

MAY 2012

WELCOME

Since our February newsletter, several new World Champions have been crowned at various World Curling Championships around the globe. We have witnessed some outstanding curling at some memorable events and it's clear that our sport is developing at a considerable pace. An exciting future certainly lies ahead for everyone involved in our sport.

EVENTS - round up

<http://www.worldcurling.org/events>

Below is an overview of our events - beneath each header is a link to the websites that the WCF created for each Championship(s). Events without web-links communicated through websites set up by the LOC.

World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2012

<http://wwhcc2012.curlingevents.com>

Congratulations to Russia who won the gold medal at this year's World Wheelchair Curling Championship in Chuncheon, Korea. With Korea picking up the silver medals and China bronze, our hosts ensured it was a memorable event. Following the Championship, Russian athlete Oxana Slesarenko was named International Paralympic Committee (IPC) athlete of the month for February - not only a great personal achievement, but also fantastic for our sport.

World Junior Curling Championships 2012

<http://wjcc2012.curlingevents.com>

Our Swedish hosts in Östersund put on yet another outstanding event. In the women's championship, congratulations to Scotland who took the gold against Czech Republic (silver), with Russia winning bronze. In the men's event, congratulations to Canada who finished with gold, beating hosts Sweden (silver) in the final, and Scotland who finished with bronze. It was great to watch some extremely competitive games throughout the Championships and the level of skill on show was extremely encouraging, which certainly suggests that the future of our sport is in very good hands.

Ford World Women's Curling Championship 2012

The all-European final between Switzerland and Sweden in Lethbridge Canada, turned out to be another epic finale. Switzerland eventually ran out winners in the gold medal game, which meant Sweden picked up silver while hosts Canada won bronze. The city of Lethbridge, the local organisers and the CCA put on a marvellous show not only for the thousands of spectators who joined us at the Enmax Centre, but also for everyone watching on television and online around the world.

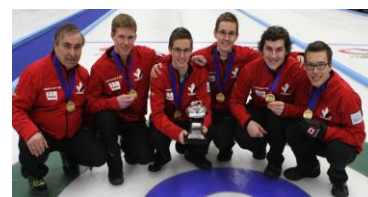


WCF President, Kate Caithness



Russia, gold medal winners at WWhCC 2012

Photo: WCF / KOSAD/ Young Bok Kim



Canada junior men and Scotland junior women, gold medal winners at WJCC 2012 Photo: WCF/Richard Gray



Switzerland, gold medal winners at WWCC 2012 Photo: WCF/Mike Burns

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World Men's Curling Championship 2012

<http://wmcc2012.curlingevents.com>

The city of Basel in Switzerland played host to an equally enthralling men's championship. The final saw Canada beat their Scottish opponents in an extra end to win gold, leaving Scotland with silver while Sweden picked up bronze. I would like to thank the local organisers and the host city for putting on a fantastic event for the athletes, fans and everyone else who joined us in Basel.

World Senior Curling Championships 2012

Ireland's men deserve special recognition after winning the gold medal against Canada, their first major World Curling Championship title in their history. Sweden picked up bronze while in the Women's event Canada won gold, Scotland silver and Sweden bronze. Tårnby Curling Club and the local organisers catered exceptionally well for 37 teams (14 women and 23 men's teams) and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable experience during their stay in Denmark.

World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2012

<http://wmdcc2012.curlingevents.com>

Switzerland won their second World Curling Championship gold medal this year as their Mixed Doubles team of Nadine Lehman and Martin Rios won the final in Erzurum, Turkey. They defeated Sweden's Camilla Johansson and Per Noreen who finished with silver medals. Karina Toth and Christian Roth picked up the first ever World Championship Medal for Austria by winning bronze. Credit must be given to the local organisers and all of the volunteers who helped us showcase this exciting discipline to the world.

