

IT'S OUR HOUSE

FOURTH EDITION • JUNE 2019



Photos courtesy:
Melissa Penney
Photography



A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

June 8th was a night of toasting the successes of our champions and applauding the outstanding contributions of our people. On the ice pad of the Leduc Recreation Centre, we were joined by more than 200 athletes, coaches, volunteers, and families for Curling Alberta's first Annual Awards Celebration.

It was our privilege to present 16 provincial championship banners that evening, as well as six national championship banners. This is remarkably special because no province or territory in Canadian curling history has ever won six national championships in one season before! We are incredibly proud of our champions and their record-breaking achievements, and we're grateful for the opportunity to share in their joy.

The evening also honoured award winners in ten categories, which

recognized the people who make significant contributions to our sport in a variety of ways. From community leaders and local instructors, to our young leaders and our often unsung ice-technicians and officials, all of whom play a vital role in keeping our sport vibrant and healthy. The stories that were shared were indeed an inspiration, and a humbling reminder of the connections, experiences, and lessons that curling brings to all of us.

Curling Alberta sees and thanks not only our champions and award winners, but each and every person who gives their passion and time to curling.

For a full online album of photos taken that evening available for download, please click here: albertacurling.ab.ca/article/52164

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CANADIAN SPORT HELPLINE

Curling Alberta is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all levels of our sport.

If you or someone you know has been a victim or witness of harassment, abuse and discrimination, please direct them to the Canadian Sport Helpline where they can speak in confidence to a helpline operator.

Email: info@abuse-free-sport.ca

Phone/Text: **1-888-83SPORT**
1-888-837-7678

To learn more about the resources available, please visit <http://abuse-free-sport.ca/en/>.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 CURLING ALBERTA AWARD WINNERS!

TEAM OF THE YEAR

Team Selena Sturmay



OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Christina Wards



PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Berlin Communications



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Michelle Siegel Bruce Cartwright



COACH OF THE YEAR

Jim Weber



INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Brian Rivers



CLUB OF THE YEAR

Sherwood Park Curling Club



PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Renee Sonnenberg



CURLER'S CORNER YOUTH SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Kaileigh Morrison, Reece Brigley



ICE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

Don Palmer



ALBERTA ROCKS CURLING CAMPS - REGISTER TODAY!



The **Alberta Rocks Junior Curling Camps** have been a tradition in our province for over 25 years. These four-day camps, which are delivered by highly qualified and caring instructors, provide young athletes with the opportunity to develop their skills, new friendships, and a deeper love for the sport. All areas of athlete development are covered including technical, tactical, psychological, and physical training.

This year, Curling Alberta is offering two summer camps on the following dates:

[Alberta Rocks Junior Summer Camp #1 \(Aug 10-13\)](#) - Only 30 spots left

[Alberta Rocks Junior Summer Camp #2 Wait List \(Aug 15-18\)](#) - Wait list available

Click on the camps above to get registered before the fast-approaching deadline of June 30th!



The **2019 Alberta Rocks Adult Camp** will provide curling instruction in an enjoyable camp atmosphere to adult curlers at all levels of development. All curling instruction will be provided by some of the finest coaches in Alberta. Participants will be placed into groups by curling ability. Areas of instruction include: video & on-ice analysis of delivery, sweeping, basic/advanced strategy, rules, sport psychology, mental preparation, game situations, fitness training and physical activities.

Click here before it's too late: [Alberta Rocks Adult Camp \(Sept 27-29\)](#).

THE SEASON IS A WRAP:

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As expected, the year has flown by. And what an extraordinary year it has been for curling in Alberta. Most notably, July 30, 2018 marked the date that curlers and their communities within our boundaries would finally be supported by a single governing body: Curling Alberta. The amalgamation of the four former governing organizations has been a tremendously unique and challenging experience for our Board of Directors and staff. How extraordinary is it to be presented with an opportunity to truly transform something so large at a foundational level? The idea is both frightening and invigorating.

As we navigated the union of four different organizations, with four different systems and cultures, this season was not without its adversities, tough decisions, and even failures. I'm sure that the season was not an easy one to maneuver through for our member clubs, coaches, players, and other stakeholders either and I'm grateful for everyone's support, patience, and engagement. We did expect a bit of a bumpy ride this inaugural season, especially considering that the incorporation happened significantly ahead of schedule. When that happened, the Board saw an opportunity to progress some positive yet measured changes for this past season which would truly reflect a unified community. Here, it is important to remember that these changes were only a first step at the beginning of this longer-term process, and that more change and many improvements are on the way.

