



PLAYING REGULATIONS: MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CURLING

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1. SPORT FORMAT

Canada West follows the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Playing Regulations. This document provides additional regulations that will also be followed or will supersede a U SPORTS/Curling Canada Playing Regulation.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION

2.1 TEAMS

A team shall be comprised of a minimum of four (4) players to a maximum of five (5) players and one (1) certified coach. Games cannot be played with two (2) or less players. There will not be a pool of alternate players.

2.2 CITIZENSHIP & AGE

Players wishing to represent Canada at the FISU Games must be Canadian citizens. They must also be at least 18 years of age and no older than 25 years of age on the 31st of December of the year following the championship. However, these age and citizenship requirements do not disqualify players from competing in either the Canada West Curling Championships or the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships.

3. LEAGUE/SEASON FORMAT

N/A

4. PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

4.1 DATES

For as the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships is held in the **mid-March**, the Canada West Curling Championships will be held in February ~~or early March~~. In keeping with the U SPORTS partnership with Curling Canada, and to ensure that the top players are available to compete, the main consideration in selecting dates for the championships will be to avoid conflicts with the following major curling events:

FISU Games (Odd Years Only)

Provincial Junior Playdowns and Championships (AB, BC, MB & SK)

Provincial Men's and Women's Playdowns and Championships (AB, BC, MB, & SK)

Canadian Men's and Women's Championships (i.e., Brier and Tournament of Hearts)

World Junior Championships

The Canada West Curling Championships will normally run Friday to Sunday, except in those cases when the number of entries necessitates a Thursday start.

4.2 FORMAT

A Round Robin format will typically be used, with the following variations to this format employed based on the number of entries received.

1 or 2 Teams (TBD)

3 or 4 Teams (Double Round Robin)

5 to 8 Teams (Single Round Robin)

9-12 Teams (2-Pools with Cross-Over Playoff)

13+ Teams (TBD)

The Host Institution will prepare the draw for the Canada West Curling Championships in consultation with the Canada West Curling Convener. In preparing this draw, care should be taken to ensure both sheet and handle colour equity.

4.3 U SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP BERTHS

The Canada West Curling Championships will determine two (2) men's and two (2) women's berths in the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships. These berths are in addition to the host berths that are awarded in years when the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships are hosted by a Canada West institution. Please note that the teams from this host institution are required to play in the Canada West Curling Championships.

If a Single or Double Round Robin format is used, the two (2) Canada West berths in the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships will be awarded to the first and second place finishers in the round robin. However, in the event that ~~tie(s) exist for one or more of these berths, a maximum of two (2) Tie-Breaker Rounds will be played.~~ **a tie exists for the final berth in the U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championship a single tie-breaker game will be played.**

If more than two (2) teams are tied for this final berth, the match-up in tie-breaker game will be determined by head-to-head record first, and aggregate last stone draw distance (minus each team's highest two distances) second.

~~Seeding in the Tie-Breaker Round(s) will be based on head-to-head record first, and last stone draw distance second. Please note that, for the purposes of Tie-Breaker seeding, each team's highest two draw distances will be removed from its' aggregate last stone draw distance total.~~

If a 2-Pool Round Robin is used, the team winning the 1 vs. 1 Playoff Game will be awarded the first Canada West berth, while the loser of this 1 vs. 1 Playoff Game will play the winner of the 2 vs. 2 Playoff Game for the ~~second~~ **final** Canada West berth.

4.4 CANADA WEST CHAMPIONS

If a Single or Double Round Robin format is used, the team with the best record at the completion of the round robin will be the Canada West Curling Champion. If two or more teams are tied for first place at the completion of the round robin(s), ~~head-to-head record will decide the Champion whenever possible~~ **a tie-breaker game is not required. Instead, the champion is determined by head-to-head record first, and aggregate last stone distance (minus each team's highest two distances) second.**

~~However, in the event that head-to-head record cannot determine the Champion, a Playoff Game will be held if time allows. However, if time does not allow (possible if Tie-Breakers involving one or more of the same teams are required), the team with the best final placement at the U-SPORTS/Curling Canada Championship will be considered the Canada West Curling Champion.~~

If a 2-Pool Round Robin is used, the team winning the 1 vs. 1 Playoff Game will be the considered the Canada West Curling Champion.

4.5 ENTRIES

Each participating team will declare the five athletes and the head coach that will participate in the Canada West Curling Championship on the Curling Canada entry form. Each institution will submit their completed entry form to the Championship host institution by 4:00 pm PST a minimum of 7 days prior to the commencement of the event.

The Canada West Championship host institution will forward the completed entry forms to Curling Canada in preparation for the U SPORTS Championships.

5. RULES

5.1 RULE BOOK

Unless otherwise indicated, the most recent addition of the World Curling Federation's (WCF's) Rules of Curling will apply.

