

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

NATIONAL WOMEN'S BONSPIEL

The USWCA Rules are the Governing Rules for all USWCA sanctioned events. All games shall be played under the current World Curling Rules of Play with USWCA exceptions. The host club shall not make any changes, additions, or deletions to the USCA Rules of Play, or to these Regulations.

I. Annual Bonspiels:

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to hold an annual National Women's Bonspiel in a different geographical region each year, rotating among the West, Wisconsin, East, and Central regions. The Bonspiels shall not conflict in location or date with the Senior Women's Bonspiel or with the US Women's Championship

II. Size:

It is the intent of the USWCA to produce an annual National Women's Bonspiel of 32 teams. The USWCA Board of Directors must approve any changes to this format.

III. Bonspiel Site:

The Second Vice-President shall ask member clubs to host the National Women's Bonspiel according to the site rotation schedule.

IV. Eligibility:

- A. Participants in the National Bonspiel must be a minimum 21 years of age before January 1 of the year of the bonspiel
- B. Participation in the bonspiel shall be limited to women's teams from member Clubs of the USWCA. A Member Club is one that has complied with the following requirements:
 - 1. The Club has been duly notified of its election to membership in the USWCA.
 - 2. The Club has submitted its current dues to the USWCA Treasurer, along with a complete roster of current curling members.
 - 3. The Club must be a member of the USWCA for the current and prior fiscal year.
- C. All team members must be full dues-paying, league-playing members of the same USWCA club, otherwise the team will be considered a composite team. The USWCA has not adopted a strict definition for a league-playing member of a club. Each club should determine who is acting in good faith in claiming to be a league-playing club member and each qualifying entrant must comply with her club's ruling.
- D. Use of a delivery stick is permitted as stated in the World Curling Rules of Play

V. Procedure:

All Procedures are specifically detailed in the NWBP (National Women's Bonspiel Procedure) Manual.

VI. Official Draw:

The official draw is determined as outlined in the NWBP (National Women's Bonspiel Procedure) Manual.

VII. Regulation of Play:

- A. At the start of competition, (when the teams take the ice for the first draw of the bonspiel), every team shall be composed of four eligible curlers, and they must be registered at the bonspiel site.
- B. All games are scheduled ten ends; ties are full extra ends, no minimum number of ends required.

- C. Chief Umpire:
1. The Chief Umpire shall have general supervision of all games.
 2. The Chief Umpire, when requested to do so, shall determine any matter in dispute between opposing skips. Umpire's decision is final.
 3. The Chief Umpire may appoint others to assist with supervision and any necessary measurements to determine scoring stones.
 4. Chief Umpire or anyone acting in that capacity for that event may not participate as a curler, at any time, during that event.
 5. It shall be the duty of the Chief Umpire to determine the playability of the ice during the competition
- D. No change in the order of play may be made during an event, unless a substitute is necessary. The order of play may be changed upon entering a new event.
- E. Substitutions:
1. If at any time after the registration a substitute is required to complete a team, the substitute may be provided by the home club of the team involved, time permitting, or by the On-Site Rules Chair. Such substitutions shall be reported to the Chief Umpire before the game and noted on the scorecard. Only one substitute is allowed on a team during a game.
 2. When, during a game, a player is unable to continue because of illness, accident, or any other valid reason, her team may either finish that game with the remaining three players (the first two players throwing three stones each) or bring in any qualified substitute for the remainder of the game. The substitute must play in the position of the replaced player, when entering a game in progress.
 3. A player who has left the game for illness, accident, or any other valid reason may rejoin her team during any game in the competition. If a substitute was selected, the player may rejoin her team for the next game.
 4. A team shall start all games with four players, unless substitutes are not available.
 5. A team shall not play under any circumstances with fewer than two members of the original team.
- F. Working Media and Spectators: No spectators shall be allowed within the confines of the ice or playing area during the progress of a game. Members of the press, camera operators, including television, with permission from the On-Site Chair may film any game in progress provided that they do not interfere with the play, and NO flashbulbs or other intense lighting is used.
- G. Game Timing: All games will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Players will be signaled verbally at one-minute prior and with a whistle or horn to start the game,
- (a) Each team shall receive 38 minutes of thinking time for a ten-end game. This time shall be recorded and visible to teams throughout the game.
 - (b) When a team delays the start of the game, the thinking time allotted to each team is reduced by 3 minutes 45 seconds for each end, which is considered completed.
 - (c) When extra ends are required, the game clocks are reset and each team receive 4 minutes 30 seconds of thinking time for each extra end.
 - (d) The game and each end starts when the allotted break time expires. The delivering team's game clock will not run during the start of the game/end unless the team is delaying the start, then its game clock will be started. If there is no delay, the first game clock to start in each end will be that of the team delivering the second stone.
 - (e) Once all criteria below are met, the non-delivering team becomes the delivering team, and its game clock is started:
 - i) All stones have come to rest or have crossed the back line and
 - ii) Stones that are displaced due to violations by the delivering team, and require repositioning, are returned to their positions prior to the violation and