While we continue to extract the tremendous value of our learning, it is also critical that we celebrate our successes and the remarkable amount of progress we've made in a very short time. I continue to be monumentally proud of this organization; both for its



Jill Richard
Executive Director
of Curling Alberta

bravery and aspirations, and for its sense of duty and follow-through. I have no doubt that if we can remain committed to and united by what we believe, we will build the country's best, most innovative, compelling, and accessible programs.

I would also like to offer my sincere thanks and recognition to the Board of Directors and Curling Alberta staff. In the world of curling, no job description could ever be complete. Whatever task we face, I count myself lucky to work with a team whose passion, dedication, and belief in the power of sport, compels us all to come together to get the job done.

Challenges and barriers still exist, but we do have achievable plans in motion to change our environment over time to make Alberta a truly healthy and united community, and a leader in curling development. If you'd like to read more about our most notable activities and achievements this season, please take a moment to read my [report](#). The journey to inspire the curlers of today and tomorrow has only just begun.

Respectfully submitted by **Jill Richard**,
Executive Director of Curling Alberta

TEAM CROSS GOES TO NATIONALS

The initial 5-0 defeat by Team Powell in draw one only fueled Team Cross to win the next six games and land in the 2020 Curling Alberta Mixed Provincial Championship playoffs at the Shamrock Curling Club.

Warren Cross and his team from the Saville Community Sports Centre (third Erica Wiese, second Cody Bartlett, and lead Ashley Kalk) faced Albert Gerdung and his team from the Brooks Curling Club for a second time of the championship in the gold medal game. Gerdung, eager for a different outcome than the defeat in draw seven, matched the score in the eighth end which forced an extra end. Team Cross held strong to pull away with a 5-4 victory.



(L - R): Warren Cross, Erica Wiese, Cody Bartlett and Ashley Kalk

Cheer on Team Alberta when they head to Saguenay, Quebec, to compete in the 2020 Canadian Mixed Curling Championship, November 3-9, 2019. Follow them online here: curling.ca/2020mixed.

U18'S STRONGLY REPRESENT ALBERTA

Sixteen teams from across the province battled over the four-day Optimist U18 Provincial Championships at the Medicine Hat Curling Club to earn a spot at the national championships. As the host province of the 2019 Canadian Under-18 Boys and Girls Curling Championships, Alberta was given the honor of sending both the girls and boys gold and silver provincial medalists to nationals. Team Wytrychowski and Team Molberg earned the right to be named Team Alberta while Team Bakos and Team Sonnenberg placed second to be named Team Alberta 2 in the girls' and boys' events, respectively. Coming out on top of the consolation event was girls' Team Bakker and boys' Team Kroker.

The U18 teams made Alberta proud by putting pressure on their opponents at the Glen Allan Recreation Complex in Sherwood Park Curling Club at the beginning of April. Both teams on the girls' side entered into the Championship round. Jessica Wytrychowski and team

mates Olivia Jones (vice-skip), Micayla Kooistra (second), Emily Kiist (lead), and coach, Joe Brown won 5 of the 6 games to finish at the top of Pool B before heading into the Championship Round against Ontario. Julia Bakos' Team Alberta 2 (vice-skip, Quinn Prodaniuk, third, second, Kim Bonneau and lead, Julianna MacKenzie and coach Blair Lenton) entered the Championship Round after a 4-2 record in Pool A.

On the boy's side, Team Alberta's Nathan Molberg and team (skip to lead, Ben Helston, Nick Warkman, Morgan Bilassy and coach Nicole Bellamy) topped Pool A with a 5-1 record. Team Alberta 2 (Cortland Sonnenberg, lead, Owen Fenske, third, Jaxon Hiebert, second, Adam Elsenheimer, lead and coach Les Sonnenberg) finished in fifth place in Pool B.

Alberta's own Jaxon Hiebert, second, and Les Sonnenberg, coach, of Team Alberta 2 were recognised at the Awards Ceremony with the Balance Plus Fair Play award.

You can find the final results and the podium standings for both the [boys](#) and [girls](#) on Curling Canada's website.

