



THE **August 2026** BURNT ROCK NEWSLETTER

Niagara Falls Curling Club

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First Day of Ice
For Practice Will
Be October 5th

Dear Curling Club members and friends:

As we enter September, below are a few updates on some issues as we prepare for the 2026/27 season.

Recruiting new members:

Please spread the word about the Niagara Falls Curling Club to friends, family and co-workers. Increasing our membership will allow us to offer more services and enhancements to the Club. Our recent membership survey confirmed that the majority of us were introduced to the Club by friends, family or co-workers who were NFCC members.

We will continue to promote the Club through social media and traditional media. Please let us know if you have any ideas of how we can promote the club through a community bulletin board, a workplace newsletter to attending a community event. We are particularly interested in growing our day leagues and Monday night leagues for new and experienced curlers.

Sponsorship/Advertising opportunities:

Thanks to Jess Maves, we have a document outlining sponsorship and advertising opportunities at the Club.

Please let Sean or I know if you have any friends or family who may be interested in promoting their business, product or service at the Club. We would be happy to speak to them about different options.

Kitchen:

As there is great interest to have food service at the Club, we continue to look at options to re-open the kitchen.

The challenge is that it costs about \$2,500 to operate the kitchen for the curling season – utilities, cleaning and maintenance.

Over the years, we have tried to work with ca-

www.niagaracurling.com



facebook.com/NiagaraFallsCurlingClub/



instagram.com/niagara_curling/



twitter.com/niagaracurling

terers to make the kitchen successful for both the Club and the caterer. The challenge has usually been that the Club cannot provide enough demand for the caterer to make a profit while paying the Club a reasonable rent.

If you know of a cook or caterer who might be interested, we would be happy to meet with them to discuss the options.

While we search for a viable option to re-open the kitchen, we are exploring how to increase food options at the bar along with possible opportunities with local restaurants.

In the next few weeks, we will be providing an update on upcoming events, membership options and membership fees as we prepare to get back on the ice in October.

Have a great summer and please email me at crobwalters@hotmail.com or our Club Manager, Sean at manager@niagaracurling.com if you have any ideas on the items above or any other ways to enhance the Club.

Rob

President of the NFCC Board



PLEASE BE ON THE LOOK-OUT IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS FOR A FOLLOWUP EMAIL FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE CLUB ON:

GOING CASHLESS IN THE CLUB AND THE *ANNUAL SWING & SWEEP EVENT* SCHEDULED FOR OCT.3



Niagara Falls
Curling Club
Kick Off



BBQ PARTY

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 23

5 - 8 PM

Burgers -- Hot Dogs -- Drinks

All \$5.00

Come out and reconnect with friends

WWW.NIAGARACURLING.COM

FIRST AID SEMINAR



BE PREPARED.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

ALL MEMBERS AND
THEIR FAMILIES ARE
INVITED!

ARE YOU
OKAY?

LET'S GET
YOU COMFORTABLE.
WE'RE HERE
TO HELP.



SEPTEMBER 19
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE
CAN MAKE A
BIG IMPACT!



HANDS-ON TRAINING

Learn practical skills
that save lives.



PRACTICAL SKILLS

Everyday first aid
for real-life situations.



CONFIDENCE TO ACT

Feel prepared to
help when it matters.



BE READY FOR ANYTHING

Be the one who
makes a difference.

STRONGER TOGETHER. SAFER TOGETHER.



Try it. ↘

THURSDAY ROCKS

FUN • LEARN • COMMUNITY



WHY JOIN?

