



SPORT TECHNICAL PACKAGE

CURLING



EVENT:
PLACE:
DATE:

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NL CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP TECHNICAL PACKAGE

Technical Packages are a critical part of the Special Olympics NL Games/Championships. They guide the selection of athletes by prescribing the age and eligibility requirements, assist the organizing committees by detailing tournament formats and scoring procedures, assist Chefs de Missions/Managers in verifying eligibility, help with budgeting by describing the number of participants permitted and advance coaching certification by stating minimum requirements.

Every Games/Championships' coach, manager, sport manager and mission staff has an obligation to read and understand every aspect of the Technical Package. Failure to do so could cost an athlete his or her eligibility for the Games or could affect final standings or the conduct of the competition. If someone does not understand an aspect of a Technical Package, he or she is to seek clarification from the Organizing Committee or SONL through his or her Chef de Mission/Manager.

Technical Packages are developed primarily by SONL, in consultation with National Sport Organizations (where applicable), following the principles, guidelines and requirements of SONL. As the overall governing body of the Games, SONL has the ultimate authority for Technical Packages, but this authority is exercised only with the knowledge, cooperation and understanding of all SONL Clubs concerned.

If an individual wishes to initiate a change to a Technical Package leading up to a Games, the desired change should be first directed to the Club or Chef de Mission/Manager. The Club or Chef/Manager will evaluate the merits of the change and will, if it has merit, submit the requested change to SONL. The Club or Chef/Manager will submit the rationale for the change. Minor corrections will be considered at almost any time, but will be increasingly difficult to achieve within several months of the Games. These time frames reinforce the importance of complete understanding of the Technical Package early.

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Venue:

The facility should have:

Washrooms
Spectator Area
Wheelchair Accessibility

Participants

Competitors

All SONL athletes 10 or older who are registered in a curling program may compete.

Staff /Coach Ratios

Each club at SONL Curling Championship is allocated 1 chef de mission who is the head of the delegation.

Clubs are allowed 2 Coaches for every 5 athletes.
Clubs are also allowed 1 Mission Staff for every 4 coaches.

If a club wishes to have more than the allocated numbers of Coaches or Mission Staff they must send a request explaining why to the Program Director (Darrin Reid) and he will discuss this with the Organizing Committee.

Age Category

All curlers must be 10 years of age or older as of the first day of competition.

Eligibility

Coaches:

Any coaches listed on the official registration form must obtain the following certification no later than 30 days prior to the Provincial Games.

- SOC/NCCP Level I full certification (theory, technical and practical); and
- NCCP Level I Curling Technical and Practical.
- **Required "Make Ethical decisions" evaluated**

OR

- SOC/NCCP Level I full certification (theory, technical and practical); and
- NCCP Level I Curling Technical; and
- NCCP Level II Theory
- **Required "Make Ethical decisions" evaluated**

Or

- SO Competition Sport Coach or SO Community Sport Coach
- NCCP Level I Curling Technical and Practical or NCCP Curling - Club Coach Community Sport Ongoing
- **Required "Make Ethical decisions" evaluated**

Exemption Process

All coaches selected to attend Provincial Games/Championships must provide proof of certification to the Provincial Office no later than *30 days prior* to the Provincial Competition in the respective sport. Should a coach fail to meet the required certification, he/she may apply to SONL for an exemption. The application must outline the reasons for the exemption, and detail the reason(s) for incomplete certification. Should an exemption be granted, the coach will be eligible to attend the respective Provincial competition. It should also be noted that a coach who receives an exemption will not be eligible for any further exemptions in the respective sport (i.e. he/she must meet all certification requirements prior to the next competition).

Competitors:

Athletes on a curling team must meet all eligibility requirements outlined below to be eligible to participate.

- i. The athlete must be registered with an accredited Special Olympics Club, and be active in a Special Olympics program.
- ii. The athlete must have been training in curling for a minimum of 1 sport season prior to the Games.

iii. Teams:

In addition curling teams must meet all eligibility requirements outlined below to be eligible to participate.

- i. Each team must be an accredited sport club with a Special Olympics Club.
- ii. A team registration form for each team participating at the Provincial competition adhering to the minimum and maximum number of players per team must be submitted to the Games Organizing Committee.
- iii. A *final team roster** consists of 4 or 5 players and two coaches (maximum). All players listed on the *final team roster** must play during the course of the tournament.

*(*NOTE: A final team roster is a complete list of all players and coaches registered with a team)*

Competition

Rules

The competition will be run according to the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) rules for curling competitions, except when they are in conflict with Special Olympics Canada (SOC) rules (<http://www.specialolympics.ca/learn/official-sports-and-rules>). In such cases SOC rules shall apply.

Note: The Four Guards rule (free guard) will be applied.

Equipment

All curling athletes must arrive at the competition venue prepared and equipped to play.

A delivery stick may be used. The following rule applies for the release point of the stone when using a delivery stick. "The stone shall be released before the stone has reached the nearer hog line."

Tentative Schedule

Curling competitions will take place over a 1 day period..

Practice/Warm-Up

A practice/warm-up time will be allocated prior to the start of the first game.

