

**Policy #/Name: WCF Code of Ethics**

**Date of Board Approval: September 6, 2016**

## **PREAMBLE**

The Curling Family made up of the World Curling Federation and each of its Member Associations, their respective officers and staff, commission members, players and officials and its local organising committees restate their commitment to the Spirit of Curling as laid down within the Rules of the Game.

Those involved in the sport undertake to disseminate the culture of ethics and integrity within their respective areas of competence and to serve as role models.

## **Scope of application**

The members of the Curling Family undertake to comply and ensure compliance with the WCF Code of Ethics in the following circumstances:

- the World Curling Federation (WCF), each of its Member Associations, Commission members, and local organising committees and the officers and staff of all these organisations, at all times and in all circumstances;
- all participants at WCF Events, throughout each Event for which they are accredited;

The Member Associations of the WCF and the Organising Committees of WCF Events undertake to adopt, for their internal activities, a code of ethics based on the principles and rules of the WCF Code of Ethics, or in a written declaration to adopt the WCF Code of Ethics.

## **A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES**

### **Article 1**

Respect for the universal fundamental ethical principles is the foundation of both Curling and in a wider sense Olympism.

These include:

- 1.1. Respect for the Spirit of Curling, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play;
- 1.2. Respect of the principle of the universality and political neutrality of the Sport;
- 1.3. Maintaining harmonious relations with local and national authorities
- 1.4. Respect for international conventions on protecting human rights insofar as they apply to the sports' activities and which ensure in particular:
  - respect for human dignity;
  - rejection of discrimination of any kind on whatever grounds, be it race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;
  - rejection of all forms of harassment, be it physical, professional or sexual, and any physical or mental injuries;

- 1.5. Ensuring the participants' conditions of safety, well-being and medical care favourable to their physical and mental equilibrium.

## **B INTEGRITY OF CONDUCT**

### **Article 2**

The Curling Family must use due care and diligence in fulfilling their mission. At all times, they must act with the highest degree of integrity, and particularly when taking decisions, they must act with impartiality, objectivity, independence and professionalism placing the integrity of the sport at the forefront.

They must refrain from any act involving fraud or corruption. They must not act in a manner likely to tarnish the reputation of the Sport of Curling, the WCF or the wider Olympic Movement.

### **Article 3**

The Curling Family or their representatives must not, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, nor any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with the WCF Events except where approved in advance by the WCF Board.

### **Article 4**

Only tokens of consideration or friendship of nominal value, in accordance with prevailing local customs, may be given or accepted by the members of the Curling Family or third parties. Such tokens may not lead to the impartiality and integrity of the parties being called into question. Where detailed in the WCF Gifting and Hospitality Policy gifts should be declared on the relevant form and submitted to the Secretary General of the WCF.

Any other form of token, object or benefit constitutes a gift which may not be accepted, but must be passed on to the organisation of which the beneficiary is a member.

### **Article 5**

For hospitality shown to members of the Curling Family, as well as those accompanying them, a sense of measure must be respected. Where detailed in the WCF Gifting and Hospitality Policy, hospitality should be declared on the relevant form and submitted to the Secretary General of the WCF.

### **Article 6**

The members of the Curling Family must refrain from placing themselves in any conflict of interests, and must respect the published WCF Conflict of Interests Policy.

## **C INTEGRITY OF COMPETITIONS**

### **Article 7**

Members of the Curling Family shall commit to combat all forms of cheating and shall continue to undertake all the necessary measures to ensure the integrity of sports competitions.

## **Article 8**

Members of the Curling Family must respect the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code and of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.

## **Article 9**

The WCF is committed to ensuring the sport is protected from Illegal Betting and Match Fixing.

## **Article 10**

Participants in WCF Events must not, by any manner whatsoever, manipulate the course or result of a competition, or any part thereof, in a manner contrary to sporting ethics, infringe the principle of fair play or show unsporting conduct.

## **D GOOD GOVERNANCE AND RESOURCES**

### **Article 11**

The Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement, in particular transparency, responsibility and accountability, must be respected by all Members of the Curling Family.

### **Article 12**

The resources of the WCF must be used only for WCF approved purposes.

### **Article 13**

**13.1** The income and expenditure of the Members of the Curling Family must be recorded in their accounts in accordance with generally accepted International accounting principles. An independent auditor will check these accounts.

**13.2** In cases where the WCF gives financial support to other Members of the Curling Family:

- a. the use of these WCF resources for WCF-approved purposes must be clearly demonstrated in the accounts, copies of these accounts should be made available to the WCF if requested;
- b. the accounts of the Members of the Curling Family may, on occasion, be subjected to auditing by an expert designated by the WCF Board.

### **Article 14**

Members of the Curling Family recognise the significant contribution that broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters make to the development and prestige of the WCF Events throughout the world.

In order to preserve the integrity and neutrality of the various candidature procedures, the support and promotion of any of the candidatures by broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must be in a form consistent with the rules of sport and the principles defined in this Code of Ethics and within the Spirit of Curling. .

The broadcasters, sponsors, partners and other supporters must not interfere in the governance of our sports organisation.

## **E CANDIDATURES**

### **Article 15**

Members of the Curling Family shall respect the integrity of any candidature procedure initiated by the WCF, in order to allow equal access to the promotion of each candidature and the refusal of any risk of conflict of interests.

Out of respect for the principle of neutrality of WCF officers or staff, no public declaration appearing to give a favourable opinion of one of the candidatures may be made.

### **Article 16**

Members of the Curling Family will respect the requirements of the various procedures published by the WCF.

## **F CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **Article 17**

The principle of confidentiality shall be strictly respected by the Board and Commission members in all their activities.

## **G REPORTING OBLIGATION**

### **Article 18**

Members of the Curling Family shall inform the WCF Secretary General, in the strictest confidentiality and by using the appropriate mechanisms of any information related to a violation of the WCF Code of Ethics, with a view to possible referral to the appropriate disciplinary channels.

Any disclosure of information must not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

## **H IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Article 19**

The WCF Governance Commission may set out the provisions for the implementation of the present Code in a set of Implementing Provisions, subject to the approval of the WCF Board.

### **Article 20**

The WCF Secretary General is available to the WCF Board to disseminate and implement the present Code.