IT'S OUR HOUSE

THIRTIETH EDITION • JULY 2026

Celebrating Excellence - A Night to Remember, Curling Alberta Awards Highlights

Every season, our community comes together to compete, grow, and support one another. The Curling Alberta Awards give us a moment to pause and celebrate the incredible people, volunteers, ice technicians, coaches, officials, and athletes, who bring heart to our sport day after day.

Key Highlights & Honourees:

- **Honouring Val Leahy:** The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented in memory of Val Leahy, celebrating her enduring legacy of generosity, inclusion, and tireless dedication across Southern Alberta following her passing on New Years 2026.

- **Celebrating Milestones & Achievements:**
  - **13th Nationals Appearance:** Cheering on a veteran team as they head back to the national stage.
  - **Junior Program Growth:** Recognizing a thriving youth program that doubled its registration this season.
  - **100 Years of History:** Celebrating a remarkable century of curling at the North Hill Curling Club.
  - **Small-Town Impact:** Highlighting Tofield's local club, proving that big community spirit comes in every package size.
  - **Heartfelt Coaching Tribute:** Honouring a retiring coach whose profound mentorship left his players at a loss for words.

Congratulations to all, this year's deserving recipients, and a sincere thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate these local Champions. What an extraordinary community we get to be part of!

'Click' below for more Curling Alberta News & other Curling 'biters'

- 1st END — Youth Sportsmanship Award
- 2nd END — Volunteer of the Year Award
- 3rd END — Team of the Year Award
- 4th END — Official of the Year Award
- 5th END — Ice Technician of the year Award
- 6th END — Instructor of the Year Award
- 7th END — Coach of the Year Award
- 8th END — Clubs of the Year Award
- 9th END — President's Award
- 10th END — Partner of the Year Award
- 11th END — 2025-2026 Championss
- EXTRA ENDs — Curling Canada Professional development for Educators
- EXTRA ENDs — Club Development Updates
- EXTRA ENDs — Provincial Qualifier/ Championship Schedule
- EXTRA ENDs — Strathcona Canada Day
- EXTRA ENDs — Rocks & Rings
- EXTRA ENDs — Curling Across Canada
- EXTRA ENDs — Fair Play Panel
- EXTRA ENDs — Statement: Curling Alberta

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Sportsmanship is about far more than what happens during a game. Rhett Mallioux demonstrates that every day through his leadership, willingness to help others, and commitment to making the curling experience better for everyone around him. This year's Youth Sportsmanship Award recipient has become an important part of the Wainwright Curling Club and curling community, with contributions that go well beyond what would typically be expected of someone his age.

From the time the ice goes in until the last junior curler leaves the rink, Rhett is there. He helps with ice preparation, works alongside coaches, and steps in wherever he's needed, no task too big or too small. His willingness to pitch in has made him a valued member of the club.

What truly sets Rhett apart is his passion for helping young curlers develop a love for the game. Whether he's encouraging a first-time curler or patiently working with a developing player, he brings the same positive attitude and enthusiasm every time. Younger athletes look up to him, and the coaches and volunteers around him appreciate the example he sets.

Rhett embodies the spirit of the Youth Sportsmanship Award through his dedication, humility, and commitment to giving back to his club, community and fellow curlers. Congratulations, Rhett, on this well-deserved recognition.

Curling Alberta, Executive Director, Jill Groves & Rhett Mallioux

RME

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There are volunteers, and then there is Val Leahy. For decades, Val poured her heart into the curling community, giving her time, her energy, and her warmth to clubs across Southern Alberta - from Taber to Crowsnest Pass to the Granite Club in Coaldale. She didn't volunteer for recognition. She did it because she loved people, and she loved this sport.

Val's presence extended well beyond her home clubs. You could find her at events hosted by Curling Alberta, Curling Canada, and even World Curling, always ready to roll up her sleeves and do whatever needed to be done. New curler or seasoned veteran, it didn't matter — Val had a remarkable ability to make everyone feel genuinely welcome and supported.

She was especially dedicated to opening the doors of curling to people of all ages and backgrounds, believing that the sport was for everyone. That inclusive spirit became her hallmark, and it has shaped the strong, welcoming curling culture that thrives across Southern Alberta today.

We lost Val on New Year's 2026, and her absence is felt deeply. But her legacy is alive and well. Bonspiels have been held in her honour, fundraising efforts have been woven into events across the region, and the countless lives she touched carry her spirit forward. Val Leahy was everything a volunteer should be — generous, compassionate, tireless, and joyful. This award is a small token of the enormous gratitude the curling community holds for her.

