

Guidelines for Practice Ice

Revised September 30, 2025

Granite Curling Club provides the following guidelines for practice ice. The general policy is that if the ice is not being used for ice maintenance, leagues, and rentals then it can be used for practice ice by active GCC members. To ensure the safety of the members/building and to provide equal opportunity to all members, the below conditions must be followed:

- **A host is required for practice ice.** An overview of responsibilities is listed below. If you have not hosted before, email practice@curlingseattle.org ahead of time so we can review the rules and help get you set up with building access.
- **If you want to host, sign up at curlingseattle.org/practice-ice.** Practice ice isn't considered open until a host is identified. To give our ice crew ample notice for ice maintenance, a host must sign up ≥ 72 hours in advance.
- **Practice ice listed on the calendar with a host is open to members.** If the practice ice is listed as TENTATIVE (i.e., no host), ice is not available for drop in use.
- During practice ice, no one is allowed on the ice unless 2 members are on-site.
- **Extra Sheets during GCC Events:** If an event uses ≤ 3 sheets, the remaining sheets will be converted to TENTATIVE practice ice at least 6 days in advance. Check curlingseattle.org/practice-ice for updates. A designated practice ice host is still required, even if other events are taking place on adjacent sheets.
- **ALWAYS CHECK THE GCC CALENDAR before leaving for the club,** in case of a host cancellation.

General Practice Ice Courtesy

- Be respectful of other players practicing and share the available sheets.
- Always pull the hacks at the other end of the sheet.
 - Remove hacks from the back by pulling straight up; place them on the bench.
 - Replace carefully to avoid damage; if you've never done it, ask for help.
- Playing a make-up game during practice ice? Coordinate with the host ahead of time.
- Members are welcome to use open sheets during league for practice ice or make-up games, but they must coordinate with the league managers.
- Mop your sheets and return the hacks after you are done with your practice.
- If you are practicing before a league, please vacate the ice 10 minutes prior to the first draw to allow ample time for volunteers to pebble and nip, if needed.

Practice Host Responsibilities

Participant Safety

- Ensure the safety of all participants and act as a first responder if an accident occurs.
- **No one is allowed on the ice unless ≥ 2 members are present in the building.**

Building Access & Security

- Open the building for practice ice and respond to the doorbell as needed.
- If you are keeping the front door unlocked during your practice ice session, ensure you keep an eye on who is entering and exiting the facility.
- At the end of your session, either hand the building over to the next event (league, group event, etc.) or secure it by locking the doors and arming the alarm.

General Ice Usage

- Coordinate any sheet requests during your session (e.g., make-up or pick-up games).
- Ensure that members are sharing ice space fairly.
- **Hacks must be removed from the far end during practice.**
- **Members must protect the ice surface and sweep/mop thoroughly after use.**

Ice & Facility Care

- All messes must be cleaned up and equipment properly stored.
- Safeguard ice conditions and report any issues to icemaker@curlingseattle.org.
- Report any building related issues to house@curlingseattle.org.

Cancellations

- You can cancel through your booking email up to one hour before your session.
- If you cancel < 24 hours' notice, please also email practice@curlingseattle.org.

Volunteer Hours

- Hosting practice ice counts as volunteer service. Don't forget to log your hours at curlingseattle.org/volunteer-opportunities (log-in required).

