

# 2024 Curling Club Championships Men and Women



## MEN

**Date: Feb 22-26, 2024 (Thursday to Monday)**

**Location: Bridgewater Curling Club**

**Club Registration Deadline: January 8, 2024**

**Team Roster Deadline: January 28, 2024**

**Entry Fee: \$400.00**

## WOMEN

**February 29 to March 3, 2024**

**Digby Curling Club**

**January 15, 2024**

**February 5, 2024**

**Notice:** NS Curling's Championship Rules may be changed, in whole or in part, prior to the playdown process. The rules for one year's championship will not be construed to give or imply any right for future championships. NS Curling policy is to publicize its rules in advance of the competition affected by those rules. Any mistakes, omissions or ambiguity may be subject to clarification by the Competitions Director. This document can be deemed final 14 days prior to the start of the championship.

**Date Approved: July 31, 2023**

**Date Modified:**

See below for competition specific details. The rules and details contained in the main body of the Competitor Guide apply to this competition. In the event there is a perceived conflict between the Competitor Guide and this document, this document is considered to take priority.

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## **A. ELIGIBILITY**

### **NS CURLING REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1) Deadlines:
  - a) The entry deadline for a club to register their intent to send a team(s) is January 8, 2024 (Men) and January 15, 2024 (Women). The team registration fee is due on the entry deadline.
  - b) Each club will declare if they are requesting one (1) or two (2) berths.
  - c) Each club must submit their team roster(s) before January 28, 2024 (Men) and February 5, 2024 (Women). The club is responsible for verifying the eligibility of their competing teams.
  - d) For more information regarding eligibility rules consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(2\)](#).
- 2) The curling club represented by each team must be in good standing with NS Curling, with all NSCA Membership Affiliation Fee's paid in full AND they have submitted their annual Membership Numbers (due December 31st).
- 3) Teams may consist of a maximum of four (4) players, one alternate, and an eligible coach.
- 4) Players are not required to be a Canadian citizen, but all four (4) players and alternate must be bona fide residents of Nova Scotia.
- 5) All players must be a member in good standing of the same NS Curling affiliated curling club. Any player can be a member of more than one affiliated curling club but must declare one "home club" for this competition.
- 6) Free agents are NOT allowed.
- 7) The original four (4) players, alternate and coach must be registered in Curling IO. The host club or umpires shall not accept any personnel changes to the original roster.

- 8) For more information regarding team registration or team rosters consult **Competitor Guide, Sections B(3) and B(4).**

**CURLING CANADA REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1) The use of the delivery stick by any or all four players (and any alternate) is acceptable.
- 2) Teams must qualify under one of the following conditions:
  - a) Regular league players, or;
  - b) A club championship process, or;
  - c) A designated Curling Club Championship event within the club.
  - d) In each of the above (a, b and c) teams must have three (3) or more players who have played together in a sanctioned club league during the current curling season.
  - e) Clubs that only have mixed or open leagues (i.e. no men’s and / or women’s set team leagues) may be granted an exemption by written request to NS Curling, which must be done 15 days prior to the registration deadline date.
- 3) A team must field three (3) of the four (4) original players for each game played at any level of the Curling Club Championship.
- 4) An Alternate player (replacement player) must play the lead position (throwing & sweeping) and must be an active member in good standing of the teams affiliated curling club.
- 5) EXEMPTIONS: Each four-person team is allowed one (1) player:
  - a. Who has played in any named Curling Canada event\* in the current OR previous 2 seasons (regardless of finish), OR
  - b. Who has played in any provincial / territorial event leading to a Curling Canada event\* in the current OR previous 2 season (regardless of finish), OR
  - c. Who has played in a Tier 1 Grand Slam event in the current OR previous 2 seasons (regardless of finish).
  - d. However, the other three (3) team members of the team cannot have played in the following:
    - i. Any Tier 1 Grand Slam event in the current season OR previous two (2) seasons
    - ii. Any provincial / territorial championship leading to any Curling Canada event\* in the current season OR previous two (2) seasons, unless their final ranking is less than the threshold of the respective Member Association:

Member Association	You are NOT eligible if...
Nova Scotia	You finish 3rd or better at any provincial championship leading to any Curling Canada event* in the current season OR previous two (2) seasons.

\* Curling Canada events include: Canada Cup, Continental Cup, Trials & Pre-Trials, Tournament of Hearts, Brier, Canadian Seniors, Canadian U21, Canadian U18, and Canadian Wheelchair. Players in the NS Provincial and Canadian Mixed and Mixed Doubles can participate in the Curling Club Championships without restriction.

