

Sweeping Device Rules 2017-18 RCCC Competitions



In Summary:

1. For National Championships (including qualifying) leading to international representation, similar to last season, Rule C3 in the 2016-17 rule book will apply with the consequences noted if an athlete/team transgress.
2. *****NEW: UPDATED 21st September 2017*****
U17 and U21 Slams- all teams will be required to play with compliant sweeping devices. However modified “competition rules” will apply (*see below*)
U14 Slams- all teams are expected to also play with compliant sweeping devices but, if not able to, alternatively may use ice rink (not hair) brushes provided for general use. No other brushes will be allowed. The same modified “competition rules” will apply (*see below*)
3. All other RCCC Competitions: teams this season will be asked to play within the Spirit of Curling but no monitoring or sanctions will apply if teams use a non-conforming sweeping device.
4. For all RCCC National Championships leading to international representation: A procedure is currently being worked on by the WCF on what random checking of sweeping devices will be done and a process for further examination if a device is suspected of being non-compliant. More information is expected at the WCF Congress and/or I shall get an update from Keith Wendorf later this month as I have a WCF related meeting with him then. It is right that the WCF take the lead on this and the RCCC should follow, assuming practical, rather than trying to develop our own procedure which we then need to change later.

Sweeping Devices: Slam Competition Rules 2017-18

- All sweeping devices must be compliant with the WCF standards and will be checked by the umpires **BEFORE** the start of the first game. If substitutes are playing they will need to show their sweeping device to an umpire for approval before entering a game.
- Brushes will **NOT** be taped, so effectively there will be no monitoring to ensure athletes don't swap sweeping devices which is not practical given the umpiring complement at the Slams. Teams will be expected though, within the Spirit of Curling, not to do this.
- Brush pads or brushes should not be changed during a game except with permission from the umpire. Again this will not be directly monitored but teams are expected to play within the Spirit of Curling.
- If an athlete is found to be playing with a non-compliant brush they will be told to change immediately to a compliant device or alternatively will not be allowed to sweep any more stones in the game. If they fail to do this then they will be removed from the game (a less severe sanction than the team forfeiting the game). If more than one member of the team continues with a non-compliant brush then the game will be forfeited.
- If an athlete breaks a sweeping device due to ill-discipline then the disciplinary guidelines will apply. If this does not merit removal from the game then they will not be able to replace their sweeping device for that game i.e. cannot sweep.

Note: Those playing the Slams and the Scottish Curling Junior Championships will have to remember the 'higher level' of rules and consequences as per the rule book for the National Championship.