



Resolutions put to the WCF Annual General Assembly 2016

Saturday 10 September 2016

UPDATE TO THE CONSTITUTION

Rationale

Based on what happened this past season with the Sweeping/Brush issue, the WCF Board was limited to enforcing the existing rules and unable to change any rules to address the issue until the next General Assembly. This Constitutional change would allow the WCF Board to make Rule changes between General Assemblies in emergency situations to allow the integrity of the sport to be upheld while still respecting the authority of the General Assembly.

Resolution: APPROVED with amendment

To adopt the changes shown in red to article 16.13 of the WCF Constitution v7 approved at the 2014 Annual Assembly in Reno.

16.13. The Board has the following powers:

16.13.5. when urgent, take decisions normally assumed by the General Assembly (as per Art. 15), except election of Board Members, expulsion of a Member Association, changes to the Constitution and dissolution of the WCF. In addition in emergency situations between General Assemblies, the Board may propose changes to the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition. Any changes proposed by the Board in an emergency situation will be circulated to the Member Associations and if more than 10% of the Member Associations, holding full membership and being in good standing object in writing to the Board within 72 hours of notice being given, the rule change will not be implemented and the matter will be referred to the next General Assembly of the WCF. Otherwise the Board's decision to revise the rule(s) for the emergency situation will stand until the next General Assembly.

16.13.6. In such a cases the decision must be approved ~~by the next General Assembly~~ in accordance with the constitutional requirements at the next General Assembly.

Amendment – Proposed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club:

The notice period of 72 hours is too short when considering time zones, holidays and weekends therefore it is proposed to amend the time period for notice to a minimum of 3 working days.

PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE RULES OF THE GAME

i) Permit team time-outs at events that do not have time clocks, Rule C7 (a): APPROVED

Rationale:

The events that are most likely not to have timing are the junior and qualification events (i.e. – WJBCC, ECC-B, ECC-C and WWhBCC). The teams playing at these events probably can gain the most from time-outs with their coach and additional time to consider strategy.



Recommendation:

Time-outs should be allowed at all WCF events, with or without time clocks being used.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES ; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

ii) Double-touch during delivery. Rule R8 (a)(i) APPROVED with amendment

Rationale:

During the delivery of a stone, if a stone is released by the player and then re-touched it should be removed from play. This is next to impossible for an umpire at the opposite end of the sheet to notice, especially if it is a very minor touch. Some players re-set their hand when applying the handle, or run a finger across the back of the stone, if these actions are taken it does not give any unfair advantage to the deliverer.

Recommendation:

Allow a double-touch, if it is part of a player's delivery technique.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

Amendment – proposed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club:

Delete 'if it is part of a player's delivery technique.' As it is not clear what is not part of a player's delivery technique.

iii) Playing out of proper rotation in Mixed Doubles, Rule R15 (d) NEW part (i): APPROVED

Rationale:

With only two players it is important to have a clear rule about playing out of proper rotation, as an unfair advantage might be gained. Suggest two scenarios: (a) played out of proper rotation and discovered before the next stone is delivered, (b) played out of proper rotation and not discovered before the next stone is delivered.

Recommendation:

For (a) above: Stone should be removed from play. For (b) Play continues and the player that delivered the first stone of the end, can deliver a maximum of two stones in that end.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

iv) Starting a competition with 3 players. Rule C2 (j): APPROVED

Rationale:

Currently a team cannot start a competition with three (3) players (regular curling) and the team forfeits every game until it can start a game with four qualified players. A team could arrive at a



championship with 4 or 5 players, but due to illness, accident or other extenuating circumstance(s), they cannot field a team of 4 players. If a panel of 3 persons (President or Representative, event Technical Delegate, event Chief Umpire) agree the team fully intended to have 4 players available for play, then the team would be allowed to start any game with 3 players, without penalty.

Recommendation:

With approval, allow teams to play with 3 players, including the first game of an event, without penalty.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

v) Scoring R11(i): (i) & (ii): APPROVED

Rationale:

Currently if a team is unable to start a game at the designated time, end(s) are considered played and the non-offending team receives point(s) and last stone in the first end of actual play.

Recommendation:

Change the last part to say ... and will have choice of first or second stone in the first end of actual play.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

vi) Timing rule – no clock running. New – C6 Game Timing (p): APPROVED

Rationale:

If a time clock should have been running, but is not, one team gains the advantage of actually having more time. We have a well-accepted policy that time is never taken away from a team's time clock. To balance this mistake, the amount of time that should have been taken off the one clock, will be added to the other clock.

Recommendation:

To ensure the teams have the same amount of thinking time in a game, insert the new rule: C6 (p) A team whose time clock did not run due to a timing error (no clock running) will not have time deducted from its time clock, but the appropriate amount of time will be added to the other team's time clock.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

vii) Travel time during time-outs. Revised interpretation of Rule C7 (c)(iii): APPROVED

Rationale:

Currently teams that do not have a coach (often financial reasons), or if the coach is not coming to the Field of Play, do not receive travel time. So receiving less time to think during time-outs penalizes these teams. Also, it is difficult for the officials to sometimes determine if a coach is actually coming to the Field of Play, so it is difficult to know when to cancel the travel time.