The competition schedule will allow for appropriate warm-up time for all athletes. The warm-up before games will consist of each player throwing one rock each way. Coaches are permitted on ice during warm-up.

Team Divisioning

i. Pre-Divisioning

Each team will be required to submit a team questionnaire (*Appendix A*).

The questionnaires will be used in pre-divisioning only and will have no effect on post divisioning round deliberations.

There will be two divisions;

Recreation Division – Coaches/respites may be on the ice to assist curlers.

Competitive Division - Coaches will not be permitted on the ice during play.

ii. Divisioning Committee

The divisioning committee will be comprised of three individuals, a committee chair which will be appointed by SONL, and two GOC representatives.

iii. Schedule

The schedule will be circulated after the team assessment forms have been submitted.

Game Time

The duration of the game shall be 2 hours (8 ends) in length (inclusive of the 5 minute break and time outs). No end should commence after 1 hour and 50 minutes.

One five-minute break shall be given upon completion of 4 ends of play.

Time Outs

Each team shall be permitted to call two (2) time outs per game and one (1) time out for each extra end. Each time out shall be ninety (90) seconds which includes travel time. Time outs may be called by either a coach (from behind the glass) or a curler (from the playing surface). The coach must not disrupt the curlers on the ice when calling a time out.

During timeouts, only one coach or alternate may meet with their team. (Competitive Division only)

A coach may himself or signal appropriately to his/her team to have a player request a time out. The signaling must not disrupt players on the ice. Banging on the glass is not an acceptable way to signal to players.

Scoring

Points will be awarded for winning a game. There will be no points awarded for winning ends.

Substitution

Teams may substitute players in order to allow for equal playing time not just for illness or injury.

Tournament Format

The tournament will use the Canadian Curling Association Rules for "Officiated Play" with the exception of Rule 8 Game Time Operation. (The time outlined above shall be used).

The tournament will consist of divisional round-robin play, with playoffs for the (maximum) top 4 teams per division. For divisions consisting of less of 4 teams, all teams will receive medals.

Possible Division Combinations:

TBD

Round-robin tie-breaking rules:

1. 1 full extra end
2. If the tie is not broken by the extra end, then a (draw to the button) "shoot out" will occur towards the clubhouse. (One stone for each player per team, with sweeping, but no opponent sweeping in the house. 5 points for covering the pin, 4 points for (at least) biting the center circle, 3 points for (at least) biting the 4ft circle, 2 points for (at least) biting the 8 ft circle and 1 point for (at least) biting the 12 ft circle.)

Playoff positioning rules:

1. Win – Loss records of each team
2. Head – to – Head record of tying teams
3. Score (points per game) for and against for each team

Coaches Roles

Recreation Division – Athletes may receive assistance from coaches/respite during the game.
Competitive Division - Coaches will not be permitted in the playing area during play. Coaches may only be permitted on the ice if an athlete is injured and with the permission of an official.

Competitive Attire

Special Olympics Canada Policy 3000-02, Use of Commercial Messages on Uniforms or Equipment will be adhered to at the Games. (*Appendix B*)

Technical Officials

The host society will select technical officials.

One referee / umpire per sheet of ice per game shall be appointed. This individual shall monitor the flow of play, record the official score, and measure rocks. The officials may not discuss strategy with the teams.

Protest Procedures

All protests must be endorsed by the Chef de Mission/Manager and submitted **in writing** by the **Head Coach** to the **Curling Sport Manager** within 30 minutes following the posting of results.

All protests must be accompanied by the protest fee of **\$50.00**.

Any discrepancies in results (as posted) should first be checked with the **Results Coordinator** (located in the Results Room at the venue).

Please find attached (*Appendix C*) a copy of the Protest Form to be utilized for the Special Olympics NL Curling Championship.

Head Coaches Meetings

- a. A conference call will be held in early prior to the competition consisting of representatives of SONL, the GOC and each club which will have curling teams take part in the curling competition.
- b. Schedule
The first head coaches meeting will take place prior to the start of competition. Subsequent Head Coaches meetings will take place during warm up sessions at the venue with a time and location to be determined.
- c. Meeting Attendance
Clubs are not limited to the number of representatives they can send to the coaches meetings, yet only one representative **per team** is permitted to speak.

The speaking representative will be asked by the chair to introduce themselves and other team representatives at the beginning of each meeting.

Results

Coaches and officials must sign off on the score sheets following the game.

Results will be posted in a designated area immediately following competition. A full results package will be provided to all Head Coaches and Chef de Missions/Managers upon completion of the event.

Award Presentations

Award presentation for curling will be held at the venue following the final playoff games.

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams respectively in each division.

The teams who have been judged first, second and third shall stand in their official uniforms, on the stand with the first place winner slightly above the second who is on his right and third who is on his left. The third place award will be presented first followed by the second place award. The first place award will be presented last.

Ribbons will be awarded to 4th place and beyond prior to the teams receiving their medals. These teams will stand to the side of the podium/medal winners.

Appendix A: Curling Team Questionnaire

Club: _____ Team Name: _____

Head Coach: _____

These questions pertain to entire team. (There should be no answer should be greater than 5).