Earlier in March, Team Molberg and Team Bakos also represented Alberta in the 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer. Team Molbergs' roster was the same as the U18 roster while Team Bakos had a slight roster change with Alyssa Nedohin as second and Glenna Rubin as coach during the Games. Both teams battled hard to make it to the quarterfinals, placing fifth overall. Complete podium results can be found on the [Canada Winter Games website](#).



▲ **Team Alberta** (L to R): Jessica Wytrychowski, Olivia Jones, Micayla Kooistra, Emily Kiist, and coach, Joe Brown



◀ **Team Alberta 2** (L to R): Julia Bakos, Quinn Prodaniuk, Kim Bonneau, Julianna MacKenzie, and coach, Blair Lenton

Photos courtesy: Curling Canada/ Infinite Eye Photography



▲ **Team Alberta 2** (L to R): Cortland Sonnenberg, Owen Fenske, Jaxon Hiebert, Adam Elsenheimer, and coach, Les Sonnenberg,

Team Alberta (L to R): Nathan Molberg, Ben Helston, Nick Warkman, Morgan Bilassy, and coach, Nicole Bellamy ▶

PROVINCIAL CURLING CLUB CHAMPIONS

Eight men's teams and eight women's teams from across the province met on April 10-14 at the Calgary Curling Club to compete for the 2019 Curling Club Provincial Championship title and a trip to nationals.

Nanette Dupont and her team from Lethbridge Curling Club (Samantha Davies, third, Kendra Nakagama, second, and Avice DeKelder, lead) only needed seven ends against North Hill's Vanessa McConnell in the gold medal game to take the title.

The Glencoe Club's Dale Goehring (skip), Chris Armstrong (vice-skip), Fred Edwards (second) and Andrew Brotherhood (lead) took an early lead with four in the third to put the pressure on Graham Powell and his team from Grande Prairie CC. Also, finishing in seven ends, Team The Glencoe Club punched their ticket to Nationals with a 7-3 final.

Team Lethbridge and Team The Glencoe Club will represent Alberta in the 2019 Canadian Curling Club Championships on November 25-30, 2019 here in Leduc, AB. Be sure to keep an eye on Curling Canada's event [website](#) for the draw so that you can follow along!

Good luck and Good Curling to Team The Glencoe Club and Team Lethbridge!



(L - R): Dale Goehring, Chris Armstrong, Fred Edwards, and Andrew Brotherhood

Photo courtesy: JSwett Photography



(L - R): Nanette Dupont, Samantha Davies, Kendra Nakagama, and Avice DeKelder

Photo courtesy: JSwett Photography

2019-2020 PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
JUNIORS	Jan. 1-5	Lloydminster Curling Club
WOMEN	Jan. 22-26	Murray Arena, Okotoks
SENIORS	Feb. 12-16	Lacombe Curling Club
MIXED DOUBLES	Feb. 21-24	Lethbridge Curling Club
U18	Feb. 26-Mar. 1	Sexsmith Curling Club
MEN	Feb. 5-9	Westlock Rotary Spirit Centre Arena
WHEELCHAIR	Mar. 18-22	Garrison Curling Club Calgary
MIXED	Mar. 25-29	Highwood Curling Club, High River
MASTERS	Mar. 4-8	Airdrie Curling Club
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS	Apr. 1-5	Avonair Curling Club, Edmonton

ALBERTA TEAMS CONTINUE TO SECURE SPOTS ON THE PODIUM

Team Alberta made a statement at the 2019 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship by dominating the gold medal game against Team Manitoba, putting a maple leaf on the Team Alberta jackets for the very first time. Skip Jack Smart, vice-skip Martin Purvis, second Bruno Yizek, lead Anne Hibberd, alternate Wendy Frazier, and coach Bridget Wilson will represent Canada at the 2020 World Wheelchair Curling Championship in Wetzikon, Switzerland, Feb. 29 - Mar. 7, 2020.



(L - R): Wendy Frazier, Anne Hibberd, Bruno Yizek, Martin Purvis, Jack Smart, and coach, Bridget Wilson

Photo courtesy: Curling Canada

Team Pendergast wins the 2019 College Clean Restoration Canadian Masters (60 and over) Men's Curling Championships for the second year in a row. Taking an early lead in the Gold Medal game, Mickey Pendergast and teammates Rob Armitage (vice-skip), Randy Ponich (second), Kevin Pendergast (lead) stayed strong to claim victory over Northern Ontario's Team Hackner to finish 8-4.



