WORLD CURLING

COMPETITION POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL

October 2026

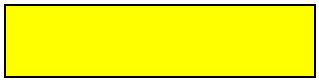
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Brush Policy

The detailed Brush Policy is available in the Statement of Principles for Competition Equipment. This is a separate document and can be found on the World Curling Website.

Brush Marking

4th player	
3rd player (Male in Mixed Doubles)	
2nd player (Female in Mixed Doubles)	
1st player	
Alternate & Team Officials	

Wheelchair Curling Policy

This document outlines supplementary policies for wheelchair curling as mentioned in the "Rules of Curling". It is the responsibility of each team member to ensure that these policies are met.

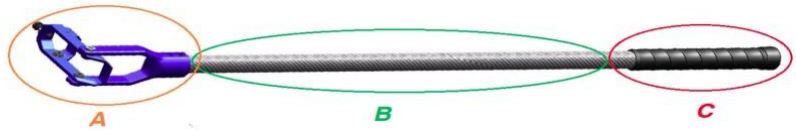
Delivery Sticks

World Curling will not conduct a certification process nor an official approval process for delivery sticks in wheelchair curling. World Curling will offer annual consultation services to provide advice on a product's conformation to the standards. A sample product needs to be received by World Curling prior to May 31st. Feedback and advice will be completed by 31 July. A fee may apply.

Delivery Stick Standards

The delivery stick shall not convey any mechanical advantage other than acting as an extension of the arm/hand. Mechanical advantage is defined as the amplification of a force. Examples that can exert such a force are, but not limited to springs and pistons.

This diagram describes the terminology of a delivery stick.



A = Delivery Head B = Tube C = Handle

The delivery stick must also abide by the following:

a) It cannot contain any part that automatically aims or assists in aiming the stone.

b) It cannot contain any part that adjusts the weight/speed of the stone.

c) The overall length of the delivery stick must be no greater than 2.45m/8.04 feet. This measurement is taken when the stick is lying on a horizontal plane. It is defined as the distance from the furthest point on the handle to the outstretched end of the delivery head.

d) The tube must be hollow and static in length throughout the delivery. However, adjustment of tube length is allowed between shots.

e) Customisation of the handle, tube and delivery head are allowed if they fall within the "Wheelchair Curling Policy". Examples include tape, velcro and silicon.

f) If the delivery stick conforms to the standards given it does not matter where the force is applied to the stone handle.

g) Throughout the delivery movement a fixed connection must occur between the athlete through the handle, tube, and delivery head.

Please further note from the "Rules of Curling":

Rule R11(c): "Teams must not use electronic communication equipment or any device to modify the voice, during a game. With the exception of stopwatches that are limited to providing 'time' data only, the use of electronic devices during the games, which provide information to players on the athletes' field of play, are forbidden".

Delivery Stick Penalties

The penalty for using a delivery stick in World Curling competition games or practices, that does not conform to standards for Competition Equipment established by World Curling:

a) First team offence during a competition: the player is disqualified from the competition and the team forfeits the game.

b) Second team offence during a competition: the team is disqualified from the competition and all players are not permitted to play in World Curling competitions for a 12-month period (365 days).

All teams will be allowed a maximum of four delivery sticks (two in Wheelchair Mixed Doubles) within the field of play and any player can use any of those sticks at any time. No delivery stick can be changed during a game, or during / after a pre-game practice, unless the Chief Umpire grants special permission. Permission will be granted if the tube, handle, or delivery head are damaged in an accidental manner. Penalty: If a change is made without permission, the team will forfeit the game.

If a team brings in an alternate a player during a game, that team may replace a maximum of one delivery stick (not applicable for Wheelchair Mixed Doubles).

Only a brush can be used as the target device. The use of delivery sticks or any other devices for this purpose is not permitted.

World Curling – Wheelchair Curling Policy July 2024

Accreditation at World Curling Events

Regular teams = 5 players, 1 coach and 2 other team officials (e. g. - team leader, translator, etc.); Mixed Doubles teams = 2 players (1 male & 1 female), 1 coach and 1 other team official
Mixed teams = 4 players (2 male & 2 female), 1 coach and 1 other team official

At all World Curling competitions, each team must have at least one team member who is at least 18 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June before the competition is to take place.

