

# IT'S OUR HOUSE

ELEVENTH EDITION • FEBRUARY 2022



## \$45,000 IN PRIZE MONEY ON THE LINE AT THE BOSTON PIZZA ALBERTA CURLING TOUR CHAMPIONSHIPS

24 of the best men's and women's curling teams that participated in the inaugural season Alberta Curling Tour will gather in Leduc this March, to cap it all off at the Alberta Curling Tour Championships, and so will a familiar name as the event's title sponsor. Boston Pizza will extend its partnership with Curling Alberta, already the title sponsor of the Alberta Men's Provincial Curling Championship, known as the Alberta Boston Pizza Cup.

"The Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour Championships will reward teams for competing and excelling on the Tour and will serve to celebrate the season," said Jill Richard, Curling Alberta's Executive Director. "We're delighted and grateful to build on our successful partnership with Boston Pizza by naming them as title sponsors. They have really made this all possible."

The Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour Championships will be hosted in the Leduc Curling Club from March 31 – April 3, 2022. During the season, teams from across the world competed in events sanctioned by the Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour. Through success in these events, the top Alberta-based teams in the standings earned berths into the Provincial Championships. As of February 28th, the top 12 men's and the top 12 women's teams, regardless of where they are residents, will earn an invitation to the Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour Championships, which will utilize a triple knock-out format with a four-team page play-off. Some of the best curlers in the world are expected to accept that invitation and a chance at taking home a piece of \$45,000 in prize money. Fans are also invited to be in the stands to cheer on their favourite curlers in an exciting skills competition on Thursday evening where players will compete as individuals to claim a share of \$2000 in cash and prizes.

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# BOSTON PIZZA ALBERTA CURLING TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP



## WHO?

The top 12 men's and top 12 women's teams on the Alberta Curling Tour as of February 28, 2022 will be given an invite to this championship.

## WHAT?

Two triple knockout events (one men's and one women's with four-team page playoffs). The event will include a \$45,000 total purse including an individual Hot Shots competition.

## WHERE?

Leduc Curling Club - Leduc, AB

## WHEN?

March 31-April 3, 2022

## WHY?

Curling Alberta sought to give teams that have had success on the 2021-'22 Alberta Curling Tour, another championship to compete for outside of the Alberta Men's or Women's Provincial Championship. This extends the curling season for curling teams, giving them a reason to compete between the two major championships in Alberta.

For more information please contact Director of Player & Leadership Development, Jason Ginter: [jason.ginter@curlingalberta.ca](mailto:jason.ginter@curlingalberta.ca) or 780.915.1922.



[curlingalberta.ca](http://curlingalberta.ca)

... continued from page 1 "Boston Pizza's partnership with Curling Alberta has been so strong and we have such a great history together," said Sheldon Hay, franchisee, and representative of Boston Pizza Northern Alberta Corporate. "It simply made sense to jump on the opportunity to help establish the Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour and its Championships. To us, the best part is extending our support not only to top curlers and an emerging high-profile event, but to smaller communities throughout the province, and to developing

curlers who are trying to break through into the upper ranks."

"The Leduc Curling Club is thrilled to welcome these teams to our city," added Dawn Gavin, President of the Leduc Curling Club. "We look forward to an exciting weekend."

Admission tickets will be available at the door: \$5/draw, \$10/day (three draws per day), \$20 for the full event pass (12 draws and skills competition).

Select games and the skills competition will be streamed on [Curling Alberta's YouTube page](#). Further details about the Boston Pizza Alberta Curling Tour, including the points standings can be found on [Curling Alberta's website](#).

Please note that all Curling Alberta staff, contractors, directors, coaches, athletes, support staff, volunteers, and customers 12 years of age and older must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to participate in, and attend, Curling Alberta sanctioned events.

# Terry Morris

Builder, Curling



## TERRY MORRIS — ALBERTA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

On January 30th, the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame honored 13 extraordinary Albertans who have made an impact on sport in our province, country, and around the world. Alberta's Terry Morris was one of those inductees. They were finally able to hold a virtual induction and honor the 2020 class in a celebration that both honors those great Albertans and recognizes the importance of sport in our lives and communities.

Sherwood Park's Terry Morris has been active in the promotion and development of the sport of curling in Alberta and across the nation for the better part of four decades. During that time, most of Terry's exploits have flown under the radar, including his efforts to unite the sport's governance structure which led to the establishment of the Northern Alberta Curling Association, as well as the Alberta Curling Federation, which represents the province with Curling Canada. Terry's curling roots began in Edmonton high school curling before becoming a competitive curler, coach, builder and leader.

