

MONTANA'S BRIER SOUVENIR PROGRAM

EXTRA END

PROGRAMME SOUVENIR LE BRIER MONTANA'S



REGINA 2024

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MARCH 1 TO 10, 2024 | BRANDT CENTRE | REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN | 1 AU 10 MARS 2024



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gears up for another run at
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REGINA 2024

presented by
AGI

EXTRA END

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SEASON OF CHAMPIONS

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On behalf of the Montana's BBQ & Bar restaurant network across Canada, we are thrilled to welcome you to the inaugural Montana's Brier. It's an honour to serve as the title sponsor of such an iconic event and look forward to bringing Canada's Home for BBQ to the Montana's Brier for years to come.

Watching as curling fans from coast to coast gather for the most historic and infamous curling tournament in the world, we've quickly learned that the roarin' game is like no other sport in Canada. The passion is more than what we could have ever imagined and we're excited to join the curling community. Whether you're a BBQ-loving Guest who dines at one of our restaurants or a proud Canadian cheering on their team, we're right here with you!

Along with the other affiliated partners, we're proud to support Curling Canada's Season of Champions. Thank you for joining us and enjoy the end to end action as we crown the 95th Brier champion in 2024!



Mark Sozanski & Yianni Fountas
Chief Operating Officer & Head of Marketing
Montana's BBQ & Bar



A person is seen from behind, cross-country skiing on a snowy trail. They are wearing a green jacket, black pants, and a red backpack. The trail is surrounded by snow-covered evergreen trees, and the sun is shining through the branches, creating a warm, golden glow. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

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Au nom du réseau de restaurants Montana's BBQ & Bar d'un bout à l'autre du Canada, nous sommes ravis de vous souhaiter la bienvenue à la première édition du Brier Montana's. C'est un honneur pour nous d'être le commanditaire en titre d'un événement aussi emblématique et nous nous réjouissons à l'idée que la chaîne de barbecue préférée des Canadiens fera partie du Brier Montana's pour les années à venir.

En voyant les amateurs de curling d'un océan à l'autre se rassembler pour le tournoi de curling le plus historique et le plus célèbre au monde, nous avons rapidement compris que le curling est un sport unique au Canada. La passion qu'il suscite dépasse tout ce que nous aurions pu imaginer et nous sommes ravis de nous joindre à la communauté du curling. Que vous soyez un invité amateur de barbecue qui prend un repas dans l'un de nos restaurants ou un fier Canadien qui encourage son équipe, nous sommes ici avec vous.

À l'instar d'autres partenaires affiliés, nous sommes fiers de soutenir la Saison des Champions de Curling Canada. Merci de vous joindre à nous et de profiter du spectacle de bout en bout alors que nous couronnerons les 95^{es} champions du Brier en 2024.



Mark Sozanski et Yianni Fountas
Directeur de l'exploitation et chef du marketing
Montana's BBQ & Bar



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everyone attending the
2024 Montana's Brier
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Montana's Brier



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COMMANDITAIRE PRÉSENTATEUR DU BRIER MONTANA'S 2024



Welcome to the 2024 Montana's Brier, presented by AGI.

AGI's sponsorship reflects our deep ties to rural communities, where many farmers and agri-food customers have roots in local curling. The Brier provides a platform to honour our agricultural heritage and introduce AGI to a wider audience.

Like farmers, curlers embody excellence, dedicating countless hours to their craft. Many come from rural towns, mirroring the dedication of our farmers who work tirelessly to feed us. AGI, sharing a commitment to excellence, provides the equipment and technologies farmers depend on to meet the demands of a changing world.

Let the championship begin—a celebration of sport, community, and the shared pursuit of excellence. Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey.

Dave Poppel

Regional Sales Director, Prairie East

Bienvenue au Brier Montana's 2024, présenté par AGI.

La commandite d'AGI reflète nos liens profonds avec les communautés rurales, où de nombreux agriculteurs et clients agroalimentaires ont des racines dans le curling local. Le Brier offre une plateforme pour honorer notre patrimoine agricole et présenter AGI à un public plus large.

Tout comme les agriculteurs, les curleurs incarnent l'excellence et consacrent d'innombrables heures à leur sport. Beaucoup viennent de villes rurales, reflétant le dévouement de nos agriculteurs qui travaillent sans relâche pour nous nourrir. Partageant un engagement envers l'excellence, AGI fournit les équipements et les technologies dont dépendent les agriculteurs pour répondre aux demandes d'un monde en évolution.

Place au championnat – une célébration du sport, de la communauté et de la poursuite commune de l'excellence. Merci de vous joindre à nous pour cet événement emballant.

Dave Poppel

Directeur régional des ventes, Prairie Est



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MESSAGES



I AM PLEASED TO EXTEND MY warmest greetings to everyone taking part in the 2024 Montana's Brier, being held in Regina, Saskatchewan.

This event brings together the top men's curling teams from across the country to compete in the 95th edition of the championship. I am sure that everyone in attendance will be treated to a remarkable display of precision,

skill and strategy over the course of the next 10 days.

I would like to congratulate the teams who have qualified for this tournament and wish them the best of luck. I would also like to thank Curling Canada and the volunteers whose hard work and dedication ensure the success of this event, as well as the citizens of Regina for their warm hospitality.

Please accept my best wishes for an exciting and memorable competition.

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT of Saskatchewan, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the Brandt Centre in Regina for the 2024 Montana's Brier.

Curling is truly at the heart of sports in Canada and the spirit of the game is always evident here in Saskatchewan. We pride ourselves on being some of the most passionate and enthusiastic fans, and Saskatchewan is ready to

warmly welcome all the spectators and teams taking part in this exciting event.

High-level curling brings us all together for the love of the game. From March 1 to 10, 2024, families and friends across the nation will have their eyes set on these remarkable athletes who will showcase their skill and endurance while proudly representing their hometowns and provinces.

I would also like to thank the organizers, sponsors, staff and numerous volunteers for making this much anticipated event possible.

Again, welcome to our "Queen City" and let the competition begin!

Scott Moe
Premier of Saskatchewan

JE SUIS HEUREUX DE PRÉSENTER MES

salutations les plus chaleureuses à toutes les personnes qui prennent part au Montana's Brier, à Régina.

Les meilleures équipes masculines de curling de partout au pays seront en compétition dans le cadre de ce 95^e championnat. Je suis convaincu que tous les spectateurs assisteront à une démonstration remarquable de précision, de talent et de stratégie au cours des 10 prochains jours.

Je félicite toutes les équipes qui se sont qualifiées et je leur souhaite la meilleure des chances. Je tiens également à remercier Curling Canada et les bénévoles dont le travail acharné et le dévouement assurent le succès de cet événement, ainsi que les citoyens de Régina pour leur chaleureux accueil.

Je vous souhaite un championnat aussi palpitant qu'inoubliable.

Le très hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, C.P., député
Premier ministre du Canada

AU NOM DU GOUVERNEMENT DE LA SASKATCHEWAN,

il me fait plaisir de vous souhaiter la bienvenue au Centre Brandt à Régina pour le Brier Montana's 2024.

Le curling est véritablement un sport emblématique au Canada et son esprit est toujours évident ici en Saskatchewan. Nous sommes fiers d'être parmi les partisans les plus passionnés et les plus enthousiastes, et la Saskatchewan est prête à accueillir chaleureusement tous les spectateurs et équipes participant à cet événement passionnant.

Le curling de haut niveau nous unit tous par l'amour du jeu. Du 1^{er} au 10 mars 2024, des familles et amis de partout au pays auront les yeux rivés sur ces athlètes remarquables qui mettront en valeur leurs habiletés et leur endurance tout en représentant fièrement leur ville et leur province d'origine.

Je tiens également à remercier les organisateurs, les commanditaires, les membres du personnel et les nombreux bénévoles qui ont rendu possible cet événement tant attendu.

Encore une fois, bienvenue dans notre « Ville Reine » et place à la compétition!

Scott Moe
Premier ministre de la Saskatchewan

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Hurry hard... but not too hard.



ON BEHALF OF MY CITY COUNCIL

colleagues and the City of Regina, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the 2024 Montana's Brier.

Curling has played an integral role in our sports community for well over a century. Many of our residents continue to enjoy the excitement that the sport of curling has to offer, and we are honoured

to host this event in our city.

Regina takes great pride in our dedicated volunteers and organizers. Their hard work is key to ensuring the success of our events. We are fortunate to have individuals who are passionate about our curling community, and we thank them for their commitment to this year's Montana's Brier.

For those who have travelled to Regina, I encourage you to explore some of our city's attractions. Enjoy the views of Wascana Park, visit the RCMP Heritage Centre on the land where Mounties have trained since 1885, or explore the booming craft brewing scene in our historic Warehouse District. With many unique shops and world-class restaurants, you will surely discover the warm and friendly spirit Regina is known for.

I wish all the curlers the best of luck — have a great tournament!

Sandra Masters

Mayor, City of Regina



IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO

deliver greetings and the very best of luck on behalf of Curling Canada's Board of Governors to everyone competing in, and attending, the 2024 Montana's Brier, presented by AGI, in Regina.

It is a particularly significant Brier in 2024 as it marks the first year of what we already know will be a wonderful and

productive partnership with our new title sponsor, Montana's BBQ & Bar. We couldn't be more thankful, and we look forward to many years of working together to make the Brier the best men's curling event in the world.

To our volunteers, our amazing Regina Organizing Committee, and Curling Canada's national staff, ice technicians, statisticians and umpires, a sincere and heartfelt 'thank you' for all of your efforts in making the 2024 Montana's Brier an outstanding event, on and off the ice.

The sacrifices made by the families and employers of the athletes and coaches who are competing here this week also need to be acknowledged. My thanks to all of you.

My wish is that you take home with you the spirit of fellowship and accomplishment that will be a constant theme of the 2024 Montana's Brier. Good curling to all of you!

Michael Szajewski

Chair, Curling Canada Board of Governors

AU NOM DE MES COLLÈGUES DU CONSEIL MUNICIPAL

et de la ville de Regina, j'ai le plaisir de vous souhaiter la bienvenue au Brier Montana's 2024.

Le curling fait partie intégrante de notre communauté sportive depuis plus d'un siècle. Un grand nombre de nos résidents apprécient toujours l'enthousiasme que suscite le sport du curling, et nous sommes honorés d'accueillir cet événement dans notre ville.

Regina est très fière de ses bénévoles et organisateurs dévoués. Leur travail acharné est essentiel pour assurer le succès de nos événements. Nous avons la chance de pouvoir compter sur des personnes passionnées par notre communauté de curling et nous les remercions de leur engagement envers le Brier Montana's de cette année.

À ceux qui sont en visite à Regina, je vous encourage à découvrir certaines des attractions de notre ville. Admirez les vues du parc Wascana, visitez le Centre du patrimoine de la GRC sur le terrain où les membres de la gendarmerie royale s'entraînent depuis 1885, ou explorez la scène brassicole artisanale en plein essor dans notre quartier historique de Warehouse District. Grâce à la présence de nombreuses boutiques uniques et restaurants de classe mondiale, vous découvrirez certainement l'esprit chaleureux et amical qui fait la réputation de Regina.

Je souhaite à tous les curleurs la meilleure des chances et un excellent tournoi!

Sandra Masters

Mairesse, Ville de Regina

C'EST AVEC GRAND PLAISIR QUE JE SOUHAITE LA

bienvenue et la meilleure des chances, au nom du Conseil des gouverneurs de Curling Canada, à tous ceux qui participent et assistent au Brier Montana's 2024, présenté par AGI, à Regina.

Le Brier 2024 a une signification particulière, car il marque la première année de ce qui, nous le savons déjà, sera un partenariat merveilleux et productif avec notre nouveau commanditaire en titre, Montana's BBQ & Bar. Nous ne pourrions être plus reconnaissants et nous nous réjouissons à l'idée de travailler ensemble pendant de nombreuses années afin de faire du Brier le meilleur événement de curling masculin au monde.

À nos bénévoles, à notre formidable comité d'organisation de Regina, au personnel national de Curling Canada, aux techniciens de glace, aux statisticiens et aux arbitres, un merci sincère et chaleureux pour tous les efforts déployés afin de faire du Brier Montana's 2024 un événement exceptionnel, sur et en dehors de la glace.

Les sacrifices consentis par les familles et les employeurs des athlètes et des entraîneurs qui concourent ici cette semaine doivent également être reconnus. Je remercie chacun d'entre vous.

Je vous souhaite de rentrer à la maison avec l'esprit de camaraderie et d'accomplissement qui sera le thème constant du Brier Montana's 2024. Bon curling à tous!

Michael Szajewski,

Président du Conseil des gouverneurs, Curling Canada



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TÂN'SI, NITÔTÊMAK

(Hello, my friends),

On behalf of Kahkewistahâw First Nation, my fellow leaders, and community, I want to welcome all visitors gathered here for the 2024 Brier in Treaty 4 territory.

People might think Canada's game is hockey or football, but taking in a bonspiel here shows that curling is a top contender. The majority of the world's curlers (and fans) are Canadian, many of them gathered here this week. The Scotties and the Brier take this game up a notch, with

elite teams from all the provinces and territories competing to be Canada's representative at the World Curling Championships.

Curling is a sport built on Saskatchewan and Canadian values: sportsmanship, teamwork, and community. Every night across the prairies, curlers and fans of all ages and levels gather in rinks, large and small, to have good times with their friends and neighbours. Anyone can play, and all are welcome.

2024 marks the fourth time Regina has hosted the Brier – this city LOVES curling. The whole province is crazy about curling, and there's no doubt about the devotion to Saskatchewan's official sport when you look around our rinks. Saskatchewan has produced many of the greatest men's and women's curlers in the history of the sport, and I know you won't find a volunteer and fan base like you will here at Regina's Brandt Centre this weekend (and watching from home).

On behalf of the Indigenous peoples who live in Saskatchewan, stay safe, may the Brier Patch be sociable and the best team win.

ka-wâpamitonaw âsay mîna (We'll see each other again).

Chief Evan B. Taypotat

Kahkewistahaw First Nation

TÂN'SI, NITÔTÊMAK

(Bonjour, mes amis),

Au nom de la Première Nation de Kahkewistahâw, de mes collègues dirigeants et de la communauté, je souhaite la bienvenue à tous les visiteurs rassemblés ici pour le Brier Montana's 2024 sur le territoire du Traité 4.

Les gens pourraient penser que le sport préféré des Canadiens est le hockey ou le football, mais assister à un tournoi ici montre que le curling est un concurrent de premier plan. La majorité des curleurs (et des partisans) du monde sont canadiens, et bon nombre d'entre eux sont réunis ici cette semaine. Le Tournoi des Cœurs Scotties et le Brier Montana's amènent ce sport à un niveau supérieur, avec des équipes d'élite de toutes les provinces et territoires s'affrontant pour représenter le Canada aux championnats du monde de curling.

Le curling est un sport qui représente les valeurs saskatchewanaises et canadiennes : l'esprit sportif, le travail d'équipe et la communauté. Chaque jour, partout dans les Prairies, des curleurs et des amateurs de tous âges et de tous niveaux se rassemblent dans les clubs, grands et petits, pour passer de bons moments avec leurs amis et voisins. Tout le monde peut jouer et tous sont les bienvenus.

En 2024, Regina accueille le Brier pour la quatrième fois – cette ville ADORE le curling. La province entière est folle de curling, et le dévouement envers le sport officiel de la Saskatchewan est en évidence dans tous nos clubs. La Saskatchewan a produit plusieurs des meilleurs curleurs et curleuses de l'histoire, et je sais que vous ne trouverez nulle part ailleurs des bénévoles et des partisans comme ceux que vous croiserez au Centre Brandt de Regina ce week-end (ou que vous verrez à la télévision).

Au nom des peuples autochtones qui vivent en Saskatchewan, restez en sécurité, souhaitons que le Patch du Brier soit sociable, et que la meilleure équipe gagne.

ka-wâpamitonaw âsay mîna (Nous nous reverrons).

Chef Evan B. Taypotat

Première Nation de Kahkewistahâw





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WELCOME TO REGINA BIENVENUE À RÉGINA



Terri Klyne,
Shannon England
and/et
Brendan Manz

CURL REGINA AND THE HOST COMMITTEE ARE extremely excited to welcome the inaugural edition of the Montana's Brier to Regina and are honoured to host this national championship for the sixth time. The local curling community has risen to the challenge in hosting major curling events for more than 60 years dating back to the 1955 Macdonald Brier.

The best male curlers that Canada has to offer will be in Regina and it is the pleasure to welcome you to the Queen City and anticipate that the event will be a wonderful experience for everyone involved. The Brandt Centre will undoubtedly play host to first-class shotmaking, celebrated by engaged and enthusiastic fans. In addition to the world-class curling, all participants and fans alike are invited to socialize in the world famous Brier Patch and take time to explore the many attractions Regina has to offer.

A heartfelt 'thank you' is extended to all the volunteers who are the backbone of hosting an event with the magnitude of the Brier. The volunteers continually answer the call by giving so generously of their time and talents to ensure another successful curling championship will be realized and events such as this could not be hosted without the volunteers' commitment and enthusiasm.

'Thank you' to the funding and corporate sponsors for their commitment and to those who guided the Committee throughout the planning, preparation and execution phases. A special mention is also made to those individuals, partners and organizations who work tirelessly behind the scenes in many capacities to make this event a huge success.

Finally, a 'big thank' you to the curling fans. It is your enthusiasm and continued support that make these events successful. Whether you are from across the street, the province or the country, you are welcome here in Regina and we hope you have a great time!

It has been our pleasure to serve as the Vice Chairs for the 2024 Montana's Brier in Regina. We hope you enjoy your Brier experience. Play hard, cheer hard, work hard and party hard!

Terri Klyne, Shannon England and Brendan Manz
Vice Chairs, 2024 Montana's Brier

CURL REGINA ET LE COMITÉ HÔTE SONT EXTRÊMEMENT heureux d'accueillir l'édition inaugurale du Brier Montana's à Regina et sont honorés d'organiser ce championnat national pour la sixième fois. La communauté locale du curling relève le défi que représente l'organisation des grands événements de curling depuis plus de 60 ans, depuis le Brier Macdonald de 1955.

Les meilleurs curleurs du Canada seront à Regina et c'est un plaisir de vous accueillir dans la Ville Reine. Nous espérons que l'événement sera une expérience merveilleuse pour toutes les personnes impliquées. Le Centre Brandt sera sans aucun doute le théâtre de coups inoubliables, célébrés par des partisans engagés et enthousiastes. En plus du curling de classe mondiale, tous les participants et les partisans sont invités à socialiser au célèbre Patch du Brier et à prendre le temps d'explorer les nombreuses attractions que Regina a à offrir.

Un « merci » sincère est adressé à tous les bénévoles qui sont l'épine dorsale de l'organisation d'un événement de l'ampleur du Brier Montana's. Les bénévoles répondent continuellement à l'appel en donnant si généreusement de leur temps et en offrant leurs compétences pour assurer l'organisation d'un autre championnat de curling couronnés de succès et des événements comme celui-ci ne pourraient être organisés sans l'engagement et l'enthousiasme des bénévoles.

« Merci » aux commanditaires financiers et corporatifs pour leur engagement ainsi qu'à ceux qui ont orienté le comité d'organisation tout au long des phases de planification, de préparation et d'exécution. Une mention spéciale est également accordée aux individus, partenaires et organismes qui travaillent sans relâche en coulisses à de nombreux titres pour faire de cet événement un immense succès.

Enfin, un « énorme merci » aux amateurs de curling. C'est votre enthousiasme et votre soutien continu qui font le succès de ces événements. Que vous veniez de l'autre côté de la rue, de la province ou d'ailleurs au pays, vous êtes les bienvenus ici à Regina et nous espérons que vous passerez un agréable séjour!

C'est un plaisir pour nous d'être les vice-présidents du Brier Montana's 2024 à Regina. Nous espérons que vous apprécierez votre expérience du Brier Montana's. Donnez le meilleur de vous-mêmes, applaudissez à tout rompre, travaillez dur et faites la fête!

Terri Klyne, Shannon England et Brendan Manz
Vice-présidents, Brier Montana's 2024

2024 MONTANA'S BRIER

SCHEDULE OF

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
FRIDAY, MARCH 1	5 p.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	6 p.m.	Draw #1	Brandt Centre
	9:30 p.m.	Original I6 Kick Off Party featuring The Reklaws Presented by Montana's BBQ & Bar, Great Western Brewing and Access Storage	Viterra International Trade Centre
SATURDAY, MARCH 2	Noon	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	1 p.m.	Draw #2	Brandt Centre
	4:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	6 p.m.	Draw #3	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Wonderland	Viterra International Trade Centre
SUNDAY, MARCH 3	9 a.m.	Draw #4	Brandt Centre
	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	12:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	2 p.m.	Draw #5	Brandt Centre
	4:00 p.m.	Regina Farmers' Market (open until 8:00 p.m.)	Ag-Ex Building
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #6	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Brayden King	Viterra International Trade Centre
MONDAY, MARCH 4	9 a.m.	Draw #7	Brandt Centre
	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	12:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	2 p.m.	Draw #8	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #9	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: JJ Voss	Viterra International Trade Centre
TUESDAY, MARCH 5	9 a.m.	Draw #10	Brandt Centre
	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	2 p.m.	Draw #11	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #12	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: One More Time	Viterra International Trade Centre





EVENTS



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DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6	9 a.m.	Draw #13	Brandt Centre
	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	2 p.m.	Draw #14	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Up Close & Personal	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #15	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Tequila Mockingbird	Viterra International Trade Centre
THURSDAY, MARCH 7  	9 a.m.	Draw #16	Brandt Centre
	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	2 p.m.	Draw #17	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: TBD	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #18	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Amy Nelson	Viterra International Trade Centre
FRIDAY, MARCH 8	Noon	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	1 p.m.	Draw #19 Page 1/2 Qualifier	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: TBD	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #20 Page 3/4 Qualifier	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Fodog	Viterra International Trade Centre
SATURDAY, MARCH 9	Noon	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	1 p.m.	Draw #21 Page 3v4	Brandt Centre
	5:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: TBD	Viterra International Trade Centre
	7 p.m.	Draw #22 Page 1v2	Brandt Centre
	10:30 p.m.	Original I6 Patch - Live Entertainment: Men Without Shame	Viterra International Trade Centre
SUNDAY, MARCH 10	11 a.m.	Original I6 Patch Opens	Viterra International Trade Centre
	Noon	Draw #23 - SEMIFINAL	Brandt Centre
	6 p.m.	Draw #24 FINAL	Brandt Centre
	7 p.m.	Original I6 Patch Closes	Viterra International Trade Centre
		Post Final Medal and Trophy Presentation	Brandt Centre

**Schedule is subject to change ~ all times are Central Standard Time*

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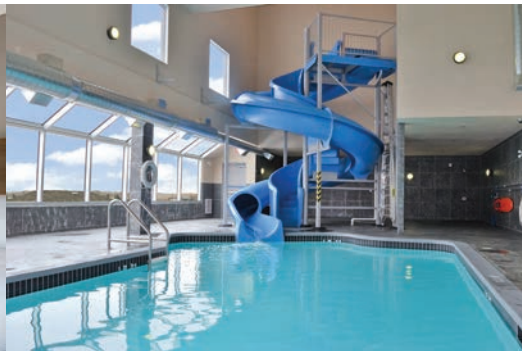
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TIM HORTONS BRIER PRESENTED BY AGI

Budweiser Gardens » London, Ontario » March 3 to 12, 2023



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

There were a lot of fingers in the air indicating the number of Brier titles accumulated individually by the winners in Ottawa. The joyous champs, representing Team Canada but based in St. John's, N.L., (from left): skip Brad Gushue, third Mark Nichols, second E.J. Harden, lead Geoff Walker and coach Caleb Flaxey.

SKIP BRAD GUSHUE AVOIDED

talking about a possible record-breaking fifth Canadian Men's Curling Championship all week in London, Ont., as he worked his way through the 2023 Tim Hortons Brier, presented by AGI.

But when it was all over he could no longer hold his tongue.