- iii. Alternate players at the Brier, Tournament of Hearts or any Curling Canada event are considered as having not played in those events.
- iv. **Players who competed in the previous season’s Canadian Curling Club Championships are ineligible to compete the following season at any level, including as an alternate.**

- v. Each team is comprised of three (3) players that are a minimum of 19 years of age or over as of June 30th the year prior to the national championship. For example, a player must be 19 years of age on June 30th, 2024 for the November 2024 National Curling Club Championship.
- vi. Any team is allowed one (1) player under 19 years of age who shall be considered a “minor” and 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. The team is responsible to cover all costs associated with a legal guardian who is not a team member.
- vii. Curling Canada has the sole authority to grant exceptions to these rules in extraordinary circumstances. Any request must be submitted by the Provincial / Territorial Member Association. Curling Canada will consult with the Provincial / Territorial Member Association and will notify them within five (5) business days in writing of any decision. The Curling Canada decision may not be appealed.

## **B. HOSTING INFORMATION**

- 1) A minimum of four (4) sheets of ice is required to host this championship.
- 2) The championship is scheduled for a maximum of five (5) days.
- 3) Club stones will be used.
- 4) Games will be timed.
- 5) There may be a pre-competition practice scheduled, if time allows.
- 6) There will be a pre-game practice scheduled prior to each draw.
- 7) The event will be officiated.
- 8) Games will have live scoring on the NS Curling website.

## **C. UMPIRES**

Once the competition starts the Chief Umpire has the general supervision and governance of the rules and procedures. The Chief Umpire shall have full authority to enforce the rules of the game as adopted by NS Curling. The decision of the Chief Umpire is final in all aspects involving judgment calls. In emergency situations, the Chief Umpire may have to act immediately in areas outside of rules, policy or precedent. In these situations, the Chief Umpire is the final authority.

The Chief Umpire may intervene at any time and give directions to any player or coach. They may suspend or expel a player or coach for abusive or unacceptable behaviour, including bad language. All conduct matters will be fully documented and filed with NS Curling for subsequent review and follow-up. For more information regarding officiating consult [Competitor Guide, Section C\(2\)](#).

## **D. COACHES**

- 1) Coaches must be current with their competition specific NCCP qualifications and NS Curling requirements.
- 2) Coaches are considered a team member and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations.
- 3) Coaches will have access to the ice area for pre-game practices, time outs, mid-game breaks, and extra end breaks.
- 4) For more information regarding coach qualifications and requirements consult [Competitor Guide, Section B\(7\)](#).

## E. CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

### Year to year Participation Information - MEN

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
# Teams	20	21	Covid	20	15	9	13	13	8
# Clubs	13	13	X	?	?	?	?	?	?
Date	Feb 23-26	Mar 25-28	Feb 25-Mar 1	Feb 27-Mar 1	Feb 28-Mar 3	Mar 8-12	Mar 3-7	Feb 26-Mar 1	?
Host	Bridgewater	Bridgewater	Bridgewater	Bridgewater	Bridgewater	Sydney	Glooscap	Yarmouth	Sydney

### Year to Year Participation Information - WOMEN

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
# Teams	8	4	Covid	12	10	6	7	9	8
# Clubs	6	4	X	?	?	?	?	?	?
Date	Mar 2-5	Mar 25-27	Mar 4-8	Mar 12-16	Feb 28-Mar 3	Feb 16-18	?	Feb 26-Mar 1	?
Host	Digby	Amherst	Amherst	Wolfville	Amherst	Bluenose	Glooscap	Sydney	Wolfville

## F. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### GENERAL

- 1) The event is a designated Tier 2 NS Curling event, implying it leads to a Canadian Championship but not a World Championship. Refer to [Competitor Guide, Section D\(1\)](#) for a summary of competition format directives for each Tier Category.
- 2) The current moratorium on brush heads is in effect and the exchanging of brooms and changing brush heads during play will not be allowed. For more information on sweeping equipment consult [Competitor Guide, Section C\(3\)](#).
- 3) Umpires will conduct all measurements.
- 4) Players and coaches cannot be in the ice shed at any time during the event without an Umpire present who has been assigned to and is working the event.
- 5) Teams are not permitted to practice at the host club within 24-hours of the start of competition, unless they are a regular member of the club with a regularly scheduled game during that 24-hour period.

### RANKING & DRAW PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

- 1) Teams will be ranked into the draw by self-seeding. The team ranking ballots received will be averaged to determine team placement into the draw.
- 2) For more information on ranking and draw placement procedures consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(5\)](#).
- 3) A ranking adjustment will be made so that teams from the same club do not play each other in their first game. The lower ranked club team will be ranked one position lower overall.
- 4) Team names in the draw will be listed as the curling club they represent.

### COMPETITION FORMAT FOR PRELIMINARY PLAY

- 1) Teams may play a maximum of three (3) games per day for a maximum of two (2) days.
- 2) All games are eight (8) ends duration. A minimum of four (4) ends must be played.
- 3) If a game is tied after the allotted 8-ends, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- 4) Draw format guidelines is shown in Table A below. NS Curling reserves the right to modify the draw format to meet the requirements of the championship.
- 5) The total number of 'Berths' into the championship draw (in each gender) is determined by the number of NS Curling affiliated curling clubs applying to be represented.