-  Fun, relaxed atmosphere
-  Balanced tiers for great games
-  Learn and improve as you go
-  Friendly competition
-  Meet great people
-  Enjoy a great night at the club

POWERED BY THE THURSDAY ROCKS APP



- ✓ Smart scheduling with fresh matchups
- ✓ Phone score entry
- ✓ Automatic standings
- ✓ Easy spare finding
- ✓ Live clubhouse displays

Custom platform developed by Ian Holm. ★



MEET GREAT
PEOPLE



LEARN AS
YOU GO



ENJOY A NIGHT
OUT



THURSDAY NIGHTS

Early Draw: 6:30 PM
Late Draw: 8:30 PM



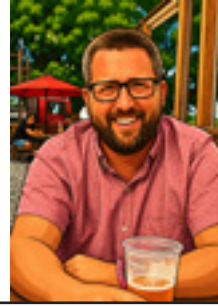
NIAGARA FALLS CURLING CLUB

5801 Morrison Street

Bring a friend. Join the fun. See why "Thursday Rocks"!



A Summer of Progress and Teamwork at the Club



By
Stephen Fish

As another busy summer comes to a close, it is important to recognize and celebrate the tremendous efforts of the many volunteers and supporters who have helped improve and maintain our club grounds and facilities.

A major focus this summer has been the ongoing lounge renovations. Leading the charge has been Sean, whose dedication and countless hours of work have kept the project moving forward. Along with his trusty sidekicks, Andrew and Tim, significant progress has been made toward creating an updated and welcoming space for members and guests to enjoy.

The renovation project also benefited from the professional expertise and generosity of Sean Brady from Brady Painting, who assisted with painting and helped bring a fresh new look to the lounge. Their combined efforts, along with the contributions of many other volunteers, have made a noticeable difference and moved the project closer to completion.

Outside the clubhouse, Randy Elliott deserves special recognition for his hard work throughout the summer in keeping the grounds looking their best. From routine maintenance to ongoing cleanup efforts, Randy's commitment has helped ensure that our property remained attractive and welcoming all season long.

We would also like to thank the dedicated crew who tackled the challenging task of clearing the fence line along the school property. This was a significant undertaking, and the results have greatly improved the appearance of the area. A special shout-out goes to Doug, Wally, and Kevin, who went above and beyond by hauling multiple loads of yard waste to the dump. Their willingness to pitch in and do the heavy lifting was instrumental in completing the project.

The accomplishments of this summer are a testament to what can be achieved when members come together with a common purpose. Whether tackling major renovation projects, maintaining the grounds, or lending a hand wherever needed, every contribution has helped make our club a better place.

While we are proud of what has been accomplished, there is still plenty to do. The lounge renovations continue, maintenance projects never stop, and there are always opportunities for members to get involved. Whether you have a few hours to spare, a particular skill or trade, or simply a willingness to lend a hand, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Got time? Got talent? Let Sean know how you can help out. From construction and painting to landscaping, cleanup, and general maintenance, there are many ways to contribute. The more volunteers we have, the more we can accomplish together.

To everyone who volunteered their time, skills, and energy this summer, thank you. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and are helping ensure that our club continues to be a place we can all take pride in for years to come. Together, we are building something special, and with continued support, the best is yet to come.

What is BROOMSTACKING?

Broomstacking can be considered the traditional Post-Game/In-Game social gathering between the two Teams competing. Common custom is that the winning Team buys the losing Team the first round of drinks (not necessarily alcohol). The Losing Team reciprocates by buying the second round. In some places the sharing of snacks can serve the same purpose. The purpose of the Broomstacking is really about respect and social interaction. Two Teams compete hard after shaking hands and then



sit to enjoy a beverage and conversation after the game, congratulating each other on well made and played ends. The time taken during Broomstacking to get to know your opponents and Teammates helps build the sense of community within the Curling Club and is at the heart of the Spirit of Curling.

Broomstacking can trace its origins back to Scotland where Teams would stack their brooms together near the fire while they enjoyed a cold dram together. While we don't stack our brooms together ordinarily...in 2023 the Niagara Falls Curling Club hosted the Scottish Delegation competing in the Strathcona Cup and during the game..we stacked the brooms on the ice vertically with a hair band and enjoyed a dram of Scotch on the Home End Boards.

