



Message from our President

On behalf of the SPCC Board and Executive, I hope you have enjoyed your summer so far, while we all have been challenged in keeping ourselves safe and healthy.

The executive and staff have been actively reviewing COVID related information and have been preparing for our ' Return to Play '.

As Alberta continues with plans for Relaunch, SPCC is proceeding with plans for our next curling season.

The SPCC Protocol for ' Return to Play ' is being developed, based on ' Guidelines ' from Alberta Health Services (AHS), Curling Alberta, Curling Canada and Strathcona County.

In addition, we have also been in contact with other curling clubs in the Edmonton Area, through the efforts of Heather Nedohin, to discuss their approach to reopening and strive for consistency amongst clubs.

Our membership, your well being and the health of our club is our primary focus.

I welcome the new members to our executive and would like to thank our outgoing members - Lynette Carlson, Nicole Eisenkrein, Greg Empson, Irene Kroetsch, Colleen Empson - for their efforts on behalf of the SPCC.

Please join me in thanking Heather Nedohin and our staff for their diligence and hard work.

I look forward to being your president and to working with you on behalf of our Club .

Herb Herder



Hold Your Spot Opens July 15th!

Registration time is finally here! Hold Your Spot Registration will open at 12 noon on July 15th. The deadline for Hold Your Spot is August 6th at 12 noon.

Before your team commits to next season here are some things all members need to be aware of:

- Hold Your Spot fees have been reduced to \$200 per team paid by one team member.
- If you chose to make 2 payments for registration, the 1st payment of \$200 is due Aug 15. Full payment of all fees is due September 1st.
- If the season is cancelled entirely before August 9th, all fees will be refunded.
- Draw times may be staggered to allow for social distancing in the waiting areas.
- Time spent in the off-ice areas of the club may be limited. You may be required to enter the GARC building at set times and depart by set times.

Full details of SPCC Return to Play protocols will be published by July 29th.

Manager's Message

Heather Nedohin



Your new executive and SPCC admin team have been working relentlessly behind their home computer screens making every effort to relaunch the upcoming 2020-21 season successfully. As you can see from the numerous updates posted, it is a big task!

As our new President Herb and Desmond Tutu wisely say "there is only one way to eat an **elephant**: a bite at a time." What this means is that when everything in life seems daunting, overwhelming, and even impossible, anything can be accomplished gradually by taking on just a little at a time.

Registration will be rolling out very quickly. Over the next two months, we will need your commitment, support, understanding and patience as we adapt to the every changing new norms of curling and day to day life.

Enjoy all the sunshine you can in July!

AGM Report

The SPCC 2020 AGM was held online on June 25th. All AGM documents are available for club members to read on the club website.

Refund Policy Update

The SPCC Refund policy has been updated for this season. It can be found here: [Registration, Payment and Refund Policy](#)

HOLD YOUR SPOT fee will be completely refunded after Aug 10 if the SPCC does not have sufficient membership registrations for the upcoming 2020-2021 season.

We need a commitment from you in order to have a 2020-21 season!

Return to Play Guidelines

Curling Canada and Curling Alberta are working hard to prepare for the start of the next curling season. A manual for use by all curling clubs in Canada has been published and it can be found here: [Return to Play Guidelines](#) and on the front page of our website.

Some of the topics the manual addresses are:

- Hygiene for staff and members
- Cleaning procedures for buildings and equipment (stones)
- Club layout and traffic flow
- Changes to how to game is played and how players can maintain 2m distances during games.
- League procedures
- Communication with members
- Financial considerations
- Insurance, Risk and Waivers

We have followed the development of the manual closely and already are working on how we can apply the guidelines here at the SPCC. Our goal is make sure that curling at our club continues to be a fun and safe activity for all our members.

Curling Alberta is expected to release their guidelines this week. The SPCC will use both these guidelines to develop our own Return to Play protocols for the 2020-21 season.

Re-opening Survey

Thank you to all the members (250!) who participated in the Re-opening Survey. We are happy to know that 92% of you are planning to curl this fall and that many of you are ready to volunteer to help with the many new tasks that will be important to the safe operation of the club.

The winner of the draw for the \$25 proshop gift certificate is:

Claire Fragomeni



Survey Q & A

How will rock handles and scoreboards be cleaned?

