

Tara Curling Club Return to Play 2021/2022 Policy – Mar 2022/R03

The goal of this policy is to provide a safe environment for club members, spectators, guests, rental groups, and our community to enjoy the sport of curling at the Tara Curling Club for the 2021/2022 season, while observing all public health directives relating to COVID-19.

On 01 Sep 2021, the Ontario Provincial Government released a mandate relating to COVID-19, of which the portions applicable to the Tara Curling Club Return to Play 2021/2022 Policy are provided below:

“As of September 22, 2021, Ontarians will need to be fully vaccinated (2 doses plus 14 days) and provide their proof of vaccination along with photo ID to access certain public settings and facilities. This approach focuses on higher-risk indoor public settings where face coverings cannot always be worn, and includes:

- *Restaurants and bars (excluding outdoor patios, as well as delivery and takeout)*
- *Facilities used for sports and fitness activities and personal fitness training, such as gyms, fitness, and recreation facilities with the exception of youth recreational sport*

Individuals who cannot receive the vaccine due to medical exemptions will be permitted entry with a note signed by a Physician or Nurse Practitioner until recognized medical exemptions can be integrated as part of a digital vaccine certificate. Children who are 11 years of age and younger and unable to be vaccinated will also be exempted from these requirements.”

The Tara Curling Club will adhere to this provincial mandate, as well as any other Government, Public Health, or Municipal directive in-effect during the 2021/2022 season. In the event of any conflict or confusion, an interpretation by the Tara Curling Club Executive will be provided to the membership in the form of a Return to Play Policy revision.

Upon registration as a member of the Tara Curling Club, those eligible to be vaccinated will provide proof of vaccination and valid photo ID, or proof of a valid medical exemption, which will be recorded and certified by an officer of the club (Executive member, or a member of an Executive committee). A list of members will be posted in the club room, and this record will be used as proof of vaccination for members, and members will not need to show proof of vaccination upon each entry into the club. Of note, it is still required that members retain proof of vaccination or medical exemption, and be able to provide that proof and valid photo ID upon request, in order to adhere to the provincial mandate.

For the 2021/2022 curling season, the Tara Curling Club will observe the following protocol, in order to meet our goal:

- Prior to entering the club, any individual who is feeling unwell or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 is to complete the Ontario COVID-19 Self-Assessment and follow the recommendations provided
- Proof of vaccination or proof of valid medical exemption and valid photo ID shall be available to be produced upon request

- Masks are to be worn while in the curling club facility, with the exception of while eating, drinking, or on the ice; masks are optional while on the ice
- Locker rooms will be available for use
- There will be no restrictions on curling play (i.e. two sweepers permitted, sweeping behind the tee line is permitted, etc.)
- Under all circumstances, you are responsible for your health and safety; the protocol described herein are minimum requirements, and additional protective measures may be taken individually by each member or guest to make their experience as safe as possible

Above all else, please be safe and respect others – our goal is a safe environment for all to enjoy the sport of curling. Have a great 2021/2022 curling season!

Signed,

The Tara Curling Club Executive, 2021/2022

Resources:

- Ontario Provincial Government press release from 01 Sep 2021: www.news.ontario.ca/en/release/1000779/ontario-to-require-proof-of-vaccination-in-select-settings
- Ontario COVID-19 Self-Assessment: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>
- Grey Bruce Public Health Unit: www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca
- Arran-Elderslie COVID-19 Recreation Facility Safety Plan: www.arran-elderslie.ca

Addendum:

- 1) as decided by the TCC Executive at their 28 Oct 2021 meeting, all spectators for TCC adult leagues (Ladies, Men's, and Mixed) shall be fully vaccinated (2 doses plus 14 days) in support of public health protocol. This measure is above and beyond the provincial government requirements for public facility access, and this vaccination requirement is irrespective of vaccine eligibility for children under the age of 12 [added 14 Dec 2021]
- 2) SUPERSEDED BY ADDENDUM 3: due to the direction of the Provincial Government documented in "Returning to Our Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario", additional Public Health Measures implemented on 05 Jan 2022 will be reduced, and lesser restrictions will be in effect as of 12:01 am 31 Jan 2022. These new public health measures require additional changes to the TCC RTP Policy, and are summarized below, but will allow us to return to curling as of 31 Jan 2022:

- 50% capacity limit; to be satisfied by posting of reduced capacity, and not permitting spectators (i.e. only those actively participating will be permitted entry) while this restriction is in effect. The assigned bartender(s) will be responsible to ensure spectators are not permitted entry/asked to leave to enforce this limit. For clarity, the reduced capacity limit is 32
- Proof of vaccination requirements continue to exist (no policy change required)
- The number of individuals permitted to be seated at a table is limited to 10 people and patrons are to remain seated (our COVID-19 Safety Plan limits this number to 8 per table)

Additionally, the Public Health guidance issued by the Provincial Government on 17 Dec 2021 directed the requirement of having a COVID-19 Safety Plan. Although this content was not issued in a TCC RTP revision prior to the entry into modified Stage 2 effective 05 Jan 2022, it is included in this revision.

COVID-19 Safety Plan

- Screening of all participants is required prior to entry; participants will declare themselves to be free of COVID-19 symptoms when completing the contact tracing sign-in and passive screening measures (signs) will be posted at the entry
- All participants will sign-in for the purpose of contact tracing (via Survey Monkey); QR codes are available at the entrance, bar, and at tables, and all participants need to be responsible to ensure this is completed whenever they attend the club
- Physical distancing is to be observed where possible; when not actively participating in the action, participants are to maintain distance from those outside their household
- Masks are mandatory while not on the ice surface or when seated at your table; consider wearing of masks beyond these requirements to help protect yourself and others, which is encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and its various variants
- Cleaning and disinfecting of the club will be completed before and after each event based on the assignments identified by the Games Committee on the respective schedules (instructions are included within this document)
- Specific Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided as-required; hand sanitizer and surgical masks are available for use as-required, but participants are encouraged to bring their own masks to be donned prior to entry to the club
- Tables are to be limited to 8 individuals only, and distancing is to be maintained while not seated to control crowding; prevention of crowding will be maintained by adhering to the capacity limit for the curling club

3) In recognition of the province's change to public health and workplace safety measures which take effect on 01 Mar 2022, the TCC will adhere to these public health measures through the following actions:

- Proof of vaccination requirements will be lifted
- 50% capacity limits previously implemented will be lifted, and spectators are permitted
- Active screening of members is no longer required
- No new members will be considered at this point in the season, however, any member previously registered to curl who has been unable to curl due to vaccination status will be permitted to return
- All other public health measures directed by government agencies or the TCC Executive shall continue to be in effect (masks, distancing, etc.)

These changes supersede the changes to the TCC RTP document covered under Addendum 2.

Updated COVID-19 Safety Plan

- Passive screening measures (signs) will be posted at the entry
- Physical distancing is to be observed where possible; when not actively participating in the action, participants are to maintain distance from those outside their household
- Masks are mandatory while not on the ice surface or when seated at your table; consider wearing of masks beyond these requirements to help protect yourself and others, which is encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and its various variants
- Cleaning and disinfecting of the club will be completed before and after each event based on the assignments identified by the Games Committee on the respective schedules (instructions are included within this document)
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Team Volunteer Guide and Responsibilities

2 Players arrive 40-45 minutes before games

2 Players operate bar and remain until bar is closed post games

These responsibilities are to be managed by the assigned team, but adherence to these responsibilities is required to ensure our club is maintained in a clean and safe manner, consistent with our COVID-19 Safety Plan

Pre-Event tasks

- Clear snow from front entrance
- Vacuum club room and hallway to change rooms
- Wipe down high touch areas with cleaners under sink in kitchen (bar, tables, door handles, etc.)
- Clean washrooms
- Open bar and operate until game time (ask for assistance if you are not familiar with the process of opening/closing the bar)

Post-Event Tasks

- Operate bar until it closes. Lock up bar as per instructions behind bar (ask for guidance from another club member if needed)
- Clean off tables and wipe down with cleaner under sink
- Ensure lights are off on the ice surface and the heaters have been turned off
- Close facility as per instructions (again, ask for guidance from another club member if needed)
- Place Garbage and Recycling out (Garbage Day is Friday - only applies to Men's League on Thursday)
- Lock up exit to washrooms/locker rooms and main entrance
- Turn off exterior light at the front entrance when exiting the club
- Verify front entrance door is locked upon exit