Kevin & Teagan Leahy, accepting on behalf of Val Leahy

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Some teams are built for a season. This team is built for history. With this year's provincial championship, skip Martin Purvis is heading to nationals for an extraordinary 13th time, and Wendy Frazier is making her 10th national appearance.

But this team is about far more than past accolades. They're actively competing and winning right now. At the Leduc Event National Program competition they finished fourth, while Terry Fowler took home silver in mixed wheelchair curling doubles. Wendy, never one to slow down, earned silver with her stick curling partner at provincials. These aren't just participation ribbons — this team is consistently performing at the top of the game across multiple disciplines.

The future of the team is equally exciting. Terry's continued involvement with the NextGen National Program is helping shape the next generation of high-performance curlers. Meanwhile, Kendra Omaha is rapidly developing as a competitor, bringing a powerful athletic foundation from her wheelchair basketball background and translating it into serious curling skill. Her growth this season has been a genuine highlight to watch.

What makes this team remarkable isn't just what they've won — it's the dedication behind every result. Balancing the demands of high-level competition, personal development, and program commitments takes commitment that most athletes can only aspire to. This team brings it every single time. Congratulations to a truly exceptional group of athletes.

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Kim Weaver accepting Official of the Year Award

SENTINEL STORAGE

Every great competition needs a steady hand behind the scenes, and in Kim Weaver, Curling Alberta has exactly that. As a top-tier umpire, Kim brings a combination of sharp analytical thinking and a calm, professional demeanor that makes her an absolute pleasure to work with — whether you're a fellow official, a player, or an event organizer.

When situations arise on the ice — and in competitive curling, they always do — Kim doesn't rush. She takes the time to fully understand the problem, carefully weighs the factors at play, and arrives at sound, fair decisions that all parties can respect. That process, done consistently and with confidence, is the hallmark of a truly excellent official.

What also stands out about Kim is her interpersonal approach. Officiating can be a thankless job, but Kim brings a positive energy to every event she works. She communicates clearly, treats everyone with respect, and creates an atmosphere where the focus stays on the game. Her reputation among players and organizers alike reflects a career built on integrity and care for the sport.

Curling doesn't happen without people like Kim in the background making sure it runs smoothly and fairly. This award is a well-deserved recognition of a professional who quietly and consistently makes

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Ask any serious curler and they'll tell you: great ice makes great curling.

At the Fort McMurray Oilsands Curling Club, great ice means Becky Fadden. In her first year as Head Ice Tech and Club Manager, Becky has done nothing short of transforming what's possible for her club — and she's done it all with enthusiasm, professionalism, and a genuine love for the sport.

Becky's technical skill is evident in the ice she produces day after day. She has tackled genuine challenges, blocked cooling systems, complex HVAC configurations, and the unique quirks of her facility, not by shying away from them, but by proactively seeking guidance from experienced professionals and finding solutions. She hasn't just learned on the job; she's thrived on it, training club members and recommending facility improvements to ensure the club's long-term sustainability.

What truly sets Becky apart, though, is that she is so much more than an ice technician. She's a programmer, a welcomer, a coach, and a community builder. Her drive to develop programming that opens curling to all ages and abilities has become one of the club's most valuable assets. She genuinely believes curling is a sport for everyone, and she works tirelessly to prove it, running events, coaching young curlers, and spreading an infectious passion that you simply can't manufacture.

Supported by her husband Clay, who pitches in without hesitation, Becky has built something special in Fort McMurray. She arrives early, stays late, and does it all with a smile and a sparkle in her eyes for a sport she clearly adores. Her energy defines the club culture. Her ice defines the game. And her heart defines what curling at its best can be.

Congratulations, Becky! This one is absolutely earned.

Becky Fadden accepting Ice Technician of the Year Award from Cori Morris & Atina Ford Johnston

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In Sexsmith, if you want to find Amanda Sparks, just follow the sound of kids laughing on the ice. As the heart and soul of the Sexsmith Junior Curling Program, Amanda doesn't just run a program, she builds curlers, builds friendships, and builds confidence in every young person who steps onto her sheets.

This past season, Amanda coordinated and ran sessions for over 50 junior curlers across two age groups, grades 2 through 6, and grades 7 and up, with programming both before and after the holiday break. In a small community, that kind of participation is extraordinary, and it doesn't happen by accident. Amanda works hard to recruit volunteers, tailor sessions to individual skill levels, and ensure every single child feels seen and supported. She knows every kid by name. She shows up, every time.