- iii) The playing area has been relinquished to the other team, the person in charge of house has moved behind the back line, and the deliverer and sweepers have moved to the sides of the sheet.
1. A team's game clock stops once the stone has reached the tee line at the delivery end
 2. A team delivers stones only when its game clock is running or scheduled to be running. Any violation results in the stone being redelivered after the non-offending team, to their position(s) prior to the violation, has returned any displaced stone(s). The offending team's game clock runs during the replacement of the stones and the redelivery.
 3. If stones need to be repositioned due to a violation caused by an external force, both game clocks are stopped.
 4. Game clocks are stopped any time an Umpire intervenes. No time out is allowed for team discussion/consultation. Interpretation: In rare instances a team may request a time-out with a traditional "T" using the hands (an example would be for an injured player). This time out will be granted as long as the practice is not abused.
 5. After teams have agreed on the score for an end, a 1 minute break will occur, when neither game clock is running. If a measurement is required, the break begins at the completion of that measurement.
 6. If a player is allowed to redeliver a stone, the Umpire decides if the time required is to be deducted from the game time for that team.
 7. If an Umpire determines that a team is unnecessarily delaying the game, the Umpire notifies the Skip of the offending team and, after that notification, if the next stone to be delivered has not reached the tee line at the delivery end within 45 seconds, the stone is removed from play immediately.
 8. Each team must complete its part of a game within the time given, or forfeit the game. If a stone reaches the tee line at the delivery end before time expires, the stone is considered delivered on time.
 9. A game is completed when one team is mathematically eliminated (i.e. fewer stones remain in play and/or left to deliver than are needed to tie or win.)

H. Equipment:

The USWCA recommendation regarding brush heads is that all types and styles of commercially available curling brooms be allowed for use. The regulation of sweeping equipment at the recreational level is ultimately at the discretion of clubs, leagues and event organizers. Curlers are encouraged to follow the spirit of curling when deciding which equipment to use. Equipment that does not harm the ice surface should be used at all times.

- I. Should a team advance past the semi-finals and be unable to complete the entire final game: they will forfeit the semi-final game and the runner-up of the semi-final game will advance and play in the final game. Throughout the duration of the bonspiel, should a team forfeit a game for any reason other than a medical emergency, family emergency or an unforeseen circumstance all team members will not be eligible to compete in the USWCA National and Senior Women's Bonspiel for the next 2 consecutive seasons. "Emergency" will be determined by the Bonspiel On-Site Chair, Chief Umpire and the USWCA Rules Chair or designee.

J. No-Tick Shot

If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre line position or to a position outside the FGZ, the non-offending team has the option to:

1. Remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or
2. Leave all stones where they came to rest. If the stone is moved from the centre line to an out-of-play position, then the FGZ rule applies.

VIII. Supervision:

The supervision of the bonspiel shall be the responsibility of the host club On-Site Chair under the USWCA regulations set forth herein.

IX. Waiver of Regulations:

The Bonspiel Chair, in consultation with the President of the USWCA, and the Bonspiel Procedure Chair, has the right to waive any Regulation in an emergency situation.

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

SENIOR WOMEN'S BONSPIEL

The USWCA Rules are the Governing RULES for all USWCA Sanctioned events. All games shall be played under the current World Curling Rules of Play with USWCA exceptions. (The host club shall not make any changes, additions, or deletions to the USCA Rules of Play, or to these Regulations.)

