

August 2024



Victoria Curling Club High Performance Institute (HPI) 2024/25

Background:

The Victoria Curling Club (VCC) has a storied history of producing High Performance curlers and coaches who have successfully represented the club, province, and country in a variety of competition streams over many years. VCC is seen as a leader in High Performance Curling in BC and to grow this, we are creating the HPI institute for VCC curlers and coaches, run by the curlers and coaches to help reach their performance goals.

Mission:

The Victoria Curling Club High Performance Institute (HPI) has been established to create a focussed commitment to foster excellence in curlers interested in competitive curling. Our vision is to support and inspire all ages of competitive curlers by providing access to high level ice conditions, training equipment, coaching and mentorship.

Benefits:

As a member of the VCC HPI, you will have:

- Dedicated training ice conditions to practice on Sheet 8.
 - Bookable through an online system (TBC).
 - Approximately 1-2 sessions per individual per week of various availability, with the full schedule and booking guidelines TBD.
 - Additional sheet(s) based on availability, determined in September.
- Access to equipment and technology provided by CurlBC.
 - Play Sight camera system, Rock Hawks (speed traps), Smart Broom, lasers, cones.
 - *Requirement - Must attend the in-person mandatory group training of equipment during the week of September 15-19 (TBC). **Training to be provided by CurlBC staff.**
 - Information on booking guidelines also included during the training.
- Access to a roster of trained or certified competition coaches.
 - Engagement to be self initiated by the athletes and coaches (no compensation to be provided by HPI).
- Sharing of knowledge, best practices and experiences.

Cost:

\$200 fee payable through the VCC website league membership page, Curling I/O. Funds will be used to offset the additional VCC operational cost for providing dedicated training conditions.

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Prerequisite:

Must have the intention to enter and participate in a dedicated competition/playdown stream during the 2024/25 season. A competition/playdown stream includes (but not limited to): BC Winter Games, U15, U18, U21, Collegiate, USport, Mixed, Mixed Doubles, Club Challenge, Women's, Men's, Seniors, 55+ Games, Masters, PCMCA.

VCC HPI Working Group Members:

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Below is a list of frequently asked questions with the working group's responses. While the principles of the program have been set, some of the answers, at least to a degree, will be dependent on the number of members that join HPI and the number of members that register for regular league play.

Membership

Question: May I join part way through the curling year, or must I join during the August / September league registration period?

Answer: You may join at any time and access to the prepared ice and equipment will commence after registration. However, the fee will still be \$200 ie. not pro-rated for those that join later in the year.

Question: If I register for HPI, is there any provision for a full or partial refund if I don't utilize the services provided by the program or if I cancel my membership?

Answer: A partial, pro-rata rebate will only be considered in the case of injury that prohibits practice or participation in regional or provincial qualifying playdowns.

Question: Must a team register or may an individual join HPI and still have access to the services provided by HPI.

Answer: Registration, membership and access to the prepared ice, set of rocks, and equipment are at the individual level, and having one curler from a team join HPI will not result in the equipment being made available to the entire team. Of course, there will be a natural benefit to multiple teammates from a team becoming members of HPI as it would facilitate team practices and a more efficient utilization of the equipment.

Question: Are coaches required to register and pay the \$200 membership fee, in order to work with HPI members?

Answer: Coaches on the HPI benefits coach roster are not required to register and pay the membership fee. Coaches must be NCCP Competition Coach Certified, and in good standing with Curl BC.

Access to Training, Equipment and Prepared Ice

Question: What if I wish to join HPI but I cannot make the "mandatory" group equipment training session in mid-September?

Answer: Multiple training sessions will be provided, and the working group will endeavor to ensure any Victoria Curling Club members that wish to join HPI will have access to this mandatory training.

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Question: How much time will be made available for booking the prepared ice, set of rocks, and use of the equipment?

Answer: This will be dependent on the number of members of HPI and the league schedules. Practice time slots will be made available on Ice 8 for HPI members, and at least one practice session per week will be guaranteed for all. Multiple practice times per week may be possible either on Ice 8 or otherwise during certain weeks, and efforts will likely be made to prioritize, within the HPI group, members that have pending playdowns in the months between December and March.

Question: If I do not join HPI, will I be able to use the set of rocks or rent the equipment for ad hoc usage?

Answer: No.

Question: What will be the process for assigning practice time to HPI members?

Answer: The working group will establish a process for scheduling practice time that endeavors to be fair and equitable to all HPI members. To ensure fully prepared ice for practices, booking will need to be made 24 hours or more in advance of the practice slot to allow for scheduling of staff to prepare the ice. HPI members will be able to book practice times within the window of 24 hours before the allotted time but in that case, they will not be guaranteed to practicing on freshly prepared ice. The final guidelines for booking the prepared practice ice will be released in September and will be dependant on the number of registered HPI members at that time.

Other

Question: Where will profits from this program go?

Answer: The HPI program has been established as a non-profit organization. Any excess of membership or other revenue over operating costs, which is not anticipated, will be used to grow the value and benefits that HPI will provide to membership and the VCC in the future.