

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.

At least one parent/legal guardian of every curler under the age of 18 must complete the online Safe Sport Program in order to participate in any Curling Alberta sanctioned event, with the athletes within the U15, U18 and Masters categories being strongly recommended to complete the online Safe Sport Program as well. 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>

Please ensure that proof of Safe Sport Training completion is uploaded to the curler's Curling Alberta 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 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 the 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 femalescurlers.

The draw and schedule for the Provincial Qualifiers and Provincial Championships will be supplied to all teams and posted on the Curling Alberta Website.

B. PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS:

1. Additional details and format are as described in sections 1 and 2 of the Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy.
2. [18 provincial berths are awarded in total](#), all through Provincial Qualifiers.
3. All games are 8 ends, plus extra end(s) if needed.
4. Coaches will utilize [Curling Canada's Coach Interactions - U15 category rules](#). Two (2) interactions will be allowed per end.
5. Games will not be timed. Pace of play may be further managed by the Chief Umpire.
6. 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 the Competitors' Guide for details).

C. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP:

1. 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.
2. Teams must have a coach. And the coach must be present at the event facility. Coaches at this competition are considered team members and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations (see the Competitors' Guide for details).
3. Coaches will utilize the [Curling Canada's Coach Interactions - U15 category rules](#). Two (2) interactions will be allowed per end.
4. 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 and DSC last).
5. The Provincial Championship will be preceded with a Singles competition, which will replace pre-competition practice.
 - a. Teams will be allowed a nine-minute on-ice warm-up, prior to the Skills Competition
 - b. The top three teams, and the top three individuals may be recognized after the completion of the Singles competition.
6. The Provincial Championship format is an 18 team, 3 pools of 6.
 - a. Pool composition will be based on the results of the Provincial Qualifiers, with the overarching goal of making the pools as equal as possible.
 - b. Teams will conduct a coin toss 30 minutes prior to draw time to determine stone handle colour or practice time.
 - c. Teams will draw for hammer (LSD) in pre-game practice, with each player throwing one (1) LSD during the round robin. These results are used for LSFE (hammer) and breaking ties, should the teams Skills Competition scores be tied. No Tiebreaker games will be played.
7. **PLAYOFFS:**
 - a. At the completion of the round robin, 8 teams will be placed into a playoff section, top 2 in each pool, plus the next best 2 teams will qualify for championship playoffs. A playoff meeting will be held after the completion of pool play with the Coaches. All other teams will qualify for the consolation round.

- b. Ties within pools will be broken based on head-to-head record where possible, and then team Singles scores and if required, Draw Shot Challenge (DSC) score.
- c. When teams are from the same pool:
- **Better W/L record teams:** will have BOTH Choice of Colour (*stone handle colour*) AND LSFE (*Last Stone First End*) in the playoffs.
 - **Same W/L record teams:** the team that won the round robin game will have Choice of Colour OR LSFE.
 - If teams have the same W/L record and team Singles scores, the DSC (*Draw Shot Challenge*) will be used to rank teams, the team ranked higher will have Choice of Colour OR practice session and teams will deliver LSD(s) to determine LSFE. *Once DSC ranking is used, it is the only ranking factor, and head-to-head results are not used.*
- d. The Championship Playoff is a single elimination (i.e., winners advance, losers are eliminated) and the consolation playoff sections are single knockout (i.e., winners advance, losers are eliminated). (The top two teams in each playoff section will be recognized, gold and silver medals will only be awarded).
- e. 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.
- f. 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.
8. 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. Jeans are not to be worn on ice, this applies to coaches and players.
- a. All team members are required to comply with the cresting positioning 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, U20 or U21 Mixed Doubles 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.