

APPENDIX:

Curling Club Championships (Men's and Women's)

See below for competition specific details. The rules and details contained in the main body of the Competitors' Guide apply to these competitions. 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.

Curling Alberta requires all athletes in the Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Mixed, U20, U21 Mixed Doubles, Seniors and Wheelchair categories to complete the online Safe Sport Program in order to participate in any Curling Alberta sanctioned event. To complete Safe Sport training, athletes 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>

Please ensure that proof of Safe Sport Training completion is uploaded to the curler's Curling Alberta's Sideline Learning profile prior to the start of competition. If it is not uploaded to Sideline, then the requirements have not been met to compete. Curling Alberta's Sideline Learning can be found here: <https://curlingalberta.sidelinelearning.com/login>

Teams competing in a Curling Alberta Provincial Qualifier do so with the knowledge that they must continue to play at all levels, up to and including the Provincial Championships, until they are eliminated. In effect, this means a competitor may enter the Club Championship category and another category (eg. Women's or Men's) as long as there is no date conflict up to and including the Provincial Championship.

Curling Club Championship Eligibility Requirement:

We trust all curling rinks will respect the [intent of the spirit](#) of the Curling Club Championships by engaging their members to participate and to represent their curling club in any process leading to the provincial championships and ultimately, leading to the Canadian Curling Club Championships. The event was created for true club-based teams. The objective is to support the development of grassroots curling across Canada.

Curling Alberta reserves the right to exclude any team that violates the spirit and intent of this event as it pertains to the rules below.

In summary, twelve provincial berths (in each gender) are awarded in total.

- All of these berths are 'standard berths' awarded through the Provincial Qualifiers. There are no pre-qualifying berths in the Club Championship category.
- Clubs with 250 or more members will have the option to enter two (2) teams per gender into Provincial Qualifiers.
- The draw and schedule for the Provincial Qualifiers and Provincial Championships will be supplied to the registered clubs and posted on the Curling Alberta Website. Note, the club is responsible for sharing the draw and schedule with their teams.

A. FOR ALL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS

1. The curling club represented by each team must be affiliated with Curling Alberta and must be in good standing with all applicable dues paid in full during all levels of competition.
2. All four (4) members and any subs or alternates must be bona fide residents within the geographic area of Curling Alberta unless granted an exception.
 - a. All competitor's must be members in good standing of an affiliated curling club during all levels of competitions.
 - i. To clarify, all competitors must be members of the same club in both years if the provincial is held in a separate season than the nationals.
3. Once a four-person team enters the club championships playdowns, a maximum of one (1) sub or alternate from the club is allowed at any level of competition assuming they are eligible based on Rule 2 above. The sub may be a different player each game but an alternate needs to be the same person throughout the entire event.
 - a. An alternate or sub player must play the traditional lead position throwing the first two stones of any and all ends for their team and sweeping delivered stones numbered 3-8. No exceptions.
 - b. A team with a registered alternate player may not add a sub.
 - c. A team must maintain two (2) of three (3) OR three (3) of four (4) original rostered players on the ice at all times during the event. Alternates are not considered as one of the four originally rostered players.
4. If a team has five players during the season, one player must be designated the alternate.
5. A competitor can participate for only one affiliated curling club in one season. If you lose out while playing for one club, you cannot then play for another club.
6. Teams must qualify through their member curling club under one of the following conditions:
 - a. Regular league players;
 - i. Any team that meets eligibility and plays on a team regularly (6 or more games) during a club's league and the member curling centre deems them as their representative.
 - b. A formal club championship process, or;
 - i. A formal Club Championship bonspiel is held at the curling centre where a club champion is named as the winner and the club representative

- c. A special event to determine your Curling Club champions for your club that is not part of your formal club championships
 - i. A bonspiel, other than a formal Club Championship bonspiel, is held at the curling centre where the winner is declared the club's representative. It can be any competition/event/bonspiel that names a winner.
- 7. In rule 6. A., B. and C, teams must have three (3) or more players who have played together on the same team during the current curling season. The fourth person does not have to have played on the same team, but they must be out of the same league, event or bonspiel as listed under 6. A., B. and C
- 8. Clubs that only have mixed or open leagues (i.e., no men's and / or women's set team leagues), or clubs that are closed due to extenuating circumstances, may be granted an exemption to form teams by written request to Curling Alberta which must be done 30 days prior to the provincial qualifier.
- 9. The use of the delivery stick by any or all four players (and any alternate or sub) is acceptable subject to the Curling Canada rules under Rule 19, Curling with a Delivery Stick. Wheelchairs may also be used.
- 10. a. Exemptions:

Each four-person team is allowed to have one (1) player who has participated in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Grand Slam event in the previous three (3) curling seasons.