As of right now, we hope to have staff members or trained volunteers thoroughly clean rock handles in between draws. This will allow for the use of stronger disinfectants and PPE to protect those doing the cleaning. During games, players will only touch their own rocks.

We are looking at alternative scorekeeping ideas as sanitizing the entire scoreboard between draws will be time consuming.

Where will curlers sit to put on their shoes?

Our locker area is not large enough to accommodate 64 curlers with 2 meter distancing. Some congestion will be eliminated by having staggered draw times and as well we are looking at using our lounge as a staging area.

Will we be able to use our lockers next season?

Lockers will not be available to members as it is not possible to safely access them with reduced pre-game times and increased distancing.

Can I curl at more than one club this season?

As of now, as long as both clubs follow the 2 meter social distancing rules on and off the ice, the guidelines from the government DO NOT require curlers to limit themselves to a single group of 50 players (cohort). You should be able to play in multiple leagues at multiple clubs if the rules stay as they are right now.

AHS has posted more information on cohorts here: [AHS Cohort Guidelines](#)

Will the lounge be open?

At this point, we honestly don't know. While we would like to have lounge service, we also have to maintain a safe environment for the members and staff and the food service provider must be able to make a reasonable profit. If all these conditions can be met, the lounge will be open for business.

Will there be bonspiels this season?

As of right now, maybe. The current AHS guidelines would allow for "local" teams to play in a bonspiel as long as 2m distances are maintained at all times. Before any final decisions are made, the board would like to see how safely and efficiently we are able to operate for regular league play under the Return to Play guidelines.

What if our team doesn't feel comfortable returning to play?

Any team that decides to not play this season will have the option of taking the 2020-21 season off and be allowed to return in the 2021-22 season. **Any teams wanting to do this must notify the SPCC office by email by August 6th.** A waitlist team taking the spot would only be guaranteed to play in the league for the 2020-21 season. The waitlist team would also keep their place on the waiting list for the 2021-22 season.

Junior Program Update

Our junior program registration is NOT part of Hold Your Spot. We are working to determine the safest way to run the junior programs before we start registration.



Coach Cara and Heather will be hosting an Open House and Q&A Session for all our junior parents and curlers on

July 22nd: Junior Plus 6:30pm
All Junior Programs 7:15pm

The meeting link will be sent out on Team Snap on July 22.

Curling Alberta Events Update

Curling Alberta has announced new dates for the postponed 2019-20 provincial events as well as dates for the 2020-21 competitive season. Here is a link to the [official announcement](#).

Self-Assessment Questions for Members Returning to Curl with SPCC

At the beginning of each season our Seniors' League asks their members to check-in and see if they are feeling fit to curl. As we approach the start of a new and very different season, we would like to recommend that all SPCC members review these questions before registration.

*As individual and team safety are always of utmost importance, we ask that, before submitting your registration, you conduct a **Self-Assessment** to determine your Return to Play readiness for curling.*

1. *Am I taking medication that may adversely affect my physical abilities to curl?*
2. *Have I experienced warning signs that my physical capacity may be diminishing ?*
(examples - falls, dizziness, blurred vision, etc.)
3. *Am I experiencing a change in my physical capacity? Examples: Diminished strength; Decreased range of motion; Loss of balance; Decreased speed of play;*
4. *What new challenges am I experiencing when curling? Bending to squat in the hack, Keeping up to the rock when sweeping, Sustained sweeping, as examples.*
5. *Do I expect to be a fit, safe and able curler next season?*

"Can you spare next week?"

Please review and update your entries on the Spare and Free Agent listings!

With strict rules about not playing with any COVID-like symptoms, spares will be an important resource for the coming season. As well, teams may be looking for new players to fill out their rosters.

Welcome to the new executive of the SPCC Board of Directors!

Look at all that beautiful SPCC Blue!



President, Herb Herder



Past President, Doug Kroetsch



Secretary, Jody Zacharkiw



Treasurer, Dee Matishak
(and Guinness)



President Elect, Donna Dosman

He's not an executive but we are happy to say that Terry Shea will be returning as our Head Ice Tech for the 2020-21 season.



Here he is, live from NFLD!

Follow us on our social media!

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