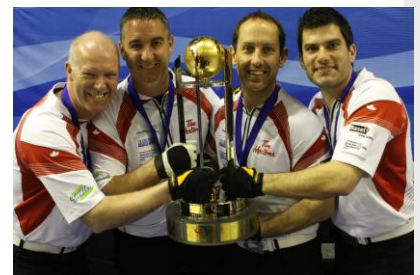
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<http://www.worldcurling.org/world-curling-federation-annual-general-assembly-april-2012>

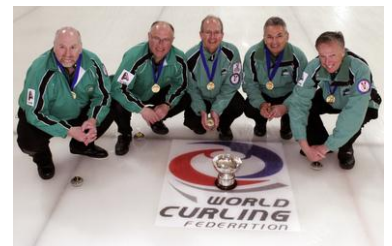
Our Annual General Assembly was held in Basel, Switzerland, during the World Men's Curling Championship. Member Associations voted in a new World Curling Federation Board which has seen two changes in personnel.

First of all I would like to welcome Bent Ånund Ramsfjell from Norway who has been elected Vice President of the WCF. Ramsfjell, a 2002 Olympic Winter Games gold medallist, replaces Patrick Hürlimann who stepped down from the position which he has held since 2010 due to work commitments. I would also like to welcome Toyokazu (Toyo) Ogawa, Japan, as a Member at Large, replacing Niels Larsen from Denmark.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Patrick and Niels for the dedication and effort they both committed to the WCF during their time on the board. On a personal note, I wish to thank Patrick for his support over the past two years as Vice President and congratulate him on the work undertaken in the Marketing field. We wish them both well for the future.



Canada, gold medal winners at WMCC 2012 Photo: WCF/Richard Gray



Ireland, men's gold medal winners at WSCC 2012 Photo: WCF/Richie Laurie



Canada, women's gold medal winners at WSCC 2012 Photo: WCF/Richie Laurie



Switzerland, gold medal winners at WMDCC 2012

Photo: WCF/Volkan Atar



The World Curling Federation Board

Photos: WCF/Richard Gray

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New Member Associations

Other notable news to arise from the Assembly includes the acceptance of Mongolia as our 49th Member Association. A decision on provisional membership for the Kosovo Curling Association will be tabled at the next General Assembly at the World Curling Congress in October 2012.

CURLING HALL OF FAME

<http://www.worldcurling.org/world-curling-hall-of-fame>

In Basel we also took the opportunity to induct our first nominees into the Curling Hall of Fame: Jean-Paul Bidaud from Switzerland, Elisabet Gustafson from Sweden and Günther Hummelt from Austria. All previous recipients of the Freytag Award have also been inducted. Click on the link above to find out more information about the Hall of Fame and the inductees.

Event Announcements

<http://www.worldcurling.org/fredericton-to-stage-2013-world-mixed-doubles-and-seniors>

We are pleased to announce that we will be returning to New Brunswick, Canada, when Fredericton will host the 2013 World Senior Men's and Women's Curling Championships and World Mixed Doubles. All three world championships will take place at the new Grant-Harvey Centre from April 13-20, 2013.

Event Hosts

The WCF is still encouraging Member Associations to submit their bids for forthcoming championships over the coming seasons and would advise that all Associations submit their interest as soon as possible.

The WCF is currently seeking bids to host the following events:

- **European Junior Curling Challenge 2014** (3–8 Jan)
- **World Junior Curling Championships 2014** (Feb/Mar)
- **World Men's Curling Championship 2014** (29 Mar–6 Apr)
- **World Senior Curling Championships 2014** (21-27 April)
- **World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2014** (12-19 Apr)
- **WCF Olympic Qualification Event 2013*** (11 – 15 Dec)

2014 Bid Deadlines: As soon as possible. Latest decision at the WCF Congress Oct 2012.

* 31st Dec 2012 is the deadline for bidding and the decision on the successful host of the WCF Olympic Qualification Event will be made by 15th Apr 2013.

If you would like to receive more information about the bidding procedure and guidelines, please contact the WCF Secretariat on info@worldcurling.org



Sweden's Elisabet Gustafson, inducted into the WCF Curling Hall of Fame Photo: Heinz Schmid



The Grant-Harvey Centre in Fredericton is due to be completed shortly in time for the WMDCC & WSCC 2013

Image: Centre Line Architects



We are still looking for a host for the 2013 Winter Olympic Qualification event

Image: IOC

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER



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MEMBER NEWS

Croatia

Croatia held their first curling tournament in Zagreb from April 20-22. It was played in the ice hockey rink on three sheets of ice and was a huge success. Over 300 people came along to try curling and local media showed a lot of interest in the event.

