

Stick Championship**I – GENERAL**

The Stick Championship is open to any curler in NS who meets the eligibility criteria for the Provincial Championship and the Residency Directive.

While a single winner will be declared, the top four (4) Open and top four (4) Women's finishing teams earn the right to represent Nova Scotia at the Maritime Stick Curling Championship.

If a team qualifying for the Maritime Stick Curling Championship cannot fulfill that obligation then the next highest finishing team will be offered that opportunity. Provincial championship standings and tie breaker rules will form the basis upon which alternate teams are offered an opportunity to represent Nova Scotia.

The Local Rules of Play governing this Championship can be found in Section 6.

II - ELIGIBILITY

- Teams may be composed of players from any NSCA Member Club
- Players must be nineteen (19) years of age, or older, as of December 31 of the year prior to the Championship
- Teams may consist of a maximum of two (2) players plus one (1) coach.

III – COACHES

- Each team may be accompanied by a coach in accordance with the Coach Eligibility Chart
 - The minimum standard for this event is shown in Table Z (Section 5).
 - A coach may not join the team on the ice surface during a time out.

IV – FORMAT OF PLAY

The format of play for the Provincial shall be determined by the NSCA Competitions Committee in collaboration with the NS Stick Committee. The format shall guarantee a minimum of three (3) games for each team.

All games in the Championship shall be:

- Six (6) ends duration. If a game is tied after the allotted six (6) ends, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- Officiated - Last stone draw to the button (LSDB), time outs, pace of play and rules violations shall be monitored by an NSCA official. The host club organizer will assign a volunteers to assist the NSCA official.
- Untimed but at the discretion of the NSCA official, slow players may be put on a "shot clock."

V – PRE-GAME BRIEFING

A pre-game briefing and coin toss will be held by the NSCA official approximately fifteen (15) minutes before each draw.

At all stages of this championship a “coin toss” will be used to determine:

- Stone handle colour. The team choosing the dark coloured handle (blue/red) will throw a clockwise draw for their last stone draw. The team throwing yellow handle will throw the counter-clockwise.
- Pre-game practice order.

A draw to the button competition will be used to determine last stone advantage in the first end.

VI – DRAW TO THE BUTTON

- (1) Following the completion of the Pre-game Practice, the Last Stone Draw Button (LSDB) will take place.
- (2) Team members will alternate taking the LSDB.
- (3) All LSDB shots will be thrown towards the home end unless decided otherwise by the championship organizing committee.
- (4) The Coin-toss winner delivers their LSDB first. If the two stones are tied in distance, or if neither team finds the House, then Hammer goes to the coin-toss winner.
- (5) A team cannot sweep the opposing team’s rock on a LSDB to determine hammer.
- (6) Both stones will be measured and used for tie breakers.

VII– LAST STONE ADVANTAGE

- In the first end the team that had the lowest pre-game LSDB distance is awarded Hammer and will have the last shot.
- Following the first end, the team that did not score shall have Hammer.

If neither team scores in an end (Blank End), the team that delivered the last stone in that end shall have Hammer in the next end.

VIII – TIE BREAKERS

- Teams tied for a Playoff position cannot be excluded from the playoffs without having played a tie-breaker game(s).
- The tie-breaking process shall consist of (in order):
 - Most wins.
 - Results of head-to-head play.
 - Draw to the button (LSDB) accumulated distances.
 - Closest draw to the button.

IX – TEAM RANKING / SEEDING

- The following seeding system has been adopted for seeding teams at the NSSCA Provincial Championship.
- Points will be awarded for each person on the team.
- Points are based on the prior season's NSSCA Championship results.
- If only one person from a team returns the next year they will carry only their own points forward to the new team. Team points will consist of first team member's points plus the points associated with their new partner.
 - Winner 65
 - Finalist 50
 - Semi Finalist 40
 - Quarter Finalist 30
 - Non-Playoff teams per win 07
 - Teams with no wins 05
 - New Entries this year 00

X– TEAM DRAW ASSIGNMENTS

- The championship format will be determined by the NSSCA in consultation with the host club organizing committee
- Teams will be seeded based on total team points determined using section IX above.
- If there is a pool play format then teams will be placed in pools in a manner that ensures the best possible balance between pools.
- The championship format and related seedings must be approved by NSCA

XI – OTHER

Timing -

- The NSSCA Championship would normally be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If there are large registrations, or other issues that need to be adapted for, then play could commence on Thursday evening and extend to Monday evening.
- A team shall not be scheduled to play more than three (3) games each day, unless time constraints require teams to play tie-breaker or playoff games.
- A team will not be scheduled for more than two (2) games within a four (4) hour period, unless time constraints require teams to play tie-breaker or playoff games.
- A spare pool must be maintained by the host club for the Championship draws.

On-ice Assistants –

An on-ice assistant will be permitted for a wheelchair athlete participating in the Championship.

An on-ice assistant is not mandatory and must be provided by the wheelchair athlete if they wish to use one.

It is not the responsibility of NSSCA or the host club to provide an on-ice assistant.

The on-ice assistant may:

- provide assistance in cleaning and positioning rocks prior to delivery,
- provide an “anchor” for the wheelchair during the athlete’s delivery process, and
- help to clean up post end and hang the

score. The on-ice assistant may not provide

strategic advice.

The NSCA reserves the right to hold an Open, Women’s and Mixed Division championship if the number of teams allows.