

The RA Curling Club Spares Protocol and Rules

Both members of the RA Curling Club and curlers from outside the Club are eligible to spare in club games, subject to the provisions outlined below. The rules for RACC members vary as a function of membership category.

Sparing by RACC Members

- Leagues in which you are registered: unlimited sparing
- Leagues in which you are not a registered participant, sparing varies depending on your membership:
 - Unlimited Membership – unlimited sparing
 - Three league Membership – unlimited sparing
 - Single and Two league Membership – maximum sparing three times from Fall to Christmas; four times from January to end of April

Sparing by Non-RACC members

- \$20 fee per game, payable at RA Member Services Desk
- No sparing in final rounds or playoffs

General Rules to Spare at the RACC

- A team must be viable before seeking spares. In other words, a four-person team needs to have a minimum of four core players registered in the league (in some exceptional circumstances three core players registered as a team may be acceptable). Two curlers cannot register and play as a four-person team and always be seeking one or two spares. Doubles teams must have two members registered in the league.
- In all RACC leagues, a team must have at least 50% of its core members playing a game before another curler may be asked to spare. Therefore, with at minimum two core team members playing, the maximum number of spares for a four-person team is two. The maximum number of spares for a two-person Doubles team is one.
- All spares on a four-person team shall play in the position of the player they are replacing or in a “lower position”. (Interpretation: If a team is missing its skip, the spare can play in any position. If the team is missing its third, the spare can play as third, second, or lead. If the second is missing, the spare can play as second or lead. If the lead is missing, the spare must play lead.)

Rules for Sparing by RACC members

- RACC members can spare throughout the curling season at no additional cost; however, the number of times they can spare varies depending on the league and their membership category.

- Any member who has signed up for a specific league or leagues, can spare an unlimited number of times within those specific leagues.
- Curlers with unlimited membership (four or more leagues) and curlers registered in three leagues have no limits on sparing and can spare in any league, regardless of what leagues they have signed up to play in.
- Curlers with a Two-league or Single-league (one league) membership who spare outside the specific league or leagues for which they signed up, can spare a limited number of times per session.
- There are two sessions: Fall to Christmas, and January to end of April. The maximum number of times a Single or Two-league curler can spare outside the league(s) for which they signed up during the Fall to Christmas session is three times. The maximum number of times they can spare outside their league(s) in the January to end of April session is four times.
- Skips must report to the appropriate league convenor (preferably via email) on their spare use, providing the spare's name, the league, and game date/time.
- Convenors must in turn report back regularly to a central Club contact on the spare use in their league.
- A member cannot "carry over" unused spare allotments from one session to another; nor can unused spare allotments be carried over from one curling season to another.

Rules for Sparing by Non-RACC members

- Curlers from outside the Club can spare at a cost of \$20.00 per game. Prior to a game, the spare must pay the fee at the RA East Desk and sign a waiver provided by RA staff.
- Outside spares must show proof of payment to their skip.
- Skips must report to the appropriate league convenor on their use of outside spares, providing the spare's name, the league, and game date/time.
- Convenors must in turn report back regularly to a central Club contact on the outside spare use in their league.
- Outside spares are not allowed to be used in the final round of competitive fixed leagues, as well as any end-of-season playoffs of those leagues.