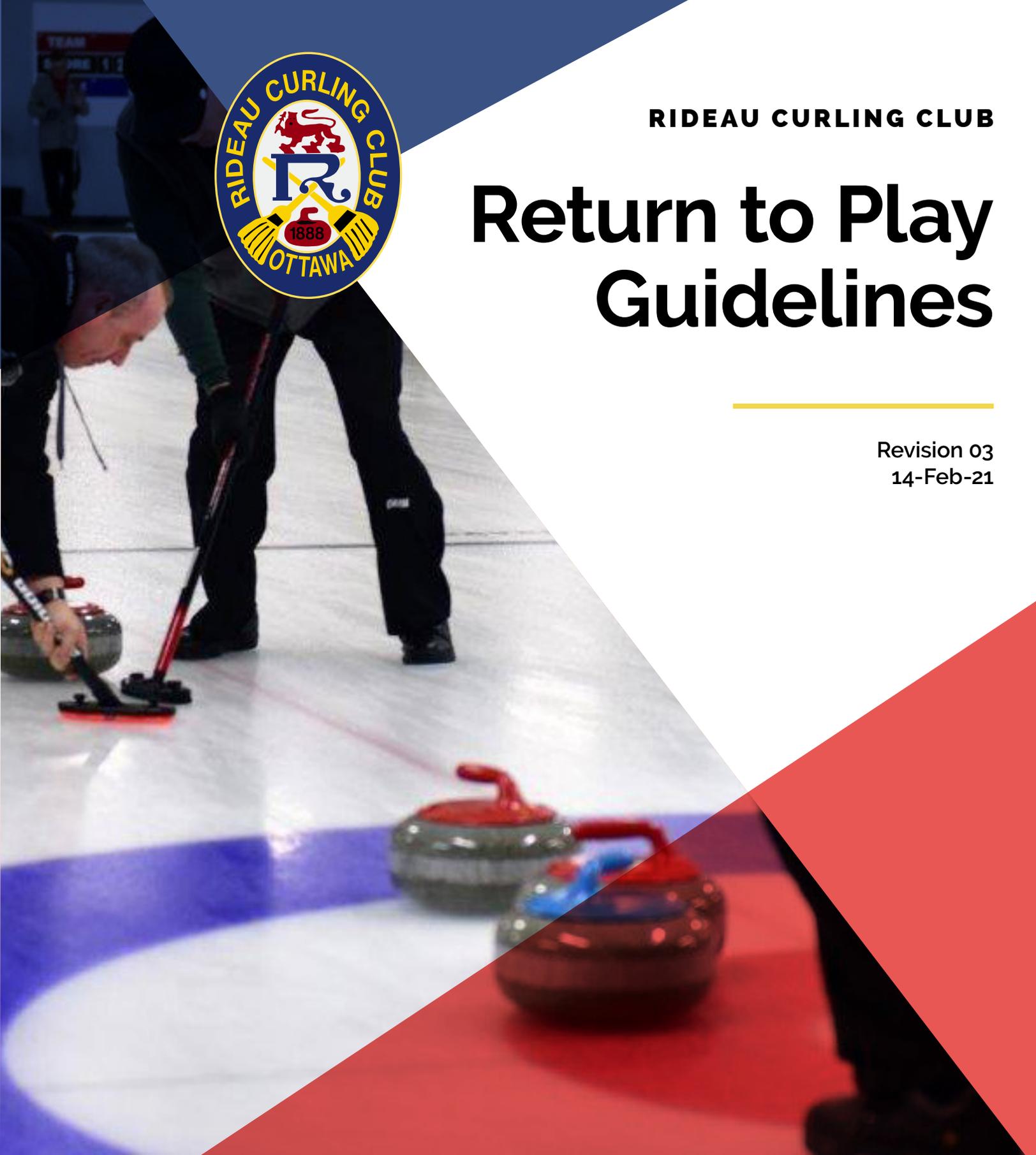




RIDEAU CURLING CLUB

Return to Play Guidelines

Revision 03
14-Feb-21



FROM THE BOARD



With the Ontario Government announcing that Ottawa will be reopening under the “Orange-Restrict” zone of Ontario’s COVID-19 response framework, we look forward to welcoming our members back to the Rideau Curling Club (RCC) on Tuesday, February 16th.

