



# Annual Review <sup>2013-2014</sup>

*Our  
dedicated fans  
from around  
the world*





## Contents

President's Message	1
Board & Staff	2
Pacific-Asia Curling Championships	3
Operations & Integrity	4
Le Gruyère European Curling Championships	5
Facilities & Technical Assistance	6
Olympic Qualification Event	7
Development	8
Ailsa Craig: From island to ice	9
Athlete Commission	10
World Financial Group Continental Cup	11
Zonal Reports	12
Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games	13
Olympic Winter Games – Men	14
Olympic Winter Games – Women	15
Paralympic Winter Games – Wheelchair Curling	16
Olympic Celebration Tour	17
Broadcasting & Media	18
World Junior Curling Championships	19
Competition and Rules Commission	20
WCF Governance Commission	20
Ford World Women's Curling Championship	21
The Spirit of Curling	22
CPT World Men's Curling Championship	23
Sponsorship & Marketing	24
World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship	25
The World Curling Federation Hall of Fame	26
The impact of event hosting	27
History is made	28
World Seniors Curling Championships	29
Financial information	30
Anti-doping information	31
A look forward	32
Diary	32
Contacts	33
Sponsors	33

# President's Message

## Welcome to the World Curling Federation's Annual Review for season 2013-2014.

This Review allows us to showcase the significant strides our sport has made this past season, both on and off the ice. These include increasing our global reach and the number of Member Associations (MAs) within the World Curling Federation (WCF); improving the standard of our competitions, introducing the game to more players, coaches, officials and volunteers; strengthening our Federation through improved governance and constitutional arrangements while prudently building a healthy financial foundation; and reaching more people in more countries than ever before, thanks to unprecedented media and spectator interest. We have achieved all of this while reinforcing the positive Spirit of Curling.

Curling has had a fantastic, ground-breaking season, with the main on-ice highlights being the Sochi Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Situated in the heart of the Coastal Cluster, curling was at the centre of the action. This was the first time that curling was so well located and it worked to our advantage. The camaraderie built day by day as the competitions progressed, and curling became *the* place to be.

On the ice, the standard of competition was superb. The Canadians had a clean sweep of all three gold medals (Olympics men and women and the Paralympics), with their women's team, skipped by Jennifer Jones, going through their whole programme undefeated. I take my hat off to them – a fantastic achievement!

To finalise the line-up of Olympic teams, we staged our first-ever Olympic Qualification Event in Fuessen, Germany. As you will read in the reports in this Review, the event drew unprecedented media interest.

As for all our other Championships, you will find full reports in these pages, but let me touch on a few highlights.

Our Pacific-Asia Championships were staged in Shanghai, China, for the first time. Immediately afterwards, the European Championships took place in Stavanger, Norway. The Sormarka Arena was big enough to allow us to stage both A and B Divisions, in addition to the opening and closing banquets, all under the same roof.

We returned to Flims, Switzerland, for the World Junior Championships and we went back to Saint John in New Brunswick, Canada for the Ford World Women's Championship, with both events being well-run by experienced organising committees and welcoming local communities.

Beijing, China, was the venue for the CPT World Men's Curling Championship – the first time a world men's championship had been held in the Pacific-Asia Zone. It certainly won't be the last!

To round off our season, Dumfries, Scotland, played host to the World Mixed Doubles and World Senior Curling Championships, with a record number of teams competing in both events. Over 300 athletes were welcomed to the South West of Scotland – a region which has a strong history with our sport.

The lifeblood  
of our sport is  
the curler

WCF President  
Kate Caithness  
with the Paralympic  
Winter Games torch



Away from competitions, we staged a highly successful inaugural Olympic Celebration Tour which reached out to curling communities around the world.

Off the ice, we have been continuing work on revising and updating our constitutional and governance structure. Many new arrangements, including the election of three Vice-Presidents – each from one of our new regional Zones, are set to be ratified at our Annual Congress in Reno, USA.

Work is on-going too for our new Athlete Commission and Competition and Rules Commission.

The Annual Congress will see the end of my second two-year term of office. I was honoured to be elected initially at the Annual General Assembly in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy in 2010. Since then, the sport and the Federation have moved on leaps and bounds. We may still be a work-in-progress, but I'm delighted with what we've accomplished so far.

Through our Olympic connections, which include a place for myself on the IOC's Olympic Programme Commission and the Olympic Agenda 2020 Ethics Working Group, many of international sports most influential people have become more aware and understanding of our sport.

While sport and politics don't mix, Russia must be applauded for the huge success of the Sochi Olympics and Paralympics.