The other three (3) team members, CANNOT have played in the following:

- i. Any Tier 1 Grand Slam event in the previous three (3) seasons. They could have played in a Tier 2 Grand Slam
- ii. Any provincial / territorial championship leading to any Canadian Trials or Pre-Trials event:
 - Therefore, if you are not the 'one' player on the team without any restrictions, you and/or the other three players and any alternate players and any spares may have competed in any provincial / territorial championship in the previous three (3) seasons and are still allowed to play in the Curling Club Championships, as long as you have not qualified for the playoffs in the men's, women's, U20, senior, or mixed doubles provincial championships. This does not include the U21 mixed doubles.
- b. Alternate players at the Under-21; and/or, the Tournament of Hearts; and/or, the Brier; and/or, the Canadian Seniors; and/or, the Under-18; and/or, the Canadian Wheelchair; and/or, any Canadian Trials or Pre-Trials event that played two or less games are considered as not to have played in those events.
- c. Players who competed in the previous season's Canadian Curling Club Championships are ineligible to compete the following season at any level.
- d. Each team is comprised of three (3) players that are a minimum of 19 years of age or over as of June 30th the year prior to the national championship. For example, a player must be 19 years of age on June 30th, 2023 for the November 2023 National Curling Club Championship.
- e. Any team is allowed one (1) player under 19 years of age who shall be considered a "minor" and must be accompanied by a legal guardian (or a chaperone identified by the legal guardian) for the duration of the event including departure from home and return to their home. A legal guardian can be a parent on the team. The team is responsible for

covering all costs associated with a legal guardian who is not a team member.

- f. Curling Canada has the sole authority to grant exceptions to these rules in extraordinary circumstances. Any request must be submitted by Curling Alberta. Curling Canada will consult with Curling Alberta and will notify them within five (5) business days in writing of any decision. The Curling Canada decision may not be appealed.

B. PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS:

- a. All competitors must abide by policies laid out in section 1 and 2 of the Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy. A maximum of three separate PQ's will be offered.
- b. Seeding of PQ's will not occur.
- c. All games are 8 ends (no minimum # of ends). Ties are decided by a full extra end or ends if required. The pace of play will be managed by the Chief Umpire.
- d. Teams will deliver one (1) Last Stone Draw (LSD) for hammer immediately following their pre game practice. (No per player requirement).
- e. NO TICK RULE
If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes, either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre line position, the non-offending team has the option to:
 - i. Remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their position prior to the violation taking place; or
 - ii. Leave all stones where they came to rest
 - iii. If a stone is moved from the center line to an out of play position, then the FGZ rule applies

C. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. The event will be a twelve-team championship in each gender, with two pools of six teams playing a full round-robin within each pool. The top **three** teams in each pool will qualify for a **six-team page single elimination playoff**. The final draw and schedule will be pre-approved by Curling Alberta.
- b. Regional representation will be equally distributed between the two pools.
- c. All round-robin games are 8 ends (no minimum # of ends) and are not timed.
- d. Round robin game ties are decided by a full extra end or ends if required.
- e. No Tie Breaker games will be played. Teams tied for a playoff position shall be ranked first by their head-to-head results and then by Draw Shot Challenge (DSC). Ties are not considered across pools and DSC must be used. (ie. A 3-2 record in Pool A is NOT tied with a 3-2 record in Pool B – DSC must be used)
- f. **Teams with a losing record are not eligible to receive a playoff berth. If this results in fewer than six teams qualifying for the playoff round, additional team(s) may receive a bye into the semi-finals.**
- g. NO TICK RULE If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes, either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre line position, the non-offending team has the option to:

- i. Remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their position prior to the violation taking place; or
 - ii. Leave all stones where they came to rest
 - iii. If a stone is moved from the center line to an out of play position, then the FGZ rule applies
- h. Pre-game practice procedures are identified in section 1(D)(4) of the Competitors Guide.
- i. Teams will draw for hammer (LSD), as per Competitors' Guide section 1(D)(5), immediately following their pre-game practice. Each player must deliver two (2) LSD's, one clockwise and one counterclockwise, during pool play.
- j. 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.

PLAYOFFS - the 6-team elimination format shall be as follows:

- a. After the round robin, the teams ranked 2nd and 3rd in each pool will advance to the quarter-final round with 2nd pool B vs 3rd pool A (game 1), and 2nd pool A vs 3rd pool B (game 2), the winners advancing to the semi-final round
- b. The teams ranked 1st in each pool will advance directly to the semi-final round. The winner of pool A will play the winner of game 1 (game 3). The winner of pool B will play the winner of game 2 (game 4).
- c. The winners of game 3 and 4 will compete in the final to determine a champion.
- d. If hammer is predetermined, the team with hammer will have first practice.
- e. Stone/hammer selection(s) will follow policy described in Competitor's' Guide, section 2(C)(6).

When teams are from the same pool:

- a. If a team has a better W/L record they will receive BOTH hammer and choice of stone colour in the playoffs.
- b. If teams have the same W/L record, the team that won the round robin game will have CHOICE of hammer or stone colour.
- c. If teams have the same W/L record and the DSC was used to rank teams, the team ranked higher will have choice of stone colour or practice session and teams will draw for hammer. Once DSC ranking is used, it is the only ranking factor and head-to-head results are not used.

When teams are not from the same pool:

- a. If a team has a better W/L record they will receive CHOICE of hammer or stone colour.
- b. If teams have the same W/L record, and the DSC was used to rank teams, the team ranked higher will have CHOICE of stone colour or practice session and teams will draw for hammer.