

## Youth Advisory Committee | Terms of Reference

Purpose: The Youth Advisory Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA) Board of Directors and/or Executive Director on matters of importance to youth curlers, both competitive and recreational. The Youth Advisory Committee is consultative in nature and does not have the authority to make decisions or to speak on behalf of NOCA.

### Membership:

The committee shall consist of six members representing each of NOCA's six regions, as well as three additional members appointed by the NOCA Board of Directors for a total of nine committee members. Committee members shall be between the ages of 15-24 as at May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. NOCA's Executive Director and Board President (or delegate) will be ex-officio members of the committee.

All positions will have a term of one year with the possibility of re-election and/or re-appointment provided the membership criteria has been met. The Board of Directors may consider longer terms following the committee's one-year probation period.

Region positions will be elected by Club Delegates within each region at their annual spring meeting. Positions not filled by a specific region may be re-allocated by the NOCA Board of Directors.

### Responsibilities – Organizational:

1. Meet as a group on a quarterly basis (at a minimum)
2. At the first meeting – the committee will elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary from within the committee membership.
3. Within the first three months, the Committee will develop a work plan containing goals for the year, tasks to achieve the goals, the person(s) accountable for completing the tasks, and the project completion date.
4. The Committee Chair will provide progress reports to the NOCA Board of Directors on a quarterly basis.
5. The Committee Chair may be asked to attend NOCA Board of Directors meetings to discuss the work plan and answer questions that the Board of Directors may have.
6. The Committee will provide a year-end report for inclusion in NOCA's Annual General Meeting information package.

### Responsibilities – Advisory:

1. Review and recommend updates to the Youth Advisory Committee Terms of Reference document on an annual basis.
2. Recommend programs, initiatives, policies and strategic guidance for developing increased participation amongst youth in the sport of curling.
3. Recommend strategies focused on improving the appeal of curling as a sport, recreation and entertainment option for youth.
4. Present ideas and feedback (via surveys, focus groups, etc.) solicited from youth curlers outside of the committee membership on topics related to the development of youth curling in Northern Ontario.
5. Review the annual competitions calendar and make recommendations in regard to the scheduling of youth playdown competitions throughout the season.
6. Assist NOCA in considering the implementation of membership fees for all youth curlers regardless of age or intent to compete (currently collected from youth age 13+ or competitors).

### Outcomes:

1. Achieve a better understanding of youth desires and expectations with respect to both competitive and recreational curling experiences;
2. Increased youth participating in club-organized junior programs;
3. Increased youth participation in youth playdown competitions;
4. Increase in youth transitioning to adult playdown competitions;
5. Increase in youth membership in NOCA affiliated curling clubs;
6. Increased youth participating in curling through schools (elementary, secondary and post-secondary);
7. Increase appeal and appreciation for curling amongst youth;
8. Increase in youth participating in volunteer activities at all levels of curling including, but not limited to - clubs or regional, provincial and national governing bodies. This could include assisting with event hosting, officiating, coaching, club operations, etc.