While you typically won't see Terry's name in the headlines, his dedication

and hard work behind the scenes have ensured countless curling events were run efficiently and professionally, while leaving behind a positive legacy in their host communities.

Terry's incredible administrative and organizational skills allowed him to play an integral role on the organizing committees of every major curling event held in Edmonton since 1987, including the 1987 Brier (vice chairman), the 1999 Brier (chairman/president), and the 2005 Brier (chairman/president) - the largest and most successful Brier in its history. Over 281,000 people attended the event, held from March 5 – 13, 2005 at Rexall Place.

He has also played an important role in the success of the 2007 Ford World Men's Curling Championship, and the 2009 Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings Canadian Curling Trials.

Today, Terry continues to work as an event manager with Curling Canada.

Congratulations, Terry, on your induction into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame.

*The Alberta Sports Hall of Fame provides a family-friendly, interactive experience. You will*

*be surprised by what you discover inside! Have fun, laugh, play and discover Alberta sports heroes together. The Alberta Sports Hall of Fame is an interactive, hands-on celebration of Alberta's sporting history. Our over 7,000 square feet of exhibit space includes a multisport area with virtual baseball, basketball, football, hockey, and soccer, a 200-meter wheelchair challenge, a Treadwall climbing wall, the Orest Korbutt Theatre, Hall of Fame Gallery, and much more. Our museum has over 16,000 artifacts of Alberta sports history in the collection and showcases many of these items in a number of displays. The Alberta Sports Hall of Fame also offers an education program, group activities, and a unique environment to rent for your birthday party, special event, corporate reception or meetings.*

*We are located along Highway QE2, north of 32 Street in Red Deer, Alberta. Contact us for more information about our museum.*

*Submitted by the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame*

# CURLING CANADA REMODELS ICE TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Curling Canada has made some changes to the Level 1 and Level 2 Ice Technician certification process. Instead of the Level 1 Ice Technician program, ice techs are required to complete a pre-requisite to the "Club Ice Technician" course, followed by a 2.5-day course in order to be certified as a "Club Ice Technician".

Pre-requisites include completing one (1) of the following:

1. Complete the World Curling Federation's Chief Online Ice Technician course found at <https://www.worldcurlingacademy.org/>
2. Take the Facility Operators Course offered by Curling Canada. (Available soon for all provinces)
3. Work under a certified Ice Technician for 12 months.

After completing one of these pre-requisites, there will be a 2.5-day Club Ice Technician course currently being developed by Curling Canada. For now, the Level 2 Ice Technician course will be used as a substitute. Anyone currently certified as a Level 2 Ice Technician can now be referred to as a "Club Ice Technician."

*After many of our courses were postponed or cancelled due to health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Curling Alberta is pleased to announce we will be moving forward with a new Learning Management System (LMS). This online platform will allow coaches, officials, and ice technicians an opportunity to fulfill many certifications and professional development requirements. We can also look forward to a coaching webinar series involving our own Excel Regional Coaches on this platform discussing many developmental topics such as strategy and tactics, team building, fitness, and more!*

*Currently a **Timer course** is available online for those individuals looking to learn a new skill: <https://curlingalberta.ca/technical/curling-umpires-information>*

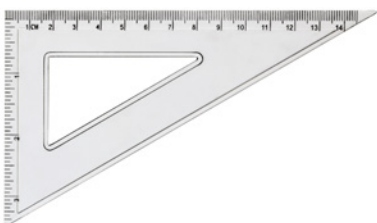
*Please email [info@curlingalberta.ca](mailto:info@curlingalberta.ca) to express your interest in hosting or registering for a course. Updates to the course list and schedule will be announced as soon as possible.*

## OFFICIALS' CORNER

### STRAIGHT LINE MEASURE?

To the surprise of the Women's teams at the 2022 Scotties Provincials, we umpires introduced the Straight-Line Measure using a T-square!

In the Walker/Crough game in the 4th end, the teams were not sure if a stone



was completely across the hogline so they called the Game Umpire. The umpire then used the T-square to determine if the stone was in or out of play. This is only new to Canada as the World Curling Federation has been using this for years by carrying a wooden block to the ice. We use the T-square for pre-competition measurements of the ring accuracy and the ice crew always have one on hand so it is the most logical and accurate. I named it the Straight-Line Measure (SLM) as it will only be used at the hogline, backline or possibly the T-line (to determine if a stone is in the FGZ). It will only be used during the



Curling Alberta Umpire Crew in Grande Prairie

end to determine if a stone is in or out of play, replacing the visual measurements.

