

EXTRA END

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEASON OF CHAMPIONS



**WHAT'S
NEXT FOR
LAWES &
MORRIS?**

TEAM JONES BEGINS A NEW CHAPTER

TEAM GUSHUE SHIFTS GEARS AS NEW OLYMPIC CYCLE BEGINS



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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEASON OF CHAMPIONS

Editor

Laurie Payne

Managing editor

Al Cameron

Art director

Samantha Edwards

Production director

Marylou Morris

Printer

St. Joseph Printing

Cover photography

Olympic mixed doubles champions
Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris
WCF/Michael Burns

Photography

Michael Burns

Scotties Tournament of Hearts photography

Andrew Klaver

Manager, national sponsorship

Catharine Dunlop

Chief executive officer

Katherine Henderson

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Chair

MAUREEN MILLER IS TAKING ON the duties of chair of Curling Canada's board of governors for a second time.

She previously held the role for the 2002-03 season, when the organization was known as the Canadian Curling Association. She completed her first five-year term with the board in 2004, and successfully ran again for election in 2015.

Miller, a member of the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame executive honour roll, has been active at all levels of curling — as a participant, coach, volunteer and a member of various volunteer boards.

She skipped the Northwest Territories/Yukon team at editions of the Canadian Junior Women's Curling Championship in 1980 and '81 and also skipped the Territories at the 1984 and '99 Scott Tournament of Hearts.

Miller has coached at all levels, including trips to 11 straight Canadian Junior Men's Curling Championships with teams that featured her sons, Matthew and Colin. She has also coached teams at the Tim Hortons Brier, the Arctic Winter Games and the Canada Winter Games.

Miller lives in Yellowknife and works for the Government of the Northwest Territories.



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Affinity Place, Estevan, Saskatchewan

Event manager: Neil Houston

Tel: 1-866-595-2319 **Email:** nhouston@curling.ca



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Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, Nevada

Event manager: Terry Morris

Tel: 1-866-526-3540 **Email:** tmorris@curling.ca



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Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

Chair: Bryan Rindal

Tel: 306-961-3983 **Email:** bryan.rindal@btrfinancial.ca



SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

FEBRUARY 15 TO 24, 2019

Centre 200, Sydney, Nova Scotia

Event manager: Jennifer McCandie

Tel: 1-877-236-1703 **Email:** jmccandie@curling.ca



TIM HORTONS BRIER Presented by AGI

MARCH 1 TO 10, 2019

Westman Communications Group Place, Keystone Centre

Brandon, Manitoba

Event manager: Rob Dewhirst

Tel: 1-877-237-0165 **Email:** rdewhirst@curling.ca



PIONEER HI-BRED WORLD MEN'S Presented by Service Experts

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PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/MICHAEL BURNS

John Morris and Kaitlyn Lawes are the newest members of one of the most exclusive clubs in all of Canadian sport — two-time Olympic gold medallists.

BY PAUL WIECEK

WHAT'S NEXT FOR LAWES & MORRIS?

THEY ARE THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF ONE of the most exclusive clubs in all of Canadian sport — two-time Olympic gold medallists.

So the question heading into the 2018-19 curling season is: What the heck do Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris do for an encore now that they've added Olympic gold in mixed doubles to the golds they'd previously won in team curling?

The answer depends on which of the two you ask.

For Lawes, this coming curling season will be more of the same: Her focus will once again be on team curling and her role as third on the Jennifer Jones foursome, with some dabbling here and there in mixed doubles when the opportunity arises.

If that approach sounds familiar, it should. That's basically the approach Lawes — and almost all of Canada's competitive curlers — took during the last Olympic quadrennial: Focus on team curling and fit the

fledgling new curling discipline of mixed doubles into your schedule whenever and wherever you can.

It was a winning approach for Lawes, who had curled sporadically on the mixed doubles circuit for the past couple of winters before slapping together a new partnership with Morris late last year and then went on a golden run, taking down the Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, in January and then Olympic gold the following month in PyeongChang, South Korea, where mixed doubles made its debut as a full-medal Olympic sport.

As Lawes sees it, why fix what isn't broken?

"Mixed doubles is something that I'm very passionate about," says Lawes, "but I still have a commitment to the team game that isn't done and that I want to follow through on.

"This will be my ninth year with Team Jones and I'd really like to see that out."

Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris slapped together a new mixed doubles partnership late last year and then went on a golden run, taking down the Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials in January and then Olympic gold the following month in PyeongChang, South Korea.



PHOTOS: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/MICHAEL BURNS AND RICHARD GRAY



PHOTO: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



PyeongChang 2018

And so with that as her touchstone — team first, always — Lawes says she will curl a light mixed doubles schedule with Morris this winter (two events, maybe a third if time allows). The rest of her time is devoted to Team Jones, which is unveiling a new lineup that sees Jocelyn Peterman replacing longtime second Jill Officer, who semi-retired after last season. Officer is keeping her hand in by serving as the team's alternate.

So where does that leave Morris? Breaking new ground.

Morris has retired from a spectacular career in team curling — world junior titles in 1998 and '99; a world men's title as third for Kevin Martin in 2008; and Olympic gold as third for Martin in 2010 — to focus exclusively on mixed doubles over the next quadrennial.

While there have long been full-time mixed doubles curlers in Europe and a handful of full-time partnerships sprouted up in Canada during the last quadrennial, Morris is by far the most prominent Canadian curler ever to give up the team game entirely to focus his time and attention exclusively on mixed doubles.

And he couldn't be happier about it.

"It's a perfect fit for me — it really is," says Morris.

Newly married to wife Maggie and a new father to son Jack — who was born last April — Morris says focusing exclusively on mixed doubles will allow him to stay involved in a sport that has been a huge part of his life, while also allowing him more time than the team game would ever allow to be around for his new family.

"With a young family now, I really wanted to have more time to spend at home. But I also didn't think I wanted to totally quit curling cold turkey," says Morris.

"And so this is the best of both worlds. I've always loved mixed doubles and the fact it's now reached this new level with the Olympics just makes it even more exciting for me to be a part of that."

Morris says he will curl a total of seven mixed doubles events this winter, instead of the 10 or 11 events he'd typically curl when he was competing in team curling. And the events themselves are also shorter — typically starting on a Thursday and ending on a Sunday — which also means less time away, he says.

Morris and Lawes will reunite their gold-medal partnership for a couple of major mixed doubles events this winter, while Morris has recruited a new teammate — Taylor McDonald — to join him in events when Lawes isn't available.

"Kaitlyn and I still want to curl mixed doubles together because we had so much fun together," Morris says. "But it's just that I want to play more of a full schedule, while Kaitlyn still has other obligations to her team."

Looking back on it now, Lawes says the 2017-18 curling season still feels surreal to her — a winter of



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO: ANIL MUNGAL

some of the highest highs and lowest lows she says she's ever experienced in curling.

"The 2017-18 season was the most intensely challenging season I've gone through, but also one of the most rewarding," says 29-year-old Lawes.

Lawes says a semifinal loss to Rachel Homan at the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings last December that denied the Jones team a chance to defend the Olympic gold they won in women's curling in Sochi in 2014 left her feeling empty.

But out of the ashes of that disappointment also came a chance of a lifetime: With Homan going on to win the right to represent Canada in South Korea, Morris — who'd been curling mixed doubles with Homan for a couple of years — suddenly needed a new mixed doubles partner.

He asked Lawes, she accepted and the rest of that story is curling history.

"I learned a lot about myself last winter," says Lawes. "And I hope I can be an example for others. If a girl from Winnipeg can win two Olympic gold medals, why can't someone else, too?"

Only a handful of Canadians ever have won two Olympic gold medals — and no one before Morris and Lawes had ever done it in curling.

It is a rare accomplishment and one that Lawes says still causes her to "pinch myself that it's real."

But while the experience has been one she says she will cherish the rest of her life, a new curling season is upon us, and she says those gold medals don't count anymore — on the ice or off of it.

"We still have to go out and get back to work like everyone else," says Lawes. "There really isn't a lot of gold in those medals...."

"Kids ask me all the time now if I'm rich. And I just laugh and tell them I chose the wrong sport if that's what I wanted."

Top left: Reigning world champions Kaitlyn Lawes and Jennifer Jones are embarking on their ninth season together. A mixed doubles Olympic gold medalist, this season Lawes' focus will once again be on team curling and her role as third on the Jones foursome.

Top right: Newly married to wife Maggie and a new father to son Jack, John Morris says focusing exclusively on mixed doubles will allow him to stay involved in the sport while also allowing him more time to spend with his new family.

Paul Wiecek is a curling writer for the Winnipeg Free Press

TEAM JONES EXPECTS MORE OF SAME IN 2018-19 AS PETERMAN REPLACES OFFICER AT SECOND



The new-look Team Jones: from left, Jennifer Jones, Kaitlyn Lawes, Jocelyn Peterman and Dawn McEwen. "She's a great sweeper and a great teammate and we're really excited that she's joined the team," said Jones of Peterman, a former Canadian junior champ.

PHOTO: ANIL WUNGAL/SPORTSNET

HAVING LOST ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AND dominant seconds in the curling world, Team Jennifer Jones begins a new chapter with the addition of Jocelyn Peterman for the 2018-19 season.

Peterman, of Red Deer, Alberta, replaces Jill Officer, who spent 23 illustrious years as Jones's second on the team based out of the St. Vital Curling Club in Winnipeg.

Officer, 43, has taken a step back from the game after claiming the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts and world championships with Jones, third Kaitlyn Lawes and lead Dawn McEwen.

Officer will remain as an alternate with the Jones rink throughout the year as the team, now with Peterman at second, returns as Team Canada for the 2019 Hearts in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

"We've had tons of great memories and fun throughout the years, so it was definitely a nice way to go out," Jones said of Officer. "Although she's not playing full-time, Jill's not going very far.

"It's a new team. We're not asking Jocelyn to fill anybody's shoes. We are treating it like a new team and we're all really excited," added Jones. "She (Peterman) throws the rock great. She's super talented and I'm not worried about her (fitting in)."

Peterman, the 2012 Canadian junior women's champion, jumped at the chance to join Jones and Co., making the move from Alberta to Manitoba.

"It was a no-brainer that I would come here," said Peterman, 24, who — like so many other elite players — decided to make a change after the most recent Olympic cycle ended in 2017-18. "It

Canada's Jennifer Jones and longtime second Jill Officer celebrate victory at the 2018 world championship. It was a fitting farewell for Officer, who had announced that she was stepping back from the game. Officer will remain as an alternate with the Jones rink this season.



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

was my first time being in that position. I really wasn't in the position at the end of the last cycle, when I came right out of junior.

"I originally reached out to them and then they reached out to me. It was funny, I really didn't know how that worked or what the protocol was," Peterman said of the process.

"Kaitlyn, Dawn and I sat down and talked about who we'd like to join the team and Jocelyn was at the top of the list," said Jones. "Jocelyn is a great person, a great human being. I've always felt that she was a tremendous person — that's first and foremost — but she also makes so many great shots.

"She's a great sweeper and a great teammate and we're really excited that she's joined the team and we're looking forward to stepping on the ice in September. We were excited that she wanted to come onto the team."

Peterman had won the Hearts in 2016 with skip Chelsea Carey, third Amy Nixon and lead Laine Peters and the foursome also finished third as Team Canada at the national championship a year later. In 2016, the Carey rink defeated Jones in both of their meetings at the Hearts, including the Page 1-2 game.

"This team has great goals all the time," Peterman said of her new Winnipeg-based crew, which has already qualified for the 2019 Hearts as defending champs. "Being Team Canada at the Scotties and having been in that position before, it's kind of different planning your season because you already know you're going. That's kind of the main focus right from the beginning of the season, planning your whole season to peak that week."

That should help Peterman settle into the position, which was played so professionally by the well-respected Officer.

"Jill is someone who I've looked up to for a long time," said Peterman. "She is obviously one of the best at her position in every aspect of the role. She's been the trendsetter in so many ways.

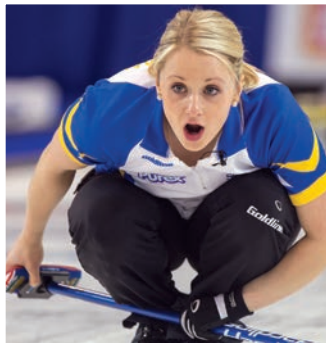
"They are big shoes to fill in so many ways — her personality, how she carries herself on the ice and her very consistent performance. It's been very motivating for me. I've been working very hard and I'm looking forward to it," added Peterman, who has moved in with Lawes and is training at a gym with McEwen. "I've spent lots of time with them, getting to know the new city."

So curling fans across the country — and especially Team Jones fans — should expect more of the same from the Manitoba crew.

"We had one of our best years that we've ever had last year,"



"This team has great goals all the time," said Jocelyn Peterman, left, of her new Winnipeg-based Jennifer Jones team. Above, Peterman won the Hearts in 2016 with Alberta's Laine Peters, Amy Nixon and Chelsea Carey.



said Jones. "It's fun to go out, work hard and see some results on the ice. Obviously, we would've loved to be at the Olympics, but that didn't work out for us. We were able to go to the world championship and perform well and end the season on a great note."

It was the perfect send-off for Officer, who had finalized her decision to take a step back before last year's Hearts. The Jones team went through the world championship undefeated to cap their remarkable year.

"I've had an absolutely amazing ride with this team and we've shared so many amazing experiences, on and off the ice, so it wasn't an easy decision, but at this point in time, it's the right decision," said Officer, who said she was proud to be part of Jones's record-tying sixth Canadian women's championship. The team had also won gold at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

"Jill has been such a wonderful teammate for so many years and her contributions to our team go well beyond what she does on the ice," Jones said at the time of Officer's announcement. "She's a special friend, a special teammate, so it was difficult to fill her position. But I know Jocelyn Peterman has an amazing skill-set and experience, and I expect that she will be able to fit in well."

Jones and Peterman had their first opportunity to throw rocks together on the ice at the Saville Sports Centre in Edmonton in August as they worked on the integration. Later in the month, Jones teamed up with her husband, Brent Laing, to win gold at the Winter Games NZ mixed doubles event in New Zealand to start her year on the right foot.



Jennifer Jones's season got off to a great start when she teamed up with her husband, Brent Laing, to win gold at the Winter Games NZ mixed doubles event in August. The couple posted a perfect 8-0 record en route to the final.

Mario Annicchiarico is a freelance writer based in Victoria



GUSHUE SHIFTS GEARS AS NEW OLYMPIC CYCLE BEGINS

PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

When it comes to their vision for what's ahead this season, reigning Brier champions Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant and Geoff Walker have complete clarity. There will be a trimmed-down schedule with an eye to ensuring energy and enjoyment levels stay high.

AT THE DAWN OF ANOTHER FOUR-YEAR

Olympic cycle, Brad Gushue and his team are on the trail for the long haul, a berth in Beijing as the ultimate goal, with the hope of picking up more impressive wins along the way. The journey will be a little different from what it has been in the past. This time, it won't be so much of a hectic grind and that will be by design.

It will resemble, in some ways, a summer expedition through the Alberta wilderness that most of the team took part in — arduous at times, leisurely at others, with lots of planned stops along the way and room for plenty of enjoyment.

Gushue, lead Geoff Walker and second Brett Gallant were joined by team alternate Tom Sallows (a professional outfitter based in Grande Prairie) as they rafted, hiked and roamed the wild on all-terrain vehicles. Fishing during the day. Camping out under the stars at night.

With Gushue and team third Mark Nichols living on the East Coast and Walker and Gallant spending much of their time in Alberta, it hasn't been easy to assemble during the summer months. So when schedules allowed and with Gushue in the province to take part in a charity golf tournament, the crew took advantage.

"In the summer we sort of go our own way," says Walker, an Alberta native whose life changed in a big way with his marriage to curler Laura Crocker last May. "We spend more time with our families. It was good to get together and just hang out a little bit before the season."

Although Nichols was unable to make it west for the excursion, Walker and Gushue agree they all had a fine time, and there will be plenty of tall tales to tell and re-tell during a long, cold curling winter.

The four of them couldn't clearly see into the distance once they'd reached the top of Horn Ridge because of the smoke that shrouded the west due to raging British Columbia forest fires. When it comes to their vision for what's ahead this season, however, Team Gushue has complete clarity. There will be a trimmed-down schedule with an eye to ensuring energy and enjoyment levels stay high.

"We need the breaks," says Gushue, who turned 38 last June. He laughs about the necessity of a full round of stretching and warm-ups before a game now, compared with the younger version of himself, the version who could just hop on the ice and get at it. "Let's face it, we're not getting any younger," he says

with a chuckle. “We can’t go the way we used to go when we were 25, 26. I think we’re doing the right thing in playing a little bit less.”

You could be forgiven if you have your suspicions that after winning two Briers and a world championship — as well as four Grand Slam titles — over the last two seasons, and racking up win after win on the tour for the last half decade, Team Gushue members just aren’t feeling as hungry as they used to. Jammed trophy cases can lead to complacency, but in this instance it isn’t so, says Gushue, even if he does admit to being on guard against it.

“I’m not gonna lie to you, it’s probably a bit of a concern going forward,” says the skipper, admitting that the dawning of a new curling season has seen him a little slow to get fired up.

“But not stressing about that at all,” he adds quickly, noting that it’s only natural to come off one pressure-packed Olympic cycle feeling the need for a little cool down at the beginning of another. “It’s a long four years,” he says.

Natural competitive inclinations will surely take over as the season’s big events arrive and as Olympic qualifying events heat up over the course of the next three years. While he and Nichols have been there, done that — scoring Olympic gold for Canada in 2006 — their front-end teammates have not.

“Geoff and Brett haven’t been to the Olympics,” Gushue says, pondering the motivational value of going again, this time with players who have served so well since joining him — Walker in 2011, Gallant in 2012. “I think I’d be more excited to give them that experience than I would be for me to go back again. I think with what they’ve done over the last six, seven years playing with me has been pretty awesome. I think they’re deserving of having that experience.”

Walker is primed for the attempt, and for the possibility of winning more trophies along the way. “We all feel we have another four peak years in us and hopefully that is the case. If we could win another Brier, maybe two in that four years, and then hopefully be ready for the trials, we could leave it all out on the table then.”

Curling well is one thing. Sticking together as a team in harmony is another and after spending years fruitlessly chasing a national title, tinkering with different lineups, Gushue finally landed on a winning combination when he, Nichols, Gallant and Walker began to build toward Brier glory when they set up shop as a unit in 2014. Along the way, they have raked in victories hand over fist and that definitely plays a part in the chemistry that is keeping them together, keeping them anxious for more.

“The main thing is I enjoy curling more now than I have in a long time,” says Gushue, enjoying a rebirth of the exuberance he had for the game as a younger man. The dominating pressure of grinding to finally win a Brier is now long gone. Complacency? No. Just some comfort.



“It took the monkey off my back,” he says, “and allowed me to go out and just play and perform without having the stress of having to win the one event that kind of eluded me.”

“We’re having a lot of fun,” Walker says of the team’s temperament. “Obviously, success leads to that. It goes hand in hand. We have a lot of fun being together, which is causing us to be successful. We work hard together.”

Just not quite as hard as they used to, perhaps. Like a wilderness trek in mountain country, you need to know not just your destination, but how you intend to get there.

“You have to plan accordingly,” says Gushue. “I think we’re going the right route.”

Team Canada’s Brad Gushue, Geoff Walker, Brett Gallant and Tom Sallows took part in a summer expedition through the Alberta wilderness. Arduous at times, leisurely at others, the teammates went rafting, hiking, fishing and camped out under the stars.

Don Landry is a freelance curling writer based in Stratford, Ontario

HOME HARDWARE ROAD TO THE ROAR

Credit Union Place › Summerside, Prince Edward Island › November 6 to 12, 2017



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

A mid-event lineup change paid off big time for John Morris, Jim Cotter, Catlin Schneider and Tyrel Griffith of Vernon, British Columbia, who clinched a berth in the Roar of the Rings Canadian Curling Trials with a 4-3 win over Brendan Bottcher in the men's A-side final.

Not that John Morris wants to make a habit of it, but so far, mid-event lineup changes have worked out pretty well.

Two and a half years ago, it was a lineup juggle that saw Morris go from skip to vice-skip, with Pat Simmons taking over shot-calling and last-rock duties, that sparked Team Canada to victory at the 2015 Tim Hortons Brier in Calgary.

And three weeks ago in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, it happened again – with a similarly positive result. This time, it was Morris's team from Vernon, British Columbia, that needed a shakeup after starting the 2017 Home Hardware Road to the Roar pre-trials with an indifferent 2-2 record.

Following that second loss, Morris – who was calling the game but throwing third rocks – got together with Jim Cotter, who was throwing the brick, for a late-night heart-to-heart.

The result was that the team would assume a traditional lineup:



"We're just starting to put it all together right now," said John Morris after his team earned a spot in the trials. "We're a hundred per cent ready."

