

2025 Curling Club Championship Men and Women



	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>
Date:	Mar 5-9, 2025 (Wednesday to Sunday)	March 20-23, 2025
Location:	Lakeshore Curling Club	Digby Curling Club
Club Registration Deadline:	January 19, 2025	February 3, 2025
Team Roster Deadline:	February 9, 2025	February 9, 2025
Entry Fee:	\$400.00 + Curling Canada Competitor Fee of \$25 per participant, including alternate.	

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.

See below for competition specific details that are in effect for both the Men's and Women's championship. **In the event there is a perceived conflict between the Competitor Guide and this document, this document is considered to take priority.**

A. ELIGIBILITY

CURLING CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) 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 have submitted their annual Membership Numbers (due December 31st).
- 2) Curling Clubs are responsible for verifying the eligibility of their competing teams.
- 3) Registration deadlines:
 - a) The registration deadline for a club to register their intent to send one (1) or two (2) teams is January 19, 2025 (Men) and February 3, 2025 (Women). The team registration fee must be paid during the registration process.
 - i. Clubs are required to register their team(s) in Curling IO.
 - ii. Clubs will identify their teams as Team #1 and Team #2
 - iii. Clubs may initially identify the team players as TBD.
 - b) Clubs MUST finalize, in Curling IO, their team(s) registration by February 9, 2025 by identifying each of the teams four (4) original players. Teams may register an alternate and an eligible coach.
- 4) NOTE: The 2024/25 Men's Championship is being hosted by Lakeshore Curling Club, the club has six (6) sheets of ice. This championship will be a complete 24-team event. It is possible some clubs could be offered a third berth; clubs should plan their club championships accordingly. See "Competition Format in the Preliminary Round" (Page 5) for more information on berth allocation.

NS CURLING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Teams MUST register four (4) players. Teams may register an alternate and an eligible coach.
- 2) Players are not required to be a Canadian citizen, but all four (4) players and alternate must be bona fide residents of Nova Scotia.
- 3) All original players and alternate must be a member in good standing of the SAME NS Curling affiliated curling club.
- 4) A minimum of three (3) players must be a minimum of 19 years of age or over as of June 30th immediately prior to the national championship.
- 5) A 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.
- 6) For more information regarding eligibility rules consult **Competitor Guide, Section D(2)**.
- 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)**.
- 9) The use of the delivery stick by any or all four players (and any alternate) is acceptable.

CURLING CANADA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Teams must qualify under one of the following conditions:
 - a) Regular league players, or;
 - b) A formal club championship process, or;
 - c) A special Curling Club Championship event within the club.
- 2) In each of Rule 2(a,b,c) above teams must have three (3) or more players who have played together in a sanctioned club league during the current curling season.
- 3) 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 the Competitions Director, which must be done 15 days prior to the registration deadline date.
- 4) A team must field three (3) of the four (4) original players for each game played at any level of the Curling Club Championship.
- 5) An Alternate player must play the lead position (throwing & sweeping) and must be an active member in good standing of the teams affiliated curling club.
- 6) 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.

- e. Alternate players at the Brier, Tournament of Hearts or any Curling Canada event are considered as having not played in those events.
- 7) **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.**
- 8) 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.

Competition Advisory Panel Decision (August 4, 2023)

Whereas, the triple knockout format may NOT produce an obvious third-place ranked team (i.e. where the two teams who lost the ‘C Event’ semi final have progressed to the same position in the draw), therefore, the following procedure shall be used to determine the third and fourth ranked team.

- 1) Teams will first be ranked according to their overall event win/loss record, the team with the most event wins will be ranked higher,*
- 2) If the teams have the same number of event wins, the team with the best record of the games played between each other shall be ranked higher;*
- 3) If rankings cannot be determined by 1 or 2 above, ranking will be determined using the Accumulated Draw Shot Distance.*

B. HOSTING INFORMATION

- 1) A minimum of four (4) sheets of ice is required.
- 2) The event is scheduled for a maximum of five (5) days.
- 3) Club stones will be used.
- 4) The event will be officiated.
- 5) Games will be timed.
- 6) There may be a pre-competition practice scheduled, if time allows.
- 7) There will be a pre-game practice scheduled prior to each draw.
- 8) House buttons should be the same size with triangulation measurement points established.
- 9) 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 credentials and NS Curling requirements.
- 2) Coaches are considered a team member and must abide by all relevant policies and team expectations. For more information regarding coaching consult [Competitor Guide, Section B\(7-10\)](#).

E. CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

Year to year Participation Information - MEN

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
# Teams	20	20	21	Covid	20	15	9	13	13
# Clubs	13	13	13	X	?	?	?	?	?
Date	Feb 22-26	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	Bridgewater	Sydney	Glooscap	Yarmouth

Year to Year Participation Information - WOMEN

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
# Teams	12	8	4	Covid	12	10	6	7	9
# Clubs	9	6	4	X	?	?	?	?	?
Date	Feb 29-Mar 3	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	Digby	Amherst	Amherst	Wolfville	Amherst	Bluenose	Glooscap	Sydney

F. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

GENERAL

- 1) This championship is a designated Tier 2 NS Curling event.
- 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 governed by the Competitions Advisory Panel.