Having contact with influential people that we meet on our travels can make a difference, but connecting with ordinary curlers is most important – they are the people that make it all happen.

The lifeblood of our sport is the curler. As players, coaches or event volunteers, they are the people that encourage the sport, play the sport and keep it going.

Our sport is in great shape. Worldwide we are known as the fastest-growing winter sport and all the evidence is that we are living up to that billing.

I hope you enjoy this Annual Review.

*Kate Caithness*

WCF President

# WCF Board and Staff

## WCF Board



WCF President  
**Kate Caithness OBE**  
Scotland



Vice President  
**Bent Ånund Ramsfjell**  
Norway



Director of Finance  
**Andy Anderson**  
USA



Secretary General  
**Colin Grahamslaw**  
Scotland



**Young C Kim**  
Korea



**Toyokazu Ogawa**  
Japan



**Leif Öhman**  
Sweden



**Graham Prouse**  
Canada

## WCF Staff

<b>Keith Wendorf</b>	Director of Competitions and Development
<b>Eeva Röthlisberger</b>	Competitions and Development Officer
<b>Allen Coliban</b>	Competitions and Development Officer
<b>Darrell Ell</b>	Competitions and Development Officer
<b>Scott Arnold</b>	Competitions and Development Officer
<b>Susan Wendorf</b>	Competitions and Development Assistant
<b>Richard Harding</b>	Development Officer
<b>Saskia Krügl</b>	Projects Officer
<b>Joanna Kelly</b>	Media Relations Officer
<b>Danny Parker</b>	Assistant Media Relations Officer
<b>Chris Hamilton</b>	IT and New Media Officer

## WCF Secretariat Perth, Scotland

<b>Thelma Black</b>	Finance Controller
<b>Shirley Davies</b>	Finance Assistant
<b>Susan Keith</b>	Anti-Doping Administrator
<b>Liz Munro</b>	Competitions and Development Administrator
<b>Gill Amatt</b>	Administrative Assistant

Board





# Pacific-Asia Curling Championships

Shanghai, China; 11-19 November 2013

## Results

### Medal teams – men

- ☀ **China**  
Rui Liu (skip)  
Xiaoming Xu (third)  
Dexin Ba (second)  
Jialiang Zang (lead)  
Dejia Zou (alternate)
- 🌸 **Japan**  
Yusuke Morozumi (skip)  
Tsuoyoshi Yamaguchi (third)  
Tetsuro Shimizu (second)  
Kosuke Morozumi (lead)  
Shinya Abe (alternate)
- 🇰🇷 **Korea**  
Soo-Hyuk Kim (skip)  
Tae-Hwan Kim (third)  
Jong-Duk Park (second)  
Yoon-Hu Nam (lead)  
Ye-Jun Lee (alternate)

### Medal teams – women

- 🇰🇷 **Korea**  
Jisun Kim (skip)  
Un Chi Gim (third)  
Mi Sung Shin (second)  
Seulbee Lee (lead)  
Min Ji Um (alternate)
- 🇨🇳 **China**  
Bingyu Wang (skip)  
Yin Liu (third)  
Qingshuang Yue (second)  
Yan Zhou (lead)  
Yilun Jiang (alternate)
- 🌸 **Japan**  
Ayumi Ogasawara (skip)  
Yumie Funayama (third)  
Kaho Onodera (second)  
Michiko Tomabechi (lead)  
Chinami Yoshida (alternate)

**The Pacific-Asia Curling Championships were staged in the Shanghai Sanlin Sports Centre in Shanghai, China, in November. This was the third time that China had hosted this event in the 22-year history of these Championships. Beijing (2007) and Nanjing (2011) were previous host cities.**

Altogether, six nations took part in the men's event, while there were five national teams in the women's championship.

The men's teams were Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Korea and New Zealand, while the five women's nations were Australia, China, Japan, Korea and New Zealand.

The format of the Championships saw teams play a double round-robin, guaranteeing the men's teams ten competitive games.

At the end of the men's double round-robin, Japan topped the rankings, ahead of New Zealand, China, and Korea. These four teams went on to the semi-finals, with Chinese Taipei and Australia failing to qualify.

The semi-final format was to be best of five games, with the two round-robin games between the semi-finalists counting as the first two of the semi-final games.

In both semi-finals, the eventual winners, Japan and China, only needed the third semi-final game to seal their places in the gold medal game – Japan beating Korea by 9-7, and China beating New Zealand by 11-7.

