

WATERLOO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL CURLING LEAGUE

NOVICE AND INTERMEDIATE CURLING LEAGUE RULES

0. Divisions

- 0.1** The Waterloo County High School Curling League shall be divided into two divisions: Novice and Intermediate. The number of teams entered shall be limited to 32. Play will be divided 2 pools, so that no team plays a team from its own school, or another team, twice. All other teams will be randomly placed into Pool A or Pool B
- 0.2** These divisions shall be governed by WCSSAA, Ofsaa, and OCA rules.

1. Playing Dates

- 1.1** League practice time shall be provided during the first 2 weeks of November.
- 1.2** League play shall take place during the months of November to January, with breaks during the school holidays.
- 1.3** Playoff games shall take place as 2 separate one-day bonspiels, held in Elmira prior to the exam period.
- 1.4** Novice play will generally take place on Tuesdays, with other days used as necessary.
- 1.5** Intermediate play will generally take place on Thursdays, with other days used as necessary.

2. Location

- 2.1** Novice and Intermediate curling will take place at the K-W Granite Curling Club, but games may be scheduled at other locations if necessary to complete a schedule.
- 2.2** Playoff bonspiels will be held at the Elmira Curling Club.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1** Each competitor must be eligible under all the rules and regulations of WCSSAA (Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association), including:
- 3.1.1** Each competitor must be a full-time student.
- 3.1.2** Each competitor must be certified eligible by his/her principal.
- 3.1.3** Each competitor must be age 19 years or less on August 31 of the school year.
- 3.2** Team membership shall not be restricted by sex or age, except that rule 3.1.3 shall apply.
- 3.3** Team membership shall be restricted by curling experience. Each year of club or high school curling experience gained while a student is in high school shall count as one year.
- 3.3.1** In Novice Curling, no team shall have total experience that exceeds six (6) complete years.

- 3.3.2** In Novice Curling, no individual shall have total big rock experience that exceeds two (2) complete years. Players wishing to play in the Novice league will have to sign a declaration of their Curling experience as outlined below.

I, _____, certify that my total big rock curling experience is limited to two years or less and I have not curled in any OCA events at the competitive level.

Signature: _____ Dated: _____

- 3.3.3** In Intermediate Curling, no team shall have total experience that exceeds eight (8) complete years.
- 3.3.4** If total experience prevents a school from entering a team, the convener may make allowances from rules 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3 to allow formation of a team. Playing positions may be restricted in this case.
- 3.4** A team must have at least three curlers present to play. A player's position must be declared at the beginning of the game, and positions cannot be rotated.
- 3.4.1** A team with only two regular members present may use substitutes if available. The substitute(s) must play lead or lead and second. The substitute can enter the game only after the halfway point/third end. The substitute player must play the position of the person they are replacing.
- 3.4.2** A team using substitutes must still conform to rules 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3.
- 3.4.3** A team with only one regular team member present must default the game, although an exhibition game may be played if substitutes are available.
- 3.5** A team with a 5th or 6th player may substitute those players in or out of the game at any time as long as it is at the completion of an end.
- 3.6** If a team is using illegal substitution, the coach of the offending team must correct the substitution immediately and the players(s) will receive a warning. If there are further infractions of illegal substitutions, the offending team will forfeit the game.

4. League Structure

- 4.1** The number of teams that may be entered by each school will be limited by the availability of ice time. If ice time is limited, the convener and coaches shall determine the restrictions that shall apply.
- 4.2** Each team may consist of four (4) or five (5) curlers at one time.
- 4.3** By December 1, a written roster for each team must be submitted to the convener. The roster size is unlimited, but may not be changed after December 1, unless for extraordinary circumstances and then only with the permission of the convener.
- 4.4** A curler may not appear on more than one roster in each league, but may appear on a roster in any league except:
- 4.4.1** Players who are regular members of a WCSSAA Senior team may not appear on a Novice roster.