Gushue set the high-water mark for skips at the Brier by defeating Team Manitoba, skipped by Matt Dunstone, 7-5 in the final at Budweiser Gardens before a full and curling-savvy crowd, and a Canada-wide audience on TSN.

There may be more titles to come, but for the 43-year-old skip from St. John's, N.L., who has battled through a nagging hip issue, this will be one to savour.

Gushue earned his fifth Tankard title as a skip, breaking him out of a logjam of legends — Ernie Richardson, Kevin Koe, Randy Ferbey and Kevin Martin — and up into a galaxy all his own.

Vice-skip Mark Nichols and lead Geoff Walker also earned their fifth national titles,

while second E.J. Harnden won his second Brier championship after joining the team in the off-season. Canada is rounded out by coach Caleb Flaxey.

"It never gets old winning," said Gushue, who had to draw the four-foot facing two to win.

Gushue said the fifth win as a skip was "cool" but was most happy for his team and newcomer Harnden.

"To be honest, when E.J. came on to the team he wanted to get this [win] in," said Gushue. "He's had so many runs when he played with (former skip) Brad Jacobs. But this was a team win."

The win propelled Gushue and Co. to the 2023 BKT Tires & OK Tire World Men's Curling Championship in Ottawa where they won the silver medal.

Gushue stole a single in the 10th end the night before in the Page 1v2 playoff against Team Manitoba, and knew his team would be in for another dogfight.

It was a battle of the two best teams and two best skips during the week. Teams

Gushue and Dunstone won their respective pools and were deserving of being the last teams standing.

It was more of the same in the final as Team Canada dictated the action, putting pressure on the Manitobans. After a blanked first end, the teams exchanged singles to make it 3-3 after seven ends.

The crack in the porcelain didn't come until the eighth when Gushue put together a wonderfully constructed end, resulting in three points to take a 6-3 lead.

Dunstone, playing in his fifth Brier but first for Manitoba, gave it the old college try, scoring two in the ninth, and had two counters in the rings in the 10th, but Gushue had the hammer and used it to draw the four-foot.



Manitoba's Matt Dunstone (front) won a huge semifinal match against Wild Card #1 Brendan Bottcher to vault into his first Brier final.



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"I trusted it, I made it," said Gushue, who was voted the Hec Gervais Most Valuable Playoff Award for his performance in the playoffs. "I was overthrowing them a little bit in that game and I was trying not to overthrow it, even with the adrenaline. So I threw it a little soft. It was just like 'don't pick, don't pick' and it stopped at the back of the button."

Gushue gave credit to Dunstone and his teammates.

"It felt like any blink was going to lose that game," he said. "We got them in the eighth end and just hung on. They played so strong. They're an incredible team and they're going to win this very soon."

The loss was a huge disappointment for Dunstone and Team Manitoba (vice-skip B.J. Neufeld, second Colton Lott, lead Ryan



With the crowd inside Budweiser Gardens firmly on their side, locals Jake Higgs and Brady St. Louis helped lead Team Nunavut to a historic first win at the 2023 Brier, defeating Nathan Young's Newfoundland and Labrador 7-4.

FINAL

Team Canada (Brad Gushue)*	010 101 030 1 —7
Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)	001 010 102 0 —5

* — Last-rock advantage

PERCENTAGES

Team Canada	PCT.	Manitoba	PCT.
Brad Gushue	91	Matt Dunstone	88
Mark Nichols	85	B.J. Neufeld	79
E.J. Harnden	86	Colton Lott	75
Geoff Walker	85	Ryan Harnden	91
Team Totals	87	Team Totals	83

Round-robin

Pool A

	W	L
Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)**	8	0
Alberta (Kevin Koe)**	7	1
Northern Ontario (Darren Moulding)**	6	2
Saskatchewan (Kelly Knapp)	4	4
Wild Card #2 (Reid Carruthers)	4	4
Nova Scotia (Matthew Manuel)	3	5
Newfoundland/Labrador (Nathan Young)	2	6
Northwest Territories (Jamie Koe)	1	7
Nunavut (Jake Higgs)	1	7

Pool B

	W	L
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)**	7	1
Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)**	7	1
Ontario (Mike McEwen)**	6	2
Québec (Félix Asselin)	5	3
British Columbia (Jacques Gauthier)	3	5
Wild Card #3 (Karsten Sturmay)	3	5
Yukon (Thomas Scoffin)	2	6
P.E.I. (Tyler Smith)	2	6
New Brunswick (Scott Jones)	1	7

** — Top three teams in each group advanced to playoffs

Championship round

Semifinals

Alberta (Kevin Koe)*	003 020 201 0 —8
Ontario (Mike McEwen)	000 302 020 2 —9
Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)*	103 110 100 1 —8
Northern Ontario (Darren Moulding)	020 001 011 0 —5

Finals

Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)*	001 000 100 3 —5
Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)	010 100 001 0 —3
Ontario (Mike McEwen)	020 000 10x x —3
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)*	003 320 01x x —9

Page playoffs

1 v. 2

Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)*	102 010 000 0 —4
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	010 201 000 1 —5

3 v. 4

Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)*	101 002 011 x —6
Ontario (Mike McEwen)	010 100 100 x —3

Semifinal

Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)*	020 020 100 2 —7
Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)	002 102 000 0 —5

* — Last-rock advantage

FINAL STANDINGS

Playoffs

	W	L
Team Canada (Brad Gushue)	3	0
Manitoba (Matt Dunstone)	2	2
Wild Card #1 (Brendan Bottcher)	2	2
Ontario (Mike McEwen)	1	2
Alberta (Kevin Koe)	0	1
Northern Ontario (Darren Moulding)	0	1

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Harnden and coach Adam Kingsbury) representing the Fort Rouge Curling Club in Winnipeg who had played so brilliantly throughout the week. It was a chance to bring Manitoba back into the winner's circle at the Tim Hortons Brier for the first time since 2011 when Jeff Stoughton turned the trick, also in London.

"Really proud of my team. We were down and out after the eighth end and made them throw a tough shot to win the Brier," said Dunstone who advanced to the final earlier in the day by stealing a 7-5 semifinal victory over Team Wild Card #1, skipped by Brendan Bottcher, from The Glenoe Club in Calgary.

Other teams making the playoffs were skipped by Ontario's Mike McEwen,

Darren Moulding of Northern Ontario, and Alberta's Koe.

The event was also the breakout appearance of two up-and-coming teams skipped by Matthew Manuel of Nova Scotia and British Columbia's Jacques Gauthier.

Stealing the spotlight, at least for one day, was Jake Higgs and his team from Nunavut. Higgs guided his team to a 7-4 victory over Newfoundland and Labrador's Nathan Young in Draw 2 for the territory's first-ever win at the Canadian Men's Curling Championship.

"I have been a competitive curler for a long time," Higgs said. "I got to go to the Olympics as a coach but this [win] in front of this crowd today, it was the best moment of my curling life."

ALL-STAR TEAMS

First-team all-stars

Skip	Matt Dunstone, Manitoba
Third	B.J. Neufeld, Manitoba
Second	Brett Gallant, Wild Card #1
Lead	Ben Hebert, Wild Card #1

Second-team all-stars

Skip	Brad Gushue, Team Canada
Third	Tyler Tardi, Alberta
Second	Brent Laing, Ontario
Lead	Geoff Walker, Team Canada



Sharp shooting helped these players make the first all-star team, including (from left): Matt Dunstone, B.J. Neufeld, Brett Gallant and Ben Hebert.



ROSS HARSTONE AWARD

Team Saskatchewan skip Kelly Knapp was the winner of the 2023 Ross Harstone Award, whose recipient is selected by the players. The award is presented to the curler who best combines playing ability and sportsmanship. Making the presentation was Gerry Peckham, former High Performance Director of Curling Canada.



CURLING CANADA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

For four decades, Jeff Northey has been a member of the Forestburg Curling Club, a three-hour drive northeast of Calgary.

And when it comes to giving back to the sport of curling, and his home club in particular, Northey has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow members for his volunteer efforts on and off the ice.

His latest projects took place during the 2021-22 season. Among the projects he oversaw and contributed to were installing a new cement ice floor for the three-sheet rink, rebuilding walkways and installing insulation, a vapour barrier, pipes and rebar for the cement floor.

And on top of that he was the project manager for the installation of a new ice plant when the old plant failed in January 2022.

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CANADIAN MEN'S CHAMPIONS

2023	Team Canada	Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker
2022	Wild Card #1	Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker
2021	Alberta	Brendan Bottcher, Darren Moulding, Brad Thiessen, Karrick Martin
2020	N.L.	Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker
2019	Alberta	Kevin Koe, B.J. Neufeld, Colton Flasch, Ben Hebert
2018	Team Canada	Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker
2017	N.L.	Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant, Geoff Walker
2016	Alberta	Kevin Koe, Marc Kennedy, Brent Laing, Ben Hebert
2015	Team Canada	Pat Simmons, John Morris, Carter Rycroft, Nolan Thiessen
2014	Alberta	Kevin Koe, Pat Simmons, Carter Rycroft, Nolan Thiessen
2013	Northern Ontario	Brad Jacobs, Ryan Fry, E.J. Harnden, Ryan Harnden
2012	Ontario	Glenn Howard, Wayne Middaugh, Brent Laing, Craig Savill
2011	Manitoba	Jeff Stoughton, Jon Mead, Reid Carruthers, Steve Gould
2010	Alberta	Kevin Koe, Blake MacDonald, Carter Rycroft, Nolan Thiessen
2009	Alberta	Kevin Martin, John Morris, Marc Kennedy, Ben Hebert
2008	Alberta	Kevin Martin, John Morris, Marc Kennedy, Ben Hebert
2007	Ontario	Glenn Howard, Richard Hart, Brent Laing, Craig Savill
2006	Quebec	Jean-Michel Ménard, François Roberge, Éric Sylvain, Maxime Elmaleh
2005	Alberta	Randy Ferbey, David Nedohin, Scott Pfeifer, Marcel Rocque
2004	Nova Scotia	Mark Dacey, Bruce Lohnes, Rob Harris, Andrew Gibson
2003	Alberta	Randy Ferbey, David Nedohin, Scott Pfeifer, Marcel Rocque
2002	Alberta	Randy Ferbey, David Nedohin, Scott Pfeifer, Marcel Rocque
2001	Alberta	Randy Ferbey, David Nedohin, Scott Pfeifer, Marcel Rocque
2000	British Columbia	Greg McAulay, Brent Pierce, Bryan Miki, Jody Sveistrup
1999	Manitoba	Jeff Stoughton, Jonathan Mead, Garry Van Den Berghe, Doug Armstrong
1998	Ontario	Wayne Middaugh, Graeme McCarrel, Ian Tetley, Scott Bailey
1997	Alberta	Kevin Martin, Don Walchuk, Rudy Ramcharan, Don Bartlett
1996	Manitoba	Jeff Stoughton, Ken Tresoor, Garry Van Den Berghe, Steve Gould
1995	Manitoba	Kerry Burtnyk, Jeff Ryan, Rob Meakin, Keith Fenton
1994	British Columbia	Rick Folk, Pat Ryan, Bert Gretzinger, Gerry Richard
1993	Ontario	Russ Howard, Glenn Howard, Wayne Middaugh, Peter Corner
1992	Manitoba	Vic Peters, Dan Carey, Chris Neufeld, Don Rudd
1991	Alberta	Kevin Martin, Kevin Park, Dan Petryk, Don Bartlett
1990	Ontario	Ed Werenich, John Kawaja, Ian Tetley, Pat Perroud
1989	Alberta	Pat Ryan, Randy Ferbey, Don Walchuk, Don McKenzie
1988	Alberta	Pat Ryan, Randy Ferbey, Don Walchuk, Don McKenzie
1987	Ontario	Russ Howard, Glenn Howard, Tim Belcourt, Kent Carstairs
1986	Alberta	Ed Lukowich, John Ferguson, Neil Houston, Brent Syme
1985	Northern Ontario	Al Hackner, Rick Lang, Ian Tetley, Pat Perroud
1984	Manitoba	Mike Riley, Brian Toews, John Helston, Russ Wookey
1983	Ontario	Ed Werenich, Paul Savage, John Kawaja, Neil Harrison
1982	Northern Ontario	Al Hackner, Rick Lang, Bob Nicol, Bruce Kennedy
1981	Manitoba	Kerry Burtnyk, Mark Olson, Jim Spencer, Ron Kammerlock
1980	Saskatchewan	Rick Folk, Ron Mills, Tom Wilson, Jim Wilson
1979	Manitoba	Barry Fry, Bill Carey, Gord Sparkes, Bryan Wood
1978	Alberta	Ed Lukowich, Mike Chernoff, Dale Johnston, Ron Schindle
1977	Quebec	Jim Ussel, Art Lobel, Don Aitken, Brian Ross
1976	Newfoundland	Jack MacDuff, Toby McDonald, Doug Hudson, Ken Templeton
1975	Northern Ontario	Bill Tetley, Rick Lang, Bill Hodgson, Peter Hnatiw
1974	Alberta	Hec Gervais, Ron Anton, Warren Hansen, Darrel Sutton
1973	Saskatchewan	Harvey Mazinke, Billy Martin, George Achtymichuk, Dan Klippenstein
1972	Manitoba	Orest Meleschuk, Dave Romano, John Hanesiak, Pat Hailley
1971	Manitoba	Don Duguid, Rod Hunter, Jim Pettapiece, Bryan Wood
1970	Manitoba	Don Duguid, Rod Hunter, Jim Pettapiece, Bryan Wood
1969	Alberta	Ron Northcott, Dave Gerlach, Bernie Sparkes, Fred Storey
1968	Alberta	Ron Northcott, Jim Shields, Bernie Sparkes, Fred Storey



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1967	Ontario	Alf Phillips Jr., John Ross, Ron Manning, Keith Reilly
1966	Alberta	Ron Northcott, George Fink, Bernie Sparkes, Fred Storey
1965	Manitoba	Terry Braunstein, Don Duguid, Ron Braunstein, Ray Turnbull
1964	British Columbia	Lyall Dagg, Leo Hebert, Fred Britton, Barry Naimark
1963	Saskatchewan	Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Garnet Richardson, Mel Perry
1962	Saskatchewan	Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Garnet Richardson, Wes Richardson
1961	Alberta	Hec Gervais, Ron Anton, Ray Werner, Wally Ursuliak
1960	Saskatchewan	Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Garnet Richardson, Wes Richardson
1959	Saskatchewan	Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Garnet Richardson, Wes Richardson
1958	Alberta	Matt Baldwin, Jack Geddes, Gordon Haynes, Bill Price
1957	Alberta	Matt Baldwin, Gordon Haynes, Art Kleinmeyer, Bill Price
1956	Manitoba	Billy Walsh, Al Langlois, Cy White, Andy McWilliams
1955	Saskatchewan	Garnet Campbell, Don Campbell, Glen Campbell, Lloyd Campbell
1954	Alberta	Matt Baldwin, Glenn Gray, Pete Ferry, Jim Collins
1953	Manitoba	Ab Gowanlock, Jim Williams, Art Pollon, Russ Jackman
1952	Manitoba	Billy Walsh, Al Langlois, Andy McWilliams, John Watson
1951	Nova Scotia	Don Oyler, George Hanson, Fred Dyke, Wally Knock
1950	Northern Ontario	Tom Ramsay, Len Williamson, Bill Weston, Bill Kenny
1949	Manitoba	Ken Watson, Grant Watson, Lyle Dyker, Charles Read
1948	British Columbia	Frenchy D'Amour, Bob McGhie, Fred Wendell, Jim Mark
1947	Manitoba	Jimmy Welsh, Alex Welsh, Jack Reid, Harry Monk
1946	Alberta	Bill Rose, Bart Swelin, Austin Smith, George Crooks
1942	Manitoba	Ken Watson, Grant Watson, Charlie Scrymgeour, Jim Grant
1941	Alberta	Howard Palmer, Jack Lebeau, Art Gooder, Clare Webb
1940	Manitoba	Howard Wood, Ernie Pollard, Howard Wood Jr., Roy Enman
1939	Ontario	Bert Hall, Perry Hall, Ernie Parkes, Cam Seagram
1938	Manitoba	Ab Gowanlock, Bung Cartmell, Bill McKnight, Tom McKnight
1937	Alberta	Cliff Manahan, Wes Robinson, Ross Manahan, Lloyd McIntyre
1936	Manitoba	Ken Watson, Grant Watson, Marvin MacIntyre, Charles Kerr
1935	Ontario	Gordon Campbell, Don Campbell, Gord Coates, Duncan Campbell
1934	Manitoba	Leo Johnson, Lorne Stewart, Linc Johnson, Marno Frederickson
1933	Alberta	Cliff Manahan, Harold Deeton, Harold Wolfe, Bert Ross
1932	Manitoba	Jimmy Congalton, Howard Wood, Bill Noble, Harry Mawhinney
1931	Manitoba	Bob Gourlay, Ernie Pollard, Arnold Lockerbie, Ray Stewart
1930	Manitoba	Howard Wood, Jimmy Congalton, Victor Wood, Lionel Wood
1929	Manitoba	Gordon Hudson, Don Rollo, Ron Singbusch, Bill Grant
1928	Manitoba	Gordon Hudson, Sam Penwarden, Ron Singbusch, Bill Grant
1927	Nova Scotia	Murray Macneill, Al MacInnes, Cliff Torey, Jim Donahoe

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LOADING UP HIS SIX-SHOOTER

Five-time winner Brad Gushue in his comfort zone at Montana's Brier as he guns for still another Tankard title, this time in Regina

BY BOB WEEKS



Brad Gushue poses with his mother Maureen and the Brier Tankard at a night spot after his win last year in London, Ont. Is another Brier title in Gushue's future?



It took a few years and plenty of sweat before Brad Gushue won his first Brier title, but they are coming fast and furious now as the native of St. John's, N.L., aims to claim his sixth Canadian Men's Curling Championship.

When Brad Gushue's team steps onto the ice at the Brandt Centre in Regina this week, it will start his hunt for a record sixth Montana's Brier title as a skip.

While the Brier record book is filled with Team Gushue's accomplishments, this one is pretty heady stuff. Six is more Brier wins than Kevin Martin or Ernie Richardson, better than Matt Baldwin, Glenn Howard or Kevin Koe. In fact, only Randy Ferbey has his name on the Tankard half a dozen times, four as skip.

Getting to six won't be easy, but it's very much within the grasp of the defending champions, who have established themselves as one of the greatest teams in the sport's history.

"The chance to win six and join Randy is nice and that's our goal," said Gushue, who has played a record 246 Brier games. "That's why we play, we play to win."

Gushue, third Mark Nichols and lead Geoff Walker have been together for all five wins while second E.J. Harnden, who won a Canadian title

playing for Brad Jacobs in 2013, joined the squad for last year's championship. Wearing the Team Canada colours this week, the team from St. John's, N.L., is one of the favourites to raise the Tankard at week's end. That's a far cry from the first time they stepped onto the Brier ice back in 2003 in Halifax, when they were Brier rookies.

"I think I was kind of in awe," remembered Gushue, who is playing in his 21st Brier this week. "The first one we went to, at the start there's a ton of bagpipers and we walked out to the opening ceremonies and the place was packed. Everything that they had set up for us was mind-blowing to me. It was unlike any other curling event I'd been to up to that point in my career. I remember being so excited to go play, so nervous to go play."

"You just felt like a superstar when you got there," added Nichols. "That was kind of our first real taste of playing against the big guys. You know, Randy, (Ferbey) Mark Dacey, Russ (Howard). All those great players that were there, we grew up watching and idolizing, and then you finally get to play them."

While they may have been lacking in experience, the team put together a respectable 6-5 record, missing the playoffs by one win. Since that first appearance, Gushue's teams have had a losing record on just one occasion and have reached the playoffs 16 times in 20 appearances.

As good as the team was, and with as many playoffs it reached, it wasn't able to win the overall title for a long stretch. Yet it persevered and kept knocking on the door. Finally, in 2017, playing at home in St. John's, in front of a frenzied crowd, Gushue threw his last shot into the eight foot, with some help from the sweepers, to get the first win.

They've added four more, including last year's victory in London, Ont., where they beat Manitoba's Matt Dunstone 7-5 in the final.

"The titles came a lot later than we would have wanted," stated Nichols. "We took our knocks for a long time before we won our first and I think after we won that first one, it took a bit of the pressure off. We were able to play a little bit freer after that."

The Brier is still the biggest curling event of the year, but for Gushue, having been there so often, the 'wow' factor has faded. That's to be expected. The 43-year-old has seen Briers from one end of the country to the other, taken in the local hospitality and enjoyed what each has had to offer. He's become comfortable during that early March extravaganza, which is not a bad thing.

"I know what to expect when I go in there," he admitted. "And I'm certainly grateful to be at the Brier and have that opportunity, but you don't go in with your jaw hanging down like I did the first time I went and played."

"I THINK I WAS IN KIND OF AWE. THE FIRST ONE WE WENT TO, AT THE START, THERE'S A TON OF BAGPIPERS AND WE WALKED OUT TO THE OPENING CEREMONIES AND THE PLACE WAS PACKED. I REMEMBER BEING SO EXCITED TO PLAY, SO NERVOUS TO PLAY."

— BRAD GUSHUE ON PLAYING IN HIS FIRST BRIER IN 2003 IN HALIFAX

The team has been present for a number of significant changes to the Canadian championship, including title sponsors, rules and formats. One of the most significant is the size of the field, which has grown from 12 teams back in 2003 to 18 this year, split into two pools.

In addition to separate entries for each of the territories, there is the defending champion Team Canada and several wildcards. That, said Gushue, only makes it more difficult to win the Canadian title.

"I think now with the wildcards and Team Canada in there, we get more of our top teams competing at the event each year," he said. "If I go back to when I first started, you look at Alberta and there was Kevin Koe, and Kevin Martin and Randy Ferbey, but only one of those guys would get to the Brier. Now under the current format, all three of those teams would get in. Take nothing away from all the past champs, but I believe it's probably a little tougher just because we have two or three more of the top teams."

That doesn't mean the lesser teams don't have a chance, Gushue added. In fact, he said, one of the charms of the Brier is that an unheralded team



Above: Brad Gushue was just a fresh-faced young man when he played in his first Brier in 2003. He has evolved into one of the game's greatest skips.

can go on a run and get to the playoffs, or perhaps even just win one game over one of the bigger-name teams and cause a stir in the crowd as well as in the standings.

The depth of talent also means the preparation for Team Gushue has changed over the years. There's no more walking around wide-eyed at the new experience or being impressed by the opposition. Every game is vital to having a chance at winning.

"Before it was get there and try to hold your own against the big guys," Nichols stated. "And now everyone's out to get us. So I think your mindset is a little bit different. You get one chance to play the Brier every year. So you've got to be ready."

But even with all the changes, the Brier is still the Brier. It's still the grandest curling event in the world, said Nichols.

"You know, it's not just the curling," he stated. "It's everything else that kind of encompasses it. I know people who plan their whole year around the Brier. They've been to 15 or 20 in a row. You're in the middle of winter and it's cold but you can meet up with friends and watch some curling and then head to the Brier Patch or do Morning Classes. It's real Canadiana."

"It does have that community feel and I think that's what really makes it as special. People from across the country will meet up every year at the Brier," added Gushue. "Obviously there's the history as well. It's been around since 1927. So I think all those things kind of combined make it what it is."

Team Gushue has been an integral part of the Montana's Brier story for the past two decades. This week, they'd love to write one more chapter and earn a sixth title and once again lift the Tankard high.

Bob Weeks is a senior reporter and curling and golf analyst for TSN and a contributor to Extra End Magazine

Below: Third Mark Nichols knows Brad Gushue's team has a bull's-eye on its back every time it steps on to the ice at the Montana's Brier, so it's vital to be focused.





THE BEST LAID PLANS OF ICE AND MEN

Teams Bottcher, Dunstone use pre-qualification to map out a Brier-friendly schedule and a return to an outstanding curling atmosphere in Regina

BY DON LANDRY

Above left: Brendan Bottcher has had a pretty good leadup to the Montana's Brier, with emphasis on practice and preparation.

