

SCREENING POLICY

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a) *“Criminal Record Check (CRC)”* – A search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system for adult convictions
 - b) *“Local Police Information (LPI)”* – additional conviction and selected non-conviction information in national and local police data sources which may be relevant to the position sought
 - c) *“Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)”* – a Criminal Record Check plus a search of local police information, available from SterlingBackcheck.com.
 - d) *“Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)”* – a detailed check that includes a search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system, local police information, and the Pardoned Sex Offender database
 - e) *“Vulnerable Individuals”* – A person under the age of 18 years old and/or a person who, because of age, disability or other circumstance, is in a position of dependence on others or is otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by people in positions of trust or authority

Preamble

2. Curling Canada understands that screening personnel and volunteers is a vital part of providing a safe sporting environment and has become a common practice among sport organizations that provide programs and services to the community.

Application of this Policy

3. This Policy applies to all individuals whose position with Curling Canada is one of trust or authority which may relate to, at a minimum, finances, supervision, or Vulnerable Individuals.
4. Not all individuals associated with Curling Canada will be required to obtain a criminal record check or submit screening documents because not all positions pose a risk of harm to Curling Canada or to its participants. Curling Canada will determine which individuals will be subject to screening using the following guidelines (Curling Canada may vary the guidelines at its discretion):

Risk Level	Position Description	Curling Canada Roles	CRC Requirements	Renewal Requirements
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Risk Assignments • Not in a supervisory role • Not Directing others • Not involved with finance • Do not have unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSO office staff (excluding financial positions) • Event staff • Officials • Event Ice Technicians • Event Volunteers (determined by Curling Canada) 	E-Pic – upon hiring only or by request of Screening Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a Screening Disclosure attestation annually and submit a Screening Disclosure Form required if CRC status changes. • Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by Curling Canada • E-Pic every three years or upon request of the Screening Committee.

Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate Risk assignments Are in Supervisory Role Direct others May be involved in finances May have limited access to Vulnerable Individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Staff Board of Governors Coaching Staff (Youth and Wheelchair teams excluded) NSO Staff – Financial Positions HP Consultants IST Personnel Coach Developers Other Contractors 	E-Pic – upon hiring, and every three years thereafter or by request of Screening Committee.	<p>Complete a Screening Disclosure attestation annually and submit a Screening Disclosure Form required if CRC status changes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by Curling Canada E-Pic every three years or upon request of the Screening Committee.
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons involved in high risk assignments who occupy positions of trust and/or authority. Who have frequent or unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coaches of Wheelchair Team Program Coaches travelling with U20 or University Teams 	<p>Vulnerable Sector Check upon hiring.</p> <p>E-Pic – upon hiring, and every three years thereafter or by request of Screening Committee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a Screening Disclosure attestation annually and submit a Screening Disclosure Form required if CRC status changes. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by Curling Canada E-Pic every three years or upon request of the Screening Committee.

Screening Committee

- The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of Curling Canada’s the Screening Committee which is a committee of either one (1) or three (3) members appointed by the Chief Operating Office (COO). The COO will ensure that the members appointed to the Screening Committee possess the requisite skills, knowledge and abilities to accurately screening documents and render decisions under this Policy.
- The Screening Committee will carry out its duties, in accordance with the terms of this policy, independent of the Board.

7. The Screening Committee is responsible for reviewing all documents submitted and, based on the review, making decisions regarding the appropriateness of individuals filling positions within Curling Canada. In carrying out its duties, the Screening Committee may consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer screening specialists, or any other person.

Screening

- a) If an individual subsequently receives a charge, conviction for, or is found guilty of, an offense they will report this circumstance immediately to Curling Canada. Additionally, the individual will inform Curling Canada of any changes in their circumstance that would alter their original responses in their Screening Disclosure Form.
- b) If Curling Canada learns that an individual has provided false, inaccurate, or misleading information, the individual may be removed from their position and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with Curling Canada's *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Young People

8. Curling Canada defines a young person as someone who is younger than 18 years old. When screening young people, Curling Canada will:
 - a) Not require the young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
 - b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the young person to submit up to two (2) additional letters of reference.
9. Notwithstanding the above, Curling Canada may ask a young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC if Curling Canada suspects the young person has an adult conviction and therefore has a *criminal record*. In these circumstances, Curling Canada will be clear in its request that it is not asking for the young person's *youth record*. Curling Canada understands that it may not request to see a young person's youth record.

