



NOCA Notes
October 10, 2014

NOCA Notes Distribution:

Another curling season is upon us. NOCA Notes is a weekly publication distributed by NOCA to inform curlers, fans, and volunteers about curling happenings in Northern Ontario and Canada. If you would like to receive NOCA Notes via email on a weekly basis, please click here <http://curlnoca.ca/newsletter>. Once you've signed up, you will receive a confirmation email. You can change your preferences anytime to be removed from the distribution.

Curling Conferences:

With assistance from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Coaching Association of Canada, the Coaches Association of Ontario, the Canadian Association for Advancement of Women and Sport, the CCA, and Investors Group, NOCA is pleased to host two curling conferences this fall. The first conference was held in Thunder Bay September 26th -28th as part of Ontario Coaches Week and resulted in 14 people completing their training in the Club Coach Course, and 11 people completing their training in the Competition Coach Course.

The second conference will be held in **Sudbury October 24 – 26th**. The conference will feature streams for Coaches, Curling Club Volunteers, and Officials. Keynote speakers include: Tom Coulterman, Coach of the Brad Jacobs Olympic Men's Gold Medal team; Michelle Cundari, CAAWS; and Clay Melnike, Marketing Minds Int. The conference will begin at 6:30 pm Friday October 24th with sign up and continue through the weekend. The Idylwyld G&CC will also host a Learn to Curl clinic on Saturday in conjunction with the event.

The deadline for registration for the Sudbury conference is Friday October 17th. Don't miss this great opportunity to advance your coaching or officiating training, or participate in workshops designed to help your club address its needs in today's curling environment. Information and registration (pre-registration is required) is available at:

<http://curlnoca.ca/programs/sudbury-curling-conference/>

2015 Curling Assistance Program (C.A.P.):

The Canadian Curling Association and the Northern Ontario Curling Association are pleased to release the application forms and the funding guidelines for the 2015 Curling Assistance Programme (CAP). For 2015, The CCA has allocated \$110,315.00 from certain championship events for the purpose of providing financial assistance to the membership of the CCA including Provincial / Territorial Member Associations and affiliated curling facilities. This funding is known as the Curling Assistance Program (CAP).

CAP targets projects designed to grow the sport at the community level or to assist capital projects critical to the operation and health of the CCA's membership.

<http://curlnoca.ca/curling-assistance-program-c-a-p-announced/>

Tim Hortons Youth Challenges:

Registration is now available for the Tim Hortons NOCA Youth Challenges. To date there are Youth Challenges scheduled for the Sudbury CC, Atikokan CC, Kenora CC, Deer Trail CC (Elliot Lake), Horne Granite CC (New Liskeard). Information and registration is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/competitions/youth-challenges/>

Competitions Registrations:

Registration is now available for all competitions: <http://curlnoca.ca/competitions/>

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NOCA Notes
October 17, 2014

Curling Conference:

Don't forget to register for the Curling Conference in **Sudbury October 24 – 26th**. The conference will feature streams for Coaches, Curling Club Volunteers, and Officials. Keynote speakers include: Tom Coulterman, Coach of the Brad Jacobs Olympic Men's Gold Medal team; Michelle Cundari, CAAWS; and Clay Melnike, Marketing Minds Int. The conference will begin at 6:30 pm Friday October 24th with sign up and continue through the weekend. The Idylwyld G&CC will also host a Learn to Curl clinic on Saturday in conjunction with the event.

The **deadline** for registration for the Sudbury conference is **Friday October 17th**. Information and registration (pre-registration is required) is available at:

<http://curlnoca.ca/programs/sudbury-curling-conference/>

Club Events on NOCA Website:

One feature of the NOCA website is the ability for clubs to enter their bonspiels, registration nights, annual meetings, and other club events on the site. The section of the website is "Club Events" and events can be searched by date, type of event, club, or region, or you can view a monthly calendar. Posters for events can be uploaded as well. To add your club event, go to

curlnoca.ca/club-events/

Police Record Checks

All NOCA coaches working with youth must have a Vulnerable Sector Check issued by their local police or OPP department. NOCA requires the coaches provide this documentation to the office, and that it be renewed every three years. This is also a good practice for clubs who have volunteers working with their Little Rock or Junior programs. There can be a fee for this service from the local police or OPP, and they may also require a form from NOCA or your club confirming that this person is working with youth. NOCA provides this form to coaches and it can also be used as a template for clubs to modify. If you need a copy of this form, please contact the NOCA office, or email info@curlnoca.ca

Competition Information:

Information is now on the website regarding NOCA Competitions for this season including: 2014-15 and 2015-16 schedules; Competition formats; Competition Information for the season; Coach certification requirements; Provincial Rotation to 2021; and registrations.