But Amanda's impact doesn't stop when the session ends. She goes out of her way to find opportunities for kids who want more, connecting one junior to a superleague team, helping others play in their first bonspiel, and making sure every eager young curler has a path forward. She also brings the sport into local schools as part of physical education curricula and traveled to Grimshaw to run junior and adult clinics, expanding her reach far beyond her home club.

Amanda also organizes the Junior Funspiel and the U18 Cashspiel, two events that give young curlers memorable competitive experiences. When one young participant was asked what she loves most about Amanda's program, her answer was simple: "She makes curling fun." That, in a nutshell, is Amanda's superpower. She is a remarkable instructor, a tireless volunteer, and an absolute treasure to junior curling in Alberta.

Congratulations, Amanda!

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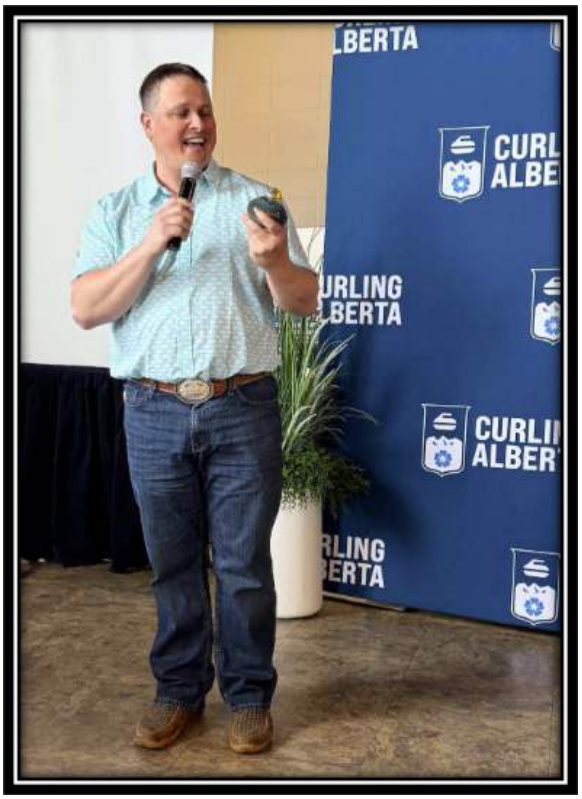
There are coaches who teach the game, and then there are coaches who change lives. Coach Mike Landry is the latter. Known for his boundless generosity and his genuine care for every person around him, Mike has been far more than a tactical leader, he's been a friend, a mentor, and a constant source of support for curlers at every level.

What makes Mike extraordinary is that his commitment has never been limited to his own team. If you needed help, whether it was your skip or your skip shot, whether it was on the ice or off it, Mike was there. He has given his time freely and without condition to anyone in the curling community who needed a hand, a piece of advice, or just someone in their corner.

As this year marks Coach Mike's final season behind the rocks, the curling community has the opportunity to say thank you properly, and this award is exactly that. His legacy isn't measured in wins or standings; it's measured in the confidence he instilled, the passion he sparked, and the community he helped build one curler at a time. Coach Mike would never ask for this recognition.

That's precisely why he deserves it!



Mike Landry accepting his Coach of the Year Award

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North Hill Curling Club - Calgary

One hundred years of curling on the North Hill. Let that sink in. Since 1925, the North Hill Curling Club has been a fixture in Calgary's sporting community and this centennial season has been a celebration worthy of that remarkable milestone.

North Hill isn't just well-established; it's thriving. With leagues running virtually every day of the week, the club serves an enormous and diverse membership. The commitment to growing the game is evident in its layered junior programming: a welcoming Friday night program for beginners sits alongside a rigorous Advanced Junior Development program for competitive U-15 and U-18 teams, selected annually through a formal application process. Learn to Curl events and clinics round out an offering that truly covers the full spectrum of the sport.

Perhaps most meaningfully, North Hill has been the proud home of Apollo Curling, Calgary's 2SLGBTQ+ league, for over 30 years. That speaks to a club culture that has long understood that curling should be for everyone, well before it became a talking point in the sport. Underpinning it all is ice that has earned a reputation as some of the finest in Calgary for decades. Happy 100th, North Hill.

Here's to 100 more.

Tofield Curling Club - Small Town, Big Heart

You don't need to be big to make a big difference.

The Tofield Curling Club has proven that in spades this season, and the curling community is taking notice.

In a climate where clubs across the province are struggling to maintain membership, Tofield has done the opposite by growing, innovating, and energizing its community with a contagious enthusiasm for the sport. Most impressively, the club's junior program doubled in size from 10 participants to 20 in a single season, with even more growth expected next year. That kind of momentum doesn't happen without exceptional leadership and genuine community investment.

