinclair
President
On behalf of your Board