

# TCA Goldline Men's Bonspiel

## 2011-2012 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.

Each team shall consist of four players from the same club who **must be active members and participate in club draw(s)**. Rental league players **are** eligible and encouraged to participate. Participants 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 as provided in "spares".

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

### **Note:**

All entries must be made through the TCA website at [www.TorontoCurling.com](http://www.TorontoCurling.com). An E-mail notification will be sent to confirm the entry. All teams registered will be posted on the TCA website.

Some of the clubs used for the TCA Goldline Men's 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, 2011

**Senior** : 50 years of age and over as of December 31, 2011

**Senators:** 65 years of age and over as of December 31, 2011

## **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 Men's competition.

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

- No player shall play a position more than one position lower than they would normally play during club-level Men's 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 the Men's TCA bonspiel during the last three years.
- Anyone who has played in the Provincials for the Men's, Senior Men's or Masters competitions in Ontario, or in a similar competition in any other jurisdiction, during the last three years.
- Anyone with a top 25 World Curling Tour ranking in the last three 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 10 minutes the start of the game is delayed. When the game does start, the penalty for playing with three men may also apply. (See below.) The offending team will throw first.

If after a 30-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, the offending skip must inform the opposing skip what position the missing player will play when he arrives. He will be allowed to enter the game prior to the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> end without penalty. After the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 the second offence and 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.

For the second offence and each subsequent game, if the fourth player is expected to arrive but does not arrive before the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Spares:**

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 spare shall be allowed to call the game.

Spares are permitted in any game on notification to and approval of the host club umpire before commencing the game. The spare shall be from the same club. Every spare must uphold all eligibility rules. He is allowed to spare for **one team only** during the entire championship.

The spare may have been a member of another team in the current year of the championship **provided** that said team was eliminated in the third game of the Open, Seniors or Senators competitions. He must qualify as to rating under "eligibility" and age, and play either front end or back end as he played on his original team. Exception: A Senator may spare in the Open or Seniors division at any time.

A team may use up to a maximum of six players for the duration of the competition: four regulars and two spares. If a team uses a seventh player, they will be disqualified.

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 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. Teams mathematically eliminated from a game must concede. Ties will be broken by a full extra end.

The use of a curling "stick" is permitted.

Practice is not permitted prior to the game.

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's 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.

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 games 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.

A skip may list a spare 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.

**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.