All players are required to wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose **at all times** during play and while in the clubhouse. Masks may be removed only when seated at a table.

Under the “Orange-Restrict” framework, the club may hold a maximum of 50 people at one time, combined, in both the clubhouse and ice shed. To accommodate this, draw times have been changed to 4:45 PM, 7:00 PM and 9:15 PM.

Additionally, alcohol cannot be served after 9 PM, with all drinks being removed at 10 PM. Drinks can be placed by texting 613-285-3907.

We ask that all members be respectful of the social distancing guidelines in place. As some of these will also impact the speed of play and time spent in areas of the club, members should always be cognizant of the impact their actions have on other players.

While no activity during the COVID-19 pandemic is without risk, if we all follow the guidelines, we should greatly reduce that risk.



We thank you for your support.

— The RCC Board of Directors

BACKGROUND

The Guidelines for Return to Play outlined in this document were made in consultation with the [Curling Canada Return to Play Guidelines](#), [CurlON Guidelines](#) and Public Health. The guidelines take in to account all Orders from Public Health and the Provincial Government of Ontario.

On Friday, February 12th, the Ontario government announced that Ottawa and eastern Ontario will move into the “Orange-Restrict” zone of Ontario’s COVID-19 response framework when the stay at home order ends on Tuesday, February 16th. Additional information on Ontario’s COVID-19 framework can be obtained at www.Ontario.ca.

The COVID-19 pandemic has evolved quickly, as such, the RCC Return to Play Guidelines will need to be adjusted to reflect the most current Public Health orders and Government guidelines. An up-to-date document will be available in the Member Documents section of the website. The date the document was revised can be found on the cover page of this document. Additionally, in the event that changes are made, the document will be re-distributed to the membership via email.

As we are a not-for-profit organization, the financial ramifications of not complying to Public Health Orders and Provincial Guidelines are great. It is imperative that each player ensures they are adhering to the rules outlined in the RCC Return to Play Guidelines.

WAIVERS

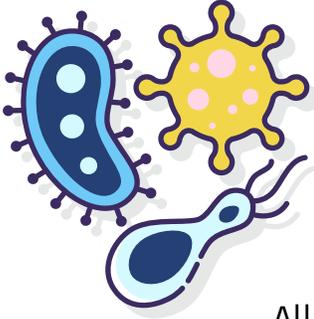
All adult players will be required to sign a Declaration of Compliance (re: COVID-related Public Health Orders) plus a Waiver and email them to [Pierre Mondor](#) before arriving at the club for the first time.

Forms will be provided to members via email as we approach the return to curl date.

GENERAL

- A mask covering the mouth and nose must be worn at ALL times when inside the club. Your mask may only be removed when seated.
- Only members who are playing will be permitted into the club. No spectators will be allowed in the club. Chairs near the glass, as well as near the fireplace, have been removed.
 - Lessening of physical distancing restrictions would/could allow this guideline to be removed.
 - **EXCEPTION:** Ontario has allowed one parent or guardian of persons under the age of 18 to remain in the clubhouse while that person is there.
- The direction of traffic flow will be clearly marked by barriers, ropes and/or arrows. All players must strictly adhere to the direction of traffic, even when an identified route may not be the shortest route.
- The Spares Policy has been amended to ensure adherence with proper contact tracing protocols, as outlined by Public Health.
 - A copy of the updated Spares Policy is available in the Members Documents section of the RCC website.
- The RCC will not be hosting a Youth, Learn to Curl or Little Rocks league during the 2020-21 season. The Board of Directors will reassess for the 2021-22 season.
- Our Club Manager, Pierre Mondor, has been getting in touch with rental leagues that take place at the Rideau Curling Club. If you are a member of one of these leagues, please contact your Program Director directly for information on whether you will be returning to play.





HYGIENE

All high touch surfaces in the clubhouse will be sanitized every two (2) hours, or as outlined in Public Health Orders. Players are asked to sanitize their curling stones before each game.

Players are asked to keep their hands clean. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or a good rendition of Happy Birthday!). When soap and water is not accessible, use the sanitizer stations setup throughout the club.

