PLAYING ETIQUETTE

Etiquette is the backbone of curling and the following statement can be found in the WCF - World Curling Federation 'Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition' book.
Our Club is a mostly recreational club; we welcome new curlers to try our sport.
For all members the most important is to have fun.

THE SPIRIT OF CURLING

Curling is a game of skill and of tradition that upholds the highest standards of sportsmanship. A shot well played is a delight to see as is a game played in the true spirit of curling.
Curlers play to win, but never to humiliate their opponents. A true curler will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to distract, intimidate, demean or spread falsehoods about opponents, teammates or officials, nor to prevent them from playing their best, and would prefer to lose rather than to win unfairly.
Curlers never knowingly break a rule of the game, nor disrespect any of its traditions. Should they become aware that this has been done inadvertently, they will be the first to divulge the breach.
While the main object of the game of curling is to determine the relative skill of the players, the spirit of curling demands good sportsmanship, kindly feelings and honorable conduct.
This spirit should influence both the interpretation and the application of the rules of the game and also the conduct of all participants on and off the ice.

ETHICS CURLING LUXEMBOURG

Curling has its rules governing play, but equally important is the way you conduct yourself:
as a member of a club, while curling at home or away - it is of utmost importance that all athletes always conduct themselves in a respectful and responsible manner on and off the ice, towards other curlers, officials or event organizers.
If found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct or rules of the game, curlers will accept without dispute any penalty that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate.

ON THE ICE

Safety and Care
Use your brush to stop stones because using your hands or feet can result in injury.
Avoid walking in front of moving stones, especially when cleaning stones from the house.
Do not lift stones.
Finish your slide before standing up.
No player shall use any footwear or equipment that may damage the surface of the ice. So be sure to wear clean footwear, and to use approved and clean brushes.
Bodily heat melts the ice; keep hand and knee contact with the ice to a minimum.
If possible, prevent stones from colliding with the edges of the rink or the hack as this may damage them.
Avoid banging your brush on the ice.
Keep drink and food away from the ice surface.

Consideration for other Curlers

If a player is throwing next, (s)he may stand on the backboard, but must remain quiet and out of the sight of the opposition thrower, so as not to disturb her/him.
When the opposition is playing, stand at the side of the rink, between the hog lines.
Never cross the ice in front of a running stone.
Only skips and vice-skips may take stationary positions in the house at any time and -when the opposition is playing- should stand behind the hack keeping their brushes hidden.

Pace of Play

Arrive on time. Don't be late.
Ensure you are at the hack when it is your turn to play.
As soon as the opposition delivers his/her stone, place the next player of your team's first stone at the hack ready for him/her to play.
Before playing, always clean your stone.
Do not touch the other team's rocks.
Play at a good pace and make decisions in a reasonable time.

General

Adhere to the administrative requirements to sign in for attendance at club evenings and related training events organized by the club.
Actively assist in final preparations of the ice and post-play clean up.
Switch off mobile phones before play.
Compliment good shots (and refrain from passing adverse remarks about poor shots.)
The game begins and ends with a handshake. It is polite to wish your opponents "good curling" at the start of the game.
Two players of the two teams decide who has the hammer usually by flipping a coin.
If you win a match, offer your opponent a drink.

SOME IMPORTANT RULES OF THE GAME
(Extract of the WCF Rules of Curling)

Stones

A stone must finish inside the inner edge (closest to the rings) of the hog line to be in play, except when it has hit another stone in play.
A stone that completely crosses the back line or touches the side board or side line is taken out of play.

Delivery

The stone shall be released before it reaches the hog line at the delivering end.
A stone that has not been released from the player's hand may be returned to the hack and redelivered as long as it has not reached the near tee line.

Sweeping

The sweeping motion can be in any direction (it need not cover the entire width of the stone), must deposit no debris in front of a moving stone, and must finish to either side of the stone.
A delivered stone may be swept by any one or more of the delivering team anywhere in front of the tee line at the playing end. No player may ever sweep an opponent's stone except behind the tee line at the playing end**,** and may not start to sweep an opponent's stone until it has reached the tee line at the playing end.
Behind the tee line at the playing end, only one player from each team may sweep at any one time. This may be any player of the delivering team, but only the skip or vice-skip of the non-delivering team.
Behind the tee line, a team has first privilege of sweeping its own stone, but it must not obstruct or prevent its opponent from sweeping.

Touching a stone

If a stone in motion is touched by any player of the delivering team or by its equipment before the far hog line, it shall be immediately removed from play.
If a moving stone is touched by an opposition team or by its equipment, it is redelivered if the stone was the delivered stone. If the stone was not the delivered stone, it is placed where the team to which it belongs reasonably considers it would have come to rest had it not been touched.
If the infraction occurs after the stone reaches the far hog line, the non-offending team has the option to remove the touched stone and replace all stones that were displaced after the infraction to their original positions or leave all stones where they have come to rest or place all stones where it reasonably considers the stones would have come to rest, had the moving stone not been touched.
If a stationary stone is moved by any player, the non-offending team shall replace the stone as close as possible to its original position. If there is any question as to which stone was closer to the button, the displaced stone is placed in favour of the non-offending team.

Measuring and Scoring

No physical device may be used in measuring stones until the last stone of the end has come to rest, except to determine if one of the first stones of an end is in the rings or the free guard zone.
The score of an end is decided when the skips or vice-skips in charge of the house agree upon the score. If stones that may have affected the points scored in an end are displaced prior to that decision, the non-offending team receives the benefit that might have accrued from a measurement.

Curling Luxembourg,
February 2018

Addendum:

At the AGM of Union Luxembourgeoise de Curling dd. June 13, 2018 this Playing Etiquette was unanimously accepted as generally binding within the ULC's area of authority.