

# PETERBOROUGH CURLING CLUB

*Where Ice Matters*



## MEMBER WELCOME AND ORIENTATION PACKAGE

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# MEMBER WELCOME & ORIENTATION

## CONTENTS

WELCOME TO OUR CLUB .....	3
WEB SITE & CLUB INFORMATION .....	3
CLUB COMMUNICATION .....	4
STAFF.....	4
CURLING EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING .....	4
SAFETY .....	5
FACILITIES .....	6
Ice Shed/Arena.....	6
Office .....	6
Change Rooms .....	6
Bar and Lounge.....	7
The StoneHouse Hall (Banquet Hall) and Kitchen.....	7
Second Floor Meeting Rooms .....	7
INSTRUCTION & CLINICS .....	8
BONSPIELS .....	8
LEAGUES .....	8
SPARING .....	9
BITS & PIECES .....	10
Name Tags .....	10
Advertisers & Sponsors .....	10
Volunteering .....	10
Help Our Ice Team.....	10
CURLING ETIQUETTE.....	10
KEEP THE GAME MOVING.....	11
CURLING TERMINOLOGY .....	12
QUESTIONS .....	15



# **Peterborough Curling Club**

## *Where Ice Matters*

### **WELCOME TO OUR CLUB**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to you as a new, or prospective, member of the Peterborough Curling Club. The club has been in existence since November 1859, and one of a small group of clubs who joined the newly created Ontario Curling Association (now known as Curl Ontario) in 1876. We have grown from a small membership in 1859 to over 500 curlers. We have been at our current location since 1985. A summary of PCC's history is available on our website as a drop-down choice under the 'Our Club' tab.

The club is a member of Curl Ontario, and a member of Curling Canada. This allows our members to participate in provincial curling events, which lead to national and world competitions.

As a full adult club member, you will become a voting member of our non-profit club, which allows you to elect the Board of Directors, review & approve the financial statements of the club, and have a say in the general operation of the club. You may also play in one or several of the curling leagues offered, as well as the many bonspiels that take place during the curling season. It is your choice how often you wish to curl. We offer a half-year membership for those who head south, whether before or after Christmas. The club is proud to be wheelchair accessible, both on and off the curling ice, and have wheelchair curlers playing in our leagues, including a Paralympic Bronze Medallist. They have represented PCC at provincial, national and world competitions.

The curling season begins in October the day after Thanksgiving, and continues until end of March.

### **WEB SITE & CLUB INFORMATION**

The club's website is the main location to find club information. Some pages are viewable by members only after logging in. Others are viewable by anyone.

Besides general information about the club such as the club's history, and general league information, the website provides links to other curling websites (TSN Curling Schedule, Sportsnet, Grand Slam of Curling, Curl Ontario, Curling Canada).

For members, it is the place (after log in) to find:

- your curling schedule for the upcoming week,
- team rosters,
- club documents (policies & procedures, time clock rule),
- contact information for the Directors & Section (league) Representatives,
- the member directory,
- the spare sign-up form & the spare list.



We ask that any member information be used solely for personal or club related business only.

A Website User Guide has been created to assist members to navigate PCC's website and can be found in the New Member Info section of the website.

Each league has its own bulletin board section. Team rosters, game schedules and other information are posted here, along with bonspiels (both in-club and out-of-club) & other social events. Bulletin boards may be found in the change rooms, and in both hallways leading to the curling ice.

Find Us On Facebook! Our Facebook page is a public page, so you do not need to have a personal Facebook account to view our content. You'll see curling tips, etiquette, cartoons, rules (you may have forgotten), bonspiel pictures (lots and lots), bonspiel flyers, posts from the competitive curling world, and more. If you do have a personal Facebook account please 'Like' or 'Follow' our page.

## **CLUB COMMUNICATION**

Most communication from the Board of Directors, and league/section committee members is done through the club's e-mail system. We encourage all members to ensure their e-mail address is up-to-date in their Profile. We also have two newsletters – Rock Talk and On the Ice. We hope you will take the time to read the material provided to keep up with what's happening around the club.