At all World Curling Junior competitions, each team must have at least one registered team official, present for the entire duration of the competition, who is at least 18 years old and has reached the legal age of majority required under the laws of the host country, prior to the start of the competition.

Please note: At World Curling Junior events, when teams are registering two coaches/team officials, one of them has to be of the gender of the athletes. For Junior Mixed Doubles that means one team official has to be male and one has to be female. Accreditation will be allowed as follows:

	Junior Women Event	Junior Men Event	Junior Mixed Doubles Event
Team with 1 team official	Any gender	Any gender	Any gender
Team with 2 team officials	At least one must be female	At least one must be male	One must be male and one must be female
Team with 3 team officials	At least one must be female	At least one must be male	No 3rd official allowed

All team members must collect their Accreditation Passes in person (with a photo ID document) prior to the end of pre-event practice day. Any person who has not collected their Accreditation Pass by this time will not be accredited for the event, along with being removed from the original line up as shown in rule C2(f).

Privileges granted for each accreditation category include:

Players (5) (2 for Mixed Doubles) (4 for Mixed)

- free entry to the venue for all games (when not playing, a seat in the team area)
- possibility to book accommodation in the team hotel(s)
- access to the team official field of play, when in the alternate position and the team is playing

- access to the players' lounge and other 'team' areas (medical / massage / interview area, etc.), where available
- may use the event's team transportation system (could be a team car / van or shuttle system), where available and under the Local Organizing Committee's conditions
- ticket to the Welcome Reception and Closing Function, where available and for a fee
- medal and other appropriate award items

Team Coach (1)

- same as the players

Second Team Official (1)

- free entry to the venue for all games, without a guaranteed seat
- Local Organising Committee has no obligation for transportation, only if space is available; also, no guarantee of accommodation in the team hotel, only if rooms are available
- ticket to the Welcome Reception and Closing Function, where available and for a fee

Third Team Official (1) for Regular 5-Player Teams

- free entry to the venue for all games
- access to team areas
- Local Organising Committee has no obligation for transportation, only if space is available; also, no guarantee of accommodation in the team hotel, only if rooms are available
- ticket to the Welcome Reception and Closing Function, where available and for a fee

Definition Translator

A translator must be officially registered as one of the team officials as listed above.

During a game, if the translator is one of the team members in the team official field of play, they are allowed to join the coach during a team time-out and could also be called by the officials to help with translations.

To be eligible to be registered as a translator / interpreter, that person must be able to communicate fluently in the language of the team (if not English) and be able to translate that language to English.

FOP Access for team officials

For each game, 2 team officials are allowed to be in the team official field of play. For competitions where a team is allowed 3 accredited team officials, the 2 persons can change from game to game.

For any practices:

- 2 team officials are allowed in the athlete field of play.
- For competitions where a team is allowed 3 accredited team officials, the 3rd person is allowed to be in the team official field of play. The 2 team officials going into the athlete field of play for these practices can change from practice to practice
- Team officials are not allowed to deliver stones during any practice sessions at World Curling events

Maintenance of Curling Stones during Competitions

Any maintenance on the stones will only be done with World Curling approval during an event.

The recommendation for maintenance after the start of a competition must come from the event Chief Ice Technician to the event Technical Delegate.

Maintenance work will only be done when the Chief Ice Technician, Chief Umpire and event Technical Delegate deem appropriate, in accordance with the schedule as well as the ice and stone condition. There is no guarantee for a set number of games per team after the maintenance takes place.

The maintenance work is done to return the stones to the condition they were in at the start of the competition. It is not intended to significantly alter the conditions for the athletes.

Additional practice will not be organised after the stones have been maintained.

The teams will always be informed when any maintenance work is done to the stones.

Delayed Last Stone Draw (LSD)

If for any reason, one or more sheets are delayed, and LSD stones cannot be delivered, after 60 seconds of delay the other sheet(s) where LSD stones can be delivered, will be invited to do so.

Team Withdrawal (DNS)

If a team withdraws from a competition and it is too late to change the playing schedule, the team they are to play get a bye. They can have a 30-minute practice starting at game time with one or both sets of stones to be confirmed by the Chief Umpire.

Reserve stones for play-off games

At World Curling competitions, players are often given a choice of stone selection for the play-off games. On the official stone selection form, there is space for two reserve stones.

