

# Ocean State Curling Club GNCC Open Championship (GOC) Participant Selection Process

Created: September 2012

Last Updated: February 2023

## **Purpose:**

- a. To establish a club policy for the selection of participants and to determine the composition and prioritization of the teams for the annual GNCC Open Championship.
- b. To establish a policy that is equitable and inclusive to all club members.
- c. To extend the eligibility to as many interested club members as possible.
- d. To help ensure that Ocean State Curling Club is represented by teams with curling experience appropriate for competition at the regional championship level.

## **Rules:**

### **1. ACC Representative (as noted in the ACC selection process):**

- a. During the curling season a club board member volunteers, or is nominated by the board of directors (the board), to be the club's Arena Club Championship (ACC) representative for the current curling season. They shall also be the representative for the GNCC Open Championship.
- b. Their duties will include communicating with the membership about the GOC, the process and timelines for signing up and ensuring that the club's selection process is followed leading up to the annual event, usually held in the spring.
- c. The club's ACC representative is not guaranteed a spot on any team to be entered for the GOC and, if interested in participating, must enter the draft along with all other interested club members.
- d. To ensure the highest level of impartiality, it would be preferable (but is not required) that the ACC representative be a member not wishing to participate at the GOC.
- e. If the sitting ACC representative is not reelected to the board at the annual general meeting in April, an elected board member will take over the ACC representative responsibilities where the outgoing representative left off. No retroactive changes may be made to any of the selection process that has taken place up to that point except to address any violations of the rules in this document.

### **2. Member Signup Period:**

- a. A specific signup period for the GOC is selected by the club's ACC representative and communicated well in advance to the entire membership (*ie.* Feb. 1-28 as an example).
- b. The signup period should be early enough in the season to allow for sufficient time to conclude the team selection process.
- c. As members may make a decision to attend the GOC based on location, the signup period must not conclude prior to the GNCC announcement of the location of the GOC host club.
- d. It would be preferable to have the team selection completed by the time the GOC entry form is made available to clubs.
- e. If less than 12 curlers express interest in attending the GOC, the signup period may be extended as needed.
- f. GNCC does not currently limit the number of teams from a given club to participate in the GOC.

### **3. Eligibility:**

- a. Any club member, regardless of experience level, who is interested and able to commit to

attending the GOC must submit their name to the club's ACC representative during the advertised signup period. That member must also commit to their ability to pay of the GOC entry fee – teams will register themselves after the selection process is complete.

- b. The member must be in good standing with the club (all membership, any league dues and all other fees paid in full).
- c. While members are not required to play in a club league, they are expected to have curled with some regularity on our club's ice during the current curling season. Eligibility of members who do not play in a league will be at the discretion of the board.
- d. **Skips:** Those wishing to be a team skip must indicate so. Skip eligibility is at the discretion of the board, however, a member must have as a minimum two years experience as a skip in club league play (at OSCC or another club).
- e. Members must comply with all eligibility requirements imposed by the GNCC.

#### 4. Late Signups:

- a. Once the signup period is over, additional members may still submit their names as interested in attending the GOC but will not be eligible to be selected to play on a team. These late signups are only eligible to be considered as substitutes if a selected curler later determines that they cannot attend the event (see rule 10).

#### 5. Defending Champions Provision:

- a. Any OSCC team that wins the first event of a GOC and who wish to participate the following year as the defending champions are eligible to enter the next GOC as a team provided at least three of the four defending team members, including the skip, participate.
- b. This eligibility is for the year immediately following the GOC win only. If a GOC event is not held the year following the win, the eligibility extends only to the GOC when it is next held.
- c. If all four players wish to participate, the team must be entered as is and the skip may not replace any of the players on the team.
- d. If only three curlers elect to participate, the skip will select the fourth player through the draft process as outlined in rule 7.
  - i. To determine the order of selection during the draft, the selection will be for the specific position being replaced (lead, second or vice) as entered for the team in the previous GOC.
  - ii. The team may then adjust the lineup as seen fit following the selection of the fourth player.
- e. If only two of the winning team members wish to return to the following year's GOC, then they must enter their names in the draft with the other club members.
- f. This team eligibility does not apply to GOC second, third or fourth event winners or any event finalists.

#### 6. Skip Selection:

- a. The names of all members interested in participating as a skip will be drawn randomly and in order, by the ACC representative or their appointee at a meeting of two or more members of the board, thus identifying the skip of each team: OSCC 1, OSCC 2, OSCC 3, etc.
- b. Team entries will be submitted by the skips of each team (or their appointee) through the GOC registration process.
- c. The number of skips names drawn will be based on the number of names entered into the selection process so that complete teams can be submitted (e.g. if 8 to 11 names are entered, two skips will be selected to draw two skip names). If more than members submit their name to be a skip than there are skip spots, randomly drawn will be selected only up to the number of skips needed.

- d. If the club selects team OSCC 1 according to rule 5 (defending champions), the skip selection process is used to select only the skips for the other teams.