I suspect this style of measure will be added to the next addition of the Curling Canada Rule book.



# Extra savings for curlers at belairdirect!

**Curling Alberta members and their families** can benefit from an exclusive discount on their car, home, condo and tenant's insurance, on top of any other discounts, savings and benefits customers are already eligible for at belairdirect.

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advantage of this offer**

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Mention you are a **Curling Alberta member** to get your exclusive premium.



## **Car + Home**

You could save up to \$700 by switching both your car and home insurance to belairdirect!\*

\*Approximate average savings made by new clients when they choose to combine their home and auto insurance and obtain an online quote. This amount is not guaranteed and varies based on each person's individual insurance profile.

Certain conditions, limitations and exclusions apply to all our offers. Offers may change without notice. Not everyone will qualify for a phone or online quote. Insurance products underwritten by Belair Insurance Company Inc. Services provided by belairdirect Agency Inc. @belairdirect. and @Little Knight Design are registered trademarks of Belair Insurance Company Inc. ©2022 Belair Insurance Company Inc. All rights reserved.



## ALBERTA JUNIOR CURLING TOUR UPDATE

The AJCT season has continued to go well with great shots and great games! We've had an exciting couple of months with many Tour events, highlighted by Curling Alberta's U18 Provincials in Hinton. Congratulations to Team Plett and Team Burton for earning the right to represent Team Alberta at U18 Canadians, May 2-7, 2022 in Oakville, ON. Congratulations also to Team Booth and Team Wipf who will represent Team Alberta 2 at this event. U15 Provincials recently concluded in Medicine Hat, a fantastic display of sportsmanship and junior curling! Congratulations to the U15 Provincial Champions, Team Duncan! U20 Provincials are scheduled at the end of the month in Cochrane, February 23-27, with 14 teams participating in both the Women's and Men's divisions.

Here is a quick look at the [AJTRS Standings](#) as of February 1, 2022:

U18 Women			U18 Men			U20 Women			U20 Men		
1	Plett	211.2	1	Wipf	172.9	1	Booth	168	1	Tao	327
2	Booth	203	2	Burton	139	2	Gray-Withers	145.5	2	Runciman	222.01
3	Wood	99.68	3	Whittmire	87.51	3	Plett	140.2	3	Ballance	134
4	Johnston	90.55	4	Kiist	74.18	4	Bakker	112.5	4	Wipf	119.9
5	Shannon	90.5	5	Davies	63.49	5	Jones	92.52	5	Kurina	84.9125

We recently announced the details for the 2022 Curlers Corner AJCT Players' Championship. We will be hosting this annual event, including the year-end banquet and awards ceremony on April 1-3, 2022 at the Calgary Curling Club. This year the field will be expanded to include 10 (up from 8) of the best U20 and U18 teams in Alberta. Teams will earn an invitation to the Players' Championship in the following order:

- U20 Provincial Champion
- U20 Excel Cup Champion
- U18 Provincial Champion
- 5 spots for the highest-ranked teams on the U20 AJTRS
- 2 spots for the highest-ranked teams on the U18 AJTRS

NEW this year to the Players' Championship is a U15 Open division! We will be running an 8-team U15 event alongside the U20s, allowing an opportunity for younger curlers to 'rub shoulders' with the best junior curlers in Alberta. These U15 teams will also be invited to the banquet and awards ceremony and will have a chance to hear

from our guest speakers. We are looking forward to this event after having to cancel the Players' Championship the last two seasons. In our 10th anniversary season, this will be the best event yet!

Registrations are OPEN for the U21 Mixed Doubles Bonspiels! New to the 2021-2022 season we are hosting a U21 Mixed Doubles Tour and three clubs have stepped up to host. We will be making stops in [Innisfail](#) (March 11-13), [Sherwood Park](#) (March 18-20) and [Airdrie](#) (March 25-27). Click on the links for the event registration forms! We are also in search of a title sponsor for the Mixed Doubles Tour; if you or your company is interested in partnering with the AJCT, please send an email to [albertajuniorgurling@gmail.com](mailto:albertajuniorgurling@gmail.com) to request our sponsorship package.

We are looking forward to the next few months of the AJCT schedule. Good luck and good curling to all teams!