This year also saw the debut of Glow Curling at Tofield, a wildly popular addition that brought new and veteran curlers alike to the club in the spirit of fun. Alongside that, the club's volunteers have mentored three young men who launched a high school curling team this season, opening yet another pathway to the sport for the next generation. Add in successful men's, women's, and mixed leagues, plus ongoing facility improvements, and you have a club that is punching well above its weight. Tofield is a shining example of what passion, dedication, and a great volunteer crew can accomplish.

Mighty aspirations, mightier results.

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No ordinary, Joe!

If you want to understand what Joe Brown means to the curling community in Calgary, start with his credentials, and then look beyond them, because that's where Joe really lives.

Certified across every club coaching course available, Joe doesn't just hold those qualifications, he delivers them, facilitating the very programs that certify the next generation of curling coaches. His formal expertise is matched only by his commitment to putting it to work at every level of the sport. Through the SportHub program, Joe has brought curling to youth and low-income individuals across Calgary, opening the door to a sport that might otherwise have felt out of reach.

His fingerprints are all over the high-performance landscape too. As a Ready to Rock coach, Joe has attended Rockfest and Rockfest West Qualifiers, supporting athletes in their development as competitive curlers. He has also volunteered as an AthleteCAN helper at PointsBet Invitational, contributing to the broader ecosystem that supports Canada's curling athletes.

What the resume doesn't capture is the spirit behind all of it, a genuine, selfless drive to grow curling for everyone, from first-time participants to national-level competitors. Joe Brown is exactly the kind of person this award was created to honour.

Congratulations, Joe, and thank you for everything you give to this great sport!

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NORTHERN ALBERTA
CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP SOCIETY

Strong partnerships are essential to the success of curling in Alberta, and few organizations have demonstrated that commitment more consistently than the Northern Alberta Curling Championship Society (NACCS). In recognition of their lasting impact on the sport, NACCS has been named Curling Alberta's 2026 Partner of the Year.

For many years, NACCS has invested in initiatives that strengthen curling across the province, supporting clubs, enhancing championships, and helping build a sustainable future for the sport. Through its Legacy Fund and ongoing partnership with Curling Alberta, NACCS has helped create opportunities that benefit athletes, volunteers, and curling communities alike.

NACCS's commitment extends beyond financial support. Their shared vision for growing the sport and strengthening clubs has made them a trusted and valued partner, helping ensure curling continues to thrive across Alberta for years to come.

Congratulations to the Northern Alberta Curling Championship Society on being named Curling Alberta's 2026 Partner of the Year and thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to the future of curling in Alberta.