Orientation, Training, and Monitoring

10. The type and amount of orientation, training, and monitoring will be based on the individual's level of risk, at Curling Canada's discretion.
11. Orientation may include, but is not limited to: introductory presentations, facility tours, equipment demonstrations, parent/athlete meetings, meetings with colleagues and supervisors, orientation manuals, orientation sessions, and increased supervision during initial tasks or initial period of engagement.
12. Training may include, but is not limited to: certification courses, online learning, mentoring, workshop sessions, webinars, on-site demonstrations, and peer feedback.
13. At the conclusion of orientation and training, the individual will be required to acknowledge, in written form, that they have received and completed the orientation and training.
14. Monitoring may include but is not limited to: written or oral reports, observations, tracking, electronic surveillance (e.g., facility security cameras), and site visits.

How to Obtain an E-PIC or VSC

15. Curling Canada has joined the Coaching Association of Canada's Responsible Coaching Movement and therefore has access to the E-PIC at a discounted rate. Individuals can obtain an E-PIC via https://www.sterlingtalentsolutions.ca/landing-pages/c/cac_ace/

16. In Ontario, Curling Canada understands that the *Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015* requires the individual to consent in writing before requesting a criminal record check (such as an E-PIC). The Act also requires the individual to consent in writing for any disclosure of the results to the requesting organization.
17. In BC, the process for obtaining a Criminal Record Check is different than in other provinces and territories and sections of this policy relating to obtaining a Criminal Record Check may not apply. In such cases, the Screening Committee will provide individuals with directions pursuant to the following website:
<https://www.viasport.ca/free-criminal-records-checks>
18. Individuals may only obtain a VSC by visiting an RCMP office or police station, submitting two pieces of government-issued identification (one of which must have a photo), and completing any required paperwork. Fees may also be required.
19. Fingerprinting may be required if there is a positive match with the individual's gender and birth date.
20. Curling Canada understands that it may be required to assist an individual with obtaining a VSC. Curling Canada may need to submit a Request for VSC (**Appendix D**) or complete other documentation describing the nature of the organization and the individual's role with vulnerable individuals.

Procedure

21. Screening documents must be submitted to the following individual:

Bill Merklinger, Chief Operating Officer
bill.merklinger@curling.ca

22. An individual who refuses or fails to provide the necessary screening documents will be ineligible to volunteer or apply for the position sought. The individual will be informed that their application and/or position will not proceed until such time as the screening documents are submitted.
23. Curling Canada understands that there may be delays in receiving the results of an E-PIC or a VSC. At its discretion, Curling Canada may permit the individual to participate in the role during the delay. Curling Canada may withdraw this permission at any time and for any reason.
24. Curling Canada recognizes that different information will be available depending on the type of screening document that the individual has submitted. For example, an E-PIC may show details of a specific offense, or not, and/or a VSC may be returned with specific information or simply a notification indicating 'cleared' or 'not cleared'. The Screening Committee will use its expertise and discretion when making decisions based on the screening documents that have been submitted.
25. Following the review of the screening documents, the Screening Committee will decide:
 - a) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position;
 - b) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position with conditions;
 - c) The individual has not passed screening and may not participate in the desired position; or
 - d) More information is required from the individual.
26. In making its decision, the Screening Committee will consider the type of offense, date of offense, and relevance of the offense to the position sought.

27. The Screening Committee must decide that an individual has not passed screening if the screening documentation reveals any of the following:
- a) If imposed in the last three years:
 - i. Any “criminal” traffic offense involving the use of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to impaired driving
 - ii. Any offense for trafficking and/or possession of drugs and/or narcotics
 - iii. Any offense involving conduct against public morals
 - b) If imposed in the last ten years:
 - i. Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
 - ii. Any offense involving a minor or minors
 - c) If imposed at any time:
 - i. An individual’s conviction for any of the following *Criminal Code* offenses:
 - a. Any offense of physical or psychological violence
 - b. Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
 - c. Any offense involving trafficking of illegal drugs
 - d. Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
 - e. Any sexual offense
 - f. Any offense involving theft or fraud

Conditions and Monitoring

28. Excluding the incidents above which, if revealed, would cause the individual to not pass screening, the Screening Committee may determine that incidents revealed on an individual’s screening documents may allow the individual to pass the screening process and participate in a desired position with *conditions* imposed. The Screening Committee may apply and remove conditions at its discretion and will determine the means by which adherence to conditions may be monitored.