*Submitted by Mark Taylor, Chairman | Alberta Junior Curling Tour*

## GET INVOLVED

Curling Alberta is always seeking passionate individuals with a diverse blend of skills and experience to get involved. Opportunities range from helping establish direction as a member of the Board of Directors, providing input through participation on various committees, attending workshops and symposiums and/or participating in questionnaires and surveys that are distributed throughout the year.

Interested in learning more about how you play a role in shaping the future of curling in Alberta? Contact [Jill Richard](#), Curling Alberta's Executive Director.

# Save the Date

**JULY 22 – 24, 2022**

**EDMONTON**

## **FRIDAY, JULY 22**

Curling Alberta Annual Awards Celebration & Golf Tournament, and kick-off for Business of Curling Symposium

## **SATURDAY, JULY 23**

Business of Curling Symposium & Curling Alberta Annual General Meeting

## **SUNDAY, JULY 24**

Business of Curling Symposium

Hosted by Curling Alberta's Board of Directors and staff, the **Annual Awards Celebration & Golf Tournament** will continue the tradition of celebrating those exceptional people who are the doers, the leaders, and the change-makers within our curling community. Let's step off the ice and onto the green at the **Quarry** in Edmonton, to enjoy a round of golf with our fellow curlers, volunteers, and stakeholders from across Alberta.

The Business of Curling Symposium is a weekend of learning and sharing for curling clubs. Club leaders will hear from a number of interesting and highly qualified speakers, who will offer their expertise in several key areas which all curling clubs face on a daily basis. This symposium also offers a valuable opportunity to share ideas and experiences with fellow club executives.

**STAY TUNED FOR  
ALL THE DETAILS!**



**CURLING  
ALBERTA**



# SPOTLIGHT ON MEN'S AND WOMEN'S PROVINCIALS



TEAM KOE

## GRANDE PRAIRIE SHOWCASES CURLING'S FINEST

Grande Prairie, you put on quite a show with the first ever combined women's and men's championship. In these unique times, under the most challenging of circumstances, the countless hours put in by the host committee and all of the supporting partners made for a remarkably successful competition.

In a captivating, edge-of-your-seat game, we saw Team Walker edge out Team Scheidegger in what literally came down to the last rock, in the final end to win her ticket to the Scotties Tournament of



TEAM WALKER

Hearts. And in true Kevin Koe fashion, his rink's dominant 5-0 run and decisive final game versus Ted Appelman's squad, clinched his seventh Alberta provincial title and a berth in the upcoming Tim Hortons Brier in Lethbridge. Hands down, it was a riveting showcase of Alberta's best curlers, from elite favorites and familiar faces from the club level, to some up and comers.



TEAM REICH

Jeff Reich had tried to get to the incredibly competitive men's provincial championship for years while playing at the club level, and he had not anticipated competing in this one. After another had originally secured the single berth in the Fort McMurray qualifiers and were unable to attend, the runners up were asked to

take their place. Richard Clark, Brent Diduck, and David Thompson were eager for the opportunity, but found themselves short a player less than a week to go until the Alberta Boston Pizza Cup.

"Because I've curled here for 17 years and curled competitively in the past, and hadn't competed in the December qualifiers, they asked if I would like to come on board and skip the team," said Jeff. "I thought it would be a great opportunity to go to provincials and that's ultimately how I ended up going."

With limited time to prepare, Jeff and his team relied on their years of playing with and against each other over numerous years in Fort McMurray. "Even with arena ice being very swingy, we decided not to deviate from our routine too much and see how it played out," said Jeff. "Otherwise, that would have added a whole new complexity to playing on arena ice, that we were aware of, but decided to continue to try to play our game."

"The highlight for me was that it was great to play at that level. We didn't go 0 in 3 and were able to win a game," said Jeff. "I also take away the fact that doing the draw to the button we were able to get hammer 3 out of the 4 games we played. We had an opportunity to compete, regardless of the circumstances, and we ultimately tried to do the best that we could to ensure that we represented ourselves and our club the best that we could."



TEAM CROUGH

One of the youngest teams competing at this year's provincial championship on the women's side was Team Crough, fresh off their silver medal at the World Junior Qualifier in Saskatoon. Based out of the Crestwood Curling Centre and coached by Mark Johnson, the team is skipped



by Elysa Crough and includes Julianna MacKenzie (lead), Kim Bonneau (second), and Quinn Prodaniuk (third). All four are post-secondary students and 2022 marked their debut at the Alberta Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

"It was a super cool experience for all of us, and my first time on arena ice," said Elysa. "When we first got there, we didn't know what to expect and it was very different than any other junior event or even nationals. We were like little kids in a candy shop. We walked in and saw the bags they were giving the players and just how all out they go for events like this for the players."