## **STAFF**

Most of the operation of the club is done by volunteers. We encourage our members to get involved as much as they can, recognizing everyone has time constraints. However, we do have some paid positions –

- Senior Ice Technician, Rob McDannold
- Ice Technicians (varies from season to season)
- Banquet Hall/Kitchen, Kim McDonald (contracted caterer)

## **CURLING EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING**

Curling equipment is available for use by members & rental groups –

- curling brushes,
- step-on sliders,
- grippers,
- stabilizers,
- delivery sticks.



The majority of our members do have their own curling equipment, but it is not necessary if you are new to curling. It is a personal decision depending on your experience and how many games you play each week.

You do not need curling shoes to start curling. Running shoes work great as long as they are **clean**. Please dedicate a pair of clean running shoes to be your curling shoes. Please do not wear your regular street shoes or boots, on the ice.

You will be playing on ice, which is cold. You will also be sweeping a lot, and many players work up a sweat during a game. Wear several light upper body layers so you can easily take them on and off as you need. Your pants should allow for plenty of stretch and free movement both during delivery and sweeping. Jeans are not comfortable to curl in, as they usually don't provide enough flexibility to stretch out completely. A pair of gloves with non-slip palms keeps your hands warm and protects them while sweeping.

Many curlers wear head gear for either warmth or protection. For warmth, hats and toques can be comfortable. For protection from falls on the ice (it does happen) there are padded headbands, toques, and helmets available for purchase from The Peterborough Curling Shop, located inside the Imprinted Apparel store, 730 The Kingsway, Peterborough. It is a personal decision whether you decide to wear a helmet while curling. The Peterborough Curling Shop has an extensive selection of curling clothing and equipment.

## **SAFETY**

A defibrillator is located on the west side of the building just outside the ice entry door to sheet 6. The unit provides guidance on usage and several club members have been trained. It is checked monthly to ensure it is in good working order.

The club has an Accident Policy - 911 must be called for any incident/fall on the ice, where a blow to the head occurs. The person sustaining the injury can only be released by attending paramedics. Completion of the incident report is the responsibility of the section head or delegate, or the bonspiel coordinator or delegate. If the person (who has hit their head) denies EMS help (going to the hospital) the person completing will have the person sign the incident report acknowledging that they denied help.

The club is compliant with the Government of Ontario's Rowan's Law, which came into effect July 1, 2019 and the Removal and Return to Play which came in effect January 1, 2022.



## **FACILITIES**

### **Ice Shed/Arena**

PCC is the only club in the area with six sheets of ice. We are a very busy club with an average of 120 games played each week – morning, afternoon and evening; weekdays and weekends.

Practice time is scheduled on a weekly basis. You can check the club calendar on the website (under the Club Events tab) to find out when practice ice is available. In some leagues you have the opportunity to throw a few rocks before your game. Also, some leagues do not use all the sheets of ice, so this is another opportunity to get out and practice. Check with the Senior Ice Technician to confirm there will be ice available to use for practice.

There is a digital time clock located in the ice arena at the scoreboard end. The time clock is set to 1 hour and 50 minutes before a draw (set of league games) begins. The clock is triggered to start its countdown at the scheduled start time of the draw. No new end is to be started once the time has expired (with the exception being if there is no following draw, a half end can be played – one rock per player, at the discretion of the league). In order to ensure safe practices, it was decided that as long as the last rock of the end has come to a stop before the time expires, then the next end can be played. The time clock was installed to discourage slow play, and keep games on time. (See Tips to Keep the Game Moving further on in this document.)

### **Office**

Our office is staffed by a dedicated group of volunteers. They can help you with everything pertaining to the club. If they don't know the answer to a question, they will know who to ask. The office has varying hours depending on the time of year.

#### **Curling Season**

Monday 10:00 am to 12 noon

Thursday 12 noon to 2 pm

#### **April to September**

Closed – e-mails and phone messages checked once a week.

#### **September**

Extended hours - mornings, afternoons, & evenings to accommodate walk-in registrations. Watch for e-mail announcements and check the club's website for updates.

