

## APPENDIX

# 2024 Men's and Women's (Tankard and Scotties) Combined Event



### Open Qualifier

**Date:** Dec 14-17, 2023 (Thursday to Sunday)

**Location:** Digby Curling Club

**Registration Deadline:** November 14, 2023

**Entry Fee:** \$800.00 + Curling Canada Competitor Fee of \$25 per participant.

### Provincial Championship

**Date:** January 17-21, 2024 (Wednesday to Sunday)

**Location:** Halifax Curling Club

**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:** October 17, 2023 (amendments highlighted in yellow)

See below for competition specific details that are in effect for both the Tankard and Scotties Championships. The rules and details contained in the main body of the Competitor Guide apply to these competitions. 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

- 1) Limited Entry:
  - a) Both the Tankard and Scotties provincial championship is limited to eight (8) teams.
  - b) If more than eight (8) teams register there will be an Open Qualifier playdown held.
- 2) Teams may consist of a maximum of four (4) players, one alternate, and eligible coach.
- 3) All players and alternate must be Canadian citizens. There is no minimum age requirement.
- 4) All players must be a member in good standing of a NS Curling affiliated curling club but not necessarily the same club.
- 5) For more information regarding eligibility rules consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(2\)](#).
- 6) The original four (4) players, alternate and coach must be registered on Curling IO. The host club or umpires shall not accept any personnel changes to the original roster. For more information regarding team registration or team rosters consult [Competitor Guide, Sections B\(3\) and B\(4\)](#).
- 7) Free Agents:
  - a) Teams may consist of one (1) non-resident 'free agent'. The remaining players must be bona fide residents of Nova Scotia, or have birthright status.
  - b) A 'Free agent' must be a member of a NS Curling affiliated club.

- c) Free Agent rules and procedures are described in the **Competitor Guide, Section D(2)**. The Free Agent Application form can be found on the NS Curling website. Note: There is an application deadline.
  - d) Refer to the Curling Canada directive on Residency and the rule governing Free Agents, <https://www.curling.ca/residency-eligibility-rule>.
- 8) A delivery stick is NOT allowed.

## **B. HOSTING INFORMATION**

### **OPEN QUALIFIER**

- 1) A minimum of four (4) sheets of ice is required.
- 2) The event is scheduled for a maximum of four (4) days – Thursday to Sunday.
- 3) NSCA stones may be assigned for this event.
- 4) The event will be officiated.
- 5) Games will be timed.
- 6) There will be a pre-competition practice scheduled.
- 7) There will be a pre-game practice scheduled prior to each draw.
- 8) Games will have live scoring on the NS Curling website.

### **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 1) A minimum of four (4) sheets of ice is required.
- 2) The curling event is scheduled for a maximum of five (5) days – Wednesday to Sunday.
- 3) An opening ceremonies/reception will be held on Tuesday evening. **This is a mandatory event for all members of the team.**
- 4) NS Curling will appoint a Head Ice Technician for the event.
- 5) NSCA stones have been assigned for this event.
- 6) Stones may be lightly textured mid-week (see plausible draw schedule on page 6).
  - a) Texturing will only be completed to maintain competition quality ice conditions which is a minimum of four (4) feet of curl at a 2 oz clip.
  - b) The decision to texture the stones will be at the discretion of the Head Ice Technician, in consultation with the Competitions Director.
  - c) Teams will be informed prior to the stones being textured.
  - d) If the stones are textured, teams playing the Saturday morning draw will receive an extra three (3) minutes in their pre-game practice.
- 7) The event will be officiated.
- 8) Games will be timed.
- 9) There will be a pre-competition practice scheduled.
- 10) There will be a pre-game practice scheduled prior to each draw.
- 11) Games will have live scoring on the NS Curling website.
- 12) A minimum two (2) games on every draw will be livestreamed.

## **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-competition practice, 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

2015 was the last year to have two (2) qualifying events for both the Tankard and Scotties. From 2016 to 2020 one open qualifier event was held in both the Tankard and Scotties. 2021 no championships were held due to Covid. In 2022 the Scotties was an open provincial championship, Covid cancelled the 2022 Tankard. 2023 had an open provincial championship for both the Tankard and Scotties. 2024 will have one qualifier event for both the Tankard and Scotties, if required.

The 2015 Tankard (Halifax CC) and Scotties (Dartmouth CC) provincial championships had separate host clubs. In 2016 both the Tankard and Scotties provincial championships became a combined event.

