

WORLD CURLING

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

Version:	2.0
Owner:	World Curling Governance Commission
Approved By:	World Curling Board – 10 August 2026
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Note:	Update to branding; use of the name World Curling; punctuation; divided Disciplinary and Appeals Policy into two policies

PURPOSE

This policy has been adopted by the Board of Directors of World Curling, in order to provide a framework and process for all disciplinary matters or grievances at Championships, events and activities organised by (or managed by) World Curling (collectively referred in this policy by the term “World Curling event”), should they be required. Sanctions referred to in this policy can be applied to individuals, teams or Member Associations and can equally be applied, if appropriate, outside of a World Curling event where there is an alleged violation or breach of a World Curling policy. Where the disciplinary matter needs to be escalated or the outcome is appealed, parties involved will adhere to the World Curling Appeals Policy found on the website of World Curling.

1. DISCIPLINARY POLICY

- 1.1 This Policy was created by World Curling with the aim of ensuring how disciplinary action can be managed in accordance with the Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition and other policies such as Code of Conduct and Safeguarding.
- 1.2 This Policy applies to all Member Associations, Athletes or Officials.
- 1.3 World Curling will appoint a Disciplinary Panel (DP) responsible for adjudicating disciplinary matters or grievances arising during World Curling events, (in accordance with item 4.1) with the same being applicable if a breach of policy occurs outside of a World Curling event.
- 1.4 The term “Official” shall refer to a person who is accredited, listed or acts as an accompanying person at World Curling events (e.g., trainer, coach, doctor, umpire, technical official, delegate, representative, team manager, organiser, staff). The term also covers elected or appointed delegates.

2. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- 2.1 Any person subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of World Curling by virtue of item 1.2 shall be liable to disciplinary action if their conduct is considered to be inappropriate, incorrect, improper, unlawful or unsporting and/or has the potential to bring the sport of curling or World Curling into disrepute with their actions being reported to World Curling.

Breaches which constitute criminal conduct may also result in criminal prosecution. If the breach includes a violation of the law, the matter may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authority.

2.2 Penalties imposed on Member Associations, Athletes or Officials must follow these disciplinary regulations. The severity of the penalty imposed depends on the nature of the offence and is at the discretion of the DP.

3. PENALTIES

3.1 The following penalties may be imposed:

- verbal / written reprimand
- fine
- suspension
- disqualification
- removal of ranking points
- return of awarded prizes
- ban from competition
- ban from performing a function
- exclusion from World Curling
- other action deemed suitable by the DP

A combination of the above penalties, including a combination with a fine, is allowed. A repeat offender may be punished more severely.

3.2 Penalties may be suspended. The Disciplinary Panel shall define the period for which any penalty may be suspended as well as any conditions the offender may need to meet during that period. If the offender breaches the conditions within the period identified by the DP, the original penalty will take effect, and a new penalty may be issued. When deciding on a new penalty, it shall be considered that a previous penalty was already set. Penalties may be cumulative.

4. DISCIPLINARY PANEL (DP)

4.1 Upon receipt of a written submission (requirements provided for in item 5.2) to the Chief Umpire or Event Organiser or to World Curling (if the breach occurs outside of a World Curling event), the World Curling Secretary General will appoint a DP that shall normally consist of no fewer than three individuals. These individuals shall be selected by the World Curling Secretary General identified as having suitable skills and knowledge to serve on the Panel and approved by the Board. The individuals selected shall have no connection to any person involved in the matter, and should they become aware of any conflict that could be seen to have an impact on their judgement, they shall inform the Secretary General and withdraw from the process.

4.2 The DP has the power to impose the penalties in 3.1. following an offence.

5. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

5.1. The disciplinary procedure shall be based on the procedural rules of the CAS – Court of Arbitration for Sports in every aspect not specifically covered in this procedure.

5.2. The disciplinary procedure starts with a written submission by any interested party (submitter). This submission must state the name of the respondent, the nature of the alleged offence and available evidence.

5.3. The DP will make its decision based only on the written reports and evidence, as well as any submission from the respondent. A decision may be taken outside of an official meeting using any formal means of communication between the DP members. If a hearing is to be held, the Chair of the Panel will issue directions, with respect to the hearing, as soon as possible and set the hearing date. As a general rule, there shall be one hearing during which the Panel hears the parties, any witnesses and experts, as well as the parties' final oral arguments, of which the Respondent is heard last.

5.4. When the respondent attends a disciplinary meeting, they are entitled to be accompanied by a representative and an interpreter, if required, as the official language of World Curling is English. The role of the representative is to ensure that the hearing is fair and managed effectively.

5.5. If an applicant or respondent is under 18 at the date of the alleged disciplinary matter:

5.5.1. The World Curling Secretary General shall appoint someone to act as a Child Protection Officer to ensure his or her interests are protected. The DP shall consult with the person nominated so they may exercise and act in the best interest of the respondent.

5.5.2. Any written communication will be copied to their parent or carer.

5.5.3. If the respondent or witness is under 18 at the date of the alleged disciplinary matter, they may be accompanied by a parent or carer at any meeting or proceedings.

5.5.4. When considering any sanction, the DP shall consider the age of a respondent under 18 at the date the disciplinary matter is alleged to have occurred.

5.6. The disciplinary meeting shall take place as quickly as is practicable, but no later than one month following the respondent's submission.

5.7. The venue of the meeting will be decided by the DP and communicated to the respondent. This meeting could take place via a video conference, Zoom or Microsoft Teams, if deemed necessary.

5.8. Any expenses incurred by the respondent must be paid by the respondent or the respondent's Member Association.

5.9. The meeting will follow these principles:

5.9.1. The DP will chair the meeting.

5.9.2. The only people who may be present are the submitter and their representative(s) and the respondent and their representative(s).

5.9.3. The meeting shall start with introductions of those present and their roles and then follow the format below.

5.9.4. The DP will explain to the respondent that they must tell the truth and that there is no requirement for the DP to answer any questions.

5.9.5. Presentation of evidence.

5.9.6. Additional evidence may be presented.

5.9.7. Summary of points from each party with the respondent having the opportunity of being heard last.

5.10. The DP's decision will be made with no other person present. The decision will be announced as soon as is practical to do so and in a timely manner.

5.11. The decision will be confirmed, in writing, within seven days of the meeting to the respondent, the applicant and any other athlete, connected person or associate body involved. The letter will explain the appeal process (including the timeframe) and full detail of the Appeals Policy can be found on the World Curling website.

5.12. The disciplinary proceedings are confidential. However, World Curling may make a public statement relating to the outcome of the proceedings and any penalty issued.

6. RECORD KEEPING

6.1. The chair of the DP shall provide minutes of each hearing which shall contain a record of the procedural business of the meeting and a record of each hearing (which shall be contained in a separate document) is taken. The chair of the DP shall also provide written reasons for any findings made by the DP including the sanction, if any, and the factors that were taken into consideration when imposing such a sanction.

6.2. Records relating to a disciplinary matter shall be kept for two years, or in accordance with Swiss law whichever is longer, after any investigation, proceedings and sanction imposed are all completed