



DISCIPLINE IN CURLING

Guidelines

Background

At a meeting between the National Coaches and members of the Umpiring Committee it was agreed that this was an area of the game that required to be addressed as it was becoming more difficult to manage in a consistent manner within the rules of the game. There was no desire to see the present rules changed but within them and the Spirit of Curling, that the standards of discipline and their management needed to improve.

It was agreed that the umpires at their next Refresher Day in September 2011 would look at a number of situations/incidents within the remit of "What behaviour is acceptable and what is not?" and form a consensus view on the consequences for the athlete/team of each situation. This consensus view would then be circulated to the National Coaches for their comments.

Guidelines

Detailed below is the outcome of that process and those guidelines were endorsed by the Competitions Committee at their meeting on 18th October 2011 to be used at Royal Club competitions this season. They will now be circulated to teams/coaches/umpires. Additionally umpires will use it at team meetings where appropriate to remind teams of the importance for the sport of observing those guidelines, as well as include, if applicable, in team meeting documents.

A review at the end of season 2011/12 of the guidelines is recommended to look at their effectiveness in the consistency of application and equally improving standards of discipline.

<u>INCIDENT</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED CONSEQUENCE</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</u>
1. Brush abuse with no ice damage	1 st time - Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	
2. Brush abuse with ice damage (but brush is not broken)	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time - Removal from game	Ice damage confirmed by chief ice technician No difference in consequence whether middle of sheet or edge of sheet
3. Brush abuse with stopwatch flying off brush	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time - Removal from game	Merits higher consequence as could potentially affect other games if goes into adjoining sheets
4. Any Brush abuse where brush is broken	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time - Removal from game	Highlighted carbon shards potentially affecting game/games on adjoining sheets(s).

5. Brush Abuse where brush is broken <u>PLUS</u> ice is damaged	Removal from game	Automatic removal from game. Brush abuse to cause a brush to break <u>and</u> also damage ice felt to be completely unacceptable and to do both will have required significant force/indiscipline
6. Inappropriate Language (irrespective of words used)- Audible to spectators or an umpire outwith Field of Play	1 st time - Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	Inappropriate language 'overheard' within a team discussion by umpire would <u>not</u> merit any action.
7. Inappropriate Language on TV microphone only	Quiet word to team and coach	Not an area where further consequence by umpire unless audible to others as above. Broadcaster could remove microphone/build in delay?
8. Kicking stones at conclusion of end into hack/barrier	1 st time - Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	If other athlete hit/injured by any stone or hack damaged would give formal warning at 1 st time
9. Verbal abuse of umpire	Formal warning or removal from game depending on severity	
10. Any of above AFTER last stone of game played in Field of Play	As per above guidelines and if would have merited removal from game had it still been in progress, refer to Disciplinary/Organising Committee to decide if banned from next game.	
11. Any of above AFTER last stone of game played where applicable outside Field of Play	As per above guidelines and if would have merited removal from game had it still been in progress, refer to Disciplinary/Organising Committee to decide if banned from next game.	Whilst teams on premises competition rules still apply but umpire would have to view incident or be certain who had done it. Third party report not admissible.
12. Damage to property	Removal from game if still in progress and refer to Disciplinary/Organising Committee to decide if banned from next game/removed from competition/barred for period of time.	
General comments	1. All warnings should be recorded on umpire violation sheet to ensure consistency in dealing with any future incidents. 2. Any formal warning during one game will be carried forward to further games in the same competition. (A qualifying competition leading to finals will be deemed to be separate competitions from the point of view of carrying forward formal warnings) 3. A second formal warning, even if for a different reason, will result in removal from the game being played.	