MEN'S A-SIDE QUALIFIER

John Morris (Vernon, B.C.)	*100	010	100	1	4
Brendan Bottcher (Edmonton)	000	101	010	0	3

* Last-rock advantage

MEN'S B-SIDE QUALIFIER

Glenn Howard (Toronto)	*100	010	210	0	5
Brendan Bottcher (Edmonton)	011	002	002	3	9

* Last-rock advantage

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs

	Wins	Losses
John Morris (Vernon, British Columbia)	2	0
Brendan Bottcher (Edmonton)	2	1
Glenn Howard (Toronto)	2	2
Charley Thomas (Edmonton)	0	2
Greg Balsdon (Kingston, Ontario)	2	1
Jason Gunnlaugson (Winnipeg)	1	1

Round robin

Pool A

	Wins	Losses
Glenn Howard (Toronto)	6	0
John Morris (Vernon, British Columbia)	3	3
Jason Gunnlaugson (Winnipeg)*	3	3
Jamie Murphy (Halifax)	3	3
Mark Bice (Sarnia, Ontario)	2	4
Colton Flasch (Saskatoon)	2	4
Adam Casey (Regina)	2	4

* Defeated Jamie Murphy 6-4 in a tiebreaker to secure the third and final playoff position.

Pool B

	Wins	Losses
Charley Thomas (Edmonton)	5	1
Brendan Bottcher (Edmonton)	3	3
Greg Balsdon (Kingston, Ontario)*	3	3
Dayna Deruelle (Brampton, Ontario)	3	3
William Lyburn (Winnipeg)	3	3
Pat Simmons (Winnipeg)	2	4
Jean-Michel Ménard (Saint-Romuald, Quebec)	2	4

* Defeated Dayna Deruelle 6-4 in a second tiebreaker to secure the third and final playoff position.

Morris calling the game and throwing last, Cotter as his vice-skip, throwing third.

Four games later, the proof was in the pudding, as Morris, Cotter, second Catlin Schneider and lead Tyrel Griffith were celebrating on the Credit Union Place ice surface after clinching a berth into the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings with a 4-3 win over Edmonton's Brendan Bottcher in the men's A-side final.

"Sometimes if a team ain't firing, and you keep spinning your wheels in the mud, it's frustrating for the team and sometimes



Edmonton's Brendan Bottcher, Darren Moulding, Brad Thiessen and Karrick Martin bounced back from an A-side final loss to defeat Glenn Howard — who was undefeated in round-robin play and the top seed in the playoffs — 9-5 to grab the final spot in the trials.

a shakeup here or there isn't a bad thing," Morris said after the switch was unveiled. "The great thing about Jim is that he's like a brother to me; he just wants to win. He's the same as me; it doesn't matter what position we're playing — he just wants to win."

Remember, it was four years ago that Morris skipped Cotter and Griffith (Schneider replaced Rick Sawatsky this season) along the same route, qualifying out of the pre-trials and making it all the way to the final of the 2013 Tim Horton Roar of the Rings in Winnipeg before losing to eventual Olympic gold medallist Brad Jacobs of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Also earning berths into the big show in Ottawa after their performances in Summerside were Bottcher on the men's side, and women's teams skipped by Julie Tippin of Woodstock, Ontario, and Krista McCarville of Thunder Bay, Ontario.

And while Morris's team had been inconsistent at the start of the 2017-18 season, he has no doubt that it's ready to put on the Maple Leaf and travel to PyeongChang for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games.

"You bet," he said. "We've been ready from the start of the season, and we're just starting to put it all together right now. We're a hundred per cent ready."

"Amazing," marvelled Brendan Bottcher. "We came into this game and tried to lower our expectations a little bit, and just go out there and play well."

Meanwhile, Bottcher and his Edmonton

WOMEN'S A-SIDE QUALIFIER

Krista McCarville (Thunder Bay, Ont.)	*020	020	020	1	7
Briane Meilleur (Winnipeg)	000	201	002	0	5

* Last-rock advantage

WOMEN'S B-SIDE QUALIFIER

Julie Tippin (Woodstock, Ontario)	*202	120	01X	X	8
Briane Meilleur (Winnipeg)	010	001	10X	X	3

* Last-rock advantage

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Krista McCarville (Thunder Bay, Ontario)	2	0
Julie Tippin (Woodstock, Ontario)	3	1
Briane Meilleur (Winnipeg)	1	2
Kelsey Rocque (Edmonton)	1	2
Nadine Scotland (Calgary)	0	1
Sherry Middaugh (Coldwater, Ontario)	0	1

Round robin

Pool A	Wins	Losses
Julie Tippin (Woodstock, Ontario)	4	2
Kelsey Rocque (Edmonton)	3	3
Nadine Scotland (Calgary)*	3	3
Shannon Birchard (Winnipeg)	3	3
Theresa Breen (Halifax)	3	3
Shannon Kleibrink (Okotoks, Alberta)	3	3
Tracy Fleury (Sudbury, Ontario)	2	4

* Defeated Shannon Birchard 5-4 in a third tiebreaker to secure the third and final playoff position.

Pool B	Wins	Losses
Krista McCarville (Thunder Bay, Ontario)	4	2
Briane Meilleur (Winnipeg)	4	2
Sherry Middaugh (Coldwater, Ontario)*	4	2
Kerri Einarson (East St. Paul, Manitoba)	4	2
Jacqueline Harrison (Mississauga, Ontario)	2	4
Darcy Robertson (Winnipeg)	2	4
Karla Thompson (Kamloops, British Columbia)	1	5

* Defeated Kerri Einarson 6-5 in a tiebreaker to secure the third and final playoff position.

teammates — vice-skip Darren Moulding, second Brad Thiessen and lead Karrick Martin — took down one of the game's legends en route to clinching their trials berth; did it twice, in fact.

Glenn Howard of Toronto was unbeaten after round-robin play and the top seed in the playoffs but was beaten twice by Bottcher, including in the B-side final that wrapped up the Home Hardware Road to the Roar.

Bottcher, the 2012 world junior champ, who will be the youngest men's skip in the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings field, was a 9-5 winner over Howard in the qualifying game.

"Amazing," marvelled 25-year-old Bottcher, who's just five years removed from winning his world junior title. "We came into this game and tried to lower our expectations a little bit, and just go out there and play well. That was the goal. But when you win, and now you're in the trials and all that comes with it? It's huge, it's huge."



A 7-5 win over Winnipeg's Briane Meilleur in the women's A-side final secured a trip to Ottawa for Krista McCarville, Kendra Lilly, Ashley Sippala and Sarah Potts of Thunder Bay, Ontario. McCarville went the same route, albeit with a different team, to get to the 2009 trials.



Julie Tippin, Chantal Duhaime, Rachelle Vink and Tess Bobbie of Woodstock, Ontario, capped a brilliant day of curling — including an 8-5 semifinal win over Edmonton's Kelsey Rocque — with a convincing 8-3 win over Briane Meilleur in the women's B-side final.



"To come out here and play so well in this great field..." said Krista McCarville after her win. "It feels really good to get the first spot and to be going to those trials."

Bottcher might want to look to the experience of another relatively recent world junior champ who entered the 2005 Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings as the youngest skip: It worked out pretty well for Brad Gushue, as you may recall, as he won that event and won Olympic gold a few weeks later in Italy.

"We're coming in as huge underdogs, which I think frees us up a little bit to just go out there and play well again,"

said Bottcher. "There's zero expectation of how we're going to do there. So I'm just looking forward to being there, enjoying it all and, hopefully, getting all the experience we can.

"I expect that we can win it; I don't think anyone else expects that we can win it, and I think that's big for us. I believe we're ready. We've played all these teams before; we've played them in huge events. Everyone else is going out there with so much riding on it. It's not that that isn't the case for us; I just think we can maybe have a little bit freer mind-set, that we can go out there and just focus on playing well."

The women's event was considered wide open going in, and nothing changed after the round robin as a pile of tiebreakers were required to sort out final playoff positioning.

But in the end, it was the two round-robin pool winners who would prevail.

McCarville — backed up by third Kendra Lilly, second Ashley Sippala, lead Sarah Potts and coach Lorraine Lang — has been a consistent performer on the national stage the past couple

of seasons, making the playoffs at the 2016 and 2017 Scotties Tournament of Hearts and winning silver in '16 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

So there wasn't much about the pre-trials that faded her; in fact, she went the same route with a different team (including Lang as her lead) in 2009 to get to the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings in Edmonton.

A 7-5 win over Winnipeg's Briane Meilleur in the women's A-side final secured the trip to Ottawa for Team McCarville.

"Oh, we're so excited," said McCarville. "To come out here and play so well in this great field, it feels really good to get the first spot and to be going to those trials."

Tippin, meanwhile, made a long-awaited national breakthrough with her 8-3 win over Team Meilleur in the women's B-side final.

A three-time Ontario junior champ, who also won gold at the 2006 Canadian mixed playing third for John Epping, Tippin had experience, but her teammates — vice-skip Chantal



"The pressure was high, and I think we were a little nervous," admitted skip Julie Tippin after claiming a coveted berth in the Roar of the Rings.

Duhaime, second Rachelle Vink and lead Tess Bobbie — were young and relatively inexperienced.

But the team performed extremely well under pressure in Summerside.

"The pressure was high, and I think we were a little nervous," admitted Tippin after clinching the trials berth. "But I think we just kept focusing on taking it one shot at a time, doing all the small things, keeping our communication open, and I think our nerves just melted away as we started to play."



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TIM HORTONS ROAR OF THE RINGS

Canadian Tire Centre » Ottawa » December 2 to 10, 2017



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Canadian Curling Trials champions: from left, Kevin Koe, Marc Kennedy, Brent Laing and Ben Hebert. Koe's draw to the eight-foot was no gimme; Laing and Hebert needed every ounce of muscle to sweep it to shot position for the victory.

The final results of the 2017 Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings

Canadian Curling Trials — by any measure, the toughest Olympic curling qualifying event on the planet — could not have surprised any Canadian curling fan.

In a stacked field of the country's best four-player men's and women's teams, two teams that were favourites going into the event at the Canadian Tire Centre in Ottawa came out on top to earn the right to wear the Maple Leaf at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang.

On the men's side, the past two world champions — Brad Gushue of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, in 2017 and



Skip Kevin Koe and his boys from Calgary edged Winnipeg's Mike McEwen 6-5 to earn a trip to the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

MEN'S FINAL

Kevin Koe (Calgary)	*101 021 010 1 7
Mike McEwen (Winnipeg)	010 200 201 0 6

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Team Koe		Team McEwen	
Kevin Koe	88%	Mike McEwen	95%
Marc Kennedy	91%	B.J. Neufeld	78%
Brent Laing	79%	Matt Wozniak	66%
Ben Hebert	93%	Denni Neufeld	91%
Team totals	88%		83%

SEMIFINAL

Mike McEwen (Winnipeg)	001 020 120 X 6
Brad Gushue (St. John's, N.L.)	*100 101 001 X 4

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Kevin Koe (Calgary)	1	0
Mike McEwen (Winnipeg)	1	1
Brad Gushue (St. John's, N.L.)	0	1

Round robin	Wins	Losses
Kevin Koe (Calgary)	7	1
Brad Gushue (St. John's, N.L.)	6	2
Mike McEwen (Winnipeg)	5	3
Brendan Bottcher (Edmonton)	4	4
Reid Carruthers (West. St. Paul, Manitoba)	4	4
Brad Jacobs (Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario)	3	5
John Morris (Vernon, British Columbia)	3	5
Steve Laycock (Saskatoon)	2	6
John Epping (Toronto)	2	6

Calgary's Kevin Koe in 2016 — headed the field, but the list of legitimate contenders was much, much longer.

Still, at the end of round-robin play Team Koe — with vice-skip Marc Kennedy, second Brent Laing and lead Ben Hebert — was at 7-1 and Team Gushue at 6-2, with Koe getting the bye to the final.

In third place was Winnipeg's Team Mike McEwen with a 5-3 record, and while Gushue had prevailed 8-3 in their round-robin clash, McEwen avenged that defeat with a 6-4 semifinal victory, thanks largely to a stolen deuce in the eighth end.

The final was a thriller, with McEwen producing arguably the finest big-game performance of his career, shooting 95 per cent to hold his team in it.

But in the end, he could only watch as Koe had a draw to the eight-foot for the win, although it was a tester as Hebert and Laing needed every ounce of muscle to sweep it to shot position for the victory.



Hometown favourites Rachel Homan, Emma Miskew, Joanne Courtney and Lisa Weagle opened the Canadian Curling Trials final against Chelsea Carey with back-to-back stolen singles to set the tone. Carey missed a game-tying deuce and sealed a 6-5 win for Team Homan.

“It’s unbelievable. What a game. We beat a great team. It came down to last shot. I’m glad we had last rock. I honestly wasn’t sure it was going to make it, but what sweeping by the boys,” said Koe.

“I felt pretty comfortable with draw weight, but really what I’m trying not to do is overthrow it, and give them a chance to sweep it. Never be heavy and take them out of it. I actually liked it when I let it go. I think they did, too.

“You plan for this event for four years; it’s so hard, especially in Canada. You have nine of the greatest teams in the world, and there’s so much pressure to come through and get it done given the circumstances I couldn’t be happier.”

On the women’s side, Rachel Homan, vice-skip Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle not only were the reigning world champions after winning gold unbeaten eight months earlier in Beijing but they had the added pressure of being the hometown hopefuls.



Rachel Homan encourages her sweepers in the gold-medal game. “It was an insanely hard field out there. Everyone was phenomenal all week, and we needed every shot to win every game. We kept getting better and better as the week went on,” said Homan.

WOMEN’S FINAL

Rachel Homan (Ottawa)	110 102 001 0 6
Chelsea Carey (Calgary)	*001 010 200 1 5

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Team Homan		Team Carey	
Rachel Homan	88%	Chelsea Carey	76%
Emma Miskew	98%	Cathy Overton-Clapham	81%
Joanne Courtney	88%	Jocelyn Peterman	93%
Lisa Weagle	91%	Laine Peters	98%
Team totals	91%		87%

SEMIFINAL

Rachel Homan (Ottawa)	*011 020 100 1 6
Jennifer Jones (Winnipeg)	000 200 001 0 3

FINAL STANDINGS

	Wins	Losses
Playoffs		
Rachel Homan (Ottawa)	2	0
Chelsea Carey (Calgary)	0	1
Jennifer Jones (Winnipeg)	0	1
Round robin		
Chelsea Carey (Calgary)	8	0
Rachel Homan (Ottawa)	7	1
Jennifer Jones (Winnipeg)	5	3
Val Sweeting (Edmonton)	4	4
Krista McCarville (Thunder Bay, Ontario)	4	4
Casey Scheidegger (Lethbridge, Alberta)	3	5
Michelle Englot (Winnipeg)	2	6
Julie Tippin (Woodstock, Ontario)	2	6
Allison Flaxey (Toronto)	1	7

At the conclusion of round-robin play, Team Homan was in second place with a 7-1 record, its lone blemish its opening game, an 8-4 loss to Calgary’s Chelsea Carey foursome, which surprised some by putting together a perfect 8-0 round robin to earn a bye to the gold-medal final.

In third place, meanwhile, was 2014 Olympic champion Jennifer Jones of Winnipeg, which set up a clash of Canadian women’s curling titans in the semifinal. This time, Team Homan came out on top with a 6-3 triumph.

In the gold-medal game, Team Homan opened with back-to-back stolen singles to set the tone. Carey hung tough and was two down coming home with last rock but her last-round double-takeout attempt to score a game-tying deuce just missed, and sealed a 6-5 win for Team Homan.

“It’s something I could never even have dreamt of when I was little or any of us growing up, and in our hometown. We couldn’t have written a better story and we can’t wait until we get to represent Canada in PyeongChang,” said Homan.

“It was an insanely hard field out there. Everyone was phenomenal all week, and we needed every shot to win every game. We just kept going, kept what was working, and we kept sticking together as a team as our unit, and we didn’t change anything. We kept getting better and better as the week went on.”

CANAD INNS CANADIAN MIXED DOUBLES TRIALS

Stride Place › Portage la Prairie, Manitoba › January 2 to 7, 2018

A chance to make history had Canada's

best curlers boning up on the nuances of mixed doubles curling when the International Olympic Committee made it an official medal sport for the 2018 Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

So when the first edition of the Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Trials got underway in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, a who's who of Canadian curling was on display — not counting the eight players who would be representing Canada in the four-player competitions in PyeongChang.

The 18 pairs had been split into two nine-team pools, leading to a four-team Page playoff.

John Morris, who had won Olympic gold in 2010 with Kevin Martin's men's team, had made no secret of his desire to win mixed doubles gold. Unfortunately, his ambitions nearly were derailed when his partner, Rachel Homan, won the women's title at the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings.

But Morris made a quick call to Kaitlyn Lawes and found a new partner in time for the mixed doubles trials.

Lawes and Morris took a while to click, scraping through to the playoffs with a 5-3 record. But the pair began to heat up and found themselves in the Page 1-2 game against Edmonton's Val Sweating and Brad Gushue of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sweating and Gushue won that playoff tilt 9-4 to get a bye to the final, leaving Lawes and Morris to try to pick up the pieces for a semifinal showdown against Calgary's Jocelyn Peterman and Brett Gallant of St. John's just two hours later; Peterman and Gallant had knocked out Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones and Mark Nichols of St. John's 5-4 in the Page 3-4 game.

A between-games pep talk paid off as Lawes and Morris rolled to a 7-3 win in



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Winnipeg's Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris of Ottawa earned the right to represent Canada at the PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games with an 8-6 victory over Val Sweating and Brad Gushue in the Canadian mixed doubles curling trials final. After a so-so round robin, the pair began to heat up, winning four of five playoff games.



A hit for four in the fourth end, followed by a steal of two in the fifth for a 7-3 lead, helped pave the way to victory and a berth in the Olympics for Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris.



Val Sweating and Brad Gushue defeated the Lawes-Morris duo twice but couldn't close the deal. They took a 3-1 lead heading into the fourth end of the final, before the tides turned.



Brett Gallant and Jocelyn Peterman saw their unbeaten run come to an end in semifinal action against Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris. “We curled really well throughout the entire event,” said Gallant, “but John and Kaitlyn were slightly sharper than us today.”

the semi to set up a rematch with Sweeting and Gushue for the gold medal.

The final turned in the fourth end, when Lawes made a wonderful shot to score four. Her team added a steal of two in the fifth to all but nail down a trip to South Korea en route to an eventual 8-6 victory.

“I’m in shock. I’m so proud of our efforts this week,” said Lawes, who won an Olympic gold medal in 2014 playing vice-skip for Jones’s Canadian women’s team. “We had a couple of tough losses and a couple of tough games that we had to grind out. What an amazing journey to come out on top of such an incredible field. What an honour to be able to get back to an Olympics and represent our country. It’s a dream come true.”

Losing his partner less than a month before the trials wasn’t ideal, admitted Morris, but being able to get Lawes as a replacement was ideal.



Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris celebrate after punching their tickets to the XXIII Olympic Winter Games, where mixed doubles makes its debut.

“I got really lucky that Kaitlyn was available and I knew we’d make a great combo,” said Morris. “I’ve always felt our dynamics were really good. We’re good friends and she’s just a heck of a shotmaker. I felt that we’d have a pretty good chance here. It took us a bit of time to gel, but by the end of this week we were really finding our groove.”

GOLD-MEDAL GAME

Kaitlyn Lawes, John Morris	010 420 01 8
Val Sweeting, Brad Gushue	*102 002 10 6

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Lawes/Morris		Sweeting/Gushue	
Kaitlyn Lawes	78%	Val Sweeting	81%
John Morris	69%	Brad Gushue	72%
John Morris	94%	Brad Gushue	84%
Kaitlyn Lawes	75%	Val Sweeting	59%
Team totals	82%		76%

SEMIFINAL

Kaitlyn Lawes, John Morris	*202 020 1X 7
Jocelyn Peterman, Brett Gallant	010 101 0X 3

PAGE SYSTEM 3-4 PLAYOFF

Jennifer Jones, Mark Nichols	000 111 10 4
Jocelyn Peterman, Brett Gallant	*211 000 01 5

PAGE SYSTEM 1-2 PLAYOFF

Kaitlyn Lawes, John Morris	030 100 0X 4
Val Sweeting, Brad Gushue	*101 042 1X 9

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs**	Wins	Losses
Kaitlyn Lawes, John Morris	4	1
Val Sweeting, Brad Gushue	3	1
Jocelyn Peterman, Brett Gallant	3	2
Jennifer Jones, Mark Nichols	2	2
Chelsea Carey, Colin Hodgson	1	2
Jill Officer, Reid Carruthers	1	2
Laura Crocker, Geoff Walker	0	2
Dana Ferguson, Brendan Bottcher	0	2

** Includes the results of the modified double knockout playoff games to determine the final four Page playoff teams.

Round robin

Pool A	Wins	Losses
Jocelyn Peterman, Brett Gallant	8	0
Jennifer Jones, Mark Nichols	6	2
Jill Officer, Reid Carruthers	5	3
Nancy Martin, Catlin Schneider	5	3
Emilie Desjardins, Robert Desjardins	4	4
Sherry Just, Tyrel Griffith	3	5
Dawn McEwen, Mike McEwen	2	6
Shannon Birchard, Jason Gunnlaugson	2	6
Kim Tuck, Wayne Tuck	1	7

Pool B	Wins	Losses
Laura Crocker, Geoff Walker	8	0
Dana Ferguson, Brendan Bottcher	6	2
Kaitlyn Lawes, John Morris	5	3
Chelsea Carey, Colin Hodgson*	5	3
Val Sweeting, Brad Gushue	5	3
Kalynn Park, Charley Thomas	3	5
Sherry Middaugh, John Epping	3	5
Marliese Kasner, Dustin Kalthoff	1	7
Nicole Westlund-Stewart, Tyler Stewart	0	8

* Defeated Nancy Martin and Catlin Schneider 9-7 in a tiebreaker to advance to the playoffs.

WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP CONTINENTAL CUP

The Sports Centre, Western Fair District » London, Ontario » January 11 to 14, 2018



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Team North America wins the 2018 World Financial Group Continental Cup in a thrilling finish. After four days of competition, the battle between North America and Team World came down to a draw to the button after the two sides finished tied at 30-30 in overall points.

THE WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP CONTINENTAL CUP IS

staying in North America after the most dramatic finish in the event's history.

The four-day competition took place in mid-January in London, Ontario, where the battle between Team World and Team North America came down to one final draw to the button after the two sides finished tied at 30-30 in overall points.

Team North America's Brad Gushue and Team World's Thomas Ulsrud were selected by their teams for the one-shot draw to determine the 2018 champion. Gushue's shot was light, just getting to the top of the four-foot. Team World thought the cup was won, but Ulsrud's stone kept sliding and sliding, to the back of the eight-foot, and the Team North America bench erupted. It was, as coach Rick Lang said, crazy.

"I threw it a little bit light, but the guys thought it should have gotten to the T-line," Gushue said of his shot. "I didn't think it was over. I did think in my head, 'Boy that was slow and with

three of what I think are the best sweepers in the world just polishing up that path, if he goes by my time he would be heavy.' And sure enough, that's what happened. I felt bad for him."

Team North America had had victory within sight about an hour earlier with a 27-24 lead and needing just 3.5 points from the final seven to seal their win. But two of the three games in the final skins games had carryovers from the eighth ends and that meant draws to the button to determine the final point.

Silvana Tirinzoni outdrew Rachel Homan and Niklas Edin did the same to Kevin Koe. Edin's stone was about 90 per cent on the button, but Koe threw a perfect rock that was barely over-swept and ended about an inch outside Edin's measurement.

That gave Team World hope and Ulsrud kept the momentum going. Ulsrud made a triple raise, double takeout for two in the seventh end to win the two points that were available from carryovers. He then stole two in the eighth to win the final point that resulted in the 30-30 tie.

It was a heartbreaking loss for Team World, which was on the verge of ending a five-year losing streak in the cup competition.



Sweden's Sofia Mabergs teamed up with fellow countryman Niklas Edin in mixed doubles action. The Team World duo outdistanced Matt and Becca Hamilton 7-4.



Team World's Anna Hasselborg scored deuces in the third, sixth and eighth ends to tie Rachel Homan 6-6 and split the points in Round 4 of team competition.



Team North America's Nina Roth, Aileen Geving, Becca Hamilton and Tabitha Peterson in final-day skins play against Satsuki Fujisawa. The foursome — all but Peterson Continental Cup rookies — gave Team World all it could handle in a game that was decided by a draw to the button. Roth was an inch too heavy and the winning point went to Team World.



No one enjoyed their Continental Cup experience more than Japan's Yurika Yoshida, Satsuki Fujisawa, Chinami Yoshida and Yumi Suzuki, who won all three of their team matches.



Team World's Håvard Vad Petersson and North America's Kevin Koe share a laugh. Despite the rivalry between the two sides, camaraderie is always front and centre.

TEAM WORLD

Team de Cruz, Switzerland
Peter de Cruz, Benoît Schwarz,
Claudio Pätz, Valentin Tanner

Team Edin, Sweden
Niklas Edin, Oskar Eriksson,
Rasmus Wranå, Christoffer Sundgren

Team Fujisawa, Japan
Satsuki Fujisawa, Yumi Suzuki
Chinami Yoshida, Yurika Yoshida

Team Hasselborg, Sweden
Anna Hasselborg, Sara McManus,
Agnes Knochenhauer, Sofia Mabergs

Team Tirinzoni, Switzerland
Silvana Tirinzoni, Manuela Siegrist,
Esther Neuenchwander, Marlene Albrecht

Team Ulsrud, Norway
Thomas Ulsrud, Torger Nergård,
Christoffer Svae, Håvard Vad Petersson

Captain: David Murdoch, Scotland
Coach: Fredrik Lindberg, Sweden

TEAM NORTH AMERICA

Team Englot, Canada
Michelle Englot, Kate Cameron,
Leslie Wilson, Raunora Westcott

Team Gushue, Canada
Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols,
Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker

Team Homan, Canada
Rachel Homan, Emma Miskew,
Joanne Courtney, Lisa Weagle

Team Koe, Canada
Kevin Koe, Marc Kennedy,
Brent Laing, Ben Hebert

Team Roth, United States
Nina Roth, Tabitha Peterson,
Aileen Geving, Becca Hamilton

Team Shuster, United States
John Shuster, Tyler George,
Matt Hamilton, John Landsteiner

Captain: Al Hackner, Canada
Coach: Rick Lang, Canada

World Financial Group Continental Cup Results

MIXED DOUBLES COMPETITION

Round 1

N.A.	Homan/Gallant	001 003 10	5
World	Neuenschwande/Pätz	*230 110 01	8
N.A.	Hamilton/Hamilton	*110 011 0X	4
World	Mabergs/Edin	003 200 2X	7
N.A.	Weagle/Gushue	*201 020 11	7
World	Hasselborg/Eriksson	010 101 00	3

Round 2

N.A.	Cameron/Kennedy	011 220 02	8
World	Fujisawa/Svae	*300 001 10	5
N.A.	Miskew/Hebert	210 300 0X	6
World	McManus/Sundgren	*001 011 1X	4
N.A.	Courtney/Shuster	210 200 2X	7
World	Tirinzone/Tanner	*001 011 0X	3

Round 3

N.A.	Englot/Laing	1002	
	Wilson/Nichols	0101	5
World	Albrecht/de Cruz	*0130	
	Siegrist/Schwarz	1020	7
N.A.	Peterson/George	0203	
	Roth/Landsteiner	010X	6
World	Knochenhauer/Wranå	*1020	
	Suzuki/Nergård	303X	9
N.A.	Geving/Walker	0410	
	Westcott/Koe	111X	8
World	Y. Yoshida/Ulsrud	*1002	
	C. Yoshida/Vad Petersson	000X	3

Mixed doubles competition totals:

Team N.A.	6 points
Team World	6 points

TEAM COMPETITION

Round 1

N.A.	Rachel Homan	001 002 0X	3
World	Silvana Tirinzoni	*320 210 1X	9
N.A.	John Shuster	010 403 1X	9
World	Niklas Edin	*101 030 0X	5
N.A.	Michelle Englot	001 010 10	3
World	Anna Hasselborg	*300 101 01	6

Round 2

N.A.	Kevin Koe	*200 102 01	6
World	Thomas Ulsrud	020 000 20	4
N.A.	Nina Roth	*200 201 00	5
World	Satsuki Fujisawa	021 020 11	7
N.A.	Brad Gushue	*012 030 1X	7
World	Peter de Cruz	000 101 0X	2

Round 3

N.A.	Michelle Englot	001 010 1X	3
World	Satsuki Fujisawa	*120 101 0X	5
N.A.	Kevin Koe	040 120 1X	8
World	Peter de Cruz	*101 002 0X	4
N.A.	Nina Roth	100 102 01	5
World	Silvana Tirinzoni	*001 010 20	4

Round 4

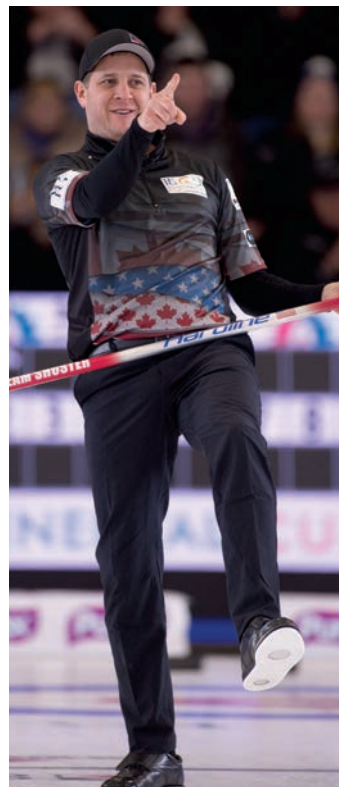
N.A.	Brad Gushue	010 100 10	3
World	Niklas Edin	*200 020 01	5



It looked like game over for Team North America when Brad Gushue's overtime draw to the button came up light, just getting to the top of the four-foot. "Roller coaster is an understatement," said Gushue after the win. "It was eerily quiet before I threw."

When Gushue's rock came to rest, captain David Murdoch leapt up and punched the air, thinking victory was theirs.

"Unbelievable," said a disappointed Murdoch a little later. "We got those last points at the end (of the three games) and then we won the (first two) draws. A little unlucky with Brad's taking a full sweep. It really quickened up the line and the guys didn't back enough off what they thought it was going to be."



Team North America skip John Shuster acknowledges his sweepers in skins play. The U.S. team took four of the five points available.

"It's been a great week, everybody played so well and it's been exciting and that's what this event is. It's about creating a fun event, taking it down to the wire and it couldn't be more down to the wire than what it was today."

Team North America won \$52,000 Canadian (\$2,000 per member, including captain and coach), while Team World earned \$26,000 (\$1,000 per member, including captain and coach). But Team World did collect the \$13,000 bonus (\$500 per player, plus captain and coach) for winning the most skins points.

It's the sixth straight year that Team North America prevailed. Through the first eight years of competition the teams had taken turns winning. Since 2012, however, Team North America has won every year, although in 2015 it was Team Canada.



Taking a page from Brad Gushue's throw, Team World sweepers Håvard Vad Petersson, left, and Christoffer Svae backed off Thomas Ulsrud's rock but it kept sliding and sliding all the way to the back of the eight-foot. Game, set, match for Team North America.



The home bench empties and a wild celebration erupts when Team North America wins the race to 30.5 points. In the most dramatic finish in the event's history, the World Financial Group Continental Cup is staying in North America for the sixth straight year.



World Financial Group president Rick Williams presents the Continental Cup trophy to Team North America's Al Hackner, left, and Rick Lang. In addition to bragging rights, Team North America took home \$52,000 — \$2,000 per member, including captain and coach.

N.A.	Rachel Homan	*020	110	20	6
World	Anna Hasselborg	002	002	02	6
N.A.	John Shuster	*211	101	2X	8
World	Thomas Ulsrud	000	030	0X	3

Round 5

N.A.	Nina Roth	002	101	01	5
World	Anna Hasselborg	*010	020	20	5
N.A.	Brad Gushue	*212	010	1X	7
World	Thomas Ulsrud	000	101	0X	2
N.A.	Rachel Homan	*010	010	0X	2
World	Satsuki Fujisawa	002	103	1X	7

Round 6

N.A.	John Shuster	020	200	30	7
World	Peter de Cruz	*202	001	02	7
N.A.	Michelle Englot	*000	202	0X	4
World	Silvana Tirinzoni	502	010	1X	9
N.A.	Kevin Koe	004	022	01	9
World	Niklas Edin	*020	300	10	6

Team competition totals:

Team N.A.	9.5 points
Team World	8.5 points

SKINS COMPETITION

Mixed: Round 1

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	.5 0 0	.5 0 0	0 1	2
World	*0 0 1	0 .5 0	1.5 0	3

TEAM N.A.: Marc Kennedy, Kate Cameron, Ben Hebert, Leslie Wilson

TEAM WORLD: Oskar Eriksson, Anna Hasselborg, Christoffer Sundgren, Sofia Mabergs

Mixed: Round 2

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	.5 0 .5	0 0 .5	1 0	2.5
World	*0 .5 0	.5 .5 0	0 1	2.5

TEAM N.A.: Kevin Koe, Michelle Englot, Brent Laing, Raunora Westcott

TEAM WORLD: Niklas Edin, Sara McManus, Rasmus Wranå, Agnes Knochenhauer

Women: Round 1

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	N. Roth	0 0 .5	0 .5 0	1 0 2
World	S. Fujisawa	*.5 .5 0	.5 0 .5	0 1 3

Women: Round 2

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	R. Homan	0 .5 0	0 0 1.5	0 0 2
World	S. Tirinzoni	*.5 0 .5	0 0 0	1 1 3

Men: Round 1

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	J. Shuster	0 1 0	1 0 0	1 1 4
World	P. de Cruz	*0 0 0	0 0 1	0 0 1

Men: Round 2

Points available	.5 .5 .5	.5 .5 .5	1 1	5
N.A.	B. Gushue	*0 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 2
World	T. Ulsrud	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 1 3

Skis competition totals:

Team N.A.	14.5 points
Team World	15.5 points

NEW HOLLAND CANADIAN JUNIORS

Centre municipal de curling de Shawinigan and Aréna de Grand-Mère ›
Shawinigan, Quebec › January 13 to 21, 2018

One champion sailed through the competition, the other scratched and clawed.

But in the end, two teams with a wealth of championship experience prevailed at the 2018 New Holland Canadian Junior Men's and Women's Curling Championships in Shawinigan, Quebec.

Tyler Tardi's British Columbia men's team successfully defended the title it had won 12 months earlier in Victoria, while transplanted skip Kaitlyn Jones guided Nova Scotia to the women's gold medal with two teammates who'd won Canadian and world junior gold in 2016.

On the men's side, Tardi and his fellow returnees — vice-skip Sterling Middleton, second Jordan Tardi and lead Zac Curtis doubled up Northern Ontario 8-4 to give British Columbia its second straight Canadian title. Facing elimination, B.C. won its final round-robin game, a playoff tiebreaker and then the semifinal to reach the gold-medal game, where it kept the momentum going.



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Skip Tyler Tardi, third Sterling Middleton, second Jordan Tardi and lead Zac Curtis doubled up Northern Ontario 8-4 to give British Columbia its second straight Canadian title. Facing elimination, B.C. won its final round-robin game, a playoff tiebreaker and then the semifinal to reach the gold-medal game, where it kept the momentum going.

replace the aged-out Nick Meister for the 2017-18 season.

But it was hardly smooth sailing as Tyler Tardi battled illness through the round robin, and the team was on the verge of elimination in its final round-robin assignment, taking on fellow favourite Tanner Horgan of Northern Ontario. But with Horgan needing only a routine draw to the four-foot for a win that would eliminate B.C. from playoff contention, he came up a couple of inches light, allowing B.C. to steal a winning deuce and qualify for a playoff tiebreaker as four teams finished tied for the second and third playoff spots with 7-3 records.

B.C. went on to defeat Alberta's Karsten Sturmay 5-4 in an extra end in the tiebreaker and Manitoba's JT Ryan 9-8 thanks to a 10th-end deuce in the semifinal to set up a rematch with Northern Ontario (8-2) in the gold-medal game. Manitoba had advanced with a tiebreaker win over Ontario's Matthew Hall.

In the final, B.C. took control early with stolen single points in the first two ends

and a deuce in the fourth en route to an 8-4 victory, leaving Horgan's Northern Ontario team with its third straight Canadian junior medal. It had won silver in 2016 and bronze in 2017.

"We had a long road to take to get to where we are right now; I still don't believe it," said Tardi. "I'm still in shock from last season, let alone two in a row. I'm really proud of the way the boys have been working."

On the women's side, Jones's Halifax team faced nowhere near as much drama on its way to gold, although it entered the new season with some question marks as 2016 holdovers vice-skip Kristin Clarke, second Karlee Burgess and coach Andrew Atherton were joining with two new teammates — Jones, who'd moved from Saskatchewan, and lead Lindsey Burgess (Karlee's cousin).

But the new lineup proved itself championship-worthy through the round robin, finishing with a 9-1 record to clinch a bye into the gold-medal game.

Home-province favourite Quebec, skipped by Laurie St-Georges, advanced



Northern Ontario skip Tanner Horgan, foreground, couldn't convert a bye to the final to victory, thanks to the air-tight play of British Columbia's Tyler Tardi.



Skip JT Ryan and third Jacques Gauthier, both of Manitoba, Ontario second Joey Hart and Alberta lead Caleb Boorse were named to the 2018 first-team all-star squad. It was back-to-back all-star honours for Hart.

to the final by defeating New Brunswick's Justine Comeau 9-3 in the semifinal.

Despite a decidedly pro-Quebec crowd packing the arena, Nova Scotia was able to shake off the nerves. A third-end deuce opened the scoring and after Quebec tied it with two in the fourth, Nova Scotia took control with a crucial sixth-end deuce and a steal of one in the eighth.

"It feels amazing," marvelled Jones. "I'm very happy with the decision (to move from Saskatchewan); I was a little uncertain at first, but I'm happy that I made the move."

"I think we did a really good job this week of enjoying the experience and having a lot of fun together," added Clarke. "When we're loose and relaxed and enjoying each other's company, we play really well, and that's what we did in the final."

A few weeks later, both Canadian teams capped their seasons with gold medals at the World Junior Curling Championships in Scotland.

JUNIOR MEN'S FINAL

British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	110 200 030 1	8
Northern Ontario (Tanner Horgan)	*001 001 002 0	4

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

British Columbia		Northern Ontario	
Tyler Tardi	99%	Tanner Horgan	75%
Sterling Middleton	94%	Jacob Horgan	88%
Jordan Tardi	90%	Nick Bissonnette	79%
Zac Curtis	72%	Maxime Blais	86%
Team totals	89%		82%

SEMIFINAL

British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	*003 020 020 2	9
Manitoba (JT Ryan)	000 203 102 0	8

TIEBREAKER

Alberta (Karsten Sturmay)	*100 100 100 1 0	4
British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	010 010 002 0 1	5

TIEBREAKER

Ontario (Matthew Hall)	*100 110 010 X	4
Manitoba (JT Ryan)	011 002 201 X	7

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	3	0
Northern Ontario (Tanner Horgan)	0	1
Manitoba (JT Ryan)	1	1
Alberta (Karsten Sturmay)	0	1
Ontario (Matthew Hall)	0	1

Championship round

	Wins	Losses
Northern Ontario (Tanner Horgan)	8	2
Ontario (Matthew Hall)	7	3
Alberta (Karsten Sturmay)	7	3
British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	7	3
Manitoba (JT Ryan)	7	3
Nova Scotia (Matthew Manuel)	6	4
Quebec (Alek Bédard)	5	5
Newfoundland/Labrador (Daniel Bruce)	4	6

Seeding round

	Wins	Losses
Saskatchewan (Rylan Kleiter)	4	5
New Brunswick (Liam Marin)	4	5
Prince Edward Island (Alex MacFadyen)	4	5
Yukon (Joel Wallingham)	3	6
Northwest Territories (Sawer Kaeser)	1	8
Nunavut (Javen Komaksiutiksak)	0	9

Round robin*

Pool A	Wins	Losses
British Columbia (Tyler Tardi)	5	1
Manitoba (JT Ryan)	5	1
Quebec (Alek Bédard)	4	2
Nova Scotia (Matthew Manuel)	3	3
New Brunswick (Liam Marin)	2	4
Yukon (Joe Wallingham)	1	5
Saskatchewan (Rylan Kleiter)	1	5

Pool B

	Wins	Losses
Northern Ontario (Tanner Horgan)	6	0
Ontario (Matthew Hall)	5	1
Alberta (Karsten Sturmay)	4	2
Newfoundland/Labrador (Daniel Bruce)	3	3
Prince Edward Island (Alex MacFadyen)	2	4
Northwest Territories (Sawer Kaeser)	1	5
Nunavut (Javen Komaksiutiksak)	0	6

* Top four teams in each pool advanced to the championship round, remaining teams to the seeding round. All teams carried their full win-loss records forward.

