



www.curlnoca.ca/

NOCA Notes

October 30, 2015 First Edition of the 15-16 Season

Curling Week

Curling Week, presented by Bearskin Airlines, will take place November 21-29 this year. We've expanded the event to include **THREE** Closest to the Pin contests: Youth under 12, Youth 12-17, and adults 18+. There are prizes for 1st – 3rd in each category including autographed Teams Fleury and Jacobs brooms and jerseys and Goldline gift cards. The winner of the adult contest will receive tickets to the opening weekend of the Brier in Ottawa as well as a Best Western gift card. All of the adult finalists will be entered into a contest to win two tickets anywhere Bearskin Airlines flies.

Curling Week is a great opportunity to showcase your club to your community and invite new people to try curling. More information, including a poster to print and distribute around your community, is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/curling-week/>

New Technical Coordinator:

Andrea Ronnebeck of Kenora has been hired as the organization's new Technical Coordinator. In this role Ronnebeck will be responsible for coordinating the technical development of athletes and coaches through courses and training camps, as well as the general promotion of curling in Northern Ontario. Andrea replaces Dick Henderson who has retired from this position. Henderson will continue to be involved as the Youth Challenge Coordinator and Learning Facilitator. Andrea may be reached at 807-466-8351, or andrearonnebeck@curlnoca.ca

Courses:

Several courses are scheduled for this fall:

- Club Coach – Atikokan, Nov. 21-22
- Club Coach Youth – Atikokan, Nov. 22
- Club Coach Youth – Cochrane, Nov. 29
- Ice Technician/Volunteer Refresher Day – Kenora, Nov. 7

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs>. If you are interested in having a course in your community, please contact Andrea Ronnebeck.

Ice Technician Refresher / Instruction Day:

In partnership with Curling Canada and Jet Ice, an Ice Technician Refresher Day will be held Saturday November 7th in Kenora. This session is designed to review pebbling, scraping, rock maintenance, plant equipment, and share best practices. More Refresher Days will be held in other regions this season. [Information](#) [Register](#)

Tim Hortons Youth Challenges:

Tim Hortons is proud to be an ongoing sponsor of the Tim Hortons Youth Challenges. These events are aimed at providing training and competitive experience for Developmental and beginning competitive teams. The schedule and registration for the Youth Challenges can be found at <http://curlnoca.ca/competitions/youth-challenges/>

Region Meetings and Fall Mailout:

Fall meetings have now been held with all 6 regions. Club Delegates from all clubs and other volunteers/staff were invited to participate in either a web/teleconference meeting, or an in person meeting. The agenda for the meetings included discussion on: Business Practices, Technical Coordinator's Report, Running a Successful Youth Program, Jet Ice Contest, Curling Week, Adult Curling Programming including Doubles Curling, Competitions Review and updates, and Grant Writing. The fall mail-out was also reviewed.

If you would like more information about anything discussed at the fall meetings, please contact your Club Delegate. Each club has a NOCA Club Delegate who is responsible for acting as the communications liaison between your club and NOCA. If you don't know who your Delegate is, please contact the NOCA office – 888-597-8730, or info@curlnoca.ca

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Ontario Curling Council

Competitions Updates:

All sites are now set for the 2015-16 season. Please check the Competitions page of the NOCA website for any updates. Deadlines for all entries is NOON on the deadline date.

New this Season:

Curling Canada's Competitor Fee is now payable for each event entered by a player, ie. if a person enters Men's, Mixed, and Senior competitions, the fee is now payable for each event. This fee is collected by NOCA when a team registers, and is then forwarded to Curling Canada. This fee also now applies to Juniors. Because this fee is new to Juniors, The NOCA Board of Directors has approved lowering the entry fee for this year for Juniors in order to offset a major entry fee/competitor fee increase.

At Curling Canada's Annual General Meeting a new Residency Policy was approved for Men's and Women's teams competing to advance to the Brier or Scotties. This new policy allows for one "free agent" on each team. This allows teams to have a player on the team who is not a resident of the home provincial/territorial association.

With the cancellation of the Ontario Winter Games, Bantam playdown dates have been moved to allow the Bantams a longer competitive season. See the Competitions page for the new dates.

Ontario Curling Council:

The Ontario Curling Council is the official Provincial Sport Organization for curling in the province of Ontario and has recently embarked on a project to provide High Performance programming to Bantam teams and Mixed Doubles teams.

The Bantam program is called the Next Generation Program and two teams from Northern Ontario, Megan Smith, and Tanner Horgan, have been selected to participate in the program. These teams attended a training weekend in Toronto Oct. 24-26 and will continue to access training and support from a team of consultants throughout the season.

Mixed Doubles is now an Olympic Sport, to be debuted in 2018, and through this program, three training camps will be held, one each in Thunder Bay, Toronto, and Grimsby.

The Quest for Gold Ontario Athlete Assistance Program is now accepting applications. Cards will be awarded to curling athletes in the 21-29 age group, and to Wheelchair curlers.

