



Burlington Curling Club Report to the Board of Directors

Background

To respond to the emerging Covid-19 Pandemic, and in support of guidance from local, provincial and federal governments, the Burlington Curling Club (BCC) closed for the 2019-2020 season Friday March 13, 2020.

Based on information provided by the three levels of government, it is anticipated that the Pandemic will continue to effect the operations of the BCC during the 2020-2021 season. To assist in understanding the impacts the Pandemic will have on the Club, Staff and Members, the Board undertook a survey of the membership.

Utilizing the application, SurveyMonkey, a survey was emailed to 668 adult members of the BCC. The survey was designed to allow one response per email address. A special link was created, and provided to Manager Jim Holland, to allow members who share an email address to participate individually. The survey opened on Saturday June 27, 2020 and was closed on Saturday July 4, 2020.

Analysis

The survey was started by 531 members, and completed by 517. This represents a completion rate of 97%, which is very high. 513 responses came through the email invitation, and 18 responses were collected through the web link.

The 517 completed responses were utilized to calculate a survey confidence level. The confidence level is utilized to determine the reliability of the results of a given survey. The confidence level for this survey is 99% +/- 2%. It is clear the results are statistically significant for the BCC total membership. (It should be noted that the confidence level per Section may be slightly lower, as the sample size varies.)

The attached SurveyMonkey generated report is reasonably self explanatory. As there were no mandatory questions (i.e. questions that required an answer), the totals on the questions vary, as respondents chose to skip a specific question.

The five sections of the BCC are properly represented, though some sections may be slightly over or under represented.

By way of an Executive Summary, almost 68%¹ of the respondents indicated that they plan on renewing their membership, should the BCC be able to open. Only 4% definitely would not curl and the remaining 28% were undecided. 91% of those that answered No or Undecided to curling, indicated that their answer was the result of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

¹ All percentages are rounded

In addition, 63% of those that were answered No or Undecided to curling indicated that they planned on returning to the BCC for the 2021-2022 season. 30% were undecided with 7% saying definitely no.

24% of respondents felt that masks and gloves would make them feel safer, with 27% felt that the use of masks and gloves was intrusive. This response varied by section as follows:

Section	Feel Safer	Are Intrusive
Day Women	31%	23%
Men Day	28%	21%
Evening Women	20%	33%
Evening Men	14%	30%
Mixed	22%	27%

50% of the respondents would still be interested in renewing their membership if they were unable to socialize following their game. 21% would not be interested in renewing their membership, while 29% were undecided. Again this response varied by section as follows (undecided omitted):

Section	Yes	No
Day Women	50%	22%
Men Day	51%	21%
Evening Women	39%	24%
Evening Men	53%	18%
Mixed	50%	23%

When asked about alternative methods of game play, 48% support it, while 22% don't support it. 30% were undecided. The sections responses follow (undecided omitted):

Section	Support Alternatives	Don't Support
Day Women	41%	27%
Men Day	53%	19%
Evening Women	40%	23%
Evening Men	53%	14%
Mixed	50%	22%

There is support for a shorter curling season, should it be necessary, with 79% of respondents supporting the concept. Only 3% did not support it, with 18% undecided.

The sections responses follow (undecided omitted):

Section	Support Shorter Season	Don't Support
Day Women	80%	2%
Men Day	85%	4%
Evening Women	74%	4%
Evening Men	85%	3%
Mixed	81%	3%

241 respondents provided input to the Board regarding the upcoming season. They varied from wishes of support (good luck was mentioned 19 times!) to the Board as they face the challenges of the upcoming season, to recommendations to close for the season. The following 'themes' appeared in the comments.

Change Rooms

Limit access or close the change rooms for the season

Start Season late

A late season start was suggested, with January being identified as an alternative

Masks

This is an area of contention, with comments supporting the use of masks, and comments opposing the use of masks. There does not appear to be a consensus from the comments.

Sheets

There was comments/suggestion related to the on ice usage – designate spots in ice for non curlers to stand while waiting their turn, designating one side of each sheet for standing to avoid non curlers from adjacent sheet, consider using only 3 sheets to allow distancing.

Financial Support – non-opening

Some respondents spoke to the need to ensure the continuing viability of the BCC in the event it is unable to open.

Membership

There were comments related to the ability to maintain membership in the event the respondent chose to take a year off. There was mention of not wanting to have to be put on the waiting list.

Socializing

Respondents voiced concerns regarding the prospect of not being able to socialize after a game, while others wanted to ensure social distancing and suggested limits on the number of people at a table.