<http://curlnoca.ca/competitions/>

New CCA Website:

The CCA recently launched a new website: <http://www.curling.ca/>. It is really easy to navigate and full of resource information for curlers and curling clubs. This page in particular is very informative for club volunteers, coaches, Ice Technicians, and anyone interested in the history of curling: <http://www.curling.ca/about-the-sport-of-curling/>

NOCA Notes Distribution:

Please help spread the word about NOCA Notes by passing along this edition, and encouraging others to sign up. To receive NOCA Notes via email on a weekly basis, please click here <http://curlnoca.ca/newsletter>. Once you've signed up, you will receive a confirmation email. You can change your preferences anytime to be removed from the distribution.

8-ender Winners:

If your team scores an 8-ender, you are all eligible to receive a NOCA 8-Ender Fleece vest. Information is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/>

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NOCA Notes
October 31, 2014

Sudbury Conference a Huge Success:

NOCA, with the assistance of the Coaching Association of Canada, Investors Group, and CAAWS, held a second curling conference in Sudbury last weekend. 9 Club Coaches and 10 Competition Coaches were trained, 10 Curling Club Volunteers learned about how to better their clubs and programs, and 5 Officials received their Levels 1 & 2 training.

At the Gala Banquet Saturday evening, 7 teams from Sudbury who won NOCA Provincials were recognized: Megan Smith, Bantam Girls and Canada Winter Games representative for Ontario; Krysta Burns, Junior Women; Tanner Horgan, Junior Men; Tracy Horgan, Women, Vicky Barrett, Senior Women; Rob Gordon, Senior Men; and Janice Vettoretti, Travelers Curling Club Women.

Awards were also presented as follows: Jamie McPherson, Region 3 Coach; Steve Acorn, Region 4 Coach; Chris Johnson, Region 5 Coach; Julie Seim, Region 6 Coach; Ed Cummings, NOCA 2013-14 Volunteer Award (Ed is from the Sudbury CC); Deer Trail Curling Club, NOCA 2013-14 Club Recognition Award.

Congratulations to all teams and award winners.

Keewatin CC Ticket Launch for the Travelers Men's Provincial:

On Thursday October 30th, the Keewatin CC held the official ticket launch for the Travelers Northern Ontario Men's Provincial Championship. The event took place at the Lake of the Woods Brewing Company and was well attended. The official site for the Provincial Championship is <https://www.travelers.keewatincurlingclub.com/>.

Canadian Mixed Curling Championship:

Colin Koivula (Port Arthur CC) and his rink of Oye-Sem Won, Chris Briand, and Amanda Gates will be heading to North Bay next week to represent Northern Ontario at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships. Tickets for the event are available at <http://canadianmixed.com/tickets.php>. The format for this year will see all 14 Member Associations represented in the entire event (no pre-qualification to get to 12 teams). The event will use a 2 pool format, and all games will be 8 ends. The event site is <http://canadianmixed.com/index.php>.

Good Luck to the Koivula rink!

Grand Slam Event in the Sault:

The National Grand Slam Event will be held at the Essar Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, November 18th – 23rd. Tickets: <http://www.thegrandslamofcurling.com/tickets/>

NOCA Notes Distribution:

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2 minutes Guide to the Sport of Curling:

Use this video to promote curling in your community:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXHh_wadqPw&feature=youtu.be

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

NOTE – THE CLOSING TIME FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 12:00 NOON.

- Youth Challenge Kenora CC: November 5th
- Youth Challenge Deer Trail CC: November 12th
- Junior Regions: November 14th

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NOCA Notes
November 7, 2014

Curling Week in Northern Ontario – November 15 - 23:

Bearskin Airlines is proud to sponsor Curling Week in Northern Ontario. This is the sixth annual event and offers clubs a chance to highlight their club in the community by hosting events such as Learn to Curl clinics, Open houses, league challenges, fun-spiels, and other great functions.

This year there will again be a Closest to the Pin contest. Information has been sent to all clubs, and is posted here: <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/curling-week/> Prizes for the first to fourth place winners include flights courtesy of Bearskin Airlines, Goldline gift cards, and Team Jacobs autographed items.

A Curling Week calendar will be posted on the website and will be continually updated as clubs submit information to the NOCA office with the activities they are having that week. Don't miss this opportunity to promote your club and curling in your community and get participants entering the Closest to the Pin contest.

Canadian Mixed Curling Championships:

November 10 – 15 will see teams from all 14 provinces and territories compete at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships in North Bay. The Colin Koivula rink from the Port Arthur Curling Club will represent Northern Ontario. Event site: <http://www.curling.ca/2015mixed-en/>

Defibrillators Available for Free to Curling Clubs:

Earlier this year the National Heart and Stroke program launched a program in association with the federal government that allows all recreational facilities to apply for a free AED (Defibrillator) unit. This now qualifies for affiliated Canadian curling rinks. If your club already has one defibrillator then it's not a bad idea to receive a second one at no cost! Information: <http://curlnoca.ca/defibrillators-available-for-free-to-curling-clubs/>

NOCA Notes Signup:

If you would like to receive NOCA Notes via email on a weekly basis, please click here <http://curlnoca.ca/newsletter>. Once you've signed up, you will receive a confirmation email. You can change your preferences anytime to be removed from the distribution.