I. Annual Bonspiels:

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to hold an annual Senior Women's Bonspiel in a different geographical region each year, rotating among the West, Wisconsin, East, and Central regions. The Bonspiel shall not conflict in location or date with the National Women's Bonspiel or with the US Women's Championship

II. Size:

It is the intent of the USWCA to produce an annual Senior Women's Bonspiel of 24 teams (or 16 teams if the host club has only two sheets of ice). The USWCA Board of Directors must approve any changes to this format.

III. Bonspiel Site:

Member clubs wishing to hold the Senior Women's Bonspiel must submit invitations to the USWCA Second Vice-President not later than February 1 of the previous year. Such invitations will be acted upon at the Board Meeting preceding the Annual Meeting, but no date will be accepted more than four years in advance.

IV. Eligibility:

- A. An entrant must be at least 55 years old before January 1 of the year of the current curling season.
- B. Participation in the bonspiel shall be limited to women's teams from member Clubs of the USWCA. A Member Club is one that has complied with the following requirements:
 - 1. The Club has been duly notified of its election to membership in the USWCA.
 - 2. The Club has submitted its current dues to the USWCA Treasurer, along with a complete roster of current curling members.
 - 3. The Club must be a member of the USWCA for the current and prior fiscal year.
- C. All entrants must be full dues-paying, league-playing members of a USWCA club for the current and prior fiscal years. Three team members must be members of the same club and all must be from the same geographical region.

The USWCA has not adopted a strict definition for a league- playing member of a club. Each club should determine who is acting in good faith in claiming to be a league-playing member and each qualifying entrant must comply with her club's ruling.
- D. Use of a delivery stick is permitted as stated in the World Curling Rules of Play.
- E. If a host club is unable to provide an eligible substitute (above age), it is permissible to use a woman who has reached the age of 50 before January 1 of the current curling season.

V. Procedure:

All Procedures are specifically detailed in the SWBP (Senior Women's Bonspiel Procedure) Manual. There shall be no play downs at any level for this Bonspiel.

VI. Official Draw:

The official draw is determined as outlined in the SWBP (Senior Women's Bonspiel Procedure) Manual.

VII. Regulation of Play:

- A. At the start of competition, every team shall be composed of four eligible curlers, and they must be registered at the bonspiel site.
- B. All games are scheduled eight ends, ties are full extra ends, no minimum number of ends required.
- C. Chief Umpire:
 - 1. The Chief Umpire shall have general supervision of all games.
 - 2. The Chief Umpire, when requested to do so, shall determine any matter in dispute between opposing skips. Umpire's decision is final.
 - 3. The Chief Umpire may appoint others to assist with supervision and any necessary measurements to determine scoring stones.
 - 4. Chief Umpire or anyone acting in that capacity for that event may not participate as a curler, at any time, during that event.
 - 5. It shall be the duty of the Chief Umpire to determine the playability of the ice during the competition.
- D. No change in the order of play may be made during an event, unless a substitute is necessary. The order of play may be changed upon entering a new event.
- E. Substitutions:
 - 1. If at any time after registration a substitute is required to complete a team, the substitute may be provided by the home club of the team involved, time permitting, or by the On-Site Rules Chairman. Such substitutions shall be reported to the Chief Umpire before the game and noted on the scorecard. Only one substitute is allowed on a team during a game.
 - 2. When, during a game, a player is unable to continue because of illness, accident, or any other valid reason, her team may either finish that game with the remaining three players (the first two players throwing three stones each) or bring in any qualified substitute for the remainder of the game. The substitute must play in the position of the replaced player, when entering a game in progress.
 - 3. A player who has left the game for illness, accident, or any other valid reason may rejoin her team during any game in the competition. If a substitute was selected, the player may rejoin her team for the next game.
 - 4. A team shall start all games with four players, unless substitutes are not available.
 - 5. A team shall not play under any circumstances with fewer than two members of the original team.
- F. Working Media and Spectators: No spectators shall be allowed within the confines of the ice or playing area during the progress of a game. Members of the press, camera operators, including television, with permission from the On-Site Chair may film any game in progress provided that they do not interfere with the play, and NO flashbulbs or other intense lighting is used.
- G. Game Timing:
 - 1. All games will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Players will be signaled verbally at one-minute prior and with a whistle or horn to start the game.
 - (a) Each team shall receive 30 minutes of thinking time for an eight-end game. This time shall be recorded and visible to teams throughout the game.
 - (b) When a team delays the start of the game, the thinking time allotted to each team is reduced by 3 minutes 45 seconds for each end, which is considered completed.
 - (c) When extra ends are required, the game clocks are reset and each team receives 4 minutes 30 seconds of thinking time for each extra end.
 - (d) The game and each end starts when the allotted break time expires. The delivering team's game clock will not run during the start of the game/end unless the team is delaying the start, then its game clock will be started. If there is no delay, the first game clock to start in each end will be that of the team delivering the second stone.

