

Curling Alberta Requests Masks During Play

With the number of Covid-19 cases on the rise, Curling Alberta has implemented further protocols to help keep the curling community safe. Masks are now **requested** during play but can and should be safely removed when needed (e.g. while sweeping, when drinking water, when regaining a comfortable rate of breathing, when replacing a wet mask, etc.). If you are not able to safely wear a mask, **please refrain from shouting** and continue to adhere to the **physical distancing** measures in place at your facility.

The following should be kept in mind when wearing a mask:

- Completely cover the nose and mouth. Learn how to wear a mask here.
- Bring a change of masks and follow <u>AHS' safe mask-removal protocols</u>. Soiled or wet masks **should be replaced during games**.
- Only cleaned and disinfected masks should be worn.
- When wearing a mask, avoid touching the mask and practice good hand hygiene.
- Masks do not replace proper hygiene, physical distancing or isolation to <u>prevent</u> the spread.

Performance tips:

- 1. Breathing tip: Attentively breathing through the nose rather than the mouth has been helping many curlers learn to breathe more comfortably with a mask on during games.
- **2. Masks:** Players should consider investing in performance-wear masks and should bring multiple masks to a game.
- **3. Safe mask removal:** It is not unreasonable nor irresponsible to <u>safely remove</u> your mask at certain points during play. Healthy breathing and proper hydration are important parts of exercising and an active life-style. If you find that you need to remove your mask during the course of play, simply adhere to: (i) <u>AHS's safe mask-removal protocols</u>,
- **4. Avoid shouting** or raising your voice when your mask is removed and continue to respectfully adhere to all on-ice physical distancing measures at your facility (e.g., remain at least 6 feet away from others)
- **5. Glasses fogging up:** If your glasses are fogging up during play, then please consider options such as: wearing contacts, using an anti-fog spray or wearing your mask higher-up on your face.

- 6. As per AHS, do not use a mask in the following situations:
- If it's dirty or damaged in any way, it gaps or doesn't fit well, or it has been used by another person.
- Anyone that has trouble breathing

For information on non-medical masks as a precaution to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please visit the Government of Alberta's COVID-19 Mask webpage.

Curling Alberta sincerely thanks the member clubs and their members for continuing to adhere to the protocols in place. Together we can keep curling.

Best Regards,

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