

Competitions Information 2014-15 Season (Revised Sept. 18th)

Mixed:

This year NOCA will introduce two Mixed Qualifiers, one East and one West. The Qualifiers will each declare 3 teams to the BrokerLink Mixed NOCA Provincial. The Provincial Championship will be a 6 team round robin event with a final game against the 1st place and 2nd place teams.

Women's:

NOCA will now have the opportunity to access the Scotties Tournament of Hearts directly. The following statement is an excerpt from the CCA website (<http://www.curling.ca/championships/equitable-opportunity-to-access-championships-f-a-q/>)

“At the 2015 Scotties in Moose Jaw, Sask., Northern Ontario and Nunavut will be eligible for the first time to compete for the Canadian women’s championship, and will be in the play-in tournament along with the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, who had the fewest wins from a three-year running tally at the 2012, 2013 and 2014 Scotties. They will compete as separate Territories for the first time in 2015.”

New from the Canadian Curling Association:

Several items were approved at the CCA Annual General Meeting. A full press release is available at <http://www.curling.ca/blog/2014/09/02/new-governors-new-rules-new-formats-come-out-of-cca-annual-meeting/>

Highlights:

- The qualifying rounds at the Canadian Seniors and Mixed Championships were eliminated and replaced by a similar 14-team direct-entry format that is currently used at the M&M Meat Shops Canadian Junior Men’s and Women’s Championships, with the 14 teams split into two seven-team pools.
- Games at both the Seniors and Mixed nationals will be reduced to eight ends. **(NOCA will also adopt this format of 8 end games for Mixed and Senior Regions and Provincials)**
- Effective as of the 2015-16 curling season, the age-eligible date for juniors to play at the M&M Meat Shops Canadian Juniors was shifted six months back to fall in line with the World Curling Federation rules. Previously, Canadian juniors had to be 20 and under as of Dec. 31 of the year prior to a Canadian championship; now they have to be 20 and under as of June 30 of the previous year.
- Thinking time for 10-end games will be reduced to 38 minutes from 40 minutes, and to four minutes and 30 seconds in the extra end from five minutes.
- Revisions were made to the CCA Residency Policy. The new policy and required documents for exemption requests can be found at <http://curlnoc.ca/competitions/>

Events in Northern Ontario:

- The North Bay Granite Curling Club will host the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships November 6-14, 2014 <http://www.curling.ca/2015mixed-en/>
- Grand Slam National in Sault Ste. Marie November 19-23, 2014 <http://www.thegrandslamofcurling.com/curling/national/>.

Competitor Guides:

Guides for all levels of competition will be available on the NOCA website by October 15th. Please ensure you have the most recent edition before your team competes as changes are sometimes made after the original guide is published.

Competition Schedule:

Available on the NOCA website <http://curlnoc.ca/competitions/>.