THROWING THE ROCK

- How many players:
 - Can throw the rock to an open called area more than 50% of the time? _____
 - Can throw the rock to a called area around a guard more than 50% of the time? _____
 - Can throw a rock accurately with takeout weight more than 50% of the time? _____

SWEEPING

- How many of your teams players can successfully sweep a rock thrown at slow to moderate speed from hog line to the rings? _____

STRATEGY

- When your team has the hammer, what is their goal? _____

- When your team doesn't have the hammer, what is their goal? _____

- What is your teams understanding and ability to apply the strategies and tactics of the game of curling?
(Please circle one) Basic Moderate Advanced
Please provide a brief explanation of your answer: _____

TEAM PLAY

- How many dominant players (players who understand the strategy of the game, and can throw the rock accurately and consistently) do you have on your team? _____ Identify by name and position played if possible?

Player Name _____ Position _____ Player Name _____ Position _____
Player Name _____ Position _____ Player Name _____ Position _____

SUBS

- How many substitutions do you have? _____
- Does it make a significant difference to your team if you substitute a player? _____
If yes, please explain _____

OVERALL

- Do any of the players require assistance while playing? Yes or No? If Yes, how many? _____
- On a scale of 1-10 with a 1 being very low ability and 10 being very high ability, please rank the ability level of your team. _____

Note: This sheet will be utilized for pre-classification, compared to the classification evaluation, and utilized throughout play as needed.

Appendix B: Policies

Section: MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS 3000-02
Topic: Use of Commercial Messages on Uniforms or Equipment at National/Chapter Games

Effective Date: May 1994

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1. Advertising is not permitted on either the equipment used or the uniforms and/or numbers worn by athletes or by any person with an official function other than the normal commercial markings on retail goods during the competition.
2. Athletes not actively involved in competition may wear apparel, carry and use non-sports equipment items, such as tote bags, bearing small and attractively designed identification of corporate or organizational sponsors.
3. Volunteers, other than sport officials, may wear jackets, t-shirts, caps and other apparel bearing small and attractively designed identification of corporate and organization sponsors at sports venues.
4. During the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, athletes, coaches, team delegates and other official members in the Parade of Athletes are not permitted to wear uniforms which bear corporate or organizational identification.
5. Athletes may not endorse products by displaying them in interviews or ceremonies.

Section: TRAINING AND COMPETITION
Topic: Alcohol Policy
Effective Date: May 1995

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That alcohol shall not be available to, or consumed by, athletes and coaches, from point of departure to return, or at any sporting event organized by Special Olympics in Canada (i.e. National, Chapter, or Regional Events).

Appendix C: Protest Form

Club: _____

Date of Incident: _____

Time of Incident: _____

Game: _____

Name and number of athlete(s) involved:

1. Name: _____ Club: _____ Team Name: _____

2. Name: _____ Club: _____ Team Name: _____

3. Name: _____ Club: _____ Team Name: _____

4. Name: _____ Club: _____ Team Name: _____

List of Rule(s) Alleged To Have Been Infringed:

Statement of Facts:

Request of the Referee:

Signed by:

Head Coach

Club

Received by:

Curling Sport Manager

Time

Date

PROTEST COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Protest Fee Paid: Yes _____ No _____

Protest Committee Decision: Accepted _____ Rejected _____

Protest Committee Initials: _____

NOTE: A protest, signed by the Head Coach, must be made to the Sport Manager within 30 minutes following the posting of results and/or the end of a game. A protest fee of \$50 must accompany all written

Appendix C: Protest and Appeal Procedure

A reminder that all protests must be endorsed by the Chef de Mission and submitted **in writing** by the **Head Coach** to the **Sport Specific Manager** within 30 minutes following the posting of results.

The protest fee of \$50.00 must accompany all protests.

Any discrepancies in results (as posted) should first be checked with the **Results Location**.

The protest committee will be comprised of:

1. Sport Manager
2. Head Official
3. SONL Designated Representative

The results of the protest committee will be rendered to the Chef de Mission immediately following the review and follow-up in writing.

Should a Club wish to appeal a protest, decision, the chef de mission must submit a request in writing to Darrin Reid, SONL Program Director. The Appeals Committee will review the request for an appeal to determine if there are grounds for an appeal. If satisfied that there are not sufficient grounds for an appeal, the Committee will notify the Club in writing of its decision. This decision is discretionary and cannot be appealed.

If deemed to have sufficient grounds, the Club will be notified immediately and the appeal will be heard as soon as time permits. Once the appeal has been heard the committee will notify the Club in writing of its decision.

The Appeals Committee will be composed of:

1. A Chair
2. SOC Representative
3. GOC Representatives

Grounds for Appeal

An appeal of a protest decision shall only be heard if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal. Sufficient grounds include, but are not limited to:

- a) failing to follow procedures as outlined above
- b) making a decision which was influenced by bias
- c) failing to consider relevant information or taking into account irrelevant information in making the decision
- d) availability of new information not heard during the appeal.

NOTE: A protest, signed by the Head Coach, must be made to the Sport Manager within 30 minutes following the posting of results and/or the end of a game. A protest fee of \$50 must accompany all written