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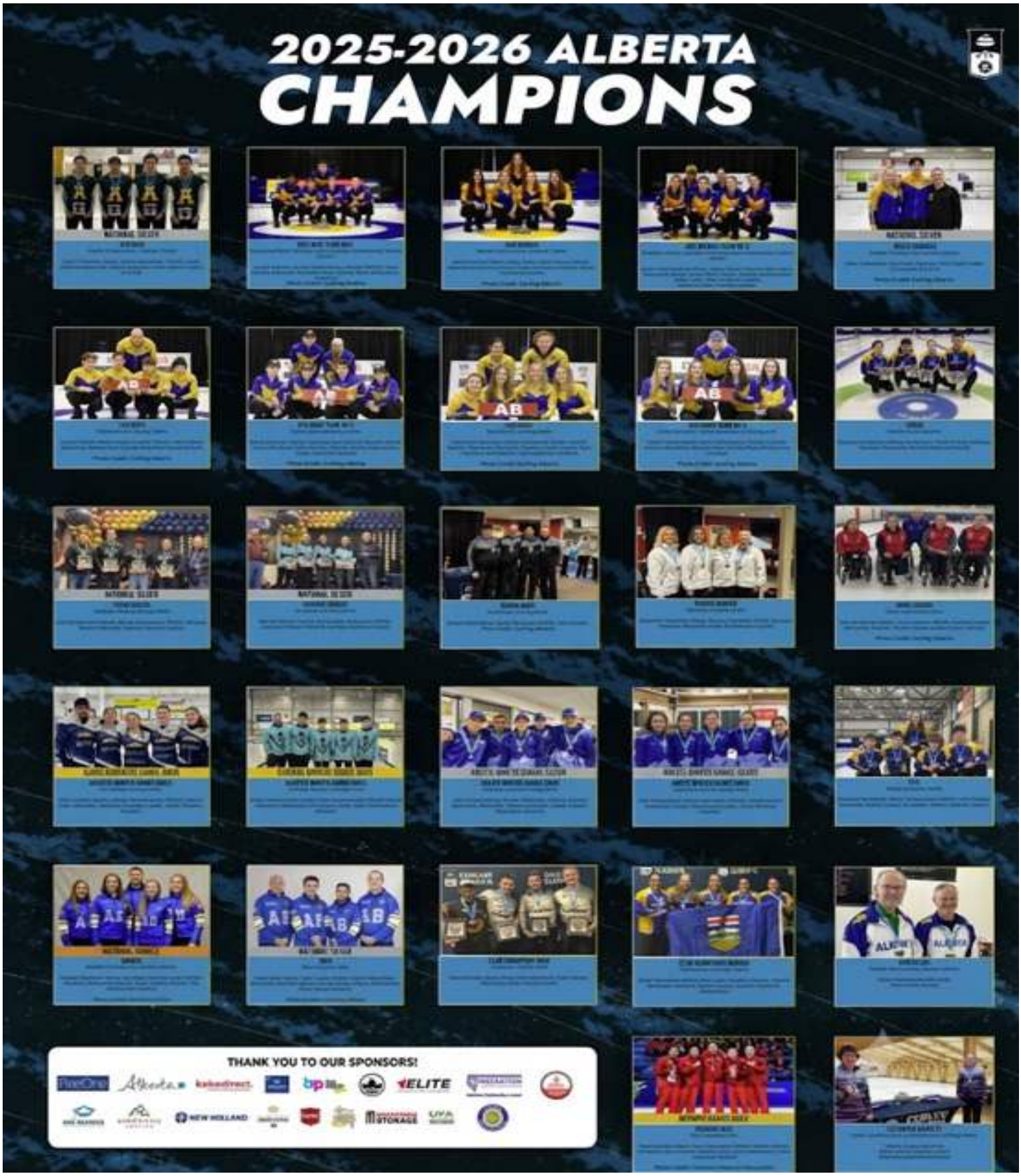

Click link for detail, https://curlingalberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/202526-Champions-Poster.png

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Curling Alberta is proud to partner with Curling Canada to bring this professional development opportunity to educators across the province.

This engaging two-hour professional development session combines both on-ice and off-ice learning to introduce educators to curling safety, delivery mechanics, sweeping, and game strategy. Designed for PE teachers, coaches, and teacher advisors, the session provides practical tools to build confidence in teaching curling and explores ways to incorporate the sport into the classroom.

The program aligns with Alberta's curriculum and Curling Canada's Long-Term Curler Development framework, making it a valuable learning opportunity for educators of all experience levels.

Interested in learning more? Read about the success of the pilot program in Saskatchewan: **https://www.curling.ca/blog/2026/06/24/curling-canada-empowers-educators-with-new-pilot-program/**

Registration is Now Open!

If you're interested in attending, Click on the links below for location and date/time...

Edmonton Area
October 19, 2026 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Sherwood Park Curling Club
Click HERE to Register

Calgary Area
November 27, 2026 | 12:30 - 2:30 PM
Inglewood Golf & Curling Club
Click HERE to Register

Calgary Area
November 27, 2026 | 2:30 - 4:30 PM
Inglewood Golf & Curling Club
Click HERE to Register

Questions? Contact Lesley at **lesley.mcewan@curlingalberta.ca**.

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Curling Beyond the Ice: Strengthening Alberta's Clubs & Communities.

Beyond the action on the ice are the dedicated volunteers, coaches, ice techs, and leaders who keep local curling thriving.

In the 2025–2026 season, Curling Alberta partnered with over 160 affiliated clubs to build stronger, more sustainable community hubs.

Season Highlights

- **Club Support:** Connected facilities to funding, tech, and governance tools. The new Member Club News Hub saved valuable volunteer time by centralizing key resources.
- **Safe Sport:** Launched the Alberta Safe Sport Complaint Mechanism alongside updated policies to ensure safe, welcoming environments.
- **Community Outreach:** Engaged 5,000+ fans via World Women's Championship activations and filled Try Curling events to introduce new participants to the sport.
- **Skill Development:** Delivered 4 U18 camps, qualified 4 teams for U20 Nationals, certified 38 ice techs, and launched a provincial Ice Tech Team for direct club mentorship.
- **Data & Advocacy:** Improved tracking systems and surveys to better address local club needs and guide provincial planning.