### Year to Year Participation Information

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Men	13	Covid	Covid	12	12	11	11	14	17
Women	8	11	Covid	12	12	12	10	12	12
Date	Jan 25-30	Dec 8-13	Jan 25-31	Jan 20-26	Jan 21-27	Jan 8-14	Jan 24-29	Jan 19-24	N/A
Host	Bluenose	Berwick	Bluenose	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Dartmouth	Mayflower	Mayflower	N/A

## F. QUALIFICATION PROCESS

In March 2023 the 'Players Rep Group' made a number of recommendations, one of which, qualifying for the provincial championship should be performance based. The following proposal was adopted:

- 1) Four (4) teams will 'Pre-Qualify' for the provincial championship.
  - a) The two (2) finalist teams from the 2023 Provincial Championship (champion and runner-up). The team must retain 3 of 4 original players, alternate players do not qualify as an original team member, **AND**
  - b) The top two (2) CTRS points leaders on **November 21, 2023**, who do not pre-qualify as a 2023 provincial finalist identified in (a) above.
  - c) If one or both of the 2023 provincial finalist team(s) do not retain 3 of 4 original players the next highest CTRS points leader will pre-qualify.
  - d) All teams, **including those** eligible for a pre-qualifying berth, must register **for the Open Qualifier** in Curling IO by the registration deadline (November 14, 2023), and must have paid the entry fee and all Curling Canada Competitor Fees.
  - e) **After registration closing pre-qualification berths will be offered to eligible teams.**

- f) A team accepting a pre-qualifying berth is ineligible to compete in the Open Qualifier playdown.
- 2) Four (4) teams will qualify through an 'Open Qualifier' playdown.

## **G. GUIDELINES FOR OPEN QUALIFIER and PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **GENERAL**

- 1) The championship is a designated Tier 1 NS Curling event, implying it leads to a World Championship. Refer to **Competitor Guide, Section D(1)** for a summary of competition format directives for each Tier Category.
- 2) The WCF 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.
- 6) In the event of a Force Majeure and the provincial championship is not able to be held, all entry fees will be refunded. The selection of the team to represent NS at Nationals will be awarded to the CTRS points leader on January 17, 2024. In the case of a tie, the selection of the team to represent NS at Nationals will be governed by the Competitions Advisory Panel.

### **COMPETITION FORMAT**

- 1) All games are ten (10) ends duration. A minimum of seven (7) ends must be played.
- 2) If a game is tied after the allotted 10-ends, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.

### **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 38 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 10-end game. Each team will receive one (1) sixty (60) second time out during any extra end of play.
- 7) For more information on Time-Outs consult **Competitor Guide, Section D(6)**.

### **PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE**

- 1) A schedule will be created to allow the teams a ten (10) minute practice session on each sheet of ice 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 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 on the ice surface during practices with appropriate curling 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\(11\)](#).

## **H. OPEN QUALIFIER**

- 1) The 'Open Qualifier' playdown will only be required if more than eight (8) teams register on Curling IO by the registration deadline.
- 2) The draw will be triple knockout format qualifying four (4) teams for the provincial championship.
- 3) 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.
- 4) For more information on the ranking procedures consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(5\)](#).

## **I. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **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 the ranking procedures consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(5\)](#).

### **COMPETITION FORMAT FOR PRELIMINARY PLAY**

- 1) The provincial championship will be an eight (8) team triple knockout format, qualifying four (4) teams for the Page Playoffs.

## Plausible Draw Schedule

		Ice 1	Ice 8	Ice 2	Ice 4
Wednesday	8:30 am	Women #7	Men #7	Women #8	Men #8
	9:15 am	Women #2	Men #2	Women #1	Men #1
	10:00 am	<b>Ice Maintenance</b>			
	11:00 am	Women #6	Men #6	Women #5	Men #5
	11:45 am	Women #3	Men #3	Women #4	Men #4
	2:00 pm	TA3	SA1	TA1	SA3
	5:00 pm	<b>Opening Ceremonies/Reception – Mandatory Event</b>			
	7:00 pm	TA4	SA2	TA2	SA4
Thursday	9:00 am	SB1	TB2	SB2	TB1
	2:00 pm	TA5	SA6	TA6	SA5
	7:00 pm	TB3	SB4	TB4	SB3
Friday	9:00 am		TB5	SB5	
	2:00 pm	TC1	TA7 (Q1)	SA7 (Q1)	SC1
	7:00 pm	SC2	TB6 (Q2)	SB6 (Q2)	TC2
	9:30 pm	<b>Stones may receive a light texturing, if required.</b>			
Saturday	8:30 am	TC4 (Q4)	SC3 (Q3)	TC3 (Q3)	SC4 (Q4)
	11:30 am	<b>20 Minute Practice Q1 Teams – Scotties (Ice 2) and Tankard (Ice 8)</b>			
	11:50 am	<b>20 Minute Practice Q2 Teams – Scotties (Ice 2) and Tankard (Ice 8)</b>			
	2:00 pm		TD1 (3v4)	SD1 (3v4)	
	7:00 pm		TD2 (1v2)	SD2 (1v2)	
Sunday	9:00 am		TD3 (Semi)	SD3 (Semi)	
	2:00 pm			Scotties Final	
	6:00 pm		Tankard Final		

### TIE-BREAKING PROCESS

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

### PLAYOFF MEETING

- 1) Immediately following the last draw, a meeting will occur between the Chief Umpire and the skips from the playoff teams.
- 2) The Chief Umpire will identify each team's responsibilities with respect to hammer or handle colour selection(s), and any adjustments to scheduling or ice allocation if necessary.

### 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\(14\)](#).
- 3) The Final game for both genders should NOT be scheduled for the same time.