JUNIOR WOMEN'S FINAL

Nova Scotia (Kaitlyn Jones)	*002 002 010 X	5
Quebec (Laurie St-Georges)	000 200 001 X	3

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Nova Scotia		Quebec	
Kaitlyn Jones	89%	Laurie St-Georges	69%
Kristin Clarke	85%	Cynthia St-Georges	80%
Karlee Burgess	88%	Emily Riley	73%
Lindsey Burgess	59%	Isabelle Thiboutot	81%
Team totals	80%	76%	

SEMIFINAL

Quebec (Laurie St-Georges)	023 012 10X X	9
New Brunswick (Justine Comeau)	*100 100 01X X	3

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Nova Scotia (Kaitlyn Jones)	1	0
Quebec (Laurie St-Georges)	1	1
New Brunswick (Justine Comeau)	0	1

Championship round	Wins	Losses
Nova Scotia (Kaitlyn Jones)	9	1
New Brunswick (Justine Comeau)	8	2
Quebec (Laurie St-Georges)	8	2
Alberta (Kayla Skrlík)	7	3
Ontario (Emma Wallingford)	6	4
Newfoundland/Labrador (Mackenzie Glynn)	5	5
Prince Edward Island (Lauren Lenentine)	5	5
Northern Ontario (Hailey Beaudry)	3	7

Seeding round	Wins	Losses
British Columbia (Taylor Reese-Hansen)	5	4
Manitoba (Shae Bevan)	5	4
Saskatchewan (Sara England)	3	6
Nunavut (Sadie Pinksen)	2	7
Northwest Territories (Tyanna Bain)	1	8
Yukon (Kelsey Meger)	0	9

Round robin*

Pool A	Wins	Losses
Nova Scotia (Kaitlyn Jones)	5	1
New Brunswick (Justine Comeau)	4	2
Alberta (Kayla Skrlík)	4	2
Quebec (Laurie St-Georges)	4	2
Manitoba (Shae Bevan)	3	3
Saskatchewan (Sara England)	1	5
Yukon (Kelsey Meger)	0	6

Pool B	Wins	Losses
Newfoundland/Labrador (Mackenzie Glynn)	5	1
Prince Edward Island (Lauren Lenentine)	5	1
Ontario (Emma Wallingford)	5	1
Northern Ontario (Hailey Beaudry)	3	3
British Columbia (Taylor Reese-Hansen)	2	4
Nunavut (Sadie Pinksen)	1	5
Northwest Territories (Tyanna Bain)	0	6

* Top four teams in each pool advanced to the championship round, remaining teams to the seeding round. All teams carried their full win-loss records forward.

Clarke and Karlee Burgess joined Kelsey Rocque — who achieved the milestone in 2014 and '15 — as the only Canadians ever to win two world junior women's gold medals.

Meanwhile, the duo of Pearl Gillis of the Northwest Territories and Sturmey of Alberta, with coach Daniel Bédard of Quebec, captured the gold medal in the mixed doubles tournament, which featured all of the players and coaches who didn't qualify for the playoffs at the 2018 New Holland Canadian Juniors.

Gillis and Sturmey were 8-4 winners over Ontario's Grace Holyoke and New Brunswick's Felipe Marin, with coach Kevin Patterson of the Yukon.



Kaitlyn Jones, Kristin Clarke, Karlee Burgess and Lindsey Burgess gave Nova Scotia its second junior women's crown in three years with a 5-3 win over Quebec. It was the second time around for Clarke and Karlee Burgess, who won the 2016 Canadian and world titles.



Skip Laurie St-Georges and her teammates were forced to a single in the ninth end and then run out of rocks in IO. "This game was just awesome; we played well but we missed a couple of key shots," said St-Georges, who put together a great run in front of a pro-Quebec crowd.



Quebec skip Laurie St-Georges, third Kristin Clarke and second Karlee Burgess, both of Nova Scotia, and lead Erin Tomalty of Northern Ontario took home the women's first-team all-star honours. First and second-team all-star selections are determined by overall shooting percentages during the round robin.



Manitoba skip JT Ryan and lead Pearl Gillis of the Northwest Territories are the recipients of the Ken Watson sportsmanship awards. The awards are voted on by the players.

JUNIOR WOMEN'S ALL-STAR TEAMS

First-team all-stars

- Skip Laurie St-Georges, Quebec
- Third Kristin Clarke, Nova Scotia
- Second Karlee Burgess, Nova Scotia
- Lead Erin Tomalty, N. Ontario

Second-team all-stars

- Skip Kaitlyn Jones, Nova Scotia
- Third Cynthia St-Georges, Quebec
- Second Emily Riley, Quebec
- Lead Hannah Wallingford, Ont.

JUNIOR MEN'S ALL-STAR TEAMS

First-team all-stars

- Skip JT Ryan, Manitoba
- Third Jacques Gauthier, Manitoba
- Second Joey Hart, Ontario
- Lead Caleb Boorse, Alberta

Second-team all-stars

- Skip Karsten Sturmay, Alberta
- Third Chris Kennedy, Alberta
- Second Nick Zachernuk, Nova Scotia
- Lead Bradley Lequin, Quebec

JOAN MEAD LEGACY AWARD

Nova Scotia third Kristin Clarke and Ontario skip Matthew Hall are the 2018 winners of the Joan Mead Legacy Award. Mead was the CBC's curling producer for many years and produced its curling coverage at the 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. After she died suddenly in January 2000, the CBC Legacy Award was renamed in her memory and in honour of the great work she had done for curling on behalf of the CBC. The

awards began after the CBC was presented with the Golden Rings Award by the International Olympic Association for its excellence in broadcasting curling from the Nagano games. CBC decided to fund an annual award for junior curlers in Canada as an ongoing legacy of the Golden Rings Award and established the CBC Legacy Awards.

KEN WATSON AWARD

The 2018 winners of the Ken Watson Award are Manitoba skip JT Ryan and Northwest Territories lead Pearl Gillis. The awards are voted on by the players in the Canadian Juniors and presented to the curlers who best combine playing ability with sportsmanship.

ASHAM NATIONAL COACHING AWARD

The 2018 Asham National Coaching Award winners are junior men's coach Dean Kleiter of Saskatchewan and junior women's coach Michel St-Georges of Quebec. The award winners at the Canadian Juniors are chosen by coaches, who are asked to select an opposing team coach who best exemplifies the attributes of coaching.

PERFORMANCE BROOMS FAIR PLAY AWARD

Junior Men

- Lead Maxime Blais, N. Ontario
- Second Joey Hart, Ontario
- Third James Dalton, P.E.I.
- Skip Karsten Sturmay, Alberta
- Coach Daniel Bédard, Quebec



Curling Canada's Cathy Hughes presents Joan Mead Legacy Awards to Nova Scotia's Kristin Clarke and Ontario's Matthew Hall. The winners are selected by the event officials.



Coaching mentor Bill Tschirhart, far right, presents the national coaching awards to Saskatchewan's Dean Kleiter, left, and Quebec's Michel St-Georges.

Junior Women

- Lead Pearl Gillis, N.W.T.
- Second Karlee Burgess, Nova Scotia
- Third Christianne West, Nunavut
- Skip Kayla Skrlik, Alberta
- Coach Todd Troyer, British Columbia

The Fair Play Award winners are selected by the junior men's and women's officials.

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

South Okanagan Events Centre ▶ Penticton, British Columbia ▶ January 27 to February 4, 2018



PHOTOS: ANDREW KLAVNER © KRUGER PRODUCTS

Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones, third Shannon Birchard, second Jill Officer and lead Dawn McEwen defeated Team Wild Card's Kerri Einarson 8-6 to win the 2018 Canadian women's curling title. With the game tied at six after nine ends, the victory was clinched when Einarson's final in-off attempt to try and hide on the button failed.

It was bad timing for the best of reasons, and Jennifer Jones didn't let it affect her or her teammates as they prepared for the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts at the South Okanagan Events Centre in Penticton, British Columbia.

Just three weeks before the opening rock of the 2018 Hearts, Jones lost her longtime vice-skip Kaitlyn Lawes, but for a very good reason: Lawes and partner John Morris had won gold at the 2018 Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials, earning the right to represent Canada at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea. That meant Lawes wouldn't be available to play at the Hearts.

But Jones found a more-than-adequate substitute in Shannon Birchard, and headed to Penticton with high hopes.

And nine days later, Jones, Birchard, second Jill Officer, lead Dawn McEwen

and coach Wendy Morgan stood on top of the medal podium — a record-tying sixth Hearts title for both Jones and Officer, matching Halifax's Colleen Jones.

"Colleen Jones is one of the legends and we're right up there now," said Jennifer Jones. "It's so humbling, it's mind-boggling to me."

Jones's Manitoba team had finished round-robin play with a 9-2 record, tied for top spot with the new Wild Card team — another Manitoba entry, skipped by Kerri Einarson — and upstart Mary-Anne Arsenault of Nova Scotia, while Northern Ontario's Tracy Fleury nabbed the fourth playoff spot at 8-3.

In the Page 1-2 game, Manitoba beat Team Wild Card 9-7 thanks to a 10th-end deuce, to clinch a berth in the gold-medal game.

Meanwhile, Nova Scotia eliminated Northern Ontario 6-2 in the Page 3-4 game,



After losing to Manitoba's Jennifer Jones in the I-2 Page playoff, Kerri Einarson's Wild Card team rebounded with a semifinal win to get another crack at Jones in the final.

but would settle for the bronze medal after bowing 12-9 to Team Wild Card in an offence-filled semifinal.

In the gold-medal game — featuring a family rivalry with Officer up against her niece, Team Wild Card lead Kristin MacCuish — Manitoba would show its veteran poise in the back half of the game, taking deuces in the eighth and 10th ends for an 8-6 victory.

“I was having a lot of extra emotions because I was playing against my niece,” said Officer, who announced following the Hearts that she was stepping back from competitive curling following the 2017-18 season. “It’s just so hard. I’m so proud of her and her team. They did so good. But

Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones captured her sixth career Scotties Tournament of Hearts title, tying her with the legendary Colleen Jones of Nova Scotia for the all-time record.



FINAL

Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)	020 110 101 0 6
Manitoba (Jennifer Jones)	*101 002 020 2 8

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Wild Card

Kerri Einarson	66%
Selena Kaatz	81%
Liz Fyfe	85%
Kristin MacCuish	89%
Team totals	80%

Manitoba

Jennifer Jones	84%
Shannon Birchard	81%
Jill Officer	85%
Dawn McEwen	88%
Team totals	84%

SEMIFINAL

Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)	*203 041 010 1 12
Nova Scotia (Mary-Anne Arsenault)	030 300 201 0 9

PAGE SYSTEM 3-4 PLAYOFF

Northern Ontario (Tracy Fleury)	000 010 010 X 2
Nova Scotia (Mary-Anne Arsenault)	*000 203 001 X 6

PAGE SYSTEM 1-2 PLAYOFF

Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)	*020 102 101 0 7
Manitoba (Jennifer Jones)	002 030 020 2 9

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs

	Wins	Losses
Manitoba (Jennifer Jones)	2	0
Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)	1	2
Nova Scotia (Mary-Anne Arsenault)	1	1
Northern Ontario (Tracy Fleury)	0	1

Championship round

	Wins	Losses
Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)	9	2
Manitoba (Jennifer Jones)	9	2
Nova Scotia (Mary-Anne Arsenault)	9	2
Northern Ontario (Tracy Fleury)	8	3
Alberta (Casey Scheidegger)	7	4
Team Canada (Michelle Englot)	6	5
British Columbia (Kesa Van Osch)	4	7
Ontario (Hollie Duncan)	4	7

Round robin*

Pool A

	Wins	Losses
Wild Card (Kerri Einarson)**	6	1
Manitoba (Jennifer Jones)	5	2
Nova Scotia (Mary-Anne Arsenault)	5	2
Northern Ontario (Tracy Fleury)	5	2
New Brunswick (Sylvie Robichaud)	4	3
Saskatchewan (Sherry Anderson)	2	5
Northwest Territories (Kerry Galusha)	1	6
Yukon (Chelsea Duncan)	0	7

Pool B

	Wins	Losses
Alberta (Casey Scheidegger)	6	1
Team Canada (Michelle Englot)	5	2
British Columbia (Kesa Van Osch)	4	3
Newfoundland/Labrador (Stacie Curtis)	4	3
Ontario (Hollie Duncan)†	4	3
Quebec (Émilie Gagné)	3	4
Prince Edward Island (Robyn MacPhee)	2	5
Nunavut (Amie Shackleton)	0	7

** Team Kerri Einarson defeated Team Chelsea Carey 7-4 in the wild-card game to advance to the round robin.

* Top four teams in each pool advanced to the championship round carrying their full win-loss records forward.

† Defeated Newfoundland/Labrador 11-8 in a tiebreaker to advance to the championship round.

I'm proud of us for battling. It wasn't our greatest game of the week. We played a lot better games. Jen came up with some big shots."

It capped a memorable week for the Manitoba reps, as Birchard blended into the lineup almost seamlessly.

"We got Shannon in at the last minute and to come out and win the event and play really well from start to finish, with a couple of blips, we're pretty happy," said Jones. "We all struggled a little bit early (in the final) but we knew just to hang in there and you never know what's going to happen. I'm proud of (Birchard) because she bounced back late. She's been a real treat to play with. I have nothing but respect for her."

ALL-STAR TEAMS

First-team all-stars

- Skip Jennifer Jones, Manitoba
- Third Cary-Anne McTaggart, Alta.
- Second Jill Officer, Manitoba
- Lead Dawn McEwen, Manitoba

Second-team all-stars

- Skip Tracy Fleury, N. Ontario
- Third Shannon Birchard, Manitoba
- Second Jessie Scheidegger, Alberta
- Lead Raunora Westcott, Canada



Nancy Marcus of Kruger Products presents the Sandra Schmirler Award to Manitoba's Jennifer Jones as the most valuable player in the Hearts playoffs.

SANDRA SCHMIRLER AWARD

Presented in the name of the late Sandra Schmirler, the Most Valuable Player Award was presented to Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones after she was chosen the most outstanding player in the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts playoffs.



The 2018 first-team Scotties Tournament of Hearts all-stars: from left, lead Dawn McEwen and second Jill Officer, both of Manitoba, third Cary-Anne McTaggart of Alberta, and Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones. McEwen and Officer have been first-team all-stars a leading eight times and Jones, not far behind, is a six-time winner.

JOAN MEAD BUILDER AWARD

Presented in the name of the late CBC-TV producer Joan Mead, 2018 Builder Awards were presented to Melissa Soligo of Victoria and posthumously to Toronto's David Beesley for their significant contribution to the growth and development of women's curling in Canada.

Beesley was instrumental in using his marketing background to bring major curling events to the forefront of Canadian sport entertainment, securing sponsors and attracting media partners to broadcast the Season of Champions events to curling fans across the country.

Soligo was acknowledged for her advancement of the sport as a player, coach and as Curl BC's high performance director.

MARJ MITCHELL AWARD

Saskatchewan skip Sherry Anderson won the Marj Mitchell Award for best embodying the spirit of curling at the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts. The award is named in memory of Marj Mitchell, who skipped Canada to its first world title in 1980. In 1983, shortly after the second Hearts, Mitchell died of cancer at the age of 35. The winner is selected each year in a vote by all players at the tournament.



Kruger Products' Oliver Bukvic and Curling Canada's Maureen Miller flank Marj Mitchell Award winner Sherry Anderson of Saskatchewan. Anderson has received the award four times.



Victoria's Melissa Soligo was awarded a Joan Mead Builder Award for her significant contribution to the growth and development of women's curling in Canada.



A man in a denim jacket is pulling the jacket open to reveal a white t-shirt. The t-shirt has a large green circular logo with the word "PIONEER" in white above the word "PROTECTOR" in large, bold, black letters.

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OLYMPIC MIXED DOUBLES

Gangneung Curling Centre › Gangneung, South Korea › February 9 to 25, 2018

John Morris had been focused on being Canada's first male competitor in Olympic mixed doubles curling, but his plans were nearly derailed in early December when his partner, Rachel Homan, won gold at the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings.

That meant two things: a) Homan would be skipping her four-player women's team at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea, and so couldn't play mixed doubles; and b) Morris needed to find a new partner in time for the Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Trials.

As it turned out, that twist of fate paid off. Morris connected with fellow Olympian Kaitlyn Lawes, they won the trials in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, and, after losing their opener in South Korea, rattled off eight straight victories to claim Olympic gold.

It was a second trip to the top of the Olympic medal podium for both — Morris had played vice-skip for Kevin Martin's 2010 Olympic men's champions and Lawes was the vice-skip for Jennifer Jones's 2014 Olympic women's champions.

It wasn't easy, though; a 9-6 loss to Norway in the round-robin opener had put Canada in some early trouble in the eight-team round-robin draw.

But Lawes and Morris, along with coach Jeff Stoughton, fought back strongly to win their next six games and finish first in the round-robin standings.

"The biggest thing about our team is that we grind and we try and find ways to get better and we didn't let (some early struggles at the trials) frustrate us," said Lawes. "Same thing here. We lost our first game and it felt similar to those trials, where we didn't feel we were playing that poorly, we just had to find a way to improve a couple of percentage points each game."

In a hard-fought semifinal, Lawes and Morris avenged their defeat to Norway and then thrashed reigning world champs



PHOTOS: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/RICHARD GRAY

Winners of the first-ever Olympic gold medal in mixed doubles, Canada's Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris defeated reigning world champions Jenny Perret and Martin Rios of Switzerland 10-3 in the final. The Canadians finished the tournament with an 8-1 record, reeling off eight consecutive wins after dropping their round-robin opener to Norway.



"It's a really fun sport and the Olympics really helps expose new and unique sports to the rest of the world," said John Morris, a huge champion of the mixed doubles discipline.



After exchanging deuces in the opening ends, Kaitlyn Lawes blew the game open with a tap for four in the third to give Canada a commanding 6-2 lead. "A dream come true," said Lawes after the win.



Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris celebrate their historic Olympic mixed doubles win as Canadian fans in the stands roared their approval.



Canada's Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris avenged a round-robin loss to Norway's Kristin Skaslien and Magnus Nedregotten with an 8-4 win in the semis. After struggling early, Lawes found her game and made the big shots that counted late in the game.



Switzerland's Jenny Perret and Martin Rios were in tough against a red-hot Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris, who were so dominant the Swiss conceded after six ends. "I honestly didn't feel we were the favourites coming in," said Lawes. "I'm just so proud of our efforts."

Jenny Perret and Martin Rios 10-3 in the gold-medal game, thanks largely to a score of four in the third end.

"I honestly didn't feel we were the favourites coming in," said Lawes. "There are so many talented teams here that have had so much success at the world championship. I'm just so proud of our efforts to be able to compete against the top teams in mixed doubles."

"It feels fantastic," added Morris. "You never know how many times you are going to be able to get to an Olympics and it's just such a privilege if you can get to one."

"The pressure is always on, whether you are a hockey fan or a curling fan, everybody wants you to bring home the gold, so it just feels so great that we were able to do that."

GOLD-MEDAL GAME

Canada (Lawes/Morris)	*204 022 XX 10
Switzerland (Perret/Rios)	020 100 XX 3

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Canada		Switzerland	
Kaitlyn Lawes	73%	Jenny Perret	75%
John Morris	83%	Martin Rios	61%
Team totals	79%		67%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

OAR (Bryzgalova/Krushelnitckii)	*210 201 11 8
Norway (Skaslien/Nedregotten)	002 020 00 4

SEMIFINALS

Canada (Lawes/Morris)	*200 120 3X 8
Norway (Skaslien/Nedregotten)	011 002 0X 4
OAR (Bryzgalova/Krushelnitckii)	020 021 00 5
Switzerland (Perret/Rios)	*201 100 21 7

TIEBREAKER

China (Wang/Ba)	*201 020 20 7
Norway (Skaslien/Nedregotten)	030 104 01 9

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Canada (Lawes/Morris)	2	0
Switzerland (Perret/Rios)	1	1
Norway (Skaslien/Nedregotten)**	1	2
China (Wang/Ba)	0	1
OAR (Bryzgalova/Krushelnitckii)	X	X

** Norway was awarded the bronze medal when Aleksandr Krushelnitckii of the Olympic Athlete from Russia team was disqualified for violation of the anti-doping rule. The results obtained by the OAR team were also disqualified.

Round robin	Wins	Losses
Canada (Lawes/Morris)	6	1
Switzerland (Perret/Rios)	5	2
OAR* (Bryzgalova/Krushelnitckii)	4	3
Norway (Skaslien/Nedregotten)	4	3
China (Wang/Ba)	4	3
South Korea (Jang/Lee)	2	5
United States (B. Hamilton/M. Hamilton)	2	5
Finland (Kauste/Rantamäki)	1	6

* Olympic Athlete from Russia

Morris was particularly hopeful that the Canadian Olympic success would lead to the mixed doubles discipline taking hold in Canada.

"It's fantastic," he said. "It's something that everyone that loves curling back in Canada should try. It's athletic. It's fun. The beer tastes just as good after the game. It's here to stay and I can't wait to see how well it does back in Canada."

"This experience we've had this week is something we'll cherish for the rest of our lives."

OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Gangneung Curling Centre › Gangneung, South Korea › February 9 to 25, 2018



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/RICHARD GRAY

Olympic gold medallists: from left, United States alternate Joe Polo, lead John Landsteiner, second Matt Hamilton, third Tyler George and skip John Shuster. With his final rock of the eighth end, Shuster took out two Swedish rocks to score a whopping five points and give his team what turned out to be an insurmountable 10-5 lead.

If nothing else, the four-player team

results at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea, proved that curling has evolved into a truly global game.

They also proved that Canadian curling teams can take nothing for granted on the world stage.

Which isn't to say Kevin Koe's men's team from Calgary and Rachel Homan's women's team from Ottawa took their opponents lightly at the Gangneung Curling Centre. Far from it, in fact. Both Canadian teams were well aware that any of their nine opponents were capable of beating them — and ending the Olympics with medals around their necks.

So while what transpired in South Korea may have disappointed Canadian curling fans — although none more than



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

"Winning a medal is huge. Just making the playoffs was a big achievement in that field," said silver medallist Niklas Edin. "It's probably the toughest Olympic field there has ever been."



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

John Shuster skipped the U.S. to an improbable 10-7 Olympic gold medal over the heavily favoured Niklas Edin of Sweden. It was only the second Olympic curling medal in U.S. history.



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

Switzerland's Benoit Schwarz and Peter de Cruz watch the line as Canada's Kevin Koe calls off his sweepers in the bronze-medal game. "Hugely disappointed," said Koe after falling 7-5 to the Swiss. "We feel like we're a better team than we showed in the playoffs."

the Canadian players themselves — it shouldn't have come as a shock, despite Canada's Olympic record of never having missed the podium in men's and women's curling since the sport returned to the Olympic program in 1998.

"This is just a sign of the times in men's and women's curling," Koe told reporters in Gangneung. "Gone are the days when you could just show up. This week, we knew it was going to be tough to get every win. It's not easy. The gap has been narrowed a bit."

Koe — backed by vice-skip Marc Kennedy, second Brent Laing and lead Ben Hebert — started his first Olympics in style with four wins to open the round robin. But then the Canadians lost three straight, including a pivotal 9-7 setback to the eventual champions from the United States.

But the Canadians rallied with two wins to close out the round robin at 6-3 to get into the semifinal against the suddenly red-hot U.S. team helmed by John Shuster.

The U.S. won the semifinal 5-3 before beating Niklas Edin's Swedish team 10-7 in the gold-medal game.

Canada, meanwhile, finished off the podium after a 7-5 loss to Switzerland's Peter de Cruz.

"Hugely disappointed," said Koe following the bronze-medal loss. "We feel like we're a better team than we showed in the playoffs and it just sucks that we couldn't pull it out when we needed to. It'll take some time to get over the sting of losing and not winning a medal. (But) I'm proud of the guys. We battled even though we knew we didn't have our greatest A-game. I'm

MEN'S GOLD-MEDAL GAME

Sweden (Niklas Edin)	*020 020 102 X 7
United States (John Shuster)	002 102 050 X 10
* Last-rock advantage	

PERCENTAGES

Sweden		United States	
Niklas Edin	74%	John Shuster	76%
Oskar Eriksson	86%	Tyler George	88%
Rasmus Wranå	84%	Matt Hamilton	74%
Christoffer Sundgren	96%	John Landsteiner	81%
Team totals	85%		80%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

Switzerland (Peter de Cruz)	011 020 201 X 7
Canada (Kevin Koe)	*000 201 020 X 5

SEMIFINALS

Sweden (Niklas Edin)	*200 402 10X X 9
Switzerland (Peter de Cruz)	010 010 01X X 3
Canada (Kevin Koe)	*010 100 001 0 3
United States (John Shuster)	001 010 020 1 5

TIEBREAKER

Switzerland (Peter de Cruz)	010 021 005 X 9
Great Britain (Kyle Smith)	*200 200 010 X 5

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
United States (John Shuster)	2	0
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	1	1
Switzerland (Peter de Cruz)	2	1
Canada (Kevin Koe)	0	2
Great Britain (Kyle Smith)	0	1

Round robin

	Wins	Losses
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	7	2
Canada (Kevin Koe)	6	3
United States (John Shuster)	5	4
Switzerland (Peter de Cruz)	5	4
Great Britain (Kyle Smith)	5	4
Norway (Thomas Ulsrud)	4	5
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	4	5
Japan (Yusuke Morozumi)	4	5
Italy (Joel Retornaz)	3	6
Denmark (Rasmus Stjerne)	2	7

sure at some point we'll look back on it and say I wouldn't trade this experience for the world."

Homan, with vice-skip Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle, was in an early hole after three straight losses — to South Korea, Sweden and Denmark — to open the Olympics.

But three straight victories followed to get the reigning world champion Canadians back in the playoff race before crushing defeats to China and Great Britain eliminated Canada from playoff contention. Homan's team finished with a 4-5 record.



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PHOTO: WCF/RICHARD GRAY

Swedish skip Anna Hasselborg, third Sara McManus, second Agnes Knochenhauer, lead Sofia Mabergs and alternate Jennie Wählin defeated South Korea's EunJung Kim 8-3 to claim Sweden's third women's curling gold medal in four Winter Games.



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

"It's an honour for us to win South Korea's first silver medal," said skip EunJung Kim, who was up against a skilled Swedish team.



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

Sweden's Anna Hasselborg doubled up Great Britain 10-5 in the semi to set up the gold-medal matchup against South Korea.



PHOTO: WCF/MICHAEL BURNS

Canada's Joanne Courtney, Rachel Homan, Lisa Weagle and Emma Miskew wave to the crowd after defeating Japan 8-3 for their third straight victory. But crushing defeats to China and Great Britain eliminated Canada from playoff contention.

WOMEN'S GOLD-MEDAL GAME

Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	002 110 301 X 8
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	*100 001 010 X 3

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Sweden		South Korea	
Anna Hasselborg	94%	EunJung Kim	72%
Sara McManus	90%	KyeongAe Kim	82%
Agnes Knochenhauer	83%	SeonYeong Kim	86%
Sofia Mabergs	100%	YeongMi Kim	82%
Team totals	92%		81%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

Great Britain (Eve Muirhead)	*101 010 000 0 3
Japan (Satsuki Fujisawa)	010 100 011 1 5

SEMIFINALS

Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	*020 102 302 X 10
Great Britain (Eve Muirhead)	001 020 020 X 5
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	*301 020 010 0 1 8
Japan (Satsuki Fujisawa)	020 101 002 1 0 7

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	2	0
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	1	1
Japan (Satsuki Fujisawa)	1	1
Great Britain (Eve Muirhead)	0	2

Round robin	Wins	Losses
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	8	1
Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	7	2
Great Britain (Eve Muirhead)	6	3
Japan (Satsuki Fujisawa)	5	4
China (Bingyu Wang)	4	5
Canada (Rachel Homan)	4	5
Switzerland (Silvana Tirinzoni)	4	5
United States (Nina Roth)	4	5
OR* (Victoria Moiseeva)	2	7
Denmark (Madeleine Dupont)	1	8

* Olympic Athlete from Russia

"I'm just a little bit disappointed," Homan told reporters. "We wanted to try to make the playoffs for Canada. But we gave it all we had, we never gave up and that's the way it goes sometimes with sport."

"We were just getting everyone's best game and that's what happens when you're the world champs," added Miskew. "Every team was making a ton of shots against us. Every single team that was here earned the right to be here and they're amazing teams."

Sweden's Anna Hasselborg claimed the gold medal, beating the upstart host team from South Korea skipped by EunJung Kim 8-3 in the final, while Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa won the bronze with a 5-3 victory over Great Britain's Eve Muirhead.

TIM HORTONS BRIER

Brandt Centre › Regina › March 3 to 11, 2018



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2018 Tim Hortons Brier champions: from left, Team Canada's Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant and Geoff Walker. Unlike Gushue's final shot for the win in last year's Brier, in which there were some anxious moments, he calmly delivered a draw to the button for back-to-back national titles. Team Canada finished with an impressive 12-1 record.

It was a new format but a familiar face

came out on top at the 2018 Tim Hortons Brier in Regina.

A 16-team, two-pool format made its Brier debut and after the jockeying for position over the first five days of preliminary-round play to get into the championship pool, some very seasoned teams were still in contention.

But at the end of the day, it was the defending champions from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, wearing Team Canada colours — skip Brad Gushue, vice-skip Mark Nichols, second Brett Gallant, lead Geoff Walker, alternate Tom Sallows and coach Jules Owchar — who were, as expected, setting the tone.

Team Canada finished on top of the round-robin standings with a 10-1 record

and nailed down its second straight appearance in the Tim Hortons Brier final with a 6-2 win over Brier rookie John Epping of Ontario — who had finished with a 9-2 round-robin record — in the 1-2 Page playoff game.

Meanwhile, in the Page 3-4 game between Northern Ontario's Brad Jacobs and Alberta's Brendan Bottcher, the relatively youthful Albertans pulled off a stunning victory. Bottcher made an outstanding double takeout to score two in the 10th end to force an extra. And in the 11th, Bottcher made a perfect draw behind cover to the back of the button, and Jacobs just missed on his tap attempt, allowing Alberta to steal a 6-5 win.

Alberta carried that momentum into the semifinal, where it defeated Ontario 6-4.



Alberta skip Brendan Bottcher earned a showdown with the defending Brier champions after big wins in the Page 3-4 game and semifinal.

But in the gold-medal game, Gushue wasn't to be denied the opportunity to win back-to-back Brier gold; he curled a stunning 96 per cent — Bottcher wasn't so bad at 93 per cent — and capped the victory with a draw to the button in the 10th end for a 6-4 victory.

"I've seen the list (of back-to-back winning skips) up on the JumboTron with Ernie Richardson and Kevin Martin. That's pretty crazy names. To be on that list and have our team there back-to-back, that's really cool. That's something I'm pretty proud of," said Gushue.

Along with Richardson, Martin and Gushue, Randy Ferbey, Pat Ryan, Gordon Hudson, Matt Baldwin, Ron Northcott and Don Duguid have won back-to-back Briers.

Gushue made more history en route to the gold medal as he broke the record for skipping victories at the Brier. He entered the event just behind Kevin Martin and Russ Howard, who were deadlocked at 113; he ended the week alone in the top spot with 123 after his 12 victories in Regina.

And the last was capped in classic fashion, with a draw to the button.

"That's awesome. That's what you dream about. To make it is even better, especially since I only had to draw the eight-foot last year. It felt real good on the throw," said Gushue, who, for the second straight year was named the Hec Gervais award winner as the Tim Hortons Brier's most valuable player.



Team Canada's Brad Gushue said the team's command of the final — in which he shot 96 per cent — was indicative of its play all week. "I thought we took control early, kept control of the hammer and made sure we had hammer coming home."

FINAL

Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	*002 020 010 1 6
Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	000 100 102 0 4

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Team Canada		Alberta	
Brad Gushue	96%	Brendan Bottcher	93%
Mark Nichols	91%	Darren Moulding	86%
Brett Gallant	94%	Brad Thiessen	83%
Geoff Walker	84%	Karrick Martin	89%
Team totals	91%		88%

SEMIFINAL

Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	000 201 200 1 6
Ontario (John Epping)	*200 010 010 0 4

PAGE SYSTEM 3-4 PLAYOFF

Northern Ontario (Brad Jacobs)	002 000 210 0 0 5
Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	*010 101 000 2 1 6

PAGE SYSTEM 1-2 PLAYOFF

Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	*020 102 001 X 6
Ontario (John Epping)	000 010 010 X 2

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	2	0
Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	2	1
Ontario (John Epping)	0	2
Northern Ontario (Brad Jacobs)	0	1

Championship round

	Wins	Losses
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	10	1
Ontario (John Epping)	9	2
Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	8	3
Northern Ontario (Brad Jacobs)	8	3
Wild Card (Mike McEwen)	7	4
Saskatchewan (Steve Laycock)	6	5
Nova Scotia (Jamie Murphy)	5	6
Manitoba (Reid Carruthers)	5	6

Round robin*

Pool A	Wins	Losses
Alberta (Brendan Bottcher)	6	1
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	6	1
Wild Card (Mike McEwen)**	5	2
Nova Scotia (Jamie Murphy)	4	3
Northwest Territories (Jamie Koe)	3	4
British Columbia (Sean Geall)	2	5
Newfoundland/Labrador (Greg Smith)	1	6
Yukon (Thomas Scoffin)	1	6

Pool B

	Wins	Losses
Northern Ontario (Brad Jacobs)	6	1
Ontario (John Epping)	6	1
Manitoba (Reid Carruthers)	5	2
Saskatchewan (Steve Laycock)	4	3
Quebec (Mike Fournier)	3	4
New Brunswick (James Grattan)	2	5
Prince Edward Island (Eddie MacKenzie)	2	5
Nunavut (David St. Louis)	0	7

** Team Mike McEwen defeated Team Jason Gunnlaugson 4-3 in the wild-card game to advance to the round robin.

* Top four teams in each pool advanced to the championship round carrying their full win-loss records forward.



First-team Brier all-star honours went to: from left, Wild Card lead Denni Neufeld and Team Canada second Brett Gallant, third Mark Nichols and skip Brad Gushue. It was the third time that Neufeld and Nichols have been honoured, second for Gushue. First and second-team all-stars have been selected at the Brier since 1965.



Team Canada lead Geoff Walker, second E.J. Harnden of Northern Ontario, third Steve Laycock of Saskatchewan and Ontario skip John Epping were named to the 2018 Brier second all-star team. Walker shot 92 per cent, Harnden 87, Laycock and Epping 86. All-star selections are determined by overall shooting percentages during round-robin play.



ROSS HARSTONE AWARD

Newfoundland and Labrador skip Greg Smith is the winner of the 2018 Ross Harstone Award, whose recipient is selected by the players in the Tim Hortons Brier. The award is presented to the player who best combines playing ability and sportsmanship.

Curling Canada governor Scott Comfort presents the 2018 Ross Harstone sportsmanship award to Newfoundland and Labrador skip Greg Smith.

ALL-STAR TEAMS

First-team all-stars

- Skip Brad Gushue, Canada
- Third Mark Nichols, Canada
- Second Brett Gallant, Canada
- Lead Denni Neufeld, Wild Card

Second-team all-stars

- Skip John Epping, Ontario
- Third Steve Laycock, Sask.
- Second E.J. Harnden, N. Ontario
- Lead Geoff Walker, Canada

HEC GERVAIS AWARD

Presented to the most valuable player in the Tim Hortons Brier playoffs, the 2018 Hec Gervais Award was won by Team Canada skip Brad Gushue.



Team Canada skip Brad Gushue accepts the Hec Gervais Award as the playoff MVP from Curling Canada's Scott Comfort. Gushue also won the award in 2017.



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PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Gangneung Curling Centre › Gangneung, South Korea › March 9 to 18, 2018



PHOTOS: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/CELINE STUCKI



China's Haitao Wang, front, crushed Norway's Rune Lorentsen 10-1 in round-robin play but the gold-medal rematch was another story. Tied after regulation, Norway's attempts to remove a heavily guarded shot stone failed, giving China its first-ever Paralympic medal.

China's Haitao Wang, Jianxin Chen, Wei Liu, Meng Wang and Qiang Zhang defeated Norway 6-5 in the gold-medal final. "China, my country is very important for me, so listening to the national anthem was a very special moment," said Wang after the medal ceremony.

Canada's wheelchair curling teams had been nothing but golden at the Paralympic Winter Games, with victories in 2006 in Torino, Italy, in 2010 in Vancouver and in 2014 in Sochi, Russia.

But it's unlikely any of those victories matched the emotion that accompanied the bronze-medal triumph put together by Canada's Mark Ideson, Ina Forrest, Dennis Thiessen, Marie Wright, alternate Jamie Anseuw and coach Wayne Kiel last March in PyeongChang, South Korea.

The Canadian team headed to the 2018 Paralympics without familiar veterans Sonja Gaudet and Jim Armstrong, and were in a talent-laden field.

But in the end, the Canadians were able to silence their doubters with a memorable playoff performance, capped by their 5-3 win over the host South Koreans, skipped by Soon-Seok Seo in front of a sold-out crowd at the Gangneung Curling Centre.

For Thiessen, a member of the 2014 team, it marked a personal comeback as he successfully battled cancer en route to getting back on the national team for the 2018 Paralympics.



Canadian second Dennis Thiessen anchors third Ina Forrest as she delivers her rock in bronze-medal action. The Canadians — who took two in the first end and never looked back — earned the country’s fourth straight Paralympic podium finish.



Canadian skip Mark Ideson, third Ina Forrest, second Dennis Thiessen and lead Marie Wright shook off a disappointing semifinal loss to China to come back strongly and defeat South Korea’s Soon-Seok Seo 5-3 in the bronze-medal game.



Canada’s bronze-medal performance got a thumbs-up from Dennis Thiessen, who successfully battled cancer to get back on the Paralympic team.

“I’ve had a tough four years,” he said. “This was very emotional. I never thought I’d have the chance to do this again. My coaches, who are the best in the world, believed in me, and I’m here today, and got to play for Canada, and I’m taking home a bronze. I can’t be happier.”

It was a tough road for Canada. After finishing in a three-way tie for top spot in the round robin at 9-2 with the South Koreans and China’s Haitao Wang, Canada and China faced off in a dramatic

GOLD-MEDAL GAME

China (Haitao Wang)	*200 100 20 1 6
Norway (Rune Lorentsen)	012 001 01 0 5

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

China		Norway	
Haitao Wang	56%	Rune Lorentsen	57%
Jianxin Chen	65%	Jostein Stordahl	43%
Wei Liu	67%	Ole Fredrik Syversen	46%
Meng Wang	56%	Sissel Løchen	64%
Team totals	61%		52%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

South Korea (Soon-Seok Seo)	*001 010 1X 3
Canada (Mark Ideson)	200 201 0X 5

SEMIFINALS

China (Haitao Wang)	*010 200 01 4
Canada (Mark Ideson)	001 020 00 3
South Korea (Soon-Seok Seo)	*020 200 02 0 6
Norway (Rune Lorentsen)	103 000 20 2 8

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
China (Haitao Wang)	2	0
Norway (Rune Lorentsen)	1	1
Canada (Mark Ideson)	1	1
South Korea (Soon-Seok Seo)	0	2

Round robin	Wins	Losses
South Korea (Soon-Seok Seo)	9	2
Canada (Mark Ideson)	9	2
China (Haitao Wang)	9	2
Norway (Rune Lorentsen)	7	4
NPA* (Konstantin Kurokhtin)	5	6
Switzerland (Felix Wagner)	5	6
Great Britain (Aileen Neilson)	5	6
Germany (Christiane Putzich)	5	6
Slovakia (Radoslav Duris)	4	7
Sweden (Viljo Pettersson Dahl)	4	7
Finland (Markku Karjalainen)	2	9
United States (Kirk Black)	2	9

* Neutral Paralympic Athletes

semifinal, with China coming out on top 4-3 after a magnificent game-winning shot from Wang.

But Canada shook off the disappointment and came back strongly in the bronze-medal game against South Korea.

“I’m super proud,” said Ideson. “We put ourselves in a position to defend gold, and we played our hearts out (in the semifinal). It didn’t go our way, but we came out today and we played for each other, and we played for Canada and we’re coming home with a medal.”

Added Forrest: “In this field, a medal is a huge win. So (the semifinal) didn’t work out for us, but today to come back and play hard and still get a medal and go on that podium, that’s a big one.”

FORD WORLD WOMEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

North Bay Memorial Gardens › North Bay, Ontario › March 17 to 25, 2018

It had been a decade since *O Canada* had been played during a medal ceremony at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship on home soil.

But as the world's best women's curling teams landed in North Bay, Ontario, for the 2018 Ford Worlds, there was a renewed sense of optimism that the home-ice drought would come to an end.

Jennifer Jones — ironically, the last Canadian skip to win gold in Canada, in 2008 at Vernon, British Columbia — had won the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts in impressive fashion, despite being without regular vice-skip Kaitlyn Lawes, who was in South Korea for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games with mixed doubles partner John Morris.

Canada was also in a position to defend a gold medal, after Rachel Homan had broken a nine-year dry spell a year earlier in Beijing, China.

With Lawes back in the lineup, Jones and teammates second Jill Officer, lead Dawn McEwen, alternate Shannon Birchard (who'd replaced Lawes at the Hearts), team coach Wendy Morgan and national coach Elaine Dagg-Jackson capped a thrilling week at the jam-packed North Bay Memorial Gardens with gold medals around their necks.

It was a perfect farewell gift to Officer, who had announced shortly before the event that she would be stepping away from competitive curling.

"I'm just so thrilled to be able to stand on the top of the podium with these girls one more time," Jones said after the team won its second world championship. "I just love (Officer) to death and now she gets to go out as world champ and we get to do that with her, so I'm just so happy."

