

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, Club Championship, Stick Curling Club 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](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 (e.g. 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. [Curling Alberta will remove any offending team from the current Provincial Championship process. The offending club will also be suspended from sending a team to the Club Championship for the following season.](#)

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. In summary, twelve provincial berths (in each gender) are awarded in total.
 - a. All of these berths are 'standard berths' awarded through the Provincial Qualifiers. There are no pre-qualifying berths in the Club Championship category.
 - b. Clubs with 250 or more members will have the option to enter two (2) teams per gender into Provincial Qualifiers.
 - c. 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.
3. 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 competitors 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.
4. A Club must register a team for the first stage of the competition with a minimum of 4 curlers
5. All team members must be an affiliated member of Curling Alberta and registered member of **the same curling club**, All curlers who have registered in a league at a curling club, and paid the Individual Curler Fee, are deemed eligible to compete for that curling club at the Club Championships, if they've also met all Curling Canada eligibility requirements for the category.
6. **Players now WILL NOT be required to curl on the same team.**
7. 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 5 above. The sub may be a different player each game but an alternate needs to be the same person throughout the entire event.
 - a. A team with a registered alternate player may not add a sub.
 - b. 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.
8. 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.

- a. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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. Any provincial championship that is held after the Club Championship Qualifier deadline date will pertain to next season's eligibility.
- c. 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.
- d. Players who competed in the previous season's Canadian Curling Club Championships are ineligible to compete the following season at any level.
- e. 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.
- f. 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.

- g. 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 round-robin within each pool. The top **three** teams in each pool will qualify for a **six-team** **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. **During RR, each player on each team will deliver a minimum of two LSD's. The 2 LSD's per player can be taken anytime during the round robin but not in the same game and must be one of each rotation. Based on the original team lineup, the four players must complete the minimum number of LSD deliveries. Refer to Competitors Guide for more information regarding Last Stone Draw.**
- e. Round robin game ties are decided by a full extra end or ends if required.
- f. 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)
- g. **Should fewer than six teams qualify for the playoff round, additional team(s) will be granted a berth into the playoffs based on their win/loss record.**

- h. NOTICK 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 center line to be moved to an off-center 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
- i. Pre-game practice procedures are identified in section 1(D)(4) of the Competitors Guide.
- j. 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, **during the round robin**, one clockwise and one counterclockwise, during pool play.
- k. 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.
- l. **Post Round Robin**
 - i. Teams making playoffs must send two (2) team members (i.e. one player and the coach) to the post round robin meeting to be held thirty (30) minutes after the conclusion of; each playoff game, and any subsequent post round robin games. A team that does not attend a post round robin meeting within the allotted time, or is not prepared to make a decision, forfeits the game choices (last stone advantage, stone colour, etc.) to which the team is entitled.
 - ii. Meetings can be held electronically. For example, if we are simply waiting for a team to select colour of stones for a playoff game, it can be texted or e-mailed to the Chief Umpire.
 - iii. Teams must be prepared to select colour of stone and/or hammer at this meeting.

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. If hammer has not been predetermined, teams will notify the Chief Umpire 10 minutes prior to the start of first practice which player will deliver the LSD. Failure to do so will result in an assigned distance of 399.20 cm. The first practice will deliver the clockwise rotation while the second practice will deliver the counterclockwise rotation.
- f. Stone/hammer selection(s) will follow the 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 a 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.

National Registration

Immediately after the final game, the championship team (Team Alberta) will complete the necessary national registration paperwork and be fitted for Team Alberta uniforms. At that time, the team will also receive a National Competitors Guide, which includes essential information for preparing for the Curling Canada Club Championship.