More information about the Ontario Curling Council and its programs is available at <http://ontariocurlingcouncil.com/>

Jet Ice Ice Logo Contest:

Jet Ice and NOCA are pleased to announce an Ice Logo Contest. Clubs must submit designs for ice houses by March 1st, and the winning design will receive two full houses for next season from Jet Ice. The value of these houses is over \$700. [Information](#)

RBC Sports Day

The sixth annual RBC Sports Day in Canada, presented by ParticipACTION, CBC and True Sport, will be held on November 21, 2015 in communities from coast to coast to coast. Register [here](#).

Clubs can also register existing league games and events taking place between Nov. 14 - 21 are eligible to participate. Any club that registers before October 31st will receive a Celebration Kit that includes SDIC branded items such as t-shirts, posters, banners, water bottles, sport balls, frisbees, etc. These can be used to promote the event or as prizing for participants.

Everest Ferbey Contest

Enter your club in the Everest Ferbey National Pro-Am Contest. This contest is aimed at Senior Curlers. Monthly prize packs will be awarded and at the end of the contest period four ballots will be selected to win one of four VIP trips to the 2016 Everest Canadian Senior Championships in Digby, NS to and curl in the Everest Ferbey National Pro Am with Randy Ferbey and other pro curlers.

[Information](#)

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Kenora and Horne Granite Youth Challenges: Nov. 4th
- Ice Technician Refresher Day: Nov. 4th
- Junior Region Playdowns: Nov. 13th

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Ontario Curling Council



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NOCA Notes
November 7, 2015

Koivula Rink Competing at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships:

Good luck to the Colin Koivula rink (Koivula, Oye-Sem Won Briand, Chris Briand, Amanda Gates) from the Port Arthur CC as they represent Northern Ontario at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships. The event takes place November 8-14 at the Weston G&CC in Toronto. Event site: <http://www.curling.ca/2016mixed/>

Curling Week

Curling Week, presented by Bearskin Airlines, will take place **November 21-29** this year. We've expanded the event to include **THREE** Closest to the Pin contests: Youth under 12, Youth 12-17, and adults 18+. There are prizes for 1st – 3rd in each category including autographed Teams Fleury and Jacobs brooms and jerseys and Goldline gift cards. The winner of the adult contest will receive tickets to the opening weekend of the Brier in Ottawa as well as a Best Western gift card. All of the adult finalists will be entered into a contest to win two tickets anywhere Bearskin Airlines flies.

Curling Week is a great opportunity to showcase your club to your community and invite new people to try curling. More information, including a poster to print and distribute around your community, is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/curling-week/>

Courses:

Several courses are scheduled for this fall:

- Club Coach and Club Coach Youth – Atikokan, Nov. 21-22
- Club Coach Youth – Cochrane, Nov. 29
- Ice Technician/Volunteer Refresher Day – Kenora, Nov. 7
- Club Coach, Competition Coach, MED – Sudbury Dec. 4-6
- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs>. If you are interested in having a course in your community, please contact Andrea Ronnebeck at 807-466-8351 or andrearonnebeck@curlnoca.ca.

Competitor Guides and Host Guidelines:

All of the Competitor Guides and Host Guidelines are now posted. If you are competing it is your responsibility to have read the Competitor Guide for your event and sign the participant form that states that you agree you have reviewed the Guide.

The Host Guidelines for Region/Qualifier, and Provincial events are also posted on the Competitions page of the website. The guidelines are very comprehensive and not all of the information will apply to your event, but they are very useful documents to help you plan your event and understand what is expected of a host club.

Participant Forms:

Anyone participating in a NOCA course, competition, or camp **MUST** complete a Participant form. There are forms for Adult/Coach, and Youth. The Youth form must be signed by a parent and must be accompanied by a proof of age. Anyone who has already submitted the proof of age does not need to do so again. Teams entering competitions must also have their club send in the Member Facility verification form. All of these forms are available at <http://curlnoca.ca/competitions/competition-forms-required/>

8-enders:

NOCA provides 8-ender Club vests to any team getting an 8 ender. Information is available at

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Deer Trail Youth Challenge: Nov. 13th
- Junior Regions: Nov. 13th
- Thunder Bay Youth Challenge: Nov. 27th

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NOCA Notes November 20, 2015

Curling Week

Curling Week, presented by Bearskin Airlines, starts Saturday. The week runs **November 21-29** this year and includes **THREE** Closest to the Pin contests: Youth under 12, Youth 12-17, and adults 18+. There are prizes for 1st – 3rd in each category including autographed Teams Fleury and Jacobs brooms and jerseys and Goldline gift cards. The winner of the adult contest will receive tickets to the opening weekend of the Brier in Ottawa as well as a Best Western gift card. All of the adult finalists will be entered into a contest to win two tickets anywhere Bearskin Airlines flies.

Curling Week is a great opportunity to showcase your club to your community and invite new people to try curling. More information, including a poster to print and distribute around your community, is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs/curling-week/>

A Curling Week Schedule of Events that NOCA clubs are planning is also available at the link above.

Koivula Rink Earns Awards at the Canadian Mixed Curling Championships:

Congratulations to Team Koivula. In addition to earning Bronze in the event, Colin Koivula, Chris Briand, and Amanda Gates were on the All Star team, a repeat award win for Koivula and Briand. The Sportsmanship Award was given to Chris Briand and Oye-Sem Won Briand. This is the second consecutive year that Oye-Sem has won this award.