(L - R): Kevin Pendergast, Randy Ponich, Rob Armitage, Mickey Pendergast

Photo courtesy: Kelly Faber/Saskatoon

Spectators at this year's Tim Hortons Brier in Brandon, Manitoba, witnessed a number of teams compete for the chance to represent Canada at the World Men's Curling Championship, including two teams from Alberta. Team Koe won the right to represent Alberta after defeating Team Appelman in the Provincial Championship. Team Bottcher was named Team Wild Card after a victory over Ontario's Team Epping.

Kevin Koe and his team (vice-skip B.J. Neufeld, second Colton Flasch, lead Ben Hebert, alternate Ted Appelman and coach John Dunn) fell to Sweden's Niklas Edin in the World's gold medal game after Sweden stole five in the latter half of the game.



(L - R): Kevin Koe, B.J. Neufeld, Colton Flasch, Ben Hebert, alternate Ted Appelman, and coach John Dunn

Photo courtesy: Curling Canada/Michael Burns

After a fierce battle against the top men's teams in Canada, Team Koe won the honour to wear the maple leaf and represent Canada at the 2019 Pioneer Hi-Bred World Men's Curling Championship at the Enmax Centre, Lethbridge earlier this month.

Congratulations to Team Canada on bringing home the silver medal from the 2019 Pioneer Hi-Bred World Men's Curling Championship.

Team White and Team Bakker secured a bronze on the podium while representing Alberta at the 2019 Everest Canadian Senior Curling Championships at the end of March in Chilliwack, BC. Team White represented Team Alberta in the Men's Senior Championship and Team Alberta was represented by Team Bakker in the Women's Senior Championship.



(L - R): Wade White, Barry Chwedoruk, Dan Holowaychuk, George White

Photo courtesy: Curling Canada/Birston Photographic Arts



(L - R): Glenys Bakker, Shannon Nimmom Lesley McEwan, Diana McNallie

Photo courtesy: Curling Canada/Birston Photographic Arts

CURLING ALBERTA COORDINATES JUNIOR EVENTS AROUND ALBERTA

As Curling Alberta is dedicated to growing the sport by offering a platform for junior curlers to participate in competitive events, a number of junior events were coordinated around Alberta this past season. These events included the Curler's Corner Bantam (U15) Championship, the Neil Moher Bonspiel, Hazel Jamison Junior Bonspiel, and the Junior Club Championship.

The Curler's Corner Bantam (U15) Championship, hosted by Spray Lakes Curling Club, Cochrane on March 8-10, saw 16 teams compete in a round-robin pool format for the chance at the championship bracket. Teams qualified for the championship by earning their berth at either the Innisfail qualifier or Okotoks qualifier. For many teams, this was their first competitive experience.

After a strong battle and a close finish in the gold medal game, Team Raniseth was crowned the 2019 champion over Team Wright. Team Plett fell to Team Molnar after an extra end in the bronze medal game.

The Neil Moher Bonspiel, Hazel Jamison Bonspiel, and Junior Club Championship events were held in Northern Alberta and have been a long-standing tradition of our previous Northern Alberta Curling Association.

Thank you to all the participating teams for coming and congratulations to the winning teams:

NEIL MOHER BONSPIEL - January 4-6, 2019, Thistle CC

- Div. #1 JR - A Event - Emma Yarmuch, Allie Iskiw, Hayley Adams, Sarah Yarmuch
B Event - Cora Turner, Amber Buck, Ariel Diduck, Isabelle Stanton
C Event - Peter Hlushak, Justin Sieffert, Tyson Parker, Parker Harris
- Div. #2 INT - A Event - Oliver Burton, Ethaniel Chou, Fynn Woodward, Lucas Sawiak
B Event - Myla Yambao, Hailey Duprus, Joely Zimmer, Brianna Levesque
C Event - Terren Algot, Rayna Werner, Ethan Greidanus, Jacob Zarowny
- Div. #3 SR - A Event - Ty Brodie, Caibre Stinnissen, Steven Leong, Denver Suttie
B Event - Josie Zimmerman, Cassidy Cameron, Hope Zimmerman, Morgan Kushnerick
C Event - Gryffen Algot, Nicholas Chin, Justin Runciman, Tyler Brodt

