

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 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.