



## **2.2 The sweepers activities**

**Sweepers eyes are always scanning the ice from the hog line to the hacks. They clean away patches of dirt or debris especially from the path on which their next shot will be traveling.**

**Sweepers may also clean spots of debris off the ice between the hog lines which they noticed while sweeping a previous stone.**

**Sweepers will be discussing whether their sweeping partner thinks the ice conditions are changed and if so, what advice they should give to the next thrower.**

**Sweepers should never be a distraction for the opposition between shots. They can move back to the throwing end in single file at the side of the sheet when the opposition thrower is getting ready to throw but not during the throw. The sweepers should talk quietly between shots.**

**The sweepers may be using stopwatches or otherwise timing or judging the throws of the opponents. Sweepers may be discussing their findings between shots.**

**The sweepers act as a team. They consider what shot is being called and agree on which sweeper will take the position near the stone and which sweeper will make the initial weight calls.**

**There is an advantage to having the straight side sweeper close to the rock since sweeping to prevent the rock from curling is a very common reason for early sweeping.**

**Sweepers stand near the thrower and provide advice or confirm the general speed of the ice at this time of the game.**

**The sweepers may provide further clarification on the options for the shot and clarify what the skip wants. The sweepers or the thrower may ask the skip for further clarification. Most shots don't require much additional discussion.**

## **2.3 The skip's activities**

**The skip always watches the opposition players throw their shots. This gives the skip an idea of how much the rocks on different parts of the sheet are going to curl.**

**The skip might even time the rocks to get an idea of how fast the opposition threw their stones.**

**Once the opponent's rock and related rolling stones have stopped or left the field of play, the skip moves in and signals the next shot.**

**The skip is constantly evaluating the rocks in play and maybe counting the rocks out of play and checking the score.**

**The skip always clearly signals to the players what the desired result of the upcoming shot is, where to aim/throw the stone and how much speed/weight to use. The team may have decided beforehand what their default takeout weight might be for the game or the next series of shots.**

**The skip looks for agreement or acknowledgement from the player throwing the next shot. The skip may provide a bit of further description to the thrower if requested by the thrower or sweepers.**