- (e) Once all criteria below are met, the non-delivering team becomes the delivering team, and its game clock is started:
 - i) All stones have come to rest or have crossed the back line and
 - ii) Stones that are displaced due to violations by the delivering team, and require repositioning, are returned to their positions prior to the violation and
 - iii) The playing area has been relinquished to the other team, the person in charge of house has moved behind the back line, and the deliverer and sweepers have moved to the sides of the sheet.
- 2. A team's game clock stops once the stone has reached the tee line at the delivery end.
- 3. A team delivers stones only when its game clock is running or scheduled to be running. Any violation results in the stone being redelivered after the non-offending team, to their position(s) prior to the violation, has returned any displaced stone(s). The offending team's game clock runs during the replacement of the stones and the redelivery.
- 4. If stones need to be repositioned due to a violation caused by an external force, both game clocks are stopped.
- 5. Game clocks are stopped any time an Umpire intervenes. No time out is allowed for team discussion/consultation. Interpretation: In rare instances a team may request a time-out with a traditional "T" using the hands (an example would be for an injured player). This time out will be granted as long as the practice is not abused.
- 6. After teams have agreed on the score for an end, a 1 minute break will occur, when neither game clock is running. If a measurement is required, the break begins at the completion of that measurement.
- 7. If a player is allowed to redeliver a stone, the Umpire decides if the time required is to be deducted from the game time for that team.
- 8. If an Umpire determines that a team is unnecessarily delaying the game, the Umpire notifies the Skip of the offending team and, after that notification, if the next stone to be delivered has not reached the tee line at the delivery end within 45 seconds, the stone is removed from play immediately.
- 9. Each team must complete its part of a game within the time given, or forfeit the game. If a stone reaches the tee line at the delivery end before time expires, the stone is considered delivered on time.
- 10. A game is completed when one team is mathematically eliminated (i.e. fewer stones remain in play and/or left to deliver than are needed to tie or win.)

H. Equipment:

The USWCA recommendation regarding brush heads is that all types and styles of commercially available curling brooms be allowed for use. The regulation of sweeping equipment at the recreational level is ultimately at the discretion of clubs, leagues and event organizers. Curlers are encouraged to follow the spirit of curling when deciding which equipment to use. Equipment that does not harm the ice surface should be used at all time.

I. Should a team advance past the semi-finals and be unable complete the entire final game:

They will forfeit the semi-final game and the runner-up of the semi-final game will advance and play in the final game. Throughout the duration of the bonspiel, should a team forfeit a game for any reason other than a medical emergency, family emergency or an unforeseen circumstance all team members will not be eligible to compete in the USWCA National and Senior Women's Bonspiel for the next 2 consecutive seasons. "Emergency" will be determined by the Bonspiel On-Site Chair, Chief Umpire and the USWCA Rules Chair or designee.

J. No-Tick Shot

If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre

line to be moved to an off-centre line position or to a position outside the FGZ, the non-offending team has the option to:

- Remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or
- Leave all stones where they came to rest. If the stone is moved from the centre line to an out-of-play position, then the FGZ rule applies.

VIII. Supervision:

The supervision of the bonspiel shall be the responsibility of the host club On-Site Chair under the USWCA regulations set forth herein.

IX. Waiver of Regulations:

The Bonspiel Chair, in consultation with the President of the USWCA, and the Bonspiel Procedure Chair, has the right to waive any Regulation under extreme circumstances.

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

USWCA All-American

The USWCA Rules are the Governing Rules for all USWCA sanctioned events. All games shall be played under the current World Curling Rules of Play with USWCA exceptions. (The hostess club shall not make any changes, additions, or deletions to the World Curling Rules of Play, or to these Regulations.)