It would be a second straight unbeaten gold medal for Canada after Homan's 13-0 run in Beijing. Jones and Co. were one better at 14-0 thanks to the World Curling Federation expanding the field to 13 countries.



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2018 world champions: from left, Canadian alternate Shannon Birchard, lead Dawn McEwen, second Jill Officer, third Kaitlyn Lawes and skip Jennifer Jones. The Jones squad ran the table at 14-0 — including a 7-6 extra-end decision over Sweden in the final — to give Canada a leading 17th gold medal since the championship began in 1979.



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/JEFFREY AU

Sweden's Anna Hasselborg throws the rock to sweepers Agnes Knochenhauer, left, and Sofia Mabergs in a gold-medal contest befitting two Olympic champions. Down by two in the 10th end, Hasselborg made a brilliant last-rock double to score a deuce and force an extra. But in overtime, Hasselborg missed a final-rock pick attempt to give Canada the win.



PHOTO: WCF/JEFFREY AU

In a tough back-and-forth bronze-medal game, Russia's Sergei Belanov, Anna Sidorova, Julia Guzieva, Galina Arsenkina, Julia Portunova and Victoria Moiseeva scored a pair in the 10th end to edge Jamie Sinclair of the United States 6-5.

Canada would go 12-0 in the round robin before beating Jamie Sinclair of the United States 9-7 in the semifinal. Meanwhile, Olympic gold medallist Anna Hasselborg of Sweden was 10-2 in the round robin, and would reach the gold-medal game with a 7-6 win over Russia's Victoria Moiseeva in the other semi.

The gold-medal game was filled with drama, going to an extra end thanks to Hasselborg's magnificent shot to score two in the 10th end. But in the 11th, Jones didn't have to throw her final stone after Hasselborg barely missed on an extremely tough takeout attempt.

"Unbelievable," Jones said. "Just this crowd (North Bay set an attendance record for a world women's championship in Canada) and the atmosphere and all our families are here and Jill's last worlds, couldn't really paint a better picture. Just to be world champion, you pinch yourself and we've been able to do it a couple of times. You just feel so privileged to do it and to do it back in Canada."

Russia defeated the U.S. 6-5 for the bronze medal.

After the medals were handed out, Officer was named winner of the Frances Brodie Award, voted on by the players and given to the player who best exemplified the traditional curling values of skill, honesty, fair play, friendship and sportsmanship.

"That's very humbling and very special that my peers look at me like that because, to me, that's one of the most important things," said Officer.

FRANCES BRODIE AWARD

Canadian second Jill Officer is the 2018 winner of the Frances Brodie Award. The award winner is selected annually by competitors in the World Women's Curling Championship as the



PHOTO: WCF/JEFFREY AU

"Unbelievable," said Jennifer Jones of winning a second world title. "I can't say enough about my team. We had a great week."

FINAL

Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	000 030 100 2 0 6
Canada (Jennifer Jones)	*000 202 002 0 1 7
* Last-rock advantage	

PERCENTAGES

Sweden		Canada	
Anna Hasselborg	82%	Jennifer Jones	79%
Sara McManus	76%	Kaitlyn Lawes	86%
Agnes Knochenhauer	83%	Jill Officer	69%
Sofia Mabergs	93%	Dawn McEwen	81%
Team totals	84%		79%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

Russia (Victoria Moiseeva)	*002 000 020 2 6
United States (Jamie Sinclair)	010 011 002 0 5

SEMIFINALS

Canada (Jennifer Jones)	*302 010 100 2 9
United States (Jamie Sinclair)	010 102 021 0 7
Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	*200 102 020 0 7
Russia (Victoria Moiseeva)	020 000 102 1 6

QUALIFICATION ROUND

South Korea (EunJung Kim)	*100 100 010 X 3
United States (Jamie Sinclair)	010 010 107 X 10
Czech Republic (Anna Kubešková)	000 003 000 X 3
Russia (Victoria Moiseeva)	*000 210 211 X 7

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Canada (Jennifer Jones)	2	0
Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	1	1
Russia (Victoria Moiseeva)	2	1
United States (Jamie Sinclair)	1	2
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	0	1
Czech Republic (Anna Kubešková)	0	1

Round robin	Wins	Losses
Canada (Jennifer Jones)	12	0
Sweden (Anna Hasselborg)	10	2
Russia (Victoria Moiseeva)	8	4
United States (Jamie Sinclair)	7	5
South Korea (EunJung Kim)	6	6
Czech Republic (Anna Kubešková)	6	6
China (Yilun Jiang)	6	6
Switzerland (Binia Feltscher)	5	7
Scotland (Hannah Fleming)	5	7
Japan (Tori Koana)	5	7
Denmark (Angelina Jensen)	3	9
Germany (Daniela Jentsch)	3	9
Italy (Diana Gaspari)	2	10

player who best combines playing ability with sportsmanship. The award was named in honour of Scotland's Frances Brodie, one of curling's pioneering women. Brodie helped establish the women's world championship and chaired the first such event in Perth, Scotland, in 1979. The award was presented for the first time in 1989.

361° WORLD MEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

PRESENTED BY FORD OF CANADA

Orleans Arena » Las Vegas, Nevada » March 31 to April 8, 2018



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Round-robin leaders at II-1, Sweden's Christoffer Sundgren, Rasmus Wranå, Oskar Eriksson and Niklas Edin blanked the first two ends of the final before taking control in the third, when Edin made a control-weight tap on a partially buried Canadian rock and held his shooter to score a pair. They doubled the lead an end later with a steal of two.



Swedish skip Niklas Edin is all smiles after taking down Canada 7-3 in their gold-medal battle. "Really happy with the win and how the boys played all week," said Edin.



Brad Gushue and his Canadian teammates fell short in their quest for back-to-back world titles. "Real disappointed," said Gushue. "They were certainly the best team today."

There are long curling seasons, and then there are the seasons endured by Brad Gushue's team from St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador.

But despite the wear and tear, Gushue, vice-skip Mark Nichols, second Brett Gallant, lead Geoff Walker, alternate Tom Sallows, team coach Jules Owchar and national coach Rick Lang still did the Maple Leaf proud with a memorable performance at the 2018 World Men's Curling Championship, staged for the first time at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In addition to its Grand Slam schedule, there were Olympic-related events for Team Gushue — a third-place finish at the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings in addition

to all four players participating in the Canad Inns Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials, with Gushue and partner Val Sweeting ultimately falling in the gold-medal game.

But the team rebounded nicely to successfully defend its title at the 2018 Tim Hortons Brier in Regina, earning the right to compete for back-to-back gold medals at the world championship after its success a year earlier in Edmonton.

In the expanded 13-team field, Canada finished with a 9-3 round-robin record, good enough for third place behind a pair of 11-1 teams — Sweden's Niklas Edin and Scotland's Bruce Mouat.

That landed Canada in a qualifying playoff round, where it defeated the home-ice favourite United States team, helmed by Rich Ruohonen, 6-4 to advance to a semifinal showdown with the young Scots.

There, Gushue thrilled the pro-Canadian crowd with two magnificent seventh-end runbacks to put a game-changing three on the scoreboard en route to a 9-5 victory to set the stage for a gold-medal rematch against the Swedes, whom Gushue's Canadian team had beaten in the 2017 final.

This time, though, the wear and tear finally caught up with the Canadians, and the Swedes, who'd won silver at the PyeongChang Olympics a few weeks earlier, claimed gold with a 7-3 victory — Edin's third world championship in six years.

"Real disappointed, obviously," said Gushue. "It wasn't our best effort, and Niklas and his team played great today. I guess the only positive thing to look at is that even if we had played a great game they probably still would have won with how well they played. They were certainly the best team today."



Canada's Team Glenn Howard (front row) swept Brazil's Team Marcelo Cabral de Mello to clinch Canada's berth in the 2018 world men's championship.

THE AMERICAS ZONE CHALLENGE

Despite being the World Curling Federation's No. 1 ranked country in men's curling, Canada had to fight for a berth in the 2018 World Men's Curling Championship.

Under WCF rules, the Americas Zone is guaranteed two spots in a world championship, with one traditionally going to the previous season's highest finisher — which would have been Canada, the defending world champion. But because Las Vegas, Nevada, was playing host to the world men's championship, the United States got an automatic Americas Zone berth as the host nation. That meant that Canada could be challenged by any other WCF member nation located in the Americas Zone. Brazil launched that challenge.

Held during the 2018 World Financial Group Continental Cup last January in London, Ontario, the best-of-five showdown saw four-time world champion Glenn Howard of Canada — with teammates Adam Spencer, David Mathers and Scott Howard — face Brazil's Marcelo Cabral de Mello, Scott McMullan, Márcio Cerquinho and Filipe Nunes.

Team Howard clinched Canada's spot in the world championship with a three-game sweep — 15-1, 8-3 and 6-3.

FINAL

Canada (Brad Gushue)	000 001 02X X	3
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	*002 210 20X X	7

* Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Canada		Sweden	
Brad Gushue	80%	Niklas Edin	95%
Mark Nichols	91%	Oskar Eriksson	88%
Brett Gallant	94%	Rasmus Wranå	92%
Geoff Walker	88%	Christoffer Sundgren	88%
Team totals	88%		91%

BRONZE-MEDAL GAME

Scotland (Bruce Mouat)	*103 240 10X X	11
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	020 001 01X X	4

SEMIFINALS

Canada (Brad Gushue)	021 010 311 X	9
Scotland (Bruce Mouat)	*200 201 000 X	5
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	*100 300 202 0 1	9
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	011 022 010 1 0	8

QUALIFICATION ROUND

Canada (Brad Gushue)	*110 001 020 1	6
United States (Rich Ruohonen)	000 100 201 0	4
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	*201 001 020 1	7
Norway (Steffen Walstad)	010 200 101 0	5

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs	Wins	Losses
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	2	0
Canada (Brad Gushue)	2	1
Scotland (Bruce Mouat)	1	1
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	1	2
Norway (Steffen Walstad)	0	1
United States (Rich Ruohonen)	0	1

Round robin

	Wins	Losses
Sweden (Niklas Edin)	11	1
Scotland (Bruce Mouat)	11	1
Canada (Brad Gushue)	9	3
South Korea (ChangMin Kim)	7	5
Norway (Steffen Walstad)	7	5
United States (Rich Ruohonen)	6	6
Switzerland (Marc Pfister)	6	6
Italy (Joel Retornaz)	5	7
Russia (Alexey Timofeev)	5	7
Netherlands (Jaap van Dorp)	4	8
Japan (Go Aoki)	3	9
China (Dejia Zou)	3	9
Germany (Alexander Baumann)	1	11



Bruce Mouat, Grant Hardie, Bobby Lammie and Hammy McMillan took home Scotland's first medal since 2013, thanks to a game-turning fifth end. Korea's draw attempt crashed, giving the Scots a steal of four and an eight-point lead en route to an 11-4 bronze-medal victory.

Sweden blanked the first two ends before taking control in the third when Edin made a lovely control-weight tap on a partially buried Canadian stone and held his shooter to score two.

An end later, Sweden doubled its lead when Edin made a spectacular double takeout, and Gushue was light on his draw for a single.

And in the fifth, it was one more for the Swedes when Gushue's runback double-takeout attempt failed to curl enough.

While it was a disappointing result, Gushue was able to keep his perspective considering events that unfolded in Canada before the team's departure and during the championship

itself – the deaths of Nichols' mother, Helen, and Gallant's grandfather, Lorn Burke, as well as the tragic crash that killed 15 passengers on the Humboldt Broncos hockey team bus.

"This is one bad week, and we're at a good point when we're saying our bad week was being silver medallists at the world championship," said Gushue. "We have to keep this in perspective. It's one loss. It's not going to define us, it's not going to change our lives, and especially what's gone on with our team the past week and a half and back in our country. This is just a curling game."



The winner of the 2018 Colin Campbell sportsmanship award is Norway's Markus Høiberg.

**COLIN CAMPBELL
MEMORIAL AWARD**

Third Markus Høiberg of Norway is the winner of the 2018 Colin Campbell Memorial Award. The award winner is selected annually by competitors in the World Men's Curling Championship as the player who best combines playing ability with sportsmanship. The award was instituted in 1979 to honour the memory of Colin A. Campbell, who served as president of the International Curling Federation (now the World Curling Federation) from 1969 until his death in 1978.

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EVEREST CANADIAN SENIORS

PHOTOS: ROBERT WILSON



From left: Saskatchewan lead Anita Silvernagle, skip Sherry Anderson, third Patty Hersikorn and second Brenda Goertzen.



From left: Ontario lead Ken Sullivan, second Morgan Currie, third Ian MacAulay and skip Bryan Cochrane.

A Salute to 2018 CHAMPIONS

CANADIAN MASTERS

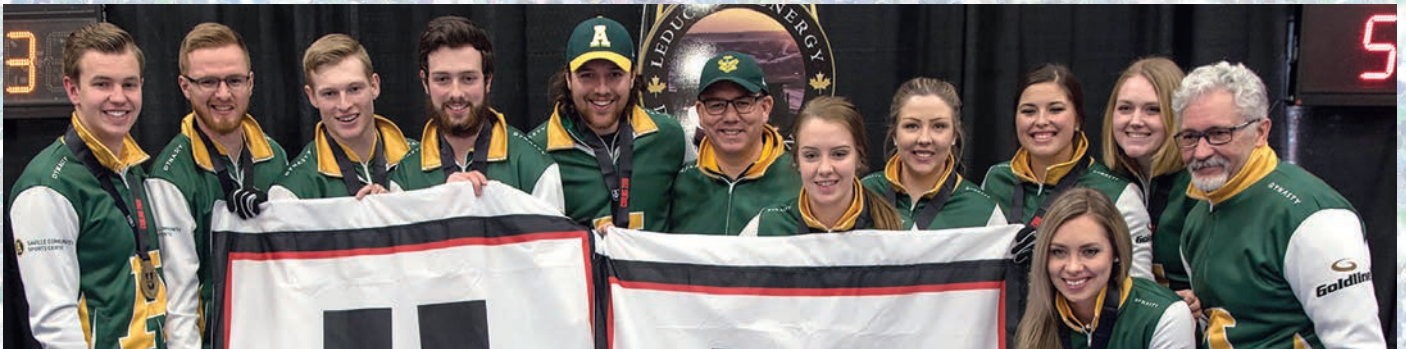


From left: British Columbia skip Pat Sanders, third Lorraine Gagnon, second Sherry Findlay and lead Roselyn Craig.



From left: Alberta skip Mickey Pendergast, third Rob Armitage, second Randy Ponich and lead Rick Hjertaas.

U SPORTS-CURLING CANADA UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS



From left: skip Karsten Sturmay, third Tristan Steinke, second Jason Ginter, lead Chris Kennedy, alternate Glenn Venance and coach Rob Krepps of the Alberta Golden Bears; and Alberta Pandas third Danielle Schiemann, second Selena Sturmay, lead Jesse Iles, alternate Paige Papley, coach Garry Coderre and skip Kristen Streifel.

CANADIAN MIXED DOUBLES



From left: Laura Crocker and Kirk Muyres.

WORLD MIXED DOUBLES



From left: Switzerland's Sven Michel, Michèle Jäggi and coach Sebastian Stock.

PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/RICHARD GRAY

WORLD SENIORS



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/TOM ROWLAND

Front row, from left: skip Sherry Anderson, third Patty Hersikorn, second Brenda Goertzen and lead Anita Silvernagle; (back row) skip Wade White, third Barry Chwedoruk, second Daniel Holowaychuk, lead George White and coach Bill Tschirhart, all of Canada.

CANADIAN MIXED



From left: Ontario skip Mike Anderson, third Danielle Inglis, second Sean Harrison and lead Lauren Harrison.

PHOTO: JESSICA AND JEREMY BERGEN

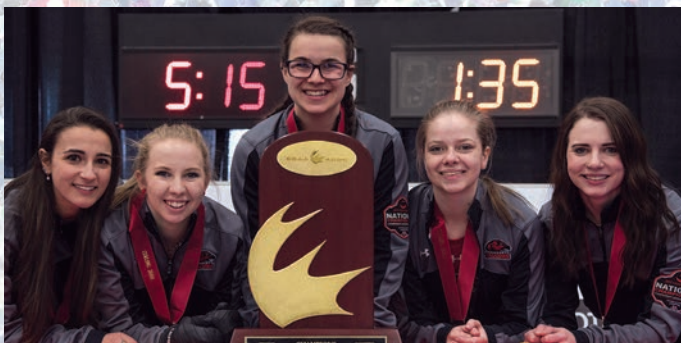
WORLD MIXED



From left: lead Barbara McFarlane, second Billy Morton, third Rhiann Macleod and skip Grant Hardie of Scotland.

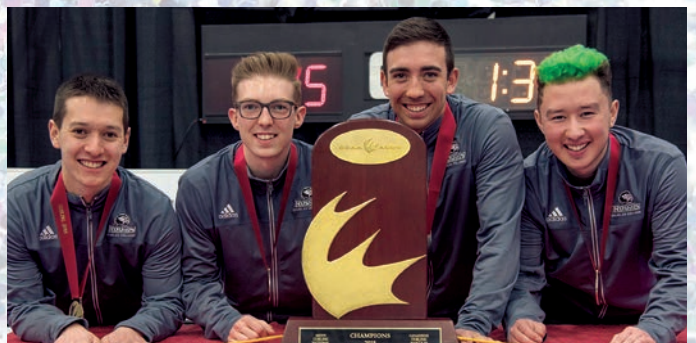
PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/LINA PAVLYUCHIK

CCAA-CURLING CANADA CHAMPIONSHIPS



PHOTOS: DAVID BENNETT PHOTOGRAPHY

From left: alternate Angelica Muscedere, lead Isabelle Allan, second Samantha Lees, third Erin White and skip Kaitlyn Poirier of the Fanshawe Falcons.



From left: skip Daniel Wenzek, third Sterling Middleton, second Brayden Carpenter and lead Nicholas Umbach of the Douglas Royals.

TRAVELERS CURLING CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP



PHOTO: DONNA MCCULLAN

Front row, from left: skip Stacey Fordyce, third Christy Erickson, second Stacey Irwin and lead Pam Gouldie of Manitoba's Brandon Curling Club; (back row) skip Bart Sawyer, third Steve Waatainen, second Craig Burton and lead Keith Clarke of British Columbia's Nanaimo Curling Centre.

VoIP DEFENDER WORLD JUNIORS



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/RICHARD GRAY

Front row, from left: alternate Lauren Lenentine, lead Lindsey Burgess, second Karlee Burgess, third Kristin Clarke and skip Kaitlyn Jones; (back row) alternate Jacques Gauthier, lead Zac Curtis, second Jordan Tardi, third Sterling Middleton and skip Tyler Tardi, all of Canada.

CANADIAN UNDER-18 BOYS AND GIRLS CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Front row, from left: skip Isabelle Ladouceur, third Emilie Proulx, second Kate Callaghan, lead Makayla Harnish, alternate Elsa Nauss and coach Brian Rafuse; (back row) skip Graeme Weagle, third Owen Purcell, second Jeffrey Meagher, lead Scott Weagle and coach Anthony Purcell, all of Nova Scotia.

CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR



PHOTO: CAMERON CHISHOLM

From left, Saskatchewan skip Marie Wright, third Gil Dash, coach Lorraine Arguin, second Darwin Bender, lead Larry Schrader and alternate Moose Gibson.



ON THE ROCKS

BY AL CAMERON

SUFFICE IT TO SAY THERE WAS AN ELEMENT OF

mystery leading up to, and even during, the debut of the new Curling World Cup series of events in mid-September in Suzhou, China.

The idea of a Curling World Cup had been discussed for some time leading up to its unveiling in the spring of 2018, and thanks to the benevolence of Chinese sports marketing company Kingdomway Sports, and its reported \$13.4-million US investment, the World Cup started on a solid foundation.

Still, there were challenges, not the least of which was finding space in an already unbelievably busy curling calendar to fit in four more high-profile events.

That hurdle was overcome, partly thanks to the decision to start the season earlier (many of the teams competing in China were making their season debuts) and end it later (the World Cup finale will begin May 8 in Beijing — not exactly part of the traditional curling calendar!).

Additionally, from a Canadian perspective, compromises were reached in order to fulfil our desire to support the World Cup — specifically for the second event in December in Omaha, Nebraska, which will run head to head with the Home Hardware Canada Cup in Estevan, Saskatchewan. That prevented the Canada Cup teams from participating in Omaha, but it also opened the door for our high-performance team, under director Gerry Peckham, to take a Next Generation approach and offer the opportunity to represent Canada to two younger teams, skipped by Winnipeg's Jason Gunnlaugson and Tracy Fleury of Sudbury, Ontario.

And there were the formats being discussed for the World Cup events — formats that would offer opportunities to test new styles of timing and coaching interaction.

