

# 2025 Masters Men and Women



## COMBINED EVENT

**Date: February 26 - March 2, 2025 (Wednesday to Sunday)**

**Location: Amherst Curling Club**

**Registration Deadline: January 12, 2025**

**Entry Fee: \$400.00**

The Masters is not affiliated with Curling Canada. The Canadian Championship is administered by the National Masters Committee. The winning team earns the right to represent Nova Scotia at the Canadian Masters Curling Championship - the entry fee is the responsibility of the team. Two years ago, \$100.00 from each gender's entry fee collected was provided to each gender's winning team - that provision has been removed. The winning and runner-up teams also earn the right to represent Nova Scotia at the Maritime Masters Championship – the entry fee is the responsibility of the team.

**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.**

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## A. ELIGIBILITY

- 1) The provincial championship is an open entry with no qualification event.
- 2) Limited Entry:
  - a) The Masters Men's Championship is limited to 16 teams which will be based on a first come, first serve to register for the event in Curling IO.
  - b) The Masters Women's Championship is limited to 16 teams which will be based on a first come, first serve to register for the event in Curling IO.
  - c) If a full compliment of 16 teams is registered on Curling IO, teams may register to be placed on the waiting list.
- 3) Teams **MUST** register four (4) players. Teams may register an alternate and an eligible coach.
- 4) All players and alternate must be Canadian citizens, residents of Nova Scotia, and aged sixty (60) years of age on December 31, 2024.
- 5) All players and alternate must be a member in good standing of a NS Curling affiliated curling club but not necessarily the same club.
- 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. For more information regarding team registration or team rosters consult **Competitor Guide, Sections B(3) and B(4)**.

- 8) A delivery stick may be used.

## B. HOSTING INFORMATION

- 1) A minimum of four (4) sheets of ice is required.
- 2) Club must be accessible.
- 3) The event is scheduled for a maximum five (5) days.
- 4) Club stones will be used.
- 5) The event will be officiated.
- 6) Games will be timed.
- 7) There will be a pre-competition practice scheduled.
- 8) There will be a pre-game practice scheduled prior to each draw.
- 9) House buttons should be the same size with triangulation measurement points established.
- 10) 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

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Men	7	7	3	Covid	7	7	12	11	12
Women	4	4	5	Covid	6	5	8	6	4
Date	Feb 28-Mar 3	Mar 3-7	Mar 3-8	Mar 4-9	Feb 27-Mar 4	Feb 28-Mar 4	Feb 22-27	Feb 24-28	Jan 29-Feb 2
Host	Amherst	Amherst	Digby	Digby	Digby	Digby	Shelburne	Middleton	Middleton

## F. PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

### 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 the Canadian Championship will be governed by the Competitions Advisory Panel.

### **COMPETITION FORMAT IN THE PRELIMINARY ROUND**

- 1) Teams may play a maximum of two (2) games per day, except if playing in a tie-breaker game.
- 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) Draw format guidelines is shown in Table A. NS Curling reserves the right to modify the draw format to meet the requirements of the championship.

**Table A. Draw Format Guidelines**

<b>Number of Teams</b>	<b>Draw Format</b>	<b>Days to Complete</b>
1	Declared Provincial Representative	0
2	Best 3 of 5	3
3	Double Round Robin. An undefeated team will be declared champion outright without playoffs. Otherwise, 2 team single elimination playoff.	3
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
5-8	Round Robin – Single Pool. 3 team playoff. 1 <sup>st</sup> place team goes straight to final.	4/5
9-16	Round Robin – Multiple Pools. Top 2 teams in each pool advance to playoffs.	5

### **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\(6\)](#).

### **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) The amount of practice time will be identified in the Championship Draw Schedule. Each team will be scheduled the same amount of practice time.

- 2) As a matter of courtesy please let the Competitions Director know if you are not going to attend your practice session.
- 3) 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) A maximum of one (1) tie-breaker draw will be scheduled.
- 2) Tie-breaker games are not considered to be playoff games.
- 3) For more information regarding playoff rankings and tiebreaker games consult [Competitor Guide, Section D\(14 and 15\)](#).
- 4) In the pre-game call the winner of the coin flip will choose stone handle colour OR practice order. A draw to the button competition will determine last stone advantage in the first end.
- 5) In all tie-breaker games, teams will use the stones on the assigned game sheet.

#### **PLAYOFF MEETING**

- 1) The Chief Umpire will administer the playoff and tie-breaker process.
- 2) Immediately following the conclusion of the preliminary round final draw, a meeting will occur between the Chief Umpire, and tiebreaker and 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 and tie-breaker games will follow the procedures described in the [Competitor Guide, Section D\(14-20\)](#).