Courses:

Several courses are scheduled for this fall:

- Club Coach Youth – Cochrane, Nov. 29th
- Club Coach, Competition Coach, MED – Sudbury Dec. 4th-6th
- Club Coach Youth – New Liskeard, Dec. 5th
- Ice Technician/Volunteer Refresher Day – North Bay Dec. 13th
- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs>.

If you are interested in having a course in your community, please contact Andrea Ronnebeck at 807-466-8351 or andrearonnebeck@curlnoca.ca.

Travelers Curling Club Championships

Good Luck to Teams Kathie Jackson and Mike Assad as they represent Northern Ontario at the Travelers National Championship in Ottawa. The Championship takes place November 23-28 at the Ottawa Hunt Club. [Results](#) [Draw](#) [Event Site](#)

Junior Region Playdowns:

November 27 – 29 will see 15 Junior Men's teams and 12 Junior Women's teams compete for 8 spots per gender in the Best Western Junior Provincials. The Regional events will be held in Fort Frances, Kakabeka Falls, Thessalon, and Copper Cliff.

[Draws / Rosters](#)

Competitor Guides and Host Guidelines:

All of the Competitor Guides and Host Guidelines are now posted. If you are competing it is your responsibility to have read the Competitor Guide for your event and sign the participant form that states that you agree you have reviewed the Guide.

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Thunder Bay Youth Challenge: Nov. 27th
- Club Coach Youth Course New Liskeard: Nov. 27th
- Competition Coach, MED, Club Coach Sudbury: Nov. 25th

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NOCA Notes November 27, 2015

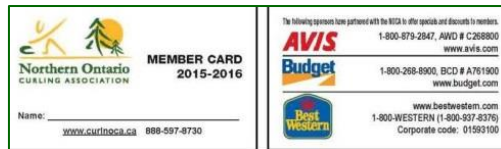
Junior Region Playdowns:

This weekend will see 15 Junior Men's teams and 12 Junior Women's teams compete for 8 spots per gender in the Best Western Junior Provincials. The Regional events will be held in Fort Frances, Kakabeka Falls, Thessalon, and Copper Cliff. End by end scoring will be posted on the website.

[Draws / Rosters](#) [Results](#)

NOCA Membership Cards:

All members (over the age of 13) of NOCA curling clubs should receive a NOCA Membership Card. The cards are sent to clubs in September for distribution to all members. Discounts from some of our sponsors are available to members by using the codes on the back of the card. Discounts include up to 10% off the Flex Rate at Best Western, and up to 25% off of car rental rates at AVIS and Budget. If you haven't received your card, ask your NOCA Club Delegate or Manager. Here's what the card looks like.



Curling Canada Issues Statement on Brush-head Technology:

Earlier this afternoon, Curling Canada issued a statement about Brush-head technology. The press release and links to the statements can be found here. [CC Media Release](#)

Mixed Doubles Training Camps – Reduced Entry Fee :

The Ontario Curling Council, in partnership with NOCA, is offering a Mixed Doubles Training Camp Saturday December 5th at the Port Arthur Curling Club. The entry fee has been lowered to \$100/team for a full day of instruction and training from Jim Waite, Curling Canada National Coach and other notable instructors. The deadline has also been extended to December 1st.

[Information and Registration](#)

List Your Club Events:

NOCA clubs can list their events (bonspiels, Learn to Curl days, etc.) on the website. Events can be sorted by region, date, club, or event type. Simply click on the [Club Events](#) tab and enter your event. Once approved (1-2 days) it will appear on the calendar.

Spirit of Curling Calendar Promotion for Clubs:

NOCA, in collaboration with Curling Canada, "The Spirit of Curling" Calendar and TheCommunityFundraiser.com is pleased to offer you the Club Calendar Fundraising program. Information has been emailed to all NOCA Club Delegates and Managers and is available on the website or Facebook page. [Calendar Promo](#)

Courses:

Several courses are scheduled for this fall:

- Ice Technician/Volunteer Refresher Day – North Bay Dec. 13th
- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlnoca.ca/programs>.

If you are interested in having a course in your community, please contact Andrea Ronnebeck at 807-466-8351 or andrearonnebeck@curlnoca.ca.

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Ice Technician Refresher / Info Day: December 9th
- Bantam Regions : December 18th
- Men's Qualifier West: December 18th

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NOCA Notes December 11, 2015

Junior Region Winners:

Congratulations to the eight Junior Men's and eight Junior Women's teams who earned their berths in the Best Western Junior Men's (Kakabeka Falls CC) and Women's Provincials (Sioux Lookout G&CC) in January. Draws and rosters for the provincials are available at [Junior Provincials](#).

Curling Week Winners:

All of the Curling Week Prizes have been awarded. Twila Smitsnuk (Atikokan CC) was the grand prize winner of an opening weekend ticket package to the Brier along with a Best Western gift card. There were 13 adults who drew to the pin so all of their names were put into a draw for the top three prizes. The names of all adult finalists (regardless of distance from the pin) were also put into a draw for two tickets anywhere Bearskin Airlines flies. The winner of that prize is Mike Brown (Deer Trail CC).