- 4.5 Players who are skip and vice of a WCSSAA Senior team may not play skip and vice of the same Intermediate team.

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5. Playoff Structure

- 5.1 The top eight teams in the league (or top four in each section, if sectional play occurs) shall compete for the league championship.
- 5.2 A maximum of eight other teams will be allowed to compete for the league consolation championship.
- 5.3 Rules 5.1, 5.2 may be modified by the convener, if the number of teams or ice availability so warrants.
- 5.4 The championship format shall be published by the last game before the Christmas break.
- 5.5 Playoff dates shall be determined at a fall meeting and shall depend on the number of teams and ice availability.
- 5.6 The following rule changes shall apply to playoff games:
- 5.6.1 All playoff games will be six (6) ends.
- 5.6.2 There will be a two (2) minute time-out at the halfway point of each playoff game. During this time the coach may advise the team. As well, each coach is allowed two (2) 1 minute time-outs when they are in control of the house. Both coaches may advise their team at that time. No other coaching is allowed during the game. Players must initiate time-outs.
- 5.6.3 A team may play with three (3), four (4) or five (5) members. If a team has five (5) members present, one member (in rotation) may not sweep.
- 5.6.4 A substitute may not be recruited except from the official team roster. A substitute may not play Skip or Vice.
- 5.6.5 If a tie exists at the end of six (6) ends play a half end (one rock each player) if time permits. If the tie still exists then each team designates a player to throw one rock with sweeping and shot being called. Closest to the button wins. If time does not permit, then closest to the button as above is to be used.

6. Supervision and Officials

- 6.1 The convenor or his/her designate shall:
- 6.1.1 Be present from 3:15 p.m. to the end of the games each scheduled day.
- 6.1.2 Post the draw before each game, and record the scores at the end of each game.
- 6.1.3 Serve as umpire when needed.
- 6.1.4 Serve as a resource person regarding the coaching of curling skills, etiquette, and other matters.

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6.1.5 Provide first-aid equipment at each club, and publicize the location of the first-aid kit.

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6.2 Each coach shall:

6.2.1 Be present from 3:30 p.m. each scheduled day and carry a team list which includes parent/guardian name(s), phone numbers where they may be reached, doctor's name and phone number and health card number. If a coach cannot be present for a game, a teacher substitute must be obtained and provided with the above team list and the league convenor must be informed before the game starts.

6.2.2 Check the draw before each game, and assist his/her team to start on time and be at the correct location.

6.2.3 Ensure that all teams will be present for every game, or notify the opposing team and convenor in advance if his/her team must default.

6.2.4 Supervise the on-ice and off-ice activities of his/her team members, while in the curling club.

6.2.5 Be aware of and enforce the rules of the host club.

6.2.6 Be aware of the location of the first-aid equipment.

6.2.7 Endeavor to teach the rules of etiquette to all student curlers.

6.2.8 Advise his/her team on the ice (optional during league play, not allowed except for time-outs during the playoffs).

6.2.9 If a coach is not present a game may not begin. If a coach must leave in the course of a game and no valid substitute is present, that team forfeits the game. If an emergency arises such that the coach must leave in order to attend to it, the game will be halted and completed at a time arranged between the two teams.

6.2.10 If a coach must leave while a game is in progress, the opposing team's coach shall be made aware of this and also the league convenor.

6.3 Student curlers shall:

6.3.1 Be aware that all regular season games will begin at 3:15 p.m. (subject to change from year to year as available ice times vary). Players will be present and ready to play, or obtain a substitute to be present, or notify their coach well in advance.

6.3.2 Record the scores at the end of each game (the vice of the winning team should perform this duty).

6.3.3 Be aware of and obey the rules of the host club.

6.3.4 Be aware of the location of the first-aid equipment.

6.3.5 Be responsive to all coaches in matters of safety, behaviour on and off the ice and decorum.

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6.3.6 Be aware of the rules of etiquette of curling and endeavor to follow them.