CCA Awards:

The Canadian Curling Association provides several awards to volunteers, curlers, and clubs. The deadline for most nominations is December 31st. Information is available at www.curling.ca/about-the-organization/awards-and-certificates/

National Sports Day

RBC Sports Day in Canada, presented by ParticipACTION, CBC and True Sport, is a national celebration of the power of sport to build community and get Canadians moving! The fifth annual event will take place on Saturday, November 29th in communities from coast to coast to coast. Enter your club event and get more information at <http://sportsday.cbc.ca/>

Grand Slam in Sault Ste. Marie

November 19-23. Tickets: <http://www.thegrandslamofcurling.com/tickets/>

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

NOTE – THE CLOSING TIME FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 12:00 NOON.

- Youth Challenge Deer Trail CC: November 12th
- Junior Regions: November 14th
- Bantam Regions: November 28th

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NOCA Notes November 14, 2014

Curling Week Contest

During Curling Week NOCA will hold a contest for some great prizes including:

- 5 ticket packages (for two) to draws 8-12 of the National Grand Slam in Sault Ste Marie
- Autographed Goldline broom from Team Jacobs
- 3 Ice Gold books autographed by Team Jacobs
- A Goldline Jacket autographed by all of the teams at the National Grand Slam

Prizes will be given daily starting Monday November 17th.

[Enter here](#)

Curling Week in Northern Ontario – November 15 - 23:

Bearskin Airlines is proud to sponsor Curling Week in Northern Ontario. This is the sixth annual event and offers clubs a chance to highlight their club in the community by hosting events such as Learn to Curl clinics, Open houses, league challenges, fun-spiels, and other great functions.

This year there will again be a Closest to the Pin contest. Information has been sent to all clubs, and is posted here: <http://curlno.ca/programs/curling-week/> Prizes for the first to fourth place winners include flights courtesy of Bearskin Airlines, and Goldline gift cards.

A Curling Week calendar will be continually updated as clubs submit information to the NOCA office with the activities they are having that week. Don't miss this opportunity to promote your club and curling in your community and get participants entering the Closest to the Pin contest.

[Curling Week Calendar](#)

Ice Gold Book Promo for NOCA Clubs:

ECW Press is offering curling clubs a copy of "Ice Gold: Canada's Curling Champions by Ted Wyman (October 2014, ECW Press)" as a promotional item.

"This is an exciting new book that we believe will be of key interest to your club's clientele. Authored by Winnipeg Sun sports editor Ted Wyman, this comprehensive book follows Team Jones and Team Jacobs from their very different beginnings all the way to the world stage at the Sochi Olympics. Punctuated with beautiful full-colour photos, Ice Gold is a must-read for Canadian sports fans from coast to coast."

[Read more](#)

Team Jacobs Ticket Packages:

Packages are available to watch all Team Jacobs round robin games at the Grand Slam National.

[Ticket Information](#)

Charity Bonspiel a Huge Success:

The Bearskin Airlines Skip to Equip Classic was held November 7-9 at the Sioux Lookout Golf & Curling Club. The event saw 22 women's teams raise \$70,000.

"The long term care needs at the Sioux Lookout Meno Ya Win Health Centre have been identified and the success of the weekend presented the Health Centre Foundation with a cheque in the amount of \$65, 500 at the closing ceremonies on Sunday afternoon. \$5000 was also donated to the Sioux Lookout Golf and Curling Club for providing ice and services for the event."

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

NOTE – THE CLOSING TIME FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS IS 12:00 NOON.

- Bantam Regions: November 28th
- Tim Hortons Youth Challenge Copper Cliff CC: Dec. 3rd
- Officiating Levels 1&2 Course, Thunder Bay: Dec. 5th

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TRAVELERS



Tim Hortons



Budget



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Goldline





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NOCA Notes
November 28, 2014

Curling Week Contest Winners

During Curling Week, NOCA held a contest for some great prizes. Thanks to Bearskin Airlines, Sportsnet, Goldline, Team Jacobs, and ECW Press for their generous prize donations. A list of the winners can be found at [Curling Week Winners](#)

Junior Region Playdowns Nov. 27th -30th:

This weekend will see 22 Junior teams compete for their berths at the Best Western Junior Provincials. Results are now posted right on the NOCA website and can be accessed by clicking the Results tab in the menu bar, or LIVE SCORES on the right side of the home page. Not all clubs have internet access, so results may not be posted until after the draw ends. [Results](#)

Blind River CC Takes the Business of Curling Program Ideas:

The Blind River Curling Club hosted a Business of Curling Symposium in October 2013. Since then they have incorporated many of the ideas they learned about with great success. Read the article posted by the CCA. [Read more](#)

Accessibility fo Ontarians with Disabilities Act:

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) became law on June 13, 2005. Under this landmark legislation, the government of Ontario has developed mandatory accessibility standards that identifies, removes, and prevents barriers for people with disabilities. The AODA applies to all levels of government, nonprofits, and private sector businesses across Ontario who have one or more staff. An information document is available on the NOCA website which clubs should download to determine what the requirements are for their organization. [AODA Memo](#)