Thank you to all of the sponsors of Curling Week: Bearskin Airlines, Best Western, Goldline, Mallon's Corporate Impressions, Teams Fleury and Jacobs, and Performance Curling Wear. Thanks also to all of the clubs who participated in Curling Week 2015. [Curling Week Results](#)

Quest For Gold Deadline December 14th:

The Quest for Gold Athlete Assistance Program offers athletes the opportunity to secure funding to help with their ongoing training and development. This year there are cards available for athletes ages 21-29 and to Wheelchair athletes. The deadline for applications is Monday December 14th at noon. [Information](#)

Ontario Sport and Recreation Community Fund Grant:

The OSRCF grant is now accepting applications. Last year at least 3 NOCA clubs received funding through this grant. The City of Dryden received funding to convert the arena into curling ice on a weekly basis and to purchase rocks and equipment; Blind River CC was able to purchase composite stones, sliders, grippers, and brooms for their junior rocks program, and bring Rocks and Rings into their schools; Sioux Lookout Golf & Curling Club was able to secure funding to assist with hiring a person to promote curling and golf in and around Sioux Lookout. The deadline for applications is January 21st. Information webinars are being held across the province for potential applicants. [Information](#)

Ontario Volunteer Service Awards:

Is there a volunteer at your club who should be recognized for his/her ongoing volunteerism? Why not nominate that dedicated person for a Volunteer Service Award? The deadline for nominations is January 26th. [Information](#)

Travelers Successful for NOCA Teams:

Teams Kathie Jackson and Mike Assad were very successful on and off the ice at the Travelers Curling Club Canadian Championships. Jackson went through the round robin with a 5-1 record advancing through qualifiers and semi-finals to the bronze medal game where her team took Alberta to an extra end losing by just one point. Assad had a 4-2 record in the round robin advancing to the qualifier, just missing out on advancing to the semi-finals.

Kathie Jackson won the Sportsmanship Award for skips, and Mitch Shallow earned the same award for thirds. Team Assad was one of the four recipients of a \$1000 award for curling club improvements for their home club in Geraldton. Congratulations to both teams!

Upcoming Courses:

- Competition Coach and MED – Stratton Jan. 15-17
- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlno.ca/programs>.

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Bantam Regions : December 18th
- Men's Qualifier West: December 22nd (note date change)

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NOCA Notes
December 18, 2015

Coaches Association of Ontario Coaching Conference:

The CAO is hosting the Ontario Coaches Conference February 19-21, 2016 in Niagara Falls. "This is a 3-day Conference for Coaches of every sport and is open to Coaches of every level. Join us to learn, share and connect with coaches from across Ontario. Full Conference weekend or Single Day options available." [Information](#)

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 22, 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. The Travelers Curling Club Provincials will take place March 31 – April 3 at the Fort William CC in Thunder Bay. [Information](#)

Ontario Sport and Recreation Community Fund Grant:

The OSRCF grant is now accepting applications. Last year at least 3 NOCA clubs received funding through this grant. The City of Dryden received funding to convert the arena into curling ice on a weekly basis and to purchase rocks and equipment; Blind River CC was able to purchase composite stones, sliders, grippers, and brooms for their junior rocks program, and bring Rocks and Rings into their schools; Sioux Lookout Golf & Curling Club was able to secure funding to assist with hiring a person to promote curling and golf in and around Sioux Lookout. The deadline is January 21st. Information webinars are being held across the province for potential applicants. [Information](#)

8 ender Winners:

Two teams in Northern Ontario have scored 8 enders this season to date and have earned their NOCA 8-ender Club vests. Information about the NOCA 8-ender Club is available [here](#).



Barb Ward Rink
Port Arthur CC
(PAWECC)
Oct. 15, 2015
Barb Ward
Jan Alexander
Janice Boland
Vicki Boland



Josh Porco Rink
Community First
Curling Centre
Nov. 30, 2015
Josh Porco
Allison Webb
Nathan Dool
Kasey Camire

Awards:

Is there a volunteer at your club who should be recognized for his/her ongoing volunteerism? Why not nominate that dedicated person for an Ontario Volunteer Service Award? The deadline for nominations is January 26th. [Information](#)

Curling Canada has several awards that they are seeking nominations for: CCA Hall of Fame Board of Governors Special Recognition Award; Ray Kingsmith Award; and Award of Achievement. The **deadline for nominations for these awards is December 31, 2015**. There are also other recognitions awards available. [Award Information](#)

Upcoming Courses: [Course Information](#)

- Competition Coach and MED – Stratton Jan. 15-17 (deadline Jan. 8th)
- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31 (deadline Jan. 20th)

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Men's Qualifier West: December 22nd (deadline changed to midnight)
- Women's Provincial: January 6th
- Senior Regions: January 8th
- Men's Qualifier East: January 12th

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NOCA Notes
January 8, 2016
Happy New Year

Junior Provincial Winners:

Congratulations to the Megan Smith rink from the Sudbury CC, and Tanner Horgan rink from the Copper Cliff CC, who earned the right to represent Northern Ontario at the Egg Producers of Ontario Canadian Juniors, January 23-31 in Stratford, ON.