I. Eligibility:

- A. All clubs and curlers must be USWCA members. Representatives should verify that all participants in the event are dues paying members of the USWCA before playing in the event.
- B. A minimum of three teams is required to host an All-American. The Chair of the local All-American Event will balance teams.
- C. Clubs shall individually decide whether or not to allow Jr. Girls to participate in the event and may choose to have an age provision for this group. All participating Jr. Girls must be current dues paying club members.
- D. Where a club cannot field the minimum number of teams, it may join with another club. The local Chairman of this event will determine the composition of the teams.
- E. Clubs with both daytime and evening women's curling sessions with at least twenty active curlers in each, may have both daytime and evening All American event. There shall be a minimum of three teams in each event. A curler may participate in both events but may earn only one pin.
- F. A team is composed of four players. A woman must skip and vice-skip, throwing skip and vice-skip rocks and must call the game. A team may have no more than two Associate Members and they must play Lead and Second, throwing Lead and Second rocks.
- G. Five member teams are allowed, when necessary, in order to permit full participation of the club membership.
- H. Use of a delivery stick is permitted as stated in the World Curling Rules of Play.

II. Procedure:

- A. An entry of three teams may play a double round robin or a modified double knockout. Four to seven entries should play a round robin to determine a winner. Eight or more teams may play in a bracketed elimination or a round robin or some combination thereof, whatever the ice schedule permits.
- B. It is recommended, not required, that the games consist of eight ends with the final decision at the discretion of the local club.
- C. The winning team must play a minimum of three games. A bye is considered a game and a win. A procedure to resolve tied teams should be in place before the event begins, especially if there is no time in a club schedule for a playoff game.

III. Rules of Play:

- A. Current World Curling Rules of Play shall apply with the following exceptions and additions;
 - 1. The individual clubs shall determine forfeiture rules, timing and substitution of players.
 - 2. In bracketed eliminations, all initial pairings shall be done by "drawing out of a hat".
 - 3. If possible, there shall be no more than one club-rated skip on a team. Each club shall determine who shall be eligible as the other three members of the team. Should it be necessary to place more than one skip on a team, their playing position shall be at the discretion of the local event Chair.

- B. This event shall not conflict with the USWCA National Women's bonspiel and shall not be used as a play down for the Bonspiel or as a consolation event for those unable to compete in the Bonspiel. The All-American Event shall be independent of any other club competition.
- C. The USWCA recommendation regarding brush heads is that all types and styles of commercially available curling brooms be allowed for use. The regulation of sweeping equipment at the recreational level is ultimately at the discretion of clubs, leagues and event organizers. Curlers are encouraged to follow the spirit of curling when deciding which equipment to use. Equipment that does not harm the ice surface should be used at all times.

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

USWCA WOMEN'S CURLING CIRCUIT

I. Eligibility:

- A. All clubs hosting Circuit Events and curlers must be USWCA members.
- B. Clubs shall individually decide whether or not to allow Jr. Girls to participate in the event and may choose to have an age provision for this group. All participating Jr. Girls must be current dues paying USWCA members.
- C. Any one-day or more bonspiel that is open to all USWCA female members is eligible to be in the Circuit. Age or experience restricted events are not eligible. Women's events whose eligibility is based solely on age, geography or experience.
- D. Members of the top three finishers at the US National Women's Championships and winner of the US Junior Nationals in the past four years are ineligible for Circuit participation.

II. Procedure:

- A. The Circuit Member Club must have their women's bonspiel registered as being part of The Circuit at least one week prior to the start of the event.
- B. Participating Clubs must report the Circuit bonspiels results to their Regional Coordinator within 2 weeks of the completion of the event.
- C. Individual curlers will register with their Regional Coordinator, at Circuit bonspiels or on the USWCA website. The contact information for Regional Coordinators will be posted on the USWCA website.
- D. Curlers must have at least two (2) members of The Circuit on their team for an event to accumulate points from that event.
- E. Curlers can change teammates from one spiel to another.
- F. Curlers can register for The Circuit anytime throughout the season and must register before the start of her second game of an event to earn points from that event.
- G. Points are awarded based on games won, with First Event and Final Event wins adding additional points.
- H. Should any situations or discrepancies arise that are not covered by these rules, a USWCA Curling Circuit Review Board shall be convened to make a final decision. The Review Board shall consist of 3 members of the USWCA's Curling Circuit Committee.
- I. The season runs from May 1 to April 30.