In the rare situation, that a stone is damaged, and must be replaced during a game, the team would be given the option, to replace the paired set of reserve stones if they would like to. If they decide that they only want to replace the unplayable stone, that is their final decision for that game.

Evening Practice

There is evening practice available for teams only at the following events: WWCC, WMCC, WMDCC, WWhCC, WWhMDCC, OWG, PWG.

Dress code for official functions

For all official functions during a competition (i.e. Team Meeting, Opening Reception, Closing Function), blue jeans are allowed unless teams are informed differently in the Competitor Guide. This would only be the case if a function requires a formal dress.

Please note: Jeans are not allowed inside the Field of Play.

Electronic devices

To avoid electronic communications as per World Curling rules, all devices, including smart watches, must have the communication function turned off when in the Athlete Field of Play. Participants inside the Athlete Field of Play should not take photos.

The use of smart glasses is forbidden by any accredited team member inside any competition venue.

Changing of a team member on the original line-up after the team-meeting

The rule clearly says: Any changes / additions must be declared by the start of the team meeting.

In the team meeting document, we also say: If a team must change a person from the team official field of play (extenuating circumstances, i.e., sickness), the event Technical Delegate will consider the circumstances and their decision is final.

The following would be considered extenuating circumstances:

- Sickness or injury, normally for the rest of the event; but it is up to the event Technical Delegate to decide if a team official who can return is allowed back on the team official field of play
- Must leave the competition for home and will not return

A change cannot be made if it is clear that the team official will return to the event after only one or two games. In that situation one of the other registered team officials must take over that position. If a team official must leave the event and is replaced by another team official, the accreditation of the leaving team official must be handed to the event Technical Delegate so that an accreditation for the new person can be issued.

Technical Time-Outs

If a team requires a technical time-out due to an issue with personal equipment (e.g., brush, delivery stick in wheelchair curling, wheelchair, or any clothing), the technical time-out cannot last more than 5 minutes (10 minutes in wheelchair curling). After that time the game must resume. If a team cannot resume after the 5 minutes (10 minutes in wheelchair curling) have elapsed, they will forfeit the game.

If a technical time-out is caused due to an external force (e.g., power-failure, stone issues etc.), the Chief Umpire will have the decision on how long the time-out will last for. Rule R13 will then be applied.

Medical Time-Outs

If a team needs to call for a medical time-out, the Chief Umpire will consult with the medical personnel and the affected team after 5 minutes. After that consultation, the Chief Umpire will decide how long the medical time-out will last. The maximum extra duration is 10 minutes (total of 15 minutes). The Chief Umpire will then consult with the ice-crew and informs the teams so that they can prepare for the recommencement.

Should the affected team not be able to re-join the game after 15 minutes (e.g., not enough players, no alternate), the team will forfeit the game.

Timing at World Curling events without time-clocks

Before the event, the Chief Umpire together with the event Technical Delegate will share a document indicating a schedule, within what timeframe each end of a game should be completed.

That schedule includes extra time for measures, rulings etc. Should there be an extraordinary situation, the umpires will take that into account.

If a game is falling behind that schedule, the Umpires will first talk with both teams and ask them to speed up. From that point on, that game will be closely observed and if the game falls further behind schedule, then rule C6 (m) will be applied.

Rule C6 (m) states: If an umpire determines that a team is unnecessarily delaying a game, the umpire notifies the skip of the offending team and, after that notification, if the next stone to be delivered has not reached the tee line at the delivery end within 45 seconds, the stone is removed from play immediately.

We all know that some stones do need longer discussions. If the front-end of the team is ready in the hack when it is their time to deliver a stone, the game will not fall behind schedule even if the stones of the back end need some longer discussions.

If issuing warnings for single stones does not help that teams are playing within the timeframe allocated for a session, the Chief Umpire together with the event Technical Delegate will decide on further actions.

Procedure

The umpire will issue a 45 second warning to the team member in charge of the house and at the same time start their stopwatch. If the stone is not delivered within 45 seconds, the stone will be removed from play.

The warning applies to that stone only. If the pace of play does not improve, further 45 second warnings will be issued as required.

Replacing Member Association(s) at World Curling events

Should a Member Association (MA) be unable to compete at a World Curling event due to disciplinary sanctions, travel restrictions, etc. the MA will be replaced by the highest ranked team from the previously completed edition of a qualifying championship or lower division. If there is no completed qualification event, World Association Ranking will be used.

