CSCA Rules

Stabilizing a wheelchair

- The use of an Ice Player Assistant (IPA) is highly encouraged by all wheelchair curlers to brace their chair during delivery.
- National and provincial level championships should have volunteer IPAs available for wheelchair participants (if they do not have a designated IPA on their team).
- If an IPA is not available, a rubber gripper may be used under the wheel of the chair in order to stabilize it during delivery. The off-ice official may inspect the gripper to ensure that it will not cause damage to the ice.

Ice Player Assistants (IPA)

- Gather all stones in the back corner.
- A wheelchair curler, or competitor with declared and confirmed mobility issues, if they so choose, may have a designated IPA during play, for each impacted curler. The IPA will participate in every game, subject to the rules for spares. Should a curler use a volunteer IPA, it is possible that they may have to use different IPAs during the competition, depending upon the availability of IPAs.
- The IPA may hold/brace the wheelchair and position/clean rocks for delivery.
- The IPA may sweep only at the direction of the team members with line-direction provided by the delivering team member and weight-direction provided by the non-delivering team member, who must be positioned off to the side of the sheet.
- The IPA would also catch wayward stones when needed.
- IPAs may not be involved in the shot calling or strategy discussions during a game. In the event that an IPA is the declared coach of the team, they could participate in strategy only during the approved time-outs during the game.
- For safety reasons, the IPA must wear proper footwear to actively participate on the ice.

WCF General guidelines for the IPA position

As an IPA, you play a key role in ensuring that wheelchair curling games run smoothly and on time. Your support helps athletes focus fully on their performance while maintaining a safe and professional environment on the ice. Please review and follow the guidelines below carefully — they outline how to prepare, behave, and assist during each stage of the game.

Arrival:

- Arrive 60 minutes before game time. About 45 minutes before, players may need help cleaning their wheels — please assist them as needed.

Clothing and footwear:

- Wear the uniform provided by the Organizing Committee.
- If no full uniform is provided, wear black clothing.
- Always wear clean footwear — no outdoor shoes and avoid curling shoes with a slider (i.e., use double grippers).
- Bring clean shoes to the pre-competition training, as you will go on the ice.

Personal Appearance and Conduct:

- Keep your accreditation tucked in when on the field of play.
- Avoid using perfume or cologne, as some people may be sensitive or allergic.
- Do not use your phone on the ice during games.
- Always follow umpire instructions (when umpires are available) and ask if unsure about anything.

Pre-Game Practice:

- Practice may begin up to 30 minutes before game time. Your Game Umpire will provide the Stone Order Card that you will use during the game. Your Game Umpire will advise how long each practice is. Each team may be asked to deliver their final stone(s) to be measured/recorded for the Last Rock measure.

During Games:

- Work in pairs and help your partner as much as possible — teamwork makes the job easier.
- Avoid placing hands or knees on the ice, as this can leave spots that affect stone movement.
- Step carefully when entering or exiting the ice.

After the Game:

- Gather all stones in the back corner.
- Wait for further instructions from the Game Umpire in case stones need to be moved to the other end.