Make Ethical Decisions:

Effective in the 2014-2015 curling season, the Make Ethical Decisions (MED) Multi-sport Training Module will be delivered in a curling environment as part of the Competition Coach Training weekend! [Read more](#)

Competitor Guides and Forms:

Competitor Guides for all events have been updated (Nov. 25th) and are posted on the website in each event section. Competitors and coaches are reminded that they must complete Participant Agreements (each player and coach must complete in individual form) and submit them to the NOCA office along with the Member Facility Verification form and a Coach Police Check (for coaches working with youth). The forms are available at [Competition Forms](#)

Travelers Men's NOCA Provincial:

Tickets are now on sale for the 2015 Men's Provincial. The event is being hosted by the Keewatin Curling Club in the Kenora Arena. A poster is available to print and post at your club, and there is a website and app for the event.

[Event Site](#) [Event Poster](#)

Grants Available:

The Province has recently announced some grants that clubs might be interested in applying for. A full list of grants is available at [Grants Ontario](#). Of particular interest: [Age Friendly Community Planning Grant](#), and [Ontario Sport and Recreation Community Fund](#)

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

NOTE – THE CLOSING TIME FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS IS 12:00 NOON.

- [Tim Hortons Youth Challenge Copper Cliff CC:](#) Dec. 3rd
- [Officiating Levels 1&2 Course, Thunder Bay:](#) Dec. 5th
- [Travelers Men's Qualifier East:](#) Dec. 19th
- [Tim Hortons Youth Challenge Fort William CC:](#) Dec. 22nd

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NOCA Notes December 5, 2014

Junior Provincial Teams Declared:

16 teams of Junior Men and Women (8 per gender) earned their berth to the Best Western Junior NOCA Provincials last weekend. The provincials will take place at Soo Curlers Association January 3-6, 2015. Thank you to all of the teams who competed and to the host clubs, officials, icemakers, and volunteers who gave their time and energy to ensure that the teams had the best possible conditions to compete for their provincial berth. Results from last weekend are posted on the NOCA site. [Results](#)

Junior Men's Teams:

Chris Silver (Fort Frances CC)
Jaron Hoppe (Keewatin CC)
Zach Warkentin (Port Arthur CC)
Chris Glibota (Soo Curlers Assoc.)
Nicholas Bissonnette (Sudbury CC)
Tanner Horgan (Idylwyld G&CC)
Brendan Acorn (Sudbury CC)
Patrick Huska (Idylwyld G&CC)

Junior Women's Teams:

Jenna Poirier (Sioux Lookout G&CC)
Megan Smith (Sudbury CC)
Sydnie Stinson (Copper Cliff CC)
Krysta Burns (Idylwyld G&CC)
Jamie Smith (Coniston CC)
Calli Barclay (North Bay Granite CC)
Katie Rutledge (Soo Curlers Assoc.)
Katelyn Dumoulin (Cochrane CC)

Grants Available:

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Awards Available:

- The Canadian Curling Association has several awards that they are seeking nominations for: CCA Hall of Fame ([Criteria](#)); Board of Governors Special Recognition Award; Ray Kingsmith Award; and Award of Achievement. The deadline for nominations for these awards is December 31, 2014. There are also other recognitions awards available. [Award Information](#)
- The Ontario Volunteer Secretariat's 2015 Volunteer Service Awards are now seeking nominations. Why not recognize that person (or people) at your club who are always there lending a hand as a volunteer, coach, ice assistant, concession worker, or event/bonspiel organizer [Information](#)

2014 Home Hardware Canada Cup:

This weekend sees 7 Men's teams and & Women's teams compete in the Home Hardware Canada Cup. TSN is televising all games. [Event Site](#) [Television Schedule](#)

C.A.P. Funding Reminder

The Canadian Curling Association is once again offering financial assistance to clubs through the Curling Assistance Program. This program targets programs designed to grow the sport at the community level, or assist with capital projects. Funding is available in two categories: Bricks and Mortar, and Business Development. [Information](#)
The deadline is 5:00 pm Friday January 9, 2015.

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- Travelers Men's Qualifier East: Dec. 19th
- Tim Hortons Youth Challenge Fort William CC: Dec. 22nd
- Bantam Qualifiers: Dec. 23rd
- NOCA Women's Provincial: Dec. 26th

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NOCA Notes
December 19, 2014

Bantam Region Playdowns

This weekend will see the first berths to the Tim Bantam Provincials declared. Regional playdowns will take place in Keewatin, Kakabeka Falls, Blind River, Sudbury (Idylwyld G&CC), and Kapuskasing. [Results](#)

Coaches Association of Ontario Coaching Conference:

The CAO is hosting the Ontario Coaches Conference February 20-22, 2015. The conference welcomes more than 350 amateur coaches from across the province, ranging from community volunteers to full-time professional coaches. The Conference has become a can't-miss event on the provincial sport event calendar since 2007, involving coaches from as many as 50 sporting disciplines, including those working with Olympic and Paralympic athletes. [Information](#)

2015 Amethyst Junior Curling Camp:

Information packages will be sent to all campers from last year on in early January. Those campers have until January 25, 2015 to register. After that date spots will be filled with other applicants. General registration information will be on the NOCA website in early January.