6.4 Fair Play time-out: The coach or league convenor may call a two (2) minute time-out to talk to a player or players regarding inappropriate behaviour or conduct as defined under OFSSAA rules. The first time there will be a warning issued. Upon a second and further infractions in any other games the player will be removed from the ice for the duration of that game. The league convenor is to keep track of such infractions.

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7. Playing Rules and other suggestions

7.1 Student curlers are not allowed on the ice until their coach or his/her designate is present.

7.2 Teams may be penalized for late arrival (loss of points). Regular OCA rules (i.e. 1 point, 1 end, loss of hammer for every 15 minutes; default after 30 minutes) shall apply unless extraordinary circumstances prevail. The convenor or his/her designate shall have the final say in this matter.

7.3 Games shall be six (6) ends long, except that there is a time limit at both clubs that is Governed by the following:

7.3.1 No end shall start after 4:40 p.m (subject to change from year to year as available ice times vary).

7.3.2 Every effort shall be made to complete all six (6) ends. Teams shall not use the clock to prevent the playing of six (6) ends in a close game.

7.4 Teams will be awarded points for games as follows:

7.4.1 A win is worth three (3) points.

7.4.2 A tie is worth two (2) points.

7.4.3 A played loss is worth one (1) point.

7.4.4 A defaulted game is worth zero (0) points.

7.4.5 In the case of a tie, first, the head – to – head games among all tied teams should be examined. In the case where not all tied teams played each other, the next tie breaker is examining the total average of ends won per game for the season. In the case where teams have the same total average of ends won per game, a coin toss will be used to determine placing.

7.4.6 Other than when WCSSAA cancels play, if a school is unable to make a scheduled game because of weather conditions, every attempt should be made to re-schedule the game. If re-scheduling is not possible then the game will be considered a tie.

7.5 If a team has only two members present, that team may use substitutes from another Team from the same school or from another team, but no player may be forced to leave his/her own team to substitute on another team.

7.6 The wearing of uniform shirts, jackets, or sweaters is recommended but not necessary.

7.7 Proper footwear (curling shoes or sliders) is recommended, but tape on the sliding foot is

Allowed. The shoes worn must not be regularly used street shoes.

7.8 Players must obey normal school and club rules, including:

7.8.1 Players must abide by the dress regulations of each host club or may be sent home.

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7.8.2 Students are not allowed to smoke before, during or after a game at either club.

7.8.3 Students are not allowed to drink alcoholic beverages before, during or after a game at either club.

7.8.4 Club rules that are designed to keep the ice surface clean and in good condition must be followed.

7.8.5 Students use of a facility should not interfere with the members' ability to enjoy their own facility.

7.9 Any situation not covered by these rules shall be governed by WCSSAA, OFSSAA or OCA rules.

7.10 Any person who is not an official member on a roster cannot be on or adjacent to the playing surface. The game must be stopped until such a person leaves the area and the game may be forfeited by the team associated with the person if the person does not leave.

8. Awards

8.1 The championship team in each division shall receive a trophy and championship plaques for each team member.

8.2 The losing finalist in each division shall receive finalist plaques for each team member.

8.3 Both finalist teams in each consolation championship game shall receive curling pins for each team member.

9. Appeals (Protests)

9.1 The procedure for all protests, complaints and suspensions is outlined in Bylaw 4, Section 6 of the WCSSAA bylaws.

10. First Aid

10.1 First-aid supplies are available at both clubs. Be aware of the location of these kits at both clubs. (Located behind the bar at the Granite club and carried by the convenor at Westmount)

11. Coaches Meetings

11.1 A meeting of all coaches will be held in mid-September and early April. Each school should have at least one coach in attendance. Mid-season meetings will be held as needed at the Granite club, usually for information purposes only.

11.2 In matters pertaining only to Novice/Intermediate curling, each school shall have one (1) vote.