Add Another League to Your Season!

*If one night of curling isn't enough, why not add another league to your schedule this season? More ice time means more opportunities to improve your game, meet fellow members, and enjoy everything the **Niagara Falls Curling Club** has to offer. Whether you're looking for friendly competition or a new challenge, we have a league for you:*

- **Monday Partners League (daytime and evening)** where you and your partner rotate teammates every six weeks, making it a great way to meet new curlers.
- **Tuesday Recreational League** for a fun, social, and relaxed evening on the ice.
- **Wednesday Open Competitive (Brodie) League** for curlers seeking stronger competition.
- **Monday Doubles League**, a fast-paced format that continues to grow in popularity.
- **Daytime Men's, Ladies', and Co-Ed** Leagues throughout the week for those who prefer daytime curling.
- **Thursday Rocks** League, designed specifically for newer/recreational curlers looking to build skills and confidence. Active group

Adding a second league is one of the best ways to get more out of your membership. You'll play more, improve faster, and become even more connected to our curling community.

*More ice. More friends. More fun. Join another league and make the most of your season at **Niagara Falls Curling Club**!*

New Points and PowerPlay points for Mixed Doubles 2026-27 Season

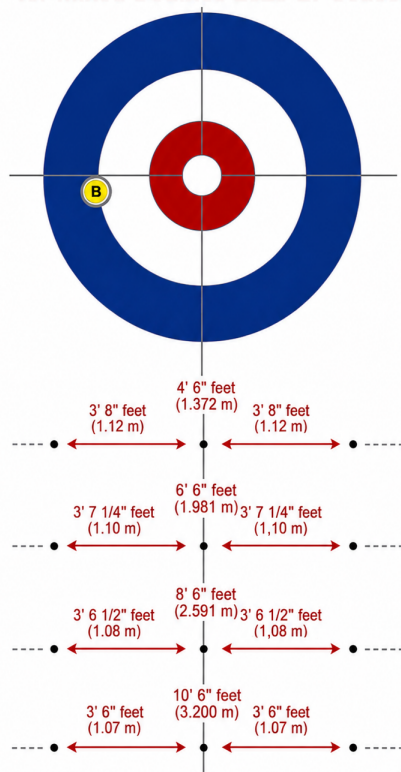


*Diagram may not be to scale

New Doubles Power Play Markers for 2026-27

POST IT FUN FACT

With the world curling rule change, Nfcc ice will have a total of 144 doubles markers frozen in this year (how long will that take?)

Celebrating the Success of Our Competitive Curlers

Our curling club continues to be a source of pride as our youth and recent graduates achieve success at the provincial, national, collegiate, and even international levels. Their accomplishments this season reflect countless hours of dedication, perseverance, and passion for the sport, while also showcasing the strength of our club's development programs.



By
Stephen Fish

Leading the way is Victor Pietrangelo, whose year has been truly remarkable. Victor captured the U25 Mixed Doubles Canadian Championship and earned a coveted appearance at the Tim Hortons Brier, representing Ontario on one of curling's biggest stages. Even more impressively, he went on to win the Canadian Adult Mixed Doubles Championship, a national title that has earned his team the opportunity to represent Canada at the World Mixed Doubles Championship in Finland. Competing on the world stage is an extraordinary accomplishment and a testament to the talent being developed within our club.

At the Ontario Winter Games, Evelyn Fish and Phynn Gallacher earned a Silver Medal in U20 Mixed Doubles, while Remy Pietrangelo claimed Gold as a U18 Provincial Champion, highlighting the bright future of curling in our region.

Our athletes have also excelled at the collegiate level. Megan Ford and Cassie Barnard were members of the Niagara College Women's team that captured the OCAA Gold Medal, while Emma Riches and Noah LeBrun also enjoyed OCAA Gold Medal Mixed Doubles success.