Above right: Matt Dunstone, who lost the Brier final last season, is happy to be back in Regina for the Big Show.

It's so nice to be able to plan ahead, isn't it?

Thanks to the introduction of pre-qualification, two additional Canadian men's curling teams had the luxury of doing just that this season, earning the right to plan well ahead of their appearances at the 2024 Montana's Brier.

Since 2014, just one team has entered each season knowing they would be back again at the national men's curling championship, as defending champs. This year, however, two more pre-qualified teams were able to lay out their schedule, secure in the knowledge that they would be coming to Regina and the Brandt Centre in March.

Those teams, declared last summer as 2024 Brier participants based on points accrued in the Canadian Team Ranking System, are Alberta's Team Bottcher and Manitoba's Team Dunstone.

Both skips, Brendan Bottcher and Matt Dunstone, say they have appreciated the certainty that pre-qualifying has provided.

"It's exciting in the sense that we can set up a season that's conducive to peaking at the Brier," said Dunstone, the 28-year-old skip from Winnipeg who previously represented Saskatchewan four times at the Brier (once as a wild card), winning bronze twice. "We got to play a little bit lighter of a schedule and got to put a little bit more emphasis on practising."

For Bottcher, the 32-year-old native of Sherwood Park, Alta., being pre-qualified is not new, although it is a little different this time around. After winning his first Brier in 2021, he and his mates at the time returned the following year as Team Canada.

But that season, 2021-22, was an Olympic qualifying season. The primary goal was to earn a spot at the Beijing Games. Back then, Bottcher was attempting to time things up in order to peak in late autumn, at the Olympic Trials. This time around, it's all about late winter and early spring, and a shot at a second Brier win and a possible berth in the World Championship in Schaffhausen, Switzerland.

"We were able to plan our schedule a lot farther



out in advance, which is awesome,” said Bottcher of the differences between the two seasons. “I think it’s definitely helping our team be as prepared as possible for a potential world championship because really the goal is we want to make sure that whichever team gets to Worlds, they’re as prepared as possible.”

Bottcher and his teammates — third Marc Kennedy, second Brett Gallant and lead Ben Hebert — made sure to attack this season with an eye on earning those always important team rankings points through the fall, which would allow for a lighter schedule in the new year.

“We really wanted to get to Christmas and be able to totally focus on practice preparation, which is what we’re doing,” said Bottcher prior to heading for Regina.

In the new year, Team Bottcher played in back-to-back events in Alberta; the Astec Safety Challenge in Lloydminster and the Canadian Open in Red Deer where it lost in the final to Scotland’s Bruce Mouat.

Dunstone and his crew — third B.J. Neufeld, second Colton Lott and lead Ryan Harnden — laid things out in a similar fashion. They limited their new year schedule to the same two January events before shutting things down, ensuring that the weeks leading up to the Brier would be available solely for preparation, not games.

“Everybody’s gonna have their bodies right for

March first,” said Dunstone, who is searching for his first Brier victory after getting so close last year, taking the silver medal after dropping the final to Team Canada’s Brad Gushue.

“A lot of technical work,” said Dunstone, describing his team’s focus in the weeks leading up to the Brier, “and conversations about strategies that we either want to implement or avoid. It provides a lot of time to game plan. It just all adds to the preparation and the confidence that we’re going to be able to bring in.”

As was the case with Bottcher’s foursome, the Dunstone team did not have to navigate an intensely contested provincial championship just ahead of the Brier. Some would worry that heading in without battling in a high stakes game for some six weeks could be a detriment.

Dunstone does not see it that way.

“We’re all kind of at the point where we’ve played enough games now,” he said. “We’re never gonna play games for the sake of playing games. That’s not something we see as very beneficial given the amount of games we have (already) played.”

Bottcher agrees. “Full stop, my preference is this way,” he said of being pre-qualified and devoting more time to practice and preparation.

For Bottcher and his team, the six-week run up to the Brier was separated into a period of rest and organization, or as Bottcher says, “getting everything in our lives to a really good spot,

The house was rockin’ the last time the Brier was held in Regina in 2018, and there was no shortage of band music and the colour green.



Left: Regina is a special place for Matt Dunstone (left). He says he felt goosebumps playing in the 2018 Brier, throwing last stones for Steve Laycock.

Right: Brendan Bottcher and Matt Dunstone collided at the 2023 London Brier.

including any nagging injuries, any kind of personal stuff that just has to get dealt with.”

The next four weeks were for practice sessions and a chance to “bring it all together and, hopefully, connect all the dots.”

Regina is a special place for both Dunstone and Bottcher, and each of them spoke in glowing terms about playing for a national championship in Saskatchewan. Each of them has been greatly anticipating the atmosphere of the week.

“Very much looking forward to it,” said Dunstone, recalling the last Brier that was held in Regina, in 2018. “A couple of moments gave me goosebumps,” he said, adding: “Saskatchewan, they put together the best show in curling.”

Bottcher’s second go at nationals — he’s making his eighth straight Brier appearance this week — came in 2018. He is certainly pumped about being back.

“The last Brier we played in Regina was just outstanding,” Bottcher said, recalling that the weather was super cold that week. “Yet the building was packed almost every draw. That’s just a lot of fun to play in and it really doesn’t matter where you’re from. Getting to play in front of a packed arena is always just awesome.”

Each skip said they are feeling good about their team, though it’s safe to say that Team Bottcher has had the better season so far, with three tour wins and five other podium finishes. The Dunstone four has one event victory to their credit this season, and two other top three finishes, including an appearance in the final of the PointsBet Invitational last September.

“We haven’t maybe strung together some of the results we’ve wanted to this year,” admitted



Dunstone, “but on the flip side, I feel like we’re a much better team than we were at this point last year.”

“I think from a technical standpoint, our team is as good as it has been for the 18 months we’ve been together. That’s something we’ve put a huge emphasis on.”

Each of these teams has been able to emphasize whatever they wished to over the course of the season, thanks to having pre-qualified Brier berths in their pockets from the outset.

“I think we’re in just an outstanding place now,” said Bottcher, mindful of the positives of being able to plan ahead.

“We get to focus on playing really well at the Brier and I hope we’re able to come out and do that,” he said.

Don Landry is a writer and broadcaster based in Amherst, Nova Scotia



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TIME TO ROCK YOUR SKILLS AND ELEVATE YOUR GAME!

U15 RockFest events provide opportunity for youth curlers to develop their skills

BY JILLIAN KENT



Curling Canada, in conjunction with Member Associations, is excited to bring the long awaited U15 RockFest to four regional locations across Canada this March to help develop the skills of youth curlers at a key point in their development. “Curling Canada is excited to launch the U15 Regional RockFest events for youth curlers this season because this age and stage is critical in our Long-Term Curler Development framework,” says Dustin Mikush, Curling Canada’s Manager of Youth and Program Development. “These events provide young curlers with opportunities to experience a skill-development event that extend their learning both on and off the ice.”

The U15 RockFest is a three-day event designed to give youth curlers a chance to develop their skills and compete against similarly aged curlers from other provinces and territories. It’s essential that this opportunity be provided as typically young curlers are not given experience in either area before they reach the Under-18 and Under-21 championships. Over the course of three days, each curler will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including singles curling, triples curling, skill

development clinics, fun off events and the Golden RockFest, which is an on-ice event where the curlers are divided into teams to collect points, ultimately being crowned Golden RockFest Champions.

Steve Laycock, U15 coach and 10-time Brier competitor, believes it’s great to see more opportunities being offered to the U15 category. “Historically curlers would get introduced to the sport via the learn-to-curl programs run at their local curling centres but there wasn’t a clear path on what came next until they reached the U18 age group.

“It is especially nice to see the triples disciplines being used for U15 play. Triples allows new curlers a chance to try every position during the game, which I think is important at that stage of athlete development.”

To qualify for the U15 RockFest, curlers have to be 14 or younger as of June 30th, 2023. They then had to download Curling Canada’s Singles App “Singles Curling”, where they would complete a variety of shots, which would be scored and uploaded to the app for points. To qualify, the curler must have scored at least a 10 out of 36. In February, 2024, the top scorers from each Member Association were invited to their regional RockFest.

The 2024 U15 RockFest events will be held on the following dates, for the following regions:

- **U15 RockFest Prairies, March 7-9**
(Sask., Man.) Yorkton Curling Club, Yorkton, Sask.
- **U15 RockFest West, March 15-17**
(B.C., Y.T., N.W.T. and Alta.) Sherwood Park Curling Club, Sherwood Park, Alta.
- **U15 RockFest East, March 22-24**
(North. Ont., Ont., Nvt., Que.) Niagara Falls Curling Club, Niagara Falls, Ont.
- **U15 RockFest Atlantic, March 28-30**
(N.B., P.E.I., N.S. and N.L.) Curl Moncton, Moncton, N.B.

Events like U15 RockFest and countless other youth-based programing are only made possible by the generous donations and support of the Canada-wide curling community. You can support this program or so many other outstanding initiatives with a gift to Curl Canada’s For the Love of Curling program at curling.ca/ftloc or by scanning the provided QR code.



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REGINA 2024

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FROM THE FIELD TO THE ICE.

MONTANA'S BRIER

OFFICIAL DRAW



REGINA 2024

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DATE	DRAW	TIME	SHEET A	SHEET B	SHEET C	SHEET D
Friday, March 1	1	6:00 p.m.	NS vs CA	SK vs PE	AB - K vs AB - S	NT vs QC
Saturday, March 2	2	1:00 p.m.	BC vs ON	MB - C vs MB - D	NO vs NB	NL vs AB - B
	3	6:00 p.m.	QC vs NU	AB - K vs NT	SK vs CA	PE vs NS
Sunday, March 3	4	9:00 a.m.	AB - B vs YT	NO vs NL	MB - C vs ON	MB - D vs BC
	5	2:00 p.m.	SK vs AB - K	CA vs QC	NT vs NS	AB - S vs NU
	6	7:00 p.m.	MB - C vs NO	ON vs AB - B	NL vs BC	NB vs YT
Monday, March 4	7	9:00 a.m.	CA vs NT	NS vs AB - S	NU vs PE	QC vs AB - K
	8	2:00 p.m.	ON vs NL	BC vs NB	YT vs MB - D	AB - B vs NO
	9	7:00 p.m.	PE vs AB - S	NT vs NU	CA vs AB - K	NS vs SK
Tuesday, March 5	10	9:00 a.m.	MB - D vs NB	NL vs YT	ON vs NO	BC vs MB - C
	11	2:00 p.m.	AB - K vs NS	AB - S vs SK	PE vs QC	NU vs CA
	12	7:00 p.m.	NO vs BC	NB vs MB - C	MB - D vs AB - B	YT vs ON
Wednesday, March 6	13	9:00 a.m.	AB - S vs QC	PE vs CA	NS vs NU	SK vs NT
	14	2:00 p.m.	NB vs AB - B	MB - D vs ON	BC vs YT	MB - C vs NL
	15	7:00 p.m.	NU vs SK	QC vs NS	AB - S vs NT	AB - K vs PE
Thursday, March 7	16	9:00 a.m.	YT vs MB - C	AB - B vs BC	NB vs NL	NO vs MB - D
	17	2:00 p.m.	NT vs PE	NU vs AB - K	QC vs SK	CA vs AB - S
	18	7:00 p.m.	NL vs MB - D	YT vs NO	AB - B vs MB - C	ON vs NB
Friday, March 8	PO - 1	1:00 p.m.	Page 1 vs 2 Qualifiers - TBD			
	PO - 2	7:00 p.m.	Page 3 vs 4 Qualifiers - TBD			

POOL A

AB-B
MB-D
MB-C
ON
BC
NB
NO
NL
YT

POOL B

CA
AB-K
SK
AB-S
QC
NS
PE
NT
NU

AB - B	Team Bottcher
CA	Team Gushue
AB - K	Team Koe
MB - D	Team Dunstone
MB - C	Team Carruthers
SK	Team McEwen
AB - S	Team Sluchinski
ON	Team Howard
BC	Team Schneider
QC	Team Tremblay
NS	Team Manuel
NB	Team Grattan
NO	Team Bonot
PE	Team Smith
NT	Team Koe
NL	Team Symonds
YT	Team Scoffin
NU	Team Latimer

PAGE PLAYOFFS

PAGE 3 vs 4	Saturday, March 9	1:00 p.m.
PAGE 1 vs 2	Saturday, March 9	7:00 p.m.

SEMIFINAL AND FINAL

SEMIFINAL	Sunday, March 10	12:00 p.m.
FINAL	Sunday, March 10	6:00 p.m.

TEAM CANADA

RE/MAX CENTRE, ST. JOHN'S CURLING CLUB



From left: Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, E.J. Harnden and Geoff Walker.

SKIP: Brad Gushue **Age:** 43 **Occupation:** Owner, Orangetheory Fitness **Highlights:** Threw fourth rocks for Canada at 2006 Olympics, skip in '22; won gold in '06, bronze in '22. Skipped N.L. at 2003, '04, '05, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17 and '20 Briers, Canada in '18, '19, '21 and '23, Wild Card #1 in '22; won gold in '17, '18, '20, '22 and '23, silver in '07 and '16, bronze in '11. Won gold at 2017 worlds, silver in '18, '22 and '23. Won gold at 2021 Canadian mixed doubles. Skipped at 1996, '98, '99, 2000 and '01 Canadian juniors, played second in '95; won gold in '01, silver in 2000. Won 2001 world juniors

THIRD: Mark Nichols **Age:** 44 **Occupation:** Owner/personal trainer, Orangetheory Fitness **Highlights:** Third for Canada at 2006 and '22 Olympics; won gold in '06, bronze in '22. Played third for N.L. at 2003, '04, '05, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '15, '16, '17 and '20 Briers, Canada in '18, '19, '21 and '23, Wild Card #1 in '22, lead for Manitoba in '13, second in '14; won gold in '17, '18, '20, '22 and '23, silver in '07, '13 and '16, bronze in '11. Won gold at 2017 worlds, silver in '18, '22 and '23. Won 2005 Canadian mixed as skip for N.L. Played in 2016 and '21 Canadian mixed

doubles. Played third for N.L. at 1999, 2000 and '01 Canadian juniors; won gold in '01, silver in 2000. Won 2001 world juniors

SECOND: E.J. Harnden **Age:** 40 **Occupation:** Senior product manager, Instant Games, Ontario Lottery & Gaming **Highlights:** Won 2014 Olympic gold as second for Canada. Played third for Northern Ontario at 2008, '10, '11 and '12 Briers, second in '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21 and '22, second for Canada in '23; won gold in '13 and '23, silver in '15, bronze in '10, '16 and '19. Won silver at 2013 and '23 worlds

LEAD: Geoff Walker **Age:** 38 **Occupation:** Turf team, The Derrick Golf & Winter Club **Highlights:** Won 2022 Olympic bronze as lead for Canada. Played lead for N.L. at 2012, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17 and '20 Briers, Canada in '18, '19, '21 and '23, Wild Card #1 in '22; won gold in '17, '18, '20, '22 and '23, silver in '16. Won gold at 2017 worlds, silver in '18, '22 and '23. Won silver at 2016 Canadian mixed doubles. Won gold at 2006 Canadian juniors as third for Alberta. Won gold at 2006 world juniors

COACH: Caleb Flaxey

ALBERTA – BOTTCHE

THE GLENCOE CLUB, CALGARY



From left: Brendan Bottcher, Marc Kennedy, Brett Gallant and Ben Hebert.

SKIP: Brendan Bottcher **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** Technical sales specialist, Spartan Controls Limited **Highlights:** Skipped Alberta at 2017, '18, '20 and '21 Briers, Wild Card #1 in '19, Canada in '22, Wild Card #1 in '23; won gold in '21, silver in '18, '19 and '20, bronze in '22 and '23. Played in 2017, '19 and '21 Canadian mixed doubles. Skipped Alberta at 2010 and '12 Canadian juniors; won gold in '12. Won gold at 2012 world juniors

THIRD: Marc Kennedy **Age:** 42 **Occupation:** Coaching consultant **Highlights:** Played second for Canada at 2010 Olympics and second in '18; won gold in '10. Played third for Alberta at 2015 and '16 Briers, second in '07, '08, '09, '11 and '13, third for Canada in '17, third for Northern Ontario in '20, '21 and '22, third for Wild Card #1 in '23; won gold in '08, '09 and '16, silver in '17, bronze in '23. Won gold at 2008 and '16 worlds, silver in '09. Played in 2021 Canadian mixed doubles. Played second at 1998 Canadian juniors, third in '99 and 2001; won silver in '98

SECOND: Brett Gallant **Age:** 34 **Occupation:** Curler **Highlights:** Won bronze as second for Canada at 2022 Olympics. Played third for N.L. at 2013 and '14

Briers, second in '15, '16, '17 and '20, Canada in '18, '19 and '21, Wild Card #1 in '22 and '23; won gold in '17, '18, '20 and '22, silver in '16, bronze in '23. Won gold at 2017 worlds, silver in '18 and '22. Played in 2016, '19, '21 and '23 Canadian mixed doubles; won gold in '16 and '19, silver in '23. Played in 2019 and '22 world mixed doubles; won silver in '19. Skipped P.E.I. at 2012 Canadian mixed. Skipped P.E.I. at 2004, '06, '07, '08, '09 and '10 Canadian juniors; won gold in '09, silver in '07. Won silver at 2009 world juniors

LEAD: Ben Hebert **Age:** 40 **Occupation:** Business development manager, Caltech Surveys Ltd. **Highlights:** Played lead for Canada at 2010 and '18 Olympics; won gold in '10. Played lead for Saskatchewan at 2005, '06 Briers, Alberta in '07, '08, '09, '11, '13, '15, '16, '19 and '22, Team Canada in '17 and '20, Wild Card #2 in '21, Wild Card #1 in '23; won gold in '08, '09, '16 and '19, silver in '17, '21 and '22, bronze in '23. Won gold at 2008 and '16 worlds, silver in '09 and '19. Won silver at 2005 Canadian mixed as second for Saskatchewan. Played third for Saskatchewan at 2002 Canadian juniors

ALTERNATE: Paul Webster

ALBERTA – KOE

THE GLENCOE CLUB, ALBERTA



From left: Kevin Koe, Tyler Tardi, Jacques Gauthier and Karrick Martin.

SKIP: Kevin Koe **Age:** 49 **Occupation:** Land & stakeholder coordinator, TransAlta Corporation **Highlights:** Skipped Canada at 2018 Olympics. Skipped Alberta at 2010, '12, '14, '15, '16, '19, '22 and '23 Briers, Team Canada in '17, '20, Wild Card #2 in '21; won gold in '10, '14, '16 and '19, silver in '12, '17, '21 and '22. Won gold at 2010 and '16 worlds, silver in '19. Won 2000 Canadian mixed as skip for Alberta. Won silver at 1994 Canadian U-21's as skip for Yukon/N.W.T.

THIRD: Tyler Tardi **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Program coordinator, Curling Alberta **Highlights:** Played third for Alberta at 2023 Brier. Played in 2013, '15, '19, '21 and '23 Canadian mixed doubles; won bronze in '23. Skipped British Columbia at 2016, '17, '18 and '19 Canadian U-21's; won gold in '17, '18, and

'19, bronze in '16. Won gold as Canada skip at 2018 and '19 world juniors. Won gold as Canada third at 2017 Youth Olympics

SECOND: Jacques Gauthier **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Financial analyst, BDO Canada LLP **Highlights:** Skipped British Columbia at 2023 Brier. Played third for Manitoba at 2017, '18 and '19 Canadian U-21's, skipped Manitoba #2 in '20; won gold in '20, silver in '19 and bronze in '18. Won gold as Canada skip at 2020 world juniors

LEAD: Karrick Martin **Age:** 34 **Occupation:** Facilities manager, Government of Alberta **Highlights:** Played lead for Alberta at 2017, '18, '20, '21 and '23 Briers, Wild Card in '19; won gold in '21, silver in '18, '19 and '20

ALTERNATE: Mike Libbus

PLAYER PROFILES



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ALBERTA – SLUCHINSKI CHAMPION AIRDRIE CURLING CLUB



From left: Aaron Sluchinski, Jeremy Harty, Kerr Drummond and Dylan Webster.

SKIP: Aaron Sluchinski **Age:** 36 **Occupation:** Accounting manager, Strike Group **Highlights:** Played at 2021 and '23 Canadian mixed doubles. Skipped Alberta at 2008 Canadian U-21's

THIRD: Jeremy Harty **Age:** 28 **Occupation:** Supervisor, RSM Canada

SECOND: Kerr Drummond **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** Sales manager, IFR Workwear **Highlights:** Played lead for Scotland at 2010 and '12 world juniors; won silver in '10 and bronze in '12

LEAD: Dylan Webster **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** IT project manager, Weir Canada Inc. **Highlights:** Played second for P.E.I. at 2011 Canadian U-21's

COACH: Mickey Pendergast

BRITISH COLUMBIA VICTORIA CURLING CLUB



From left: Catlin Schneider, Jason Ginter, Sterling Middleton and Alex Horvath.

SKIP: Catlin Schneider **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** Co-owner & engineer, Prairie Sun Solar **Highlights:** Played third for Saskatchewan at 2017 and '22 Briers, second in '20. Played at 2016, '17, '19 and '21 Canadian mixed doubles

THIRD: Jason Ginter **Age:** 30 **Occupation:** Director, player & leadership development, Curling Alberta **Highlights:** Played second for British Columbia at 2023 Brier. Played in 2017 and '19 Canadian mixed doubles

SECOND: Sterling Middleton **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Club professional, Victoria Curling Club **Highlights:** Played third for British Columbia at 2023 Brier. Won gold as British Columbia third at 2017, '18 and '19 Canadian U-21's. Won gold as Canada third at 2018 and '19 world juniors. Won gold as Canada lead at 2016 Youth Olympics

LEAD: Alex Horvath **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Ice technician, Victoria & Esquimalt Curling Clubs **Highlights:** Played lead for British Columbia at 2023 Brier. Played lead for British Columbia at 2014 and '19 Canadian U-21's. Won gold as Canada lead at 2019 world juniors

ALTERNATE: Bryan Miki

COACH: Jamie Schneider

MANITOBA – CARRUTHERS CHAMPION GRANITE CURLING CLUB, WINNIPEG



From left: Reid Carruthers, Brad Jacobs, Derek Samagalski and Connor Njegovan.

SKIP: Brad Jacobs **Age:** 38 **Occupation:** Senior marketing director, World Financial Group **Highlights:** Won 2014 Olympic gold as skip for Canada. Skipped Northern Ontario at 2010, '11, '12, '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21 and '22 Briers, played vice-skip (fourth rocks) in '07, alternate/lead/skip in '08; won gold in '13, silver in '15, bronze in '10, '16 and '19. Won silver at 2013 worlds. Played in 2023 Canadian mixed doubles. Skipped at 2005 Canadian U-21's

THIRD: Reid Carruthers **Age:** 39 **Occupation:** Substitute teacher, Louis Riel School Division **Highlights:** Skipped Manitoba at 2015 and '18 Briers and Wild Card #2 in '23, played third for Manitoba in '19 and '22, for Wild Card in '20 and for Wild Card #1 in '21, second for Manitoba in '11 and '13, and lead for Manitoba in '14; won gold in '11, silver in '13, bronze in '14. Won gold at 2011 worlds. Played in 2016, '17, '18 and '19 Canadian mixed doubles; won gold in '17,

bronze in '18. Won silver at 2017 world mixed doubles. Skipped Manitoba at 2008 Canadian mixed and '03 Canadian U-21's

THIRD: Derek Samagalski **Age:** 39 **Occupation:** Superintendent, Carberry Sandhills Golf Course **Highlights:** Played lead for Manitoba at 2012 Brier, second in '15, '18, '19 and '22, for Wild Card in '20 and Wild Card #1 in '21, third for Wild Card #2 in '23; won bronze in '12. Played in 2016, '18 and '21 Canadian mixed doubles

LEAD: Connor Njegovan **Age:** 31 **Occupation:** Real estate agent, Royal LePage (The Neufeld Group) **Highlights:** Played lead for Manitoba at 2020 and '21 Briers, for Wild Card #3 in '22, played second for Wild Card #2 in '23. Won silver at 2010 Canadian U-21's as second for Manitoba

COACH: Rob Meakin

MANITOBA – DUNSTONE FORT ROUGE CURLING CLUB, WINNIPEG



From left: Matt Dunstone, B.J. Neufeld, Colton Lott and Ryan Harnden.

