

Anchorage Curling Club COVID-19 Mitigation Plan  
(Updated 03 September 2021)

Based on Current Muni plan, CDC recommendations, State of AK recommendations

## 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.

At this time, Covid-19 vaccination will be required to register and curl at the Anchorage Curling Club for the 2021/2022 season for anyone over the age of twelve. Due to the current situation with the delta variant, we will require masks during play at the beginning of the season. This is due to conditions on the ice such as difficulty in social distancing and the nature of yelling and heavy breathing during play, and increased transmission in indoor ice rinks. We will continually revisit the mask requirement throughout the season as the situation with covid develops. We will be following Muni, The State of AK and CDC guidelines to make our decisions. For juniors, the parents attending will be required to be vaccinated.

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

- As of the date of preparation of this plan, the targeted re-opening date is 25 September 2021.
- We will closely monitor and follow local & national guidelines for reopening.
- All membership registration and payments for league play will be conducted electronically in advance of play.
- **Vaccination will be required for entering the club, both participants and spectators.**
- **Face coverings will be required at this time 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 tested negative. See below for additional considerations.
- Those at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to sit out the 2021-2022 curling season.
- 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 fall rentals, learn to curls and bonspiels.
- 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** be open for the 2021/2022 season.

## 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.
- 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 is 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).
- 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.
- We will be utilizing the air filters we purchased for the club last season on the ice and in the club house.
- Avoid sharing of club equipment. Sanitized between each use.
- If you have been in contact with someone who is suspected of a positive COVID-19, we ask that you avoid the club until a negative test is received, testing 3-5 days after contact.
- If you have contracted COVID-19, you will not enter the building for at least 10 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.