III. Rules of Play:

- A. Each bonspiel host club(s) will determine the rules of play. There will be no attempt by the USWCA to change the club's event.
- B. Registered curlers will earn points at Circuit Bonspiels. Curlers will earn points for each win at a bonspiel. Points will also be awarded for losses in finals of events. The 1st event winner will be awarded the most points at a bonspiel.

IV. Awards:

Awards will be distributed at the end of each season. Each USWCA region will have its own prize pool when it reaches 3 bonspiels and 8 curlers for the Circuit. Below this level, the two regions with the lowest curler participation will be combined. In addition to the regional winners, a national winner will be determined each season

Regulation Changes:

The Board of Directors may adopt, amend, or repeal any Regulation by a two-thirds vote at any constitutionally convened meeting of the Board.

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

USWCA 5-YEAR AND UNDER BONSPIEL

The USWCA Rules are the Governing Rules for all USWCA sanctioned events. All games shall be played under the current World Curling Rules of Play with USWCA exceptions. (The hostess club shall not make any changes, additions, or deletions to the USCA Rules of Play, or to these Regulations.)

I. Bonspiel Site: Clubs in each of the USWCA regions; East, Central, Wisconsin, West, should annually rotate hosting 5 & Under Open and/or Women's Bonspiels.

- A. Each region may hold two bonspiels, if sites are found. One bonspiel is the Five and Under Women's Challenge and the other is the Five and Under Open Challenge.
- B. Host clubs in all four regions must be members of the USWCA.
- C. Bonspiels are open to any club within the USWCA region. Teams from another region can participate in any event if there are openings and if they had conflicts with the date or location in their own region.

II. Eligibility:

- A. Any curler aged 21 years and older with five (5) years or less total experience is eligible to participate. Applications may be pre-dated the 21 year age requirement as long as the participant is 21 years by the first date of the event.
- B. Years spent as junior curlers or persons who have not curled for a number of years and then returned to curling must include their previous curling experiences as part of the 5 years. Ten (10) games in one season will constitute one year of curling.
- C. Curlers do NOT need to belong to the USWCA to participate.
- D. Composite teams, from different clubs and/or different regions, are acceptable as long as the eligibility forms are signed by a club officer or USWCA Representative from each of their various clubs.
- E. Individuals may also register to participate and must submit a signed Eligibility Form.

III. Procedure:

- A. Each skip must submit a signed Eligibility Form when the rink registers verifying that each member of the team has, in fact, curled five years or less and has attained age 21 years by the first day of the event. The form must be signed by a club officer.
- B. If a substitute is required to complete a team, a qualified substitute shall be at the discretion of the Regional Bonspiel Chairperson.
- C. Any substitution to a team, prior to a bonspiel, must be accompanied by a signed eligibility form.
- D. Eligibility forms may be obtained from the host club or downloaded from the USWCA website.
- E. Regional Bonspiel Chairpersons should be encouraged to maintain flexibility in order to accommodate all eligible participants.
- F. Coaching at this event must be limited. If a team is traveling with a coach, any coaching should take place away from the curling club.
- G. Bonspiels can hold up to four events to allow as many teams in the competition as their clubs can accommodate.

IV. Regulation of Play:

- A. At the start of the competition, every team should be composed of four (4) eligible curlers according to the 5 & Under eligibility guidelines described above.
- B. A team shall start all games with four (4) players, unless substitutes are unavailable.

- C.** Each team is guaranteed three (3) games.
- D.** 8 end games are preferred, but the final decision is at the discretion of the host club.
- E.** When a game is tied after the allotted time of play, a host club may determine how the tie is broken in all games except the finals, where a full end must be played.
- F.** No change in the order of play may be made during an event unless a substitute is necessary. The order of play may be changed upon entering a new event.
- G.** Substitutions:
 - 1. If at any time, after registration, a substitute is required to complete a team, the substitute may be provided by the home club of the team involved, time permitting, or by the host club. Only one substitute is allowed on a team during a game.
 - 2. When, during a game, a player is unable to continue because of illness, accident, or any other valid reason, the team may either finish that game with the remaining three players (the first two players throwing three stones each) or bring in a qualified substitute for the remainder of the game. The substitute must play in the position of the replaced player, when entering a game in progress.
 - 3. If a substitute was selected, the player who left the game may rejoin the team for the next game. If a substitute wasn't selected, the player may return to the game in progress.
- H.** A team shall not play, under any circumstances, with less than three players.
- I.** No Media shall interfere with any games on the ice. This coverage shall take place before or after a game with the Bonspiel Chairperson's permission.
- J.** The USWCA recommendation regarding brush heads is that all types and styles of commercially available curling brooms be allowed for use. The regulation of sweeping equipment at the recreational level is ultimately at the discretion of clubs, leagues and event organizers. Curlers are encouraged to follow the spirit of curling when deciding which equipment to use. Equipment that does not harm the ice surface should be used at all times.