Team Smith:

Megan Smith, Skip
Kira Brunton, Vice
Kate Sherry, 2nd
Emma Johnson, Lead
Chris Johnson, Coach



Team Horgan:

Tanner Horgan, Skip
Jacob Horgan, Vice
Nicholas Bissonnette, 2nd
Maxime Blais, Lead
Gerry Horgan, Coach



Support for Curling Program:

Does your curling club need to raise money for renovations or other projects? The Ontario Curling Council (OCC) is pleased to launch a new "Support for Curling Program" on behalf of its membership, NOCA and the OCA.

Together with the True Sport Foundation, curling clubs can register projects or programs for which they are trying to raise funds. Donors will receive charitable tax receipts and curling clubs will receive funds donated specifically towards their initiatives. [Information](#)

Coach Mentorship Opportunity:

The Ontario Curling Council and NOCA are pleased to offer an exciting opportunity for coaches who want to raise their game to the next level. NOCA coaches will learn from Maurice Wilson, one of curling's most highly trained and acclaimed coaches, during the NOCA Men's Provincial.

Coaches will have an opportunity to experience, analyze and review coaching situations in a small group setting. Learn what it takes to prepare a team for a provincial or national event, and how to manage them when you get there. Applications are on a first come first served basis.

[Information](#) [Application](#)

Credit and Payment Processing Partnership

NOCA is excited to announce a new partnership that can help clubs save money. Elavon is a leading international payments provider and is offering exclusive rates and discounts on credit card and payment related processing. This program has been designed specifically for curling clubs and is available to all NOCA affiliated clubs. Some of the benefits include low processing rates for credit card and debit transactions, gift card and loyalty programs, and more. [Read more](#)

Best Western Sponsor Discount for NOCA Members:

All NOCA members are entitled to a discounted room rate at Best Western Hotels. Simply call the number or visit the website listed on the back of your membership card to reserve a room at a discounted rate of 10% off the Flex Rate (lowest rate). You will have to produce your NOCA membership card upon check in. [Sponsor Discounts](#)

Upcoming Courses:

- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlno.ca/programs>.

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Men's Qualifier East: January 12th
- Bantam Qualifiers : January 15th
- Travelers Curling Club Regions: January 22nd
- Wheelchair Provincials: January 22nd
- Mixed Doubles Provincial: January 29th

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NOCA Notes
January 16, 2016 **(revised)**

Scotties Provincial Starts Wednesday:

The McIntyre Curling Club in Timmins is pleased to be hosting the 2016 NOCA Scotties, January 20-24, 2016. Four women's teams will compete in a double round robin to a final game to declare the team who will represent Northern Ontario at the Scotties Tournaments of Hearts in Grande Prairie, AB, February 20-28, 2016.

The teams participating are Tracy Fleury (Idylwylde G&CC in Sudbury), Krista McCarville (Fort William CC in Thunder Bay), Laura Payne (North Bay Granite CC), and the hometown team of Gale Wiseman (McIntyre CC). Good luck to all teams. [Results](#)

Eastlink will be broadcasting sheet 3 of all draws. Stay tuned to the NOCA website and Facebook page for news as to other broadcasters airing the games.

Support for Curling Program:

Does your curling club need to raise money for renovations or other projects? The Ontario Curling Council (OCC) is pleased to launch a new "Support for Curling Program" on behalf of its membership, NOCA and the OCA.

Together with the True Sport Foundation, curling clubs can register projects or programs for which they are trying to raise funds. Donors will receive charitable tax receipts and curling clubs will receive funds donated specifically towards their initiatives. [Information](#)

Three more spots in the Men's Provincial filled:

Last weekend saw 7 teams compete in the Travelers Men's West Qualifier for three berths to the provincials. The teams who will advance are Mike Assad (Geraldton CC), Dylan Johnston (Fort William CC), and Tanner Horgan (Idylwylde G&CC). Assad and Johnston secured their berths in the round robin while Horgan competed in two tiebreaker games to secure his spot.

These teams now join Brad Jacobs and Colin Koivula in the roster for the men's provincial taking place in North Bay, February 10-14, 2016. The last three spots will be secured at the East Qualifier January 21-24 at the Idylwylde G&CC. [Results](#)

Amethyst Curling Camp:

Registration for last year's campers is now available. The deadline for these curlers to secure their place at the camp is January 25th. After that other applications will be processed to fill the remaining places. Registration and all information is available on the Amethyst website:

[Amethyst Curling Camp](#). Don't delay – get your application in now.

Travelers Curling Club Championship Regions:

Curling Clubs must **register their intent** to have a team (teams) represent their club in the Travelers Curling Club Region playdowns by **Friday January 22, 2016**. 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 13th. The Travelers Curling Club Provincials will take place March 31 – April 3 at the Fort William CC.

Association. This event is for the club curler and is a great way to get to a provincial or national championship. [Information](#)

Upcoming Courses:

- Competition Coach and MED – Thunder Bay Jan. 29-31 **(register by Jan. 20th)**

Information and registration for all of the courses is available at <http://curlno.ca/programs>.