Another team making their inaugural appearance at the men's provincial championship is Team Molberg of the St. Albert Curling Club. Skip Nathan Molberg, lead Morgan Bilassy and their long-time coach Nicole Bellamy have been together since 2016, adding second Benjamin Helston and third Aaron Power to their Roster in 2018 and 2020 respectfully. A familiar face from his junior curling days, Molberg has represented Alberta at both the Canada Winter Games and U18 Nationals.

"The environment was a huge highpoint," said Nathan. "With a lot of high-level teams



there, the whole atmosphere put together, playing on arena ice with fans in the stands, it's just cool. Playing in that environment was a lot of fun."

So many moments, so many emotions, so many highpoints. It is thanks to the young guns like Team Crough and Team Molberg, and the club curlers like Team Reich, that remind us all of the possibilities and potential to play on that elite stage.

Congratulations to all of the athletes who competed in the 2022 Sentinel Storage Alberta Scotties Tournament of Hearts and the Alberta Boston Pizza Cup. A huge thank you to the Grande Prairie Curling Centre and its host committee, the officials, the ice technicians, and tireless volunteers who gave curlers and fans across the world the opportunity to enjoy the sport we all love.

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

Please visit <https://curlingalberta.ca/member-club-resources> for important updates, upcoming webinars, and other relevant information for players, coaches and clubs.





# CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Every year, Curling Alberta will honour those people within our organization who have helped to inspire the curlers of today and tomorrow. There are specific awards for players, coaches, officials, ice technicians, partners, and volunteers who have all contributed their time and effort to curling. These awards are intended to celebrate the extraordinary people who contribute at all levels of our sport, from community leaders and grassroots initiatives, all the way up to our high-performance athletes.

## THE NOMINATION PROCESS

To make a nomination, simply answer the following questions in an email or MS Word document and submit to [Jill Richard](#), Curling Alberta's Executive Director:

1. Award Category
2. Nominee information (Name, email address, phone number, and curling club)
3. Nominator information (Your name, relationship to the nominee, email address, phone number, and curling club)
4. Describe your nominee's exceptional achievements, contributions or services, as they relate to the award you are

nominating them for.

5. What attributes has your nominee demonstrated to support this nomination?
6. Describe the impact of your nominee on a local, regional, national, and/or international level.
7. Is there anything else about the nominee you would like the committee to consider?

You are encouraged to submit any additional testimony, pictures, or documentation to support the nomination. Nominations may be submitted by anyone, and self-nominations are also welcome. Please keep in mind that the awards are open to recognize contributors of any scope, whether local or provincial. Nominations will be accepted until **April 22, 2022**.

## TEAM OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to a team who is a shining example to others. Considerations include sportsmanship, dedication, positive leadership qualities, and community involvement. All ages, categories, and skill levels are eligible,

but competitive achievement will be a highly weighted component. Team accomplishments are limited to Curling Alberta events in the most recently completed season.

## COACH OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to a coach who has directed his or her team with sportsmanship and integrity. This individual possesses proper skills and knowledge to effectively mentor, support, and challenge their athletes while instilling a love of curling. This coach inspires continued learning and improvement, and demonstrates respect and care for athletes. A high standard of personal conduct is also clearly exhibited. The minimum coaching standard to be met by nominees is Club Coach "Trained" or Competition Coach "Trained" as recognized by Curling Alberta and the Coaching Association of Canada.

## INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to an instructor who has been a difference-maker in his or her club and community. He or she has gone above and beyond to build membership, preserve and improve existing programs,

and introduce beginners to our sport in a safe and enjoyable manner. This individual has a passion for teaching and has also demonstrated a high standard of personal conduct.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to a volunteer who has made an extraordinary contribution to the sport of curling.

## CURLERS CORNER YOUTH SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Awarded annually to a team or individual athlete who exemplifies the ideals of sportsmanship both on and off the ice with ethical behavior, fair play, respect for others, and a love for curling. The team or player must be eligible to compete in the U15, U18 or U21 categories.