Recommendation:

Allow a fixed amount of time for all time-outs (travel time + 60 seconds) and give this to all teams, whether or not they have a coach, and whether or not a coach is coming to the Field of Play.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

viii) Sweeping Rules R7 (a): APPROVED

Rationale:

The current rule says the sweeping motion is in a side-to-side direction (it need not cover the entire width of the stone). The Sweeping Summit decisions make the “side-to-side” term unnecessary.

Recommendation:

New wording for R7 (a): The sweeping motion can be in any direction (it need not cover the entire width of the stone), deposits no debris in front of a moving stone, and finishes to either side of the stone.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

ix) Uniform / Equipment C3 – NEW: APPROVED with amendment

Rationale:

To prevent players from switching brushes (sliding them up and down the ice surface) and to promote the fairness of the game it is suggested new rules be added to the Rules of Competition.

Recommendation:

Add the following new rules:

C3 (e): Each player must declare his or her approved sweeping device at the start of a game, and only that player can use that device for sweeping during the game. Penalty: if a player sweeps with another person’s sweeping device the stone shall be removed from play.

C3 (f): A player may not change their brush head during a game, unless the Chief Umpire grants special permission. Penalty: If a change is made without permission, the team will forfeit the game.

C3 (g): If an alternate player comes into a game, they must use the brush head of the player they are replacing. Penalty: If a new sweeping device is brought into the game, the team will forfeit the game.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

Amendment – Proposed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club

Add to the Glossary of Terms a definition of ‘brush head’ and ‘sweeping device.’

x) Remove the first sentence in – Rule R10 (e): APPROVED

Rationale:

New rules cover this.



Recommendation:

In R10 (e) Remove: A player may change the type of brush or synthetic broom at any time during a game, provided there is no delay.

Also, remove the mention of corn brooms (2nd sentence of this rule).

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

xi) Performance Standards as part of the Rules of Competition – New – Rule C3 (h):

APPROVED with amendment

Rationale:

R10 (a) Equipment rule states that “no player shall cause damage to the ice surface by means of equipment...” Currently that is the only rule that can prohibit sweeping equipment from being used. It is felt that there should also be a rule that prevents players from using equipment that results in an exception performance result and consequently an unfair advantage.

Recommendation:

Create a New Rule

C3 (h): All Field of Play equipment used at WCF competitions must meet WCF Equipment Standards. Reasons for equipment being considered non-approved include, but not restricted to: damage to the ice surface, non-conformance with existing rules or standards (i.e. - electronic communication devices), performance testing results that give an unfair advantage, failing to register equipment with the WCF office by the deadline date.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

Amendment – Proposed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club

At the end of the first sentence of the proposed C3(h) add ‘as defined and published on the WCF Website’

xii) Penalty for using non-compliant equipment – New – Rule C3 (i): APPROVED without amendment

Rationale:

The new approved equipment rule (C3 (h)) should have a strict penalty clause attached to it.

Recommendation:

Create new rule:

C3 (i): The penalty for using equipment in WCF competitions which does not conform to standards for Competition Equipment established by the WCF:

(i) First team offence during a competition – the player is disqualified from the competition and the team forfeits the game.

(ii) Second team offence during a competition – the team is disqualified from the competition and all players are not permitted to play in WCF competitions for a 12-month period.



Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

Amendment – Proposed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club

It is felt that the proposed punishments are more draconian than those in place for drug taking. The following is proposed:

- (i) First team offence during a competition – the team forfeits the game.
- (ii) Second team offence during a competition – the team is disqualified from the competition.

xiii) Teams – Rule R3 (b): APPROVED

Rationale:

Add the words “or positions” to enhance the rule.

Recommendation:

In R3 (b) A team that deliberately changes its delivery rotation, or positions, during a game will forfeit the game, unless it was done when bringing in an alternate player.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

xiv) Touched Moving Stones – Rule R8 (d): APPROVED

Rationale:

As we saw at the WMCC in Basel, a moving stone can be touched by a stone deflecting off the sheet dividers, this rule covers this situation.

Recommendation:

Create New Rule

R8 (d) If a moving stone is touched by a stone deflecting off the sheet dividers, the non-delivering team shall place the stone where it reasonably considers the stone would have come to rest had the moving stone not been touched.

Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

xv) Scoring – Rule R11 (a): APPROVED

Rationale:

At each event there is a policy that tells the minimum number of ends that must be played during the round robin and playoffs. But sometimes a team is mathematically eliminated (meaning the game is over according to R11 (a)) before the minimum number of ends is reached. Which policy or rule takes preference? Suggest that all teams must play the minimum number of ends in a game.

Recommendation:

Insert in R11 (a): ...or when one team is arithmetically eliminated, provided the minimum number of ends have been completed.



Supported by the C&R Commission – YES; Supported by the Athlete Commission – YES

xvi) Add to the Glossary of Teams a definition of debris: APPROVED

Rationale:

There is currently no definition of debris

Recommendation:

insert into the Glossary of Terms - Debris: Any substance, including frost, snow or material originating from brushes, shoes or clothing.

xvii) Insert a word into RI (a) to confirm the sport is played on ice: APPROVED

Rationale:

The IOC define Winter sports as being played on snow and ice, this would confirm that curling is played on ice.

Recommendation:

Change the wording of the rule to: RI (a) The length of the ice sheet from...