USWCA RULES AND REGULATIONS

SUPER SENIOR WOMEN'S BONSPIEL

The USWCA Rules are the Governing Rules for all USWCA Sanctioned events. All games shall be played under the current World Curling Rules of Play with USWCA exceptions. The host club shall not make any changes, additions, or deletions to the USCA Rules of Play, or the USWCA Rules and Regulations.

I. Annual Bonspiels:

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to hold an annual Super Senior Women's Bonspiel in a different geographical region each year, rotating among the Wisconsin, East, Central and West regions as arranged. The Bonspiel shall not conflict in location or date with the USWCA National Women's Bonspiel or the USWCA Senior Women's Bonspiel.

II. Size:

It is the intent of the USWCA to produce an annual Super Senior Women's Bonspiel with a minimum of 12 teams. This bonspiel may be held with USWCA Executive Council approval with less than 12 teams. It is the intent that this bonspiel may be held at USWCA member clubs with 2 or 3 sheets of ice.

III. Bonspiel Site:

The Super Senior Women's Bonspiel Procedure Chair (SSWBP) will ask member clubs to host the USWCA Super Senior Women's Bonspiel according to the rotation schedule.

IV. Eligibility:

- A. A female entrant must be at least 65 years old before January 1 of the year of the current curling season.
- B. Participation in the bonspiel shall be limited to women from member Clubs of the USWCA or a USWCA Member-At-Large. A Member Club is one that has complied with the following requirements: 1. The Club has been duly notified of its election to membership in the USWCA 2. The Club has submitted its current dues to the USWCA Comptroller, along with a complete roster of current curling members. 3. The Club must be a member of the USWCA for the current and prior fiscal year.
- C. All club entrants must be current USWCA dues-paying members of a USWCA club.
- D. A female USWCA Member-At-Large is eligible to enter as an individual or on a team. She must meet the age requirement. She must be a dues paying Member-At-Large by the Super Senior Women's Bonspiel application deadline date.
- E. Use of a delivery stick is permitted as stated in the World Curling Rules of Play.
- F. If the host club is unable to provide an eligible substitute (above A/age), it is permissible to substitute a woman who has reached age 60 before January 1 of the current curling season.

V. Procedure:

- A. All Procedures are specifically detailed in the SSWBP (Super Senior Women's Bonspiel Procedure) Manual.

B. Entries/ Teams:

1. To coincide with the purpose of this bonspiel: Full Club teams are not allowed. However, four or more individuals from the same club may enter the bonspiel as individuals or as stated in B3.
 2. Individual female entrants are encouraged. Players will be assigned to a team for the duration of the bonspiel.
 3. Two members from the same club along with two players from a different region or regions may enter to form a team. Examples: 2 players from Madison CC (Wis) and 2 players from Chicago CC (Central) /// 2 players from Madison CC (Wis), one player from Chicago CC (Central) and 1 player from Mayfield CC (Central)/// 2 players from Madison CC (Wis), one player from Chicago CC (Central) and 1 player from St. Paul CC (West).
 4. Two members from the same club may submit an entry. The SSWBP committee will then assign players from individual entries to form a team.
 5. The SSWBP committee will attempt to have equal regional representation on committee formed teams, but this is dependent upon the individual entrants.
 6. Five member teams will not be allowed.
- C. There shall be no play downs for entry into the Super Senior Women's Bonspiel.
- D. Upon entry deadline, individual entrants will be placed on teams based upon position and region. Then all teams will be drawn out of a hat for entry in the bonspiel. All teams have equal status in the draw (team entries and committee formed teams).
- E. If the bonspiel is oversubscribed, entries who did not get chosen in the original draw will be placed on a wait list. The order of placement will be determined by a draw.

