



1.4. SCOTTISH CURLING COMPETITION DISCIPLINE IN CURLING GUIDELINES

July 2024

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Background

These guidelines have been in place since 2011 to try and ensure athletes, coaches and umpires managed this area in a consistent manner. There is no desire to change the present rules and the Spirit of Curling, but to see a continuing improvement in the standards of discipline.

In May 2016, the Board of Scottish Curling approved a Disciplinary Process for all members, not just athletes and coaches which is reflected in the General Comments which have been updated.

The guidelines have been circulated to teams/coaches/umpires. Umpires will refer to them at team meetings, and in team meeting documents where appropriate, to remind teams of their importance.

	INCIDENT	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	COMMENTS
1.	Brush abuse with no ice damage	1 st time – Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	See General Comments (Notes 1 +2)
2.	Brush abuse (but brush is not broken) with ice damage	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time – Removal from game	Ice damage confirmed by chief ice technician, no difference in consequence whether middle of sheet or edge of sheet See General Comments (Notes 1 + 2)
3.	Brush abuse with stopwatch flying off brush	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time – Removal from game	Merits higher consequence as could potentially affect other games if goes into adjoining sheets See General Comments (Notes 1 + 2)
4.	Any brush abuse where brush is broken	1 st time - Formal warning 2 nd time – Removal from game	Highlighted carbon shards potentially affecting game/games on adjoining sheet(s) See General Comments (Notes 1 +2)
5.	Brush abuse where brush is broken PLUS	Removal from game	Automatic removal from game. Brush abuse to cause a brush to break <u>and</u> also damage ice or stone

	ice or stone is damaged		felt to be completely unacceptable and to do both will have required significant force/indiscipline. See General Comments (Note 2)
6.	Inappropriate language (irrespective of words used) - audible to spectators or an umpire out with Field of Play	1 st time – Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	Inappropriate language 'overheard' within a team discussion by umpire would <u>not</u> merit any action. See General Comments (Notes 1 +2)
7.	Inappropriate language on TV Microphone only	Quiet word to team and coach	Not an area where further consequence by umpire unless audible to others as above. Broadcaster could remove microphone/build in delay?
8.	Kicking stones at conclusion of end into hack/barrier	1 st time – Quiet word 2 nd time - Formal warning 3 rd time - Removal from game	If other athlete hit/injured by any stone or hack damaged would give formal warning at 1 st time See General Comments (Notes 1 +2)
9.	Verbal abuse of umpire	Formal warning or removal from game depending on severity	
10.	Any of above AFTER last stone of game played in Field of Play	As per above guidelines and if would have merited removal from game had it still been in progress, refer to Disciplinary / Organising Committee to decide if banned from next 1 or 2 games.	
11.	Any of above AFTER last stone of game played where applicable outside Field of Play	As per above guidelines and if would have merited removal from game had it still been in progress, refer to Disciplinary / Organising Committee to decide if banned from next 1 or 2 games.	Whilst teams on premises competition rules still apply but umpire would have to view incident or be certain who had done it. Third party reports are not admissible.
12.	Damage to property	Removal from game1 if still in progress and refer to Disciplinary / Organising Committee to decide if banned from next game/removed from	

		competition/barred for period of time.	
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GENERAL COMMENTS

1. Removal from the game applies to the same offending player who has received the recommended number of warnings. Removal is not an accumulation of warnings against a team.
2. Formal warnings will be issued by the Chief Umpire or the Deputy Umpire in the presence of the Game Umpire.
3. Removal from a game will mean that the player misses the rest of the current game and all of the next game (after they have thrown their first stone).
4. Any formal warning during one game will be carried forward to further games in the same competition. (A qualifying competition leading to finals will be deemed to be separate competitions from the point of view of carrying forward formal warnings).
5. All warnings will be recorded on umpire violation sheet to ensure accuracy in dealing with any future incidents. The violation sheet will be attached to the Chief Umpire overall report and submitted to the Competition Co-ordinator at Scottish Curling. These will be reviewed and may be considered in conjunction with violation reports received from other Scottish Curling competitions. This may result in the Disciplinary Process being applied with a view to further action if deemed appropriate.