Here are some great steps we can all take to keep everyone healthy:

- Avoid touching your face, but especially your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm.
- If you feel ill, stay home.
- Avoid touching surfaces people touch often, like toilets, door handles, chairs and the bar.
- Maintain social distancing even when wearing a mask.
- Don't return to play after being sick unless you are symptom free and feeling better without the use of medication.

PLEASE STAY HOME IF:

You have had symptoms of an enteric illness, including vomiting and/or diarrhea in the last 48 hours.

OR

You have had symptoms of a respiratory illness, including fever, cough, sore throat and/or congestion in the last 24 hours.

Players **MUST** follow Provincial Guidelines on quarantining after travel. Provincial Guidelines as of July 30, 2020, state that an individual who has traveled out of the country must quarantine for a period of fourteen (14) days whether or not they are symptomatic.

BEFORE THE GAME

- Arrive no more than fifteen (15) minutes before your game.
- You must arrive dressed and ready to play (aside from your shoes). Locker rooms will be closed for the remainder of the 2020-21 season.
- When entering the club, players must be wearing a mask.
- Once inside the main entrance, players must know and enter the code **(7150*)**. Due to the traffic flow layout in the clubhouse, there may not be a staff member able to buzz you in.
- After entering the code and opening the door to the lobby, please sanitize your hands. There will be a sanitizer station just inside the second set of doors.
- Coats and shoes may be stored in the lobby, using the coat and shoe racks.
- To conform with traffic flow, please head upstairs using the staircase in the lobby. The doors to the left cannot be used to access the main floor.
 - These doors cannot be locked due to fire safety regulations. Please ensure you are always following the outlined traffic directions.
- Once upstairs, register with the CurlON Contact Tracing App by scanning your QR code
- Restrooms will be open, permitting occupancy to only two (2) persons at any time.
 - Please knock or enter to determine if the occupancy has been reached. If it has, please vacate the restroom and wait at a safe distance until someone exits the restroom.
 - Players are asked to be cognizant of the time spent in the washrooms. With limited space and limits on the number of occupants, players need to ensure they are vacating shared spaces within a reasonable period of time.
- Players must remain upstairs until notified by a staff member. Stretching and other pregame warm ups can be conducted upstairs.

- All belongings must be removed from this floor and brought out into the ice shed. This is to support traffic flow and make room for the incoming draw.
- Water stations will be removed. Bottled water will be available for sale at the main floor bar. Please note, the bar will not be open on the second floor.
- A server will walk around the second floor for drink orders. They will be added to a tab for the player, payable at the end of their game.
- The computer used to post the draw will be removed from the main floor. As such, players are asked to access the draw from their phone.

GAME PLAY

- Five (5) minutes before the scheduled game time, you will be asked to move to areas designated for each sheet inside the club, on the second floor.
 - For example, players from sheet 5 will congregate (while maintaining social distancing and still wearing their masks) in front of sheet 1, sheet 4 in front of sheet 2 and so on.
 - A map of these areas can be found on [page 14 and 15](#) of this document.
- When all players from the previous draw have exited the ice shed, by the door at sheet 5, the ice has been prepared and all rocks have been sanitized, a staff member will come upstairs and indicate that players may now head into the ice shed.
- Players will be asked to proceed down the stairs and into the ice shed, in single file, maintaining social distancing, starting with players from sheet 5 and following through to players on sheet 1.
- You may use the boot cleaner but may not remove a layer from the sticky pad. Should a layer of the sticky pad need to be removed, please ask a staff member for assistance.
- Please sanitize your hands after entering the ice shed.
- Instead of a handshake, give a friendly wave or tap brooms.

- **Coin Flip:** You are encouraged to download a free coin flip app, or use Siri, prior to game play. Another option is to play rock, paper, scissors.
- Players must practice social distancing when taking their slides.
- Players must select their two (2) rocks at the beginning of the game and cannot switch them out at any time.
- Players should always stand on the left side of the sheet when facing the boards. For example, if you are playing on sheet 2, always position yourself on the sideline to sheet 1 when not sweeping.
- Rental equipment (brooms, sliders, stabilizers, etc.) will not be accessible during league play. Players are encouraged to purchase and bring their own equipment.
 - Should you require one of these items, please ask the bartender at the main floor bar. Equipment will need to be signed out. After use, please return it to the main floor bartender. It will then be sanitized and quarantined before being supplied to another player.