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Travelers Curling Club Regions: January 22nd
- Wheelchair Provincials: January 22nd
- Mixed Doubles Provincial: January 29th

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NOCA Notes
January 23, 2016
Busy Competition Weekend

Scotties Provincial Finishes Sunday:

The NOCA Scotties Provincial will end Sunday with Team McCarville (Fort William CC) facing Team Fleury. These teams also meet Saturday morning in the final game of the round robin. The winner of the final game will represent Northern Ontario at the Scotties Tournaments of Hearts in Grande Prairie, AB, February 20-28, 2016. [Results](#)

Canadian Juniors Starts Saturday:

Teams Tanner Horgan and Megan Smith are representing Northern Ontario at the Egg Producers of Ontario Canadian Junior Curling Championship for the next week. Both teams take to the ice today with Horgan meeting Team Yukon at 1:30 p.m. and Team New Brunswick at 6:30 p.m., while Smith hits the ice at 6:30 p.m. against Team Manitoba.

[Jr. Men's Results](#)

[Junior Women's Results](#)

[Official Draw](#)

Travelers Men's East Qualifier:

The Idylwyde G&CC in Sudbury is host to the Men's East Qualifier this weekend. The 8 team event will see the top three teams finish the field in the 2016 Travelers NOCA Men's Provincial to be held at the North Bay Granite CC February 10-14. The teams already qualified for the provincial are Jacobs (Community First CC), Koivula (Port Arthur CC), Assad (Geraldton CC), Johnston (Fort William CC), and Horgan (Copper Cliff CC). [East Qualifier Results](#)

Masters Men's Provincial Championship:

Three teams are competing this weekend at the NOCA Masters Men's Provincial Championship at the Geraldton CC. Dave Barker (Geraldton CC), Gordon Williams (Port Arthur CC), and Raymond Roy (Fort Frances CC) will vie for the opportunity to represent Northern Ontario at the Canadian Masters, April 4-10 in Kentville & Wolfville NS, April 4-10. The Marion Clark rink (PACC) will represent NOCA on the women's side of the national event. [Results](#)

AVIS/Budget Car Rental Discounts:

Planning a road trip? Don't forget to use the Sponsor Discounts provided by AVIS and Budget as part of a partnership with NOCA. Discount codes are on the back of all NOCA membership cards and are also available on the Sponsor page of the website. [Sponsor Discounts](#)

Amethyst Curling Camp – Celebrating 20 Years!:

Don't miss this great opportunity to enhance your skills, make some great friends, and learn from some of Northern Ontario and Canada's best coaches and instructors. Registration and all information is available on the Amethyst website: [Amethyst Curling Camp](#). Don't delay – get your application in now.

Amethyst Curling Camp Bursaries:

5 Bursaries are available toward registration fees at the Amethyst Camp. 4 of the bursaries are to assist with registration fees and the deadline for these applications is February 8th. , Team Fleury is also providing a Podium Potential Bursary which includes financial assistance as well as Team Fleury swag, and a mentorship opportunity (deadline June 1st).

[Bursary Application](#)

[Team Fleury Bursary](#)

[Shirley Jean Francis- Bursary](#)

Support for Curling Program:

Does your curling club need to raise money for renovations or other projects? The Ontario Curling Council (OCC) is pleased to launch a new "Support for Curling Program" on behalf of its membership, NOCA and the OCA. Together with the True Sport Foundation, curling clubs can register projects or programs and donors will receive charitable tax receipts and curling clubs will receive funds targeted specifically towards their initiatives. [Information](#)

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Mixed Doubles Provincial: January 29th
- Amethyst Bursaries: February 8th
- Mixed Provincials: February 22nd

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NOCA Notes
February 5, 2016

Scotties Champion Declared:

Congratulations to Team McCarville from the Fort William CC who will represent Northern Ontario at the Scotties Tournaments of Hearts in Grande Prairie, AB, February 20-28, 2016. Team McCarville (McCarville, Kendra Lilly, Ashley Sippala, Sarah Potts, Oye-Sem Won Briand, and Coach Lorraine Lang) came through round robin undefeated to meet the Tracy Fleury team in the final where they secured the title with an 8-4 win.

Team Horgan takes Silver at Canadian Juniors:

Congratulations to Team Tanner Horgan who should be very proud of their silver medal earned at the Egg Producers of Ontario Canadian Junior Curling Championship. After beating Team Dunstone from Manitoba in a nail biting round robin game to secure a spot in the final, Horgan succumbed to Dunstone in the gold medal game

Team Megan Smith put in their first appearance at the Canadian Juniors finishing with a 2-4 standing in round robin play and an impressive 5-4 overall standing in the Seeding Pool.

