

CANADIAN STICK CURLING ASSOCIATION (CSCA) RULES



Rules of Play

The CSCA applies the Rules of Curling for General Play, as approved by Curling Canada with the exceptions noted in this document. These rules have been re-formatted from the Curling Canada rule book.

(1) Teams

Each team is comprised of two players regardless of gender.

- One member of each team stays at each end of the rink and must not cross centre ice (except as provided for in section (5)).
- The two delivering curlers alternate delivering six stones each per end, while their teammates skip that end. Then the roles are reversed.

(2) Duration of the Game

All games are six ends.

(3) Play of the Game

- Each stone must be delivered with a delivery stick, from a standing or sitting (in a wheelchair) position.
- A stone is in play when it reaches the hog line at the delivering end.
- A stone that has not reached the hog line at the delivering end may be returned to the player and redelivered. The player will redeliver the same called shot and ice.
- Sweeping/brushing is not allowed between the hog lines.
- The first three stones delivered in any end may not be removed from play before delivery of the fourth stone of that end. When any stone is removed from play prior to the fourth stone of the end, directly or indirectly and without exception, the delivered stone is removed from play and any other displaced stones replaced as close as possible to their original position(s).

(4) Point of Delivery

- In the case of a wheelchair player, or a player throwing with a delivery stick from a stationary standing position between the top of the house and the near hogline, the stone must begin from a point within 18 inches of the center line.
- When the player delivers the stone from an area between the hack and the outermost edge of the top of the house at the delivery end, a portion of the stone must be touching the centre line prior to starting the delivery.

(5) Time-outs

- Each team may call a maximum of two, 90 second, time-outs during a game.
- During an extra end, one time out per team is allowed.

- Whenever a time out is called, the team calling the time out may consult anywhere on the ice surface, including in the playing area inside the hog line of the receiving end.
- Whenever a time out is called, the opposing team may consult outside the hog line of the receiving end or on the boards but not in the playing area inside the hog line of the receiving end.

(6) Extra Ends

- In case of a tie, an extra end is played, with each player delivering three stones.
- The curlers exchange roles at the mid-point of an extra end to complete the end.

(7) Ice Player Assistants (IPA)

- A wheelchair curler, or competitors with declared and confirmed mobility issues, if they so choose, may have a designated IPA during play, for each impacted curler.
- The IPA may hold/brace the wheelchair and position/clean rocks for delivery.
- The IPA may sweep only at the direction of the team members with line-direction provided by the delivering team member and weight-direction provided by the non-delivering team member, who must be positioned off to the side of the sheet.
- The IPA would also catch wayward stones when needed.
- IPAs may not be involved in the shot calling or strategy discussions during a game. In the event that an IPA is the declared coach of the team they could participate in strategy only during the approved timeouts during the game.
- For safety reasons the IPA must wear proper footwear to actively participate on the ice.

(8) Curling Canada Rule 17: Curling with a Delivery Stick

- The use of a curling aid commonly referred to as a “delivery stick”, which enables the player to deliver a stone without placing a hand on the stone handle, is considered acceptable.
- The use of a delivery stick is not allowed in events leading to Curling Canada championships. Exception: Wheelchair Curling and Curling Club Championships.
- If a player starts a game with a delivery stick, then that player shall use a delivery stick throughout that game.
- A player may not alternate delivery from the traditional hand delivery to a delivery stick or vice-versa.
- If delivery begins from the hack, then players using the delivery stick must adhere to Rule 8(1) and 8(2). The stone must be delivered along a straight line from the hack to the intended target broom.
- The delivery may also begin anywhere along the centre line with a portion of the stone touching the centre line prior to the delivery. The stone must be delivered along a straight line from this position on the centre line to the intended target broom.
- A stone delivered with a delivery stick must be released before it reaches the hog line at the delivering end. Rule 8(5).
- All other delivery rules apply

CSCA Rules Interpretation Guide

Use of the delivery stick

Players have the option of holding the delivery stick with one or both hands during play. If using both hands, it is permissible to drop one hand before releasing the stone.

Delivering the stone

Once a player's first stone has been delivered, the delivering party must use that delivery position for the duration of the game.

- If the stone is delivered from the left hack it must continue to be delivered from the left hack.
- If the stone is delivered from a point on the ice surface other than the hack, including behind the hack, it must be delivered from that position for the duration of the game.
- The stone must be delivered with the same hand for the duration of the game.

Sweeping

- Whereas there is no sweeping between hog lines, the non-delivering team member may cross the hog-line to follow the delivered stone to the house.
- Sweeping of the stone may not begin until the rock has touched the hog line.
- Sweeping of the opponent's stone may begin once the running edge has touched the t-line.

Violation of rules

- In league play at the club level, if a team violates a rule such as releasing the rock after it has crossed the hog-line or beginning to sweep before the rock has crossed the hog-line the opposition may bring this to their attention.
- In competitive play, such as provincial and national championships, the opposition should bring the rule violation to the attention of the official.

Stabilizing a wheelchair

- The use of an Ice Player Assistant (IPA) is highly encouraged by all wheelchair curlers to brace their chair during delivery.
- National and provincial level championships should have volunteer IPAs available for wheelchair participants (if they do not have a designated IPA on their team).
- If an IPA is not available a rubber gripper may be used under the wheel of the chair in order to stabilize it during delivery. The off-ice official may inspect the gripper to ensure that it will not cause damage to the ice.

Ice Player Assistants

- Wheelchair curlers may include a designated IPA as a member of their team. The IPA will participate in every game, subject to the rules for spares.
- Should a wheelchair curler use a volunteer IPA it is possible that they may have to use different IPAs during the competition, depending upon the availability of IPAs.

Use of Officials

- Officials are required for provincial and national level competition.
- Officials should be asked to resolve any issue regarding a rule violation.
- Officials should be available before the competition, when teams are practising, to time their practice on each sheet of ice and to have them move at the allotted time.