

HAMILTON AND DISTRICT WOMEN'S OPEN BONSPIEL 2018 RULES OF PLAY

The purpose of this Bonspiel is to promote participation by new curlers. Sips are encouraged to bring new curlers out to enjoy the camaraderie and values of curling at our local clubs.

RULES OF PLAY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. All players must be a member in good standing and play at the club they represent.
2. All players must be 19 years of age or older on the first day of the Bonspiel.
3. Anyone entered in the Hamilton and District Ladies' event during the day is ineligible to enter or substitute in the Hamilton and District Women's Open Bonspiel in the same year.
4. U21 girls are eligible to play on teams provided they meet the age requirement.
5. All players must play their eligible position or higher, as defined by the Hamilton and District Women's Open Bonspiel and as verified by the Club Secretary and /or the Club Representative to the Hamilton and District Women's Open Bonspiel. Eligible position is defined as follows:
 - a. **Lead: 7 years or less curling experience** (2017-2018 is the 7th year or less). Years of experience are defined as follows:
 - i. Any year where a person has played a minimum of 15 games.
 - ii. Junior and Bantam years of experience count as full years.
 - iii. University and rental league experience counts as full years if minimum of 15 games were played.
 - b. **Second, Vice and Skip: no restrictions.**
 - c. It is the responsibility of the Skip to ensure the team meets the eligibility requirements.
 - d. If there is a protest about a team's eligibility, it must take place prior the 3rd game.
6. Players who have qualified (won a patch) in the **previous 2 years** in either OCA or CCA events (excluding the Travellers) may only have 2 such players on the same team.
7. A team must play 3 of its original members in all games, as set out on the entry form or as specifically registered before the first game, or the game is forfeited. **(At least one player on the team must have 7 years experience or less, and must play lead or the game is forfeited.)**
8. Any rink short a player must secure a substitute from his or her own club. The substitute must meet eligibility requirements for the position she will play. The Skip must inform the umpire of the name and position of the substitute before the start of the game.
9. A substitute can be a player from the same club who has played on another rink in the Bonspiel once her team has been eliminated.
10. If necessary to play with 3 players, the first 2 players will throw 3 rocks each.

11. In the event of a tie (**during a non-elimination game**) the winner will be determined by a draw to the button. The delivering team may sweep the stone. An extra end will be played towards the glass for all elimination games.
12. If a team is more than 15 minutes late, 1 point is awarded to the rink at hand and 1 end is counted as played. The late rink throws the first stone of the second end. If more than 30 minutes late, 2 points are awarded to the team at hand and 2 ends are counted as played. The late rink throws the first stone of the third end. If a team is more than 45 minutes late, the game is forfeited.
13. **In case of a dispute, the Skips should notify the umpire at the time of the dispute if it is unresolved. The role of the umpire is to resolve issues, as they occur to ensure fairness to both teams. The umpire's decision is final.**
14. All games are eight ends, including the finals.
15. **No hair brooms will be allowed on the ice, straw brooms may be used for delivery only if they are wrapped.**
16. No games will be cancelled unless the draw master formally notifies teams **via email**.
17. If a rule is not stated here, OCA rules are in effect.
18. The umpire for inappropriate behavior on or off the ice may suspend a player.
19. **There is no time clock in effect.** Teams will play ready curl to keep the game moving. Teams are strongly encouraged to complete their 8 end game within a 2 hour time period. **The umpire will monitor pace of play and has the discretion to warn slow teams to speed up.**
20. The use of cell phones on the ice is prohibited. In the event of an emergency, the call must be taken off the ice. The game will continue and the skips will determine order of play.
21. **Teams who withdraw from the Hamilton and District Bonspiel after the entry deadline must find a replacement team or they will forfeit their entry fee.**

The Hamilton and District Women's Open Committee will review any breach of the Rules. The Committee will, at its sole discretion, and based on the events of the infraction, which has occurred, determine the appropriate penalty. Penalties may include the suspension of the team or individual players from the Bonspiel for up to 2 years. The Hamilton and District Women's Open Committee decision will be final.

If you have any questions regarding the Rules of Play, please contact your Club Representative and/or the officiating umpire prior to playing your game.

GOOD CURLING