### **Change Rooms**

There are Ladies and Men's change rooms which include lockers, washrooms, and bulletin boards with information on various league activities and bonspiels. Payment for the use of a locker should be done while registering for the new curling season.



## **Bar and Lounge**

The club's main bar is a fully stocked bar which also offers packaged snacks (potato chips, nuts, chocolate bars) for purchase. The main bar is located in our comfortable lounge overlooking the ice. There is a flat-screen wall mounted TV in the lounge. As is the 'tradition' of curling, team members get together in the lounge after their games to socialize with their opposition.

Cash, debit and credit cards are accepted as payment.

The banquet hall also has a fully stocked bar, which is open when the hall is in use.

## **The StoneHouse Hall (Banquet Hall) and Kitchen**

The banquet hall, known as The StoneHouse Hall, seats 180 to 200 people comfortably for dinner and up to 250 for a dance. The hall is used for club functions, as well as being available for rent by private groups and non-members for weddings, meetings, birthday parties, trade shows and other events.

The hall and kitchen are managed by Kim & Jeff MacDonald, who the club has contracted. All food for any event (whether club related or private) must be ordered through Kim & Jeff.

Kim & Jeff also operate the kitchen snack bar on select days and times during the week. Typical snack bar hours are -

Monday to Thursday	11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Friday	11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Saturday	As needed
Sunday	11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Cash, debit and credit cards are accepted as payment.

## **Second Floor Meeting Rooms**

A meeting room with a large boardroom table is located on the second floor in the front of the building. It can comfortably seat 14 to 16 people.

A second open area is also located on the second floor. This area has a small desk, couch, chairs, a full length mirror and some small tables. This area is often used by a bridal party as a quiet place to go before or after a wedding ceremony. It can also be used as a breakout area during business meetings.



## **INSTRUCTION & CLINICS**

The club arranges for one or two curling clinics for members during the curling season. Certain clinics are free and others have a cost. Watch for e-mails announcing the dates and times. Some of the leagues offer individual instruction. We have several members who are certified Curling Canada instructors and coaches. We also have members who, through their years of experience, can help you improve your game by providing tips and/or a bit of critiquing during or after your game. Do not hesitate to ask your skip for help.

If you are a beginner curler, and have joined our Learn to Curl league, you will be receiving weekly instruction and skill development. This league covers every aspect of the sport of curling for the entire curling season. Our Learn to Curl program has their own Handout package. It covers everything about curling – delivery, sweeping, strategy, the curling sheet, team positions, & more. You can find their handout on their league page for everyone to use.

There are many instructional videos on-line to help you improve your game. We recommend –

- Curl Up with Jamie Sinclair <https://jamiesinclair21.tumblr.com/curlupwithjamie>
- Curling Canada's Get Started In Curling <https://www.curling.ca/about-curling/getting-started-in-curling/getting-started-in-curling-for-adults/>

## **BONSPIELS**

Bonspiels are a fun way to get in some extra games, and provide an opportunity to play against people who may not curl in your league(s). We have several bonspiels during the season. Some are for members only and others are for members and non-members. There is an additional cost to play in a bonspiel, but the fee helps cover the cost of food, snacks, prizes and other items. A list of our club bonspiels is under the Club Events tab on our website.

Other curling clubs in the area also hold bonspiels open to PCC members and other curling club members. This is another chance to meet and play other people you would not normally meet. Each league posts out-of-club bonspiel information on their bulletin board. The club's Facebook page also posts out-of-club bonspiel flyers.

## **LEAGUES**

There are many options with respect to when you can curl, and what type of team, and league(s), suits you best. The club offers "Limited" memberships (curling in only one league each week) or "Unlimited" memberships (curling in as many leagues as you like). We offer a healthy cross-section of recreational and competitive leagues. Details about each league can be found on the club's website, but briefly:





We have three types of leagues:

- Team entry – Curlers form their own teams and stay together for the entire season. The league committee can assist you to connect with a team needing players.
- Draw – Players sign-up as individuals and are placed on a team. Teams are rearranged three or four times during the curling season.
- Tag – Teams are made up each week based on who comes out on the day. You never need to arrange a spare if you are not available to play on any given day.

