

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://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-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.

Purpose of the Club Championship:

The Curling Club Championships have been designed for curling club teams consisting of curling club members, who support curling club leagues, at the same curling club.

This championship is an opportunity for those curlers that support curling clubs and mostly do not have the time or resources to chase the dream of representing Canada at a World Championship or Olympic Games but still enjoy competitive play and representing their Province or Territory at a Championship.

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

- a) These rules will relate to all levels of the club championship category, up to and including the November 2026 Canadian Curling Club Championships.
- b) Clubs with 250 or more members will have the option to enter two (2) teams per gender into Provincial Qualifiers. Clubs with less than 250 members may only register one (1) team per gender.
- c) 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.
- d) All four (4) competitors and any alternate or substitute must be members in good standing of the same curling club during all levels of competition and must be members of the same club in both years if the provincial is held in a separate season than the nationals.
- e) The curling club will register their representatives for the provincial qualifiers. Individual teams may not register themselves.
- f) A club must register a team for the first stage of the competition with a minimum of four (4) curlers. Should an incomplete team be registered, their registration may be denied by Curling Alberta.
- g) All team members, including alternates and substitutes, must be registered and playing in a league that is affiliated with the team's designated curling club. Players WILL NOT be required to play on the same team.
- h) 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.
- i) It is the responsibility of the designated curling club to provide accurate verification if requested by Curling Alberta.
- j) Each four-person team must consist of players who, during the previous season, did NOT participate in the Canadian Curling Club Championships.
- k) Each four-person team must consist of a minimum of three (3) players who during the previous three (3) seasons, did NOT participate in a Curling Canada national championship leading to a World Championship (U-20, Women's, Men's, Seniors), an Olympic qualifying event (Pre-Trials, Trials), or a Grand Slam of Curling event (Tier 1 or Tier 2).
- l) Each four-person team must consist of a minimum of three (3) players who during the previous three (3) seasons, did NOT qualify for the playoffs in the men's, women's, U20, senior, or mixed doubles provincial championships. This does not include the U20 mixed doubles.

Definition of the curling seasons as follows:

- Provincial Championship to be competed March 2026 (2025-2026 season)
- The events noted above include the previous three (3) seasons being 2024-2025, 2023-2024, 2022-2023
- Competitive seasons defined as August 1 to July 31

- m) Any category where the provincial championship is held following the Club Championship **date to declare intent (February 1)** will pertain to next season's eligibility. For example, if a senior's team qualifies for the playoffs in the 2025-2026 season, they will not be eligible for the 2026-2027 season as the championship is held after February 1st.
- n) The use of the delivery stick by any competitor is acceptable. Wheelchairs may also be used. Curling Alberta should be notified of wheelchair usage so appropriate accommodations can be made.
- o) The substitute may be a different player each game, but an alternate needs to be the same person throughout the entire event.
- p) A team with a registered alternate player may not add a substitute. A maximum of one (1) alternate from the team's club is allowed at any level of competition.
- q) A team must always maintain two (2) of three (3) OR three (3) of four (4) original rostered players on the ice during the event. Alternates are not considered as one of the four (4) originally rostered players.
- r) A minimum of **two (2) players** must be a minimum of nineteen (19) years of age or over as of December 31st immediately prior to the national championships.
- s) Players under the age of nineteen (19) shall be considered a "minor". They 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.
- t) 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 prior to the February 1st deadline.

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 (3) separate Provincial Qualifiers (PQs) will be offered.
- b) 12 teams of each gender will be awarded Provincial berths. All these berths are "standard berths". There are no pre-qualifying berths in the Club Championship category.
- c) Seeding of PQs will not occur.
- d) The draw and schedule for the Provincial Qualifiers will be supplied to the registered clubs and posted on the Curling Alberta website. Note, the clubs are responsible for sharing the draw and schedule with their teams.
- e) 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.
- f) Teams will deliver one (1) Last Stone Draw (LSD) for Last Stone First End (LSFE) immediately following their pre-game practice (no per player requirement).
- g) NO TICK RULE will apply.

C. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a) The event will be a twelve-team championship in each gender, with two (2) pools of six (6) teams playing a Round Robin within each pool. The top three (3) 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 (2) pools. Curling

teams from the northern, central, and southern regions will be as evenly distributed, as possible, between the two pools, ensuring balanced regional representation across both Pool A and Pool B.

- c) All Round Robin (RR) games are 8 ends (no minimum # of ends) and are not timed.
- d) During the 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. Teams and/or coaches are responsible for tracking their players' rotations to ensure both rotations are thrown. 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 (6) teams qualify for the playoff round, additional team(s) will be granted a berth into the playoffs based on their win/loss record.
- h) NO TICK RULE will apply.
- i) Pre-game practice procedures are identified in Section 1(D)(4) of the Competitors Guide.
- j) Teams will draw for Last Stone First End (LSFE), 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 (1) clockwise and one (1) 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. Jeans are not acceptable in the Field of Play, at any time, in any category.
- 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 game(s). 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 color, 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 color of stones for a playoff game, it can be texted or e-mailed to the Chief Umpire.
 - iii. Teams must be prepared to select color of stone and/or LSFE at this meeting.
- m) PLAYOFFS - the 6-team elimination format shall be as follows:
 - i. 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
 - ii. 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).
 - iii. The winners of games 3 and 4 will compete in the final to determine a Champion.

- iv. If Last Stone First End (LSFE) is predetermined, the team with Last Stone First End will have first practice.
- v. If LSFE 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.
- vi. Stone/LSFE 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 Last Stone First End (LSFE) and choice of stone color in the playoffs.
- b. If teams have the same W/L record, the team that won the round robin game will have CHOICE of Last Stone First End (LSFE) 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 Last Stone First End (LSFE). 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 LSFE 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 LSFE.

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.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Event funding from Curling Canada: As outlined within the Curling Canada policy found here.
<https://www.curling.ca/about-us/policies/>