

WORLD CURLING

CODE OF ETHICS

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Owner:	World Curling Governance Commission
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Note:	Update to branding and font style; use of the name World Curling

1. INTRODUCTION

The Curling Family, made up of World Curling (WCF) and each of its Member Associations, their respective officers and staff, commission members, athletes, officials, local organising committees and their volunteers, restate their commitment to the Spirit of Curling as laid down within the Rules of the Game.

Those involved in the sport undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.

2. WHAT IS ETHICS

Ethics requires a conduct that is in accordance with the principles of integrity, dignity, loyalty and responsibility in all aspects of a competitive, economic, social and moral nature.

- **Integrity** – refraining from all incorrect behaviour that might give rise to the appearance or suspicion of improper conduct.
- **Dignity** – behaving in a respectful manner including respect of the rights of the individual and the right to privacy.
- **Loyalty** – showing allegiance to World Curling
- **Responsibility** – performing, without supervision, of required tasks whilst respecting the policies of World Curling.

In addition, any situation in which a conflict of interest exists, or any situation in which a conflict of interest is not declared, constitutes a violation of ethical conduct.

3. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

The members of the Curling Family undertake to comply and ensure compliance with World Curling's Code of Ethics in the following circumstances:

- World Curling (WCF), each of its Member Associations, commission members, local organising committees, and the officers and staff of all these organisations, at all times and in all circumstances
- All participants and volunteers at World Curling organised events, throughout each event for which they are accredited

The Member Associations of World Curling and the Organising Committees of World Curling events undertake to adopt (for their internal activities) a code of ethics based on the principles and rules of the WCF Code of Ethics or, in a written declaration to adopt the WCF Code of Ethics.

4. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

4.1

Respect for universal fundamental ethical principles is the foundation of both Curling and, in a wider sense, Olympism.

These include:

- a) Respect for the Spirit of Curling which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity, and fair play
- b) Respect of the principle of the universality and political neutrality of the sport
- c) Maintaining harmonious relations with local and national authorities
- d) Respect for international conventions on protecting human rights insofar as they apply to the sport's activities and which ensure, in particular:
 - respect for human dignity
 - rejection of discrimination of any kind
 - rejection of all forms of harassment – e.g., physical, professional, or sexual and any physical or mental injuries
- e) Ensuring the participants' conditions of safety, well-being, and medical care

4.2 Integrity of Conduct

4.2.1

The Curling Family must use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission and must always act with the highest degree of integrity. In particular, when taking decisions, they must always act with impartiality, objectivity, independence, and professionalism with the integrity of the sport foremost in their minds. This includes any disrespectful, hateful, harmful, disparaging, insulting, or otherwise negative postings on social media (including, but not limited to, Facebook, YouTube, blogs, Instagram, Snapchat and X) that is directed at an individual, at World Curling, or at other individuals / Member Associations of World Curling.

They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption and must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the sport of Curling, World Curling or the wider Olympic movement.

4.2.2

The Curling Family or their representatives must not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with World Curling events except where approved, in advance, by the Board of World Curling.

4.2.3

Only tokens of consideration or friendship of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by members of the Curling Family or third parties. Such tokens may not lead to the impartiality and integrity of the parties being called into question. As outlined in the WCF Gifts and Hospitality Policy, gifts should be declared on the relevant form and submitted to the Secretary General of the WCF.

Any other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted and must be passed on to the beneficiary's member organisation.

4.2.4

For hospitality shown to members of the Curling Family, as well as those accompanying them, a sense of measure must be respected. As outlined in the WCF Gifts and Hospitality Policy, such hospitality should be declared on the relevant form and submitted to the World Curling Secretary General.

4.2.5

The members of the Curling Family must refrain from placing themselves in any conflict of interests, and must respect the published World Curling Conflict of Interests Policy.

4.3 Integrity of Competitions

4.3.1

Members of the Curling Family shall commit to combat all forms of cheating and shall continue to undertake all the necessary measures to ensure the integrity of competitions.

4.3.2

Members of the Curling Family must respect the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code as well as the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.

4.3.3

World Curling is committed to ensuring the sport is protected from illegal betting and match fixing.

4.3.4

Participants in World Curling events must not manipulate the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics, infringe the principle of fair play or show unsporting conduct.

4.4 Good Governance and Resources

4.4.1

All members of the Curling Family must respect the basic universal principles of good governance of the Olympic and Sports movement, in particular, transparency, responsibility and accountability.

4.4.2

The resources of World Curling must be used only for World Curling approved purposes.

4.4.3

The income and expenditure of the Members of the Curling Family must be recorded in their accounts in accordance with accepted international accounting principles. These accounts must be checked by an independent auditor.

4.4.4

In cases where the World Curling gives financial support to other members of the Curling Family:

- a) the use of World Curling resources for World Curling approved purposes must be clearly demonstrated in the accounts, copies of which will be made available to World Curling if requested
- b) the accounts of the members of the Curling Family may, on occasion, be subjected to auditing by an expert designated by the Board of World Curling

4.4.5

Members of the Curling Family recognise the significant contribution that broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters make to the development and prestige of World Curling events throughout the world.

In order to preserve the integrity and neutrality of the various candidature procedures, the support and promotion of any of the candidatures by broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must be in a form consistent with the rules of sport and the principles defined in this Code of Ethics and within the Spirit of Curling.

The broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must not interfere in the governance of the World Curling.

4.5 Candidatures

4.5.1

Members of the Curling Family shall respect the integrity of any candidature procedure initiated by World Curling. This is to allow equal access to the promotion of each candidature and the refusal of any risk of conflict of interests.

Out of respect for the principle of neutrality of World Curling officers or staff, no public declaration appearing to give a favourable opinion of one of the candidatures may be made.

4.5.2

Members of the Curling Family will respect the requirements of the various procedures and / or policies published by World Curling.

4.6 Confidentiality

The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the Board and Commission members in all their activities.

4.7 Reporting Obligation

Members of the Curling Family shall inform the World Curling Secretary General, in the strictest of confidence, and by using the appropriate mechanisms, of any information in relation to a violation of World Curling's Code of Ethics, with a view to a possible referral to the appropriate disciplinary channel.

Any disclosure of information must not be for personal gain or benefit and nor to be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

4.8 Implementation

4.8.1

World Curling's Governance Commission may set out the provisions for the implementation of the present code in a set of Implementing Provisions, subject to the approval of the World Curling Board.

4.8.2

The World Curling Secretary General is available to the World Curling Board to disseminate and implement the present code.