Travelers Men's Provincial Starts Wednesday:

The 2016 Travelers Northern Ontario Men's Provincial starts Wednesday February 10th and continues through to Sunday February 14th. The event is being held at the North Bay Granite CC, 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 10th at 2:00 p.m. The winning team will represent Northern Ontario at the Tim Hortons Brier March 5 – 13 in Ottawa. [Results](#) [Draw and Roster](#) [Event Site](#)

Bantam Qualifiers:

The last spots in the Bantam Provincials will be decided this weekend. The Deer Trail CC (Elliot Lake) and Nipigon Curling Club will host the Bantam East and West Qualifiers. 2 bantam boys' teams and 1 bantam girl's team will advance from the East event, while 1 team per gender will advance from the West event. [East Qualifier Results](#) [West Qualifier Results](#)

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Amethyst Curling Camp Bursaries:

5 Bursaries are available toward registration fees at the Amethyst Camp. 4 of the bursaries are to assist with registration fees and the **deadline for these applications is February 8th**. Team Fleury is also providing a Podium Potential Bursary which includes financial assistance as well as Team Fleury swag, and a mentorship opportunity (deadline June 1st).

[Bursary Application](#) [Team Fleury Bursary](#) [Shirley Jean Francis- Bursary](#)

Bonspiels and Bon Bons?

The Walleye (a local arts and culture newspaper in Thunder Bay) has a great spread about curling in that area in the February edition. Lloyd Stansell, a Northern Ontario Icemaking Legend, is featured in one of the articles. [Online Issue](#)

Online Member Contest:

Watch the NOCA website next week for the launch of an online contest for NOCA Members. Prizes include Best Western gift cards, AVIS One Day free car rentals, NOCA toques, sports bags, and more. All you need to enter is your member number which can be found on the top of your membership card. All curlers over the age of 13 registered at a NOCA Club should have received a membership card. (If you don't have one, contact your NOCA Curling Club Delegate).

Upcoming Deadlines (all close at NOON on the deadline date):

- Amethyst Bursaries: February 8th
- Mixed Provincials: February 22nd

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NOCA Notes
February 21, 2016

Five Provincial Champions Declared:

Brad Jacobs' rink (Jacobs, Ryan Fry, EJ Harnden, Ryan Harnden, Coach Caleb Flaxey) from the Community First Curling Centre in Sault Ste. Marie are the 2016 Travelers NOCA Men's Provincial Champions and will represent Northern Ontario at the Tim Hortons Brier March 5-13 in Ottawa.

The Doug Dean rink (Dean, Gino Sonego, Chris Provenzano, Lola Graham, Rick Bell, Coaches Doug Gelmich and Mike Bergquist) from the Fort William CC earned the 2016 NOCA Wheelchair Provincial title in Kenora last weekend. The Dean rink will represent Northern Ontario at the Canadian Wheelchair Championships in Regina April 4-10.

Peggy Taylor's Senior Women's team won the Senior Women's provincial title in Iroquois Falls this weekend. The Taylor rink (Taylor, Lisa Penner, Noreen Donnelly, Tracy Stasiuk) hales from the Kenora CC.

Northern Ontario's Senior Men's 2016 Provincial Champions are the **Robbie Gordon rink** (Gordon, Ron Henderson, Dion Dumontelle, Doug Hong, Keith Furevick) from the Sudbury CC. The Gordon and Taylor rinks will represent Northern Ontario at the Everest Canadian Senior Curling Championships in Digby NS March 28 – April 2.

The combined rink of **Chris Glibota and Megan St. Amand** (Community First Curling Center, Sault Ste. Marie) are the 2016 NOCA Mixed Doubles Champions. The team will travel to Saskatoon March 31 – April 3 to compete in the Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Championship.

Good luck to all teams in their quest to earn gold at the Canadian Championships.

Jet Ice Logo Contest:

In partnership with Jet Ice, NOCA is pleased to offer affiliated clubs the chance to win two full houses valued at over \$750. Information was sent to all clubs in the fall. The deadline for the contest is March 1st. Simply design a new house for your club and send in a colour photo or drawing of the design. More information is available at [Jet Ice Logo Contest](#)

Amethyst Curling Camp – Celebrating 20 Years! – Spots Still Available:

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Amethyst Curling Camp Bursaries:

5 Bursaries are available toward registration fees at the Amethyst Camp. 4 of the bursaries are to assist with registration fees and the **deadline for these applications has been extended to March 4th**. Team Fleury is also providing a Podium Potential Bursary which includes financial assistance as well as Team Fleury swag, and a mentorship opportunity (deadline June 1st).

[Bursary Application](#) [Team Fleury Bursary](#) [Shirley Jean Francis- Bursary](#)

Regional Talent Identification Camps:

Registration is now available for Talent ID Camps in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, or Sault Ste. Marie. Curlers who are eligible to curl in Juniors or Bantams next year are eligible to participate. [Information](#)

Support for Curling Program:

Does your curling club need to raise money for renovations or other projects? The Ontario Curling Council (OCC) is pleased to launch a new "Support for Curling Program" on behalf NOCA and the OCA. Together with the True Sport Foundation, curling clubs can register projects or programs for which they are trying to raise funds. Donors will receive charitable tax receipts and curling clubs will receive funds donated specifically towards their initiatives. [Information](#)

Upcoming Deadlines (Noon ET):

Mixed Provincials – Monday February 22nd

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Ontario Curling Council



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NOCA Notes
March 4, 2016

The Tim Hortons Brier Starts Saturday

Good Luck to Team Jacobs as they take to the ice Saturday at 7:30 PM vs. Team Saskatchewan.