NON-DELIVERING TEAM

- The two sweepers of the non-delivering team should be positioned on markings near center ice.
- Once the delivering team's sweepers have passed center-ice, the non-delivering team may move into the delivering team position.
- The player of the non-delivering team whose turn it is to deliver next, should be positioned at the hogline.
- The Skip (or Third) will stand on the backboards, but no closer than the hack.
- The Skip (or Third) must remain in the hack or backboard area until all stones have come to rest. They are not allowed to sweep the opposition stone behind the tee-line, nor are they allowed to sweep one of their own stones that may have been promoted. Stones of any colour may not be swept by the non-delivering team. Lessening of physical distancing restrictions would/could allow this guideline to be removed.

DELIVERING TEAM

- The Skip (or Third) has control of the house. They cannot sweep at any time.
- The person who is delivering the stone is in the hack, the sweepers may be at the T-line.
- Once the stone has been released, that player should either:
 - Return to the hogline, if it is their turn to throw again.
 - **OR** proceed down the center line of the ice and come to rest at the halfway point markings.
- Two sweepers may accompany the rock down the ice. However, only one player may actually sweep the rock. The same player will sweep the entire shot, there may be no switching during a shot.
 - The second sweeper may travel with the rock, while maintaining appropriate social distancing. This is to encourage joint communication and keep everyone warm.
 - The second sweeper must stop at the second hogline. Once the shot is complete, they must proceed to either the first hogline or the center ice position, depending on whether it is their turn to deliver next. The primary sweeper may continue into the house.
- To assist with visualization, there is a diagram of on-ice play available on [page 16](#).
- Teams must designate one player to manage the scoreboard. This player should post the score for both teams, sanitizing their hands after hanging a number.
- **Measuring:** One Third should retrieve the measuring device, remove their gloves, sanitize their hands and conduct the measure. After completing the measure, the same person who retrieved the device, should return it to its normal location and then sanitize their hands.
 - Should the Third or Skip from the opposing team ask to see the measure, the Third that conducted the first measure should step back and then the opposing Third may remove their gloves, sanitize their hands and conduct the measure for themselves.
- Players who throw with a stabilizer may advance to the backboard at a safe distance and then move to the center ice position.





- **Time Rule:** Please note, due to the COVID-19 situation and until further notice, the time rule has been modified. No new end may begin after 25 minutes to the start of the next scheduled draw.
 - For example, for a 4:45 PM game, no new end may begin after 6:20 PM. For a 7:00 PM game in the, no new end may begin after 8:35 PM.
 - All games will now have a HARD STOP time. For 4:45 PM games this is 6:40 PM and for 7:00 PM games it is 8:55 PM. At these times, the games will be halted and the incomplete end will not be counted towards the score.
 - Since all games will start at the same time, it is important that players are cognizant of incoming draws and the time rule. You will no longer be holding up one sheet, but all five sheets, should your game exceed its scheduled time.
- For the Tuesday Cash League, in the event of a tie, the team that moves up the ladder will still be decided by a draw to the button, towards the glass.
 - Please be efficient while completing the draw to the button. Instead of only delaying one (1) sheet, this will now delay all five (5) sheets of the next draw.
- Players must ensure that they take all belongings, glasses, water bottles, etc. with them when exiting the ice shed. There should not be any items left on the shelves behind the sheets once you leave your sheet.
- Players must exit through the door at Sheet 5, single file, following one-way traffic flow into the main floor.
- From the main floor, players may either stay for a drink, or exit the building using the double doors that open into the lobby.
 - Please note, players may only stay for a drink if the bartender or a RCC Board member announces it is possible. The club must stay at a total capacity of 50 persons, excluding staff members.
 - If the bartender or a member of the RCC Board asks you to leave the club, please be considerate to other players and do so.

POST-GAME RITUALS

Current Provincial guidelines permit the Rideau Curling Club to open for food and beverage services. Due to member feedback, the kitchen will not be open for the 2020/2021 season.