## CLUB OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to a member club or community curling centre which displays outstanding impact in and on the community. Areas of consideration may include: development of innovative programs and services; alignment to the provincial programs (e.g. whole of sport approach); evidence of volunteer management strategies (attract, develop, retain); evidence of financial sustainability / viability; sound leadership practices (role descriptions for committees and key club roles, robust governance practices); community engagement (e.g. with other clubs, schools, sponsors, external stakeholders or community groups); coach and/or instructor development processes

in place; retention and growth of a diverse membership; success in fundraising and management of large capital projects; etc. Clubs are encouraged to self-nominate for this award. Only member clubs of Curling Alberta are eligible to be nominated for the Club of the Year award.

## PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to a sponsor or partner of curling that has shown tremendous support to the sport.

## OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to an outstanding official who has demonstrated a high level of knowledge, strength, leadership, dedication, and integrity.

## ICE TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

Awarded annually to an ice-maker who has provided significant leadership, excellence, and dedication to their craft.

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Awarded annually to anyone as selected by the President of Curling Alberta for outstanding service to the sport of curling. Current Board members are not eligible. Nominations for this award will be considered but the recipient is usually self-selected by the President.

## CELEBRATING AWARD RECIPIENTS

This year, the recipient(s) of each award will be honored at the Annual Awards

Celebration & Golf Tournament on July 22, 2022. The recipient(s) in each category will receive a complimentary entry to the golf tournament and an honorary keepsake award.

## CELEBRATING THE NOMINEES

Curling Alberta will provide all award nominees with a certificate of recognition and gift to mark the nomination.

## TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR NOMINATION

- Give specific examples of what your candidate or team has done that meets the award description.
- We encourage you to work jointly with others to nominate an individual, club, or team.

## SELECTIONS

The awardee(s), with the exception of the President's Award, will be selected by an ad hoc Award Selection Committee of three to five members appointed at the sole discretion of the Board of Curling Alberta. The Selection Committee may recognize multiple awardee(s) for any category in circumstances in which the contributions of multiple nominees are viewed as being of similar importance. Curler's Corner will also be a voting member of the Selection Committee for the Curlers Corner Youth Sportsmanship Award.

## CLASSIFIED & BONSPIEL LISTINGS

Are you a member club looking to promote an upcoming bonspiel or a team starting to plan your upcoming season? To see what events are on deck in all levels of competition within our boundaries, visit the [Get Curling](#) section on Curling Alberta's website, where a detailed list of bonspiels will be listed and updated as soon as clubs add them.

Curling Alberta's **Classifieds** are a great resource whether you are looking to build a new team, fill a vacancy, or recruit a coach. It also offers our members a platform to buy and sell curling equipment or supplies.

Listings are posted on behalf of teams, curlers and member clubs, so head to the Bonspiels and Classifieds pages now to post your ad.



