



Policy Name: Hosting and Sanctioning

Date Approved: September 24, 2024

Next Review Date: September 2027

Preamble

The Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA) consists of six regions and has a total of eleven provincial championships: U18, U21, Mixed, Senior, Men's, Women's, Masters, Wheelchair, Curling Club Championship, Stick and Mixed Doubles. The Northern Ontario Curling Association is committed to providing an environment that promotes standard and fair competition. Irresponsible behaviour, unfair competition, or an unsafe environment can result in severe damage to the sport of curling and to the Northern Ontario Curling Association.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the requirements for Clubs hosting Northern Ontario Curling Association Events. This policy provides hosting and sanctioning regulations that will help ensure that events are safe, fair, and protect the health and welfare of the participants.

Definitions

The following terms have these meanings in this policy:

- a) *"Events"* – includes practices, competitions, games, challenges, playoffs, meetings, and programs
- b) *"Sanctioned"* – any event acknowledged by the Northern Ontario Curling Association, leading up to and including, one of the eleven provincial championships.

Policy

This Policy applies to all Northern Ontario Curling Association sanctioned events that are organized and run by Clubs.

Clubs hosting Northern Ontario Curling Association Provincial events must get a certificate of insurance naming Northern Ontario Curling Association as an additional insured. Only Northern Ontario Curling Association Events are covered by Northern Ontario Curling Association's insurance.

Provincial Championships - Provincial Site Selection, Rotation and Bid Process:

1. There are eleven provincial championships (U18, Mixed, U21, Senior, Men, Women, Masters, Wheelchair, Curling Club Championship, Stick and Mixed Doubles). Each region shall host at least one provincial championship per year. Provincial championships are rotated annually among the regions. The provincial rotation is posted on the Northern Ontario Curling Association website.
2. Provincial championships shall be held on a date that allows champions to be declared at least three weeks in advance of the Canadian championships.

Bid Process:

1. For the combined Men's & Women's Provincial, host bid request information will be sent to all Northern Ontario Curling Association clubs in the designated region listed on the rotation in early September (one full season prior to the date of the event).
 - If no club from that region expresses interest that has been endorsed by their Club Board with support shown in the areas of sponsorship, volunteers, and procurement of a facility by October 31st, then the opportunity to host will be offered to clubs in the other two regions in the same area (either West or East), with a deadline of November 30th.
 - If no club from that area expresses interest by November 30th, then the opportunity to host will be offered to all clubs in Northern Ontario Curling Association with a deadline date of January 15th.
2. For all other provincial events, clubs will indicate their interest in hosting a provincial event at the Spring Region meeting. If there isn't a club in the designated Region willing to host a provincial event by April 30th of the season prior to the provincial championship, then the opportunity to host will be offered to the other two Regions in the same area (either West or East)
 - *First to the Region that did NOT host the event most recently with deadline May 30th*
 - *Second to the Region that last hosted the event with deadline June 30th*
3. If a club can't be found in the geographical area the original host was from, either West or East, then the opportunity to host the event will be offered to ALL clubs in the other geographical areas with a deadline date of September 15th. If there are numerous clubs that express an interest then the decision will be made by a Host Bid Committee.
4. Provincial Host bids sites are evaluated using the Playdown Site Evaluation Template available in Appendix A.

Region and Qualifier Events - Site Selection and Rotation:

1. All Qualifier events will rotate within the East / West geographical areas as posted on the Rotation Schedule.
2. All region events shall rotate among the clubs within each region.
3. Clubs will indicate their interest in hosting Region and Qualifier events at the Spring Region meetings.
4. If there isn't a club in the designated Region willing to host a region or qualifier event by April 30th of the season prior to the event, then the opportunity to host will be offered to the other two Regions in the same area (either West or East)
 - *First to the Region that did NOT host the event most recently with deadline May 30th*
 - *Second to the Region that last hosted the event with deadline June 30*
5. If a club can't be found in the geographical area the original host was from, either West or East, then the opportunity to host the event will be offered to ALL clubs in the other geographical areas with a deadline date of September 15th. If there are numerous clubs that express an interest then the decision will be made by a Host Bid Committee.

Team Entry:

1. Entry fees are set by Northern Ontario Curling Association's Board of Directors. Entry fees are described in Northern Ontario Curling Association's *Finance Policy*.
2. The closing date shall be posted on the Northern Ontario Curling Association website.
3. The Northern Ontario Curling Association Executive Director will identify, to the host chair and to the regional director in the hosting region, the number of teams, names of the teams, and the draw for each provincial championship.

Advertising and Signage

1. Northern Ontario Curling Association may provide banners to host clubs; banners are to be displayed prominently at events.

Officiating

1. Northern Ontario Curling Association rules are used for all competitions hosted in Northern Ontario.
2. Head officials must be level 2 certified for provincial championships.
3. Time clocks, approved by Northern Ontario Curling Association, are recommended for all championships and are required for provincial championships.

Team Photographs

1. The Club host committee is responsible for taking high-resolution digital photographs of the winning team(s) at each provincial championship as detailed in the host guidelines and Curling Canada Competitor Guide. Photographs of the winning and/or advancing team(s)

must be submitted to the Northern Ontario Curling Association Executive Director within one hour of the conclusion of the event.

2. Northern Ontario Curling Association's Executive Director will ensure that photographs are distributed to the National host.

Hosting Grants

1. Northern Ontario Curling Association provides the following maximum hosting grants to host clubs:
 - a) \$300 for all provincial championships
 - b) \$200 for Regions and Qualifiers
 - c) Northern Ontario Curling Association will provide Provincial host funding of up to \$50 per team to the host club upon receipt of a request from the club indicating what the funds will be used for. Examples of uses include a meal(s), streaming costs, special functions, ice rental, ceremonies, club development, social media etc.
2. Northern Ontario Curling Association may also provide, upon request, additional funds to Clubs in order to assist with ice technician consultation to a maximum of \$300.

Other Guidelines

1. Playdown Host Guidelines and Competitor Guides may be found on the website (www.curlnoc.ca) or contact the Northern Ontario Curling Association office.

Appendix A

Northern Ontario Curling Association Playdown Site Evaluation Template

Bid Element	Score 1-5 (1 lowest)
Sound Business Plan and Marketing Plan for Event	
Quality of Sport Facility & Equipment. Technical requirements	
Athlete Accommodations	
Ability to live stream any or all games	
Community's Event Hosting Experience	
Anticipated Community Support (municipal and/or corporate \$, media, crowds...)	
Community Readiness and desire to Host (ie. volunteer committee in place...)	
Ceremonies and other events	
Special Features of Event (how will it be unique for athletes and spectators?)	
Transportation – Internal & External	
Legacy to Club	
Legacy to Northern Ontario Curling Association	
General Comments	
Total:	

Hosts should be:

- Athlete-centred
- Volunteer Driven
- Community Based

Successful bids DEMONSTRATE how the host community:

- Will provide an exceptional experience for the athletes
- Have the ability, expertise, experience, desire and facilities to run an excellent event
- Will support the event (government, event participation, corporations, media, volunteers, spectators)