- Players may only stay for a drink if the bartender or a RCC Board member announces it is possible. The club must stay at a total capacity of 50 persons, excluding staff members.
 - Players from a 9:15 PM game are excluded from this as there is no incoming draw.
- Players staying after their game will remain on the main floor.
- **Reminder:** Masks must be worn while walking around the club. If you are seated, either eating or drinking after your game, your mask may be removed. Before you get up from the table, you must be wearing your mask.
- Tables will be setup to maintain social distancing, players may not move or relocate chairs or tables.
 - Currently, there are ten (10) tables of four (4) players. Lessening of physical distancing restrictions would/could allow this guideline to be removed.
- Tables will be designated for each sheet and rock colour; players must sit at their designated table.
- Restrooms in the basement will be open for players staying after their game, permitting occupancy to only two (2) persons at any time.
 - Please knock or enter to determine if the occupancy has been reached. If it has, please vacate the restroom and wait at a safe distance until someone exits the restroom.



FOOD & DRINKS

- Purchasing a drink for another player has been a long-standing tradition, unfortunately with COVID regulations, you may not touch the glass of another player. To allow for this, beverage services will be conducted at the table. Staff will come around to take both drink orders.
- To limit traffic, players are discouraged from approaching the bar, unless required to do so.
- To ensure expediency, the Rideau Curling Club has purchased a new Point of Sale (POS) system where servers can take and submit orders while at the table.
- As mentioned earlier, due to member feedback, the Rideau Curling Club will not be opening the kitchen for the 2020-2021 season.
- Players may bring in outside food but it cannot be stored or heated by the Rideau Curling Club.
- Food and snacks, whether brought or purchased, may not be shared amongst players, unless they are from the same household.

LEAVING

Players are asked to practice social distancing, follow the outlined traffic flow and leave the main floor through the double doors.

As locker rooms cannot be used at this time, please ensure that you take all your belongings with you when you exit the building.

FAQs

Q. My teammate and I are in the same “social bubble” can we sweep together?

A. No, unfortunately in order to ensure a fair level of play, only one sweeper will be allowed.

Q. When I am playing, which restrooms can I use?

A. Players may use either the restrooms located in the basement or on the mainfloor.

Q. I need to get my curling gear that I left at the club, can I go get it on a league night?

A. Since the locker rooms are not open at this time, no personal equipment should be left at the club.

Q. How often will high touch areas at the RCC be sanitized?

A. The RCC will be strictly following guidelines set in place by the Federal and Provincial Governments, along with Public Health. Despite current guidelines stating twice per day, the RCC will be cleaning all high touch surface every two hours. Public Health guidelines can be found [here](#).

Q. When can I expect the RCC Return to Play Guidelines to be relaxed?

A. The RCC Board of Directors is closely following Public Health Orders and guidance from CurlON and Curling Canada. As new guidelines and orders are put in place or relaxed, the Board will reassess the impact to the RCC and adjust the RCC Return to Play Guidelines as necessary.