These results also sealed a place for Japan at the 2014 CPT World Men's Curling Championship, joining hosts China in the line-up.

In the final, China secured their 9-6 win and the gold medals with a single steal in the tenth end. This was China's seventh consecutive gold medal at these Championships while for skip Rui Liu, it was a sixth gold medal.

After this game, China skip Rui Liu said: "We know that Japan are a very good team – they have played together for many years and we have played them many times. When we play them it really just depends on which team makes more mistakes and thankfully today, they did and we managed to take the win."

In the bronze medal game, Korea beat New Zealand by 7-6, thanks to a single-point steal in the tenth end.

Like the men, the women's event followed a double round-robin format. Korea and China shared top place on seven wins and one loss each – both with one win each in their head-to-head games.

Behind them Japan finished third in the table ahead of New Zealand, with Australia out of contention.

The top four teams went on to play best-of-five semi-finals (including the two round-robin games results), and both Korea (against New Zealand) and China (against Japan) secured one win each which qualified them for the gold medal game.

In that game, Korea had the first break-through, stealing two points in the fourth end for a 3-1 lead, but China reversed the position with a steal of four points in the sixth end for a 7-3 lead.

Eventually, Korea scored three points in the tenth end to take the gold medals, by 9-8.

After this game, Korean skip Jisun Kim said: "My team played really well. We needed to believe and focus to give ourselves a chance, especially after we lost the four (points). At the time, we were making too many mistakes so we didn't care. We just had to refocus and in the end we won the game and I am so happy."

Japan meanwhile beat New Zealand by 11-3 to win bronze.

These results meant that both Korea and China qualified for the 2014 Ford World Women's Curling Championships in Saint John, Canada.

### Online results:

**Men:** <http://wcf.co/pacc2013resultsmen>

**Women:** <http://wcf.co/pacc2013resultswomen>

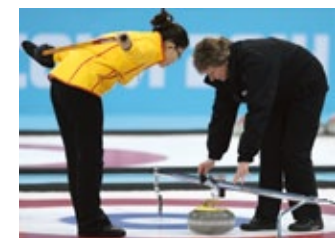
**Next year's Championships will be held 8-15 November 2014, Karuizawa, Japan.**



# Operations and Integrity

*The MAs must continually remind players of the regulations...*

- During this season, we appointed Chris Hamilton as our IT and New Media Officer, a new position. Chris's appointment will significantly enhance our operations at events by improving our IT provisions. Chris will also help develop our use of New Media and its integration into the existing WCF communications platforms.
- Over the last 12 months, a number of anti-doping tests were carried out: 68 out-of-competition; 40 in-competition; 37 Olympic; and 20 Paralympic. There were two missed tests and four Adverse Analytical Findings, all of which were accounted for by Therapeutic Use Exemption certificates.
- We have been reviewing our Anti-Doping Rules to bring it in line with the 2015 WADA code and these new rules will be put before the Membership at the Annual General Assembly in Reno during Congress.
- The IOC conducted a Match Fixing and Irregular Betting survey during the Sochi Olympic Winter Games and no irregular betting patterns were reported. Curling was the fourth-most bet-on discipline, behind Ice Hockey, Biathlon and Cross Country, with the gold medal games generating bets of some \$350,000 USD with one operator alone.
- The IOC's Match Fixing and Irregular Betting monitoring system will remain active throughout the Olympic cycle, with irregular patterns being reported to International Federations for further investigation and action if required.
- Work is currently ongoing looking into new office premises for the WCF as the lease on the existing offices ends in 2015. The search is initially taking place in the Perth area in Scotland and is being supported by the local authorities.



operations





# Le Gruyère European Curling Championships

Stavanger, Norway; 23-30 November 2013

## Results

### Medal teams – men

- 🇨🇭 **Switzerland**  
Sven Michel (skip)  
Claudio Paetz (third)  
Sandro Trolliet (second)  
Simon Gempeler (lead)  
Benoit Schwarz (alternate)
- 🇳🇴 **Norway**  
Thomas Ulsrud (skip)  
Torger Nergaard (third)  
Christoffer Svae (second)  
Haavard Vad Petersson (lead)  
Markus Hoieberg (alternate)
- 🇪🇸 **Scotland**  
David Murdoch (skip)  
Greg Drummond (third)  
Scott Andrews (second)  
Michael Goodfellow (lead)  
Tom Brewster (alternate)

