

COMPETITOR'S GUIDE

2025

WHEELCHAIR

CHAMPIONSHIP



Nov. 27, 2024

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Please review the Rules Supplement for additional rules and information. The Rules Supplement is common to all competitions.

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CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

NOCA President:

Hayley Smith

hayley.smith@curlnoc.ca

Competitions Committee:

Karen Saarimaki
Chair

(807) 854-8496 (cell)

karen.saarimaki@curlnoc.ca

Glen Poirier
Amanda Gates
Bryan Burgess
Tyler Stewart

Officiating Committee:

Karen Saarimaki
Chair

(807) 854-8496 (cell)

karen.saarimaki@curlnoc.ca

Kim Beaudry
(West - Regions 1-3)

(807) 274-2921 (cell)

kbeaudry@curlnoc.ca

Claude Peloquin
(East - Regions 4-6)

(705) 840-2985 (home) (705) 499-6900 (cell)

peloquin.claude@gmail.com

Executive Director:

Laura Forget

(705) 358-3288 (cell)

laura.forget@curlnoc.ca

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NOCA WHEELCHAIR PROVINCIALS:

This event is open to all wheelchair competitors with no age restriction. Each team **MUST** have at least one female player.

Your team has decided to participate in the 2025 NOCA Wheelchair Provincials. This event will be held March 6 – 9, 2025, at Curl Fort Frances in Fort Frances.

This Championship will declare one Northern Ontario Champion to advance to the 2025 Canadian Wheelchair Championship April 25 – May 4, 2025 in Boucherville, Quebec.

The entry fee is \$420.00 plus HST, along with a \$25 Curling Canada Competitor Card fee for four players. Additional players must also pay the \$25 Curling Canada Competitor fee.

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Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship Eligibility and Residency Guidelines

July 2024

Participation Eligibility:

The Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship is intended to provide a national championship experience for individuals who are unable to deliver a curling stone from the hack or with a delivery stick from a standing position. Non-wheelchair curlers who participate in stick curling or are capable of delivering with a stick from a standing position are not eligible to participate in the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship.

Residency Guidelines and Exemptions:

A Provincial / Territorial Association, unable to field a team of a minimum of four (4) athletes representing both genders at the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship, may request a residency exemption. If a team(s), wishing to compete in a Provincial / Territorial Wheelchair Championship, is unable to field a team of a minimum of four (4) athletes representing both genders may, with the approval of their Association, request a residency exemption.

A residency exemption is intended to better enable Member Associations to field team in the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship. In addition, a committee will be formed to review format and team selection options for future Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championships. Please note that residency exemption requests should be made by the Member Association after the respective Provincial / Territorial playdown process being held. Below are the two residency exemption options available to Member Associations.

Residency Exemption – Option 1:

A Member Association **requiring one replacement player** may contact any other Member Association requesting a replacement player from their jurisdiction. The replacement player may have participated in their own Provincial / Territorial playdown process and still be available for selection to another jurisdiction. Active Team Canada athletes (i.e., athletes who represented Canada at the most recent World Wheelchair Curling Championship or World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship – or Paralympic Games in a Paralympic year) are ineligible to be selected as a replacement player. The Member Association considering the request may: (a) refuse the request without prejudice or (b) agree to the request by providing a pool of players available for selection. Either MA may also bring the request for a replacement player to the OAC as part of the process to determine a fair and reasonable solution.

Residency Exemption – Option 2:

A Member Association **requiring two replacement players** may submit a request for an exemption to the OAC through Curling Canada's Chief Executive Officer. The request for a two-player exemption must

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include an explanation and a plan as to how the two-player deficit will be dealt with in the subsequent championship season – to be submitted by no later than the 1st of December ahead of the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship.

Any player selected must be fully eligible to compete in the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship as per Curling Canada's current residency and eligibility rules. Moreover, any selected player will sign the participation agreement for the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship and will be considered a full member of the Member Association Provincial / Territorial team making the request.

Although there are no limits for exemption requests by any Member Association, there is an expectation that each Member Association will recruit and develop sufficient players of both genders to field a full team (i.e., a minimum of four [4] athletes representing both genders).

Please contact your Member Association with any questions about the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship eligibility and residency guidelines.

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COMPETITION FORMAT:

The Northern Ontario Provincial Wheelchair Championship format will be:

Two teams – Double Round Robin (i.e. Best two out of three)

Three to Six teams – Single Round Robin followed by a Final

Seven or Eight teams – Single Round Robin followed by a Semi-Final and Final

STONE SELECTION, PRACTICE & LAST STONE ADVANTAGE – Round Robin

In each draw the team listed first shall have top of the scoreboard color and practice first for ten (10) minutes, beginning thirty (30) minutes prior to the posted draw time. The team listed second, shall have bottom of the scoreboard color and practice immediately following the first team's draw to the button for last stone advantage.

A team is allowed to throw its own stones during practice and not those of the opposition.

Last Stone Advantage:

Last stone advantage (hammer) in the first end will be decided by a draw to the button following each team's nine (9) minute pre-game practice. ONE player from each team will each deliver a stone towards the home end (one player must hold the target broom) and the better distance between the two teams will receive last stone advantage in the first end. The team practicing first will throw with the clockwise rotation, and the team practicing second will throw with the counter clockwise rotation.