On the National competitive circuit, Katie Ford achieved an impressive Semi-Finalist finish at the Canadian Adult Mixed Doubles Championship, competing against some of the country's top mixed doubles teams.

Two other noteworthy accomplishments came from Team Chelsea Principi and Team Katie Ford (Kelly Middaugh), who both enjoyed a great run at the Provincial Scotties. Chelsea made it to the Page Playoff Semi-Final before being eliminated against the eventual winner.

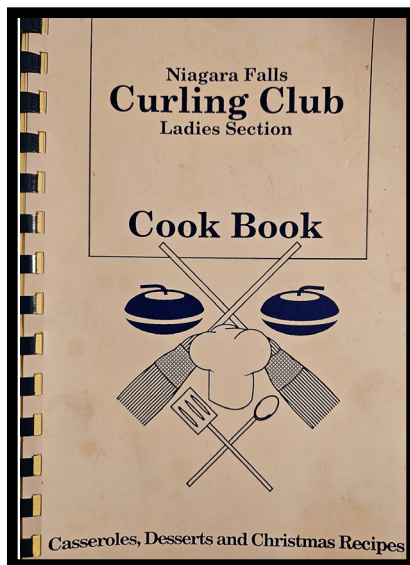
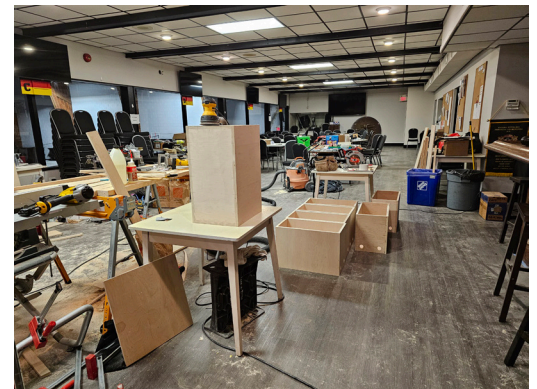
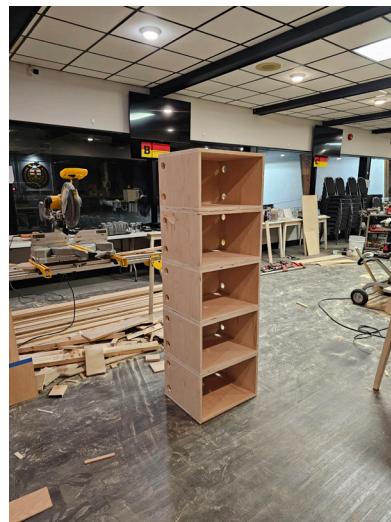
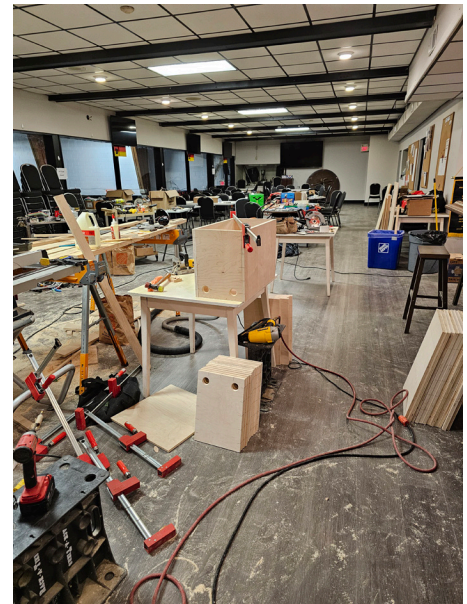
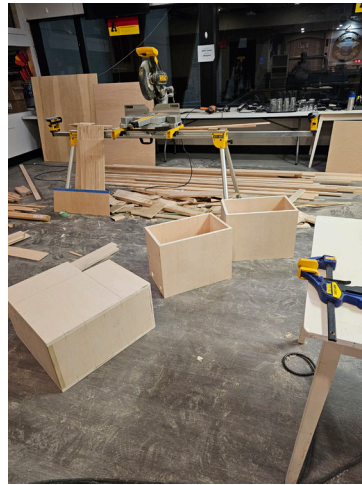
While these achievements stand out, they represent only part of the story. Our club is fortunate to have a growing number of young athletes and alumni competing on the Provincial and National competitive circuits. Whether earning podium finishes, representing their schools and colleges, competing in Provincial championships, or pursuing excellence at the highest levels of the game, these curlers continue to make our club proud. We recognize that many athletes contribute to this success, and we congratulate all of our competitive curlers for their commitment to the sport and for representing our club with such distinction.