The World Cup provided a perfect venue to see high-performance teams from all over the world try new ideas, with the end goal of improving the game.

The timing system featured the current thinking-time format — the clock runs only when the rocks are not moving — but took it to another level, with the clocks being reset at the conclusion of each end, meaning that there's no advantage to be gained by the so-called "banking" of time at the beginning of a game so that more time is available to discuss strategy at the end.

The jury is still out, but it was notable that some teams did in fact run out of time during ends and they were penalized, and if this does end up speeding up the pace of play, that wouldn't be a bad thing.

As for coaching interaction, it was interesting to see how this was presented during the World Curling

Federation-produced broadcasts, as the commentators suggested that this was new ground for curling and unique to the World Cup.

To those who follow the Tim Hortons Brier and Scotties Tournament of Hearts, coaches interacting with players during games is routine. The coaches are on the ice, sitting behind the scoreboards, and regularly talk to the players between ends.

At WCF world championships and the Olympics, though, this is forbidden. Coaches sit well away from the ice surface and can talk to the players ONLY before the game, during the fifth-end break and during timeouts.

This is a hard pill to swallow for coaches, understandably, and it certainly goes against the grain of just about any team sport you could name, where coaches are highly active during games, interacting with players and yelling out strategy. Watch any soccer, basketball, football or hockey game for ample evidence.

Curling will never go quite that far with coaching interaction, of course, but it was a very encouraging and positive step forward that the WCF is looking at this. One can only hope that the feedback from non-Canadian coaches and players about this step was encouraging, and prompts the WCF to take it a step further and allow it at world championships.

On the whole, the debut of the World Cup was an encouraging step forward for the sport. It provided more opportunities for the players to make money and market themselves. It added to the sport's prominence in China (and you can expect it to ramp up even further leading up to the 2022 Olympic Winter Games in Beijing), which can only pay handsome dividends going forward; and it landed curling in the headlines during a time of year in which media outlets typically don't pay much attention to the sport.

And, oh yeah — Canada won all three gold medals! Ottawa's Rachel Homan, vice-skip Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney, lead Lisa Weagle and coach Marcel Rocque claimed the women's title; Kevin Koe and his new-look Alberta crew — vice-skip B.J. Neufeld, second Colton Flasch, lead Ben Hebert and coach John Dunn — won the men's gold; and Laura Walker of Edmonton teamed with Saskatoon's Kirk Muyres for the mixed doubles title.

A nice debut, to say the least, and the future looks exciting, too.

Al Cameron is Curling Canada's director of communication and media relations

Five new members have been inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame — curlers Cathy Overton-Clapham and Christine Jurgenson, builders David Beesley and Patricia Ray, and former Curling Canada chair Peter Inch.



DAVID BEESLEY
Builder

David Beesley's work behind the scenes on behalf of Curling Canada took the sport to previously undreamed-of levels as a marketing powerhouse. Beesley, who passed away on January 6, spent a quarter-century working on behalf

of Curling Canada as national sponsorship sales director.

He was instrumental in negotiating sponsorship and television deals that gave Canadian curlers far bigger and more widely exposed stages on which to perform. His vision led us to the Season of Champions series of events, and even in his final days, he continued working hard to continue raising curling's profile in this country.



PETER INCH
Executive Honour Roll

A native of London, Ontario, Peter Inch served as chair of Curling Canada's board of governors — a role he'd prepared for over the years through countless volunteer hours devoted to the sport of curling — in 2016-17.

Before being elected to the board at the 2013 National Curling Congress in Ottawa, Inch worked tirelessly on behalf of the sport, helping to organize numerous championships in his hometown.

He was the host committee chair for the 2006 Scott Tournament of Hearts and the 2011 Tim Hortons Brier. He also served as chair of the 2002 Canadian Senior Men's and Women's Curling Championships host committee in nearby St. Thomas.



CHRISTINE JURGENSON
Curler

Christine Jurgenson of Osoyoos, British Columbia, is a four-time world champion.

She won her first gold medal in 1986, soon after winning the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in London, Ontario, playing second for her sister and fellow Hall-of-Famer Marilyn Bodogh.

Jurgenson played in six editions of the Canadian women's championship, for three different provinces — Ontario in 1980 and '86; Alberta in 1983; and British Columbia in 1995 and '97 — in addition to one Hearts appearance as a member of Team Canada with Bodogh in 1987.

Her success carried over to seniors, where she won two Canadian senior women's championships in three years, adding world titles in both years and another as an alternate with Team Canada, then represented by Alberta's Cathy King.

In 2008, in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Jurgenson threw lead rocks for Pat Sanders' gold-medal B.C. team, which went on to win gold at the world seniors a year later in Dunedin, New Zealand. In 2010, Jurgenson skipped the B.C. team that won the Canadian championship in Ottawa and followed up with a gold medal at the 2011 world seniors in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

In 2013, Jurgenson teamed up with King and her squad, which posted a perfect 8-0 record en route to winning the gold medal in Fredericton.



CATHY OVERTON-CLAPHAM
Curler

Winnipeg's Cathy Overton-Clapham has been winning championships since she was 16 years old, earning her first junior provincial title in 1986. Three years later she skipped Manitoba to victory at the 1989

Canadian juniors, then won a bronze medal at the 1990 world juniors in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, a year later.

She transitioned her success at the junior level into a brilliant career in women's curling, winning five Scotties Tournament of Hearts; only former teammates Jennifer Jones and Jill Officer and Hall-of-Famer Colleen Jones, with six, have won more.

Overton-Clapham won her first women's provincial championship playing third for Kathie Allardyce in 1991 at the age of 21, and her first Canadian title in 1995 while playing third for Connie Laliberte. She went on to win four more national championships playing third for Jones — in 2005, '08, '09 and '10. Overton-Clapham, who's still active — she's playing third for Laura Walker this season — has played in 13 Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

The perennial vice won a silver medal with Laliberte at the 1995 world championship, and gold in 2008 and bronze in 2010 while playing with Jones.



PATRICIA RAY
Builder

Patricia Ray spent 29 years as Curling Canada's chief operating officer, but that title doesn't do justice to her contributions to the sport.

In times of need, Ray stepped up repeatedly for Curling Canada — she served as the organization's interim chief executive officer on three occasions; most recently during the 2015-16 season — in addition to the heavy demands of her duties as COO. Through it all, she was calm, poised, a voice of reason and always a friendly face in times of stress.

CURLING CANADA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Roger Smith of La Pêche, Quebec, is the winner of the 2016-17 Curling Canada Volunteer of the Year Award in recognition of his significant contribution to the success of Curling des Collines.



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Curling Canada's Scott Comfort, left, presents the 2016-17 Volunteer of the Year Award to Roger Smith in recognition of his contribution to the success of Curling des Collines.

Getting a new curling centre built is no easy task, but it's one Smith attacked with fervour as he saw the need for a facility in Chelsea, Quebec.

Curling des Collines, a club with some 90 members, had been around since 2005 but never had a home to call its own. It began in a hockey arena and then moved into an Ottawa curling rink in 2014.

Curling des Collines' dream of having its own facility came true in February 2016, when the Quebec government announced it was granting \$1.7 million toward the construction of a new four-sheet curling centre.

It was Smith who had drafted the grant applications and business plan that persuaded the provincial government to grant the funds. Smith twisted arms to the tune of more than \$400,000 in a fundraising campaign and was the point man in talks with financial institutions to secure additional financing.

Money was only half the battle; he also had to find the land for the new curling centre. He finally found a willing host in Chelsea.

With room for more than 600 members, the Curling des Collines' doors are now open.



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

TSN broadcaster Bryan Mudryk, right, presents the Paul McLean Award to sportswriter Murray McCormick.

PAUL MCLEAN AWARD

Regina *Leader-Post* sportswriter Murray McCormick is the 2018 winner of the Paul McLean Award.

The award was created in 2007 by the Canadian Curling Reporters — now the Professional Curling Media Association of Canada — in conjunction with TSN, in memory of McLean, a TSN executive producer, and his dedication to the sport of curling. McLean passed away on December 14, 2005, at his home in Brampton, Ontario, after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 39.

The award is presented annually to a person in the media who has made an outstanding contribution to curling from behind the scenes.

McCormick's introduction to curling was in 1983, when he covered the world women's championship in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, as the sports editor of the *Moose Jaw Times-Herald*. He joined the *Leader-Post* in 1985 and has covered countless city, regional, provincial, national and world curling championships since taking over the curling beat in 1991.

McCormick is well-liked and respected by curlers, fellow journalists and fans alike, and his passion for writing stories about Saskatchewan curling stars has made him a local institution. He was named to CurlSask's Legends of Curling Honour Roll as a member of the media in 2016.

RAY KINGSMITH EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Calgary's Ray Kingsmith was a tireless worker for the sport of curling and the same can be said of Mike Carson of Vaudreuil-Dorion, Quebec, the winner of the 2018 Ray Kingsmith Executive of the Year Award.

The award is presented annually to the volunteer who best exemplifies the dedication to curling and benevolence demonstrated by Kingsmith throughout his life.

Kingsmith was a super volunteer, the kind who doesn't come around very often. He gave freely of himself, his time and his resources to the sport of curling, which he so loved and believed in. He never asked for nor expected anything in return. Kingsmith passed away in 1988.

Carson's passion for curling lies at the heart of his involvement — giving back at the club, community, provincial, national and international levels.

A member of the Governor General's Curling Club, Carson has served curling clubs in a variety of capacities and was an instrumental figure on the Quebec scene, helping to organize many championships. He was an early advocate of the Page playoff system, and had it in use in Quebec championships as early as 1983.

Not long after, he was assigned the task of heading the organizing committee for the 1988 Brier in Chicoutimi, an event that proved popular with fans and curlers alike, thanks to the warm hospitality of the region and the host committee.

Carson took his organizing skills to the Canadian Masters Curling Championships for players 60 years of age and over. He played in the event in 2007 and was soon part of the organizing committee. He served as event president from 2010 through 2017 and helped it grow significantly during that time.



Mike Carson, right, accepts the Ray Kingsmith Executive of the Year Award from Curling Canada chair Resby Coultis.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF CURLING QUEBEC

A NEW LOOK FOR CURLING CANADA'S HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

Jeff Stoughton helped guide Canada's Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris to an Olympic gold medal in the mixed doubles event last season in PyeongChang. He now has the added roles of Curling Canada's national men's coach and program manager.



JEFF STOUGHTON



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/MICHAEL BURNS

SEVERAL PROMINENT TEAMS HAVE shuffled their deck chairs for the next quadrennial and so, too, has Curling Canada's executive as it prepares for the four years that will culminate in the 2022 Olympic Winter Games in Beijing.

Scott Pfeifer comes on board as a performance consultant and Adam Kingsbury joins the Curling Canada staff as a mental performance consultant and information technology manager.

Wily veteran Jeff Stoughton — who helped guide Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris to an Olympic gold medal in the mixed doubles event last season in PyeongChang — now has the added roles of national men's coach and program manager.

"For sure, it's been a great few years with the mixed doubles," said Stoughton, a three-time Brier champion and two-time world champion who will continue to have a supporting role with the mixed doubles. "It's been a help being able to get an idea of the inner workings of Curling Canada.

"It's going to be a challenge and fun, and something different, for sure, working in that part

of the program," said Stoughton, who turned 55 and retired from his position as financial systems manager with Air Canada on July 31.

What will the Manitoba native bring to his new roles? "Hopefully, I'll bring experience, some of that been-there, done-that, and hopefully I can provide any type of insight that some of the new teams haven't seen," said Stoughton.

"Most of these teams are so experienced that maybe a different direction — a different look — will improve any of them by two to five per cent, because they are so close to being the best in the world."

Stoughton replaces Rick Lang, who remains on as a performance consultant.

"Exciting new faces," said Gerry Peckham, Curling Canada's director of high performance of Stoughton, Pfeifer, Kingsbury and also Marc Kennedy, who has already assisted with various junior programs and will probably take on another role with Curling Canada in the near future.

"Obviously, Jeff brings a competitive résumé and a wealth of experience, which is critical in a

BY MARIO ANNICCHIARICO

program like ours. In order to have the respect of the athletes and the ear of the athletes, you have to have been there and done that to get that instant credibility. He's been where they are and can relate to what they say," added Peckham, who said he's sure Stoughton will become a good leader, mentor, manager and coach.

"I think Jeff has always had this destination in mind. He's worked hard on that part of the sport, where you were a student of the game and can now deliver messages and make sure athletes are focused on what is critical."

Peckham also believes Kingsbury — who previously worked as coach with Rachel Homan's team, which represented Canada at the PyeongChang Olympics — adds his own talents with his curling experience and his educational background in psychology.

"I think one of the focuses that Adam and Kyle Paquette — the lead mental performance consultant — bring is performing under pressure and making sure you get the most out of yourself in those situations," said Peckham.

Kingsbury said he is only now starting to realize what an amazing experience he had with Team Homan through the 2018 Olympics, although it ended in disappointment, with the team missing the women's playoffs. "When you're in it, you're so focused on what you're trying to accomplish you don't really get time to sit down and enjoy it.

"The emotional experience and everything combined — I don't want to say it was tough, but it's an important factor to consider. We prep these teams every four years for this one event and you're constantly learning about what works and what



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/RICHARD GRAY

didn't and is there anything we can change? I think we have to pay attention to the post-Olympic experience and I think in sports they are talking about that quite a bit now."

Pfeifer is the former second with Randy Ferbey's very successful Alberta foursome. Pfeifer won four Briers and three world championships with Ferbey and recently added another Brier and world crown as an alternate with Kevin Koe. He also attended the 2018 Olympics as both alternate and coach with Koe, but failed to earn a medal.

"Scott has been a guy on my radar screen ever since I met him," said Peckham. "Once again, alongside a competitive résumé, he has been a student of the game and he always portrayed coaching attributes to me. He's worked for a



MARC KENNEDY

The 2016 world champions: Kevin Koe, Marc Kennedy, Brent Laing and Ben Hebert. Taking a break from competitive curling, Kennedy, who has already assisted with various junior programs, will probably take on another role with Curling Canada in the near future.



PHOTO: WORLD CURLING FEDERATION/CÉLINE STUCKI

Adam Kingsbury helped coach Rachel Homan, Emma Miskew, Lisa Weagle and Joanne Courtney to a world title in 2017. Kingsbury joins the Curling Canada staff as a mental performance consultant and information technology manager.



ADAM KINGSBURY



SCOTT PFEIFER

Dubbed the Ferbey Four, Marcel Rocque, Scott Pfeifer, Randy Ferbey and David Nedohin — considered one of the most dominant men's teams in curling — won four Briers in five years. A newcomer to Curling Canada's high performance program, Pfeifer comes on board as a performance consultant.



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

number of different years in different roles with team Koe.

“I think he enjoyed that experience and was missing the game a little bit. Some time emerged on his availability and he put up his hand and said he'd be interested in looking for ways to make a contribution to the national team program.

“We will figure out exactly what that will look like, but my assumption is he'll make contributions to the women's and men's program as well as the mixed doubles and Next Generation programs. He's just one of those guys who's interested in making a contribution to the sport.”

In four years' time, Canada will look to rebound from disappointing finishes for the men and women at the Olympics.

“I was certainly disappointed on behalf of the athletes who had invested so much on that journey and had high expectations, as we do as a curling nation,” said Peckham. “That meant everything to those two teams and they went out the door, I think, prepared and sensing that they were going to be in tough, but that they would prevail, as they so often have.

“I think both teams were disappointed in the outcome, but didn't quite peak in the same manner at the Olympics as they did at the Olympic trials. That, obviously, causes you to reflect on that timeframe between trials and the Olympics and look for ways to make better use of their time and make sure that the athletes get the opportunity to refresh, re-focus and re-energize so that they go in with a full fuel tank into the demanding Olympic domain.

“We had two fabulous teams and great support staff, but I think both teams just needed to find that

extra momentum at that critical moment and that can be an elusive commodity on occasion,” added Peckham, who added that analytics will be another key area to study in the future.

“I think when you take a look at what else is going on around the world, our athletes are going to need to be particularly astute in how they go about their training. The volume of training that they do and the quality of training that they do because the competitive schedule is so demanding that it hardly affords any of these athletes sufficient time to actually practise,” he said.

“They spend lots of time in the gym in the off-season to get themselves fit and strong, but I don't think we devote enough time to practising the specific skills that go into shotmaking. We are either playing or recovering from playing, so there probably needs to be a better ratio of training to competition. That will be a critical component.”

The addition of Stoughton, Pfeifer, Kingsbury and — in some form — Kennedy will add to Canada's chances.

“We relentlessly strive to generate world-leading performances and look for enhanced and innovative methods to bring the very best in science, technology and coaching expertise to our national team program,” said Elaine Dagg-Jackson, the women's national coach and program manager. “With the performance bar advancing every year, we know that people like Jeff, Scott, Marc and Adam will make a relevant and significant contribution to Canada's success on the world stage.”

Mario Annicchiarico is a freelance writer based in Victoria

ABBOTSFORD CURLING CLUB ROCKS LEARN TO CURL!

THE CURLING COMMUNITY

knows that the beauty of our sport is that it offers opportunities for all ages — kids, adults and seniors — to step on the ice for the first time and have as much fun as experienced curlers who have been throwing rocks for years.

That message was driven home last February, when the Abbotsford Curling Club organized a Learn To Curl clinic in hopes of attracting a few new members. What started out as a simple open house quickly turned into two days of enthusiastic curling instruction for 275 participants.

“We hoped to introduce people to curling, give them some basic skills and perhaps entice them to take up curling in the fall of 2018,” says Gord Wallington, who chairs the membership committee that organized the event. “I thought we might get 15 to 20 people over the two days. We were unprepared for 275.”

Of course, with the unexpected deluge, club members stepped up to make it work. Extra volunteers were called in on short notice and ice time was adjusted to make sure everyone had a chance to learn the basics and throw some rocks. Groups were kept small so that all participants — especially the youngest — were taught the necessary skills, while also staying aware of safety on the ice.

Why the surprisingly big turnout? Wallington credits not only the timing — “I think we hit a perfect storm. Interest was high from the Olympics” — but also the hard work done by the club to market the event in the community.

A sign was displayed outside the building and Curling Canada helped get the word out on social media. The club also bought low-cost ads on its Facebook and Instagram accounts that eventually reached more than 7,000 people, with



Young and old alike turned out in droves to the Learn To Curl clinic hosted by the Abbotsford Curling Club.

PHOTO: MIKE DESANTE

the most active response from those aged 18 to 24.

The fee to participate was a mere \$10 and kids who came with parents were included for free.

In fact, the youngest participants may have shown the greatest enthusiasm for the sport, with 75 kids showing up to learn the basics of curling and have a chance to throw their first rock.

“Curling is a great sport for kids of all ages and abilities,” says Wallington. “You learn teamwork, roles and strategies. Where else are you encouraged to yell your heart out? The equipment is pretty basic and you probably can borrow stuff from your club. You can be a recreational curler or you can be as competitive as you like.”

Introducing curling to new members of the community, of all ages, is how we grow our great sport at the grassroots level. And ensuring there are opportunities and programs that engage participants at all levels, supporting them in their recreational or competitive curling journey, will lead to vibrant and thriving clubs.

We absolutely love how the Abbotsford Curling Club embraced this larger-than-expected opportunity and made it an amazing experience for everyone who attended. We particularly love that they made it so accessible and enjoyable for youth. An impressive 75 kids who are our future champions, community leaders and club members in attendance is outstanding!

What is your club doing to engage new members and especially youth to our sport?

Maybe take a page from Abbotsford’s playbook. You just might be pleasantly surprised.

The Curling Canada Foundation supports the growth of junior curling in Canada by developing programs that aim to get kids on the ice and keep them there.



**CURLING CANADA
FOUNDATION**
For the love of curling

THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION CUP

PRESENTED BY TSN

CURLING CANADA HAS created a provincial/territorial ranking system to measure member association performances at all of the national curling championships it operates and sanctions.

The system was implemented in 2010-11 by Curling Canada, which is made up of 14 member associations representing Canada's 10 provinces, Northern Ontario and the territories of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Member associations are ranked based on their final positions in 14 annual national championships — the men's and women's Travelers Curling Club Championship, the Canadian mixed, the New Holland Canadian junior men's and women's, Scotties Tournament of Hearts, Tim Hortons Brier, Canadian under-18 boys and girls, Canadian Masters men's and women's, Everest Canadian senior men's and women's and Canadian wheelchair.

The program was created to generate greater interest among curling fans across the country. For years, curling enthusiasts have enjoyed regional rivalries, debating whether their province or territory was



Curling Canada governors Resby Courtts, far left, and Scott Comfort, far right, present the Member Association Cup to CurlION president Doug Kreviazuk and director Elaine Brimicombe. Ontario earned an impressive 154 points, an average of 11 per event.

better than another. The new system adds legitimacy to a basic ranking system, which tracks how member associations perform.

