

15f. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TECHNICAL OFFICIALS:

The Technical Official code of conduct formalises and supports the Umpire Development Programme, specifically with the aim of providing clarity on the roles and requirements expected within the sport of curling.

Role of the Technical Official (Umpire, Timer and Statistician):

- It is of vital importance that all Technical Officials act professionally and are dedicated to providing and maintaining fair and equitable playing conditions in order to allow the sport to be played to the highest level within the 'Spirit of Curling'
- Technical Officials must have an extensive knowledge of the rules and treat all those involved with a competition with courtesy and respect
- Everyone must commit to the competition the required number of working hours to ensure an equal workload for all Technical Officials
- It must be remembered that a competition may be judged by how competent the officials are. All Technical Officials are vitally important members of the Officiating workforce and as such it is their responsibility to ensure they fulfil all of their obligations and responsibilities including fair play and impartiality throughout the competition
- On the field of play the Technical Officials have responsibility for the adherence to the rules and settlement of disputes and conduct. Technical Officials may request support from a subcommittee panel or appropriate RCCC personnel. In cases that might lead to subsequent enquiries, a detailed report of the incident must be completed by the Chief Umpire

Code of Conduct for the Technical Official:

Technical Officials are in a position of trust and responsibility and as such the following code of ethics should be followed:

- Technical Officials must be impartial in respect of all participating athletes. They should be prepared to converse with athletes and coaches on a general level (i.e. non-specific information) and with the Chief Umpire and RCCC Competition Coordinator on matters regarding rules and officiating
- Technical Officials shall avoid conflicts of interest in any instance in which the actions of an individual representing or acting on behalf of the RCCC could result in an actual or perceived personal gain or have an adverse effect on the interests, mission or integrity of the RCCC
- Technical Officials should use their personal judgement whether a conflict of interest could be perceived from coaches, players or other officials. This should be disclosed to the Chief Umpire and RCCC representative prior to the competition commencing
- Good working relationships between the athletes, coaches, other officials, ice technicians, media and site personnel are expected. Respect everyone's job assignment, roles and duties
- All decisions shall be made quickly and fairly, in accordance with the rules, without being officious. At no time will the score, individuals, or biased spectators influence any decisions. Never put yourself in a position, real or perceived, of being partial in any situation
- Never become involved in any betting in a competition where you are a Technical Official
- Comments about any aspect of the competition, officiating decisions or the rules of curling should only be discussed amongst the Technical Officials and relevant RCCC staff - not in the presence of

other people or the media

- The RCCC will set the dress code for all Technical Officials. The Field of Play clothing shall be black trousers and an RCCC branded jacket
- A neat and clean personal appearance and proper conduct is essential at all times
- Technical Officials should ensure that they have had enough rest so that their minds are fresh and alert. Umpires, in order to present the best impression during games, should be seated or standing, not leaning against the boards. Technical Officials should not be in the field of play without reason during games (e.g. - should not be in the field of play taking pictures)
- Technical Officials should never become more than casually involved socially with any specific team or athletes during the competition. There should be full disclosure to the RCCC if there is a personal or business relationship with an athlete or coach. It is acceptable to speak with and be around teams socially, but Technical Officials should be careful not to be found in a position of spending an excessive amount of time with one team or athlete during competition
- During the competition the Chief Umpire and all other Technical Officials should be at the venue in enough time to prepare for every practice and game. All of the Technical Officials assigned to the competition must abide by the work schedule approved by the Chief Umpire. In the absence of the Chief Umpire, the Deputy Chief Umpire will be in charge and assume the duties of the Chief Umpire

Technical Officials have the right to:

1. Access ongoing training and information on all aspects of Officiating
2. Support in reporting suspected abuse or poor practice
3. Access to professional support services
4. Fair and equitable treatment by the governing body
5. Be protected from abuse by competitors, adults/youths, other adult members and parents and not to be left vulnerable when working with adults

Breaches of the Codes of conduct will be addressed by reporting the official to the RCCC. Technical Officials who do not follow these rules of conduct may not be considered for future RCCC competitions.

Disciplinary action of a Technical Official will follow the official RCCC Disciplinary Procedure with a formal disciplinary panel formed. A Disciplinary Panel will consist of three members (The Chair - RCCC staff member, Executive committee member and an Ordinary panel member with relevant experience).

I understand that if I do not follow the Code of Conduct, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club or the RCCC:

- Receive a warning verbal or written
- Required to meet with the club, the RCCC Coaching and Workforce Development manager or the umpire committee
- Monitored by a senior umpire designated by the RCCC Coaching and Workforce Development manager or the umpire committee
- Required to attend an education course
- Suspended by the RCCC
- Suspended or fined by the RCCC
- Removed from technical officials list

The above conditions apply throughout the duration of the competition and its functions (arrival to departure).

Agreement Points:

1. I accept the assigned role and agree to follow the Code of Conduct.
2. I agree to fulfil all my obligations and responsibilities including fair play and impartiality throughout the competition.
3. I understand that the RCCC must provide the proper support so that I can fulfil the duties and responsibilities of the position.

I have read and understood the above Code of Conduct and I agree to be bound by it:

Signed Name (print) Role..... Date.....

