



NOCA BRUSHING STATEMENT FOR THE 2025-26 SEASON

NOCA will continue to implement the sweeping moratorium on brush head technology, in compliance with [Curling Canada Sweeping Moratorium Statement](#) and also follow guidelines from World Curling.

NOCA will require that all teams competing in Provincial Championships operated directly by NOCA, to comply with the moratorium (except Two-Person Stick). NO OTHER EXCEPTIONS.

- The penalties and infractions for players and teams that do not obey the sweeping regulations will be implemented. Please have a look at the moratorium for penalty details.
- Ensure to read the moratorium carefully as it is the duty of the player to be aware of the changes and new rulings within the document.
- *Brush pads must be installed on the head assembly for which they are designed, with the exception being the oval heads, which can be installed on any assembly designed for oval heads.*
- *Brush heads from manufacturers are tested and approved as a complete unit. All components combined are part of the approval process. Interchanging any parts, except the handle, from one manufacturer to another is strictly forbidden and contravenes World Curling rules.*
- *NOCA recommends that all athletes replace their brush sleeves when there is substantial accumulation of debris on the fabric or when signs of noticeable wear are evident. The Chief Umpire at NOCA competitions has the authority to require a sleeve being replaced if they deem the condition of the equipment unsatisfactory. If it cannot be replaced, it cannot be used.*

The Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA) acknowledges the recent announcements by World Curling regarding component style brushes effective for the 2025-26 curling season.

Following the challenges throughout the 2024-25 season for the reported over effectiveness of several brush head constructions, World Curling are updating the sweeping equipment compliance regulations for the Olympic Season effective immediately.

The regulation changes will apply only to component style brushes (covers/sleeves over molded foam) with the following brushes being approve for play in World Curling competitions:

- *BalancePlus with Original RS Foam*
- *BalancePlus RS with 3.0 foam*
- *SmartBroom by Curling Tools with less-firm foam (subject to lab approval)*
- *Goldline Impact with Pulsar foam*
- *Hardline Ice Pad with Recreational Form*
- *End Game Icon*

All existing traditional brushes (fabric stabled to the brush head) will remain approved.

With the new regulations coming into effect, the following brushes are no longer approved for play in World Curling competitions:

- *BalancePlus RS with Firm 2.0 form*
- *Goldline Impact with Evader foam*
- *Goldline Impact with Pursuer foam (already withdrawn)*
- *Hardline Ice Pad with Competitive foam*
- *SmartBroom by Curling Tools with current foam*

FAQs

1) What style of material am I allowed to sweep with?

*Moratorium **Is Enforced***– Approved WCF products (Currently is **Nylon Oxford 55 Sport Yellow**). NO HAIR BRUSHES.

2) What broom/handle can I use?

*Moratorium **Is Enforced*** – Any broom/handle that is able to accompany the WCF approved materials & heads.

3) What is the ruling with switching brooms?

*Moratorium **Is Enforced*** - One player must declare their own broom before the practice session is to begin, and then may not switch brooms with anyone, or anything, at any time during that one game. The individual in the house acting as the broom holder for the other teammates may only use the broom they are sweeping with.

4) Am I allowed to slide with hair brooms/corn brooms?

*Moratorium **Is Enforced*** – Yes you may slide with a hair broom or corn broom, but you **CANNOT** sweep with it at any point after your slide.

5) Am I allowed to change my brush head during a game?

*Moratorium **Is Enforced*** – No, you may only use the brush head you started the pre-game practice session with, unless granted special permission from the Chief Umpire.

*** The new moratorium sweeping regulation DOES NOT apply to standard club level leagues, bonspiels, or any other recreational form of curling formats***

For more information, please contact the NOCA Executive Director:
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