Q. Can the Skip and Third, or another player, discuss the upcoming shots?

A. Yes, as long as social distancing is maintained.

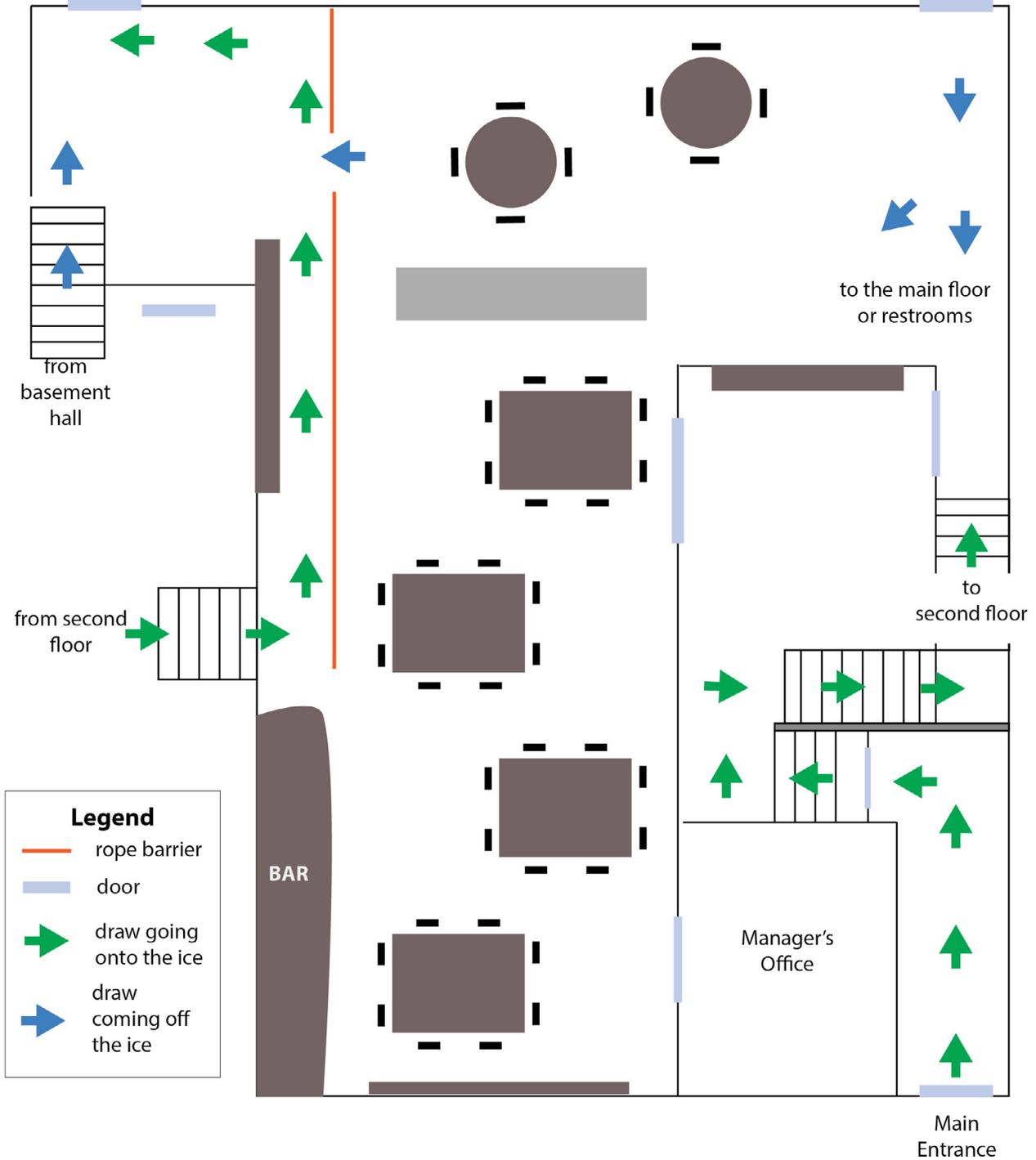
Q. What if two players sweep at the same time?

A. This will be considered a burnt stone. The rock should be allowed to come to rest. At that point, it will be the opposing skip’s decision whether the rock should remain as played, or whether the rock should be removed and the house reset to before the rock was released.

