



**Renfrew Curling Rink**

195 Xavier Street  
Renfrew Ontario, K7V 1L3

Phone: 613-432-5001  
Web: <https://renfrewcurling.ca>  
E-mail: [renfrewcurlingclub@bell.net](mailto:renfrewcurlingclub@bell.net)



Find us on  
**Facebook**



# Renfrew Curling Rink Orientation Package

*Play With the Rockers!*

## THE TRADITION CONTINUES WITH YOU!

The Board, members and staff welcome you to the 'grand auld tradition' of curling! Contained in this package is information to make your Renfrew Curling Rink (RCR) experience more enjoyable and ensure you get the most value from your membership.

### HISTORY

The Renfrew Curling Rink was founded in September 1874. The original facility was built on land leased from the Sons of Temperance Society for one dollar per annum. The club has evolved and grown over the past century. Most importantly it is now licensed. The current facility was built in 1917 and has stood as the town's curling club ever since! The most recent evolution is the change of the corporate structure which took place in 2008. The club went from private ownership to ownership by the members. This was a huge step, and means that all members have a say and a responsibility for the ongoing health and growth of our club.

The club has had a long, rich and varied history and has played a significant role in the development of curling in the region. Now you can be a part of that story.

### YOUR MEMBERSHIP

As a playing member your membership includes:

**League Play:** You curl in the league(s) for which you paid your membership.

**Sparing:** Full members can spare in any league. Members registered for a single league pay an additional fee to spare in other leagues.

**Bonspiels and Competitions:** You are entitled to enter any Bonspiel or Competition you choose provided you comply with the rules of entry. Information on Bonspiels and Competitions can be found on club bulletin boards, the club's web site or curling association web sites.

**Practice Ice:** Practice ice sheets are usually available throughout the week. Please check with the club clerk, ice man, drawmaster or a Board member to ensure that the club is open and that there is ice time available. A full schedule is posted on the calendar located on the web site at [www.renfrewcurling.ca](http://www.renfrewcurling.ca).

**Rules of Play:** We subscribe to the rules of Curl Canada and the Ontario Curling Association. Please be ready to start your game on time.

**Missing a game:** If you are unable to play at any given time **you** are responsible for arranging a spare and informing your skip as early as possible.

**Cancelling a game:** If a game has to be cancelled, the skip is responsible for informing the opposing skip and drawmaster as early as possible.

**Social Events and Club 'Spiels:** You may participate in all club social events and 'Spiels for the nominal fee charged for those events. These are fun events and give you an opportunity to get to know members who may not curl in your league. We encourage your participation and the participation of your friends who are not members.. A list of events can be found on club bulletin boards, our web site, Facebook and club communications.

**Volunteering:** You are strongly encouraged to support the club by volunteering. Renfrew Curling Rink is dependent on the generosity of volunteers. There are many areas where your expertise welcomed. Ask any Board member for information. Contact numbers are available on the Web Site.

**HACK WEIGHT:** The weight required to deliver a rock in order that it travels to the hack at the far end

**HAMMER:** The last rock in an end - a huge advantage; the team with the last rock is said to "have the hammer"

**HOG LINE:** The line at the far end which the rock must completely cross to be considered in play or the line in the near end where the rock must be clearly and fully released by the thrower

**LEAD:** The player who throws the first two rocks for a team

**NARROW / INSIDE / TIGHT:** A rock delivered off the target broom too close to the desired target,

**NORMAL TAKEOUT WEIGHT:** Take-out weight that is most comfortable for the thrower, also the most consistent

**PEEL:** A takeout that removes a rock from play as well as the delivered rock.

**PICK:** A foreign particle picked up by the moving rock, causing it to deviate from its expected path.

**RAISE TAKEOUT OR RUNBACK:** A shot that bumps a second rock which in turn knocks a third rock out of play.

**MAPPING THE ICE:** Determining how a sheet of ice will influence the path of a thrown rock.

**SECOND:** The player who throws the third and fourth rocks for a team and sweeps for all other players on their team

**SPLIT:** A draw shot where the played rock hits the side of a stationary rock to move both sideways yet keep both rocks in play.