Travelers Curling Club Championship:

Curling Clubs must register their intent to have a team (teams) represent their club in the Travelers Curling Club Region playdowns by Friday January 16, 2015. Clubs must register just their intent and pay for the registration online. The teams for the regional playdown must be declared at least a week prior to the region playdown. All region playdowns must be completed by March 8th. The Travelers Curling Club Provincials will take place March 26-28 at Soo Curlers Association. [Information](#)

Grants Available:

The Province has recently announced some grants that clubs might be interested in applying for. A full list of grants is available at [Grants Ontario](#). Of particular interest: [Age Friendly Community Planning Grant](#), and [Ontario Sport and Recreation Community Fund](#)

Awards Available:

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- The Ontario Volunteer Secretariat's 2015 Volunteer Service Awards are now seeking nominations. Why not recognize that person (or people) at your club who are always there lending a hand as a volunteer, coach, ice assistant, concession worker, or event/bonspiel organizer [Information](#)

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Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- [Tim Hortons Youth Challenge Fort William CC](#): Dec. 22nd
- [Bantam Qualifiers](#): Dec. 23rd
- [NOCA Women's Provincial](#): Dec. 26th
- [Travelers Men's West Qualifier](#): Jan. 13th

Happy Holidays

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NOCA Notes
January 8, 2015

Junior Provincial Champions Declared:

Congratulations to the Krysta Burns rink (Burns, Leah Hodgson, Sara Guy, Laura Masters, Coach Rodney Guy) and the Tanner Horgan rink (Horgan, Jacob Horgan, Connor Lawes, Maxime Blais, Coach Gerry Horgan) for winning the Best Western NOCA Junior Provincials. Both teams hail from the Idylwyld G&CC. The Burns and Horgan rinks will represent Northern Ontario at the M&M Canadian Juniors in Corner Brook, NL. January 24 - February 1, 2015.



Travelers Curling Club Championship:

Curling Clubs must register their intent to have a team (teams) represent their club in the Travelers Curling Club Region playdowns by Friday January 16, 2015. Clubs must register just their intent and pay for the registration online. The teams for the regional playdown must be declared at least a week prior to the region playdown. All region playdowns must be completed by March 8th. The Travelers Curling Club Provincials will take place March 26-28 at Soo Curlers Association.

[Information](#)

Bantam Qualifiers:

This weekend will see 7 bantam teams (4 boys teams, 3 girls teams) compete in the Bantam West Qualifier in Atikokan. Up for grabs is 1 spot per gender in the Bantam Provincials. The Horne Granite CC (New Liskeard) will host the Bantam Qualifier East where one spot for the boys and two spots for the girls are on the line. 5 boys teams and 4 girls teams are competing in that event. The winning teams will compete in the Tim Hortons Bantam Boys Provincial in Fort Frances, and the Tim Hortons Bantam Girls Provincial in Thessalon. Both events take place February 5-8, 2015

[East Qualifier Results](#)

[West Qualifier Results](#)

Travelers Men's Playdowns:

The Espanola Curling Club will host the Travelers East Qualifier this weekend. 6 teams are competing for 3 berths in the Travelers Northern Ontario Men's Provincial to be held at the Kenora Arena February 4-8, 2015. [Results](#)

The West Qualifier, which will also see 3 teams advance to the provincials, is scheduled for January 22-25 at the Geraldton Curling Club. The Travelers Men's Provincial will be an 8 team round robin with a semi-final and a final to declare Northern Ontario's team for the Tim Hortons Brier. The Brad Jacobs rink (Soo Curlers Association) and the Al Hackner rink (Fort William CC) have already secured berths in the provincials by having the highest CTRS (Canadian Team Ranking System) points of the men's teams in Northern Ontario.

Northern Ontario Scotties:

January 14-18 will see the inaugural Northern Ontario Scotties hosted at the Fort William Curling Club. 5 women's teams will compete for the opportunity to represent Northern Ontario at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts, February 14-22 in Moosejaw, SK. [Results](#) [Fort William Curling Club](#)

Amethyst Junior Curling Camp:

Check out the brand new Amethyst website at <http://amethystcurling.com/>

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- Senior Regions: Friday Jan. 9th
- Men's West Qualifier: Tuesday Jan. 13th
- Travelers Curling Club Regions: Friday Jan. 15th
- Travelers Men's West Qualifier: Jan. 13th
- Club Coach Youth and Club Coach Courses (Atikokan CC): Friday Jan. 19th