Please note that in order to align with the rules for the 2023 U SPORTS/Curling Canada Championships, the WCF's Trial Rule 2022-23 (i.e., the 'no-tick' rule) will not be used at the 2023 Canada West Curling Championships.

5.2 PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE

There will be no official pre-competition practice at the Canada West Championships. However, teams are permitted to book and pay for advance practice ice at the host Curling Facility if it is available.

5.3 PRE-COMPETITION MEETING

There will be an official pre-competition meeting held 90 minutes prior to the first game of the championship. All team members (i.e., players and coaches) must be in attendance. The Chief Umpire and the Chair of the Host Committee will conduct this meeting together.

5.4 PRE-GAME PRACTICE

Each team will have a nine (9) minute pre-game practice session, with the first practice commencing 25 minutes prior to the game. ~~Practice order will be determined by way of a coin toss 30 minutes prior to each game. The team winning the toss will have their choice of stone colour or practice order and side of sheet.~~ **The team listed first on the draw will throw the stones with the dark handles and will practice first. The team listed second on the draw will throw the stones with the light handles and will practice second.**

5.5 LAST STONE DRAWS

Last stone advantage in the first end (hammer) will be decided by two (2) draws to the button following each team's pre-game practice. Within two (2) minutes of the completion of the pre-game practice, two different players from the team will each throw a stone (full sweeping allowed) ~~with its chosen pre-game practice turn.~~ **Player 1 will throw their draw using the clockwise turn, while Player 2 will do so using the counter-clockwise turn.** During the round robin

portion of this event, each player on each team will deliver a minimum of one (1) pre-game draw. The last stone draws shall be played towards the home end.

5.6 GAMES

All games are scheduled for ten (10) ends. All round robin **and tie breaker** games can be conceded after a minimum of six (6) ends. ~~while tie breaker and/or playoff games can be conceded after eight (8) ends.~~

5.7 BRUSH HEADS AND BRUSHING

The WCF's recent Policy Statement on Brush Heads and Brushing (October 2018) will apply to the Canada West Curling Championship.

5.8 SUBSTITUTION

The alternate player is permitted to enter the competition as provided for in Special Rules for the U SPORTS / Curling Canada Championships and **Curling Canada's** Rules of Curling for Officiated Play. **Please note that this rule supersedes WCF's Rules of Curling.**

5.9 COACHES

Each team must be accompanied by one (1) certified coach at least 21 years of age. Coaches will only be allowed to coach one (1) team during the championships. Coaches must be Certified "Competition Coach" (Competition-Introduction) or Certified Level 2. Reserved seating behind each sheet of ice will be provided during each game of the championships. Uncertified coaches, assistant coaches, team psychologists, trainers, or other support staff, will not receive reserved seating behind the team's sheet.

5.10 CHIEF UMPIRE

A Chief Umpire will be appointed to enforce and interpret the WCF's Rules of Curling, along with any special Canada West Rules that apply to the Canada West Curling Championships. Please note that, depending on the number of teams entered, the Chief Umpire may recommend that additional on-ice officials be appointed to work the event.

6. AWARDS

6.1 CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES

Teams competing in the Canada West Championships will be competing for the following championship trophies:

Western Canadian University Men's Championship Trophy

Western Canadian University Women's Championship Trophy

6.2 CANADA WEST ALL-STARS

The competing team coaches will vote on the Canada West All-Star Team (i.e., Lead, Second, Third, and Fourth positions in the Men's or Women's events) by way of a secret ballot. This ballot must be submitted to the Chief Umpire before the coaches leave their designated seating area following the final round robin draw. The announcement of the All-Star Team will occur as follows:

No Playoff Games Required: Prior to the awarding of the championship trophies.
Playoff Games Required: Prior to pre-game practice for the first Playoff Game.

6.3 COACHES OF THE YEAR

The Men's and Women's Coaches of the Year will be voted on by the competing team coaches by way of a secret ballot. Please note that coaches cannot vote for themselves. This ballot must be submitted to the Chief Umpire before the coaches leave their designated seating area following the final round robin draw. The announcement of the Coaches-of-the-Year will occur as follows:

No Playoff Games Required: Prior to the awarding of the championship trophies.
Playoff Games Required: Prior to pre-game practice for the first Playoff Game.

7. UNIFORMS

- 7.1 Each team will be required to wear their matching on-ice uniforms that correspond with their school colours at all times when they are in the ice area. Please note that if two or more players elect to wear hats, their hats must also match and correspond with their school colours.
- 7.2 All Canada West members are required to have the Canada West brand on all uniforms, as per the specifications in the Canada West Brand ID Guide. The Canada West Office shall proof branding on uniforms to ensure guidelines are met.
- 7.3 Sponsor cresting is allowed, as long as it does not conflict with designated Canada West, U SPORTS, or Curling Canada sponsors. Each team is allowed six (6) cresting positions on their jackets/shirts no larger than 6" x 6" or 36 square inches. Each team is also allowed one (1) cresting position on the pants no larger than 4" x 4" or 16 square inches.