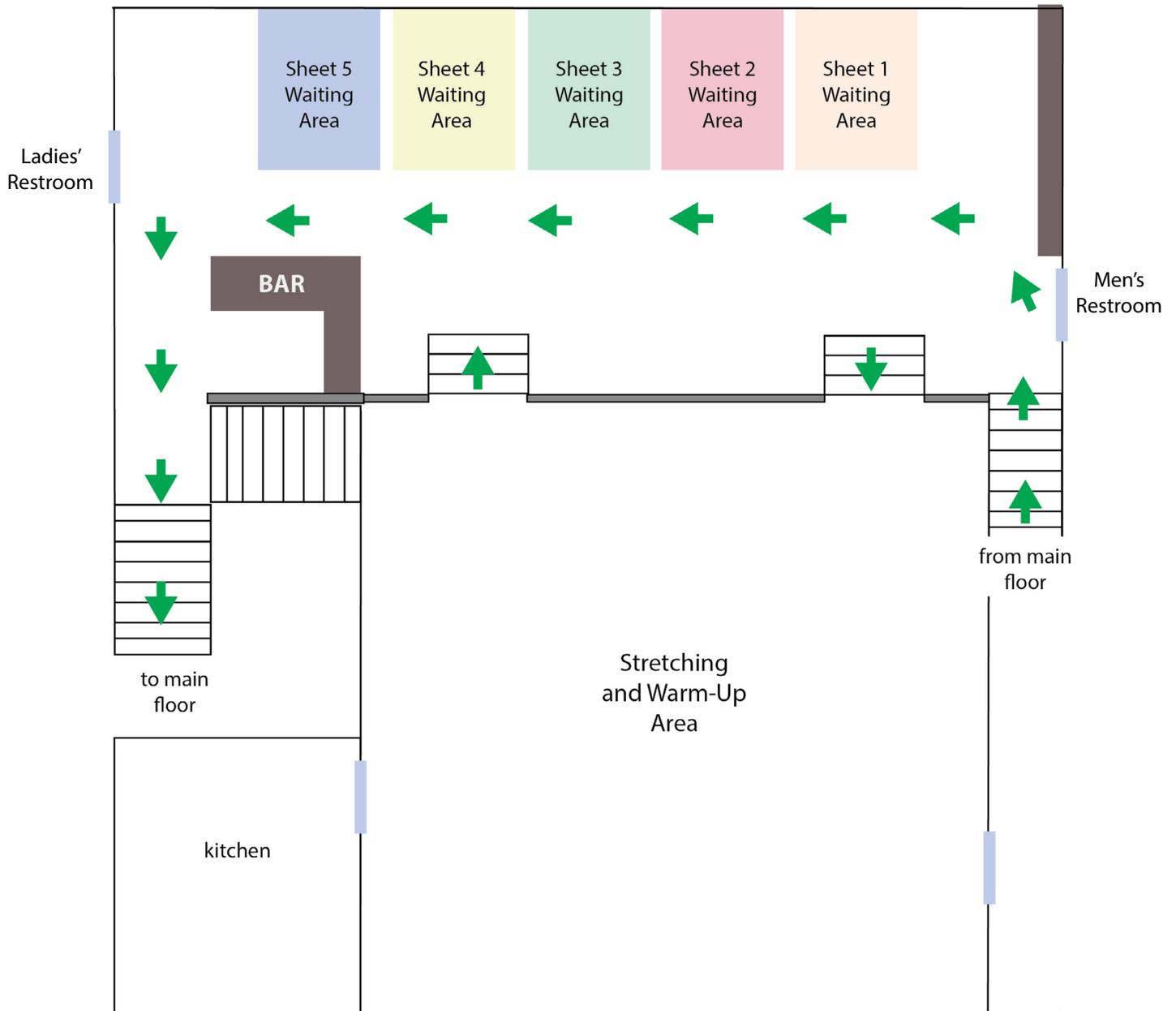
MAIN FLOOR

Entrance to Ice Shed
(Sheet 1)

Exit from Ice Shed
(Sheet 5)