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NOCA Notes January 23, 2015

2015 M&M Meat Shops Canadian Juniors:

Good luck to the Tanner Horgan and Krysta Burns rinks (both from the Idylwyld G&CC), who will represent Northern Ontario as repeat provincial champions at the Canadian Juniors starting Saturday January 24th. [Event site](#)

2015 Northern Ontario Scotties Champions:

Congratulations to the Tracy Horgan rink from the Idylwyld G&CC for claiming the title of Northern Ontario Scotties Champions. The Horgan rink defeated the Kendra Lilly rink (Lilly, Sarah Potts, Oye-Sem Won Briand, Tirzah Keffer, coach Lorraine Lang) from the Fort William CC in a back and forth nail-biter final last weekend. If you missed the online game, you can still [watch it here](#)



The Horgan rink (Horgan, Jennifer Horgan, Jenna Enge, Amanda Gates, Courtney Chenier, Coach Andrea Ronnebeck) will now compete at the Scotties pre-qualifier round against teams from the Northwest Territories and Yukon. The three teams will play a single round robin in Moose Jaw starting Thursday Feb. 12th and ending with a final game during the first round robin game of the Scotties Saturday Feb. 14th. The winner of the final game in the pre-qualifier round will claim the 12th spot in the Scotties Tournament of Hearts February 14-22, 2015.

Heather Houston Rink Honoured:

The Heather Houston 1989 World Women's Championship rink was recognized at the NOCA Scotties provincial last Thursday. The Houston rink (Houston, Lorraine Lang, Diane Adams, Tracy Kennedy, Gloria Taylor) from the Fort William CC did not receive a banner for their accomplishment in 1989, so the Northern Ontario Curling Association presented them with this banner. The team received a standing ovation from the teams competing at the 2015 NOCA Scotties.



Travelers Men's Playdowns:

The Geraldton Curling Club is hosting the Travelers West Qualifier this weekend. 7 teams are competing for the last 3 berths in the Travelers Northern Ontario Men's Provincial to be held at the Kenora Arena February 4-8, 2015. [Results](#)

Club Coach Course:

The Espanola CC is hosting a Club Coach Course February 13 – 14. [Register here](#)

Amethyst Junior Curling Camp:

Check out the brand new Amethyst website at <http://amethystcurling.com/> Registration for new campers will be accepted after January 25th.

Media Guide for Curling Clubs:

Jim Cronin, Communications and Public Relations Specialist, and NOCA Board member, has created a Media Guide for clubs to use to encourage your club to develop and enhance a relationship with the media in your community. The Guide is very helpful, with lots of great tips and information. A copy of the Media Guide was emailed to all NOCA Club Delegates January 14th.

If you would like a copy for your club, please email lesliekerr@curlno.ca

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- Wheelchair Provincials: Friday Jan. 30th
- Mixed Provincials: Friday Feb. 6th
- Club Coach Course (Espanola CC): Friday Feb. 6th
- Masters Provincials: Friday Feb. 13th
- Idylwyld Tim Hortons Youth Challenge: Monday Feb. 16th

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www.curlno.ca/

NOCA Notes January 30, 2015

Travelers Men's Provincial:

The 2015 Travelers Northern Ontario Men's Provincial starts Wednesday February 4th and continues through to Sunday February 8th. The event is being held at the Kenora Arena, hosted by the Keewatin Curling Club and will see 8 teams compete in a round robin, finishing with a semi-final and final. The final game is scheduled for Sunday February 8th at 2:00 p.m. Central Time. The winning team will represent Northern Ontario at the Tim Hortons Brier February 28th – March 8th in Calgary.

[Event site](#) [Results](#)

Tim Hortons Bantam Provincials:

The Thessalon Curling Club will host the Bantam Girls Provincial and the Bantam Boys Provincial will be held at the Fort Frances Curling Club. Both events take place February 5th – 8th. 8 teams will compete in each provincial event with the winners competing at a later date against the winning Bantam teams from the Ontario Curling Association for the right to represent Ontario at the Optimist U-18 International Bospiel in April 2016. [Bantam Boys Results](#) [Bantam Girls Results](#)

Mixed Qualifier Registration Deadline Extended:

The deadline for registration for the Mixed Qualifiers (East and West) has been extended to Tuesday February 10th at 12:00 NOON.

Amethyst Camp Registration Now Open:

Registration for new campers is now available. Information about the camp can be found below, and on the new Amethyst website <http://amethystcurling.com/>
[Information Brochure](#) [Registration Form](#)

Amethyst Camp Bursaries:

Together with a generous partnership with Mr. Brent Belzile, and a donation in memory of Shirley Jean Francis-Wiebe, NOCA will provide five (5) bursaries to be awarded to deserving young curlers who, due to financial hardship, would unlikely be able to attend the camp without assistance. The bursary covers \$500 of the registration fee. Five (5) bursaries will be awarded: one in each age group (13–14, 15–16, 17–19); one to be decided based on the application criteria; one for a camper living west of Thunder Bay. **The deadline for Bursary Applications is Sunday February 1st.**

[Bursary Application Form](#)

Club Coach Course:

The Espanola CC is hosting a Club Coach Course February 13 – 14. [Register here](#)

Competition Development Course:

As of December 31, 2013 Level 3 Technical no longer exists, replacing it is a new, comprehensive program called "Competition Development". The program is being administered and delivered by the Canadian Curling Association nationally and is designed to assist the coach in taking their teams to the next level of provincial, national or international play. This workshop focuses on the planning, strategy, analysis and program management needed to improve your team's performance. There is a small wheelchair curling component, so coaches working with athletes with a disability would also benefit from this program. There are two courses scheduled for March:

- French – March 19-22, Baie-d'Urfé QC. Deadline Feb. 15th
- English – March 27-30, Abbotsford BC. Deadline March 1st.

