



**WORLD
CURLING**

BRUSH INSPECTION

PROCEDURAL GUIDE FOR UMPIRES

CAPTURE PIECE/BASEPLATES



CAPTURE PIECE AND BASEPLATES



Considerations:

Confirm that all components are produced by the same manufacturer.

Ensure no modifications or alterations have been made to any of the components.

Verify that there is no visible damage, cracking, or deformation to any plastic components.

Components that do not appear damaged or altered will be **approved** for use in the field of play.

FOAM INSPECTION



FOAM INSPECTION PROCEDURE

Step 1: Ensure the foam is compliant. Only approved foam listed in the Approved Product Code List is allowed in the field of play. Team members are entitled to use any age of foam so long as the structural integrity of the foam has not been compromised. Faded and discoloured foam is still approved for use.

Step 2: Observe the structural integrity of the foam. If the foam has any visible tears, it is not approved for use in the field of play. It is up to the team member to find a suitable replacement foam.

Step 3: Carefully inspect the inner rim of the foam for any cracking or damage. Minor cracking is acceptable, as this is consistent with typical wear associated with changing the replacement sleeve numerous times.

If minor cracking is detected, the team member should be given a warning that their foam is beginning to deteriorate. While the foam will remain approved for use, they should consider replacing it.

Major cracking/tearing will result in the foam not being approved for use.

Step 4: Inspect the side of the foam in contact with the ice. This should be flat with no modifications. Sometimes wrinkles or creases may be visible due to the exterior coating on the foam - this is consistent with typical wear associated with changing the replacement sleeve numerous times and is not a concern.

Foam that does not appear damaged or altered will be approved for use.

STEP 1: FOAM COMPLIANCE (EXAMPLES)



BalancePlus Foam (top to bottom)

RS 3.0: Grey in colour - **Approved**

RS: White in colour - **Approved**

RS: Faded yellow colour due to age - **Approved**



Hardline Foam (top to bottom)

IcePad Competitive: Beige in colour - **Not Approved**

IcePad Recreational: White in colour - **Approved**

IcePad Recreational: Faded yellow colour due to age - **Approved**

Note: The age of the foam is something that is currently not restricted by World Curling. Team members are entitled to use any age of foam so long as the structural integrity of the foam has not been compromised.

STEP 2: TORN FOAM



Observe the structural integrity of the foam. If the foam has any visible tears, it is **not approved** for use in the field of play. It is up to the team member to find a suitable replacement foam.

STEP 3: CRACKING ALONG EDGES



EXAMPLE 1



EXAMPLE 2

Procedure: Carefully and gently examine the interior rim of the foam. Be mindful to not handle the foam in a way that may cause additional damage.

Example 1: Minor cracking along the interior edge – this foam would remain **approved** for use.

Example 2: Substantial cracking/tearing – This foam would **not be approved** for use.

STEP 4: BOTTOM SIDE OF FOAM



Inspect the side of the foam in contact with the ice. This should be flat with no modifications.

Note: Wrinkles or creases may be visible due to the exterior coating on the foam (right image). This is consistent with typical wear associated with changing the replacement sleeve numerous times and is not a concern. Both foams above would be **approved** for use in the field of play.

REPLACEMENT SLEEVES



REPLACEMENT BRUSH SLEEVE POLICY

(This policy also applies to one-piece brush heads)

There are three categories of events covered in the Replacement Brush Sleeve Policy:

WORLD CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

At select World Curling Championship events (WWCC, WMCC, WMDCC) and the Olympic Winter Games, teams must begin each game of the competition with clean, new replacement brush sleeves. This policy is applicable to both the male and female positions for Mixed Doubles competitions and to the lead, second, and third delivery positions for all other events. The Skip of a team does not need to change their brush sleeve before each game but has to start the competition with a clean, new replacement brush sleeve. Umpires have the authority to ask a skip to replace a sleeve if they deem the condition of the equipment is unsatisfactory. With no clean new brush sleeve, the brush is considered non-conforming and cannot be used.

OTHER WORLD CURLING EVENTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

At all other World Curling Events and Championships teams are not required to begin each game with new replacement sleeves. However, World Curling recommends that athletes replace their sleeves when there is a substantial accumulation of debris on the fabric or when signs of noticeable fabric wear are evident. World Curling Umpires at these competitions have the authority to require a sleeve being replaced if they deem the condition of the equipment is unsatisfactory. If it is not replaced, the brush cannot be used.

NON-WORLD CURLING EVENTS WHERE WCTRS POINTS ARE AVAILABLE

World Curling recommends that teams participating in non-World Curling events where World Curling Team Ranking System (WCTRS) Points are available to replace their sleeves when there is a substantial accumulation of debris on the fabric or when signs of noticeable fabric wear are evident. While sleeve replacement in these competitions is at the discretion of each athlete, it is important for all participants to honour the spirit of curling, ensure fairness, and preserve the integrity of competitive play. If there is any question about the condition of a brush sleeve, it should be replaced.

IDENTIFYING WEAR/AGE OF A BRUSH SLEEVE



(From Left to Right)

New Replacement Sleeve: At select World Curling Championships athletes are required to begin each game of the competition with a clean, new replacement brush sleeve.

Minimally Used Sleeve: Wear pattern consistent with 1-2 games of use. Acceptable for all competitions where a new replacement brush sleeve is not required.

Moderately Used Sleeve: Wear pattern consistent with 3-5 games of use. While still acceptable, team members should consider replacing their brush sleeve once it has accumulated this amount of wear and debris.

Significantly Used Sleeve: Wear pattern consistent with excessive use. A brush sleeve that exhibits substantial wear and debris is not allowed in the field of play.



***WORLD
CURLING***