COMPETITION FORMAT IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUND

- 1) Teams may play a maximum of three (3) games per day for a maximum of two (2) days.
- 2) The anticipated format for this championship is Round Robin play.
- 3) The number of participating teams will determine:
 - a) if teams will be divided into one (1) or more pools
 - b) the number of teams qualifying for the playoffs.
- 4) The total number of 'Berths' into the championship draw will be determined by the number of NS Curling affiliated curling clubs registering in Curling IO.
 - a) Each affiliated club who registers in Curling IO by the established deadline, will be initially granted one 'Standard Berth'.
 - b) After the registration deadline an affiliated club in "good standing", if they registered a second team, may have an opportunity to secure an 'Additional Berth(s)'. In good standing means the clubs Membership Affiliation Fees have been paid in full AND their annual Membership Numbers (due December 31st) have been submitted
 - i. The Host club will be given first option to secure a second berth,
 - ii. If the total allocation has not been reached 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,
 - iii. If the draw allocation still has not been reached, clubs that registered a second team may be awarded an additional berth(s). The club with the highest 'per capita' total will be awarded an additional berth(s) first, and so on until the draw allocation has been filled.
 - c) If a club registers a second team in Curling IO but the club is not offered a second berth the entry fee will be refunded.
- 5) Draw format guidelines are identified in Table A. NS Curling reserves the right to modify the draw format to meet the requirements of the championship.
- 6) The 2024/25 Men's Championship is being hosted by Lakeshore Curling Club, the club has six sheets of ice. This championship will be a complete 24-team event. It is possible some clubs could be offered a third berth; clubs should plan their club championships accordingly.

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 st place team goes straight to final.	3
5	5	1	6	Round Robin – 1 Pool. 3 team playoff, 1 st place team goes straight to final.	4
6	6	0	6		
7	7	1	8		
8	8	0	8		
9	9	3	12	Round Robin – 2 Pools of 6 teams. 6 team playoff – top 2 teams in each pool + next best 2 teams overall	4
10	10	2	12	Round Robin – 4 Pools of 4 teams. 8 team playoff – top team in each pool + next best 4 teams overall	4
11	11	5	16		
12	12	4	16		
13	13	7	20		
14	14	6	20		4

15	15	5	20	Round Robin – 4 Pools of 5 teams. 12 team playoff – top 2 teams in each pool + next best 4 teams overall	
16	16	4	20		
17	17	7	24	Round Robin – 4 Pools of 6 teams. 12 Team playoff - top 2 teams in each pool + next best 4 teams overall	4
18	18	6	24		
19	19	5	24		
20	20	4	24		
21	21	3	24		
22	22	2	24		
23	23	1	24		
24	24	0	24		
+24	If more than 24 clubs are anticipated to register, a Qualification event will be required.				

RANKING & DRAW PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

- 1) Self-Seeding will be used to determine the ranking of teams into the draw.
- 2) For more information regarding self-seeding consult the **Competitor Guide, Section D(6)**.
- 3) If more than one (1) pool is required, a ranking adjustment may be made so that teams from the same club are not placed into the same pool.
- 4) Team names in the draw will be listed as the curling club they represent.

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) All games are scheduled for eight (8) ends duration.
- 3) Each team will receive 30 minutes of thinking time to complete the game.
- 4) Each team will receive four (4) minutes, thirty (30) seconds of thinking time for each extra end.
- 5) The mid-game break is five (5) minutes.
- 6) There will be a three (3) minute break before starting the extra end. Between all other ends, breaks will be “turn and go”.
- 7) Each team will receive one (1) sixty (60) second time out per 8 end game. Each team will receive one (1) sixty (60) second time out during any extra end of play.

PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE

- 1) If time allows, a schedule will be created to allow teams a pre-competition practice.
- 2) The amount of practice time will be identified in the Championship Draw Schedule. Each team will be scheduled the same amount of practice time.
- 3) As a matter of courtesy please let the Competitions Director know if you are not going to attend your practice session.
- 4) For more information regarding pre-competition practice guidelines consult **Competitor Guide, Section D(8)**.

PRE-GAME CALL

- 1) Thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled game time, when announced, teams will report to the designated pre-game area to confirm their line-up, readiness to play, and to receive any instructions.
- 2) For round robin formats, the team listed first will be assigned dark-coloured handles. Dark coloured handles will practice first.
- 3) A draw to the button competition will be used to determine last stone advantage in the first end. Each team will name their two players who will deliver the Last Stone Draws for that game, including which turns will be thrown.

PRE-GAME PRACTICE

- 1) Twenty-five (25) minutes prior to scheduled game time, first practice will be announced.
- 2) It will consist of up to 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 each Last Stone Draw. 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) IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUND

- 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 Round Robin format competitions two (2) LSDs will be thrown.
- 3) Stones will be thrown with the rotation identified in the pre-game call.
- 4) For more information on LSD procedures consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(12\)](#).

TIE-BREAKER GAMES

- 1) No tiebreaker games will be played.
- 2) For more information regarding the determination of playoff rankings consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(14\)](#).

PLAYOFF MEETING

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the playoff process.
- 2) Immediately following the conclusion of the preliminary round final draw, a meeting will occur between the Chief Umpire and the playoff teams. Teams must send one (1) team member (i.e. a player or coach).
- 3) The Chief Umpire will identify each team's advantages and choices with respect to hammer or handle colour selection(s), and any adjustments to scheduling or ice allocation if necessary.
- 4) A team that does not attend the playoff meeting forfeits their game choices (last stone advantage in first end, stone handle colour, and practice order) to which the team may be entitled.
- 5) Playoff games will follow the procedures described in the [Competitor Guide, Section D\(17-19\)](#).