SKIP: Matt Dunstone **Age:** 28 **Occupation:** Mortgage broker, Integra Mortgage **Highlights:** Skipped Saskatchewan at 2020, '21 Briers, threw fourth rocks in '18, skipped Wild Card #2 in '22, Manitoba in '23; won silver in '23, bronze in '20 and '21. Played at 2018 Canadian mixed doubles. Won 2013 and '16 Canadian juniors as skip of Manitoba. Won bronze at 2013 and '16 world juniors

THIRD: B.J. Neufeld **Age:** 38 **Occupation:** Real estate agent, Royal LePage Prime Real Estate — The Neufeld Group **Highlights:** Played third for Manitoba at 2016, '17 and '23 Briers, Wild Card in '18, Alberta in '19 and '22, Canada in '20, Wild Card #2 in '21; won gold in '19, silver in '21, '22 and '23, bronze in '17. Won silver at 2019 worlds. Played second for Manitoba at 2004 Canadian juniors, third in '05 and '07; won bronze in '04

SECOND: Colton Lott **Age:** 28 **Occupation:** Carpenter, My Window Guys Ltd. **Highlights:** Played lead for Manitoba at 2022 Brier, second in '23; won silver in '23. Played in 2018, '19, '21 and '23 Canadian mixed doubles; won silver in '18 and '21, bronze in '19. Won gold as Manitoba third at 2013 and '16 Canadian juniors. Won bronze at 2013 and '16 world juniors

LEAD: Ryan Harnden **Age:** 37 **Occupation:** Real estate agent, Royal LePage Northern Advantage — Team Glavota **Highlights:** Won 2014 Olympic gold as lead for Canada. Played second for Northern Ontario at 2008, '10, '11 and '12 Briers, lead in '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21 and '22, lead for Manitoba in '23; won gold in '13, silver in '15 and '23, bronze in '10, '16 and '19. Won silver at 2013 worlds. Skipped at 2007 Canadian juniors

ALTERNATE: Rob Gordon
COACH: Adam Kingsbury

NEW BRUNSWICK GAGE GOLF & CURLING ASSOCIATION, OROMOCTO



From left: James Grattan, Joel Krats, Paul Dobson and Andy McCann.

SKIP: James Grattan **Age:** 49 **Occupation:** Customer service agent, Air Canada **Highlights:** Skipped New Brunswick at 1997, 2006, '08, '10, '11, '13, '14, '18, '20, '21 and '22 Briers, played third in '02, '03, '04 and '09. Skipped New Brunswick at 2013 and '21 Canadian mixed. Skipped at 1995 Canadian U-21's, played third in '91; won silver in '95

THIRD: Joel Krats **Age:** 22 **Occupation:** Customer service representative, Goldline Curling **Highlights:** Won silver as second for N.L. at 2020 Canadian U-21's. Won gold as Nova Scotia third at 2021 world junior qualifier. Won bronze as Canada third at 2022 world juniors. Skipped N.L. at 2019 Canadian U-18's

SECOND: Paul Dobson **Age:** 44 **Occupation:** Operations, Irving Paper **Highlights:** Played second for New Brunswick at 2005 and '22 Briers, skipped in '07, third in '20

LEAD: Andy McCann **Age:** 41 **Occupation:** Regional vice president of sales, Salesforce **Highlights:** Played third for New Brunswick at 2012 Brier, second in '18, '20, '21 and lead in '22

ALTERNATE: Drew Grattan
COACH: Dean Grattan

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR RE/MAX CENTRE, ST. JOHN'S CURLING CLUB



From left: Andrew Symonds, Colin Thomas, Stephen Trickett and Alex Smith.

SKIP: Andrew Symonds **Age:** 49 **Occupation:** Senior director & sales executive, Nasdaq Verafin **Highlights:** Skipped N.L. at 2019 Brier. Skipped N.L. at 2015 and '17 Canadian club championships; won gold in '15

THIRD: Colin Thomas **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** Assistant controller, Air Borealis/Moncton Flight College **Highlights:** Skipped N.L. at 2008, '11 and '12 Canadian U-21's; won bronze in '11

SECOND: Stephen Trickett **Age:** 29 **Occupation:** Quality, safety & compliance manager, Compass Group Canada **Highlights:** Played second for N.L. at 2012 Canadian U-21's, skip in '14

LEAD: Alex Smith **Age:** 57 **Occupation:** Assistant deputy minister, mining, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador **Highlights:** Played third for N.L. at 1989 Brier. Played second at 1999 Canadian mixed. Skipped at 1985 Canadian U-21's. Played third at 2017 Canadian seniors, skipped in '23

ALTERNATE: Dave Nofall
COACH: Jeff Thomas

NORTHERN ONTARIO FORT WILLIAM CURLING CLUB, THUNDER BAY



From left: Trevor Bonot, Mike McCarville, Jordan Potts and Kurtis Byrd.

SKIP: Trevor Bonot **Age:** 38 **Occupation:** Financial advisor, Edward Jones **Highlights:** Skipped Northern Ontario at 2017, '19, '21, '22 and '23 Canadian mixed; won gold in '17 and silver in '22. Won silver for Canada at 2017 world mixed. Played at 2018 and '21 Canadian mixed doubles

THIRD: Mike McCarville **Age:** 42 **Occupation:** Math and biology teacher, St. Ignatius High School **Highlights:** Played third for Northern Ontario at 2014 Brier. Played second for Northern Ontario at 2005, '08, '19, '21, '22 and '23 Canadian mixed; won silver in '22. Played lead for Northern Ontario at 1999 and 2000 Canadian U-21's

SECOND: Jordan Potts **Age:** 35 **Occupation:** Investment advisor, RBC Dominion Securities **Highlights:** Played at 2015 Canadian mixed doubles

LEAD: Kurtis Byrd **Age:** 31 **Occupation:** Carpenter, PDR Contracting

COACH: Al Hackner

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES YELLOWKNIFE CURLING CENTRE



From left: Jamie Koe, Glen Kennedy, Cole Parsons and Shadrach McLeod.

SKIP: Jamie Koe **Age:** 46 **Occupation:** Gwich'in Tribal Council COO **Highlights:** Skipped N.W.T. at 2015, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '22 and '23 Briers and N.W.T./Yukon in '06, '07, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13 and '14. Skipped N.W.T. at 2015, '18, '20, '21, '22 and '23 Canadian mixed and N.W.T./Yukon in 1999, '05 and '06; won silver in '15, bronze in '20, '21 and '22. Skipped N.W.T. at 1996, '97 and '98 Canadian U-21's, played third for N.W.T./Yukon in '94, skipped in '95; won silver in '94

THIRD: Glen Kennedy **Age:** 44 **Occupation:** Owner & engineer, Prism Engineering Inc. **Highlights:** Played third for N.W.T. at 2022 and '23 Briers. Won silver as Alberta third at 1998 Canadian U-21's

SECOND: Cole Parsons **Age:** 29 **Occupation:** Air traffic controller, NAV Canada **Highlights:** Played lead for N.W.T. at 2019 and '20 Briers, second in '22 and '23. Played second for N.W.T. at 2021, '22 and '23 Canadian mixed; won bronze in '21 and '22

LEAD: Shadrach McLeod **Age:** 30 **Occupation:** Pilot, Canadian North **Highlights:** Played second for N.W.T. at 2020 Brier and lead in '23

ALTERNATE: Stephen Robertson

NOVA SCOTIA HALIFAX CURLING CLUB



From left: Matthew Manuel, Luke Saunders, Jeffrey Meagher and Nick Zachernuk.

SKIP: Matthew Manuel **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** Junior project manager, Southwest Construction Management **Highlights:** Skipped Nova Scotia at 2023 Brier. Skipped Nova Scotia at 2015, '16, '17 and '18 Canadian U-21's

THIRD: Luke Saunders **Age:** 30 **Occupation:** Tennis professional, The Waegwoltic Club **Highlights:** Played third for Nova Scotia at 2023 Brier. Played second for Nova Scotia at 2020 and '23 Canadian mixed

SECOND: Jeffrey Meagher **Age:** 24 **Occupation:** Junior engineer, Irving Shipbuilding **Highlights:** Played second for Nova Scotia at 2023 Brier. Played second for Nova Scotia at 2019 and '20 Canadian U-21's. Won gold as Nova Scotia second at 2018 Canadian U-18s

LEAD: Nick Zachernuk **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** System engineer associate, Lockheed Martin **Highlights:** Played lead for Nova Scotia at 2023 Brier. Played third for Nova Scotia at 2015 and '16 Canadian U-21's, second in '17 and '18

COACH: Kim Kelly

NUNAVUT IQALUIT CURLING CLUB



From left: Shane Latimer, Sheldon Wettig, Brady St. Louis and Christian Smitheram.

SKIP: Shane Latimer **Age:** 36 **Occupation:** Electrical journeyman, Moreau

THIRD: Sheldon Wettig **Age:** 43 **Occupation:** Teacher **Highlights:** Third for Nunavut at 2020 and '23 Briers. Skipped Northwest Territories at 2000 and '01 Canadian U-21's. Won gold at 2003 FISU World University Games as Canada second

SECOND: Brady St. Louis **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** Crane apprentice, Local 793 **Highlights:** Played third for Nunavut at 2021 Brier and second in '23

LEAD: Christian Smitheram **Age:** 31 **Occupation:** Pilot, Canadian North **Highlights:** Second for Nunavut at 2020 Brier and lead in '23

ALTERNATE: Peter Van Strien

ONTARIO PENETANGUISHENE CURLING CLUB



From left: Glenn Howard, Scott Howard, David Mathers and Tim March.

SKIP: Scott Howard **Age:** 33 **Occupation:** Estimator/contract manager, Maacon Construction **Highlights:** Played lead for Ontario at 2015, '16 and '17 Briers, played third for Wild Card #3 in '21, lost wild card pre-qualifier as third in '20, played third for Ontario in '22. Played in 2014 Canadian mixed doubles. Runner-up at 2011 Canadian U-21's as third

THIRD: David Mathers **Age:** 32 **Occupation:** National branch manager, BrokerLink Insurance **Highlights:** Played second for Ontario at 2015, '17 and '22 Briers and second for Wild Card #3 in '21, third for P.E.I. in '16, lost wild card pre-qualifier as second in '20. Played in 2015 Canadian mixed doubles. Won silver at 2011 Canadian U-21's as second for Ontario

SECOND: Glenn Howard **Age:** 61 **Occupation:** Consultant/spokesperson, Brewers Retail Inc. **Highlights:** Skipped Ontario at 2006, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '16, '17 and '22 Briers, played third in 1986, '87, '89, '91, '92, '93 and '94; won in '87, '93, '07 and '12, runner-up in '86, '92, '94, '06, '08, '10 and '11, lost wild card pre-qualifier as skip in '20. Won 1987, '93, 2007 and '12 worlds. Played in 2015 Canadian mixed doubles

LEAD: Tim March **Age:** 36 **Occupation:** CPA & partner, Murphy & Chung Professional Corporation **Highlights:** Played lead for Ontario at 2018 and '22 Briers, lead for Wild Card #3 in '21, lost wild card pre-qualifier in '20. Played at 2018 Canadian mixed doubles

ALTERNATE: Mat Camm

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CRAPAUD COMMUNITY CURLING CLUB



From left: Tyler Smith, Adam Cocks, Chris Gallant and Ed White.

SKIP: Tyler Smith **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Owner, Smith's Excavating **Highlights:** Played third for P.E.I. at 2021 Brier, skip in '22 and '23. Skipped P.E.I. at 2013, '15, '17, '19 and '20 Canadian U-21's, played third for N.B. in '18. Played third for P.E.I. at 2017 Canadian mixed, skip in '23

THIRD: Adam Cocks **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** Service advisor, Toyota **Highlights:** Played third for P.E.I. at 2022 and '23 Briers. Played third for Nova Scotia at 2017 and '18 Canadian U-21's

SECOND: Chris Gallant **Age:** 28 **Occupation:** Senior operations advisor, Veterans Review and Appeal Board **Highlights:** Fourth for P.E.I. at 2012 Canadian U-21's, third in '17

LEAD: Ed White **Age:** 29 **Occupation:** Red Seal Carpenter/owner, E.D. White Construction **Highlights:** Played second for P.E.I. at 2022 Brier, lead in '23. Played second for P.E.I. at 2023 Canadian mixed

COACH: Paul Flemming

QUEBEC

ETCHEMIN/KENOGAMI/CHICOUTIMI/ VICTORIA CURLING CLUBS



From left: Julien Tremblay, Jean-Michel Arsenault, Jesse Mullen and Philippe Brassard.

SKIP: Julien Tremblay **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** Physical education teacher, Laval University **Highlights:** Played third for Quebec at 2017 Canadian U-21's

THIRD: Jean-Michel Arsenault **Age:** 35 **Occupation:** Automation technician **Highlights:** Won gold as Quebec third at 2008 Canadian U-21's. Won bronze as Canada third at 2008 world juniors

SECOND: Jesse Mullen **Age:** 25 **Occupation:** Civil servant, Government of Canada **Highlights:** Played third for Quebec at 2019 Canadian U-21's. Played at 2018 Canadian mixed doubles

LEAD: Philippe Brassard **Age:** 41 **Occupation:** Supervisor, Revenu Québec **Highlights:** Played second for Quebec at 2004 Canadian mixed. Skipped Quebec at 2000 Canadian U-21's

ALTERNATE: Vincent Roberge

COACH: Eric Sylvain

SASKATCHEWAN

NUTANA CURLING CLUB, SASKATOON



From left: Daniel Marsh, Kevin Marsh, Colton Flasch and Mike McEwen.

SKIP: Mike McEwen **Age:** 43 **Occupation:** Entrepreneur **Highlights:** Skipped Manitoba at 2016, '17, '19 and '22 Briers, Wild Card in '18 and '20, Wild Card 1 in '21, Ontario in '23; won bronze in '17. Played in 2016 and '17 Canadian mixed doubles. Skipped at 1998 and 2001 Canadian U-21's; won silver in '01, bronze in '98

THIRD: Colton Flasch **Age:** 33 **Occupation:** Owner, Flasch Construction INC **Highlights:** Played second for Saskatchewan at 2014, '15 and '16 Briers, Alberta in '19, Canada in '20, skipped Saskatchewan in '22; won gold in '19, bronze in '15. Won gold at 2011 Canadian U-21's as second for Saskatchewan

SECOND: Kevin Marsh **Age:** 35 **Occupation:** Manager — Category Strategy and Performance, Federated Co-operatives Ltd. **Highlights:** Played third for Saskatchewan at 2019 Brier, second in '22. Played second for Saskatchewan at 2016 Canadian mixed

LEAD: Daniel Marsh **Age:** 35 **Occupation:** Teacher, Sun West School Division **Highlights:** Played second for Saskatchewan at 2019 Brier, second in '22

ALTERNATE: Pat Simmons

COACH: Brent Laing

YUKON

WHITEHORSE CURLING CLUB



From left: Thomas Scoffin, Trygg Jensen, Joe Wallingham and Evan Latos.

SKIP: Thomas Scoffin **Age:** 29 **Occupation:** Accountant **Highlights:** Skipped the Yukon at 2020, '22 and '23 Briers. Skipped the Yukon at 2007, '08, '09, '10, '11 and '12 Canadian juniors, Alberta in '13; won silver in '13. Skipped the Yukon at 2020 Canadian mixed

THIRD: Trygg Jensen **Age:** 26 **Occupation:** Accountant, Swainson Alexander LLP **Highlights:** Played third for the Yukon at 2020, '22 and '23 Briers. Played lead for the Yukon at 2014 Canadian juniors, second in '15 and '16, third in '18, skip in '19

SECOND: Joe Wallingham **Age:** 27 **Occupation:** First Nation education advocate, Yukon First Nations Education Directorate **Highlights:** Played lead for the Yukon at 2020, '22 and '23 Briers. Played second for the Yukon at 2013 Canadian juniors, skipped in '14, '15 and '18

LEAD: Evan Latos **Age:** 29 **Occupation:** Civil engineer, Associated Engineering **Highlights:** Played lead for the Yukon at 2022 and '23 Briers

ALTERNATE: Wade Scoffin

COACH: Kevin Patterson



Nolan Thiessen will be navigating a complex landscape as Curling Canada's new CEO, but he's up for the challenging task — and has the résumé to prove it

BY SCOTT CRUICKSHANK

PHOTO: REGINA LEADER-POST/KAYLE NEIS

Nolan Thiessen was Executive Director of Marketing and Fan Experience for Curling Canada when it was announced in Regina that Montana's BBQ & Bar would become the new title sponsor for Canada's Men's Curling Championship. Thiessen was elevated to his new role as Chief Executive Officer early in the New Year.

HE CHECKS OFF ALL THE BOXES



It makes for fascinating reading, this résumé. Peppered with achievement, the document contains its fair share of plot twists.

Once upon a time, after all, there had been the whole-hearted embracing of baseball, which makes sense for someone who is named after Nolan Ryan. A hard-throwing right-hander himself, wearing the pitching legend's famous No. 34 whenever he could, Nolan Thiessen excelled, getting recruited by a high school in Louisiana, pitching for Manitoba at the 2001 Canada Summer Games, before topping out as a junior-college arm in Texas.

Deciding to devote himself to another dream, the young man from Brandon repurposed his repetitive-motion athleticism, a knack that promised reliable delivery from the mound and,

yes, out of the hack. Providing front-end prowess for a couple of teams, skipped by Kevin Koe, then Pat Simmons, he went on to capture the Canadian Men's Curling Championship three times. He claimed the world title in 2010.

However, Thiessen — who, born in 1980, is the same age as five-time Brier champion Brad Gushue — stepped away from competitive curling eight years ago.

Just like that.

Of course, beyond the sporting pursuits, he had held down day jobs. Educational benchmarks — such as a commerce degree from the University of Manitoba, such as official designation as a chartered accountant, and as a Chartered Professional Accountant — ensured employability at highly regarded firms.



"I WAS VERY NOSTALGIC FROM THE TIME THE BOARD OFFERED ME THE POSITION AND I WAS NAMED CEO. I WAS LOOKING AT OLD PHOTOS AND DIFFERENT THINGS FROM THE SPORT, REFLECTING ON WHAT GOT ME HERE. THAT PASSION FOR SPORT, THAT PASSION FOR THIS SPORT, IS WHAT GOT ME HERE."

— NOLAN THIESSEN



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

But Thiessen was hatching a long-range plan — a professional future that meshed his corporate business acumen with his curling know-how.

And the man made it happen. By now there can be no doubts and ...

"No regrets, obviously," Thiessen says of his life's path. "It led me here."

And here, with Curling Canada, he is making a difference. Simply put, he thrives. He started work for the national body as an athlete liaison and consultant in 2016. Now, remarkably, he's made the oh-so-rare transition from high performance athlete and world champion to Chief Executive Officer of Curling Canada.

For the freshly minted boss — the contract was signed New Year's Eve — there has been an understandable inclination to assess the journey, analytically and sentimentally, to review the route to the top.

Like, how exactly did this happen?

"Obviously, I've thought about it a lot lately," says Thiessen, only 43. "I was very nostalgic from the time the board offered me the position and I was named CEO. I was looking at old photos and different things from the sport, reflecting on what got me here. That passion for sport, that passion for this sport, is what got me here."

"It's been interesting to think back while still looking forward."

The promotion doesn't require Thiessen to pull up stakes or adjust standards. Edmonton-based, eyes open and goals clear, he is ready.

"I need to be a better CEO a year from now than I am today," he says. "It's about continuously getting better and continuously trying to open those communication channels and break down silos, making sure there's alignment in the system."

"It's about relationships. Getting out and talking to people, seeing what the friction points are, seeing how I can limit those, how I can break down those barriers so we have room to grow."

As part of the interview process, he'd been asked to outline his mission, short- and long-term. So he shared the targets for his first 100 days in charge. He also described what success would look like in Year One.

In addition to organizational zeal, his status as a former athlete provides a unique perspective to the office. Thiessen acknowledges that tending to elite initiatives is part of the job — but not everything.

"Curling is a sport for life, so there's a lot of aspects, right?" he says. "Everyone sees the high-performance aspect at the Brier and Scotties. For the Podium Pathway, we want to keep that funnel as wide as possible so a lot of kids get that opportunity to be better. For me, it's really concentrating on club development, new curlers — trying to find a way to have more people enjoy our game — and then support everyone in the high-performance program."

Regarding the sport's upper echelon, Thiessen can expect to have Gushue in his ear. Exchanges between the old friends are nothing new, though. The push has been on for years.

"Hopefully now, with him at the helm, we can start to see a bit more change and become a little more friendly to high-performing curlers and curlers in general," says Gushue. "I know Nolan is definitely open to listening, fully aware that there's a whole lot of things he's responsible for, not just the best teams in the country."

Curling Canada's top rung had been on Thiessen's mind since Katherine Henderson

Nolan Thiessen celebrated Team Canada's 2015 Brier victory with his teammates (left to right) Pat Simmons, John Morris, Carter Rycroft, Tom Sallows and coach Earle Morris in Calgary.



Brad Gushue calls the hiring of Nolan Thiessen as Curling Canada's new CEO as a "good move" for Curling Canada.

vacated the post in August, 2023, to become CEO and president of Hockey Canada. And he knew, as a candidate in the conversation, he was legitimate.

In recent years, he had fortified his credentials — member of Curling Canada's Senior Management team, most recently as Executive Director, Marketing and Fan Experience; part of World Curling's Athlete Commission and Rules Commission; and board director of Sport Tourism Canada.

In short, Thiessen's hiring was no shock.

"It's a good move for Curling Canada — Nolan's a thoughtful guy, he's a smart guy," says Gushue. "Familiarity with the organization and the whole curling ecosystem, he knows the industry, he knows all the stakeholders."

"He does have some challenges. Curling, right now, is at a bit of a crossroads. We've got to adapt our game to the way the world has changed over the last 10 years. We've got to modernize it. We've got to make it more appealing to a young audience and continue to grow the game."

Well, good thing this isn't someone who shies away from obstacles.

Thiessen has survived the pressure-cooker of the worlds. He swept extra-end draws to the button, twice, to lay claim to Brier crowns. "Nerve-racking, but also exhilarating when you accomplish it. Those were huge things."

And then there had been that ordeal three years ago.

He was part of the leadership group attempting to stage, in a Bubble, the 2021 Scotties and Brier at the WinSport Event Centre in Calgary. Rewriting the hosting playbook, Curling Canada's brass figured out how to safely hold competitions in the face of the COVID-19 restrictions.

A crash course in problem-solving and crisis

Nolan Thiessen has worn Alberta blue with pride at the Brier, but also the red and white of Team Canada. His on-ice accomplishments include three Canadian men's championships plus one world title in 2010.



PHOTO: ANIL MUNGAL

management, the success stands as Thiessen's proudest moment. "We were able to deliver our sport. That we were able to play those events was really, really big for the sport — so much bigger than just winning games."

It's precisely the kind of greater-good thinking that makes Thiessen ideally suited to take charge. He realizes what's important.

He's also come to realize that things have a way of working out, that experience has a way of adding up.

"When I was 18, I wasn't telling people I wanted to be the CEO of Curling Canada," says Thiessen, chuckling. "But the responsibility is not lost on me — I know this is a big role and there's a lot that needs to happen. Really, it's the trust that the board has put in me to help lead the organization in this next phase."

"I want to get in there, do the work. I'm really excited for the opportunity."