**STEAL:** Scoring in an end without the hammer

**TAP BACK:** Use of the delivery rock to tap another rock towards the back of the house

**TEE:** The centre point of the house, where the tee line crosses the centre line;

**THIRD/VICE-SKIP OR VICE:** The player who throws the fifth and sixth rocks for a team; also vice-skip

**WIDE:** A rock delivered *off the broom* to the side away from the desired target.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

A more complete glossary of terms can be found on the internet. A link to has been placed on the club's web page at <https://renfrewcurling.ca>

**4-FOOT:** The 4-foot diameter circle in the house. It surrounds the centre area or button.

**8-FOOT:** The 8-foot diameter circle in the house.

**12-FOOT:** The 12-foot diameter circle outermost in the house; a rock completely outside this circle cannot score

**BACK BOARD / BUMPER:** The borders at the extreme ends of the sheet

**BACK LINE:** The line right behind the house. If a rock completely crosses the back line, it is removed from play

**BLANK END:** An end in which no rocks are touching the house, and no points are scored.

**BOARD / BUMPER WEIGHT:** Throwing a rock with enough speed to come to rest about 6 feet behind the house.

**BURN:** To accidentally touch a moving rock; the opposing skip has the option to remove the burned rock, or leave it. Any stationary rock moved by a burned rock should be returned to its original position.

**BUTTON:** The centre (bullseye) of the house; sometimes called the 1-foot circle

**CLEAN:** To brush the ice lightly in front of a moving rock to remove any debris and ensure a correct line.

**CONTROL WEIGHT:** A takeout shot that is harder than board weight, but slower than peel weight

**DRAW:** A shot that stops in the house without intentionally hitting another rock.

**DRAWMASTER:** Person who organises the draw for a league and keeps a record of the results. He/she also allocates teams to different sheets, sets starting times and oversees the team assignments where applicable.

**DRAW WEIGHT:** Delivery speed required for a rock to come to rest in the house

**END:** Similar to innings in baseball; in an end, each team throws 8 rocks, 2 per player in alternating fashion.

**FALL:** A defect in the ice which causes rocks thrown in that area to curl negatively

**FOURTH/ SKIP:** The player who throws the last two rocks for a team, is usually the skip

**FREE-GUARD ZONE:** Area between the hog line and the tee line, excluding the house.

**FREE-GUARD ZONE RULE:** An opponent's rock resting in the free-guard zone cannot be removed from play until the first four rocks of an end have been played

**FREEZE:** A precise shot of draw weight where the delivered rock comes to rest against a stationary rock.

**GUARD:** A rock that is positioned to protect another rock or block the path into the house

**HACK:** The foothold device where the person who throws the rock pushes off for delivery

## THE CURLING RINK

**Access to the ice shed:** Access to the ice is by the door in the middle of the downstairs lounge. Please clean your footwear on the brush provided at that entrance.

**Bonspiel and competition information:** Information on competitions and bonspiels is available on club bulletin boards situated around the downstairs lounges and change rooms, as well as on our web site, Facebook page, club communications and association web sites.

**Clothing:** Warm, loose and/or stretchy clothing is advisable. Temperature in the ice shed is regulated at about 35°F. A turtleneck and fleece should keep players sufficiently warm.

**Clean footwear:** Clean footwear **must** be worn at all times on the ice area, and, as much as possible, in areas leading to the ice. Debris on the ice surface spoils the game.

**Instruction:** The club offers an instructional program, Rookies and Intermediate Rocks, for interested curlers looking to improve their game. Trained, certified instructors provide on- and off-ice instruction on all aspects of the game.

**Viewing:** There are two viewing areas, one on main floor lounge and one in the upstairs lounge.

**Which sheet do I curl on?** The allocation of league ice is indicated on your league schedule. Copies are available at the start of each draw, are posted on the bulletin Board in the downstairs lounge and on the web site. When booking additional ice time for make-up games or practice please book it on the club calendar.

## CLUB GOVERNANCE

Renfrew Curling Rink is a non-profit organization managed by a volunteer Board of Directors answerable to all members in good standing. The Constitution and By-Laws are posted on the web site. The club is wholly dependent on the generosity of its members to volunteer wherever possible. Please volunteer in any way you can.

## LOCKERS AND WASHROOMS

**Lockers:** Lockers are available on a first come first serve basis for a nominal fee. Members provide their own lock. Ask the club clerk for locker information.

**Locker rooms:** The women's locker room is located on the main floor on the left as you enter the facility. The men's locker room is down the stairs from the main entrance.

**Washrooms:** There are two. The women's is located in the women's locker room. Men's is on the right just past the cloak room.

## MEMBER SERVICES

The Renfrew Curling Rink has a small pro-shop in the office where shoes, grippers, sliders, brooms and apparel can be purchased. If the pro-shop does not have the item in stock, our club clerk will be happy to order for you. If the shop is closed when you are there, please leave a note for the club clerk in the mail box with your name, phone number and a description of what you are looking for. She will ensure it is ordered.

Please ensure all your equipment is clean and in good condition so the club can maintain the excellent quality of our ice. Debris and old gripper marks spoil the game.

## MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

**Member contact:** Your email is used to disseminate information pertaining to club management. Email is the most cost-effective method to send information to members so please ensure you provide your e-mail address upon registration. It will be kept confidential, as per our privacy policy, and will not be used for any purpose except RCR business.