Strong curling clubs are built through dedicated people and targeted support. By empowering leaders and expanding access, Curling Alberta ensures the sport remains a vibrant pillar of local communities.

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curling alberta calendar of events 2026 2027

WOMEN

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Dec. 4-6 Dec. 3-6 Dec. 17-20 (LC)	Grande Prairie Innisfail Jasper Place	Oct. 30 Oct. 28 Oct. 28	Nov. 23	Jan. 10-17 Drayton Valley	Feb. 12-21,2027 Charlottetown, PEI

MEN

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Dec. 4-6 Dec. 3-6 Dec. 17-20 (LC)	Grande Prairie Leduc Brooks	Oct. 30 Oct. 28 Oct. 28	Nov. 23	Jan 10-17 Drayton Valley	Feb. 26-Mar 7, 2027 Saskatoon, SK

U20

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Dec. 18-20 Jan. 7-10 Jan. 7-10	Grande Prairie Brooks Spruce Grove	Nov. 13 Nov. 11 Nov. 11	Nov. 30	Feb. 3-7 Airdrie CC	Mar. 20-28, 2027 Riviere-du-Loup, QC

U18

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Jan. 8-10 Jan. 14-17 Jan. 14-17	Grande Prairie Carstairs Sylvan Lake	Dec. 4 Dec. 2 Dec. 2	Nov. 30	Feb. 17-21 Fort McMurray	Apr. 18-24, 2027 Okotoks, AB

MASTERS

Dates	Locations	Deadline		Provincials	Canadians
Jan. 15-18 (Fri-Mon) Jan. 21-24 Jan. 21-24	Fort Saskatchewan Strathmore Grande Prairie	Dec. 16 Dec. 16 Dec. 18	Men Only*	Feb. 11-15 Red Deer	TBA

MIXED DOUBLES

Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Jan. 27	Mar. 1	Mar. 17-21 Cold Lake	TBA

Provincial Qualifiers

register at https://curlingalberta.ca/

Full qualifier dates and registration deadlines are on the **Curling Alberta website**. Good luck to all our teams this season!

Looking to Get Involved?

Volunteers are the heart of every curling event, and there are plenty of ways to get involved.

Curling Alberta Provincial Championships

Local host committees are always looking for volunteers to assist with planning, event operations, hospitality, timing, sponsorship, and many more. Interested? Email: info@curlingalberta.ca and we'll connect you with the local host committee.

Curling Canada Championships

Volunteer opportunities are also available for the 2027 Season of Champions, including the Montana's Brier (Saskatoon), Scotties Tournament of Hearts (Charlottetown), and BKT World Men's Curling Championship (Saint John). Visit curling.ca/volunteer to learn more and register.

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U15

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Points Deadline	Provincials
Jan. 22-24 Jan. 21-24 Jan. 28-31	Grande Prairie Lamont Sundre	Dec. 18 Dec. 16 Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Mar. 11-14 TBA

SENIORS

	Dates	Locations	Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Men	Jan. 21-24 Feb. 4-7 Feb. 4-7	Grande Prairie Claresholm Wainwright	Dec. 18 Dec. 16 Dec. 16	Mar. 10-14 Thistle Edmonton	TBA
Women	Jan. 21-24 Jan. 21-24	Grande Prairie Rocky Mnt. Hs.	Dec. 18 Dec. 16	Mar. 10-14 Thistle Edmonton	TBA

MIXED

Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Feb. 10	Feb. 24-28 TBA	TBA

WHEELCHAIR

Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Feb. 10	Mar. 19-21 Leduc	Apr. 19-24, 2027 Richmond, BC

U20 MIXED DOUBLES

Deadline	Provincials
Feb. 24	Mar. 31 - Apr. 4 Cold Lake

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dates	Locations	Deadline	Provincials	Canadians
Mar. 4-7 (Men) Mar. 4-7 (Women) Mar. 4-7 (Men) Mar. 4-7 (Women) Mar. 5-7 (Men & Women)	Lethbridge Okotoks Granite Spruce Grove Fairview	Feb. 1 Intent Mar. 1 Roster	Mar. 31 - Apr. 4 Cochrane	TBA

Provincial Qualifiers

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What a way to kick off the summer! Canada Day celebrations were in full swing at the **Strathcona County Canada Day Festival in Sherwood Park**, where the Curling Alberta Express Rink, proudly sponsored by Sentinel Storage, gave festival-goers a chance to experience curling in a fun and welcoming way.