[More Information](#)

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (all at 12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- Club Coach Course (Espanola CC): Friday Feb. 6th
- Mixed Provincials: Tuesday Feb. 10th (**note changed deadline date**)
- Masters Provincials: Friday Feb. 13th
- Idylwyde Tim Hortons Youth Challenge: Monday Feb. 16th

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NOCA Notes
February 13, 2015

2015 Scotties Tournament of Hearts:

The Scotties starts Saturday in Moose Jaw, SK. Tracy Horgan's rink won the Northern Ontario Scotties and is now playing in the single round robin pre-qualification event. This is the year that all provinces and territories have the opportunity to have a berth in the Canadian championship. Because this is the first time Northern Ontario has had the opportunity to have its own spot, the team must play against the Northwest Territories and Yukon to earn the 12th spot in the Scotties. Horgan is undefeated in the round robin after her second game. She will meet the winner of the Friday afternoon game (NWT vs. YT) in the pre-qualification final Saturday at 2 pm during the opening draw of the Scotties. Good luck Team Horgan.

[Event site](#) [Results](#)

2015 Travelers Men's NOCA Provincial:

Congratulations to the Brad Jacobs rink (Jacobs, Ryan Fry, E.J. Harnden, Ryan Harnden) from Soo Curlers Association. The Jacobs rink went undefeated through the provincial championship and won the final game in the 2015 Travelers Men's NOCA Provincial with a score of 9-4 over the Al Hackner rink (Fort William CC). Jacobs will now represent Northern Ontario at the Tim Hortons Brier February 28 – March 8, 2015 in Calgary.

Thanks to the Keewatin Curling Club, event Chair Hayley Smith, all of the volunteers, officials, ice team and Recreation Centre Staff for providing a great event at the Kenora Recreation Centre. Also, a huge thank you to Travelers, a great supporter of curling in Northern Ontario and across Canada.

2015 Bantam Champions Declared:

The Tim Hortons Bantam Boys and Girls Provincials were also held last weekend. At the Fort Frances CC, the Tanner Horgan rink (Idylwyld G&CC) played through the event undefeated and earned the Provincial title with a win over the hometown Chris Silver rink. At the Thessalon CC, the Kira Brunton rink (Sudbury CC) went undefeated through the round robin and won the championship game against the Hayley Horton rink (Blind River CC).

Thanks to Tim Hortons for their continued support of Bantam and Youth Curling in Northern Ontario.

Mixed Doubles Provincials:

6 teams will meet at the Port Arthur CC this weekend to compete for the opportunity to represent Northern Ontario at the CCA Mixed Doubles Curling Trials in Ottawa, March 11th – 16th.

[Results](#)

Amethyst Camp Registration Now Open:

Registration for new campers is now available. Information about the camp can be found below, and on the new Amethyst website <http://amethystcurling.com/>

[Information Brochure](#)

[Registration Form](#)

Competition Development Course:

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- French – March 19-22, Baie-d'Urfé QC. Deadline Feb. 15th
- English – March 27-30, Abbotsford BC. Deadline March 1st.

[More Information](#)

Upcoming Registration Deadlines (12:00 pm (NOON) ET):

- Idylwyld Tim Hortons Youth Challenge: Monday Feb. 16th

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www.curlno.ca/

NOCA Notes February 20, 2015

Senior Provincials:

8 Senior Men's teams are competing this weekend at the Longlac Curling Club, and 2 Senior Women's teams are competing at the Kapuskasing Curling Club for the right to represent Northern Ontario at the Everest 2015 Canadian Senior Championships, March 21-29 in Edmonton.

[Senior Men's Results](#)

[Senior Women's Results](#)

Wheelchair Provincials:

Two teams will battle it out at the Kenora Curling Club this weekend for the Northern Ontario berth at the Canadian Wheelchair Championships April 27 – May 3 in Boucherville, QC. The Wayne Ficek rink from the Kenora CC (Ficek, Chester Draper, Denise Mialt, Sarah Lashbrook, Lorin Gan, Coach Randy Ronnebeck) will meet the Gino Sonogo rink from the Fort William CC (Sonogo, Doug Dean, Chris Provenzano, Lola Graham, Rick Bell, Coaches Doug Gelmich and Mike Bergquist) Friday at 7:30 pm, and Saturday at 9:30 am with a tiebreaker scheduled for Saturday at 2:30 pm if required.