HAZEL JAMISON BONSPIEL - February 16-18, 2019, Ellerslie CC

- Div. #1 JR - A Event - Adelaide Mckenzie, Abigail Fenwick, Joshua Fenwick, Ginny McKenzie
B Event - Arianna Mamela, Alexa Greenhough, Evangeline Dumas, Chloe Hall
C Event - Keira Sutton, Sophia Huska, Victoria Greenhough, Sophie Chapman
- Div. #2 INT - A Event - Emma Yarmuch, Allie Iskiw, Hayley Adams, Jayda Stead
B Event - Cooper Goddard, Cameron Hess, Chris Weinkauff, Ruben McFadzen
C Event - Carter Parenteau, Caleb Kerschbaumer, Tegan Gansauge, Cameron Molberg, Tyler Van Amsterdam
- Div. #3 SR - A Event - Lane Missel, Kaleb Lis, Justin Runciman, Carter Elder
B Event - Payton Sonnenberg, Henry Murray, Jason Denbroeder, Brandon Morrill
C Event - Oliver Burton, Ethaniel Chou, Fynn Woodward, Lucas Sawiak

JUNIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - March 8-10, Jasper Place CC

- A Event - Sherwood Park Curling Club - Gryffen Algot, Nicholas Chin, Nathaniel Lawrence, Luc Winterholt
B Event - Shamrock Curling Club - Jack Holmes, Auram Sanders, Thomas Holmes, alex De Groot
C Event - Rose City Curling Club - Noah Koch, Luis Moreno, Braeden Hein, Braden Olenick



(L - R): Kaylee Raniseth, Zachary Duncan, Ky Macauley, Kate Ector, and coach, Glenn Ector
Photo courtesy: J Swett Photography

HOW TO BOOK A COURSE AT YOUR CLUB

As a benefit of affiliation, Curling Alberta member clubs have the ability to book certified facilitators to deliver ice technician certification courses, coaching courses, and umpire courses. Many clubs have already reached out to us, and the opportunities will be advertised as soon as possible.

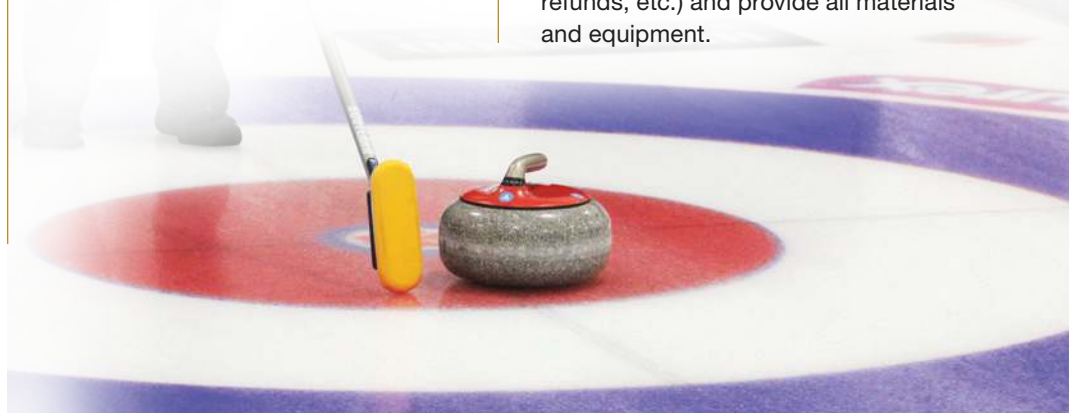
If your club is interested in hosting a course, please visit our [website](#) for a list of courses available, as well as their descriptions and specific associated requirements. The generalized roles and responsibilities of Curling Alberta and the host club are listed so you can get a sense of how everything works. Please note that the availability of our instructors is generally best early in the season, between September and December.

CLUB ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contact Curling Alberta to identify the desired course and preferred dates (shanelle.goudreau@curlingalberta.ca).
- Assist to advertise the course to your members and community.
- Provide access to your club and/or facility for the course free of charge.
- Provide participants with the opportunity to purchase food and beverages at your club (optional).

CURLING ALBERTA ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contract and pay available and certified facilitators to deliver the course.
- Advertise the course (post on website, social media, include in club mailout, etc.).
- Hold overall financial responsibility associated with organizing and operating the course.
- Coordinate all aspects of the course (online registration, fee collection, refunds, etc.) and provide all materials and equipment.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS



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