



UPDATED – MARCH 15, 2016

Moratorium on Brush Head Technology – **Mixed Doubles**

The purpose of the moratorium is to remove the uncertainty that hangs over the field of play by ensuring a level playing field while protecting the integrity of the sport and the spirit of fair play. This will require voluntary player compliance without the intervention of officials.

Statement

- (1) Only brushes and brush heads available for sale to the public at retail outlets will be allowed on the field of play.
- (2) No modified, custom-made or homemade brushing equipment will be allowed on the field of play. This does not apply to branding / cosmetic related modifications nor does it apply to compliant brush heads that have been re-conditioned or re-covered for retail sale.
- (3) Brush head fabric that **has been** embossed / sealed / textured / modified from its original woven form will not be allowed on the field of play.
- (4) For brush head fabric to be allowed on the field of play, the fabric must have a woven appearance that is visible to the “naked eye”. The intent is to ensure the fabric makes contact with the ice as opposed to the embossed / sealed coating of the fabric.
- (5) Brush heads containing “hardening” or “stiffening” materials inserted between the outer fabric and the internal cushioning material of the brush head **are not** allowed on the field of play. These materials may include but are not limited to: plastic, fiberglass, wood, and Teflon. In addition, brush heads that are constructed in a manner that greatly reduces the “normal” amount of compression may not be allowed on the field of play as determined by the Chief Umpire.
- (6) **All** hair-brushes are now included in this specific 2016 MD Moratorium and are deemed to be **non-compliant**. Additionally, hair-brushes **may not be** used as the target broom at the playing end by the skip or vice-skip. Combination hair/fabric brushes are also considered **non-compliant**. Hair-brushes, however, may be used as part of the player’s delivery.

Compliance - Teams currently using brush-head technology not in compliance with this 2016 Mixed Doubles Moratorium may comply by:

- (1) If applicable, reversing the brush head fabric to place the fibre weave on the exterior [in contact with the ice]; or,
- (2) Utilizing alternate brush-head fabric comprised of fibre weaves that are visible to the “naked eye”; or,
- (3) If applicable, removing any “hardening or “stiffening” inserts from between the fabric and cushioning material, or
- (4) Using an alternative brush.

Note - Curling Canada will continue to work with the World Curling Federation and the Players’ Association to establish an evidence-based, well-defined equipment approval policy.



Enforcement

- (1) Players and coaches will be responsible for ensuring any sweeping brush brought on to the field of play is compliant with the moratorium.
- (2) **Sweeping Brushes**
 - (a) Teams **will declare two (2) approved sweeping brushes** for any game.
 - (b) These two brushes will be synthetic with approved and compliant fabric but without any hardening device.
 - (c) These two declared brushes will be used to sweep all delivered stones.
 - (d) Players sweeping delivered stones will share these two brushes only.
 - (e) The Person holding the “target” broom will use an approved and compliant brush and may sweep delivered stones. They may also sweep the opponent’s stone when it reaches the tee-line.
 - (f) Any replacement of a brush, a brush-head or brush-head fabric shall not be made without the approval of the assigned umpire.
- (3) Replacement of a brush head or brush-head fabric would only occur in extreme circumstances determined by the umpire. As described, the circumstance must be extreme in nature and not as a result of intentional damage to the brush by the player. If the damage is as a result of intentional damage by the player, the umpire will decide what sweeping brush or brush head will be allowed. A ‘wet’ broom is not considered an extreme circumstance.
- (4) Sweepers may exchange the two approved sweeping brushes **only** between themselves.
- (5) If a player intends to bring into the field of play a device to be utilized as a delivery device only, and that device has the ability to be switched to a sweeping device, then the declared delivery device shall be marked in such a manner that it would be visible to an umpire if the device were used as a sweeping device. (Possible markings: bright duct tape, survey tape). The penalty for sweeping with a throwing broom: *“the delivered stone shall be removed from play and all affected stones shall be replaced to their original position. The delivery device shall be returned to play as a delivery device”*.
- (6) Random inspections of equipment by an umpire may be carried out during the event and/or during a game. Players may request that an umpire inspect a brush prior to or during a game.

Pre-game practice - The pre-game practice is not part of the game. As such any compliant brush may be used including throwing brushes.

Last Stone Draw - The Last Stone Draw is considered part of the game and as such the Moratorium is in force.

Penalties - If a player is found to be using a brush that is not allowed on the field of play under this moratorium, the offending team will forfeit that game.



Authority

- (1) The Chief Umpire is authorized to administer this Moratorium and may assign other umpires to perform various duties, as required.
- (2) The Chief Umpire is authorized to make decisions regarding this Moratorium not specifically covered in this protocol.
- (3) All decisions of the Chief Umpire regarding this Moratorium are final.

Curling Canada's list of compliant brush heads by brand name

- (1) Asham TX
- (2) Balance Plus EQ
- (3) Balance Plus – “older models”
- (4) Goldline Norway Pad
- (5) Hammer
- (6) Hardline IcePad – fabric inverted without plastic insert
- (7) Hardline Tour Elite without plastic insert
- (8) Olson Opti
- (9) Performance TX
- (10) Performance – “older models”
- (11) Warthog – woven side