[Wheelchair Results](#)

Mixed Doubles Provincial Champions:

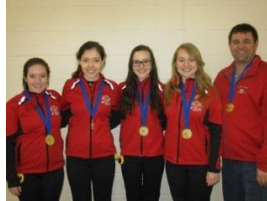
Congratulations to Jordan and Sarah Potts who claimed the title of Northern Ontario Mixed Doubles Champions last weekend at the Port Arthur CC. The Potts duo will head to Ottawa March 11-15 to compete in the 2015 CCA Mixed Doubles Curling Trials

Smith Rink off to Canada Winter Games:

The Megan Smith rink (Sudbury CC) will represent Ontario at the Canada Winter Games starting Sunday February 23rd. The Smith rink (Smith, Kira Brunton, Mikaela Cheslock, Emma Johnson, Coach Chris Johnson) earned the right to represent Ontario by winning gold at the Ontario Winter Games last February. Good Luck to Team Smith!

[Event Site](#)

[Schedule](#)



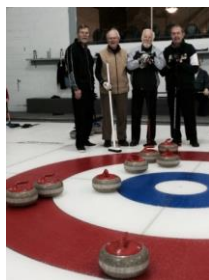
8-ender Winners:

Three new teams have joined the NOCA 8-ender club so far this season:



Janveau Rink

Soo Curlers Association
Duncan Janveau
Ken Ferguson
Gerry Janveau
Calvin Rimkey
Romeo Janveau



McKee Rink

North Bay Granite CC
Dave McKee
Doug Johnson
Don Bondett
Larry Claus



Leduc Rink

Espanola CC
Alain Leduc
Alisha Bergeron
Peyton St. Pierre
Kaylee Arbour

Amethyst Camp:

Registration is still available in the High Performance Group (15-17 years old). Information about the camp can be found below, and on the new Amethyst website

<http://amethystcurling.com/>

[Information Brochure](#)

[Registration Form](#)

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NOCA Notes

May 7, 2015 Final Edition for 2014-15

Sponsors and Partners:

Thank you to all of the Sponsors who generously support curling in Northern Ontario:

Travelers (Travelers Curling Club Championships and NOCA Men's Provincial); **Tim Hortons** (Tim Hortons Youth Challenges and Bantam Championships); **Best Western** (Junior Championships); **BrokerLink Insurance** (BrokerLink Mixed Provincials); **Rock Clock** (Timing program for competitions and training); **Jet Ice** (Ice Technician Courses); **Rock Solid Productions** (Rocks and Rings Program); **Goldline** (Curling Week prizes); **Avis and Budget Car Rentals**.

Also a big thank you to our funding and programming partners: **Ontario Trillium Foundation**; **Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Curling Canada**; **Ontario Curling Council**.

Competitions:

Congratulations to all of the NOCA teams who competed this past season in regional, provincial and Canadian Championships. Your hard work and dedication is to be commended.

For the Love of Curling Scholarships:

The deadline for application to this scholarship program is June 30th.

<http://www.curling.ca/blog/2015/05/01/applications-now-being-accepted-for-2015-for-the-love-of-curling-scholarships/>

Classifieds on NOCA website:

Looking for a new team member? Or equipment for your club? Or a Manager or Ice Technician? NOCA is pleased to offer a Classifieds section on our website. Post your ad and once it has been approved it will appear on the website.

<http://curlnoca.ca/classifieds/>

Ice Technician Resources:

Curling Canada recently posted some excellent resources on their website for Icemakers and curling clubs.

<http://www.curling.ca/about-the-sport-of-curling/ice-technician-resources/ice-making-articles/>

Ice Technician Courses:

Level 1 June 25-26, Level 2 June 23-26. Both courses will be held at the Countryside Arena in Sudbury. Information and registration is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/>

Curling Canada Summit:

The 2015 Curling Summit will take place June 15 -16 in Collingwood. The theme for the Summit is Building a Championship team. There are three "Championship" streams: Curling Center Best Practices, Competitive Coach, and Recreational Instruction. <http://www.curling.ca/summit2015/>.

Click on the Agenda link <http://www.curling.ca/summit2015/agenda/> to find more information about each stream and to register. This is a great opportunity to share ideas and learn more about improving your club, coaching, and instruction.

NOCA Survey:

The Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA) represents curling clubs and curlers across the north and wants to continue to grow and develop our sport with your help. For the first time, NOCA is initiating a survey of northern curlers to help provide feedback, advice and ideas for future growth of curling in Northern Ontario. By participating in this survey you will be benefiting all curlers across the north and their curling clubs.

A link to the survey will be posted on the NOCA website and Facebook page, and will be emailed to all Club Delegates and Managers by May 12th. The more information gathered, the better informed the Board and staff will be to continue to develop and promote curling in Northern Ontario for all curlers and curling clubs. Please take a few moments to complete the survey once it is posted.

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