Team Entry Leagues:

- Men's – Monday & Tuesday evenings; games at 6:30 and 8:45 pm (alternating)
- Senior Men's – Monday afternoon; games at 12:30 and 2:45 pm (alternating)
- Ladies – Thursday morning; games at 9:30 am
- Mixed – Friday afternoon; games at 1:00 and 3:30 pm (alternating)
- Mixed – Friday evening; games at 6:30 and 9:00 pm (alternating)
- Open – Wednesday evening; games at 6:30 and 8:45 pm (alternating)

Draw Leagues:

- Ladies Evening – Monday evenings; games at 6:25 and 8:45 pm (alternating)
- Ladies Daytime – Tuesday mornings; games at 9:30 am

Tag Leagues:

- Senior Men's – Monday at 9:30 am, Wednesday at 9:30 am and Friday at 9:30 am
- Open – Sunday afternoon; games at 1:30 pm
- Junior/Youth – Sunday mornings; practice/instruction at 10:00 am; games at 11:00 am

League games are eight ends in length. An eight end game should take no more than two hours to play. As discussed earlier, the club uses a time clock for each draw – set at 1 hour and 50 minutes. Games must be completed within a two-hour period. (See Tips to Keep the Game Moving further on in this document.)

## **SPARING**

For all leagues, other than Tag leagues and the Learn to Curl league, if you cannot make a game you will need to make every effort to find a spare (replacement) for yourself. As a member you will have access to the club's spare list. (Found in the Members section on the website.) Other members of your team might also know of a member who may be available to spare for you. No matter how you find your spare, you should let your skip know who will be playing for you.

How to get on the on-line spare list – Log in and click on Members then My Profile. Click on the Spare/Substitute Details section and check the box beside "Include my name on the spares/substitutes list?". Remember to check off only the positions you can play and only the leagues you can spare in. You may also want to enter some information in the Additional Details box – can only curl in early games; please text do not call; please use e-mail to contact. Press the Save button after making the changes.



## **BITS & PIECES**

### **Name Tags**

Name tags may be ordered through any section/league executive member for a minimal cost. Club pins are also for sale at the main bar.

### **Advertisers & Sponsors**

We encourage our members to support these businesses whenever possible, and let them know you are from the club when using their services or buying their products. The revenue received from them makes a big difference to the bottom line of PCC's financial statements.

### **Volunteering**

There are many opportunities for PCC members to help out. Bonspiels, leagues, our Junior program, maintenance and other events in the club need volunteers to make things happen successfully. Even if you can't commit ongoing time to a committee, offering to help with one event is greatly appreciated, and a great way to get to know your fellow members. Volunteering keeps costs down and assists to keep the club running smoothly.

While some non-profit curling clubs require members to contribute a minimum number of volunteer hours, PCC does not.

### **Help Our Ice Team**

- Wash your broom head at the beginning of the season, and once or twice during the season.
- Use the brushes at the end of each sheet to clean off your broom head before the start of your game, and at least once during each end.
- Keep your hands and knees off the ice. Hands and knees remaining on the ice for more than a couple of seconds start to melt the ice, and will leave slight indentations in the ice. This adds additional work for our Ice Team to get the ice back to its perfect condition for the next draw and can affect the path of the rock.
- Stop stones from colliding with the hack as it can cause damage to the hack.
- Arrange rocks in order once the game is complete.

## **CURLING ETIQUETTE**

The spirit of the 'roaring game' demands good sportsmanship, common courtesies, and honourable conduct. While not strictly in the rule books, curling courtesy goes a long way towards an enjoyable day of curling. By following these generally accepted courtesies you will be welcomed and accepted as a curler at curling clubs all over the world.



