2026 BC Canada Winter Game Trials – 4 person
January 23, 2026 –January 25, 2026, Chilliwack Curling Club

Prepared by Chief Umpire: Patti Caldwell

The Chief Umpire will oversee all field of play action and assist competitors in the competition.

Teams competing in the Championship
If you have any questions **after** reading this information, please call, text or email pcaldwell@shaw.ca or cell (604) 328-9066.

FORMAT:
Event held in Chilliwack January 23 – January 25, 2026.

Women's Event:
The women's event will use a double round robin format with three teams.

The team finishing first with the best win/loss record in the round robin will earn the right to represent BC at the 2027 CWG.

- If two teams are tied with the best win/loss record, a **single tie-breaker** game will determine the BC representative, with the head-to-head game winner receiving either hammer (first practice) or stone colour choice.
- If three teams are tied in record, Last Stone Draw (LSD) results will rank the teams. The third-ranked team will be eliminated, and a tie-breaker game between the first and second-ranked teams will decide the BC representative.

Men's Event:
The men's event will use a single round robin format with six teams.

The team finishing first with the best win/loss record in the round robin will earn the right to represent BC at the 2027 CWG.

- If two teams are tied with the best win/loss record, a **single tie-breaker** game will determine the BC representative, with the head-to-head game winner receiving either hammer (first practice) or stone colour choice.
- If three teams are tied in record, head-to-head results will be used only if one team has lost to the other two teams, in which case that team will be ranked third and eliminated. If the tie cannot be broken by head-to-head results, Last Stone Draw (LSD) results will rank the teams. The third-ranked team will be eliminated, and a tie-breaker game between the first- and second-ranked teams will decide the BC representative.

Teams will play with stones on their assigned sheet

All Games are eight (8) ends. (Thinking time – 34 minutes). Extra ends 5 min. thinking time.

OFFICIATING:

- 1 Chief Umpire
- Rule enforcement and unresolvable on-ice situations are to be directed to the Chief Umpire. The decision of the Chief Umpire is final.

On-Ice Official: There will be no on ice officials. All measures will be done by the Chief Umpire. Teams are asked to put up your score immediately after the end.

Timing: Time Clocks will not be used for this event. Rule 17 (7) will be used in lieu:

If time clocks are not used in officiated play, and an umpire determines that a team is unnecessarily delaying a game, the umpire notifies the skip of the offending team and, after that notification, if the next stone to be delivered has not reached the tee line at the delivering end within forty-five (45) seconds, the stone is removed from play immediately.

Between end breaks will be sixty (60) seconds, mid game break five (5 (minutes and one (1) minute before each extra end and any Technical Time Outs.

TIMEOUTS: Now replaced with 2026 Curling Canada's U18 Coach Interaction Rules.

Coaches will be provided with more convenient and frequent access to their teams while the game is being played.

Please refer to: https://curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2026-Curling-Canadas-U-18-U-20-Coach-Interaction-Rules-English.pdf

TECHNICAL TIMEOUTS:
Teams are encouraged to use the "X" signal to request a technical / official timeout (timeout for free guard zone measurement, end of end measurement, rule interpretation, etc.)

FAIR PLAY TIME OUT:
The purpose of the Coaches Fair Play Time-Out is to provide the coach or official an opportunity to diffuse a potentially negative situation regarding a player on ice demeanor before the situation escalates. Each coach shall be given a 1-minute fair play time out per game. Only the coach calling the fair play time out may enter the field of play and will be accompanied by an official. This is not an opportunity for a coach to discuss strategy.

Coaches are reminded that clean curling shoes are required to access the field of play. Coaches going to the away end will travel to the away end backboards to meet with their teams behind the backline. Coaches will be seated on the backboards during the games with their chairs positioned on the same side as their team's rocks. As the Coaches **will be on the ice**, they are to be dressed appropriately and warm enough to sit comfortably throughout a game. Jeans are not considered appropriate curling clothes and anyone wearing jeans will not be permitted in the field of play.

CONCEDING A GAME: The skip of the losing team may concede the game at any end.

Clarification of the score with a concession of the game:

1. When both teams still have stones to be delivered (at least 1 each) and there is a concession, no points are given and X's are placed on the scoreboard (if a team is mathematically eliminated - the game is over).
2. When one team has delivered all their stones and the other team has 1 stone remaining and there is a concession:
    a. If the team that delivered all their stones has stones counting and the game is conceded, X's are placed on the scoreboard.
    b. If the team that did not deliver all their stones has stones counting and the game is conceded, the points in the house are placed on the scoreboard.

c. If after 15 stones are delivered and no stones are counting and the game is conceded, X's are placed on the scoreboard.
d. If a game is conceded with more than 2 ends remaining, the first non-scored end will be marked with X's.

NO TICK SHOT RULE:
If prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes, either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre position or to a position outside the FGZ, the non-offending team had the option to:

1) Remove the delivered stone from play and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or

2) Leave all stones where they come to rest.

If the stone is moved from the centre line to an out of play position, then the FGZ rule applies.