A stone delivered after the practice time has elapsed and prior to the announcement, or thrown with the incorrect turn, or not delivered within the time allotted by the umpire (the stone must reach the nearer tee line before the time expires) will be assigned 199.6 cm. Only the four 'game' players are allowed on the ice surface during the determination of hammer.

Teams must name the player delivering the last stone draw, before the start of the first team practice. Failure to do so will result in an assigned distance of 199.6 cm being assigned to the team.

Should the team with first practice record a cumulative distance of 0.0 or 199.6 cm, a different player, will deliver a draw to the button with the clockwise rotation.

The team shall then leave the ice and the second team will practice. If the second team registers the same distance as the team with first practice a second player from the team will deliver a stone with the counter clockwise rotation. If distances are still tied, the teams will alternate delivering one (1) stone with their designated rotation until the tie is broken. Any player on the team can deliver the third and subsequent stones including the players who delivered the first two stones.

If an alternate player is used, they may deliver LSD(s) for the player they are replacing. Teams may use an Alternate player's LSD(s) for only one player.

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Umpires will assume that every team that wins the last stone draw will want the last stone in the first end. If there is any time that a team does not want the last stone if they win the last stone draw, then they must inform the Umpire before the start of their practice.

Opposing teams must remain behind the glass during their opponent's pre-game practice. If that is not feasible, then the opposition must stand as far behind the sheet as possible, so as not to distract or intimidate the other team.

A draw to the button for last stone advantage that is moved by a team member prior to the measure will be assigned the distance to the next defined circle away from the button.

- In or touching the button = 29.4 (subject to change if the bottom diameter is more than one (1) foot)
- In or touching the four foot = 75.1 cm
- In or touching the eight foot = 136.1 cm
- In or touching the twelve foot = 197.1 cm

If a member of the non-delivering team or an external force moves a stationary stone or causes it to be moved before the Umpire completes the measurement, the stone is replaced to as close to its original position by the delivering team.

NOTE: Total Draw Distance is the cumulative total of all draw distances for last stone advantage (hammer), in each game, for each team (excluding tie-breaker and playoff games). Only the distance of the first draw attempt for last stone advantage will be recorded for the Total Draw Distance required at the end of round robins to break unsolvable ties. The highest draw will NOT be counted in the Total Draw Distance (unless there are only two teams in the event.)

PLAYOFF RANKING PROCESS – Round Robin

When teams are tied for a qualifying position, the win/loss record of those teams against each other shall be used to determine their ranking and therefore what teams advance to the playoffs.

If a complete ranking of the tied teams cannot be established by a single comparison of the win/loss record of all tied teams, and ties still remain, a second comparison for ranking shall be made utilizing the win/loss records of only the remaining tied teams.

When ranking of tied teams eligible for the playoffs cannot be established by successive comparisons of win/loss records, i.e. unsolvable ties, only those teams that remain tied after such comparisons shall be ranked by implementing the ranking based on the Total Draw Distance of pre-game draw shots to the button for last stone advantage. The least accumulated distance shall receive the highest ranking until the ranking has been completed (this will apply to any teams that split their round robin games, after a double round robin).

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STONE SELECTION, PRACTICE & LAST STONE ADVANTAGE – Round Robin Playoff

There will be NO tiebreakers scheduled when there are teams tied with a qualifying record after the double round or single round robin. Teams tied for a qualifying position may be eliminated by their win/loss record against tied teams or by Total Draw Distance.

TWO teams – Best two out of three games - If the third game is needed, it will be treated as a Championship FINAL game.

THREE to SIX teams - Following the conclusion of the single round robin competition the top two (2) teams will participate in a Championship FINAL game.

SEVEN or EIGHT teams – Following the conclusion of the single round robin competition the top three (3) teams will advance to the playoff round. The teams that finished second and third will participate in a SEMI-FINAL with the winner advancing to play the first place team in the FINAL championship game.

The Chief Umpire will make all decisions with regard to the administration of the playoff games.

Additional information relative to the tiebreaker and sheet assignments will be discussed by the Chief Umpire with the teams involved after the last game of the round robin.

Immediately after the two or three playoff positions have been determined and prior to each playoff game, each team involved shall be asked by the Chief Umpire to select their choice of stone handle color. Each team shall be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes to make its selection. Failure to comply shall result in a set of stones being assigned. Upon the conclusion of each playoff draw, the same process shall be implemented again. In all playoff games a complete set of rocks from any sheet must be chosen.

In all playoff games, a team finishing ahead of another team (according to win/loss record) will gain last stone advantage (hammer with first pre-game practice) AND choice of stone color.

When the round robin win/loss record of the two teams involved in a playoff game is the same, the team that won the game between the two during the round robin shall have choice of either last stone advantage (hammer with first pre-game practice) OR stone color UNLESS their ranking has been determined by Total Draw Distance, then those results shall provide the higher ranked team with choice of color AND second practice and teams will draw to the button for last stone advantage.

When last stone has not been determined by a draw to the button, the team delivering the last stone in the first end will practice first.

When a semi-final and final are scheduled, the first place team's access to practice ice will be at the discretion of the Chief Umpire. All practice sessions will be supervised and the length of the practice will be at the discretion of the Chief Umpire.

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SCHEDULE & LOCATION FOR EVENT:

The schedule and location of this event will be posted on the NOCA website.

NOTE: If the NOCA deems that due to circumstances that have developed that it is in the best interest of the competition to change the hosting venue, then the venue may be changed.

Please review the Rules Supplement for additional rules and information. The Rules Supplement is common to all competitions