# CURLING ALBERTA – 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS

EVENT	DATES	LOCATIONS	DEADLINE	PRE-QUALIFIER DEADLINE	PROVINCIALS
2021 MIXED	Sep. 17-19	Airdrie C.C.	Aug. 18	N/A	Sept. 29-Oct. 3 Okotoks C.C.
WORLD JUNIOR TEAM QUALIFICATION EVENT	N/A	N/A	Sept. 15	N/A	Oct. 20-24 Airdrie C.C.
WOMEN	Nov. 25-28 Dec. 2-5	Fort Saskatchewan C.C.* Vulcan C.C.*	Nov. 3	Nov. 22	Jan. 3-9 Grande Prairie C.C.
MEN	Dec. 2-5 Dec. 2-5 Dec. 2-5	Fort McMurray C.C. Spray Lake FSC, Cochrane* Grande Prairie C.C.*	Nov. 3	Nov. 30	Jan. 3-9 Grande Prairie C.C.
U-18	Dec. 9-12 Dec. 10-12 Dec. 16-19	Okotoks C.C. Grande Prairie C.C.* Beaumont C.C.	Nov. 17	Nov. 29	Jan. 12-16 Hinton C.C.
WHEELCHAIR	N/A	N/A	Dec. 22	N/A	Jan. 14-16 Banff C.C.
U15	N/A	N/A	Nov. 24	N/A	Feb. 3-6 Medicine Hat C.C.
MIXED DOUBLES	Jan. 20-23 Jan. 21-23 Jan. 27-30	Crowsnest C.C. High Prairie C.C. Leduc C.C.*	Dec. 29	Jan. 4	Feb. 17-21* Granite C.C. Edmonton*
U-20	Jan. 27-30 Jan. 28-30 Feb. 3-6	Airdrie C.C. Fairview C.C. Thistle C.C.	Dec. 29	Jan. 24	Feb. 23-27 Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre, Cochrane
MASTERS	Feb. 3-6 (Men only) Feb. 4-6 (Men only) Feb. 10-13 (Men only)	Lethbridge C.C. Grande Prairie C.C. Ellerslie C.C.	Jan. 12	N/A	Mar. 2-6 Granite C.C. Edmonton
MIXED	Feb. 10-13 Feb. 11-13 Feb. 17-20	Medicine Hat C.C.* Beaverlodge C.C. Thistle C.C.	Jan. 19	N/A	Mar. 9-13 Black Diamond C.C.
SENIORS	Feb. 17-20 (Men only) Feb. 24-27 (Men only) Feb. 25-27 (Men only)	Ottewell C.C. Innisfail C.C. Sexsmith C.C.	Jan. 26	N/A	Mar. 16-20 Thistle C.C. Edmonton
CANADA WINTER GAMES	Mar. 4-6 (Pre-Trials) Apr. 6 (U19 MD Team Training Camp) Fall 2022 (U20 MD Pre-Trials)	Saville Com. Sports Centre TBD TBD	Feb. 16 N/A Aug. 31	N/A	Early 2023 Spring 2023
U-21 MIXED DOUBLES	N/A	N/A	Mar. 16	N/A	Apr. 7-10 Thistle C.C. Edmonton
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS	Mar. 17-20 Mar. 17-20 Mar. 18-20	North Hill C.C. Leduc C.C. Grande Prairie C.C.	Feb. 23 (Intent) Mar. 11 (Roster)	N/A	Apr. 6-10 Airdrie C.C.

\*Date and/or location change from previously announced.



BECAUSE WE CARE ABOUT  
**REWARDING YOU**



## Curling Alberta Members: Take Advantage of Special Rates with Best Western® Hotels & Resorts

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TEAM JONES



TEAM RUNCIMAN

## 2022 U20 EXCEL CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Congratulations to Team Jones and Team Runciman on taking home the 2022 U20 Excel Cup title!

Skip Olivia Jones, third Mercedes Smith, second Micayla Kooistra, lead Emily Kiist, and coach Murray Adams were joined by skip Justin Runciman, third Steven Leong, second Gryffen Algot, lead Carter Elder, and coach J-C Guerette as Excel Cup champions at the Ellerslie Curling Club.

The U20 women's final came down to last rock, with Team Booth holding the final stone. After a double attempt by Claire Booth jammed on a rock in the four-foot, Team Jones was able to steal the victory, 4-3. Before the event even started, Team Jones was forced outside their comfort zone, as a positive test forced a member of their team to stay home, and Team Jones was dwindled down to three players. This level of adversity proved to be no challenge for their team, as they finished with a perfect 6-0 record. When asked how she felt after the win, Olivia Jones was quite impressed with her team. "I felt really proud of my team for pulling together after a long weekend to finish strong and as a unit."

On the U20 men's side, the game was a back-and-forth affair through the first seven ends. With the hometown Team Runciman down 1 point to Okotoks-based Team Ballance playing the last end, Runciman had to manoeuvre around a centre guard and two rocks in the four-

foot to place his final rock on the button and score his two points to win, 6-5. That final Team Runciman stone will last in the minds of the team for quite some time. Lead Carter Elder added "that to win it with the last rock that required the entire team made it very special." Even after the rock came to a stop, the special moment continued for third Steven Leong, "I couldn't stop thinking that we won the Excel Cup in our home club. It's a feeling that I'll cherish for the rest of my life."

After round-robin play, three teams from each category advanced to the playoffs. On the women's side, U20 Excel Program teams Jones and Gray-Withers, were joined in the playoffs by Team Booth, with a perfect 5-0 record earning Team Jones a bye to the final. On the men's side, U20 Excel Team Tao squeaked into the semi-final, and they were joined by Team Runciman. A perfect 4-0 round-robin record earned Team Ballance a bye into Sunday's final. Semi-final victories by Team Booth and Team Runciman earned themselves the final spot in their championship games.

Even though the U20 Excel Cup was one of Alberta's major U20 events this season, it was not easy to forget why these curlers chose to play this sport. In a competitive environment, curlers still find ways to build long-lasting relationships among friends.