Slovakia

The Slovakian Curling Association (www.curling.sk) are celebrating 10 years since their creation this year. Canada's four time world champion, Randy Ferbey, and his team travelled to Bratislava to join the celebrations at the IV Czechoslovak Open 2012. More info here: <http://www.csopen.sk/>

MEDIA

Media Assistance Programme (MAP)

The WCF would like to remind Member's that should they wish to send any media or communications representatives to a WCF Championship event, we can provide support in the form of accommodation for the individual for the duration of the event. For more information about the MAP and for application forms, please email: media@worldcurling.org

WCF Images

For each of our Championship Events, we contract a photographer to provide us with images for you, our Member Associations, and for media. These images are provided to enhance the promotion of our sport both within your publications (websites, monthly magazines etc) and through the media.

Images for the media and Member Associations may be obtained through our Media & Communications Team by signing up to our Image library here: <http://photos.worldcurling.org>

Over the past few months, the WCF has received an increasing number of enquiries from spectators, families, friends and athletes for copies of these images. As the WCF only own the copyright for media and Member Association purposes, many of our photographers will offer various sizes of print for a small cost. This is completely the responsibility of the individual photographer and no money received from personal prints is taken by the WCF.

Should you receive any image enquiries for personal or commercial use, we would ask that you contact photo@worldcurling.org and the photographer will reply to the individual directly.



Over 300 people came along to try curling at an open day in Croatia Photo: Croatian Curling Association/Drazen Cutic



Chief Ice-Maker Hans Wuthrich, shows his true colours at WMCC 2012

Photo: WCF/Richard Gray



Fans got right into the spirit of curling at WWCC 2012

Photo: WCF/CCA/Michael Burns

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RECRUITMENT

<http://www.worldcurling.org/jobs>

The World Curling Federation is currently looking for two new Curling Development Officers. These exciting new positions will join the existing Competitions and Development staff and will be charged with contributing to the continued growth and development of curling around the world.

If you would like to advertise job opportunities on our website, please contact info@worldcurling.org for more details.

DEVELOPMENT

Development Assistance Programme (DAP)

The current DAP financial year has now come to an end and the WCF will not be accepting any further applications. Applications for the next financial year will be accepted from June 1, 2012 onwards.

During the 2011-2012 DAP financial year, the WCF approved nearly \$370,000 USD of DAP funding following 90 DAP applications from 36 Member Associations.

We always encourage all our Member Associations to make full use of this fund therefore if you would like to receive further information about next year's DAP funding please email Eeva Roethlisberger: eeva.roethlisberger@worldcurling.org

Camps and Courses

<http://www.wcf-camps-courses.com/>

At the time of writing, there are still 10 places left on the WCF Adult Curling Camp in Prague, Czech Republic, which runs from May 25-29 2012.

Unfortunately all WCF summer camps in Füssen, Germany are now full but you can still join the waiting list by visiting the Camps and Courses website.

There is however a junior team training camp being run by Netherlands Curling Association. For more information visit: <http://www.sweetlakecurling.nl>



WCF Development Officer, Eeva Roethlisberger

Photo: Jussi Uusipaavalniemi



This camp in Hungary is just one example of a development project that may also be part of your DAP funding *Photo: WCF*



There's still 10 spaces left on the WCF Adult Curling Camp in Prague (CZE) *Photo: WCF*

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ELIZABETH BUSCHE

<http://www.worldcurling.org/curling-mourns-the-loss-of-junior-us-curler>

We were deeply saddened to learn of the sudden death of Elizabeth Busche. The junior US curler from Duluth, Minnesota, died of a rare cancer on Thursday 3 May at the age of 19.

Elizabeth was the third player and Vice-Skip on the US junior women's team who participated in the 2012 World Junior Curling Championships in Östersund, Sweden in March earlier this year.

The Federation extends its sincerest condolences to Elizabeth's family and friends and share in their grief over this devastating loss. Her contribution to our sport will always be remembered.



Elizabeth Busche (1992-2012)

If you wish to share news or information from your association in this newsletter please let us know by contacting the WCF Secretariat: info@worldcurling.org

Yours in curling,

Kate

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