8. SPORT ADMINISTRATION

8.1 CURLING FACILITY

Given the number of teams that could potentially enter the championship, particular now that Curling is officially a Canada West sport, an 8-sheet curling facility is required. Curling facilities of this size currently exist within reasonable proximity to all Canada West institutions.

The quality of the playing conditions at the curling facility is essential to running a high-performance championship. To this end, it is expected that the host curling facility has well matched stones on all sheets, and that its ice staff commits to scraping the ice between draws. It is also expected that there is no other activity on open sheets while Canada West games are being played.

8.2 COACHES TECHNICAL MEETING

A Coaches Technical Meeting will be held annually at the Canada West Championships. The meeting should be scheduled for 90 minutes in length and begin no later than 3 hours prior to the start of any draw. This meeting provides an important forum to discuss all aspects of the Canada West Curling Championships, and to suggest improvements for the future. Therefore, all team coaches are expected to attend.

8.3 CHAMPIONSHIP DINNER

In keeping with the tradition of the previous Western Canadian Curling Championships, a Championship meal is held as an opportunity for athletes and coaches from different institutions to interact and get to know one another. **This meal could be either a dinner or a lunch depending on what works best for the host committee and the curling facility.** Dress is casual, and there is no formal program, speakers, etc. ~~instead, it is simply an opportunity for athletes and coaches from different institutions to interact and get to know one another.~~

9. MEDICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Refer to Policy 14 of the Canada West Operations Manual for host and visiting team responsibilities.

10. PROTESTS

The Chief Umpire is empowered to suspend a player from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct. This includes any verbal abuse directed at ANY umpire. Every rule has an enforcement procedure that will be followed. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE ARE

NO WARNINGS FOR ANY INFRACTION UNLESS IT IS STATED IN THE RULE BOOK OR BROUGHT TO YOUR ATTENTION BY THE CHIEF UMPIRE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE COMPETITION! Suspensions and judgment calls made by an official cannot be appealed.

11. FILM EXCHANGE

N/A

12. INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND SERIOUS MISCONDUCT IN COMPETITION

Refer to Policy 6 of the Canada West Operations Manual for the policy and process for dealing with complaint of inappropriate conduct or incidents of serious misconduct in competition.

12.1 SUSPENDED/EJECTED COACH OR PLAYER

1. A suspended/ejected coach must adhere to the following (for non-conference, league, and playoffs):

- a. Will not be permitted anywhere within the playing venue from one hour before until 30 minutes after their games.
- b. Coaches ejected during a game are to leave the vicinity of the playing surface, dressing rooms and benches, and cease all engagement with any participants, including players, coaches, officials, spectators etc. until 30 minutes after the game concludes.

NOTE: Where a Team Official is ordered to the dressing room under this rule, it is sufficient that they are away from the Players', benches or playing surface and are not directing or interacting with the teams in any manner and in no way interacting with or bothering the officials. Should the individual violate this rule, they are subject to further discipline following a Policy 6 review.

- c. Coaches suspended for a game may not be within the vicinity of the playing surface, dressing rooms and benches as of 60 minutes prior to the game; during this time coaches may not have any interaction with the team, through technology or other means, until 30 minutes after the game has been completed.

2. A suspended/ejected player must adhere to the following (for non-conference, league, and playoffs):

- a. Student athlete suspended can be in the venue and should be as close as possible to the team bench without being on the team bench.
- b. Are not allowed within the field of play during competition.

- c. **Student athletes suspended can join in the locker room only after the game is complete.**

13. RESULTS, STATISTICS, AND SCORESHEET MANAGEMENT

13.1 TIME CLOCKS

Time clocks will not be used during the Canada West Curling Championships. However, teams are asked to maintain a reasonable pace of play. In the event that this does not occur, the Chief Umpire will monitor the game(s) in question and take any disciplinary actions that are deemed appropriate.

13.2 LIVE ONLINE SCORING

In competitive curling live online scoring is expected for all games played during an event. To this end, the Canada West Curling Championships will use the www.curling.ca platform, which is part of Curling Canada's website. Beyond simply showing end-by-end scoring, this platform automatically generates several reports that have proven to be useful to coaches and fans alike.

13.3 SHOOTING PERCENTAGES

Shooting percentages will not be kept at the Canada West Curling Championships, at least initially. This decision is based on the fact that an insufficient number of trained statisticians (i.e., one per sheet) exist in most Canada West markets. However, since this situation could change as the sport and the championship evolve, this decision should be reviewed periodically.