

August 2020

Hi everyone

Things are changing daily with Covid. Last week we were able to have 8 sheets going at the same time with 4 people, as our league play was not considered an event, we were also allowed whatever our capacity in the upper lounge would allow with social distancing. This week we have been told that only 50 are allowed on the ice and 50 in the lounge area upstairs. This allows 6 sheets with 8 players or 8 sheets with 3 players. Negotiations are on to have all 8 sheets of ice at the same time and whatever our lounge will allow so stay tuned.

As everyone knows the club has been turned into a homeless shelter. BC housing and Turning Points have asked if we could extend this for the month of September and the Board has agreed. This means the earliest we would start curling would be Thanksgiving, Oct 12. We as members will have only lost a week of curling and the plan is to maybe extend the season a week to make up for it.

Turning Points/BC Housing are more than likely not going to have their new facility ready in time for September 30<sup>th</sup>, and discussions are underway. In the survey, 83% of people responded they would still curl if the season started in December. If they do require the month of October we would start November 12<sup>th</sup> weekend. Of course they would also have to cover our loss of business and we would pass on a reduction to the members in return. As I've said, things are changing daily with Covid and we will let you know asap. In the meantime the season will start the Thanksgiving weekend.

All bonspiels have been postponed to later dates, nothing till at least end of December. This includes the O'Canada Spiel, Silver Star ladies, Junior Cashspiel and Prestige Classic.

We have a Covid Committee and we have spent a lot of time researching and trying to figure out how best to even have curling this year. Many clubs are very unsure how to go about things, including us, but we are prepared to figure it out so we can get back to feeling a little more normal, we need curling to give us that social outlet. But we also need to do it so all members are safe.

Personally my biggest concern is that people will get complacent and not follow guidelines, physical distancing themselves, sanitizing etc to avoid a second wave. If there is one, we may be forced to shut down as we did this past March. This would turn into a substantial loss financially if we get ice in and then have to cancel in November, December.

I know we can do this safely, I know we can keep things safe for everyone. We just all need to be on the same page and not take things lightly. At the end of the day everyone's safety matters most. Stay tuned for more info as it seems to come daily.

Questions and answers about Covid and the plan to start curling are on the website. Also survey results will be on the website..Please check it out

Please stay safe

Cheers

Dave