The accomplishments of Victor Pietrangelo, Evelyn Fish, Phynn Gallacher, Remy Pietrangelo, Megan Ford, Cassie Barnard, Emma Riches, Noah LeBrun, Katie Ford, Chelsea Principi, Kelly Middaugh and many others are a reflection of the dedication of the athletes themselves, as well as the support of their families, coaches, volunteers, and fellow club members.

Congratulations to all of our youth and alumni curlers on another exceptional season. We look forward to celebrating even more success in the years ahead!



House News



WHITE PIZZA

Pizza dough, parmesan cheese, salt, pepper, oregano leaves, olive oil or vegetable oil, 1 minced garlic (opt.)

Roll out or press pizza dough on greased sheet, brush dough with olive oil. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, parmesan, oregano and garlic.

Cook at 350° until lightly browned.

Julie Farisco

POST IT FUN FACT
Draft beer and pop dispensing systems use bottled gas (co2), it serves 2 purposes, maintains carbonization and helps push liquid. Guinness uses another gas - Nitrogen

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 19

First Aid Seminar
Free for Club Members

SEPTEMBER 23
Opening BBQ**OCTOBER 3**
Swing & Sweep

OCTOBER 5
Practice Week Begins
See Club Website For
Hours

OCTOBER 6
EVENING
CLUB CLOSED

OCTOBER 7-9
Practice Week Continues

OCTOBER 16-18
Junior Slam Series

NOVEMBER 14
Charity Bonspiel
Soup Kitchen

NOVEMBER 20-22
Canada Winter Games
Qualifier
Masters Qualifier

NOVEMBER 27

Festival of Lights Bonspiel

DECEMBER 4-6
Junior Slam Series

DECEMBER 23
Last Day Curling 2026

JANUARY 2-4
Junior Slam Series
Extends to Monday Morn

JANUARY 4
Curling Resumes For
2027

FEBRUARY 6
Teddy Bear Cup

FEBRUARY 12-14
Valentine Bonspiel

FEBRUARY 20-21
Junior Slam Series

FEBRUARY 26-28
Mixed Doubles Qualifier

MARCH 5-7

Best Western Provincials

MARCH 13
U12 Junior Slam

MARCH 15-19
March Break

MARCH 26-28
Junior Slam Series

APRIL 1-3
Honeymoon Bonspiel

APRIL 9-11
Junior Slam Series
Tentative

APRIL 16-18
Junior Slam Series

APRIL 19
Last Day of Ice

Thursday Rocks: Redefining Thursday Night at the Club

Fun. Learning. Community.

Powered by Custom Tech Built Right Here At Our Club.

There's something exciting happening on Thursday nights at the Niagara Falls Curling Club. Thursday Rocks is all about great curling, friendly competition, and connecting on and off the ice.

Your Thursday Rocks Committee has been busy over the off-season, bringing together new ideas and initiatives to add even more fun, connection, and energy to the season ahead. Here are a few things to look forward to:

- **League Calendar:** A full-season calendar laid out in advance so members can plan ahead.
- **Smart League Play:** Flexible, dynamic scheduling tools designed to create balanced, thoughtful league play.
- **Next-Level Events:** More advance notice, updates, and information about special events happening throughout the season.
- **Player Development Resources:** Easy access to online training, helpful tools, rules, and resources to support continued learning and development.