#### **7. Skip's Team Lottery and Draft (Process):**

- a. Any remaining curlers not selected to be a skip and all the remaining members having expressed interest in attending the GOC are now eligible, and all must be included, for the "skip's draft".
- b. The names of the remaining eligible members who entered their names for the GOC will be drawn randomly, by the GOC representative at a regular meeting of the board, for the additional positions (three per team) on the OSCC team entries.
  - i. If there are only enough interested members to assemble one team, then after the skip selection all names will be entered into the drawing and three (3) members will be randomly chosen from the drawing for the remaining team positions.
  - ii. If there are enough interested members to assemble two or more teams, then two rounds of random drawings for the remaining positions will take place:
    - i. All eligible members who did not indicate an interest in Skipping will have their names entered into the drawing.
    - ii. Two (2) members will be randomly chosen from the drawing for 2 of the additional (non-Skip) positions.
    - iii. After the first two (2) names are chosen, the names of those who had indicated an interest in Skipping, but were not selected to Skip, will be added to the drawing.
    - iv. Additional members will be randomly chosen from the drawing for the remaining additional (non-Skip) positions.
- c. Coordinated and facilitated by the club's GOC representative, the skip's draft will take place in rotating sequence, from the additional total members selected in the drawing from section 7b:
  - i. Example, if there are three team being assembled:
    - a. Vice: OSCC 1 selects, OSCC 2 selects, OSCC 3 selects (being mindful of rule 11-a.).
    - b. Second: OSCC 3 selects, OSCC 1 selects, OSCC 2 selects.
    - c. Lead: OSCC 2 selects, OSCC 3 selects, OSCC 1 selects.
- d. If the club selects team OSCC 1 according to rule 5 (defending champions), the skip's draft is used to select the members of additional teams and:
  - i. If OSCC 1 requires a draft selection due to only three returning members, they will select in the appropriate turn, depending on the position being replaced and all other OSCC 1 picks will be omitted.
  - ii. If OSCC 1 does not require a draft selection (all four members are returning), the draft occurs by simply omitting all the OSCC 1 picks.

#### **8. Skip's Draft (Logistics):**

- a. Preferably, the skip's draft will take place as a face-to-face meeting between the club's ACC representative and the three skips involved. (As this is actually a relatively quick process, a coffee shop/restaurant is an ideal place to do this.)
- b. The names of all eligible curlers will be made available to each skip and, in the order outlined in rule 7, the skip's will select teammates from the remaining list of eligible players.
- c. Once a curler from the list has been selected, their name is removed from the list and they are no longer available to be selected by another skip.

#### **9. Team Confirmation:**

- a. Once the skip's draft is complete, the skips then contact their respective teams to inform them that they have been selected to participate in the GOC.

- b. The selected members of each team must then confirm that they remain willing and able to participate.

**10. Selection of Substitutes:**

- a. Any remaining club members who had expressed interest in attending the GOC but were not selected through the skip's draft process are now eligible to be substitutes on any of the teams should any selected curlers be unable to attend the GOC for any reason.
- b. To select a sub, the team's skip must contact the club's ACC representative and only once informed of the full list of eligible subs, they may select the curler they wish to have as the replacement for their original selection.
- c. Once a selected club member withdraws from a team for any reason and has been replaced by another member following the appropriate substitute selection process, the withdrawn member is no longer eligible to participate in the GOC on any OSCC team.

**11. Selection of a Substitute for a Skip:**

- a. In the event that a team's skip cannot attend the GOC, the team's vice will assume the role of skip and will select a sub for the vacant position on the team, as described in rule 10.
- b. As the team's new skip (former vice) did not select all the curlers on the team, he/she may adjust the positions of the team lineup as the team thinks is suitable.
- c. The new skip may not, however, replace any of the other originally selected members of the team, unless they too are unable to attend the GOC.
- d. See rule 10-c.

**12. Team Submission Process:**

- a. The skips will inform the club's ACC representative of their registration for the GOC in a timely manner to make sure the teams is registered.
- b. Club members will be responsible for arranging and paying for their own transportation and accommodations while attending the GOC.

**13. Entries Not Accepted:**

- a. In the event that any teams are not accepted by the GOC organizers to participate in the event, all curlers from those teams also become eligible to participate as subs as described in rule 10.
- b. Teams are accepted based on the total number of entries and timing of their registration. Our club does not decide whether OSCC teams are accepted to the GOC.

**14. Dispute Resolution:**

- a. Any disputes arising from the selection process which cannot be resolved by adhering to the rules outlined in this document will be resolved by the club's ACC representative in consultation with the board.
- b. The ACC representative will do their best to consider all arguments fairly.
- c. The ACC representative will ultimately rule in the best interest of the club.

**15. Amendments:**

- a. These rules will be evaluated by the board from time to time to determine whether adherence to these regulations continues to fulfill the four objectives set out in the "Purpose" section, in accordance with their original intent.

- b. When agreed to by the board, these rules may be amended from time to time as seen fit to address any deficiencies or errors arising from the implementation of these rules.