



Media Release

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New inter-regional qualifying process for 2012 Canadian Direct Insurance BC Men's Curling Championship

Richmond, BC (June 13, 2011) – Curl BC is pleased to announce a new inter-regional qualifying process for the 2012 Canadian Direct Insurance BC Men's Curling Championship to be held at the Parksville Curling Club, February 8-12, 2012.

The past four open qualifying events have now been eliminated and the 16 provincial berths will now be awarded as follows:

- 1 berth to the Defending Champion
- 1 berth to top BC-CTRS Points Leader
- 10 berths to 5 interregional events
 - Kootenays – Regions 1 & 2
 - Thompson / Okanagan – Regions 3,4,7
 - North – Regions 5,6
 - Island – Region 8-10
 - Lower Mainland – Region 11
- 4 berths to an Open Qualifying Event

In order for each inter-regional playdown to receive two berths, they must have 8 or more entries. If an event has only 4-7 teams enter, they will receive one berth and the remaining berth will be reallocated. If a playdown has less than 4 entries, it will be cancelled and teams will be required to enter one of the other inter-regional events. Remaining berths will be reallocated to either the inter-regional event with the most entries and/or the open qualifying event.

This change comes as a result of an on-going playdown review being conducted by Curl BC to ensure that all respective playdowns meet the needs of the changing face of curling in BC. The intent of this inter-regional movement is to increase the number and caliber of teams competing by over-coming BC's geographical challenges.

This change will only apply to the BC Men's playdowns, therefore the 2012 Scotties BC Women's Curling Championship presented by Best Western will remain a 10-team round-round with page playoff format, and four open qualifying events.

The top men's teams in BC will battle for the title and a berth into the 2012 Tim Hortons Brier in Saskatoon, SK, March 3-11, 2012. The Canadian Direct Insurance BC Championship semi-final and final games will be televised on Shaw TV & Shaw Direct.

The BC Men's Curling Championship has produced four national championship teams skipped by Frenchy D'Amour (Trail – 1948), Lyall Dagg (Vancouver – 1964), Rick Folk (Kelowna – 1994) and Greg McAulay (Royal City – 2000).

About Curl BC

Curl BC is the provincial sport governing body responsible for the development, promotion and organization of curling in British Columbia. Curl BC is also responsible for the championship system that declares provincial representation at National events. In cooperation with its Members, Curl BC provides service to both competitive and recreational curlers, including a variety of adaptive sport groups.