League Play Software: A Sneak Peak

This season, club member Ian Holm will take our experience to another level by creating an innovative, custom-built league platform designed specifically for Thursday Rocks. With creativity, technical skill, and a great understanding of what makes league night enjoyable, Ian has built a system that helps Thursday Rocks run smoothly while keeping the experience fair, engaging, and fun.

Smart Scheduling: Maximum Variety Every Week

Teams are grouped into tiers to help create competitive games, with some cross-tier matchups mixed in for variety. The system also keeps track of previous matchups, helping create fresh pairings, giving teams the opportunity to play a wider variety of opponents throughout the season.

Our new intelligent scheduling engine handles all the details behind the scenes so every team gets the most out of their season:

- **Full Ice Rotation:** Balanced sheet assignments give teams the opportunity to play across the ice throughout the season.
- **Balanced Draw Schedules:** Enjoy a fair, even mix of early (6:30 PM) and late (8:30 PM) game times over the course of the schedule.
- **Fresh Matchups:** Dynamic pairing keeps your games exciting by maximizing opponent variety across all tiers.
- **Seamless Mid-Season Growth:** Welcomes "Learn to Curl" graduates directly into the league without changing existing team schedules.

Innovation on the Ice: High-Tech Thursday Nights

Instant Mobile Scorekeeping

- **Zero-Install Convenience:** Open the web link right on your phone—no app stores, or accounts required.
- **Up-to-Date Standings:** Submit your score and a photo of the scoreboard, and once the result is approved, league standings update automatically.

Effortless Spare Finder

- **One-Click Spare Board:** Post an open spot in seconds so available curlers can step in to play.
- **Automated Email Confirmation:** Captains get an instant notification as soon as a spare

claims the spot.

- Smart Date Matching: System locks listings directly to the current week so everyone arrives on the right date.

Live Clubhouse Displays

- Lounge Leaderboards: Watch results, matchups, and standings update live on the club TV screens.
- Fun League Stats: Lighthearted stats like Hammer Win Rate and Closest Game of the Week add a little extra fun and maybe a few bragging rights to the post-game lounge conversation.

Seamless & Simple for Everyone

This technology is designed to work quietly in the background so you can focus entirely on your game:

- Simple to Use: Clean, straightforward design with zero software to install.
- On-Site Support: Club convenors are always available to assist, with traditional printed sheets ready as a backup.

Thursday Rocks Is About More Than Technology

The scheduling engine is impressive. The instant standings and live stats are convenient and fun.

Finding a spare without sending twelve messages may become everyone's favourite feature.

Thursday Rocks is about walking into the club knowing you're going to have a good night.

- It's about enjoying friendly competition without taking ourselves too seriously.
- It's about continuing to learn.
- It's about celebrating the shot that lands exactly where you called it – and laughing about the one that most definitely did not.
- It's about the conversations between ends, the people you see every Thursday, and the time spent upstairs after the game.

Join Us on Thursday Night!

If this sounds like your kind of Thursday night, we'd love to see you on the ice.

A sincere thank you to Ian Holm for the creativity, skill, time, and generosity he has brought to developing the Thursday Rocks platform. It is a great example of a club member seeing an opportunity, building something innovative, and using it to make the curling experience even better for our community.

DRAW TIMES: Early Draw: 6:30 PM | Late Draw: 8:30 PM

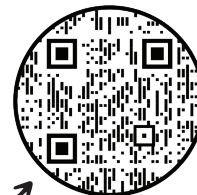
THE VIBE: FUN • LEARN • COMMUNITY

Come for the curling. Stay for Thursday night.