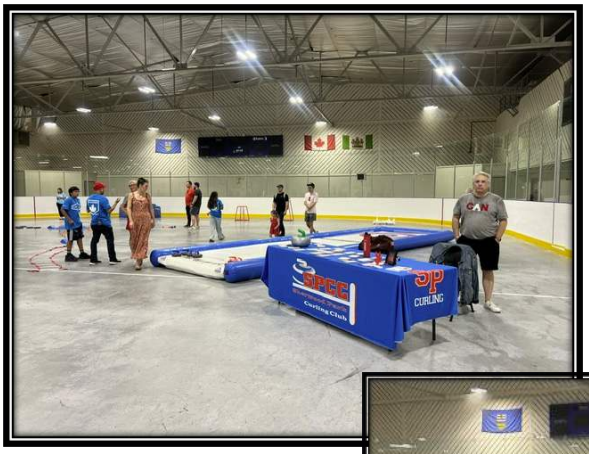
Set up by the Sherwood Park Curling Club in the Sportzone inside the Shell Arena, the Express Rink welcomed curlers of all ages from 10am to 5pm. Hundreds of people streamed through the arena over the course of the day, with a steady crowd stopping to watch, cheer, and give curling a try.

The biggest hit of the day? Our youngest curlers! Kids aged roughly 2 to 10 dominated the ice, sliding rocks with big grins and even bigger effort — with plenty of proud parents and grandparents snapping photos along the way. It was a fantastic reminder of why grassroots, come-try-it programs like the Express Rink matter: they put curling in front of families who might never otherwise set foot in a rink, and they do it in the most fun way possible.

It wasn't all smooth sailing — the building's airflow left our volunteers and participants pretty warm by the afternoon — but that didn't slow anyone down. The energy stayed high from open to close.

We also want to pass along a huge thank-you from the festival organizers, who called the day's turnout and engagement **excellent**, with strong interaction across a wide range of ages throughout the event.

A massive thank you to **Sentinel Storage** for sponsoring the Express Rink this summer and helping bring curling to a whole new audience, to the Strathcona County Canada Day Festival organizers for having the **Sherwood Park Curling Club**, and to every volunteer and leader who kept things running throughout



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The 2025-26 season marked an exciting new chapter for Egg Farmers Rocks & Rings, presented by Curling Canada.

In the first year of an expanded partnership with Curling Alberta, the program reached more students than ever before, introducing thousands of young Albertans to the sport through fun, inclusive, and active curling experiences.

Throughout the school year, the Alberta Rocks & Rings team delivered programming in communities across the province, providing **66,377 student experiences** over **365 days** of programming. Bookings increased by more than **28%** over last season, making Alberta one of the program's fastest-growing regions. Beyond the gymnasium, more than **10,000 Alberta students** also explored curling through the Rocks & Rings online education portal with their teachers.

These results are a testament to the dedication of the Rocks & Rings instructors and the strength of the partnership between Curling Alberta and Curling Canada. Together, we're introducing more young people to curling and helping build the future of our sport across the province.

To learn more about the incredible impact of Rocks & Rings across Canada this season, view the 2025-26 Alberta Rocks & Rings **Year End Report here**. https://curlingalberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/RR-Year-End-Curling-Partner-Report-2025-26.pdf

Thank you to the entire Rocks & Rings team for an outstanding season. We look forward to continuing our partnership and building on this momentum in the years ahead.

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Curling Canada is seeking qualified individuals with expertise in curling and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to join its Fair Play Panel under the Sport Integrity Policy Suite. Panelists will provide neutral third-party mediation and arbitration services to resolve conflicts across national, provincial, and community levels, handling an anticipated two to three cases per year. Successful candidates will serve a two- or three-year term, receiving a $2,000 annual honorarium.

Selection will prioritize candidates with a strong understanding of the Canadian sport ecosystem, the Rules of Curling, and key governance frameworks such as the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS). Professional ADR designations (such as Q.Med or C.Arb), trauma-informed training, and bilingualism are considered strong assets.

Interested applicants must submit a resume highlighting relevant dispute resolution experience alongside a detailed statement of intent addressing their curling system knowledge, recent ADR experience, and expected contributions to the panel. A reference letter from a relevant curling organization may also be requested. Please reference this link to obtain more detail of the role...**FAIR PLAY PANEL OPPORTUNITY**.

Applications should be emailed to Jennifer Ferris, Head of Sport Integrity and Education (jennifer.ferris@curling.ca), by August 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. ET.

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IT'S OUR HOUSE

THIRTIETH EDITION • JULY 2026

It all started in 1996 in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Looking to extend the fun of our local ladies league, we took our first road trip to a bonspiel in Dawson Creek, B.C. That weekend was such a blast that we decided to do it again the following year, and just never stopped.