When I asked Olivia Jones what she would

say to young teams hoping to compete a U20 Excel Cup one day, she reiterated this point. "More important than winning is the fun you have, and the relationships you build. Being the best in one thing is a fleeting and temporary feeling, while doing your best and making the most of the people and situations that you're placed in is a skill that will take you further than winning ever will."

Team Runciman second Gryffen Algot agreed, "when you curl with friends, nobody loses."

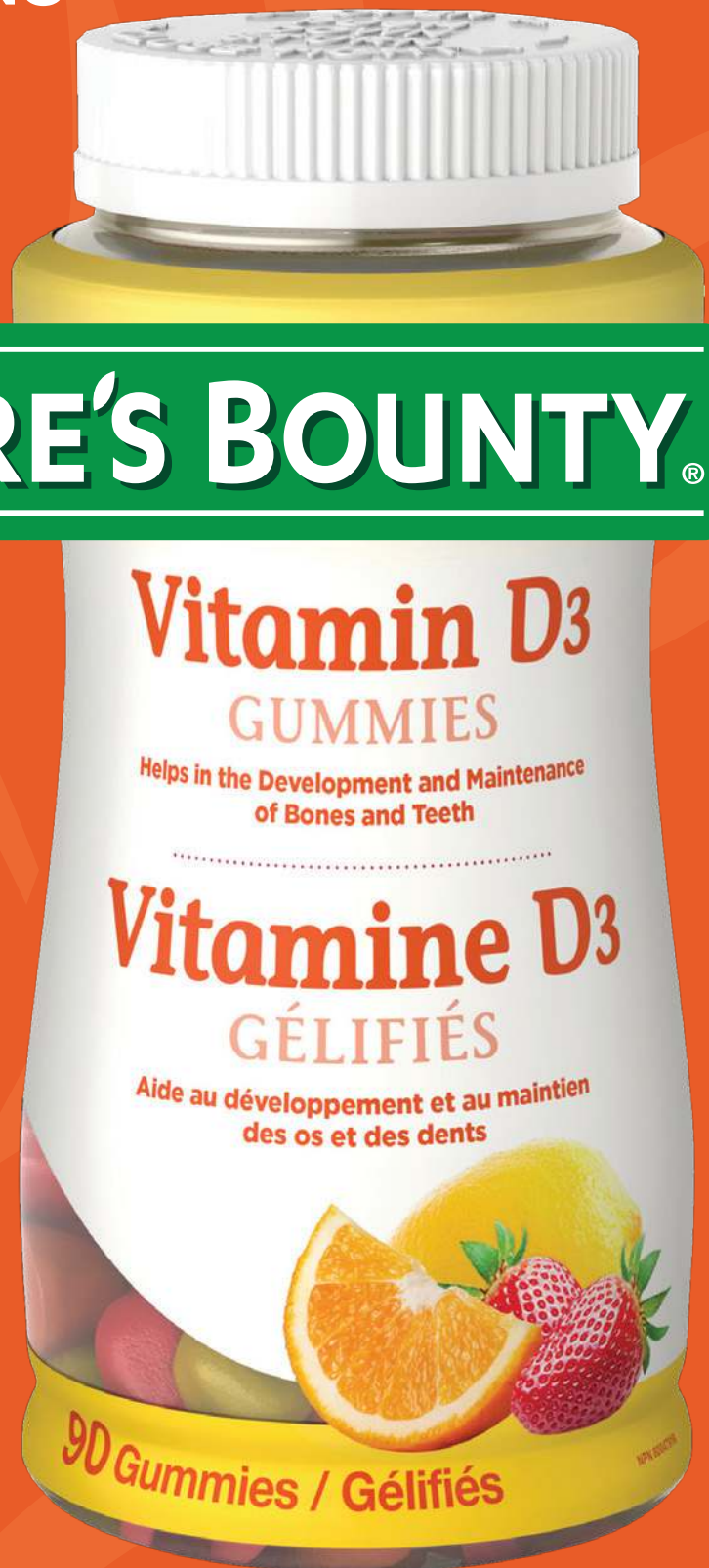
The next major event for U20 teams will be the Curling Alberta U20 Provincial Championship in the Cochrane Club at the Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre. For Justin Runciman, it cannot come soon enough. "I think this event has shown us, as well as everyone else what we're capable of. I hope we can take the momentum that this has given us and continue with it on to provincials and keep playing our best."



*Submitted by  
Jason Ginter,  
Director of Player  
& Leadership  
Development,  
Curling Alberta*



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