2026-2027 COMPETITION CALENDAR

EVENT	REGISTRATION DEADLINE 9:30 AM FOR ALL	PROVINCIAL QUALIFIERS	PROVINCIALS	NATIONALS
CURLING CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP <i>Presented by</i> 	March 16 or September 21	RESTRICTED ZONE QUALIFIERS April 10-12, 2026 RESTRICTED ZONE QUALIFIERS October 16-18, 2026	October 29-November 1, 2026 <i>Welland Curling Club</i>	November 21-28, 2026
MASTER MEN & WOMEN <i>Presented by</i> 	October 26	November 20-22, 2026	December 9-13, 2026 <i>Simcoe Curling Club</i>	April 2027
CANADA WINTER GAMES FOURS	October 26	November 20-22, 2026	Trials - December 18-21, 2026 <i>Guelph Curling</i>	DOUBLES AND WOMEN'S FOURS February 28-March 5, 2027 MEN'S FOURS March 9-14, 2027
CANADA WINTER GAMES DOUBLES	November 23	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO TRIALS	December 18-21, 2026 <i>Guelph Curling</i>	
MEN'S & WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP	November 23	OPEN QUALIFIERS December 18-20, 2026	January 11-17, 2026 <i>Cornwall Civic Complex</i>	SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS February 12-21, 2027 MONTANA'S BRIER February 26-March 7, 2027
WHEELCHAIR DOUBLES	TBD	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	December 4-6, 2026 <i>Ilderton Curling Club</i>	N/A
U20 MEN & WOMEN	December 14	January 8-10, 2027	February 3-7, 2027 <i>Dundas Granite Curling Club</i>	March 20-27, 2027
U18 MEN & WOMEN	January 4	January 29-31, 2027	February 17-21, 2027 <i>High Park Club</i>	April 18-24, 2027
SENIOR MEN & WOMEN	January 4	January 29-31, 2027	March 10-14, 2027 <i>Barrie Curling Club</i>	December 4-11, 2027
BEST WESTERN CHALLENGE <i>Presented by</i> 	January 11	February 5-7, 2027	March 5-7, 2027 <i>Niagara Falls Curling Club & Welland Curling Club</i>	N/A
4-PERSON STICK	January 11	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	February 5-7, 2027 <i>Beach Grove Golf & Country Club</i>	N/A
2-PERSON STICK MEN, WOMEN & MIXED	February 1	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	February 26-28, 2027 <i>St. Marys Curling</i>	March 30-April 3, 2027
SENIOR MEN & WOMEN CHALLENGE ROUND	February 1	February 12-14, 2027	March 10-14, 2026 <i>Barrie Curling Club</i>	December 4-11, 2027
MIXED CHAMPIONSHIP	February 1	February 19-21, 2027	March 31-April 4, 2027 <i>Milton Curling Club</i>	November 8-14, 2027
SENIOR MIXED CHAMPIONSHIP	February 1	February 19-21, 2027	March 31-April 4, 2027 <i>Milton Curling Club</i>	N/A
MIXED DOUBLES	February 1	February 26-28, 2027	March 18-21, 2027 <i>Whitby Curling Club</i>	October 24-30, 2027
GRANDMASTERS	February 15	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	March 18-21, 2027 <i>Royal Kingston Curling Club</i>	N/A
WHEELCHAIR CHAMPIONSHIP	February 22	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	March 11-14, 2027 <i>Bobcaygeon Curling Club</i>	April 19-24, 2027
SILVER TANKARD	March 22	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	April 16-18, 2027 <i>Oshawa Curling Club</i>	N/A
U12 & U15 FESTIVAL	March 8	TEAMS ENTER DIRECTLY TO PROVINCIALS	April 1-4, 2027 <i>Host TBD</i>	
HIT, DRAW, TAP	TBD	QUALIFIERS AT HOME CLUB <i>Email for more information</i>	January 16, 2027	
U15 ROCKFEST	VARIOUS	IN-PERSON OR VIA APP <i>Email for more information</i>	February 5-7, 2027 <i>Peterborough Golf & Country Club and Lakefield Curling Club</i>	



FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: competitions@curlingontario.ca

REGISTER HERE