**Renfrew Curling Times:** The club publishes a monthly newsletter called the Renfrew Curling Times. It is available in hard copy and in electronic portable (pdf) format. Hard copy is available at the club on the week of issue. It is sent to all members via email where an email address has been provided.

**Website:** The website is maintained and updated often. It contains information on club leagues, bonspiels, upcoming events and important contacts. The address is <https://renfrewcurling.ca>. Check it out often!

**Facebook:** We can also be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/RenfrewCurlingRink>. This is updated even more regularly than the web site so please feel free to join, like and share!

**Bulletin Boards:** There are bulletin boards placed around the club to provide you with a wealth of information and sign-up opportunities for various events; e.g., Friendlies, Autumn Leaves, Low Cup, bonspiels, competitions, etc. These boards are maintained to inform you so please check them out often.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

The Renfrew Curling Rink hosts a number of social events throughout the season. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate in these events. Don't hesitate to bring your friends as well even if they are not curlers. Events include:

**Sweep & Putt:** The opening event of the year limbers up curling muscles and heralds the end of the golf season with 9 holes of golf and 6 ends of curling

**Octoberfest:** An open invitation to the community to come and curl. Funds raised go to our local hospital.

**Open Cash Spiel:** This event aims to bring curlers in from all over the Ottawa Valley.

**International Spaghetti 'Spiel:** What better way to break in the New Year and get rid of those winter blahs but with curling, social interaction and a hearty spaghetti supper. This has become an international bonspiel with regular visits from our friends in Pennsylvania.

**Club Championships, Men's and Women's:** This is one of our only two 'members-only' spiels. The Men's and Women's winning teams from this spiel have an opportunity to represent our club at the Travellers Zone Competition the following fall.

**Sweetheart 'Spiel:** Spend the day curling with the special people in your life. Everyone is welcome for a social day of curling and pig races.

**Club Championships, Mixed:** The other 'members-only' spiel this one is just for bragging rights but is in preparation for a potential mixed club competition in the future.

**Senior Men's Invitational:** Gentlemen from area clubs come together for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie.

**Charlie Ricard Memorial 'Spiel:** We would not be a curling club fit for the name without having a St. Patty's celebration. This The 'Spiel holds a special place in our hearts remembering our own leprechaun Charlie Ricard.

**Community Spiel March 24 -26, 2016:** With a division for competitive curlers and a division for non-curlers gives a chance for the whole community to come out and try this "auld sport" in a fun and non-competitive format.

**Friendlies:** The Friendlies are just what the word implies, a friendly mixed interclub competition with area clubs held monthly on Wednesdays during the day. A game, not too competitive, is played, and then lunch and stories are shared. Sign-up sheets are on the club bulletin boards. Sign up early as some of these games fill up fast!

**Autumn Leaves:** The Senior Ladies are not to be left out in friendly interclub competition. Once a month the ladies gather together 4 teams and share two games and lunch with ladies from area clubs to compete for a bragging rights and a trophy at the end of the year. Sign-up sheets are on the club bulletin boards.

**Low Cup:** The Senior Men also compete with area clubs for an annual interclub trophy. Once a month the men gather together 4 teams and share two games and lunch with men from area clubs to compete for bragging rights and the trophy. Sign-up sheets are on the club bulletin boards.

## STAFF, BOARD AND MEMBER PARTNERSHIP

**Staff:** We have contract with an office clerk, ice technician and custodian. The clerk processes fees, pro-shop purchases and supports the Board in conducting the business of the club. The ice tech is contracted to maintain the ice and is dependent on a team of volunteers to assist as he directs. The custodian cleans the club based on contracted terms but is dependent on members to maintain the club during functions.

**Board of Directors:** The club has a management Board of Directors. These Directors volunteer a great deal of their time and energy towards making this club a success. They are unable to do it alone. Please, if a Director approaches you for help, assist him/her in any way possible.

**Volunteering:** The club has many activities plus standing and ad hoc committees which depend on you the members. There are many different activities available: Board, Kitchen, House, Ice, Bar, Communications, Marketing etc. We track volunteer time to help us obtain Grant Funding for larger projects. If you have questions on what activities you could be involved with, please contact any one of our Board Members. Your commitment of time is greatly appreciated.

## LINKS AND NUMBERS YOU MAY USE

Renfrew Curling Rink

195 Xavier Street

Renfrew Ontario

**Phone:** 613-432-5001

**Email:** [renfrewcurlingclub@bellnet.ca](mailto:renfrewcurlingclub@bellnet.ca)

**Web Site:** <https://renfrewcurling.ca>

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/RenfrewCurlingRink/>