



CURLING ALBERTA'S UPDATES FOR THE 2026-27 COMPETITION SEASON

UPDATED AUGUST 18, 2026

To ensure that Curling Alberta continues to develop with our sport and offers the best opportunities for our curlers, we have made the following changes:

Competitor's Guide

U18 Athlete Age Eligibility: The original release on August 12th included an incorrect birth date, stating that eligible athletes must be born January 1, 2008, or later. The correct eligibility requirement is that U18 athletes must be 17 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2026, meaning they must be **born January 1, 2009, or later**.

Competitor's Guide

- **Section 1 – General Information**

Section 1 has been rewritten to improve clarity and better reflect Curling Alberta's competition governance framework. New sections have been added outlining the **Purpose** of the Guide, **Participant Responsibilities**, and **Authority**, including clarification of the respective roles of Curling Alberta and Officials in the administration of competitions.

- **Electronic Devices, Photography, Videography, and Media Access:** The Electronic Devices policy has been expanded and separated into two standalone policies. New provisions clarify restrictions on electronic communication with participants during games, establish enforcement and disciplinary procedures, and provide detailed guidelines for livestreaming, recording, photography, videography, and media access at Curling Alberta events.
- **Membership Requirements:** The Membership section has been rewritten to clarify eligibility requirements for Curling Alberta competitions. New provisions define Members in Good Standing, establish Curler Participation Definitions aligned with Curling Canada, and clarify that payment of the Curling Development Fee (CDF) establishes Curling Alberta membership.

Version released August 12, 2026

All Competitions:

- Curling Alberta has updated our Safe Sport Policy and [Alberta Safe Sport Complaint Mechanism \(ABSSCM\)](#). The ABSSCM is Alberta's independent system for reporting serious concerns like abuse, harassment, and other forms of mistreatment in sport. Reports go to trained professionals at an independent organization, not to Curling Alberta.
- Curling Alberta has updated our [Berth Policy](#), including tiebreaking methods for provincial qualifiers that have the same number of entries.
- All teams have 36 hours after conclusion of the provincial final to declare their intent to represent Alberta at any national championship. If they do not wish to move on to the national championship, Curling Alberta will offer the national berth to the next highest finishing team at the provincial championship.
- Note changes to Curling Canada's National Funding Policy. Curling Alberta does not provide funding to Provincial teams.
- Registration deadlines are now 5 weeks before the start of the first qualifier or the start of the Open Provincial Championship.
- Broom checks will be done by the Chief Umpire and/or Game Umpires prior to all competitions, including Provincial Qualifiers to ensure broom handle, fabric, and broom foam compliance.

Under-15:

- The format of the Under-15 provincial championship has changed to a 12-team, 2 pools of 6 format, with a 6-team single elimination playoff. All teams will qualify for the provincial championship through provincial qualifying events.
- All U15 provincial qualifiers and the provincial championship will now be seeded using U15 Alberta Curling Tour points standings. All teams will be seeded into the knockout brackets at the provincial qualifiers, while the top 2 teams in each pool at the provincial championship will be seeded. The remaining 8 teams at the provincial championship will be randomly assigned to the two pools. When ACT points are not available, teams will be given zero points.
- Teams are now required to abide by Curling Alberta's Cresting Policy, including category crests.
- Coaches are now required to complete the NCCP Make Ethical Decisions online course, in addition to a Criminal Record Check and Safe Sport. This course is now accessible online via NCCP's coach.ca, can be completed at any time, and takes 1.5-2 hours to complete.
- Substitutes, and/or replacements are allowed to compete in another level of

competition within the U15 Category. This means that a curler that was eliminated in a provincial qualifier can curl as a substitute or replacement player at the provincial level.

Under-20:

- To ensure the format of the Under-20 Provincial Championship is a full Round Robin format, provincial qualifiers added to U20 category, qualifying 8 teams for the provincial championship.
- Curling Alberta will reward 1 team with a pre-qualifying berth into the provincial championships using Alberta Curling Tour points.

Men's/Women's:

- Curling Alberta's Cresting Policy for Men's and Women's Championship has been updated to include two sponsor crests for the Women's category and 1 sponsor crest for the Men's category.

Senior Men's/Women's:

- If host capacity allows for time clocks, the Curling Alberta Senior Men's/Women's Provincial Championships may be timed using thinking time to match the national championships.
- Qualifiers have been added to the Senior Women's category to match the qualification format, provincial format, and playoff format of the Senior Men's Provincial Championship.

Master Men's/Women's:

- If host capacity allows for time clocks, the Curling Alberta Master Men's/Women's Provincial Championships may be timed using thinking time to match the national championships.

Curling Club Championships:

- **All four (4) curlers** must meet Curling Club Championship eligibility requirements (change from 3 out of 4 players in 2025-26)
- If host capacity allows for time clocks, the Curling Alberta Curling Club Championships may be timed using thinking time to match the national championships.

Version released July 21, 2026