- a) Each affiliated club who registers by the established deadline will be provided one ‘Standard Berth’.
- b) An affiliated club may have an option to secure one ‘Additional Berth’ based on the following:
  - i. The Host club will be given first option to secure a second team.
  - ii. The affiliated club must be in “good standing” with NS Curling. Implying their Membership Affiliation Fees have been paid in full AND they have submitted their annual Membership Numbers (due December 31st).
  - iii. A second berth will be awarded based on the affiliated club’s membership numbers. The club with the highest ‘per capita’ total will be awarded a second berth first, and so on until the draw allocation has been filled.

**Table A. Berth Allocation and Draw Format Guidelines**

# Clubs	Standard Berths	Additional Berths	Total Allocation	Draw Format	Days to Complete
1	1	0	1	Declared Provincial Representative	0
2	2	0	2	Best 3 of 5	3
3	3	0	3	Double Round Robin. An undefeated team will be declared champion outright without playoffs. Otherwise, 2 team single elimination playoff.	3
4	4	0	4	Double Round Robin. An undefeated team will be declared champion outright without playoffs. Otherwise, 3 team playoff, 1 <sup>st</sup> place team goes straight to final.	3
5	5	1	6	Single Round Robin. 3 team playoff, an undefeated team will need to be beaten twice, 1 <sup>st</sup> place team goes straight to final.	4
6	6	0	6	Single Round Robin. 3 team playoff, an undefeated team will need to be beaten twice, 1 <sup>st</sup> place team goes straight to final.	4
7	7	1	8	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	4
8	8	0	8	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	4
9	9	3	12	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	4/5
10	10	2	12	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	4/5
11	11	5	16	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
12	12	4	16	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
13	13	7	20	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
14	14	6	20	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
15	15	5	20	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
16	16	4	20	TKO to 4 team Page Playoff	5
17	17	7	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
18	18	6	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
19	19	5	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
20	20	4	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
21	21	3	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
22	22	2	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
23	23	1	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
24	24	0	24	4 pools of 6 teams. Top 2 in each pool advance to playoffs	5
+24	If more than 24 clubs are anticipated to register, a Qualification event will be required.				

**GAME TIMING**

- 1) Time clocks will be used for all games. However, certain compromises could be made depending upon club space, available equipment, number of volunteers, etc.
- 2) Each team will receive 30 minutes of thinking time to complete the game.

- 3) Extra ends will be four (4) minutes, thirty (30) seconds of thinking time for each team.
- 4) The mid-game break is five (5) minutes
- 5) There will be a three (3) minute break before starting the extra end. Between all other ends, breaks will be 'turn and go'.
- 6) Each team will receive two (2) sixty (60) second time outs per 8 end game. Each team will receive one (1) sixty (60) second time out during any extra end of play.
- 7) For more information regarding Time-Outs consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(6\)](#).

#### **PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE**

- 1) If time allows, a schedule may be created to allow the teams a ten (10) minute practice session on each sheet to be used. Please let the Competitions Director know if you are not going to attend your session.
- 2) For more information consult the [Competitor Guide, Section D\(7\)](#).

#### **PRE-GAME CALL**

- 1) Thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled game time, when announced, teams will report to the designated coin toss area to confirm their line-up, readiness to play, and to receive any instructions. If a team is late, they will be deemed to have lost the toss.
- 2) When the stone handle colour has not been pre-assigned, teams will conduct a coin toss and will select either practice order or stone handle colour.
- 3) A draw to the button competition will be used to determine last stone advantage in the first end. Each team will name their player(s) who will deliver the Last Stone Draw(s) (LSDs) for that game.

#### **PRE-GAME PRACTICE**

- 1) Twenty-five (25) minutes prior to the scheduled game time, first practice will be announced.
- 2) It will consist of one-minute of slider cool-down with sliding, seven (7) minutes of practice time with a one (1) minute remaining warning, then, a one (1) minute time period for the Last Stone Draw(s). Second practice will follow the same format. Please follow the Umpire's announcements.
- 3) Coaches and alternates are allowed access to the ice surface during practices with appropriate curing footwear.

#### **LAST STONE DRAW (LSD) FOR PRELIMINARY PLAY**

- 1) Last stone advantage in the first end will be decided by a draw to the button contest immediately following the pre-game practice.
- 2) In Knockout format competitions one (1) LSD will be thrown
- 3) In Round Robin format competitions two (2) LSDs will be thrown.
- 4) Stones will be thrown with the rotation identified in the pre-game call.
- 5) For more information on LSD procedures consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(11\)](#).

#### **TIE-BREAKING PROCESS (Round Robin and Pool Play)**

- 1) No tie-breaker games will be played. Consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(13\)](#).

#### **PLAYOFF GAMES AND FINALS**

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the process.
- 2) Playoff games and Finals will follow the procedures described in the [Competitor Guide, Section D\(14\)](#)