

Curling Canada's Coaching Rules

2027 Under-21 Mixed Doubles Canada Winter Games

Curling Canada, along with all our Member Associations, support opportunities for coaches and young athletes to have more communication with each other throughout a game. This season we will continue using World Curling's new rules of allowing more communication between players and their coach when a team is the **"non-delivering team"**.

Having coaches at ice level allows coaches to better support their teams' performance and development. Coaches are provided with more convenient and frequent access to their team while the game is being played and are positioned in a better physical position where they are better able to view the game, listen to their team's conversations, and interact when permitted.

All provinces and territories will see these U-21 Mixed Doubles Coaching Rules implemented this season at the 2027 Canada Winter Games.

Member Associations may use these rules or alter for your own competitions throughout the season.

- **The Coach Bench for both the Red Team and the Yellow Team will be at the home end.** Coaches will not walk back and forth to the opposite ends during the game. No advertising or branding of any sort is allowed on the bench.
- **While a game is in progress, the coach may communicate with their team from their position in the Coach Bench area. This only applies when a team is the "NON-DELIVERING TEAM".** Yelling is not permitted. The non-delivering team must not distract the delivering team and must be aware of their player positions.
 - The position of the members of the non-delivering team:
 - (a) Player(s) may be positioned inside the hog line at the playing end. They shall position themselves behind the back line when the delivering team is in the process of delivery. Player(s) shall be motionless with their brooms positioned in a manner not to interfere with or distract the attention of the player who is in the process of delivery.
 - (b) The player who is next to deliver may take a stationary position to the side of the sheet behind the hacks at the delivery end. The player shall remain silent and motionless when the delivering team player is in the process of delivery.
 - (c) The players not taking positions (a) or (b) shall position themselves between the hog lines and to the extreme sides of the sheet when the delivering team's time clock is running.
 - (d) The non-delivering team members shall not take any position or cause such motion that would obstruct, interfere with, or distract any member of the delivering team.
 - If a violation occurs, the umpire shall allow all stones to come to rest and provide the nonoffending team with the option of: allowing the play to stand; or recommencing the delivery of the stone; or replacing all affected stones as close as possible to their original position and redelivering the stone.
 - For any violation by the coach, they will be removed from the Coach Bench for that game. Any further violation will result in the team no longer having anyone on the Coach Bench for the remainder of the event.
 - An additional rule is that players must stop talking with their coach when the opposition rock crosses the delivering end T-line.
- Coaches may sit or stand in their assigned position/seat on the same side as their team's rocks.
 - Coaches may not move from their position/seat during the end unless their team has called a Time-out. For example, coaches cannot move to see the house or shot better.
- The proper dress code must be adhered to when occupying a position on the Coach Bench, or access will be denied. This means no blue jeans, proper footwear, and either the team uniform or the Association jacket. A warm jacket may be worn over the uniform but must be removed before entering the Field of Play (any area in front of the Coach Bench).
- **Games will be timed and each team will have 22 minutes of thinking time for 8-ends.** When extra ends are required, the game clocks will be reset, and each team will be given three (3) minutes.
- Coaches will have five (5) minutes to meet with their team at the halfway point of the game. This will occur at the 4th end break.

- **Teams will be given one (1) Time-out for sixty (60) seconds during the game (8-ends).** This can occur when your team is the "DELIVERING TEAM".
 - During a Time-out, coaches may only meet with their team on the backboard (coach cannot be on the ice).
 - Time-outs can be called by anyone on the team in control of the house or their coach. If the coach or a player wants a Time-out, they must signal a T with their hands when their team is in control of the house. If anyone signals for a Time-out, the team must use their Time-out.
 - If a Time-out is called at the away end, the coach walking to the opposite end will be given additional travel time.
 - During a Time-out, opposing coaches will also be allowed to interact with their respective team until the team that called the Time-out has concluded their communication.
 - Teams will be given one (1) Time-out per extra end.
- If all games are live streamed by the Host Committee, coaches may watch their own live streamed game with the sound off. At no time can players watch the live stream or a recording of the live stream while the game is being played.
- **Penalties**
For the following infractions, please note the penalties listed below:
 - a) There will be absolutely no talking or body language by the coach to their team unless between when they transfer control of the house until the other team's rock crosses the far hog-line, during a time out, opposition time out, or between ends. Body language includes hand, body gestures, signaling or any other form of communication.
 - b) Coaches are allowed to use their phone, tablet or computer to record game statistics, write down notes or take photos of game scenarios, but they are not permitted to use those devices, smart watches or earpiece transmission/headphones for communication purposes.
 - First Offense - verbal and/or written warning.
 - Second Offense - coach will sit inside with no Coach interactions or communication for the remainder of the current game (if before mid-game break) or the entire next game (if after mid-game break).
 - Third Offense – the coach will be removed from play and will sit in the spectator seating for the remainder of the event. These infractions will be handled by the Chief Umpire and if a Third Offense takes place, the Event Manager will report the infractions to the Member Association within one week after the competition is over.
- Pre-Game Practice and Last Stone Draw (LSD) process: <https://www.curling.ca/rules/last-stone-draw-process/>