Scott Cruickshank is a Calgary-based freelance writer





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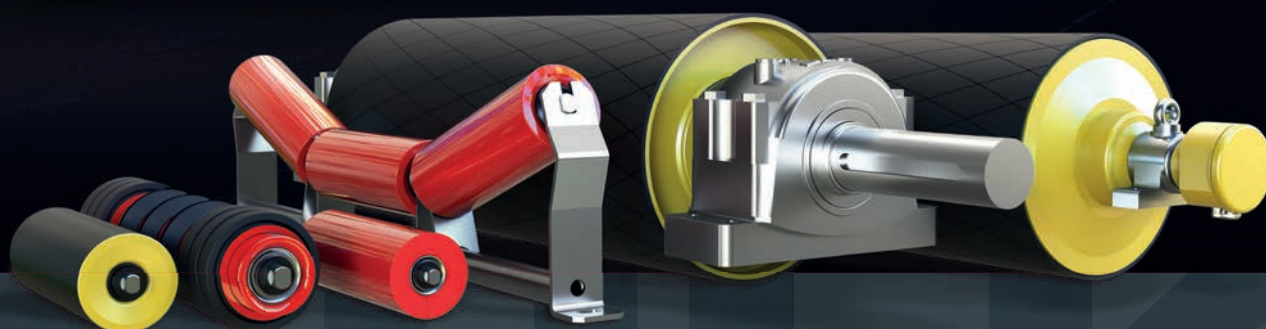
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Dustin Mikush, Curling Canada's Manager, Youth and Program Development, knows a thing or two about opening doors in curling.



JUST A KID WITH A KEY

Dustin Mikush has loved curling since he was a kid, and today he's helping open doors for a whole new generation of youth in this country to experience the joys of the sport in his new role with Curling Canada

BY KEVIN MITCHELL

Dustin Mikush had the key to the kingdom when he was just 12 years old.

That kingdom was the four-sheet curling club in Wadena, Sask., where he grew up. He was a precocious lad — a rink rat, if you will — and he loved to curl. So they gave him his own key, allowing him to throw rocks whenever he wanted.

Before he slid those rocks, he made his own ice: A double-threat kid, hungry to learn every aspect of a game that had already captured his heart.

“Part of that might have been so the head ice-maker didn't have to make my practice ice all the time,” laughs Mikush, who is now 24 years old —

and, in keeping with that deep connection to the game, works as Curling Canada's Manager, Youth and Program Development.

“I was very fortunate to get a key at a young age, where my parents could drop me off, and I could throw rocks. Learning how to do ice was a positive benefit. It was an important part of just being a curler, being able to read the ice in games.

“I just loved to throw rocks.”

Mikush went on to curl competitively, including winning the U-18 internationals, followed by appearances at the U-18 and Canadian U-21 championships. The latter came out of Alberta,

where he played while going to university in Edmonton.

He twice won a Spirit of Sandra Scholarship, given by the Sandra Schmirler Foundation, and was awarded a Curling Canada For the Love of Curling scholarship.

Today, he still plays in Saskatchewan — but his day job revolves around the game's administrative side, helping young people fall in love with the sport, and providing fresh ideas for clubs seeking growth.

"I was thinking about how cool it is — that he comes from a small town, and he's lived in a big city," says Bobby Ray, who is Curling Canada's Manager, Club Development and Membership Services. "He's played the Tuesday-night men's league, and he's played at the national championships. That diversity of experience is really cool. He brings that to everything he gets to influence now."

Mikush is full of ideas in a sport that welcomes his perspective. Before he joined Curling Canada, he was the Community Development Manager for CURLSASK and he left a big impact, drawing positive feedback wherever he went, and catching the eye of the national governing body.

The thing Mikush is most proud of, from his Saskatchewan tenure, was piloting the new sport of triples curling. Saskatchewan was the first province to fully implement it. The game had first been created by Curling Canada in 2017-18, which established a blueprint for other parts of the country.

Dustin Mikush was in teaching mode, helping young curlers learn the game, as CURLSASK hosted a skills development clinic during the U-12 U-15 Triples Cup in Humboldt last year.



"We found, in the year after COVID, that our U-15 numbers were so low that 'spiels were getting cancelled, basically because of no entries in the fours," Mikush explains. "We wanted to embrace change. The triples format is one less player to be able to form a team, and it's open gender. Which makes it easier to form a team."

Mikush says numbers rose substantially — 37 U-15 triples teams from across the province last year, up from "approximately 10 teams that were entering U-15 provincial 'spiels" the season before.

Mikush moved to Curling Canada this past summer, and he's immersed himself in programming and projects.

His work runs from administrating the ice-tech training program, to organizing the U-15 RockFest, which is a big focus this year — four regional events, with 312 youngsters from across Canada.

He also organizes educational webinars for youth program coordinators, coaches and parents; has implemented a new youth curling website (youthcurling.ca); is working on the Singles Curling development program; plus Hit Draw Tap for youth curlers aged six to 12.

So yes, he's busy, and brimming with ideas.

"The fact that Dustin has experience as a young curler, and understands both rural and urban opportunities and challenges, helps him connect with people he is working with to find solutions to making programs and events work for the kids in that community," says Helen Radford, who is Curling Canada's Manager, Youth Curling and NextGen.

"Dustin is also personable and curious, which helps him in his leadership role."

In addition to his labours on the youth side, Mikush works with curling clubs across the country, helping them adjust to both short- and long-term futures.

"It's extremely important," he says, "that as the generations are changing, we continue to adapt. We want to get young people into our sport, and they're consuming curling differently. Shorter ends is one thing curlers are enjoying more.

"We're looking at different ways to bring them into the sport, and keep them in the sport. It might even be through playing music during programming and games which can provide a more enjoyable experience. It's paramount for us to get more people on the ice, having an experience that's right for them, whether that be recreational or competitively. That's key for us at Curling Canada."

All that, and he's 24 years old. Radford says she hasn't given much thought to his age, and Ray says likewise.

"I'm about 10 years older," he remarks, "and



Dustin Mikush was rubbing shoulders with the giants of the game when he was still a youngster. As a Young Star at the 2012 Canada Cup in Moose Jaw, Sask., he got to meet (left to right) Ben Hebert, Marc Kennedy, John Morris and Kevin Martin.



Helen Radford, Curling Canada's Manager, Youth Curling and NextGen, is excited to have a go-getter like Dustin Mikush in the fold.

sometimes I forget we're not the same age. He's mature and he's professional.

"We think about the future of curling," Ray adds. "What does a curling club look like 30 years from now? (Mikush) has a tremendous respect for the tradition of curling, and what the curling club is set up like, but he's also from a generation that can respect that things need to change in order to attract a new audience and a new generation.

"The diversity of his experience, at such a young age, is the perfect blend to make a big impact right now.

"You want different people with different experiences, different ages, different genders, different everything. You want to diversify the people at the table as much as possible, and he brings one of those perspectives that's really important. With so many curling clubs and curling organizations saying they're trying to capture the next generation curler, you can go directly to somebody like a Dustin and get an idea of what that might look like."

Mikush's love of curling is evident with every word he speaks.

"There's just something about sliding a 44-pound stone across the ice for 10 ends. It's a great sport," he says simply. And now he's making an impact on all those other curlers sliding 44-pound stones on ice surfaces across the country.

He had a key to a curling club at age 12, half a lifetime ago, and he doesn't hesitate when asked what 12-year-old Dustin would have thought about where he is now, and what he's doing.

"I don't think 12-year-old Dustin would have believed that 12 years later, he'd be able to work full time in the sport of curling," Mikush says. "My parents were recreational curlers. They didn't come from the competitive world. My first-ever goal was to get a crest and go to provincials. I was so stoked at 14, when I made my first Under-18 provincials.

"And now, having been able to go to two national championships . . . I don't think 12-year-old Dustin would have believed that was possible. But I worked hard, invested a lot of time and energy into the sport. I've had lots of great experiences, met amazing people from across the country.

"I don't think (12-year-old Dustin) would have believed you."

But it's all true, and so Mikush works to grow the game, one player and one curling club at a time.

Meanwhile, Ray has watched Mikush at work. He says the young man "lives and breathes curling."

"You need experts in the organization, who have some other type of expertise," he adds. "You also need people who would die for the sport, and Dustin is both. It doesn't matter what the conversation is. He's got curling at the centre of his decision-making process."

Which isn't a surprising thing, for a kid with a key.

Kevin Mitchell is a sportswriter with the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix



PROFESSIONAL CURLING MEDIA ASSOCIATION OF CANADA ALL-STAR HONOUR ROLL

PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY



Wayne Middaugh has shown he can make an all-star team at any position. He's a seven-time all-star, throwing skip, third or second stones. Now that's versatility!

EIGHT-TIME WINNER

Glenn Howard — as third for Ontario in 1986, '92, as skip in 2006, '07, '10, '11, '12, '13

SEVEN-TIME WINNER

Wayne Middaugh — as second for Ontario in 1992, '93, '94, as skip in '98, 2001, as third in '12, '13

FIVE-TIME WINNERS

Randy Ferbey — as third for Alberta in 1988, '89, 2003, '04, '05

Brad Gushue — as skip for Nfld./Labrador in 2014, '17; as skip for Team Canada in 2018, '21; as skip for Wild Card 1 in 2022

Marc Kennedy — as second for Alberta in 2007, '08, '09, '11; as third for Northern Ontario in 2022

Pat Ryan — as skip for Alberta in 1985, '88; as third for British Columbia in 1993, '94, '95

Don Walchuk — as second for Alberta in 1987, '88, '89, as third in '96, '97

FOUR-TIME WINNERS

Rick Folk — as skip for Saskatchewan in 1978, '80; as skip for British Columbia in 1989, '94

Neil Harrison — as lead for Ontario in 1983, '84, '88, '97

Ben Hebert — as lead for Alberta in 2009, '11; as lead for Wild Card 2 in 2021; as lead for Wild Card 1 in 2023

Brent Laing — as second for Ontario in 2006, '10, '13; as second for Alberta in 2016



A three-time Brier all-star, John Morris was as intense as anybody who played in the Canadian Men's Curling Championship. He's represented Alberta, B.C. and Ontario.

Scott Pfeifer — as second for Alberta in 2002, '03, '04, '05

Bernie Sparkes — as second for Alberta in 1966, '67, '68, '69

THREE-TIME WINNERS

Ryan Fry — as third for Northern Ontario in 2015, '16, '19

E.J. Harnden — as second for Northern Ontario in 2017, '19, '20

Richard Hart — as third for Ontario in 2006, '09, '10

Brad Jacobs — as skip for Northern Ontario in 2015, '16, '19

Kevin Martin — as skip for Alberta in 1996, 2008, '09

John Morris — as third for Alberta in 2007, '08; as third for British Columbia in 2014

David Nedohin — as skip for Alberta in 2002, '03, '05

Denni Neufeld — as lead for Manitoba in 2016, '17; as lead for Wild Card in 2018

Mark Nichols — as lead for Manitoba in 2013, as second in '14; as third for Team Canada in 2018

Ron Northcott — as skip for Alberta in 1966, '68, '69

Marcel Rocque — as lead for Alberta in 2003, '04, '05

Fred Storey — as lead for Alberta in 1966, '68, '69

Ian Tetley — as second for Ontario in 1990, '98, 2001

FIRST-TEAM ALL-STARS

2023 Lead Ben Hebert, Wild Card 1
Second Brett Gallant, Wild Card 1
Third B.J. Neufeld, Manitoba
Skip Matt Dunstone, Manitoba

2022 Lead Karrick Martin, Canada
Second Kevin Marsh, Saskatchewan
Third Marc Kennedy, Northern Ontario
Skip Brad Gushue, Wild Card 1

2021 Lead Ben Hebert, Wild Card 2
Second Brad Thiessen, Alberta
Third Braeden Moskow, Saskatchewan
Skip Brad Gushue, Team Canada

2020 Lead Colin Hodgson, Wild Card
Second E.J. Harnden, Northern Ontario
Third Reid Carruthers, Wild Card
Skip Brendan Bottcher, Alberta

2019 Lead Dallan Muires, Saskatchewan
Second E.J. Harnden, Northern Ontario
Third Ryan Fry, Northern Ontario
Skip Brad Jacobs, Northern Ontario

2018 Lead Denni Neufeld, Wild Card
Second Brett Gallant, Team Canada
Third Mark Nichols, Team Canada
Skip Brad Gushue, Team Canada

2017 Lead Denni Neufeld, Manitoba
Second E.J. Harnden, Northern Ontario
Third Catlin Schneider, Saskatchewan
Skip Brad Gushue, N.L.

2016 Lead Denni Neufeld, Manitoba
Second Brent Laing, Alberta
Third Ryan Fry, Northern Ontario
Skip Brad Jacobs, Northern Ontario

2015 Lead Colin Hodgson, Manitoba
Second Carter Rycroft, Team Canada
Third Ryan Fry, Northern Ontario
Skip Brad Jacobs, Northern Ontario

2014 Lead Rick Sawatsky, British Columbia
Second Mark Nichols, Manitoba
Third John Morris, British Columbia
Skip Jim Cotter, British Columbia

2013 Lead Mark Nichols, Manitoba
Second Brent Laing, Ontario
Third Wayne Middaugh, Ontario
Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario

2012 Lead Derek Samagalski, Manitoba
Second Carter Rycroft, Alberta
Third Wayne Middaugh, Ontario
Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario



Marc Kennedy turned his shooting ability and sweeping prowess into five all-star selections over the years. He'll be back in Regina in his bid for a Montana's Brier title and another all-star selection with Team Brendan Bottcher.

2011 Lead Ben Hebert, Alberta
 Second Marc Kennedy, Alberta
 Third Jon Mead, Manitoba
 Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario

2010 Lead Nolan Thiessen, Alberta
 Second Brent Laing, Ontario
 Third Richard Hart, Ontario
 Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario

2009 Lead Ben Hebert, Alberta
 Second Marc Kennedy, Alberta
 Third Richard Hart, Ontario
 Skip Kevin Martin, Alberta

2008 Lead Craig Savill, Ontario
 Second Marc Kennedy, Alberta
 Third John Morris, Alberta
 Skip Kevin Martin, Alberta

2007 Lead Craig Savill, Ontario
 Second Marc Kennedy, Alberta
 Third John Morris, Alberta
 Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario

2006 Lead Steve Gould, Manitoba
 Second Brent Laing, Ontario
 Third Richard Hart, Ontario
 Skip Glenn Howard, Ontario

2005 Lead Marcel Rocque, Alberta
 Second Scott Pfeifer, Alberta
 Third Randy Ferbey, Alberta
 Skip David Nedohin, Alberta

2004 Lead Marcel Rocque, Alberta
 Second Scott Pfeifer, Alberta
 Third Randy Ferbey, Alberta
 Skip Brad Gushue, Nfld./Labrador

2003 Lead Marcel Rocque, Alberta
 Second Scott Pfeifer, Alberta
 Third Randy Ferbey, Alberta
 Skip David Nedohin, Alberta

2002 Lead Kelly Moskow, Saskatchewan
 Second Scott Pfeifer, Alberta
 Third Joseph Frans, Ontario
 Skip David Nedohin, Alberta

2001 Lead Dale Ness, Quebec
 Second Ian Tetley, Ontario
 Third Graeme McCarrel, Ontario
 Skip Wayne Middaugh, Ontario

2000 Lead Rory Golanowski, Saskatchewan
 Second Éric Sylvain, Quebec
 Third Jonathan Mead, Manitoba
 Skip Jeff Stoughton, Manitoba

1999 Lead Dale Ness, Quebec
 Second Chris Fulton, Ontario
 Third Pierre Charette, Quebec
 Skip Paul Flemming, Nova Scotia

1998 Lead Doug Armstrong, Manitoba
 Second Ian Tetley, Ontario
 Third Graeme McCarrel, Ontario
 Skip Wayne Middaugh, Ontario

1997 Lead Neil Harrison, Ontario
 Second Pat Perroud, Ontario
 Third Don Walchuk, Alberta
 Skip Vic Peters, Manitoba

1996 Lead Bert Hinch, British Columbia
 Second Dwayne Mihalicz, Saskatchewan
 Third Don Walchuk, Alberta
 Skip Kevin Martin, Alberta

1995 Lead Gerry Richard, British Columbia
 Second Wayne Charteris, Saskatchewan
 Third Pat Ryan, British Columbia
 Skip Kerry Burtnyk, Manitoba

1994 Lead Peter Corner, Ontario
 Second Wayne Middaugh, Ontario
 Third Pat Ryan, British Columbia
 Skip Rick Folk, British Columbia

1993 Lead Peter Corner, Ontario
 Second Wayne Middaugh, Ontario
 Third Pat Ryan, British Columbia
 Skip Russ Howard, Ontario

1992 Lead Don Bartlett, Alberta
 Second Wayne Middaugh, Ontario
 Third Glenn Howard, Ontario
 Skip Vic Peters, Manitoba

1991 Lead Don Bartlett, Alberta
 Second Don Reddick, Quebec
 Third Kevin Park, Alberta
 Skip Randy Woytowich, Saskatchewan

1990 Lead Pat Perroud, Ontario
 Second Ian Tetley, Ontario
 Third Eric Harnden, Northern Ontario
 Skip Ed Werenich, Ontario

1989 Lead Dallas Duce, Saskatchewan
 Second Don Walchuk, Alberta
 Third Randy Ferbey, Alberta
 Skip Rick Folk, British Columbia



Sharp-shooting Brad Jacobs has been an all-star skip three times at the Brier wearing Northern Ontario colours.



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For the love of curling



THE CHAMPIONS OF TOMORROW ARE COUNTING ON ALL OF US.

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LEGACY 
— For the Love of Curling —

1988 Lead Neil Harrison, Ontario
 Second Don Walchuk, Alberta
 Third Randy Ferbey, Alberta
 Skip Pat Ryan, Alberta

1987 Lead Kent Carstairs, Ontario
 Second Don Walchuk, Alberta
 Third Jim Armstrong, British Columbia
 Skip Russ Howard, Ontario

1986 Lead Garth Meyers, Saskatchewan
 Second Craig Meyers, Saskatchewan
 Third Glenn Howard, Ontario
 Skip Ed Lukowich, Alberta

1985 Lead Bill Fletcher, Ontario
 Second Don McKenzie, Alberta
 Third Dave Iverson, Manitoba
 Skip Pat Ryan, Alberta

1984 Lead Neil Harrison, Ontario
 Second Wilf Ross, Saskatchewan
 Third Dale Graham, Saskatchewan
 Skip Mike Riley, Manitoba

1983 Lead Neil Harrison, Ontario
 Second John Kawaja, Ontario
 Third Paul Savage, Ontario
 Skip Ed Lukowich, Alberta

1982 Lead W. Rechenmacher, Saskatchewan
 Second Al Roemer, British Columbia
 Third Doug Armour, Manitoba
 Skip Al Hackner, Northern Ontario

1981 Lead Jim McGrath, Ontario
 Second Roy Weigand, Quebec
 Third Mark Olson, Manitoba
 Skip Al Hackner, Northern Ontario

1980 Lead Jim Wilson, Saskatchewan
 Second Tom Wilson, Saskatchewan
 Third Neil Houston, Alberta
 Skip Rick Folk, Saskatchewan

1979 Lead Bryan Wood, Manitoba
 Second George Campbell, Northern Ontario
 Third Bill Carey, Manitoba
 Skip Barry Fry, Manitoba

1978 Lead Keiven Bauer, British Columbia
 Second Al Cook, British Columbia
 Third Mike Chernoff, Alberta
 Skip Rick Folk, Saskatchewan

1977 Lead Bob Collez, Manitoba
 Second Lionel Stokes, Yukon/N.W.T.
 Third Art Lobel, Quebec
 Skip Jim Ursel, Quebec

1976 Lead Keiven Bauer, British Columbia
 Second Don Aitken, Quebec
 Third Bert Gretzinger, British Columbia
 Skip Jack MacDuff, Newfoundland

1975 Lead Howard Atkinson, Quebec
 Second Mike Boyd, Ontario
 Third Bill Martin, Saskatchewan
 Skip Don Twa, Yukon/N.W.T.

1974 Lead Ron Green, Ontario
 Second Gerry Peckham, British Columbia
 Third Ron Anton, Alberta
 Skip Jim Ursel, Quebec

1973 Lead Ron Green, Ontario
 Second Dave Romkey, New Brunswick
 Third Bill Martin, Saskatchewan
 Skip Harvey Mazinke, Saskatchewan

1972 Lead Murray Gregga, Quebec
 Second Terry Watchorn, Alberta
 Third Dave Romano, Manitoba
 Skip Bill Kent, Quebec

1971 Lead Gary Ford, Saskatchewan
 Second Jim Pettapiece, Manitoba
 Third Rod Hunter, Manitoba
 Skip Bill Tetley, Northern Ontario

1970 Lead Gary Ford, Saskatchewan
 Second Leo Hebert, British Columbia
 Third Jim Carson, Northern Ontario
 Skip Don Duguid, Manitoba

1969 Lead Fred Storey, Alberta
 Second Bernie Sparkes, Alberta
 Third Pete Sherba, British Columbia
 Skip Ron Northcott, Alberta

1968 Lead Fred Storey, Alberta
 Second Bernie Sparkes, Alberta
 Third Jack Keys, Saskatchewan
 Skip Ron Northcott, Alberta

1967 Lead Keith Reilly, Ontario
 Second Bernie Sparkes, Alberta
 Third George Fink, Alberta
 Skip Doug Wankel, Saskatchewan

1966 Lead Fred Storey, Alberta
 Second Bernie Sparkes, Alberta
 Third Tom Howat, Ontario
 Skip Ron Northcott, Alberta

1965 Lead Ray Turnbull, Manitoba
 Second Ken Hamilton, Alberta
 Third Don Duguid, Manitoba
 Skip Jack Polyblank, Northern Ontario

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THIS VIEW

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THIS ONE

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to shop all of the Montana's Brier and Curling Canada fan favourites.





ON THE ROCKS

BY AL CAMERON

ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF BEING INVOLVED IN

a sport that has so many fans is that those fans are engaged. They are passionate. And they are vocal.

So, so vocal, both on social media and via e-mail.

You come to understand over time that by and large, most fans are supportive of the sport and the way it is operated, and that those fans rarely are pushed into action to voice their approval of how things are going. That's human nature.

So, too, is it human nature that if fans AREN'T happy with something, they're FAR more likely to let you hear about it.

We understand that's not a bad thing (most of the time, anyway). It means fans care. As Oscar Wilde put it, "There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about."

One common theme — besides the eternal query relating to why isn't there more curling on television — is the resistance to change.

So, we get it. Curling is a sport that is steeped in tradition, and on some levels that should be cherished. That said, standing still means you never advance, and were it not for a willingness to change things, we'd still be in an era with, for instance, no free-guard zone rule and teams peeling guards for 10 ends.

The hot topic for e-mailers this season has been Grand Slam of Curling broadcasts on Sportsnet — specifically, the enthusiastic pre-game introduction of teams by three-time Brier participant Robbie Doherty.

As one e-mailer put it: "So when did curling become a wrestling match. Sure sounds like it."

From another: "Announcing the team like curling is a three-ring circus, in my perception, doesn't convey the skills, strategies, records and the calm of curlers. We used to critique inappropriate behaviour and noise by curlers, now you seem to be wanting to, with the bellowing announcer, set up discourse."

You get the picture.

Of course, the issue, more than anything, is that what Robbie is doing is . . . different. It's loud, it's brash, and it's not what longtime curling fans are used to.

Well, here's some advice: get over it, and get used to different.

The curling landscape — indeed, the landscape of ALL spectator sports — has changed dramatically in recent years, and you can't rely on things that used to work.

And yes, Doherty's introductions are certainly not what you'd call "traditional," but you can't convince me that's a bad thing. We are a society that is plagued by short attention spans, and you need to do something a little off the beaten path sometimes to grab people's attention.

No, curling will never become pro wrestling in the sense that results on the ice are not pre-determined. But what pro wrestling does do well is extracting emotional responses from fans and viewers through the use of sounds and visuals, and storylines that make their fans care.

Curling storylines, of course, are purely organic, and always revolve around the same narrative — the desire to win a national championship and wear the Maple Leaf on the world stage.

But as we've seen in documentary series produced in Formula One, tennis and golf, what goes on between games, between events, with the stadium lights turned off, is fascinating and tells a more complete story of what these athletes sacrifice, how they live their lives, and what goes into game-day performance.

