

APPENDIX: Women

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, U20 Mixed Doubles, Seniors, Club Championships and Wheelchair categories and at least one parent/legal guardian of every curler under the age of 18 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](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 a Curling Alberta Provincial Qualifier do so with the knowledge that they must continue to play at all levels, up to and including Provincial Championships, until they are eliminated. In effect, this means a competitor may enter the Women's competition and another category (e.g. Mixed Doubles, Mixed, Seniors, etc.) as long as there is no date conflict up to and including the Provincial Championship.

Teams will be given two chances to win a provincial berth through provincial qualifying events. If a team is unsuccessful at one qualifying event, they may enter the final qualifying event referred to as the Last Chance.

Teams may only register for one of two qualifiers by the registration deadline, in other words please do not register for the Last Chance unless that is the only Women's qualifier you will enter. Registered teams that were not successful in winning a provincial berth will be sent a private link to register for the Last Chance and are required to pay another entry fee minus the competitor fees. The Last Chance registration will not reopen to the public following the registration deadline.

NOTE: Teams which may become eligible for a pre-qualifying berth on [November 25th](#) must enter one of the [Provincial Qualifiers](#) by one of the registration deadlines (November 4th or 6th, 2024) and pay the entire entry fee, including the Curling Canada Competitor's Card fee.

Non-resident "free agents" are permitted in Curling Alberta Women's competitions. Relevant rules and procedures are described in the Competitors' Guide and must follow Curling Canada guidelines at <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/canadian-team-ranking-system/residency-rules/residency-eligibility-rules>. Note deadlines for applications. Free agents must also be a member of a Curling Alberta affiliated club.

In summary, twelve provincial berths are awarded in total.

- Five (5) of these berths are awarded through the pre-qualifying policy (i.e.- In order: three WCTR berths, and two ACT berths). A team accepting a pre-qualifying berth is ineligible to compete in a Provincial Qualifier. Reference Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy for details.
- Seven (7) additional standard berths into the Provincial Championships are awarded in total, all through the Provincial Qualifiers. Five (5) berths will be assigned to first two (2) Provincial Qualifiers and distributed using the berth distribution chart. The final two (2) berths will be assigned to Last Chance Provincial Qualifier.

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

A. PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS:

1. The details and formats are as described in sections 1 and 2 of the Curling Alberta Provincial Berth Policy. Note a maximum of two separate Provincial Qualifiers will be offered in 2024-25. Seeding of Provincial Qualifiers will occur based on WCTR totals.
2. All games are 10 ends (no minimum # of ends)
3. Pace of play will be managed by the Chief Umpire.

B. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP:

1. The event will be a twelve (12) team triple knockout with a 4 team page playoff.
2. All twelve (12) teams will be seeded based on their ranking using WCTR point totals. The five (5) teams that received pre-qualifying berths will receive seeds 1-5 based on their WCTR point totals, and the rest of the field will be ranked 6-12 according to WCTR point totals, two weeks prior to the competition starting.
3. All games are 10 ends and are timed. A minimum of 5 ends in the knockout round and 8 ends in Playoffs. Depending on streaming requirements, teams may be required to complete a set number of ends. Each team is allowed one 60 second time out (with travel time to be determined).

4. Thinking time is 38 minutes and 4 minutes and 30 seconds for each extra end. The fifth end break is 5 minutes.
5. Pre-Game Practice:
 - a. Prior to the start of a game, teams are permitted a nine (9) minute practice with their stones.
 - b. A flip of the coin will determine stone colour or practice session.
 - c. Last stone advantage (hammer) in the first end will be decided by a draw to the button following each team's pre-game practice.
 - d. LSDs will be delivered toward the home end only.
 - e. First practice teams deliver the LSD stone in the clockwise rotation and the second practice teams deliver the LSD stone in the counterclockwise rotation. If a team delivers the wrong rotation, they receive a maximum distance of 185.4 cm (or 199.6 if a laser is used)
 - f. In the event a team does not finish in the rings, then a second team member will be required to deliver a measurable stone.
6. **PLAYOFFS** - Page Playoff format shall be as follows:
 - a. The two C Event qualifiers will playoff in game #1. The winner advances to the semi-final (game #3); the loser is eliminated.
 - b. The A and B Event qualifiers will playoff in game #2. The winner advances to the championship final (game #4); the loser drops to the semi-final (game #3).
 - c. The winners of game #2 and semi-final game #3 will playoff in the final (CH#4) to determine a champion.
 - d. If LSFE is predetermined, the team with LSFE will have first practice.
 - e. Stone color/ LSFE selection(s) will follow policy described in Competitors' Guide, section 2(C)(6).
 - f. For games 1 and 2, teams must use the stones from the assigned sheets.
 - g. For games 3 and 4, teams will be allowed to use stones from any sheet – handles will not be changed.
 - h. The team winning game 2 will be allowed to practice for 30 minutes immediately following the Sunday semi-final (game 3), on a sheet other than the one where the championship final will be played.

C. PLAYOFF MEETING:

1. Post TKO
 - a. After you qualify, the Chief Umpire will notify each team of their playoff position. There will be no formal meeting held.
 - b. Teams advancing to the playoffs will receive their playoff information directly from the Chief Umpire and will not need to attend a playoff meeting. To streamline the process, any decisions such as stone colour and/or LSFE (hammer) will be communicated to the Chief Umpire via text or email within 15 minutes of receiving your playoff form. If your choice has not been made and received by the allocated time, the Chief Umpire will make it.

D. TEAM FUNDING POLICY: TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

Curling Canada's team funding and alternate player policy for the Tournament of Hearts can be found on the Curling Canada Website: <https://www.curling.ca/about-curling/>.