Our criteria was simple: the bonspiel had to be far enough away to warrant a hotel room, and unless it was an emergency, we weren't allowed to call home!

Winner of the "B" Event in the 1996 Dawson Creek Ladies Open Bonspiel was the Louise Brown foursome from Grande Prairie which downed the Gail Stefanyk rink from Dawson Creek in the final on Sunday afternoon. Left to right, Louise Brown, Dawna Robinson, Edna Ellis and Candis Chateauneuf. (Photo by Day Roberts).

The Peace Region was the perfect birthplace for our tradition. Local clubs offered tireless volunteers, excellent banquets, and uproarious good times. We'd check the bulletin board at the Grande Prairie Curling Club, divvy up tasks (entering the team, booking hotels, arranging drivers), brainstorm our themed costumes, and hit the road.

Life threw a few curveballs along the way:

- 1999: Candis suffered a twisted bowel (affectionately remembered as the year she "got her shit in a knot") and we brought in a spare.

- 2000: Louise's family moved to Ottawa, but she agreed to go on one condition—she'd fly back home every year for the Road Trip.

Through health scares, losses, weddings, graduations, and becoming grandmas, friendship always prevailed. Over two decades, we curled across Alberta and B.C. (and even flew down to Victoria). Eventually, the Grande Prairie crew flew east to join Louise in Ottawa.

By 2017, realizing we had already curled in three provinces, a grand idea took root: curl in **every Canadian province and territory.**

Since then, our quest has taken us to:

- Manitoba (Gimli)
- Saskatchewan (Weyburn)
- Quebec (Montebello)
- New Brunswick (Oromocto)
- Nova Scotia (Pictou County)
- P.E.I. (Souris)
- Yukon (Whitehorse)

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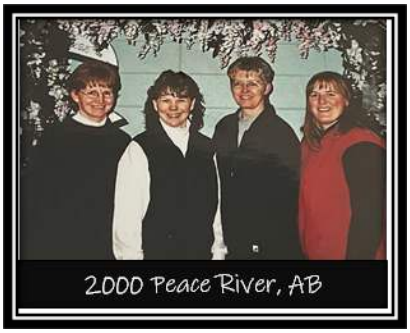
"A Road Trip is never 'only' about curling."

Off the ice, we've skated, snowshoed, dog-sledded, skied, watched eclipses, dipped our toes in two oceans, and been welcomed with open arms by small towns everywhere.

Are we a great curling team? We're not too bad, we win as much as we lose. Half the time we can't even remember the final scores, but we always remember the joy of traveling together and our deep love for curling, Canada, and each other.

With only **Newfoundland, Northwest Territories**, and **Nunavut** left on our list, we aren't done yet! If you know of an upcoming bonspiel or opportunity in those regions, we'd love to hear from you.

— Candis, Edna, Dawna, and Louise



2000 Peace River, AB

2004 Manning, AB

2003 Fort St. John,

2002 Whitecourt, AB

2009 Jasper, AB

Oromocto, NB 2019

Bonspieling as Super Curlers at the Whitehorse ladies bonspiel 2025

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Curling Alberta wishes to address the controversy arising from the 2024 Awards Ceremony. At that event, a video was played as part of the Team of the Year presentation and was intended to celebrate that team's accomplishments.

Curling Alberta recognizes that it was not well-received by some members of the curling community and that some individuals experienced it differently than intended. We acknowledge and respect those perspectives and regret that some members were hurt by the experience.

Curling Alberta extends its sincere apologies to those who were affected and reaffirms its commitment to fostering a welcoming, safe, and accessible environment for all participants. We remain dedicated to supporting a respectful and inclusive curling community and look forward to continuing to move forward together.

CLASSIFIED & BONSPIEL LISTINGS

As a member club looking to promote an upcoming bonspiel or a team starting to plan your upcoming season?

To see what events are on deck in all levels of competition within our boundaries, visit the **BONSPIELS** section of Curling Alberta's website, under Curling Centres, where a detailed list of Bonspiels will be listed and updated as soon as clubs add to them.

Curling Alberta's Classifieds are a great resource whether you are looking to build a new team, fill a vacancy or recruit a coach. It also offers our members a platform to buy and sell Curling equipment or supplies.

Listings are posted on behalf of the teams, curlers, and member clubs. Head to the, **CURLING CENTRES ON THE CURLING ALBERTA WEBSITE** and again, find Bonspiels, Classifieds and posting your ad.

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