

APPENDIX

2024 Junior Mixed Doubles U16 and U21 Categories



Date: January 12 to 14 (Friday to Sunday)

Location: Liverpool Curling Club

Registration Deadline: November 28, 2023

Entry Fee: \$150.00

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: Nov 21, 2023 (highlighted in yellow)

Date Modified: December 5, 2023 (highlighted in green)

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.

A. ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Limited Entry:
 - a) The U16 event is limited to 12 teams which will be on a first come, first served to register for the event on Curling IO.
 - b) The U21 event is limited to 12 teams which will be on a first come, first served to register for the event on Curling IO.
 - c) If a full compliment of 12 teams is registered on Curling IO, teams may register to be placed on the waiting list.
 - d) If one category does not reach the maximum registration of 12 teams and the other category has a waiting list, teams on the waiting list may be accepted, to an overall maximum of 24 teams, and an even number of teams in each category.
- 2) Teams MUST consist of one (1) male and one (1) female player, plus an eligible coach.
- 3) Both players must be residents of Nova Scotia, and meet the category age requirements:
 - a) Under 16 - 15 years of age or under on June 30, 2023, born July 1, 2007 or later
 - b) Under 21 - 20 years of age or under on June 30, 2023, born July 1, 2002 or later
- 4) Both 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 two (2) players and coach must be registered in 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) A delivery stick may be used.
- 8) All athletes under the age of 12 years old MUST wear a helmet while on the ice.

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 three (3) days (normally Friday to Sunday).
- 3) Club stones will be used.
- 4) Games will not be timed.
- 5) There will be no pre-competition practice scheduled.
- 6) There will be no pre-game practice scheduled.
- 7) The championship 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) Each team MUST be accompanied by a certified coach. 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) For more information regarding coach qualifications and requirements consult [Competitor Guide, Section B\(7\)](#).
- 4) The NS Curling Coach Interaction Rules will be in effect for this championship. For more information on Coach Interactions consult [Competition Special Rules](#).
- 5) The Curling Canada 'Fair Play Time Out Rule' shall be in effect. The Fair Play Time Out can not be taken during the final end of play.

E. CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

This event was introduced in 2017 and included three age categories: U15, U18 and U21. The U21 age category has been experiencing low participation numbers. In 2024 the event will have two age categories: U16 and U21. This change replicates the new Junior Mixed [\(4-Player\)](#) age categories.

Year to Year Participation Information

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total	7	Covid	Covid	26	24	26	30
U15	0	X	X	12			
U18	7	X	X	10			
U21	0	X	X	4			
Host	Liverpool	X	Chester	Chester	Liverpool	Liverpool	Lakeshore
Dates	Jan 19-22	Mar 18-20	Mar 26-28	Jan 30-Feb 2	Feb 1-3	Mar 23-25	Feb 18-20

Note: Registration information by age category is unavailable for 2017, 2018, and 2019.

F. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

GENERAL

- 1) This event is a designated Tier 3 NS Curling event, implying it does not lead to a Canadian 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 NOT in effect. Hairbrushes cannot be used.
- 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) Players and coaches attending the Junior Mixed Doubles championship are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages or use any mind-altering substance from the time they leave home for travel to the event and until they arrive back at home after the conclusion of their event. Violation will result in immediate suspension of the player or coach involved for the remainder of the event, and subject to further disciplinary action.

RULES FOR ALL MIXED DOUBLES COMPETITIONS

- 1) Consult the Curling Canada Rules of Curling Supplemental Rules Pages 56 to 59.
- 2) There is no Mixed Doubles spare pool. A team must forfeit any game(s) in which it fails to have both athletes playing for the entire game.
- 3) At the start of every end, the team with 'hammer' will decide on the horizontal placement of the positioned stones (center or which side).
- 4) Vertical stone placement (depth of guard in front of the rings) is decided by the Chief Umpire with consultation with the players after the pre-competition practice and remains the same throughout the event. In the case where sheets may be different in curl stone placement may vary sheet to sheet.
- 5) Each team is allowed one (1) powerplay per game, determined by the team with hammer. The powerplay can not be used in the extra end.
- 6) In mixed doubles, no stone, including the two (2) positioned stationary stones, can be removed from play prior to the delivery of the fourth (4th) stone of the end.
- 7) Teams are not required to have a broom holder.

RANKING & DRAW PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

- 1) Teams will be placed 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)**.

COMPETITION FORMAT FOR PRELIMINARY PLAY

- 1) The anticipated format for this championship is round-robin pool play.
- 2) Teams can expect to play up to **three (3)** games per day, to avoid an extra event day.
- 3) Each team will be guaranteed three (3) games.
- 4) Scheduled number of ends:
 - a) U16 games are six (6) ends duration. A minimum of four (4) ends must be played.
 - b) U21 games are eight (8) ends duration. A minimum of four (4) ends must be played.
- 5) If a game is tied after the allotted ends, one (1) extra end will be played.
- 6) If the game is not decided after the extra end is played, the game will be recorded as a tie.

GAME TIMING

- 1) Games will NOT be timed. Pace of play may be managed by the Chief Umpire. Coaches, please discuss ready curling with your team. For more information regarding the Pace of Play Rule consult **Competitor Guide, Section D(6)**.
- 2) The mid-game break is five (5) minutes.
- 3) There will be a three (3) minute break before starting the extra end.
- 4) There will be no timeouts.

PRE-GAME CALL

- 1) Fifteen (15) 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) There will NOT be a pre-game practice. Teams will conduct a coin toss and will select either last stone advantage in the first end or stone handle colour.
- 3) Teams should be allowed on the ice five (5) minutes prior to game time to allow slides and cool sliders but practice rocks cannot be thrown.

SKILLS COMPETITION FOR PLAYOFF RANKING

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the skills competition process.
- 2) If it is conceivable that a team could be in a playoff position, immediately following the team's third game, all game players will engage in a skills competition by drawing to the button, with sweeping. **Each player will throw two (2) draws, one (1) with a clockwise rotation and one (1) with a counter-clockwise rotation.** Teams will alternate throwing.
 - a) Stones will be measured (in centimeters) from the button to the nearest edge of the stone.
 - b) Stones covering the pin will be given a 0.0 cm measurement.
 - c) Stones finishing outside of the house will be given a 199.6 cm measurement.
- 3) The best three (3) measurements of the four (4) stones thrown will determine the team's 'skills competition score'.
- 4) If a stone is displaced prior to measurement:
 - a) by the delivering team, the stone will receive a measurement of 199.6 centimeters.
 - b) by another individual, the stone is placed to its original position by the delivering team.

TEAM RANKING PROCESS FOR PLAYOFFS

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the team ranking process.
- 2) Playoff team rankings will be determined first by best win/loss record.
- 3) No tie-breaker games will be played. Teams tied with the same win/loss record will be ranked as follows:
 - a) Team who won the head-to-head game will be ranked higher
 - b) If an unsolvable tie exists, the 'skills competition score' will be used to rank the teams.
 - i. The team with the lowest 'skills competition score' will always be ranked higher.
 - ii. If tied teams have the same 'skills competition score', then the next highest individual recorded distance will be eliminated from each team, until the tie is broken.
 - iii. If teams still remain tied a flip of the coin will be used to break the tie.
- 4) Teams from different pools, with the same win/loss record, will use their 'skills competition score' to determine ranking.

PLAYOFF FORMAT

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the playoff process.
- 2) Team ranking will determine placement into the playoff draw.
- 3) The higher ranked team will always have choice of last stone advantage in the first end OR stone handle colour.