- No curler ever deliberately breaks a rule of the game or any of its traditions. But if they should do so inadvertently, and be aware of it, they should be the first to divulge the breach.
- Be on time for your curling game. Seven other people will be depending on you.
- If you can't make a game let your skip know, and tell them who is sparing for you.
- Start the game on time, even if it means beginning with three players.
- Greet each member of the opposing team with a handshake, a self-introduction, and a wish for "Good Curling".
- Be a good sport. Cheer on successes, and compliment players on both teams for a good shot. Do not show your frustration at an opponent's "lucky" shot or a teammate's poor shot.
- If you are standing on the back boards, waiting for your turn to deliver your rock, do not disturb the player in the hack; remain quiet and out of their line of vision.
- Be aware of the games on the sheets beside you. Don't walk behind their sheets while someone is delivering a stone.
- When you have finished sweeping your team's rock and you're walking back down the sheet, keep to the edge.
- If you are standing on the sidelines, and you see that the other team is throwing their next rock on your side, close to the edge of the sheet, give them some room by moving to the sidelines on the other side of the sheet (but before the opposition team member delivers the rock!).
- Measuring rocks to determine closest to the button is the vices duty. Stay out of the house while they measure. Putting up the score is the job of the vices.
- If there is a big score in an end, it is a courtesy to delay posting the score until the opposing team wins an end.
- Win or lose, thank each of the opposing players for the game with a handshake and spend social time with them in the club lounge after the game.

### **KEEP THE GAME MOVING**

- 1) If you or another member of your team uses a stabilizer, delivery stick or step-on slider, try to have enough at each end of the sheet so you don't have to carry them from end to end.
- 2) Clean your rock and be ready to throw before your skip has called your shot. If you have a routine prior to your delivery, don't wait for the skip to call your shot.



- 3) You can see how your opponent's rock is doing from the hack. Watching from the sidelines uses walking and preparation time when you are up next to throw.
- 4) Leads: If your team is scheduled to throw first in the next end, let the other players clear off the rocks at the conclusion of the end; get your rock and get into the hack, ready to start the next end.
- 5) Skips: You can do your part to save time by organizing the rocks during the playing of the end as rocks are removed from play.
- 6) Skips: After you have thrown your last rock of an end don't walk back down to the active house to chat with your team about the shot. Be ready to start the next end as soon as the previous end is finished. Want to chat with the opposing skip, or commiserate how the last end went? By all means do so while calling the next shot.
- 7) Leads and seconds should set-up their skip's rocks. If your skip uses a delivery stick, you can clean their rock for them too.
- 8) When measuring rocks clear out the rocks that do not matter. Vices can have a good look, and if there is any question of which rock is closer measure.
- 9) Most times there are only one or two shot choices. Second guessing what to do only produces a longer game.
- 10) Some skip's decide on a shot and then come down and explain the entire shot to the sweepers. Skips should keep their strategy descriptions brief.

When competitive games are timed there is 30 seconds from the time the final rock has come to rest and when the time clock is started for the next rock to be thrown.

10 seconds saved per shot can end a game approximately 20 minutes earlier.

## **CURLING TERMINOLOGY**

The following terms and definitions are used throughout the curling world.

**BACKLINE** The line across the ice at the back of the house. Stones which are completely over this line are removed from play.

**BACK HOUSE WEIGHT** The speed given to a stone at delivery so that it will just reach the back of the house.

**BITER** A stone that just touches the outer edge of the outer most circle.

**BLANK END** An end in which no points have been scored.



**BOARD WEIGHT** A shot (typically a takeout) that is thrown with just enough force to come to rest at or just beyond the backboard.

**BONSPIEL** A curling competition or tournament.

**BRUSH/BROOM** A device used to sweep the ice in the path of a moving stone.

**BURNED ROCK/STONE** A stone in motion touched by a member of either team, or any part of their equipment.

**BUTTON** The circle at the centre of the house.

**CONTROL WEIGHT** A takeout shot that is slow enough that the sweepers can influence the curl of the stone, but still 'fast' enough to move a rock that is hit.

**COUNTER** Any stone in the rings or touching the rings which is a potential point.

**CURL** The amount a rock bends while travelling down the sheet of ice.

**DELIVERY STICK** A device that permits a player to deliver a rock while standing upright; generally used by players who may have issues with the traditional curling slide.