If the stone is touching at least part of the centre line marking, it is considered on the centre line

PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE:

Women's – Pre-competition practice will be two 10-minute practices per team on sheet E
Men's - Pre-competition practice will be 10 minutes per sheet of ice. The schedule for pre-competition practice will be controlled by an umpire.

PRE-GAME PRACTICE AND CHOICE OF STONE COLOR: In Round Robin play, teams listed on the top or the left of the draw schedule will practice first with the dark coloured stones (Blue).

Each team will be allowed a 9-minute warm-up with 1 minute to complete each Last Stone Draw before each game on the sheet of ice on which they are about to play. There is no limit to the number of stones which may be thrown. Teams will practice using only their stones for that game and may not handle or otherwise disturb their opponent's stones.

At least 15 minutes prior to first practice, the last stone draw sheet needs to be completed by both teams and given to the Chief Umpire indicating the two players who will be delivering the last stone draw. All players must throw at least one last stone draws during the event. Notice will be given 1 minute prior to start of each practice and teams will be advised when they may access the ice surface. Opposing teams must remain in the viewing area behind the glass during their opponent's pre-game practice.

LAST STONE ADVANTAGE IN THE FIRST END (HAMMER) will be decided by a draw to the button following each team's pre-game practice. At least 15 minutes prior to first practice, the last stone draw Declaration needs to be completed by both teams and given to the Chief Umpire indicating the two players who will be delivering the last stone draw.

Following the pre-game practice, under the direction of the Chief Umpire, two identified players from each team will deliver an LSD. The first player will deliver a clockwise rotation while the second player will deliver the counterclockwise rotation. Players designated will deliver their stone (full sweeping allowed) and the lowest combined LSD between the two teams will receive last stone advantage in the first end.

The draw to the button shall be played towards the home end.

Stones not delivered within the time allotted by the umpire will be assigned 199.6 cm (the stone must reach the near tee-line before time expires).

Stones that do not reach the nearer Tee-line within the time allotted by the umpire will be assigned a distance of 199.6 cm. A draw to the button for last stone advantage that is moved by the delivering team member prior to the measure will be assigned the distance to the next defined circle away from the button.

Each player must throw one LSD.

OTHER PRACTICE DURING THE EVENT:

Evening Practice: There will be no evening practice during this event.

COACHES:

All certified coaches must receive approval from Curl BC prior to the championship. Only one coach will be permitted (from the original line-up form) to participate in the pre-game practice.

Please note, Coaches **will be seated on ice** behind their coloured stones and should dress warmly. Coaches are responsible for keeping track and police the number of interactions used. Disagreements will be brought forth to the Chief Umpire.

ORIGINAL LINE-UP FORMS:
Teams must submit an original line-up form to the Chief Umpire prior to the start of the event. If there are any changes to the original line-up (including a coaching change) a **Change of Line-up form** must be given to the Chief Umpire before a player can enter a game in progress.

A change in line-up form is required prior to the start of the pre-game practice and submitted to the Chief Umpire. It is assumed that the original line-up will begin each game unless a change of lineup form has been submitted. Any further change will require the completion of a new Change of Line-up form.

EQUIPMENT MORATORIM: Curl BC has adopted the sweeping moratorium and equipment recommendations from the World Curling Federation. ALL ATHLETES AND COACHES should make themselves familiar with this document and adhere to it. **Please ensure that all brooms have been inspected prior to arriving in Chilliwack and ensure they have sufficient replacement pieces (especially foam).**

Broom Inspection Procedures:
https://curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Broom-Inspection-Procedures.pdf

Please refer to: https://curlbc.ca/rules-documents/

Teams are expected to report 15 minutes prior to the first practice so that brooms can be inspected and taped. Brooms are to be taken entirely apart for inspection (broom shaft, base plate, foam and sleeve)

Equipment checks may also take place at the discretion of the Chief Umpire throughout the championship. Any changes to broom heads must be approved by the Chief Umpire prior to being used. If your broom sleeve is deemed dirty, you maybe asked to change it by the Chief Umpire. Please make sure you have additional sleeves available. All grippers should be clean with no holes (ensure the inside of the gripper is free of dirt).

Coaches will be advised if illegal sweeping is observed.

New Sweeping Technique Policy: This new rule/policy will **not** be implemented for these competitions.

In the spirit of curling, we still recommend that teams and athletes do not perform these techniques in an attempt to slow down the stone, as identified in the principles of sweeping, however officials at events this week will not have the authority to pull stones based on this policy.

CURLING CODE OF ETHICS: Curlers are reminded of the Curlers' Code of Ethics (which is located on our website at the below link. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.
https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/

COMPETITION RULES AND FINES FOR VIOLATIONS: https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/

Any questions/concerns that are not 'on-ice related' should be directed to the High Performance Development Coordinators ldubue@curlbc.ca 613-850-9872 or kmacmillan@curlbc.ca 613-391-7162.
Please address any field of play or game related concerns to the Chief Umpire.

Good Luck and Good Curling!

Regards,

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