



## Stick Curling Provincials & Nationals – FAQ

### **What changed? Why did Curling Alberta originally say there would be a national berth for the winner of the Stick Curling Club Championships?**

Leading into this season, Curling Alberta communicated that Stick Curling Club Champion would have access to a national berth. That understanding was based on the information available at the time and was consistent with the previous season.

What has since changed is a decision by the **Canadian Stick Curling Association (CSCA) to change the format and berth allocations of the National Stick Curling Championships.**

When the national championship structure was being determined by the CSCA, Alberta's representative advocated for a model that *would* have guaranteed provincial representation, including a berth for Alberta. That position, however, was not supported by the majority and was ultimately defeated. Following that decision, Alberta's representative resigned, which also unfortunately severed a direct line of communication between the CSCA and Curling Alberta.

It's also worth noting that Curling Alberta is currently the **only member association running a club-based provincial stick curling championship**, although we hope this model gains traction across the country over time.

Through further confirmation with ASCA, Curling Alberta now understands that:

- Alberta has **three guaranteed national entries** (Men, Women, Mixed), all filled through ASCA processes.
- The Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion currently sits **deep in the national backfill process** and is **not guaranteed** a national entry.
- Given division caps and existing waitlists, it is **very unlikely** that the Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion will be selected for Nationals in most cases.

As soon as this was fully clarified, Curling Alberta updated clubs and curlers so that decisions could be made with accurate information. We recognize the confusion this caused and appreciate everyone's patience.

### **1. Does winning the Curling Alberta Stick Club Championships guarantee a spot at Nationals?**

No. Winning the Curling Alberta Stick Club Championships does **not** guarantee entry into the Canadian Stick Curling Championships.

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### **2. Who controls Alberta's entries to the Canadian Stick Curling Championships (Nova Scotia)?**

The **Alberta Stick Curling Association (ASCA)** controls Alberta's entries. Curling Alberta does **not** administer or allocate national berths for stick curling.

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### **3. How many guaranteed spots does Alberta have at Nationals?**

Alberta has **three guaranteed spots**:

- Men
- Women
- Mixed

These spots are filled through **ASCA processes**, not Curling Alberta events.

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### **4. Where does the Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion fit in nationally?**

The Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion currently sits at **priority 17** in the national backfill process. Only **12 teams** are accepted into the Championship Division, making national selection **very unlikely**.

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### **5. Can the Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion enter the Challenge Division?**

- **Women's teams:** possibly, depending on availability
- **Men's or Mixed teams:** no — those divisions are already full and waitlisted

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## 6. Is there any scenario where the Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion could attend Nationals?

Yes, but it is limited and not guaranteed. If:

- A team qualified through ASCA **declines to attend**, and
- The Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion is in the **same category**,

then that entry *may* be offered to the Curling Alberta champion.

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## 7. Should clubs still register teams for the Curling Alberta Stick Club Championships?

Yes — but with clear expectations.

The event remains a Curling Alberta–sanctioned provincial championship but **does not guarantee** a national berth.


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## 8. Which event will the Curling Alberta champion attend?

If the Alberta Stick Curling Club Champion does not receive a berth to the Canadian Stick Curling Championships, Curling Alberta will ensure the champion has the opportunity to compete at the:

### World Open Stick Curling Championship

 Saville Community Sports Centre

 April 17–19, 2026

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### Is this guaranteed?

**Yes.** Curling Alberta has committed to this pathway so that:

- Winning the Curling Alberta Stick Club Championships **leads to a meaningful next competitive opportunity**
- Teams are not left without a clear outcome due to national berth limitations

**Who covers the registration cost for the World Open event?**

Curling Alberta will **cover the registration fee** for the Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion to compete at the World Open Stick Curling Championship, should this pathway be required.

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**Does this apply regardless of category (Men, Women, Mixed)?**

Yes. The Curling Alberta Stick Club Champion will be supported to attend the World Open Stick Curling Championship **regardless of category**, if a Canadian Championship berth is not available.

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**Why was this pathway created?**

This pathway was established to:

- Provide certainty and clarity to clubs and curlers
  - Ensure Curling Alberta champions are rewarded with a high-quality competitive opportunity
  - Remove uncertainty caused by factors outside Curling Alberta's control at the national level
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**9. Who should we contact with questions?**

- **Alberta Stick Curling Club Championships:** Curling Alberta
- **ASCA championships or national entries:** Alberta Stick Curling Association