What makes those documentaries work is that they're real. The athletes pull back the curtains and admit flaws, admit to not liking some of their peers, and the very real pressures of life as an athlete.

Would it work in curling? Why not? There is interest from players, unquestionably, as they've seen the benefits of how those documentaries have helped athletes in Formula One, tennis and golf build their brands (not to mention their sponsorship income).

All that said, it may make for uncomfortable viewing for traditional curling fans who don't want to see any "warts", so to speak, on their favourite athletes.

But those are the same fans who need to accept that announcing the teams on the ice before a game can be jazzed up and made more dramatic and fun.

It's an adjustment they'll have to make, because I can assure you we're not standing still. We, like every other sport, know that there's a lot of competition for the sports entertainment dollar, and doing things the way we've always done them is not the answer.

So, like I said, get used to different. You never know what kind of fun you'll have.

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



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BRIER TANKARD HAS A STORIED PAST

IN 1924, WINNIPEG'S GEORGE CAMERON WAS determined to bring together the curlers of the East and West in friendship. As a first step, he persuaded the Macdonald Tobacco Company to award a trophy to Manitoba for annual competition, the winners to receive a goodwill tour to the eastern provinces with all expenses paid.

Two years later, Cameron and a small group of curlers persuaded the Macdonald Tobacco Company to replace the tour with a national competition. The company agreed and presented the Macdonald Brier Tankard for the Canadian Curling Championship in 1927.

Although many think the name "Brier" is an old Scottish curling term, it is — or was — a product made by Macdonald. Brier plug tobacco had a small heart-shaped piece of tin pressed into the plug (the heart of the tobacco) and this heart quickly became the symbol of excellence in Canadian curling — the Purple Heart.

The Canadian Curling Championship was played at Toronto's Granite Club from 1927 through 1939, when it started moving annually across Canada. Macdonald Tobacco and the Stewart family, which owned the company, had a great sense of Canadiana and when Macdonald completed its 50th year in 1979 (there was no play during three years of the Second World War) the Brier had been contested in every province and in every provincial capital.

Macdonald Tobacco withdrew its sponsorship in 1979 and the original Tankard was retired.

When Labatt Breweries became the Brier sponsor in 1980, it introduced a gold Labatt Tankard, which became the icon of the Brier and was awarded 21 times. When Labatt decided to end its title sponsorship in 2000, the Labatt Tankard was retired.

When Nokia Products Ltd. became the Brier's new sponsor, an agreement with the Canadian Curling Association — now Curling Canada — reactivated the original trophy beginning with the 2001 Nokia Brier.

The withdrawal of Nokia sponsorship and the introduction of Tim Hortons in 2005 did not change the storied traditions of the Brier.

For its first 27 years, the Tankard was presented with a sterling silver heart plaque attached to it on which the names of each team member were hand-engraved. After 27 years, no space was left, so a single plaque



PHOTO: CURLING CANADA

was attached to the back, where the names of all of the winners from 1955 to 1979 were engraved.

The size of the base was increased so the plaque could be removed from the back and a silver heart crest could be attached for every Brier-winning team.

The Brier Tankard now proudly displays a hand-engraved silver heart for each of the 92 Brier winners. Teams from Alberta have lifted the Tankard eight times in the past 17 years at the Tim Hortons Brier.

The original cup on the trophy was hand-tooled in Great Britain and is a work of art that could be re-created only in Europe. The replacement value of the original trophy has been estimated at \$50,000.

The original Macdonald Brier Trophy has been beautifully restored and its base expanded to display hand-engraved silver hearts for each of the 92 Brier winners.

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

PRESENTED IN MEMORY OF ROSS G.L. HARSTONE (1885-1964)

Kelly Knapp is the latest winner of the Ross Harstone Award

presented each year to the player chosen by his peers as the curler in the Brier who best represents Ross G.L. Harstone's high ideals of good sportsmanship, observance of the rules, exemplary conduct and curling ability.

Knapp, skip of Team Saskatchewan, was awarded the honour for his performance at the 2023 Tim Hortons Brier in London, Ont.

The award — not nearly as well known to the public as the Brier Tankard — is of tremendous importance to the competitors because it represents the esteem of one's peers, a judgment that reflects how well you measure up to the curling ideals of sportsmanship.

Harstone was a strong advocate of curling as a friendly, non-commercial game in which sportsmanship without victory is enough.



Kelly Knapp, right, accepts the Ross Harstone Award from Gerry Peckham, Curling Canada's former Director, High Performance.

Nine players from Saskatchewan have won the Ross Harstone Award, including Scott Manners in 2012.



PHOTOS: MICHAEL BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

HARSTONE AWARD WINNERS

2023	Kelly Knapp	Saskatchewan
2022	Scott Saccary	Nova Scotia
2021	Brendan Bottcher	Alberta
2020	Colin Hodgson	Wild Card (Manitoba)
2019	Darren Moulding	Wild Card (Alberta)
2018	Greg Smith	Newfoundland/Labrador
2017	Jean-Michel Ménard*	Quebec
2016	Tyrel Griffith	British Columbia
2015	Jim Cotter*	British Columbia
2014	Greg Balsdon	Ontario
2013	Paul Flemming*	Nova Scotia
2012	Scott Manners	Saskatchewan
2011	Jim Cotter*	British Columbia
2010	Ian Fitzner-LeBlanc	Nova Scotia
2009	Dean Hicke	Saskatchewan
2008	Gerry Adam	Saskatchewan
2007	Mark Whitehead	Northwest Territories/Yukon
2006	Jean-Michel Ménard*	Quebec
2005	Randy Dutiaume	Manitoba
2004	Daniel Lafleur	Quebec
2003	Bob Jenion	Manitoba
2002	Mark Lang	Saskatchewan
2001	Paul Flemming*	Nova Scotia
2000	Bryan Miki	British Columbia
1999	Gerald Shymko	Saskatchewan
1998	Toby McDonald	Newfoundland
1997	Vic Peters	Manitoba
1996	Brian Rafuse	Nova Scotia
1995	Rick Folk	British Columbia
1994	Mark Noseworthy*	Newfoundland
1993	Trevor Alexander	Northwest Territories/Yukon
1992	Jim Armstrong**	British Columbia
1991	Rick Lang	Northern Ontario
1990	Craig Lepine	British Columbia
1989	Bert Gretzinger	British Columbia
1988	Thomas Hakansson	Nova Scotia
1987	Jim Armstrong**	British Columbia
1986	Bill Campbell	Nova Scotia
1985	Daniel Hildebrand	Manitoba
1984	John Helston	Manitoba
1983	Jim Armstrong**	British Columbia
1982	Mark Noseworthy*	Newfoundland
1981	Mel Watchorn*	Alberta
1980	Wayne Hamilton	Newfoundland
1979	Dr. Wayne Matheson	Prince Edward Island
1978	Dave Durrant	Nova Scotia
	Peter Murray	New Brunswick
1977	Joe Power	Newfoundland
1976	Jim Ussel	Quebec
1975	Harvey Mazinke	Saskatchewan
1974	Larry McGrath	Saskatchewan
1973	Mel Watchorn*	Alberta
1972	David Sullivan	New Brunswick
1971	R.J. (Bob) Pickering	Saskatchewan
1970	Dr. (Ed) Steeves	New Brunswick
1969	W.F. (Bill) Piercey	Newfoundland
1968	Charles Piper Jr.	Nova Scotia
1967	D.S. (Buzz) McGibney	British Columbia
1966	George MacCharles	Newfoundland

*Two-time winner **Three-time winner

PAUL MCLEAN AWARD

PHOTO: ANDREW KLAVER



Dave Komosky, Editor, Event Daily Publications, was the winner of the Paul McLean Award presented at the 2023 Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Kamloops, B.C.

Dave Komosky was the recipient of the Paul McLean Award at the 2023 Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Kamloops, B.C. The award is presented annually to a person behind the scenes who has made a significant contribution to the sport of curling. Komosky is Editor, Event Daily Publications, for Curling Canada. TSN technical producer Phil Laplante was winner of the award in 2022.

No award was presented in 2021. 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 Dec. 14, 2005, at his home in Brampton, Ont., after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 39.

Komosky's introduction to curling took place in 1972 when he covered the Canadian Mixed Curling Championship in Winnipeg as a writer for the Winnipeg Tribune under legendary sports editor Jack Matheson.

He would go on to report on curling at both the Calgary Herald and Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, from the grassroots level all the way up to Canadian and world championships.

He has covered 31 Briers and nine world curling championships, as either a newspaper reporter or in his role with Curling Canada. Curling has given him the opportunity to visit every province in the country except Prince Edward Island.

The inaugural recipient of the award was Richard Wells, TSN Director (hockey, baseball and curling).

HEC GERVAIS AWARD

The Hec Gervais Award is presented annually to the most valuable player in the Canadian Men's Curling Championship playoffs.

2023	Brad Gushue	Team Canada
2022	Brad Gushue	Wild Card #1
2021	Brendan Bottcher, skip	Alberta
2020	Brad Gushue, skip	Newfoundland/Labrador
2019	Kevin Koe, skip	Alberta
2018	Brad Gushue, skip	Team Canada
2017	Brad Gushue, skip	Newfoundland/Labrador
2016	Kevin Koe, skip	Alberta
2015	Pat Simmons, skip	Team Canada
2014	Carter Rycroft, second	Alberta
2013	Brad Jacobs, skip	Northern Ontario
2012	Wayne Middaugh, third	Ontario
2011	Jon Mead, third	Manitoba
2010	Kevin Koe, skip	Alberta
2009	Kevin Martin, skip	Alberta
2008	John Morris, third	Alberta
2007	Glenn Howard, skip	Ontario
2006	Jean-Michel Ménard, skip	Quebec
2005	David Nedohin, third	Alberta
2004	Mark Dacey, skip	Nova Scotia
2003	David Nedohin, third	Alberta
2002	David Nedohin, third	Alberta
2001	David Nedohin, third	Alberta
2000	Bryan Miki, second	British Columbia
1999	Jeff Stoughton, skip	Manitoba
1998	Graeme McCarrel, third	Ontario
1997	Kevin Martin, skip	Alberta



Winning the Hec Gervais Award for Most Valuable Player in the Brier playoffs is getting to be old hat for skip Brad Gushue. He won the award for the fifth time in seven years last season in London, Ont. Making the award was (left) Jeff Stoughton, National Men's Coach and Program Manager for Curling Canada.

Saskatchewan HONOUR ROLL

The first Brier took place in 1927. Since then, a team from Saskatchewan has won the coveted Brier Tankard seven times

Note: 2021 Saskatchewan championship was cancelled due to pandemic; 2020 champions represented Saskatchewan at the 2021 Brier.

ACHTYMICHUK, George — of Regina as second in 1973, '75
ADAM, Gerald — of Yorkton as third in 1999; of Davidson as second in 2007, '08
ANDERSON, C.B. — of Saskatoon as third in 1934
ANHOLT, Roger — of Moose Jaw as skip in 1976
ANNABLE, Clifford — of Saskatoon as second in 1946; of Rosetown as skip in '48, as third in '51
ARMSTRONG, Mike — of Battleford as lead in 2012; of Regina as second in '23
ARMSTRONG, Murray — of Saskatoon as second in 1965
BARBOUR, Bert — of Saskatoon as second in 1931
BARKWELL, Oswald — of Yellow Grass as skip in 1927
BATTELL, Carl — of Moose Jaw as skip in 1932
BAUM, William — of Rosthern as lead in 1933
BECKETT, James — of Kinley as second in 1940, '41
BENTLEY, John — of Delisle as third in 1953
BERNER, Kenneth — of Assiniboia as second in 1981
BITZ, Scott — of Regina as skip in 2002; of Moose Jaw as third in 2009
BLACK, J.S. — of Saskatoon as skip in 1935
BROWER, John — of Prince Albert as third in 1938, '39; of Saskatoon in '46
BRYDEN, Gary — of Regina as skip in 1984
BUCK, Wyatt — of Regina as second in 1991, '93
BURNS, Monty — of Saskatoon as lead in 1946
BUSHELL, Donald — of Assiniboia as third in 1981
CAMPBELL, Alexander — of Avonlea as lead in 1947
CAMPBELL, Donald C. — of Avonlea as third in 1954, '55, as second in '57
CAMPBELL, Glen — of Avonlea as third in 1947, '57, as second in '54, '55, as lead in '61, '66
CAMPBELL, Gordon — of Avonlea as lead in 1954
CAMPBELL, Lloyd — of Avonlea as second in 1947, as lead in '55, '57
CAMPBELL, W.W. Garnet — of Avonlea as skip in 1947, '54, '55, '57, as third in '61, '69, '70, '71, as second in '66, '68
CASEY, Adam — of Regina as skip in 2017
CHARTERIS, Wayne — of Kerrobert as third in 1982, as second in '95
CLAYTON, David — of Regina as third in 1936
CURSONS, Neil — of Yorkton as lead in 1999
DABROWSKI, Donald — of Saskatoon as lead in 1988



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Kirk Muyres, who wore the green of Saskatchewan at five Briers, came from good curling stock. Five other Muyres family members played at the Brier, including his dad Lyle.

DACEY, Mark — of Kerrobert as third in 1995
DEIS, Ryan — of Battleford as second in 2012
DESPINS, Glen — of Moose Jaw as third in 1996, '98
DIENO, Clint — of Muenster as third in 2004
DOERR, Robert — of Estevan as third in 1989
DUCE, Dallas — of Estevan as lead in 1989, as second in '97
DUNBAR, George — of Prince Albert as second in 1938, as skip in '39
DUNBAR, William — of Kinley as skip in 1940, '41
DUNCAN, Allan — of Rosetown as lead in 1928
DUNSTONE, Matt — of Saskatoon as third in 2018; of Regina as skip in '20, '21
EATON, Ronald — of Kinley as lead in 1940, '41
ELLERT, Robert — of Assiniboia as skip in 1981
FARRELL, Glen — of Saskatoon as third in 1972
FLASCH, Colton — of Saskatoon as second in 2014, '15, '16; as skip in '22
FOLK, Rick — of Saskatoon as skip in 1978, '79, '80
FORD, Gary — of Avonlea as lead in 1968, '69, '70, '71
FORSYTH, Sandy — of Moose Jaw as lead in 1996
FOSS, Wilf — of Regina as second in 1984
FRANKLIN, John — of Rosetown as skip in 1942, '51, as third in '48
FRASER, Reg — of Saskatoon as lead in 1935
GARDINER, Charles — of Regina as second in 1936

GARDINER, Donald — of Lemberg as skip in 1987
 GARDINER, Sid — of Eston as second in 1958
 GEISLER, Arnold — of Yorkton as second in 1999
 GERMAINE, Frank — of Saskatoon as third in 1935
 GLASS, Robert — of Prince Albert as second in 1939
 GOLANOWSKI, Rory — of Saskatoon as lead in 2000; of Muenster in '04
 GRAHAM, Archie — of Moose Jaw as lead in 1937
 GRAHAM, Dale — of Regina as third in 1984
 GRAHAM, Fred W. — of Regina as third in 1928
 GRIMES, Gordon — of Eston as skip in 1958
 GRUNDY, John — of Estevan as lead in 1983; of Regina in '91, '93
 GUDEREIT, Kerry — of Regina as lead in 1992
 HAICHERT, Chris — of Davidson as second in 2005, '06
 HARCOURT, Douglas — of Quill Lake as skip in 1994; of Humboldt in 2001, '03
 HARCOURT, Greg — of Quill Lake as second in 1994; of Humboldt in 2001, '03
 HASTINGS, Frank — of Nipawin as skip in 1952
 HAY, Hector — of Yellow Grass as second in 1927
 HAYES, F. — of Rosthern as third in 1933
 HEANEY, John — of Regina as second in 1949
 HEARTWELL, Fraser — of Rosetown as third in 1942
 HEARTWELL, George — of Rosetown as second in 1951
 HEARTWELL, Joseph — of Rosetown as skip in 1928
 HEARTWELL, William — of Rosetown as second in 1948
 HEBERT, Ben — of Davidson as lead in 2005, '06
 HEBERT, Brad — of Regina as skip in 1992
 HEIDT, Brad — of Kerrobert as skip in 1982, '95
 HENDERSON, Dalton — of Saskatoon as skip in 1946
 HICKE, Dean — of Moose Jaw as lead in 2009
 HICKS, Robert — of Moose Jaw as second in 1976
 HILL, Alfred — of Yellow Grass as lead in 1927
 HILL, Jimmy — of Delisle as skip in 1953, '56
 HOREAK, Harold — of Regina as skip in 1949
 HRITZUK, Eugene — of Saskatoon as skip in 1985, '88
 HUMPHRIES, Mansfield — of Prince Albert as skip in 1938
 JONES, Brennen — of Regina as second in 2011; as third in '23
 JORDISON, Joel — of Moose Jaw as skip in 2009
 KALTHOFF, Kevin — of Quill Lake as third in 1994; of Humboldt in 2001, '03
 KEYS, Jack — of Avonlea as skip in 1961, as third in '66, '68, as second in '70, '71
 KIDBY, DJ — of Regina as lead in 2013
 KIDBY, Dustin — of Regina as lead in 2017, '20, '21
 KITTLESON, E.S. — of Regina as lead in 1949
 KLIPPENSTEIN, Dan — of Regina as lead in 1973, '75
 KNAPP, Kelly — of Regina as skip in 2023
 KNAPP, Trent — of Regina as lead in 2023
 KNUTSON, Arthur — of Elbow as third in 1967
 KNUTSON, Elmer — of Elbow as lead in 1967
 KNUTSON, Gay — of Elbow as second in 1967
 KORTE, Bruce — of Saskatoon as skip in 2000, '10; of Muenster in '04
 KORTE, Roger — of Saskatoon as second in 2000, '10; of Muenster in '04
 KRUPSKI, Garry — of Lemberg as third in 1987
 KRUPSKI, Mark — of Lemberg as lead in 1987
 KRUPSKI, Raymond — of Lemberg as second in 1987
 LANG, John — of Rosetown as second in 1928, '42
 LANG, Mar — of Regina as third in 2002



As a skip Pat Simmons represented Saskatchewan in four straight Briers from 2005 to 2008, and again in 2011 as a fourth for Steve Laycock.

LANG, Tyler — of Battleford as third in 2012
 LAYCOCK, Steve — of Davidson as lead in 2007, '08; of Regina as skip in '11, of Saskatoon as skip in 2014, '15, '16, '18
 LLOYD, Harold — of Rosetown as lead in 1951
 LOEFFLER, Kenneth — of Estevan as lead in 1997
 MACDONALD, J. — of Moose Jaw as lead in 1932
 MACNEVIN, Elmer — of Delisle as lead in 1953, as second in '56; of Saskatoon as third in '65
 MANNERS, Scott — of Battleford as skip in 2012
 MANWARING, Greig — of Regina as third in 1977
 MARKOWSKY, Rob — of Saskatoon as lead in 2010
 MARSH, Dan — of Saskatoon as second in 2019; of lead in '22
 MARSH, Kevin — of Saskatoon as third in 2019; as second in '22
 MARTIN, Bill — of Regina as third in 1973, '75
 MAZINKE, Harvey — of Regina as skip in 1973, '75
 MCARTER, William — of Saskatoon as third in 1930, '31
 MCCUSKER, Brian — of Regina as third in 1991, '93, as second in 2002
 MCGILLIVRAY, W.L. — of Regina as skip in 1928
 MCGRATH, Larry — of Kindersley as skip in 1974
 MCKEE, Darrell — of Saskatoon as third in 2000, as skip in 2010
 MCLACHLAN, Cliff — of Rosthern as skip in 1933
 MCLEOD, R.B. — of Saskatoon as skip in 1930, '34
 MCMAHON, James — of Kinley as third in 1940, '41
 MCNEILL, James — of Saskatoon as lead in 1934; of Prince Albert in '39
 MCNEVIN, C.A. — of Regina as lead in 1936
 MEACHEM, Shaun — of Regina as second in 2017
 MIHALICZ, Dwayne — of Moose Jaw as second in 1996, '98
 MILLER, Jack — of Saskatoon as skip in 1931
 MILLER, Bob — of Saskatoon as third in 1985
 MILLS, Ronald — of Saskatoon as third in 1980
 MONTGOMERY, Rod — of Moose Jaw as skip in 1996, '98
 MORRIS, Donald — of Delisle as lead in 1956
 MOSKOWY, Braeden — of Regina as third in 2013, '20, '21
 MOSKOWY, Kelly — of Regina as lead in 2002
 MOSLEY, Jeff — of Estevan as third in 1997
 MUYRES, Craig — of Humboldt as second in 1986

MUYRES, Dallan — of Saskatoon as lead in 2011, '14, '15, '16, '18, '19
MUYRES, Garth — of Humboldt as lead in 1986
MUYRES, Kirk — of Saskatoon as third in 2014, '15, '16; as second in '18; as skip in '19
MUYRES, Lyle — of Humboldt as skip in 1986
MUYRES, Warren — of Humboldt as third in 1986
NESBITT, W. — of Regina as lead in 1929
NOVAKOWSKI, Robert — of Regina as second in 1992
ORMSBY, Dan — of Kerrobert as lead in 1995
ORTLOFF, G.K. — of Prince Albert as third in 1950
OSTBERG, F. — of Nipawin as lead in 1952
PACE, C.S. — of Regina as lead in 1928
PACKET, James — of Estevan as third in 1983, as skip in '89, '97
PARKINSON, Ash — of Regina as third in 1929
PASCOE, Pallie — of Moose Jaw as second in 1932
PAULSEN, Art — of Saskatoon as lead in 1985
PAULSEN, Nick — of Saskatoon as second in 1985
PEAT, Sid — of Saskatoon as second in 1935
PERRY, Mel — of Regina as lead in 1963
PICKERING, Robert — of Avonlea as second in 1961, as skip in '66, '68, '69, '70, '71
RECHENMACHER, Warren — of Kerrobert as lead in 1982
REED, Sudbury — of Prince Albert as lead in 1938
RICHARDSON, Arnold — of Regina as third in 1959, '60, '62, '63, '64
RICHARDSON, Ernie — of Regina as skip in 1959, '60, '62, '63, '64
RICHARDSON, Garnet — of Regina as second in 1959, '60, '62, '63, '64
RICHARDSON, Wesley — of Regina as lead in 1959, '60, '62, '64
RICHTER, Ed — of Regina as third in 1949
ROBERTSON, Edward — of Saskatoon as second in 1934
ROGERS, Les — of Regina as skip in 1977
ROGERS, Victor — of Regina as lead in 1977
ROSS, Richard — of Regina as skip in 1929
ST. JOHN, Rod — of Kindersley as lead in 1974
ST. JOHN, Ron — of Kindersley as third in 1974
ST. JOHN, Stuart — of Eston as lead in 1958
ST. JOHN, Wayne — of Kindersley as second in 1974
SANSOM, John — of Rosetown as lead in 1942, '48



They called him The King for a reason. Ernie Richardson won four Briers over his brilliant career curling out of Regina, and came within a whisker of winning a fifth.

