

SACKVILLE CURLING CLUB – UPDATE – 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

REGISTRATION AND CURLING PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON

I would like to offer a few comments and pass on some information as to how we see our upcoming curling season. I can appreciate that you have many questions as to how things will operate under the current provincial guidelines and how we will work to mitigate risk during the pandemic.

If you have gone shopping, attended medical/dental offices, hospitals, etc., you will be very familiar with most of the actions and procedures we plan to implement at our club. This will include social distancing, hand washing/sanitizing, cleaning of high touch surfaces and of course use of face masks. The board is currently working on how we will implement these and other safety precautions in the club and on the ice. This is not complicated work but it is time consuming. We need to look at each area of the club, hallways, locker rooms, bar area, ice shed etc. and develop a procedure for people to move, sit and play while respecting social distancing guidelines. I ask for your patience as we sort out these details.

This is some of what we know at the moment but keep in mind that the situation is fluid and we will have to make adjustments as required once our season is underway.

1. Masks will be required when moving in the club with the exception of during play on the ice and when seated at a table of 4 in the lounge.
 - a. Mask must be worn when you enter or leave the club
 - b. Mask must be worn when you enter or leave the ice surface
 - c. Mask must be worn when walk from your table to the bar
 - d. Mask must be worn anytime you cannot maintain adequate physical distance
 - e. Masks may be removed when on the ice surface when physical distancing guidelines are being followed
 - f. Mask may be removed when seated at a table in the bar area where physical distancing guidelines are being followed
2. Locker rooms, bathrooms, public areas will have **clearly posted capacity limits** designed to allow for adequate physical distancing.
3. League schedules may be adjusted to allow more time between draws for people to enter and exit the ice. Men may be asked to enter and exit through the men's locker room to reduce the traffic in the hallway.
4. Volunteers will be recruited to help with an orderly flow of players on and off the ice as well as sanitizing high touch areas, etc.
5. All people will be required to sign in each time they enter the club and answer the COVID screening questions.

This is not a complete description, nor a final version; however it will give you a flavor of how things will look. It is the board's intention to do our utmost to provide a safe and fun curling season for our members.

One question that needs to be addressed is **"what happens if we are forced to cease operations due to COVID restrictions etc. will I get a refund on my membership fee"** the quick answer is no, there will be no refunds. The club has financial obligations that must be met regardless of any forced or voluntary shutdown. I would ask all of our members to treat this year's fees as an investment in the future viability of our club and future years of curling. We know that the ladies will not be holding their Craft Show and Sale, as well we will probably be unable to hold bonspiels, both of these items plus many more will cause a financial strain on our budget. Even if you are not sure that you will curl or if you don't intend to curl this season due to COVID, I would ask that you consider paying your membership fee. It would be fantastic if we manage a full season of near normal curling. Only time will tell, but most importantly we want our club to be here and be in good order when the pandemic is behind us. Perhaps, any loss due to lack of membership, etc. will need to be covered by future increases in fees.

We are planning for different options for our registration this year, we will hold our two evenings of face to face registrations at the club, as well we are trying to implement a fillable form that can be filled in from the comforts of your home and then sent to the club. We are presently looking into adding TAP and Credit Card payments accessible to members.

Yes, we are planning to operate the bar this year, however, Club socializing will probably look a bit different this year. As long as safety rules are adhered to, we should be able to sit and have a sip with our curling friends.

Presently, we are unable to inform you what our leagues will look like this year, as it will greatly depend on our member numbers. Please see item # 3 above. We do know that scheduling will look a bit different when we take into consideration our safety protocols.

Please follow our Facebook page and our website as we will try to keep them up to date with our most current information.