Under the new system, points totals and results are tracked and updated after each applicable Canadian championship throughout the curling season.

The 2017-18 winners were announced in September at Curling Canada's Annual General Meeting in Ottawa. Based on the highest average points, the Member

Association Cup, presented by TSN, was awarded to Ontario, with 154 points, an average of 11 per event.

Ontario's total was bolstered by first-place performances by Mike Anderson at the mixed and Bryan Cochrane at the seniors.

Nova Scotia — the member association making the biggest year-to-year improvement on an average points basis — received the Governors' Cup for an average increase over the 14 events of 2.2 points year over year.

The Bluenosers led the field with three first-place performances — Kaitlyn Jones at the juniors and Isabelle Ladouceur and Graeme Weagle

at the under-18s.

The Curling Canada Foundation Cup made its debut in 2017-18. Based on the highest average points in the four championships devoted to youth curling — the Canadian junior men's and women's and the Canadian under-18 boys and girls — the inaugural Foundation Cup was awarded to Nova Scotia, with 51 points, an average of 12.75 per event.

For further details, go to www.curling.ca/macup.

2017-2018 MEMBER ASSOCIATION CUP — FINAL STANDINGS

Rank	Province/Territory	Mixed	Curling Club Championship Men	Curling Club Championship Women	Junior Women	Junior Men	Hearts	Brier	Senior Women	Senior Men	U-18 Women	U-18 Men	Wheelchair	Masters Women	Masters Men	Points	Average
1	ON	14	10	12	10	11	9	14	12	14	11	8	10	11	8	154	11.0
2	NS	10	9	11	14	9	14	10	13	7	14	14	8	12	3	148	10.6
3	AB	8	12	13	11	10	12	15	4	9	12	13	9	6	14	148	10.6
4	MB	4	13	14	5	12	16	9	6	10	2	9	13	10	11	134	9.6
5	BC	5	14	10	6	14	10	5	11	6	9	5	12	14	13	134	9.6
6	SK	6	8	5	4	6	6	11	14	8	13	6	14	13	9	123	8.8
7	NO	7	7	6	7	13	13	13	8	12	8	12	5	7	4	122	8.7
8	NB	11	5	8	12	5	8	6	10	13	10	10	6	3	7	114	8.1
9	QC	13	6	7	13	8	5	7	7	11	7	7	7	8	5	111	7.9
10	NL	12	11	3	9	7	7	3	9	2	4	11	11	4	6	99	7.1
11	PE	2	1	9	8	4	3	4	3	3	5	4	N/A	9	2	57	4.4
12	NT	9	3	4	2	2	4	8	5	4	3	3	N/A	N/A	1	48	4.0
13	YT	3	4	2	1	3	2	2	2	5	1	N/A	N/A	5	10	40	3.3
14	NU	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	1.3

TEAMS SET FOR 2019 WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP CONTINENTAL CUP

THE 2019 WORLD FINANCIAL Group Continental Cup will have a distinctly Olympic feel in January in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Five of the six teams that will comprise Team World represented their countries at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea.

The captain, coach and assistant coach — Scotland's David Murdoch, Sweden's Fredrik Lindberg and Norway's Christoffer Svae — are former Olympic medal-winners as players.

They will bring that star-studded lineup to the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas in hopes of ending a six-year losing streak to Team North America in curling's version of the Ryder Cup.

Murdoch, Lindberg and Svae will helm a team that includes Olympic gold medallist Anna Hasselborg of Sweden, fellow countryman and Olympic silver medallist Niklas Edin, and Olympic bronze medallist Peter de Cruz of Switzerland.

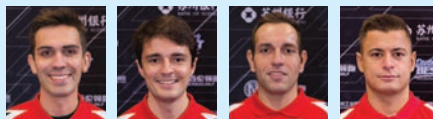
Team World will be rounded out by Olympic reps Eve Muirhead of Scotland, Switzerland's Silvana Tirinzoni and world men's bronze medallist Bruce Mouat of Scotland.

Meanwhile, the host Team North America squad will have no shortage of Olympic representatives. Canada's Rachel Homan and Kevin Koe and the U.S. Olympic gold-medal-winning team skipped by John Shuster will be on the squad, as will former Olympic gold medallists Jennifer Jones and Brad Gushue.

Jamie Sinclair of the U.S. completes the North American field, which will be coached by Winnipeg's Jeff Stoughton and assistant coach Jill Officer, with Pete Fenson of Bemidji, Minnesota, serving as captain. Both Officer and Fenson are former Olympic medal-winners as players.

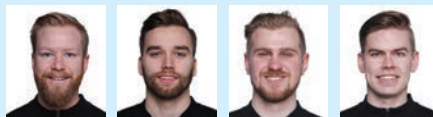
TEAM WORLD

TEAM DE CRUZ Switzerland



Peter de Cruz Benoît Schwarz Sven Michel Valentin Tanner

TEAM EDIN Sweden



Niklas Edin Oskar Eriksson Rasmus Wranå Christoffer Sundgren

TEAM MOUAT Scotland



Bruce Mouat Grant Hardie Bobby Lammie Hammy McMillan

TEAM HASSELBORG Sweden



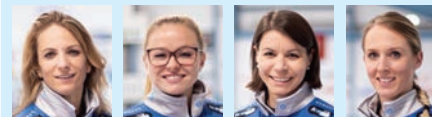
Anna Hasselborg Sara McManus Agnes Knochenhauer Sofia Mabergs

TEAM MUIRHEAD Scotland



Eve Muirhead Jennifer Dodds Vicki Chalmers Lauren Gray

TEAM TIRINZONI Switzerland



Silvana Tirinzoni Alina Pätz Esther Neunshwander Melanie Barbezat

Captain: David Murdoch, Scotland Coach: Fredrik Lindberg, Sweden Assistant coach: Christoffer Svae, Norway

TEAM NORTH AMERICA

TEAM GUSHUE Canada



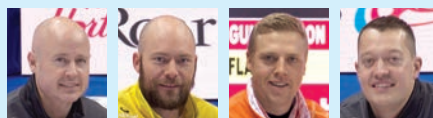
Brad Gushue Mark Nichols Brett Gallant Geoff Walker

TEAM HOMAN Canada



Rachel Homan Emma Miskew Joanne Courtney Lisa Weagle

TEAM KOE Canada



Kevin Koe B.J. Neufeld Colton Flasch Ben Hebert

TEAM JONES Canada



Jennifer Jones Kaitlyn Lawes Jocelyn Peterman Dawn McEwen

TEAM SHUSTER United States



John Shuster Chris Plys Matt Hamilton John Landsteiner

TEAM SINCLAIR United States



Jamie Sinclair Sarah Anderson Taylor Anderson Monica Walker

Captain: Pete Fenson, United States Coach: Jeff Stoughton, Canada Assistant coach: Jill Officer, Canada



HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP PLAYER PROFILES

DECEMBER 5 TO 9, 2018
AFFINITY PLACE
ESTEVAN,
SASKATCHEWAN

TEAM BOTTCHEE Edmonton



Brendan Bottcher



Darren Moulding



Brad Thiessen



Karrick Martin

SKIP: Brendan Bottcher **Born:** December 19, 1991 **Occupation:** Application specialist, Spartan Controls ■ **THIRD:** Darren Moulding **Born:** December 2, 1982 **Occupation:** Head ice technician, Lacombe and Bentley curling clubs/business owner, Pinpoint Roofing ■ **SECOND:** Brad Thiessen **Born:** March 1, 1990 **Occupation:** Web developer, LawDepot ■ **LEAD:** Karrick Martin **Born:** May 24, 1989 **Occupation:** Event and labour supervisor, Government of Alberta

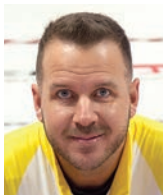
TEAM CARRUTHERS Winnipeg



Reid Carruthers



Mike McEwen



Derek Samagalski



Colin Hodgson

SKIP: Reid Carruthers (third rocks) **Born:** December 30, 1984 **Occupation:** Substitute teacher, Louis Riel School Division ■ **THIRD:** Mike McEwen (fourth rocks) **Born:** July 30, 1980 **Occupation:** Sales representative, Hardline Curling ■ **SECOND:** Derek Samagalski **Born:** September 9, 1984 **Occupation:** Grounds crew, Wheat City Golf Course, Brandon ■ **LEAD:** Colin Hodgson **Born:** June 8, 1990 **Occupation:** Director of operations/owner, Dynasty Curling Ltd.

TEAM EPPING Toronto



John Epping



Mat Camm



Brent Laing



Craig Savill

SKIP: John Epping **Born:** March 20, 1983 **Occupation:** Curling consultant, Epping Consulting ■ **THIRD:** Mat Camm **Born:** March 29, 1990 **Occupation:** Business owner, Camm & Jones Residential Improvements ■ **SECOND:** Brent Laing **Born:** December 10, 1978 **Occupation:** Entrepreneur, World Financial Group ■ **LEAD:** Craig Savill **Born:** October 25, 1978 **Occupation:** Financial consultant, Sun Life Financial

TEAM GUSHUE St. John's, Newfoundland/Labrador



Brad Gushue



Mark Nichols



Brett Gallant



Geoff Walker

SKIP: Brad Gushue **Born:** June 16, 1980 **Occupation:** Business owner, Orangetheory Fitness ■ **THIRD:** Mark Nichols **Born:** January 1, 1980 **Occupation:** Business owner, Orangetheory Fitness ■ **SECOND:** Brett Gallant **Born:** February 18, 1990 **Occupation:** Curler ■ **LEAD:** Geoff Walker **Born:** November 28, 1985 **Occupation:** Turf team, The Derrick Golf and Winter Club

TEAM JACOBS Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario



Brad Jacobs



Ryan Fry



E.J. Harnden



Ryan Harnden

SKIP: Brad Jacobs **Born:** June 11, 1985 **Occupation:** World Financial Group associate ■ **THIRD:** Ryan Fry **Born:** July 25, 1978 **Occupation:** Business owner/curler ■ **SECOND:** E.J. Harnden **Born:** April 14, 1983 **Occupation:** Marketing and channel engagement director ■ **LEAD:** Ryan Harnden **Born:** June 28, 1986 **Occupation:** Sales specialist

TEAM KOE Calgary



Kevin Koe



B.J. Neufeld



Colton Flasch



Ben Hebert

SKIP: Kevin Koe **Born:** January 11, 1975 **Occupation:** Surface landman, Repsol Canada ■ **THIRD:** B.J. Neufeld **Born:** February 28, 1986 **Occupation:** PGA of Canada head golf professional, Larters @ St. Andrews ■ **SECOND:** Colton Flasch **Born:** February 27, 1991 **Occupation:** Construction worker, K&S Contracting ■ **LEAD:** Ben Hebert **Born:** March 16, 1983 **Occupation:** Business development manager, Caltech Surveys

TEAM CAREY Edmonton



Chelsea Carey



Sarah Wilkes



Dana Ferguson



Rachel Brown

SKIP: Chelsea Carey **Born:** September 12, 1984 **Occupation:** Sales representative, The Brick Mattress Store ■ **THIRD:** Sarah Wilkes **Born:** August 4, 1990 **Occupation:** Student advisor, University of Alberta ■ **SECOND:** Dana Ferguson **Born:** February 25, 1987 **Occupation:** Curling development coach, Saville Community Sports Centre ■ **LEAD:** Rachel Brown **Born:** July 9, 1986 **Occupation:** Grade 2 teacher, Black Gold School Division

TEAM EINARSON Gimli, Manitoba



Kerri Einarson



Val Sweeting



Shannon Birchard



Briane Meilleur

SKIP: Kerri Einarson **Born:** October 3, 1987 **Occupation:** Rehabilitation aide, Betel Home Foundation ■ **THIRD:** Val Sweeting **Born:** July 9, 1987 **Occupation:** Case processing agent, Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada ■ **SECOND:** Shannon Birchard **Born:** May 11, 1994 **Occupation:** Administrative assistant, River City Ford ■ **LEAD:** Briane Meilleur **Born:** March 11, 1992 **Occupation:** CAD technician, EuroCraft Office Furnishings

TEAM HOMAN Ottawa



Rachel Homan



Emma Miskew



Joanne Courtney



Lisa Weagle

SKIP: Rachel Homan **Born:** April 5, 1989 **Occupation:** Student ■ **THIRD:** Emma Miskew **Born:** February 14, 1989 **Occupation:** Industrial and graphic designer ■ **SECOND:** Joanne Courtney **Born:** March 7, 1989 **Occupation:** Registered nurse, Alberta Health Services ■ **LEAD:** Lisa Weagle **Born:** March 24, 1985 **Occupation:** Communications advisor

HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP PLAYER PROFILES

TEAM JONES Winnipeg



Jennifer Jones



Kaitlyn Lawes



Jocelyn Peterman



Dawn McEwen

SKIP: Jennifer Jones **Born:** July 7, 1974 **Occupation:** Senior advisor/community ambassador, National Bank Financial ■ **THIRD:** Kaitlyn Lawes **Born:** December 16, 1988 **Occupation:** Goldline ambassador ■ **SECOND:** Jocelyn Peterman **Born:** September 23, 1993 **Occupation:** Kinesiologist ■ **LEAD:** Dawn McEwen **Born:** July 3, 1980 **Occupation:** Case officer, Government of Canada

TEAM ROBERTSON Winnipeg



Darcy Robertson



Karen Klein



Vanessa Foster



Theresa Cannon

SKIP: Darcy Robertson **Born:** March 13, 1965 **Occupation:** Dental hygienist, Lifesmiles Dental Corp ■ **THIRD:** Karen Klein **Born:** September 29, 1974 **Occupation:** Case manager ■ **SECOND:** Vanessa Foster **Born:** October 24, 1980 **Occupation:** Marketing director, Sunova Credit Union ■ **LEAD:** Theresa Cannon **Born:** September 4, 1987 **Occupation:** Lawyer, Government of Manitoba

TEAM SCHEIDEGGER Lethbridge, Alberta



Casey Scheidegger



Cary-Anne McTaggart



Jessie Haughian



Kristie Moore

SKIP: Casey Scheidegger **Born:** January 31, 1988 **Occupation:** Teacher, Palliser Regional Schools ■ **THIRD:** Cary-Anne McTaggart **Born:** June 4, 1986 **Occupation:** Registered nurse, Alberta Health Services ■ **SECOND:** Jessie Haughian **Born:** November 10, 1990 **Occupation:** Ability advisor, Alberta Health Services ■ **LEAD:** Kristie Moore **Born:** April 22, 1979 **Occupation:** Massage therapist, Northwest Wellness Centre, Grand Prairie

TEAM WALKER Calgary



Laura Walker



Cathy Overton-Clapham



Lori Olson-Johns



Laine Peters

SKIP: Laura Walker **Born:** November 19, 1990 **Occupation:** Mortgage broker, Mortgage Design Group ■ **THIRD:** Cathy Overton-Clapham **Born:** July 19, 1969 **Occupation:** Business owner, RSC Inc. ■ **SECOND:** Lori Olson-Johns **Born:** November 24, 1976 **Occupation:** Physical education teacher, St. Albert Public Schools ■ **LEAD:** Laine Peters **Born:** March 24, 1970 **Occupation:** Executive assistant to the president and chief executive officer, Stuart Olson Inc.

Rounding out the field are the next highest non-qualified men's and women's teams on the Canadian Team Ranking System as of November 13, 2018.

HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP DRAW

DATE	TIME	DRAW	A	B	C	D	E
Wednesday, December 5	9 a.m.	1	BOTTCHER vs EPPING	JACOBS vs KOE	CAREY vs ROBERTSON	WALKER vs CTRS	GUSHUE vs CTRS
	2 p.m.	2	JACOBS vs GUSHUE	EPPING vs CARRUTHERS	SCHEIDEGGER vs WALKER	EINARSON vs HOMAN	JONES vs CAREY
	7 p.m.	3	JONES vs ROBERTSON	HOMAN vs SCHEIDEGGER	CARRUTHERS vs BOTTCHER	KOE vs CTRS	EINARSON vs CTRS
Thursday, December 6	9 a.m.	4	HOMAN vs WALKER	EINARSON vs JONES	GUSHUE vs EPPING	SCHEIDEGGER vs CAREY	CARRUTHERS vs JACOBS
	2 p.m.	5	CTRS vs CAREY	ROBERTSON vs WALKER	CTRS vs JACOBS	BOTTCHER vs GUSHUE	KOE vs EPPING
	7 p.m.	6	CARRUTHERS vs KOE	CTRS vs BOTTCHER	ROBERTSON vs EINARSON	HOMAN vs JONES	CTRS vs SCHEIDEGGER
Friday, December 7	9 a.m.	7	EINARSON vs SCHEIDEGGER	JONES vs CTRS	BOTTCHER vs KOE	CTRS vs CARRUTHERS	ROBERTSON vs HOMAN
	2 p.m.	8	GUSHUE vs CARRUTHERS	CAREY vs HOMAN	JONES vs SCHEIDEGGER	EPPING vs JACOBS	WALKER vs EINARSON
	7 p.m.	9	EPPING vs CTRS	KOE vs GUSHUE	WALKER vs CAREY	CTRS vs ROBERTSON	JACOBS vs BOTTCHER
Saturday, December 8	9 a.m.	10	WALKER vs JONES	SCHEIDEGGER vs ROBERTSON	CTRS vs HOMAN	CAREY vs EINARSON	

■ MEN ■ WOMEN

Rounding out the field are the next highest non-qualified men's and women's teams on the Canadian Team Ranking System as of November 13, 2018.

TIEBREAKERS • SEMIFINALS • FINALS

WOMEN'S TIEBREAKERS	Saturday, Dec. 8	2 p.m.	MEN'S TIEBREAKERS	Saturday, Dec. 8	9 a.m.
WOMEN'S SEMIFINAL	Saturday, Dec. 8	7 p.m.	MEN'S SEMIFINAL	Saturday, Dec. 8	2 p.m.
WOMEN'S FINAL	Sunday, Dec. 9	2 p.m.	MEN'S FINAL	Sunday, Dec. 9	7 p.m.

All times listed are Central Standard Time and are subject to change.

2018-19 TSN BROADCAST GUIDE

The broadcast times listed were correct at the time of printing. All times are subject to change.

HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP

December 5 to 9, 2018 ▶ Estevan, Saskatchewan

Round robin

Dec. 5	10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.
Dec. 6	10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.
Dec. 7	10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.
Dec. 8	10 a.m.

Men's semifinal Dec. 8 3 p.m.

Women's semifinal Dec. 8 8 p.m.

Women's final Dec. 9 3 p.m.

Men's final Dec. 9 8 p.m.

WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP CONTINENTAL CUP

January 17 to 20, 2019 ▶ Las Vegas, Nevada

Mixed doubles	Jan. 17	11:30 a.m.
Mixed doubles	Jan. 17	4:30 p.m.
Women's team play	Jan. 17	9:30 p.m.
Mixed doubles	Jan. 18	11:30 a.m.
Mixed doubles	Jan. 18	4:30 p.m.
Men's team play	Jan. 18	9:30 p.m.
Women's scramble	Jan. 19	11:30 a.m.
Men's scramble	Jan. 19	4:30 p.m.
Mixed team play	Jan. 19	9:30 p.m.
Skins	Jan. 20	2 p.m.
Skins	Jan. 20	7 p.m.

NEW HOLLAND CANADIAN JUNIORS

January 19 to 27, 2019 ▶ Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

Women's semifinal Jan. 26 2 p.m.

Men's semifinal Jan. 26 8 p.m.

Women's final Jan. 27 11 a.m.

Men's final Jan. 27 4 p.m.

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

February 15 to 24, 2019 ▶ Sydney, Nova Scotia

Wild-card draw Feb. 15 6:30 p.m.

Pool play

Feb. 16 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 17 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Feb. 18 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 19 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 20 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Pool-play Feb. 21 8:30 a.m.

tiebreakers

Championship round Feb. 21 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 22 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 8:30 a.m.

Championship-round

tiebreakers

Page playoffs

Feb. 23 1:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Semifinal

Feb. 24 11 a.m.

Final

Feb. 24 5 p.m.

TIM HORTONS BRIER

March 1 to 10, 2019 ▶ Brandon, Manitoba

Wild-card draw Mar. 1 8 p.m.

Pool play

Mar. 2 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 3 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 4 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 5 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 6 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Pool-play Mar. 7 10 a.m.

tiebreakers

Championship round Mar. 7 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 8 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Mar. 9 10 a.m.

Championship-round

tiebreakers

Page playoffs Mar. 9 3 p.m., 8 p.m.

Semifinal Mar. 10 2 p.m.

Final Mar. 10 8 p.m.

TSN will also provide complete coverage of the World Women's Curling Championship and the Pioneer Hi-Bred World Men's Curling Championship. Visit curling.ca for the most up-to-date broadcast times.

All times listed are Eastern Standard Time.

Life's defining
moments, **protected.**



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