[Event Site](#) [Results](#) [Draw Schedule](#)

Bantam Provincial Champions Declared:

Congratulations to Team Kira Brunton (Brunton, Kate Sherry, Sydnie Stinson, Jessica Leonard, and Coaches Chris Johnson and Frank Brunton) from the Sudbury CC, and to Team Felix Lasalle (Lasalle, Martin Rondeau, Jonathan Hince, Joshua Hince, Coach Steve Acorn) from the McIntyre CC. These teams earned their titles last weekend at the Tim Hortons 2016 NOCA Provincial Championships at the Community First Curling Centre in Sault Ste. Marie. Brunton came through the round robin undefeated, won the semi final and final, while Lasalle had to play a tiebreaker, semi final, and final to secure his title.



Kira Brunton
Kate Sherry
Sydnie Stinson
Jessica Leonard
Coach Frank Brunton



Felix Lasalle
Martin Rondeau
Jonathan Hince
Joshua Hince
Coach Steve Acorn

Team Brunton, Sudbury CC

Team Lasalle, McIntyre Curling Club

Free Webinar:

Funding from the Trillium Foundation is assisting NOCA in providing a Free Webinar for Curling Club Board members, staff and members. The conference is called: **“Protect your Curling Club: Understand Your Club’s Legal Responsibilities in Ontario”**. The topic sounds boring, but the information is essential to ensuring that your club is compliant with current and upcoming legislation and its corporate status is maintained in good standing. [Information and Registration](#)

2016-17 Competitions Schedule:

The schedule is now posted on the NOCA website on all Competitions pages. [2016-17 Schedule](#)

Region Meetings:

It’s that time of year again. Club Delegates will be contacted in the next week or so with dates for the spring region meetings. The meetings will be held via webinar/teleconference. Region Meetings are for NOCA Club Delegates and any NOCA Curling Club Board members who wish to attend.

Elections:

Three positions on the NOCA Board of Directors are up for election this spring: Regions 2 and 5 Directors, and a Director at Large. All positions are for a 3 year term. More information is available on the website. [2016 Election Information](#)

Hosting Opportunities:

Is your club or community interested in hosting a national or international event? Curling Canada is now accepting Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the 2018 Brier, Scotties, Mixed, Seniors, Juniors, and World Women’s Championships. Host sites for NOCA events will be discussed at the spring region meetings. Contact Leslie Kerr for more information. lesliekerr@curlno.ca 807-598-0051

NOCA Awards:

Awards are presented annually by the NOCA Board: 3 Volunteer Awards, Honorary Life Membership, and NOCA Club Recognition Award. Nominations must be submitted by April 30th. 2 Coach Awards will also be available – information to follow.

[Volunteer/Life/Club Recognition Award Information](#)

Regional Talent Identification Camps:

Registration is now open for three Talent Identification Camps hosted by the Ontario Curling Council and NOCA. The camps are in Sudbury (March 20th), Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie (April 2nd)

[Information](#)

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NOCA Notes
March 18, 2016

Free Webinar Sunday March 20th:

Funding from the Trillium Foundation is assisting NOCA in providing a Free Webinar for NOCA Curling Club Board members, staff and members. The conference is called: **"Protect your Curling Club: Understand Your Club's Legal Responsibilities in Ontario"**. The topic sounds boring, but the information is essential to ensuring that your club is compliant with current and upcoming legislation and its corporate status is maintained in good standing. [Information and Registration](#)

Jet Ice Levels 1 and 2 Ice Technician Courses:

In partnership with Jet Ice, NOCA is pleased to again offer Level 1 and Level 2 Ice Technician Courses prior to the Amethyst Curling Camp. The Level 1 course takes place June 30 - July 1, and the Level 2 course June 28 – July 1. Both courses will be held at the Countryside Arena in Sudbury. Information and registration is available at [Ice Technician Course Info](#) (Note – Registration will be available after March 19th)

NOCA Awards:

NOCA provides annual awards in 4 categories: Volunteer, Club Recognition, Coach, and Honorary Life Member. The deadline for these nominations is April 30th. Don't miss this opportunity to recognize someone in your club who deserves acknowledgment for his/her contributions. [Information and nomination forms](#)

2016-17 Competitions Schedule:

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Region Meetings:

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Good Luck NOCA Teams competing at Canadian Championships:

The next few weeks will see 6 NOCA teams sporting the green and gold at the national level. Good luck to:

Everest Canadian Senior Curling Championship, March 28 – April 2, Digby NS

- Rob Gordon rink (Sudbury CC)
- Peggy Taylor rink (Kenora CC)

Canadian Masters Curling Championship, April 4-10, Kentville and Wolfville NS

- Marion Clark rink (Port Arthur CC)
- Gordon Williams rink (Port Arthur CC)

Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship, April 4-10, Regina SK

- Doug Dean rink (Fort William CC)

Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, March 31 – April 3, Saskatoon SK

- Chris Glibota / Megan St. Amand rink (Community First Curling Centre)

Regional Talent Identification Camps:

Registration is now open for three Talent Identification Camps hosted by the Ontario Curling Council and NOCA. The camps are in Sudbury (March 20th), Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie (April 2nd) [Information](#)

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