

Anchorage Curling Club COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

(Updated 19 February 2021)

Based on Current Municipality of Anchorage Emergency Orders 17 and 18 (EO17, EO18)

INTRODUCTION

The Anchorage Curling Club will be following state and local health mandates regarding the safe re-opening and operation of our club during the COVID-19 pandemic. We operate in an ACC-owned facility, but on land managed by the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA). Therefore, it should be expected that we, the Board of Directors, may be required to present a COVID-19 Mitigation Plan. However, this document is designed to inform not only the MOA, but also our members on how we intend to operate our facility in a safe manner to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

This mitigation plan has been guided in its formation by local MOA mandates and guidelines and from mitigation plans produced by other local sporting organizations. Additionally, we have received guidance from our governing body (USA Curling) and from other curling clubs in Alaska and the lower 48 states. Despite these mitigation measures, there will still be some risk of exposure to COVID-19 in our facility. To minimize this risk, we request 100% compliance to the policies outlined below. We believe that adherence to these policies will significantly minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in our membership ranks and will allow the club to remain open. Having said that, we are prepared for the possibility of short term and longer term closures. This document is designed to be flexible depending on the status of COVID-19 cases in our community at any given time. It may therefore be necessary to update this plan regularly. Following any edits to the mitigation plan, membership will be updated with a notice of changes.

SAFETY MEASURES

GENERAL CLUB OPERATIONS

- The Board of Directors closed the club on 16 March 2020 and did not resume curling in the 2019-20 season. The club will re-open and operate in accordance with this mitigation plan for the 2020-21 season.
- As of the date of preparation of this plan, the targeted re-opening date is 1 November 2020.
- We will closely monitor and follow local guidelines for reopening.
- All membership registration and payments for league play will be conducted electronically in advance of play.
- **Face coverings will be required in the building and must be worn properly** (i.e., covering the nose and mouth at all times). We understand that some may object to this policy. Again, we are trying to create the safest possible environment for our members

during this pandemic. If you cannot comply with this rule, we ask you to sit out the curling season.

- Please wash your hands or use hand sanitizer immediately before/after if you find it necessary to touch your nose, eyes, or mouth.
- If a member has felt ill or displays any sign of COVID-19 symptoms, then they should not enter the building until they have been symptom free for at least 72 hours.
- Those at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to sit out the 2020-2021 curling season, or until a vaccine is made widely available.
- The building will be thoroughly cleaned prior to re-opening this season. During the season, cleaning supplies will be readily available to all members for disinfecting surfaces (e.g., doors, tables, etc...).
- There will be no fall rentals, learn to curls, or bonspiels. The Board of Directors will re-evaluate this policy for the winter/spring.
- There will be a reduction of seating in the clubhouse at designated, socially distanced locations. Please do not move the furniture.
- We will have staggered entry into building (e.g., a longer time period between draws to allow for early draw curlers to finish their match and leave the facility).
- **There will be no drop-in practice.** There will be limited practice times available only through advance online sign-up.
- There will be no access to building for non-members, except for designated ACC contractors to conduct necessary maintenance and/or repairs. These contractors will be held to the same minimum standards of proper hygiene, social distancing, and use of face coverings.
- No spectators. Do not gather/mingle in the club before/after games.
- All members will be required to provide full contact information for potential tracing purposes. This will be accomplished using the ACC website during membership and league registration.
- **Members will log each instance of building entry/exit** for purposes of contact tracing in the event of a COVID-19 case in the club.

THE BAR

- The bar will remain closed until further notice.

ICEHOUSE

- **Facemask required and must be worn properly** (i.e., Covering the nose and mouth at all times).
- Only the ice crew and current curling members are allowed on ice. No more than 16 members are allowed in the icehouse at a given time.
- Early draws will begin at 6pm and end at 7:30 regardless of the number of ends played to allow for time to sanitize and clear the building before the late draw.
- Late draws will begin at 8pm
- To begin a new draw, Sheet A will throw rocks from the clubhouse to scoreboard end while sheet B will throw from the scoreboard to clubhouse end.

- A simple “good curling” will suffice in-lieu of hand-shakes.
- No second sweeper. Additionally, no relaying (second sweeper taking over halfway down the sheet).
- Keep distance of 6 feet or greater whenever possible.
- As always, only skips/vice skips may be in the “house” areas.
- Designate two rocks per player prior to each game. Retrieve your own stones prior to each throw. After an end is complete, only one player from each team should clear the house while the other players move to their socially distanced locations on the ice. Players moving the stones out of the house are encouraged to use their feet.
- Each player responsible for cleaning their stone handles and other common supplies before and after use (e.g., disinfect handles - see list of high touch areas attached).
- Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage in a container with a lid. No “community” water pitchers will be allowed.
- Teams are encouraged to designate one scorekeeper to log each end on their phone. This will help the club save valuable cleaning supplies for other uses. If the scoreboard is used, again designate one person between the two teams and sanitize the scoreboard numbers upon completion of each game.
- Please sanitize equipment and follow social distancing during stone measuring.
- Games must stop at the designated time regardless of the number of ends played to allow time for sanitation of equipment and exiting of the area prior to the next draw. If games are tied, teams are encouraged to play a last shot draw to the button to determine the winner prior to the designated completion time.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Please be a good club member and assign members to clean clubhouse tables, bathrooms, fixtures, and other common use structures in the facility between games.
- Deep cleaning will occur weekly on weekends.
- Avoid sharing of club equipment. Sanitized between each use.
- Limit facility use to no more than 20 people.
- If you have traveled by airplane out of the city or state, we ask you not enter the club for 10 days post travel or until you have produced a negative COVID-19 test result post-travel.
- If you have been in contact with someone who is suspected of a positive COVID-19, we ask that you avoid the club for 72 hrs or until a negative test result is received.
- If you have contracted COVID-19, you will not enter the building for at least 14 days AND are at least 72 hrs from displaying symptoms.
- Members will alert a member of the Board of Directors if they test positive for COVID-19 (or if they suspect that they were ill from COVID-19) and will refrain from entering the building as noted above.
- If members have been in the building during a period when they may have been positive for COVID-19, but asymptomatic, they will respectfully alert a member of the Board of Directors with the date and times that they were present so that all other members present on that date or dates may be notified.

IN THE EVENT OF AN COVID-19 CASE IN OUR CLUB

- ACC will be shut down immediately for deep cleaning and will remain empty for at least 72 hours except for PPE outfitted volunteer clean-up crew.
- A notification of a positive COVID-19 test will be sent to all members and will include the date and times when that person was present in the club. The identity of the member testing positive will not be shared with membership at large.
- For the league night(s) in question, all members in the club who participated with that member will be encouraged to seek a test immediately.

Communication Plan

- Email will be the primary means for notifying club members of potential COVID-19 exposure, club shutdown, and/or updates to this mitigation plan. Therefore members are responsible for keeping their email address current within their profile on the ACC website and ensure updates are not filtered to their spam/junk folder.
- Updates and announcements will also be posted to the member's only area of the ACC website. This will be the secondary means of communication.
- Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram will be used to supplement the primary and secondary lines of communication.
- Club members are encouraged to check their email, the ACC website, and social media platforms regularly.