

APPENDIX:

U15 (Combined Boys and Girls)

See below for competition specific details. The rules and details contained in the main body of the Competitors' Guide apply to this competition. In the event there is a perceived conflict between the Competitors' Guide and this appendix, this appendix is considered to take priority.

This appendix is subject to further review and evaluation on, at a minimum, an annual basis.

Special note for all competitors: As per section 4 of the Competitors' Guide, Curling Alberta will require at least one parent/guardian of each player under 18 years of age to complete the Safe Sport Program in order for the minor to participate in any sanctioned event. To complete Safe Sport training, parents must sign up for "The Locker" via the Coaches Association of Canada website. Access the Safe Sport Program website, information, and participant training here: <https://safesport.coach.ca/participants-training>

Teams competing in Curling Alberta U15 Provincial Qualifiers do so with the knowledge that they must continue to play at all levels, up to and including the Provincial Championship event, until they are eliminated. A competitor may enter the U15 category and another category (e.g. U18) as long as there is no date conflict up to and including the Provincial Championship.

Alternates (5th players) are not permitted in U15 competition. Substitutes or replacement players must provide proof of birth date prior to playing their first game. See section 1(B)(1) in the Competitors' Guide for more information specific to substitution and replacement players.

Please note that teams in the U15 category can include any combination of males and/or females curlers.

The draw and schedule for the Provincial Qualifiers and Provincial Championships will be supplied to all teams and posted on the Curling Alberta Website. Reference the Competitor's Guide for details on draw making procedure and seeding if applicable.

A. COACHES:

Teams must have a coach during any Curling Alberta U15 competition. Coaches at this competition are considered a team member and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations (see section 1(A)(7) of the Competitors' Guide for details). Also see additional reference to U15 team uniforms and cresting at section C(5) of this Appendix.

All coaches in the U15 category must be at least 18 years old. If a coach is less than 21 years old, he/she must provide two favourable letters of reference if requested.

Although we encourage coaches to be Competition Coach 'Certified', there are no formal NCCP requirements at any stage of this competition. However, all coaches are required to complete the online Safe Sport Training/Respect in Sport – Sport Activity Leader/Coach Program and provide a criminal record check.

B. PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS:

1. Additional details and format are as described in sections 1 and 2 of the Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy.
2. 20 provincial berths are awarded in total, all through Provincial Qualifiers.
3. All games are 8 ends, plus extra end(s) if needed (no minimum # of ends). Games will not be timed. Pace of play may be further managed by the Chief Umpire.
4. There are no "free agents" in any Curling Alberta U15 competition.

C. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP:

1. All games are 8 ends, plus extra end(s) if needed (teams must play a minimum of 4 ends). Games will not be timed. Pace of play may be further managed by the Chief Umpire.
2. The pools will be seeded in advance of the championship using the team's qualifying position in the Provincial Qualifiers and randomly drawn to determine their exact seed. For example, if there are four A-qualifiers, they will be randomly drawn to fill seeds 1-4, the next four B-qualifiers will be positions 5-8, and so on for C-qualifiers.
 - i. Each team's Singles score will be used as a tiebreaker for playoff placement as needed (i.e., head-to-head record first, team Singles score next).
3. The Provincial Championship will be preceded with a Singles competition, which will replace pre-competition practice.
 - i. The top three teams, and the top three individuals will be recognized after the completion of the Singles competition.
4. The Provincial Championship will begin with each team playing 4 round robin games, (i.e., W, X, Y, Z pools; 5 teams per pool).
 - i. Pool composition will be based on the results of the Provincial Qualifiers, with the overarching goal of making the pools as equal as possible (see below).
 - ii. Teams will conduct a coin toss 30 minutes prior to draw time to determine stone handle colour or practice time.
 - iii. Teams will draw for hammer (LSD) in pre-game practice, with each player throwing one LSD during the round robin. These results are used for hammer only.
5. PLAYOFFS:
 - i. At the completion of the round robin, all teams will be placed into a playoff section (i.e., A, B, C, D, or E) based on the final standings within their respective pools.
 - ii. To clarify, the first place team from each pool will qualify for the A section, the second place team will qualify for the B section, and so on.
 - iii. Ties within pools will be broken based on head-to-head record where possible, and then

- team Singles scores for all teams involved in the tie.
- iv. The A section is a double knockout (i.e., teams advance to either the gold or bronze game), while all other playoff sections are single knockout (i.e., winners advance, losers are eliminated).
 - v. Within each playoff section, teams will be seeded 1 to 4 based on round robin records first, and team Singles scores second.
 - vi. The semi-final match-ups will be seed 1 vs. seed 4, and seed 2 vs. seed 3.
 - vii. In all playoff games, the team with the better win-loss record will be awarded hammer in the first end, and will have the first practice.
 - viii. In the event that both teams have the same win-loss record, the same practice and LSD procedures used in the round robin will apply.
6. Although teams are encouraged to wear matching uniforms, dress standards noted in section 2(A)(1) of the Competitors' Guide do not apply. Curling appropriate attire is expected.
 - i. All team members are required to comply with the cresting policy noted in the Cresting Policy on the Curling Alberta website.

As per Curling Alberta's Code of Conduct, please be advised that competitors and coaches are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages during any U15, U18, or U20 events sanctioned by Curling Alberta. This shall include the entire time period from departure to the competition through to and including arrival at home from the event.

U15 PROVINCIAL POOLS

W Pool		X Pool		Y Pool		Z Pool	
Team	Seed	Team	Seed	Team	Seed	Team	Seed
W1	1	X1	2	Y1	3	Z1	4
W2	8	X2	7	Y2	6	Z2	5
W3	9	X3	10	Y3	11	Z3	12
W4	16	X4	15	Y4	14	Z4	13
W5	17	X5	18	Y5	19	Z5	20

**The provincial pools and draw are subject to change.