**DRAW WEIGHT** The momentum required for a stone to reach the house or circles at the distant end.

**END** A portion of a curling game that is completed when each team has thrown eight stones and the score has been decided.

**FAST ICE** Where rocks travel further than they would when delivered with the same force on normal or slow ice.

**FIVE ROCK RULE** Any of the first 5 rocks of the end situated beyond the far hog line and outside the house (in the free guard zone) cannot be moved to an out-of-play position by the opposition prior to the delivery of the sixth stone/rock of an end.

**FREE GUARD ZONE** The area outside the house between the hog line and the tee line.

**FREEZE** A form of a draw shot that stops directly up against another stone.

**GRIPPER** A rubber covering pulled over the sliding foot when sweeping to provide better traction. Also, the permanent rubber sole on the non-sliding curling shoe.

**GUARD** A stone that is placed in a position so that it may protect another stone.

**HACK** The foot-hold at each end of the ice from which the stone is delivered.



**HACK WEIGHT** A shot (typically a takeout) that is thrown with just enough weight to come to rest at or just beyond the hacks.

**HAMMER** The last rock thrown in an end. Teams with the hammer have the last chance to score in an end. The hammer belongs to the team that did not score in the previous end.

**HEAVY** A rock delivered with a greater force than necessary.

**HIT** A take-out. Removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.

**HOG LINE** A line 10 meters from the hack at each end of the ice.

**HOGGED STONE/ROCK** A stone that does not reach the far hog line. It must be removed from play.

**HOUSE** The rings or circles toward which play is directed consisting of a 12-foot ring, 8-foot ring, 4-foot ring and a button.

**IN-TURN** The rotation applied to the handle of a stone that causes it to rotate in a clockwise direction and curl for a right-handed curler.

**LEAD** The first player on a team to deliver a pair of stones for his/her team in each end.

**NORMAL HIT WEIGHT** A takeout shot that is thrown with enough weight to remove the hit rock out of play. Heavier than control weight, but lighter than peel weight. For club curlers this is the takeout weight that can be comfortably thrown consistently for takeouts.

**OUT-TURN** The rotation applied to the handle of a stone that causes it to turn and curl in a counter-clockwise direction for a right-handed curler.

**PEBBLE** A fine spray of water applied to a sheet of curling ice before commencing play.

**PEEL WEIGHT** A takeout that is thrown with very heavy weight so as to ensure that both the shooter and the target rock both roll out of play.

**RAISE** When one stone is bumped ahead by another.

**ROLL** The movement of a curling stone after it has struck a stationary stone in play.

**SECOND** The curler who delivers the second pair of stones for their team in each end.

**SHEET** The specific playing surface upon which a curling game is played.

**SHOT ROCK** At any time during an end, the stone closest to the button.



**SKIP** The player who determines the strategy, and directs play for the team. The skip delivers the last pair of stones for their team in each end.

**SPARE** An alternate player or substitute.

**SPINNER** A rock that has been given too much rotation upon delivery. Spinners do not curl as much as rocks thrown with the proper amount of rotation.

**SLIDER** Slippery material placed on the sole of the curling shoe, to make it easier to slide on the ice.

**STABILIZER** A delivery aid gripped in the hand not holding the rock, used as an alternative to a brush/broom.

**STEAL** To score in an end without the hammer.

**SWEEPING** The action of moving a brush/broom back & forth in the path of a moving stone.

**TAKE OUT** Removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.

**TAP BACK** A gentle hit, in which the thrown rock moves the hit rock a short distance. Also known as to promote or raise.

**TEE LINE** The line that passes through the centre of the house parallel to the hog line and backline.

**THIRD/VICE-SKIP** The third player on a team to throw two stones in each end. Generally this player acts as the skip when the skip is delivering their stones and assists with shot selection decisions.

**WEIGHT** The amount of force (how hard) a stone has been thrown.

## **QUESTIONS**

Don't be afraid to ask... a Section/League representative; the office staff; a Director; your skip.

There are two parts to knowledge:

- 1) You know the answer; or
- 2) You know where to find the answer.

*Good Curling!*