Records

29. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, or for use in legal, quasi-legal, or disciplinary proceedings.
30. The records kept by Curling Canada as part of the screening process include but are not limited to:
- a) An individual’s Vulnerable Sector Check
 - b) An individual’s E-PIC (for a period of three years)
 - c) An individual’s Screening Disclosure Form (for a period of three years)
 - d) An individual’s Screening Renewal Form (for a period of one year)
 - e) Records of any conditions attached to an individual’s registration by the Screening Committee
 - f) Records of any discipline applied to any individual by Curling Canada or by another sport organization

Appendix A – Screening Disclosure Form

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

OTHER NAMES YOU HAVE USED: _____

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

CLUB (if applicable): _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Note: Failure to disclose truthful information below may be considered an intentional omission and the loss of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges

- 1. Do you have a criminal record? If so, please complete the following information for *each conviction*. Attach additional pages as necessary.**

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Year Convicted: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

- 2. Have you ever been disciplined or sanctioned by a sport governing body or by an independent body (e.g., private tribunal, government agency, etc.) or dismissed from a coaching or volunteer position? If so, please complete the following information for each disciplinary action or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.**

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Date of discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Reasons for discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

3. Are criminal charges or any other sanctions, including those from a sport body, private tribunal or government agency, currently pending or threatened against you? If so, please complete the following information for each pending charge or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Further Explanation: _____

PRIVACY STATEMENT

By completing and submitting this Screening Disclosure Form, I consent and authorize Curling Canada to collect, use and disclose my personal information, including all information provided on the Screening Disclosure Form as well as my Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (when permitted by law) for the purposes of screening, implementation of Curling Canada’s *Screening Policy*, administering membership services, and communicating with National Sport Organizations, Provincial Sport Organizations, Sport Clubs, and other organizations involved in the governance of sport. Curling Canada does not distribute personal information for commercial purposes.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained in this Screening Disclosure Form is accurate, correct, truthful and complete.

I further certify that I will immediately inform Curling Canada of any changes in circumstances that would alter my original responses to this Screening Disclosure Form. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges and/or disciplinary action.

NAME (print): _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix C – Screening Renewal Form

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

By signing this document below, I certify that there have been no changes to my criminal record since I last submitted an Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form to Curling Canada. I further certify that there are no outstanding charges and warrants, judicial orders, peace bonds, probation or prohibition orders, or applicable non-conviction information, and there have been no absolute and conditional discharges.

I agree that any Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form that I would obtain or submit on the date indicated below would be no different than the last Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form that I submitted to Curling Canada. I understand that if there have been any changes, or if I suspect that there have been any changes, it is my responsibility to obtain and submit a new Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form to Curling Canada's Screening Committee instead of this form.

I recognize that if there have been changes to the results available from the Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form, and that if I submit this form improperly, then I am subject to disciplinary action and/or the removal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges at the discretion of the Screening Committee.

NAME (print): _____ **DATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix D – Request for Vulnerable Sector Check

Note: Curling Canada will be required to modify this letter to adhere to any requirements from the VSC provider

INTRODUCTION

Curling Canada is requesting a Vulnerable Sector Check for _____ [insert individual's full name] who identifies as a _____ [insert gender identity] and who was born on _____ [insert birthdate].

DESCRIPTION OF CURLING CANADA

Curling Canada is a not-for-profit national organization for the sport of curling located in Ottawa, Ontario.

[Insert additional description]

DESCRIPTION OF ROLE

_____ [insert individual's name] will be acting as a _____ [insert individual's role]. In this role, the individual will have access to vulnerable individuals.

[Insert additional information re: type and number of vulnerable individuals, frequency of access, etc.]

CONTACT INFORMATION

If more information is required from Curling Canada, please contact the Screening Committee Chair:

Bill Merklinger, Chief Operating Officer, bill.merklinger@curling.ca

Signed: _____ Date: _____