SECOND FLOOR



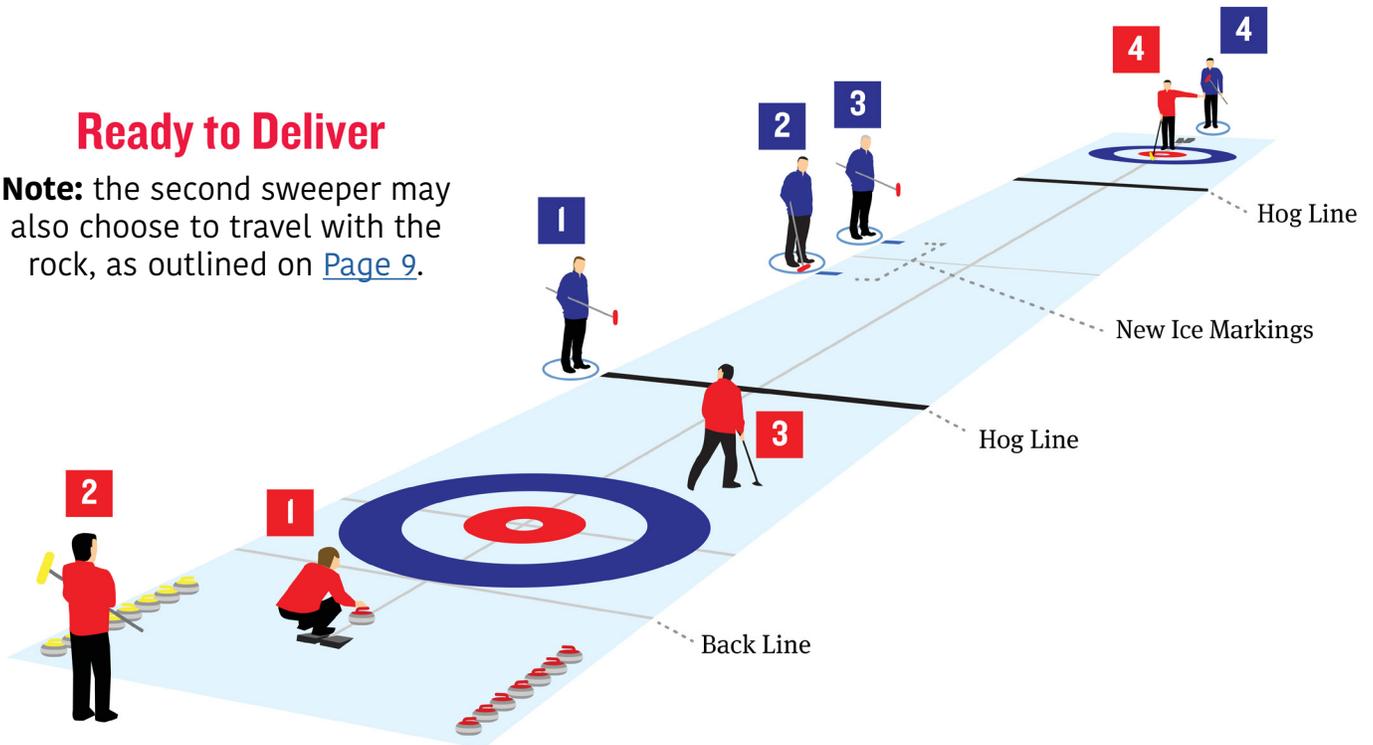
Legend

- rope barrier
- door

ON THE ICE

Ready to Deliver

Note: the second sweeper may also choose to travel with the rock, as outlined on [Page 9](#).



Stone is Delivered



COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION OF GAMES POLICY COVID-19 AMMENDMENT

Approved by the Board on 6-Nov-20

POLICY: All league and playoff games at the Rideau Curling Club (RCC) will start once the ice has been completed. A member of the RCC staff will flicker the ice shed lights when the ice is ready for play. Players are asked to sanitize their own stones.

If one team does not have three (3) eligible players ready to play 5 minutes after this time, the non-offending team shall be awarded a point and an end, choice of colour and the last rock (hammer) in the first end of actual play. The actual game would not be deemed to have started until the second end. After another 10 minutes without being able to field a team, the non-offending team shall be awarded another point and an end and retain the hammer. The game is then deemed to be starting in the third end. After another 15-minute delay, the offending team shall forfeit the game. Should both teams initially be unable to field a team, the policy will take effect immediately as soon as one team is able to field a team.

With respect to completing games in all leagues, no new end may begin after 25 minutes to the start of the next scheduled draw. For example, for a 4:45 PM game, no new end may begin after 6:20 PM. A 7:00 PM game, may therefore not start a new end after 8:35 PM. The 9:15 PM draw shall have the same rule, unless both teams agree to complete the entire game prior to the start of play.

Additionally, all games will have a hard stop time. For 4:45 PM games this is 6:40 PM and for 7:00 PM games it is 8:55 PM. At these times, the games will be halted, and the incomplete end will not be counted towards the score.

For Ladder Leagues where the team to move up needs to be decided, if after the completion of the game it has resulted in a tie, teams shall break the tie by each team throwing one rock to determine closest to the button. Should both rocks cover the pin, the process shall be repeated. COVID related game rules will still apply.

RATIONALE: The RCC encourages players to be respectful of their teammates and opponents. With COVID related measures in place, it is imperative that all players are cognizant of their time on the ice. It is now, more than ever, essential that games finish on time so that the ice can be prepared and the next draw can begin on time.

The policy noted above is a modified version of the existing Curling Canada rules, described in section 16.3, which has penalties beginning at 1-minute, 15-minute and 30-minute delays. ONCurl has adopted the same rules as the Curling Canada.



Andrew Williams - President



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