SCHILLE, Chris — of Regina as second in 2013
SCHMIDT, Aaron — of Moose Jaw as second in 2009
SCHMIDT, Lloyd — of Estevan as second in 1989
SCHMIDT, Rodger — of Saskatoon as lead in 1978
SCHNEIDER, Catlin — of Regina as third in 2017; as second in '20, '21; of Saskatoon as third in '22
SCHNEIDER, Jamie — of Kronau as skip in 1990
SCHNEIDER, Larry — of Kronau as lead in 1990
SCHNEIDER, Michael — of Kronau as second in 1990
SCHNEIDER, Rick — of Kronau as third in 1990
SCOLLON, Alex — of Saskatoon as lead in 1930
SHARP, Jeff — of Davidson as third in 2005, '06, '07 '08
SHARP, Warren — of Regina as third in 1992
SHAUGHNESSY, Del — of Saskatoon as third in 1988
SHYMKO, Gerald — of Yorkton as skip in 1999
SIMMONS, Pat — of Davidson as skip in 2005, '06, '07, '08; of Regina as third in '11
SMITH, A. — of Regina as second in 1929
SMITH, Frank — of Moose Jaw as third in 1932, as skip in '37
SOPARLO, Murray — of Saskatoon as second in 1988
STEVENSON, Gary — of Saskatoon as lead in 1965
STEWART, Gordon — of Moose Jaw as third in 1976
STEWART, William — of Rosthern as second in 1933
SUTHERLAND, Jack — of Eston as third in 1958
TAIT, Jeff — of Moose Jaw as lead in 1998
TAIT, Maurice — of Regina as second in 1977
TAYLOR, Charles — of Rosetown as third in 1928
TEASDALE, Ralph — of Regina as second in 1928
THOMAS, Bob — of Avonlea as second in 1969
THOMPSON, Robert — of Saskatoon as third in 1978, '79
TRAPP, Murray — of Saskatoon as second in 1972
TURNER, William — of Moose Jaw as third in 1937
VIRTUE, Brock — of Regina as skip in 2013
WANKEL, Douglas — of Elbow as skip in 1967
WATTS, R.R. — of Saskatoon as second in 1930
WEMPE, Brian — of Quill Lake as lead in 1994; of Humboldt in 2001, '03
WEST, Earl — of Moose Jaw as second in 1937
WHETTER, Jack — of Kerrobert as second in 1982
WHITTER, Ernest — of Prince Albert as skip in 1950
WHITTER, James — of Prince Albert as lead in 1950
WHITTER, Bill — of Prince Albert as second in 1950
WILKEN, Peter — of Yellow Grass as third in 1927
WILSON, Jim — of Saskatoon as lead in 1979, '80
WILSON, Thomas — of Saskatoon as second in 1978, '79, '80
WILSON, William — of Assiniboia as lead in 1981
WILSON, William R. — of Moose Jaw as lead in 1976
WITHEROW, Nels — of Nipawin as third in 1952
WORTH, Harold — of Delisle as second in 1953, as third in '56, as skip in '65
WOYTOWICH, Randy — of Regina as skip in 1991, '93
WYATT, Douglas — of Saskatoon as skip in 1972
YOUNG, P. — of Saskatoon as lead in 1931
YOUNGSON, Les — of Regina as skip in 1936
ZIMMER, Jerry — of Regina as lead in 1984
ZIOLA, Kirk — of Estevan as skip in 1983
ZIOLA, Monte — of Estevan as second in 1983
ZOERB, Dale — of Saskatoon as lead in 1972



MONTANA'S BRIER RECORDS & STATISTICS

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It wouldn't be a Brier unless Ben Hebert was in it. Hebert has played in 15 of them, representing both Saskatchewan and Alberta, and look for him again this year in Regina.

Most appearances (excludes alternates)

- 20 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland in 2003; of Newfoundland/Labrador in '04, '05, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '20; of Team Canada in '18, '19, '21, '23; of Wild Card in '22
- 19 — Mark Nichols of Newfoundland in 2003; of Newfoundland/Labrador in '04, '05, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '15, '16, '17, '20; of Manitoba in '13, '14; of Team Canada in '18, '19, '21, '23; of Wild Card 1 in '22
- 18 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 1986, '87, '89, '91, '92, '93, '94, 2006, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '16, '17, '22
- 16 — Jamie Koe of the N.W.T./Yukon in 2006, '07, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14; of N.W.T. in '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '22, '23
- 15 — James Grattan of New Brunswick in 1997, 2002, '03, '04, '06, '08, '09, '10, '11, '13, '14, '18, '20, '21, '22
- 15 — Ben Hebert of Saskatchewan in 2005, '06; of Alberta in '07, '08, '09, '11, '13, '15, '16, '19, '22; of Team Canada in '17, '20; of Wild Card 2 in '21; of Wild Card 1 in '23
- 15 — Brent Laing of Ontario in 2002, '06, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '20, '21, '23; of Alberta in '15, '16; of Team Canada in '17
- 14 — Brad Chorostkowski of N.W.T./Yukon in 1998, 2001, '06, '07, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14; of N.W.T. in '15, '16, '17, '18
- 14 — Ryan Fry of Manitoba in 2007; of Newfoundland/Labrador in '09, '10, '11, '12; of Northern Ontario in '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19; of Ontario in '20, '21, '23
- 14 — E.J. Harnden of Northern Ontario in 2008, '10, '11, '12, '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '22; of Team Canada in '23

- 14 — Ryan Harnden of Northern Ontario in 2008, '10, '11, '12, '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '22; of Manitoba in '23
- 14 — Russ Howard of Ontario in 1980, '86, '87, '89, '91, '92, '93, '94; of New Brunswick in '99, 2000, '02, '03, '04, '09
- 14 — Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario in 2007, '08, '10, '11, '12, '13, '15, '16, '17, '18, '19, '20, '21, '22
- 12 — Marc Kennedy of Alberta in 2007, '08, '09, '11, '13, '15, '16; of Team Canada in '17; of Northern Ontario in '20, '21, '22; of Wild Card 1 in '23
- 12 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 1991, '92, '95, '96, '97, 2000, '06, '07, '08, '09, '11, '13
- 12 — John Morris of Ontario in 2002; of Alberta in '07, '08, '09, '11, '13, '22; of British Columbia in '14, '17; of Team Canada in '15, '16; of Wild Card 2 in '21
- 12 — Bernie Sparkes of Alberta in 1966, '67, '68, '69; of British Columbia in '72, '73, '74, '76, '78, '83, '84, '87
- 12 — Éric Sylvaïn of Quebec in 2000, '02, '05, '06, '08, '09, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19
- 12 — Geoff Walker of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2012, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '20; of Team Canada in '18, '19, '21, '23; of Wild Card 1 in '22
- 11 — Martin Crête of Quebec in 2008, '09, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19, '21, '22, '23
- 11 — Brett Gallant of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2013, '14, '15, '16, '17, '20; of Team Canada in '18, '19, '21; of Wild Card 1 in '22, '23
- 11 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2010, '12, '14, '15, '16, '19, '22, '23; of Team Canada in '17, '20; of Wild Card 2 in '21
- 11 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 1991, '96, '99, 2000, '06, '07, '09, '10, '11, '13, '14
- 10 — Garnet Campbell of Saskatchewan in 1947, '54, '55, '57, '61, '66, '68, '69, '70, '71
- 10 — Reid Carruthers of Manitoba in 2011, '13, '14, '15, '18, '19, '22; of Wild Card in '20; of Wild Card 1 in '21; of Wild Card 2 in '23
- 10 — Jim Cotter of British Columbia in 2008, '11, '12, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19, '20, '21
- 10 — Paul Flemming of Nova Scotia in 1998, '99, 2001, '05, '11, '13, '18, '20, '21, '22
- 10 — Rick Lang of Northern Ontario in 1975, '76, '80, '81, '82, '85, '88, '91, '93, '95
- 10 — Steve Laycock of Saskatchewan in 2007, '08, '11, '14, '15, '16, '18; of British Columbia in '19, '20, '21
- 10 — Jean-Michel Ménard of Quebec in 2003, '05, '06, '08, '09, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17
- 10 — Wayne Middaugh of Ontario in 1991, '92, '93, '94, '98, 2001, '05, '12, '13; of Wild Card 3 in '21
- 10 — Mark O'Rourke of Prince Edward Island in 1991, '93, '95, '97, '99, 2001, '07, '08, '09, '10
- 10 — Pat Ryan of Alberta in 1979, '85, '87, '88, '89; of British Columbia in '93, '94, '95, 2002, '03
- 10 — Rick Sawatsky of British Columbia in 2008, '11, '12, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19, '20, '21
- 10 — Ed Werenich of Ontario in 1973, '74, '77, '81, '83, '84, '88, '90, '95, '97
- 9 — Don Aitken of Quebec in 1970, '72, '75, '76, '77, '79, '80, '82, '85
- 9 — Robert Borden of N.W.T./Yukon in 2012, '13, '14; of N.W.T. in '15, '16, '17, '18, '21, '22
- 9 — Adam Casey of N.L. in 2012, '13, '14; of P.E.I. in '15, '16; of Saskatchewan in '17; of Manitoba in '20, '21; of Wild Card 3 in '22



Skips (left to right) Kevin Martin, Glenn Howard and Jeff Stoughton have been Brier regulars over the years. Howard, 61, won the Ontario title again this season and will be involved in some capacity in Regina despite a knee injury that derailed his performance during the provincial playdowns.



Skip Al Hackner is remembered for pulling off one of the greatest clutch shots to help win the 1985 Brier for Northern Ontario. He'll be coaching Northern Ontario this year.

- 9 — Peter Gallant of Prince Edward Island in 1982, '91, '93, '95, '97, '99, 2001, '07, '08
- 9 — Al Hackner of Northern Ontario in 1980, '81, '82, '85, '88, '89, '92, '95, 2001
- 9 — Grant Odishaw of New Brunswick in 1991, '96, '99, 2000, '02, '03, '04, '12, '19
- 9 — Craig Savill of Ontario in 2002, '06, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13
- 9 — Pat Simmons of Saskatchewan in 2005, '06, '07, '08, '11; of Alberta in '12, '14; of Team Canada in '15, '16
- 8 — Robert Campbell of Prince Edward Island in 1991, '93, '95, '97, '99, 2002, '03, '07
- 8 — George Dillon of Prince Edward Island in 1958, '59, '60, '61, '63, '65, '70, '77
- 8 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 1987, '88, '89, 2001, '02, '03, '04, '05
- 8 — Richard Hart of Ontario in 2006, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '16, '17
- 8 — Marc LeCocq of New Brunswick in 1993, '96, 2002, '03, '04, '16, '17, '19
- 8 — Mike McEwen of Manitoba in 2016, '17, '19, '22; of Wild Card in '18, '20; of Wild Card 1 in '21; of Ontario in '23
- 8 — B.J. Neufeld of Manitoba in 2016, '17, '23; of Wild Card in '18; of Alberta in '19, '22; of Canada in '20; of Wild Card 2 in '21
- 8 — Derek Samagalski of Manitoba in 2012, '15, '18, '19, '22; of Wild Card in '20; of Wild Card 1 in '21; of Wild Card 2 in '23
- 8 — Don Walchuk of Alberta in 1985, '87, '88, '89, '96, '97, 2000, '06
- 7 — Brendan Bottcher of Alberta in 2017, '18, '20; of Wild Card in '19; of Wild Card 2 in '21; of Canada in '22; of Wild Card 1 in '23
- 7 — Don Bartlett of Alberta in 1991, '92, '95, '96, '97, 2000, '06
- 7 — Doug Cameron of Prince Edward Island in 1958, '59, '60, '61, '63, '65, '73
- 7 — Kevin Champion of Prince Edward Island in 2003, '05, '06, '07, '08, '09, '10
- 7 — Pierre Charette of Quebec in 1989, '93, '96, '97, '98, '99, 2007
- 7 — Bob Dillon of Prince Edward Island in 1962, '64, '65, '68, '69, '73, '74
- 7 — Rick Folk of Saskatchewan in 1978, '79, '80; of British Columbia in '89, '93, '94, '95

- 7 — Bruce Lohnes of Nova Scotia in 1989, '92, '95, 2003, '04, '06, '09
- 7 — Rod MacDonald of Prince Edward Island in 1978, '81, '96, 2005, '06, '09, '10
- 7 — Karrick Martin of Alberta in 2017, '18, '20, '23; of Wild Card in '19; of Wild Card 2 in '21; of Canada in '22
- 7 — Philippe Ménard of Quebec in 2011, '13, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19
- 7 — Darren Moulding of Alberta in 2017, '18, '20; of Wild Card in '19; of Wild Card 2 in '21; of New Brunswick in '22; of Northern Ontario in '23
- 7 — Kirk Muyres of Saskatchewan in 2014, '15, '16, '18, '19, '21; of Wild Card 2 in '22
- 7 — Carter Rycroft of Alberta in 2000, '06, '10, '12, '14; of Team Canada in '15, '16
- 7 — Paul Savage of Ontario in 1970, '73, '74, '77, '83, '84, '88
- 7 — Fred Storey of Alberta in 1960, '63, '64, '66, '67, '68, '69
- 7 — Brad Thiessen of Alberta in 2017, '18, '20, '23; of Wild Card in '19; of Wild Card 2 in '21; of Canada in '22
- 7 — Malcolm Turner of Quebec in 1978, '79, '80, '82, '86, '87, '90
- 7 — Jim Ursel of Manitoba in 1962; of Quebec in '74, '75, '76, '77, '79, '80
- 6 — Jim Armstrong of British Columbia in 1973, '74, '83, '84, '87, '92
- 6 — Mark Butler of Prince Edward Island in 1991, '93, '95, '97, '99, 2001
- 6 — Glen Campbell of Saskatchewan in 1947, '54, '55, '57, '61, '66
- 6 — Peter Case of New Brunswick in 2008, '09, '10, '11, '13, '18
- 6 — Phil Crowell of Nova Scotia in 2010, '17, '18, '20, '21, '22
- 6 — Mark Dacey of Saskatchewan in 1995; of Nova Scotia in 2001, '03, '04, '06, '09
- 6 — Colton Flasch of Saskatchewan in 2014, '15, '16, '22; of Alberta in '19; of Canada in '20
- 6 — Steve Gould of Manitoba in 1996, 2006, '07, '09, '10, '11
- 6 — Bert Gretzinger of British Columbia in 1976, '89, '93, '94, '95, '99
- 6 — Tyrel Griffith of British Columbia in 2012, '14, '15, '16, '17, '19
- 6 — Perry Hall of Ontario in 1930, '38, '39, '40, '41, '46
- 6 — Neil Harrison of Ontario in 1981, '83, '84, '88, '95, '97
- 6 — Colin Hodgson of Manitoba in 2015, '18, '19; of Wild Card in '20; of Wild Card 1 in '21; of Northern Ontario in '23
- 6 — Mike Kennedy of New Brunswick in 1992, '93, '96, 2008, '16, '17
- 6 — Jamie Korab of Newfoundland in 2003; of Newfoundland/Labrador in '04, '05, '07, '09, '10
- 6 — Eddie MacKenzie of Prince Edward Island in 1994, 2011, '13, '14, '18, '21
- 6 — Peter MacPhee of Manitoba in 1978, '79, '80, '82, '85, '90
- 6 — Jon Mead of Manitoba in 1999, 2000, '06, '11, '13, '14
- 6 — Braeden Moskowsky of Saskatchewan in 2013, '20, '21; of Manitoba in '15, '18; of Wild Card 2 in '22
- 6 — Jamie Murphy of Nova Scotia in 2012, '14, '16, '17, '18, '20

- 6 — Dallan Muyres of Saskatchewan in 2011, '14, '15, '16, '18, '19
- 6 — Ron Northcott of Alberta in 1963, '64, '66, '67, '68, '69
- 6 — Bob Pickering of Saskatchewan in 1961, '66, '68, '69, '70, '71
- 6 — Chris Schille of N.L. in 2007, '08; of Saskatchewan in '13; of N.W.T. in '16, '17, '18
- 6 — Howard Stewart of Montreal in 1927, '28, '30; of Quebec in '31, '32, '37
- 6 — Reg Stone of British Columbia in 1949, '52, '53, '55, '57, '62
- 6 — Roy Stone of British Columbia in 1949, '52, '53, '55, '57, '62
- 6 — Dave Sullivan of New Brunswick in 1966, '67, '72, '76, '82, '83

Longest game

- 15 ends — Northern Ontario vs. Toronto in 1927; Northern Ontario vs. Quebec in 1927 (All games 14 ends that year)

Highest score, one team

- Saskatchewan, 30, vs. New Brunswick, 3, in 1957

Lowest score, one team

- Prince Edward Island, 0, vs. Newfoundland, 11, in 1977
- Newfoundland, 0, vs. Alberta, 11, in 1986
- Territories, 0, vs. Ontario, 11, in 1986
- N.W.T./Yukon, 0, vs. Manitoba, 10, in 1996
- Prince Edward Island, 0, vs. Manitoba, 8, in 1998
- Manitoba, 0, vs. Northern Ontario, 3, in 2021

Highest score, two teams combined

- 33 — Ontario, 17, vs. New Brunswick, 16, in 1932; Saskatchewan, 30, vs. New Brunswick, 3, in 1957; Prince Edward Island, 17, vs. Newfoundland, 16, (extra end) in 1968

Lowest score, two teams combined

- 3 — New Brunswick, 2, vs. Prince Edward Island, 1, in 1990; Ontario, 2, vs. Prince Edward Island, 1, in 1993; Manitoba, 2, vs. Prince Edward Island, 1, in 2000; Northern Ontario, 3, vs. Manitoba, 0, in 2021

Highest single-end score

- 7 — Saskatchewan vs. Montreal in 1928; Montreal vs. New Brunswick in 1931; Manitoba vs. Prince Edward Island in 1936; Manitoba vs. Prince Edward Island in 1947; Manitoba vs. New Brunswick in 1950; Prince Edward Island vs. Nova Scotia (steal) in 2000; New Brunswick vs. British Columbia in 2018; Canada vs. Nunavut in 2019

Most extra-end games, one Brier

- 14 — 1981, '90

Fewest extra-end games, one Brier

- 0 — 1933, '42, '46, '49, '52

Most blank ends, one Brier

- 195 — 1976

Most blank ends, one draw

- 22 — 11th draw, 1991

Most blank ends, one game

- 8 — New Brunswick 2-1 over Prince Edward Island, 1990; Ontario 2-1 over Prince Edward Island, 1993

Proud to Rock in Regina at this year's Brier.

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Fewest blank ends, one Brier

0 — 1931, '32

Biggest comeback, one game

9 — Quebec vs. Alberta in 1965. Down 9-0 after five ends, Alberta wins 16-12 in 12 ends

Undeclared records (includes losing teams with perfect round robin)

Alberta — 10-0 in 1957; 10-0 in 1969; 11-0 in 1985 (lost in playoff); 12-0 in 1988; 13-0 in 2003; 13-0 in 2008; 13-0 in 2009; 13-0 in 2019
Manitoba — 9-0 in 1929; 7-0 in 1934; 9-0 in 1938; 9-0 in 1940; 9-0 in 1947; 9-0 in 1949; 10-0 in 1952; 11-0 in 1997 (lost in playoff)
Nova Scotia — 10-0 in 1951
Northern Ontario — 11-0 in 2016 (lost in playoff)
Ontario — 11-0 in 2010 (lost in playoff)
Saskatchewan — 10-0 in 1955
Wild Card 1 — 8-0 in 2022

Four-way ties for first place

1993 — Manitoba, Northern Ontario, British Columbia and Ontario, 8-3. In playoffs, Ontario over Manitoba 6-4; British Columbia over Northern Ontario 5-3; Northern Ontario over Manitoba 6-5; Ontario over British Columbia 3-1; British Columbia over Northern Ontario 5-3 in the semifinal; Ontario over British Columbia 5-3 in the final

Three-way ties for first place

1928 — Manitoba, Alberta and Ontario
1946 — Alberta, Northern Ontario and Manitoba
1962 — Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba
1971 — Manitoba, Northern Ontario and Saskatchewan
1989 — Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario
2011 — Newfoundland/Labrador, Manitoba and Alberta
2014 — British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba

Two-way ties for first place

1930 — Manitoba and Alberta
1932 — Manitoba and Alberta
1937 — Alberta and Manitoba
1939 — Ontario and Manitoba
1953 — Manitoba and Quebec
1956 — Manitoba and Ontario
1958 — Alberta and Manitoba
1959 — Saskatchewan and Alberta
1966 — Alberta and Ontario
1999 — Manitoba and Quebec
2001 — Alberta and Ontario
2004 — Nova Scotia and Alberta
2017 — Manitoba and Newfoundland/Labrador

Six-time winner

Randy Ferbey of Alberta as third in 1988, '89; as skip in 2001, '02, '03, '05

Five-time winner

Brad Gushue of N.L. as skip in 2017, '20; of Team Canada as skip in '18, '23; of Wild Card 1 as skip in '22
Mark Nichols of N.L. as third in 2017, '20; of Team Canada as third in '18, '23; of Wild Card 1 as third in '22
Geoff Walker of N.L. as lead in 2017, '20; of Team Canada as lead in '18, '19; of Wild Card 1 as lead in '22

Four-time winners

Brett Gallant of N.L. as second in 2017, '20; of Team Canada as second in '18; of Wild Card 1 as second in '22
Ben Hebert of Alberta as lead in 2008, '09, '16, '19
Glenn Howard of Ontario as third in 1987, '93; as skip in 2007, '12
Kevin Koe of Alberta as skip in 2010, '14, '16, '19
Kevin Martin of Alberta as skip in 1991, '97, 2008, '09
David Nedohin of Alberta as third in 2001, '02, '03, '05
Scott Pfeifer of Alberta as second in 2001, '02, '03, '05
Arnold Richardson of Saskatchewan as third in 1959, '60, '62, '63
Ernie Richardson of Saskatchewan as skip in 1959, '60, '62, '63
Garnet Richardson of Saskatchewan as second in 1959, '60, '62, '63
Marcel Rocque of Alberta as lead in 2001, '02, '03, '05

Three-time winners

Matt Baldwin of Alberta as skip in 1954, '57, '58
Don Duguid of Manitoba as third in 1965; as skip in '70, '71
Marc Kennedy of Alberta as second in 2008, '09; as third in '16
Brent Laing of Ontario as second in 2007, '12; of Alberta as second in '16
Rick Lang of Northern Ontario as third in 1975, '82, '85
Wayne Middaugh of Ontario as second in 1993; as skip in '98; as third in 2012
John Morris of Alberta as third in 2008, '09; of Team Canada as third in '15
Ron Northcott of Alberta as skip in 1966, '68, '69
Wes Richardson of Saskatchewan as lead in 1959, '60, '62
Pat Ryan of Alberta as skip in 1988, '89; of British Columbia as third in '94
Carter Rycroft of Alberta as second in 2010, '14; of Team Canada as second in '15
Bernie Sparkes of Alberta as second in 1966, '68, '69
Fred Storey of Alberta as lead in 1966, '68, '69
Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba as skip in 1996, '99, 2011
Ian Tetley of Northern Ontario as second in 1985; of Ontario as second in '90, '98
Nolan Thiessen of Alberta as lead in 2010, '14; of Team Canada as lead in '15
Don Walchuk of Alberta as second in 1988, '89; as third in '97
Grant Watson of Manitoba as third in 1936, '42, '49
Ken Watson of Manitoba as skip in 1936, '42, '49
Bryan Wood of Manitoba as lead in 1970, '71, '79
Howard Wood of Manitoba as skip in 1930, '40; as third in '32

Two-time winners

Ron Anton of Alberta as third in 1961, '74
Don Bartlett of Alberta as lead in 1991, '97
Kerry Burtnyk of Manitoba as skip in 1981, '95
Jim Congalton of Manitoba as third in 1930; as skip in '32
Rick Folk of Saskatchewan as skip in 1980; of British Columbia as skip in '94

Hec Gervais of Alberta as skip in 1961, '74
Steve Gould of Manitoba as lead in 1996, 2011
Ab Gowanlock of Manitoba as skip in 1938, '53
Bill Grant of Manitoba as lead in 1928, '29
Al Hackner of Northern Ontario as skip in 1982, '85
E.J. Harnden of Northern Ontario as second in 2013; of Canada as second in '23
Gordon Haynes of Alberta as third in 1957; as second in '58
Russ Howard of Ontario as skip in 1987, '93
Gordon Hudson of Manitoba as skip in 1928, '29
Rod Hunter of Manitoba as third in 1970, '71
John Kawaja of Ontario as second in 1983; as third in '90
Al Langlois of Manitoba as third in 1952, '56
Ed Lukowich of Alberta as skip in 1978, '86
Don McKenzie of Alberta as lead in 1988, '89
Cliff Manahan of Alberta as skip in 1933, '37
Andy McWilliams of Manitoba as second in 1952; as lead in '56
Jonathan Mead of Manitoba as third in 1999, 2011
Pat Perroud of Northern Ontario as lead in 1985; of Ontario as lead in '90
Jim Pettapiece of Manitoba as second in 1970, '71
Bill Price of Alberta as lead in 1957, '58
Craig Savill of Ontario as lead in 2007, '12
Pat Simmons of Alberta as third in 2014; of Team Canada as skip in '15
Ron Singbusch of Manitoba as second in 1928, '29
Garry Van Den Berghe of Manitoba as second in 1996, '99
Billy Walsh of Manitoba as skip in 1952, '56
Ed Werenich of Ontario as skip in 1983, '90

