



GOLDLINE TCA Men's Bonspiel

2009-2010 Rules

The Toronto Curling Association's **Goldline** Men's Curling Bonspiel is for **club level teams** composed of male curlers in the Toronto area clubs that have been approved to participate. Players need not be members of the Ontario Curling Association or the Toronto Curling Association. Rental league players **are** eligible and encouraged to participate.

Each team shall consist of four players from the same club who may not play on any other team as regular players within their division. Teams and/or individuals may, however, play in more than one division (Open and Senators' or Seniors' and Senators').

Teams must remain unchanged in personnel and position in all events throughout the competition except in substituting as provided in "substitution".

A skip may list a substitute (as defined in "substitution") on the score card for the final game for the purposes of recording in the Goldline Championship Record and on the trophy and plaque should they be the winner.

The Canadian Curling Association rules shall apply except as provided herein.

NOTE:

Some of the clubs used for the Men's Goldline bonspiel have dress codes. Please call the club directly, if you need clarification.

General Eligibility: Age

Open : 19 years of age and over as of December 31, 2009

Senior : 50 years of age and over as of December 31, 2009

Senators: 65 years of age and over as of December 31, 2009

General Eligibility

The Bonspiel Committee welcomes all adult male curlers to enter the bonspiel, including competitive / elite curlers. However, as the bonspiel is intended for club-level teams, we ask that all teams meet the spirit of club-level eligibility and consist of players playing in positions they would normally play during club-level competition.

For **ALL** divisions - Open, Senior, and Senators:

- All team members must be members of the same club.
- No player shall play a position more than one position lower than they would normally play during club-level competition (for example: a vice may not play lead)

Specific Ineligibility: Front End

Players who meet any of the following criteria shall be **ineligible** to play front end in **ALL** divisions - Open, Senior, and Senators:

- Anyone who has played Skip or Vice in the main event final game in any division of *any* TCA bonspiel during the last five years.
- Anyone who has played in the Provincials for the Men's, or Senior's competitions in Ontario, or in a similar competition in any other jurisdiction, during the last five years.
- Anyone with a top 25 World Curling Tour ranking in the last five years.

Team Eligibility:

A team that does not have three players ready to start the game at the time designated by the umpire shall be assessed a penalty of one point and one end shall be considered played for every ten minutes the start of the game is delayed. When the game does start, the penalty for playing with three men is also applied. (See below.) The offending team will throw first.

If after a 35-minute delay, one team does not have three players, then that team shall lose the game by default.

3 Person Teams:

The committee strongly discourages the use of three person teams. However, it does appreciate that 3 person teams are allowed in club play; therefore, every team shall be allowed to play **only one game** with 3 people **without** penalty. If the fourth player is expected to arrive, he will be allowed to enter the game prior to the completion of the 4th. end without penalty. After the completion of the 4th. end, the game is considered to have been played with three players; however the fourth player may still participate in the remaining ends of the game.

For each subsequent game if a team **starts** the game with three players, the following penalty will be assessed:

- **One** end is considered played.
- The non-offending team will be awarded **two** points.
- The offending team will throw the first rock.
- The team will throw 3-3-2.

If the fourth player is expected to arrive, the offending skip must inform the opposing skip what position the missing player will play when he arrives. If the fourth player does not arrive before the completion of the 4th. end, he may not enter the game.

The host club umpire will inform the Drawmaster or the Umpire-in-Chief of any offenses under "Three Person Teams". Repeat offenses may result in the disqualification of the offending team.

Substitution:

All teams must have two original members to be legal. A member of the team that was listed on the registration form on the opening day must throw the final two rocks of each end. However, in the absence of the original skip, a substitute shall be allowed to call the game.

Substitutes are permitted in any game on notification to and approval of the host club umpire before commencing the game. The substitution shall be from the same club. He may have been a member of another team in the current year of the championship ***provided*** that said team originally played on was eliminated in the third game. He must qualify as to rating under "eligibility" and play the same position as he played on his original team (either front end or back end). He is allowed to spare for **one team only** during the entire championship.

Every substitute must uphold all eligibility and substitution rules.

A team may use up to a maximum of six players for the duration of the competition: four regulars and two substitutes.

Teams advancing to games on the closing day of the Bonspiel **must start with four players** meeting all eligibility rules outlined herein.

Rescheduling Games:

The umpire may postpone or delay the starting time for any game with the authorization of the umpire-in-chief or drawmaster at Bonspiel headquarters for extenuating and impartial reasons.

All games shall be played as scheduled except in the case of a weather-related problem or mechanical problem at the hosting club.

General:

The Chairman of the Goldline Men's Committee shall appoint the umpire-in-chief and an umpire shall be appointed at each club.

All games shall be 8 ends including semi-finals and finals. Ties will be broken by a full extra end.

The use of a curling "stick" is permitted.

Practice is not permitted on the game sheet prior to the game.

Entries shall be made through the sponsor clubs or through the TCA website. Notices relating to the championship shall be sent to the sponsoring clubs. These notices shall be considered sufficient notification to the participants.

In the case of an emergency breakdown occurring at a club during the playing of the championships, whichever team has the highest score after the completion of 6 ends of the 8 end game shall be, at the discretion of the umpire, declared the winner.

Should the Umpire-in-Chief declare a team "disqualified" during the Bonspiel, only the previous game result will be reversed.

Games in these championships take precedence over league games. Teams have the right to ask their league executives to give them every opportunity to reschedule conflicting league games.

In the event any game is televised time clocks may be used at the discretion of the Umpire-in-Chief. Where games are timed, each team will be allowed 7.5 minutes per end (60 min over 8 ends). There will be no time-outs. In the case that a team runs out of time, the non-offending team will be allowed to throw any remaining rocks until all their rocks have been played or their time runs out.

Withdrawals will be accepted up to noon on the Friday before the bonspiel commences with no punitive measures.

If a team defaults both of their first two scheduled games, they will be ineligible to compete in any further games in the competition.

Teams participating in the Thursday game, the quarter finals for the Open event and the semi-finals for the Senior and Senator event, must declare to the umpire prior to the start of play if they are available to participate in the remainder of the bonspiel. If they are not available, they will forfeit the game and will receive the non-winners prize. The non-offending team will advance. If a team fails to declare their intent, all members of the team will be disqualified from play for two years and will forfeit any prize eligibility in the current year.

Team Registration:

All skips are required to register their teams prior to their first game, indicating the four regular members of the team, and acknowledging that the rules unique to this competition have been read and are fully understood.

Curler's Code of Ethics

- I will play the game with the spirit of good sportsmanship.
- I will conduct myself in an honorable manner both on and off the ice.
- I will never knowingly break a rule, but if I do, I will divulge the breach.
- I will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate or demean my opponents, teammates or officials.
- I will interpret the rules in an impartial manner, always keeping in mind that the purpose of the rules is to ensure that the game is played in an orderly and fair manner.
- I will humbly accept any penalty, that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate, if I am found in violation of the code of ethics or rules of the game.

Fair Play

- Fair play begins with the strict observance of the written rule: however, in most cases, fair play involves something more than even failing observance of the written rule. The observance of the spirit of the rules, whether written or unwritten, is important.
- Fair play results from measuring up one's own moral standards while engaged in competition.
- Fair play is consistent demonstration of respect for teammates and opponents, whether they are winning or losing.
- Fair play is consistent demonstration of respect for officials, an acceptance of their decision and a steadfast spirit of collaboration with them.
- Sportsmanlike behavior should be demonstrated both on and off the ice. This includes modesty in victory and composure in defeat.