VI. Official Draw: The official draw is determined as outlined in the SSWB Procedure Manual.

VII. Regulation of Play

- A. At the start of competition, every team shall be composed of four eligible curlers, and they must be registered at the bonspiel site.
- B. All games are scheduled six ends.
- C. Dependent upon the draw, number of host club ice sheets and days of play: a bonspiel format or point system may be used. Ties will not be played off when the point system is used. A draw to the button with sweepers will be done at the end of the first game to determine event placement if team points are tied. Recommended Point System: Win 5 pts, tie each team 2.5 pts, 1 pt each end won, and 0.25 pt for each rock scored.
- D. Dependent upon the draw, semi-final games may also be point games. If the semi-final games are W/L, ties will be played off with a full extra end. Final games are W/L. Final game ties will be played off with a full extra end.
- E. Change in the order of position may be made at the start of a new game.
- F. Should a team advance past the semi-finals and be unable to complete the entire final game; they will forfeit the semi-final game and the runner-up of the semi-final game will advance and play in the final.
- G. In the event that a team forfeits during a pointed game, please see the SSWB Procedure Manual for the formula to determine the points for the winning team.
- H. On-Site Chair or Designee:
 1. Shall have general supervision of all games.

2. When requested to do so, shall determine any matter in dispute between opposing skips. The On-Site Chair or designee's decision is final.
3. May appoint others to assist with supervision and any necessary measurements to determine scoring stones.
4. May not participate as a curler anytime during that event.
5. The supervision of the bonspiel shall be the responsibility of the host club On-Site Chair under the USWCA regulations set forth herein. The On-Site Chair shall determine the playability of the ice during the competition.

I. Substitutions:

1. If a substitute is required to complete a team prior to the start of the bonspiel, the substitute will be provided by the USWCA SSWBP chair if substitutes are available.
2. If a substitute is required once the bonspiel starts, the substitute will be provided, if possible, by the On-Site Chair. ALL substitutions shall be reported to the On-Site Chair or designee before the game. Only one substitute is allowed on a team during a game.
3. When, during a game, a player is unable to continue because of illness, accident, or any other valid reason, her team may either finish that game with the remaining three players (the first two players throwing three stones each) or bring in a qualified substitute for the remainder of the game. The substitute must play in the position of the replaced player, when entering a game in progress.
4. A player who has left the game for illness, accident, or any other valid reason may rejoin her team during any game in the competition. If a substitute was selected, the player may rejoin her team for the next game.
5. A team shall start all games with four players, unless substitutes are not available.
6. A team shall not play under any circumstances with fewer than three players.
7. If a host club is unable to provide an eligible substitute (IV/A), it is permissible to use a woman who has reached age 60 before January 1 of the current curling season.

J. Working Media and Spectators: No spectators shall be allowed within the confines of the ice or playing area during the progress of a game. Members of the press, camera operators, including television, with permission from the Bonspiel Chair may film any game in progress provided that they do not interfere with the play. NO flashbulbs or other intense lighting is allowed.

K. Game Timing:

1. All games will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Players will be signaled verbally at one minute prior and with a whistle or bell to start the game.
2. All games are scheduled six ends. If points are used, all ends must be completed.
3. All games will be timed according to USWCA game timing regulations as follows:
 - a) Each game is expected to be played in 90 minutes for a six end game (45 minutes/team). Skips or a designated team member is responsible for keeping play moving. The On-Site Chair or designee will also give reminders to the teams when slow play is an issue at the completion of the 4th End.

- b) When an extra end is required, 15 minutes will be allowed to complete the extra end.
 - c) If the On-Site Chair or designee determines that a team is unnecessarily delaying the game, both skips will be notified.
- L. Equipment: The USWCA recommendation regarding brush heads is that all types and styles of commercially available curling brooms be allowed for use. The regulation of sweeping equipment at the recreational level is ultimately at the discretion of clubs, leagues and event organizers. Curlers are encouraged to follow the Spirit of Curling when deciding which equipment to use. Equipment that does not harm the ice surface **must** be used at all time.

VII. Waiver of Regulations:

The On-Site Chair, in consultation with the President of the USWCA and the SSWBP Chair, has the right to waive any Regulation in an emergency situation.

March 2025