Back-to-back winning teams

Saskatchewan: Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Garnet Richardson and Wes Richardson in 1959, '60
Manitoba: Don Duguid, Rod Hunter, Jim Pettapiece and Bryan Wood in 1970, '71
Alberta: Pat Ryan, Randy Ferbey, Don Walchuk and Don McKenzie in 1988, '89
Alberta: Randy Ferbey, David Nedohin, Scott Pfeifer and Marcel Rocque in 2001, '02, '03
Alberta: Kevin Martin, John Morris, Marc Kennedy and Ben Hebert in 2008, '09
Alberta-Team Canada: Pat Simmons, Carter Rycroft and Nolan Thiessen in 2014, '15
Newfoundland & Labrador-Team Canada: Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols, Brett Gallant and Geoff Walker in 2017, '18
Wild Card 1-Team Canada: Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols and Geoff Walker in 2022, '23

Back-to-back winning skips

Gordon Hudson of Manitoba — 1928, '29
Matt Baldwin of Alberta — 1957, '58
Ernie Richardson of Saskatchewan — 1959, '60 and 1962, '63
Ron Northcott of Alberta — 1968, '69
Don Duguid of Manitoba — 1970, '71
Pat Ryan of Alberta — 1988, '89
Randy Ferbey of Alberta — 2001, '02, '03
Kevin Martin of Alberta — 2008, '09
Brad Gushue of N.L./Team Canada — 2017, '18 and 2022, '23

Most games, one player

246 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador — Team Canada — Wild Card 1

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Most wins, one skip

172 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador-
Team Canada — Wild Card 1

Most appearances, one skip

20 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador -
Team Canada — Wild Card 1

Skips with 25 or more wins

Brad Gushue of N.L.-Team Canada-Wild Card 1
— 172
Russ Howard of Ontario-New Brunswick — 113
Kevin Martin of Alberta — 113
Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario — 108
Kevin Koe of Alberta-Team Canada-
Wild Card 2 — 105
Glenn Howard of Ontario — 100
Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba — 98
Rick Folk of Saskatchewan-British Columbia — 62
Al Hackner of Northern Ontario — 62
Jean-Michel Ménard of Quebec — 59
Randy Ferbey of Alberta — 57
Ed Werenich of Ontario — 55
Brendan Bottcher of Alberta-Wild Card-Team
Canada-Wild Card 1 — 63
Mike McEwen of Manitoba-Wild Card-
Wild Card 1-Ontario — 54
Pat Ryan of Alberta-British Columbia — 51
James Grattan of New Brunswick — 47

Jamie Koe of the N.W.T./Yukon-N.W.T. — 45
Ernie Richardson of Saskatchewan — 45
Kerry Burtnyk of Manitoba — 44
Bernie Sparkes of British Columbia — 43
Ed Lukowich of Alberta — 42
Pat Simmons of Saskatchewan-Team Canada — 41
Reg Stone of British Columbia — 41
Ron Northcott of Alberta — 40
Jim Ursel of Quebec — 40
Matt Baldwin of Alberta — 38
Mark Dacey of Nova Scotia — 37
Bob Pickering of Saskatchewan — 36
Cliff Manahan of Alberta — 35
Wayne Middaugh of Ontario-Wild Card 3 — 35
Hec Gervais of Alberta — 34
Matt Dunstone of Saskatchewan-Wild Card
2-Manitoba — 33
Guy Hemmings of Quebec — 32
Steve Laycock of Saskatchewan — 32
Paul Savage of Ontario — 32
Vic Peters of Manitoba — 30
Gordon Campbell of Ontario — 29
John Morris of Ontario-B.C.-Team Canada — 28
Doug Cameron of Prince Edward Island — 26
Garnet Campbell of Saskatchewan — 26
Robert Campbell of Prince Edward Island — 25
Mark Noseworthy of Newfoundland — 25
Ken Watson of Manitoba — 25

Top Brier records (all teams; *won)

13-0 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 2003*
13-0 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 2008*
13-0 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 2009*
13-0 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2019*
12-0 — Pat Ryan of Alberta in 1988*
12-1 — Ed Werenich of Ontario in 1983*
12-1 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 1997*
12-1 — Wayne Middaugh of Ontario in 1998*
12-1 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2010
12-1 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2012*
12-1 — Brad Gushue of Team Canada in 2018*
12-2 — Kerry Burtnyk of Manitoba in 1995*
12-2 — Vic Peters of Manitoba in 1997
12-2 — Mark Dacey of Nova Scotia in 2004*
12-2 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2007*
12-2 — Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario in 2016
11-1 — Pat Ryan of Alberta in 1985
11-1 — Ed Werenich of Ontario in 1990*
11-1 — Rick Folk of British Columbia in 1994*
11-1 — Brad Gushue of Wild Card 1 in 2022*
11-2 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 1996*
11-2 — Greg McCauley of British Columbia
in 2000*
11-2 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 2001*
11-2 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 2002*
11-2 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 2004
11-2 — Randy Ferbey of Alberta in 2005*

CHAMPIONSHIP SITES

1927 to '39	Toronto	Granite Club	N/A
1940	Winnipeg	Amphitheatre	N/A
1941	Toronto	Granite Club	N/A
1942	Quebec City	Quebec City Arena	N/A
1946	Saskatoon	Saskatoon Arena	22,000
1947	Saint John	Saint John Arena	10,000
1948	Calgary	Victoria Arena	30,000
1949	Hamilton	Hamilton Arena	16,500
1950	Vancouver	Kerrisdale Arena	25,000
1951	Halifax	Dalhousie Rink	17,000
1952	Winnipeg	Winnipeg Arena	12,500
1953	Sudbury	Sudbury Arena	22,000
1954	Edmonton	Edmonton Gardens	32,000
1955	Regina	Exhibition Arena	51,725
1956	Moncton	Moncton Arena	25,800
1957	Kingston	Kingston Arena	19,000
1958	Victoria	Memorial Arena	36,000
1959	Quebec City	Le Colisée	16,000
1960	Fort William	Fort William Gardens	26,000
1961	Calgary	Stampede Corral	51,575
1962	Kitchener-Waterloo	Memorial Gardens	37,013
1963	Brandon	Brandon Arena	42,113
1964	Charlottetown	Memorial Arena	13,573
1965	Saskatoon	Memorial Arena	52,319
1966	Halifax	Halifax Forum	11,905
1967	Ottawa	Hull Arena	26,174
1968	Kelowna	Kelowna Arena	25,813
1969	Oshawa	Oshawa Arena	28,448
1970	Winnipeg	Winnipeg Arena	60,255
1971	Quebec City	Pavilion de la Jeunesse	8,501
1972	St. John's	St. John's Arena	12,890
1973	Edmonton	Edmonton Gardens	37,575
1974	London	London Gardens	48,170
1975	Fredericton	Lady Beaverbrook Rink	20,672
1976	Regina	Agridome	61,110
1977	Montreal	Velodrome	50,000
1978	Vancouver	Pacific Coliseum	63,851
1979	Ottawa	Civic Arena	89,081
1980	Calgary	Stampede Corral	93,185
1981	Halifax	Metro Centre	67,257
1982	Brandon	Keystone Centre	106,394
1983	Sudbury	Sudbury Arena	65,927

1984	Victoria	Memorial Arena	86,811
1985	Moncton	Moncton Coliseum	65,475
1986	Kitchener-Waterloo	Memorial Gardens	97,684
1987	Edmonton	Agriplex	66,793
1988	Chicoutimi	Georges Vezina Centre	45,220
1989	Saskatoon	Saskatchewan Place	151,538
1990	Sault Ste. Marie	Memorial Gardens	76,878
1991	Hamilton	Copps Coliseum	88,894
1992	Regina	Agridome	121,555
1993	Ottawa	Civic Arena	130,076
1994	Red Deer	Centrium	130,625
1995	Halifax	Metro Centre	121,896
1996	Kamloops	Riverside Coliseum	127,746
1997	Calgary	Canadian Airlines Saddledome	223,322
1998	Winnipeg	Winnipeg Arena	147,017
1999	Edmonton	Skyreach Centre	242,887
2000	Saskatoon	Saskatchewan Place	248,793
2001	Ottawa	Civic Arena	154,136
2002	Calgary	Pengrowth Saddledome	245,296
2003	Halifax	Metro Centre	158,414
2004	Saskatoon	Saskatchewan Place	238,129
2005	Edmonton	Rexall Place	281,985
2006	Regina	Brandt Centre	125,971
2007	Hamilton	Copps Coliseum	107,199
2008	Winnipeg	MTS Centre	165,075
2009	Calgary	Pengrowth Saddledome	246,126
2010	Halifax	Halifax Metro Centre	107,242
2011	London	John Labatt Centre	113,626
2012	Saskatoon	Credit Union Centre	177,226
2013	Edmonton	Rexall Place	190,113
2014	Kamloops	Interior Savings Centre	65,005
2015	Calgary	Scotiabank Saddledome	151,835
2016	Ottawa	TD Place	115,047
2017	St. John's	Mile One Centre	122,592
2018	Regina	Brandt Centre	110,555
2019	Brandon	Westoba Place	75,617
2020	Kingston	Leon's Centre	96,076
2021	Calgary	WinSport Event Centre	N/A
2022	Lethbridge	ENMAX Centre	74,238
2023	London	Budweiser Gardens	95,338
2024	Regina	Brandt Centre	

11-2 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2006
 11-2 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 2011*
 11-2 — Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario in 2015
 11-2 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2017*
 11-2 — Brendan Bottcher of Alberta in 2020
 11-3 — Russ Howard of Ontario in 1993*
 11-3 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 1996
 11-3 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2008
 11-3 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2010*
 11-3 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2013
 11-3 — Brad Jacobs of Northern Ontario in 2013*
 11-3 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2014*
 11-3 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2016*
 11-3 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2020*
 11-3 — Brendan Bottcher of Alberta in 2021*
 10-0 — Don Oyler of Nova Scotia in 1951*
 10-0 — Billy Walsh of Manitoba in 1952*
 10-0 — Garnet Campbell of Saskatchewan in 1955*
 10-0 — Matt Baldwin of Alberta in 1957*
 10-0 — Ron Northcott of Alberta in 1969*
 10-1 — Ernie Richardson of Saskatchewan in 1959*
 10-1 — Barry Fry of Manitoba in 1979
 10-1 — Brad Gushue of Canada in 2023*
 10-2 — Rick Folk of Saskatchewan in 1980*
 10-2 — Matt Dunstone of Manitoba in 2023
 10-2 — Ed Lukowich of Alberta in 1983
 10-2 — Ed Lukowich of Alberta in 1986*
 10-2 — Russ Howard of Ontario in 1987*
 10-2 — Vic Peters of Manitoba in 1993
 10-3 — Kerry Burtnek of Manitoba in 1981*
 10-3 — Russ Howard of Ontario in 1986
 10-3 — Kevin Martin of Alberta in 1991*
 10-3 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 1999*
 10-3 — John Morris of British Columbia in 2014
 10-3 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 2014
 10-3 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2016
 10-3 — Kevin Koe of Wild Card 2 in 2021
 10-4 — Shawn Adams of Nova Scotia in 2005
 10-4 — Jean-Michel Ménard of Quebec in 2006*
 10-4 — Brad Gushue of Newfoundland/Labrador in 2011
 10-4 — Glenn Howard of Ontario in 2011
 10-4 — Kevin Koe of Alberta in 2012
 10-4 — Pat Simmons-John Morris of Team Canada in 2015*
 10-4 — Kevin Koe of Team Canada in 2017
 10-4 — Mike McEwen of Manitoba in 2017
 10-4 — Brendan Bottcher of Alberta in 2018
 10-4 — Brendan Bottcher of Wild Card in 2019
 10-5 — Ed Werenich of Ontario in 1984
 10-5 — Rick Folk of British Columbia in 1993
 10-5 — Jeff Stoughton of Manitoba in 2009

Champions

29 — Alberta in 1933, '37, '41, '46, '54, '57, '58, '61, '66, '68, '69, '74, '78, '86, '88, '89, '91, '97, 2001, '02, '03, '05, '08, '09, '10, '14, '16, '19, '21
 27 — Manitoba in 1928, '29, '30, '31, '32, '34, '36, '38, '40, '42, '47, '49, '52, '53, '56, '65, '70, '71, '72, '79, '81, '84, '92, '95, '96, '99, 2011
 10 — Ontario in 1935, '39, '67, '83, '87, '90, '93, '98, 2007, '12
 7 — Saskatchewan in 1955, '59, '60, '62, '63, '73, '80



Jean-Michel Ménard always gave it his best at the 10 Brier experiences he had playing with teams out of Quebec (he also was a fifth at another Brier). His best performance was skipping Quebec to the 2006 Brier championship in Regina.

5 — Northern Ontario in 1950, '75, '82, '85, 2013
 4 — British Columbia in 1948, '64, '94, 2000
 3 — Newfoundland in 1976; Newfoundland/Labrador in '17, '20
 3 — Team Canada in 2015, '18, '23
 3 — Nova Scotia in 1927, '51, 2004
 2 — Quebec in 1977, 2006
 1 — Wild Card 1 in 2022

Championships hosted (including 2024)

	NUMBER	LATEST
Ontario	29	2023
Alberta	16	2022
Saskatchewan	12	2024
Manitoba	8	2019
British Columbia	7	2014
Nova Scotia	6	2010
Quebec	5	1988
New Brunswick	4	1985
Northern Ontario	4	1990
Newfoundland	2	2017
Prince Edward Island	1	1964

Win-Loss Records (includes playoffs)

	WINS	LOSSES	PERCENTAGE
Wild Card 1 (2021 to present)	24	8	.750
Team Canada (2015 to present)	81	30	.730
Alberta (1928 to present)	716	304	.702
Manitoba (1928 to present)	684	329	.675
Wild Card 2 (2021 to present)	20	10	.667
Ontario (1927 to present)	629	389	.618
Saskatchewan (1928 to present)	575	408	.585
Wild Card 3 (2021 to present)	17	13	.567
British Columbia (1936 to present)	507	394	.563
Northern Ontario (1927 to present)	510	478	.516
Quebec (1927 to present)	401	559	.418
Nova Scotia (1927 to present)	375	556	.403
New Brunswick (1927 to present)	372	584	.389
Newfoundland/Labrador (1951 to present)	293	494	.372
P.E.I. (1936 to present)	263	593	.307
Northwest Territories (2015 to present)	15	64	.190
Yukon (2018 to present)	8	38	.174
Nunavut (2018 to present)	1	45	.022
DEFUNCT TEAMS:			
Wild Card (2018 to 2020)	24	13	.649
Toronto (1927-1931)	28	18	.609
Western Canada (1927)	3	4	.429
Territories/N.W.T.-Yukon (1975 to 2014)	127	316	.287
Montreal (1927-1931)	10	33	.233



He has yet to win the Brier, but Jamie Koe has enjoyed all 16 of his Brier experiences skipping the Northwest Territories.

SEASON OF CHAMPIONS OPERATION GUIDELINES

AGE RESTRICTIONS

Children who are three years of age or older must have a ticket to gain admittance to any Season of Champions event. Children under the age of three do not require a ticket, provided they sit on an adult's lap. No discounted tickets are available.

ALCOHOL

No alcoholic beverage may be brought into the arena or the entertainment venues. Alcohol will not be sold to anyone under the legal drinking age of the host province or territory. Patrons may be required to show identification and proof of age when purchasing alcoholic beverages. Violations could result in ejection and possible arrest.

BANNERS, SIGNS AND FLAGS

Banners, signs and flags are permitted in the arena and entertainment venues as long as they comply with the following guidelines:

- They don't obstruct the view of other patrons
- They don't obstruct building signage
- Banners and signs must be event-related, in good taste and non-commercial (not corporate or advertising any logo or product) and must not be political or offensive in nature
- Signs must be hand-held; signs on sticks are not permitted
- Banners and signs must not exceed a maximum size of 2 feet x 2 feet
- Flags must not exceed a maximum size of 3 feet x 6 feet and must be on a telescopic pole

Curling Canada reserves the right to remove any banner, sign or flag.

BUILDING TEMPERATURE

To maintain ideal ice conditions, the building may be cool. Please dress accordingly.

CAMERAS, AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDERS

Personal still photography is permitted during all games. The use of flash and video cameras and support poles — including tripods — and lenses more than 12 inches long is strictly prohibited.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones must be turned to the vibrate mode or shut off during all games. If your phone is on vibrate and you receive a call, please proceed to the arena concourse and have your conversation there.

EJECTION

Curling Canada reserves the right to eject anyone whose behaviour is unruly or illegal. Tickets will be revoked without a refund and the individual(s) will be escorted from the premises.

FAN CODE OF CONDUCT

Curling Canada is committed to creating a safe, comfortable and enjoyable experience at all Season of Champions events and requests that you respect the patrons around you. Facility staff will intervene to support an environment where you can enjoy the event experience free from the following:

- Smoking anywhere on the premises
- Foul or abusive language or obscene gestures
- Intoxication or other signs of impairment related to drug or alcohol consumption
- Obscene or inappropriate clothing
- Fighting, taunting or threatening remarks or gestures
- Actions that disrupt the progress of the event
- Actions at an inappropriate time that could disrupt the curlers
- Throwing objects of any kind at any time

Any patron who interferes with the enjoyment of another individual during an event is subject to immediate ejection.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

Patrons are not permitted to bring outside food or beverages into the arena or entertainment venues. Exemptions include medical/special needs, infant/toddler needs, or food and beverages sold by the event's contracted concessionaires.

NOISEMAKERS

Horns, whistles or any other mechanically enhanced noisemakers are not permitted.

PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED ITEMS

The following items are strictly prohibited from arena or entertainment venues:

- Alcohol
- Glass bottles or cans
- Illegal drugs
- Firearms/weapons
- Laser pointers

Any item may be deemed inappropriate by management if it disrupts the enjoyment of other patrons.

PAGERS

When games are in progress, the use of pagers is permitted only in the case of a medical emergency. If there is a medical emergency and paging is necessary, please contact the information desk on the arena concourse or the nearest security person.

The policies of the Brandt Centre in Regina will be employed for any items not covered in these guidelines.



2023-24 TSN BROADCAST GUIDE

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

POINTSBET INVITATIONAL

September 27 to October 1, 2023 ► Oakville, ON

Sweep 16	Wed Sept 27	2:00 pm
Sweep 16	Wed Sept 27	7:00 pm
Sweep 16	Thurs Sept 28	2:00 pm
Sweep 16	Thurs Sept 28	7:00 pm
Elite 8	Fri Sept 29	11:30 am
Elite 8	Fri Sept 29	4:30 pm
Final 4	Sat Sept 30	12:00 pm
Final 4	Sat Sept 30	5:00 pm
Women's Final	Sun Oct 1	12:00 pm
Men's Final	Sun Oct 1	5:00 pm

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

February 16 to 25, 2024 ► Calgary, AB

Draw 1	Fri Feb 16	9:00 pm
Draw 2	Sat Feb 17	4:00 pm
Draw 3	Sat Feb 17	9:00 pm
Draw 4	Sun Feb 18	10:30 am
Draw 5	Sun Feb 18	3:30 pm
Draw 6	Sun Feb 18	8:30 pm
Draw 7	Mon Feb 19	10:30 am
Draw 8	Mon Feb 19	3:30 pm
Draw 9	Mon Feb 19	8:30 pm
Draw 10	Tues Feb 20	10:30 am
Draw 11	Tues Feb 20	3:30 pm
Draw 12	Tues Feb 20	8:30 pm
Draw 13	Wed Feb 21	10:30 am
Draw 14	Wed Feb 21	3:30 pm
Draw 15	Wed Feb 21	8:30 pm
Draw 16	Thurs Feb 22	10:30 am
Draw 17	Thurs Feb 22	3:30 pm
Draw 18	Thurs Feb 22	8:30 pm
Page 1/2 Qualifier	Fri Feb 23	2:00 pm
Page 3/4 Qualifier	Fri Feb 23	8:30 pm
Page Playoff	Sat Feb 24	2:00 pm
Page Playoff	Sat Feb 24	8:00 pm
Semifinal	Sun Feb 25	2:00 pm
Final	Sun Feb 25	8:00 pm

MONTANA'S BRIER

March 1 to 10, 2024 ► Regina, SK

Draw 1	Fri Mar 1	8:00 pm
Draw 2	Sat Mar 2	3:00 pm
Draw 3	Sat Mar 2	8:00 pm
Draw 4	Sun Mar 3	10:30 am
Draw 5	Sun Mar 3	3:30 pm
Draw 6	Sun Mar 3	8:30 pm
Draw 7	Mon Mar 4	10:30 am
Draw 8	Mon Mar 4	3:30 pm
Draw 9	Mon Mar 4	8:30 pm
Draw 10	Tues Mar 5	10:30 am
Draw 11	Tues Mar 5	3:30 pm
Draw 12	Tues Mar 5	8:30 pm

(Montana's Brier Continued)

Draw 13	Wed Mar 6	10:30 am
Draw 14	Wed Mar 6	3:30 pm
Draw 15	Wed Mar 6	8:30 pm
Draw 16	Thurs Mar 7	10:30 am
Draw 17	Thurs Mar 7	3:30 pm
Draw 18	Thurs Mar 7	8:30 pm
Page 1/2 Qualifier	Fri Mar 8	2:00 pm
Page 3/4 Qualifier	Fri Mar 8	8:00 pm
Page Playoff	Sat Mar 9	2:00 pm
Page Playoff	Sat Mar 9	8:00 pm
Semifinal	Sun Mar 10	12:00 pm
Final	Sun Mar 10	6:00 pm

BKT TIRES WORLD WOMEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

March 16 to 24, 2024 ► Sydney, NS

Canada vs. Sweden	Sat Mar 16	3:00 pm
Canada vs. Denmark	Sat Mar 16	8:00 pm
Canada vs. USA	Sun Mar 17	3:00 pm
Canada vs. Norway	Mon Mar 18	3:00 pm
Canada vs. Italy	Tues Mar 19	10:00 am
Canada vs. Switzerland	Tues Mar 19	8:00 pm
Canada vs. Japan	Wed Mar 20	10:00 am
Canada vs. Turkey	Wed Mar 20	8:00 pm
Canada vs. Estonia	Thurs Mar 21	10:00 am
Canada vs. New Zealand	Thurs Mar 21	8:00 pm
Canada vs. Scotland	Fri Mar 22	3:00 pm
Canada vs. South Korea	Fri Mar 22	8:00 pm
Qualification	Sat Mar 23	12:00 pm
Semifinals	Sat Mar 23	6:00 pm
Bronze	Sun Mar 24	12:00 pm
Gold	Sun Mar 24	6:00 pm

WORLD MEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

March 30 to April 7, 2024 ► Schaffhausen, Switzerland

Canada vs. Czech Republic	Sat Mar 30	8:00 am
Canada vs. Germany	Sat Mar 30	1:00 pm
Canada vs. Scotland	Sun Mar 31	8:00 am
Canada vs. Italy	Mon Apr 1	8:00 am
Canada vs. New Zealand	Tues Apr 2	3:00 am
Canada vs. USA	Tues Apr 2	1:00 pm
Canada vs. Netherlands	Wed Apr 3	3:00 am
Canada vs. South Korea	Wed Apr 3	1:00 pm
Canada vs. Norway	Thurs Apr 4	3:00 am
Canada vs. Sweden	Thurs Apr 4	1:00 pm
Canada vs. Japan	Fri Apr 5	8:00 am
Canada vs. Switzerland	Fri Apr 5	1:00 pm
Qualification	Sat Apr 6	4:00 am
Semifinals	Sat Apr 6	10:00 am
Bronze	Sun Apr 7	4:00 am
Gold	Sun Apr 7	9:00 am

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