WWCC / WMCC - the next highest MA from the previous WCQ

WCQ – the next highest MA in the World Association Ranking

WCPQ - open entry - play with fewer MAs

WMDCC - the next highest MA from the previous WMDQE

WMDQE - open entry - play with fewer MAs

WWhCC - the next highest MA from the previous WWhBCC

WWhBCC - open entry - play with fewer MAs

WWhMDCC - open entry - play with fewer MAs

WJCC - the next highest MA from the previous WJBCC

WJBCC - open entry - play with fewer MAs

WJMDCC - the next highest MA from the previous WJBMDCC

WJBMDCC – open entry – play with fewer MAs

WMxCC - open entry - play with fewer MAs

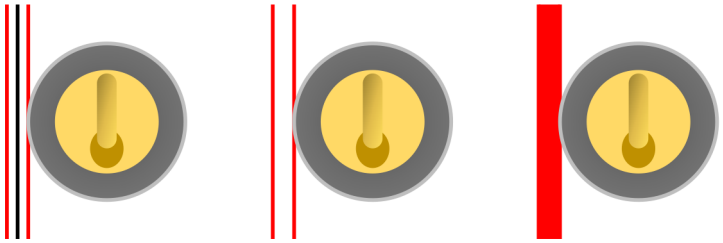
WSCC - open entry - play with fewer MAs

ECC - the next highest MA in the World Association Ranking

Procedural Policies

- Players are allowed to depart from a competition after being eliminated. For events where a Per Diem or function tickets are provided, these will not be provided after a player has departed.
- Only medal winning teams are required on-ice for closing ceremonies.
- No speed traps are allowed for pre-game practice (only pre-event and evening practice).
- If coaches are working with more than one team at an event (e.g. Men's and Women's WSCC teams) and those teams play at the same time, a coach must declare which team they will coach in any one session (can change from session to session). If a person is designated as the Team Coach for more than one team at an event (e.g., Men's and Women's WSCC teams) that person is entitled to receive any medal won by the team(s).
- A team may change the player delivering an LSD stone up until the time of delivery even though they had designated a different player in CuCoS.
- A coach is entitled to use a mobile or tablet (with no network connection) during a timeout in place of a magnetic board.
- Games recorded by team support staff for technical review cannot be publicly distributed at any time due to World Curling broadcast rights.
- If a team quits the game before they have fulfilled the minimum number of required ends, the penalty or sanctions will be determined by the World Curling Board.
- If a team must forfeit a game because they do not have enough players (illness or injury), the remaining player(s) can still participate in the pre-game practice and deliver their LSD(s), as long as they have the minimum players on the ice as per World Curling rules.
- During the LSD delivery, only the four players involved (two for Mixed Doubles) can be on the ice. The two (2) team officials and remaining player (where applicable) must be off the ice. No communication between the players on-ice and any team members off-ice is allowed during the LSD.
- A team with a bye may be allotted practice (30 minutes) at the start of the scheduled game time. The opponent of a team that forfeits a game may be allotted practice (30 minutes) once the forfeit is confirmed.
- If the Chief Ice Technician recommends that an additional ice-maintenance is required, the event Technical Delegate after consulting with the Chief Ice Technician and Chief Umpire will make the final decision. If the decision is taken that there is an ice-scrape required after the start of the game, all players on the ice are allowed to throw one stone each in both directions, alternating with the opponent (the team not having Last Stone Current End (LSCE) throws first).

- No tick-shot rule: If the stone is touching at least part of the centre line marking, it is considered on the centre line.



- A player that is intentionally burning a stone will receive an official warning by the umpires. If it happens a second time during the same competition, the player is removed from the event. The World Curling Board will then decide further sanctions.
- If a team is changing a player during a game, the player entering the game must be granted two practice slides in the break between ends.
- Once a game is finished, all team members must use the designated field of play exit as communicated at the Team Meeting. For TV games, officials will not get involved in the team's post-game celebrations, provided that all team members will eventually use the designated exit from the field of play.
- In extenuating circumstances, when the post-game celebrations delay the scorecard confirmation, the Chief Umpire may confirm the final score and declare the result official, provided that the teams confirmed the score in the last end.