### Medal teams – women

- 🇸🇪 **Sweden**  
Maria Prytz (fourth)  
Christina Bertrup (third)  
Maria Wennerstroem (second)  
Margaretha Sigfridsson (lead/skip)  
Agnes Knochenhauer (alternate)
- 🇪🇸 **Scotland**  
Eve Muirhead (skip)  
Anna Sloan (third)  
Vicki Adams (second)  
Claire Hamilton (lead)  
Lauren Gray (alternate)
- 🇨🇭 **Switzerland**  
Mirjam Ott (skip)  
Carmen Schaefer (third)  
Carmen Kueng (second)  
Janine Greiner (lead)  
Alina Paetz (alternate)

**Norway hosted the European Curling Championships for the third time, in Stavanger's Sormarka Arena, and the event took place in a new slot on the calendar at the end of November.**

This was the 39th edition of these Championships and the twelfth time that Le Gruyère has acted as title sponsor. Previously, these Championships were hosted by Norway in Oslo (1977) and Lillehammer (1990).

The Sormarka Arena is a multi-purpose ice venue offering speed skating, ice hockey and curling and was large enough to stage both A and B Divisions on adjacent ice, while other ice space was available for come and try curling events.

The teams in the men's A Division were: the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland (promoted from 2012 B Division), France, Latvia – also newly-promoted, hosts Norway, Russia, Scotland, defending champions Sweden and Switzerland.

The women's A Division was comprised of teams representing the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Italy (promoted from 2012 B Division), Latvia – also newly-promoted, hosts Norway, defending champions Russia, Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland.

After nine round-robin games, Norway topped the rankings in the men's event, suffering just one loss. Behind them were Switzerland, Denmark and Scotland. These four teams qualified for the page Play-offs, with Norway facing Switzerland in the 1-2 Play-off and Denmark playing Scotland in the 3-4 game.

Meanwhile, bottom-placed Finland and second-bottom France were relegated to the 2014 B Division, to be replaced by Germany and Hungary.

In the Page Play-offs, Norway beat Switzerland by 7-4 to take the direct route to the gold medal game, while Denmark were 6-5 winners over Scotland to go on to face Switzerland in the sole semi-final. In that semi-final, Switzerland won a tight game by 8-7 meaning they would face Norway again, in the gold medal game, while the Danes would face Scotland for bronze.

The Scots beat Denmark by 7-6 for bronze medals, scoring two points in the tenth end, while Switzerland beat Norway by 8-6 to win gold.

The turning point in the gold medal game came when Norway's skip, Thomas Ulsrud, was heavy with his final draw in the eighth end to give up a steal of three points instead of the big score he was looking for.

Not only was this the first gold medal for skip Sven Michel and his team, it was the first time they had reached a Championship's play-off stage.

Afterwards, skip Michel said: "It's so exciting and it feels so great. We played so well and my team did such a good job. Our goal was to reach the play-offs and everything that came after was a bonus. It happened and everything is great."

Meanwhile, Latvia lost out to B Division winners Germany in the World Challenge game for the last place at the CPT World Men's Championship 2014 in Beijing, China.

The four Page Play-off contenders in the women's Championship were table-toppers Scotland, second-placed Switzerland and third placed Sweden. The fourth place went to Denmark who had come through a tie-breaker by 7-3 against defending champions Russia to claim their spot.

Scotland beat Switzerland by 10-2 in the Page 1-2 game to go directly to the gold medal game, while Sweden beat Denmark by 10-2 in the 3-4 Play-off.

Sweden went on to beat Switzerland by 8-7 in the sole semi-final to face the Scots in the final, and leave Switzerland playing Denmark for bronze medals.

The Swiss team beat Denmark by 6-4 to win bronze, while Sweden handed Scotland their only defeat of the Championship, by 10-5, with a steal of three points in the tenth end, to take what was a 19th women's European title for their country.

After her victory an elated Swedish skip Margaretha Sigfridsson said: "We felt very comfortable and really brave on the ice today." Thinking about Sweden's previous successes at this event, she added: "We have a long history of good teams in Sweden and it's good that we keep on doing that."

At the other end of the A Division bottom placed Italy and Norway were relegated to the 2014 B Division and will be replaced by Finland and Estonia.

### Online results:

**Men:** <http://wcf.co/ecc2013resultsmen>

**Women:** <http://wcf.co/ecc2013resultswomen>

**Next years Championships will be held 22-29 November 2014, Champéry, Switzerland.**



# Facilities & Technical Assistance

## The WCF continues to offer a new Green Initiative Programme (GIP) giving MAs the opportunity to encourage curling facilities to cut the carbon footprint in their dedicated rinks.

The scheme offers interest free loans of up to \$100,000 USD or up to 50% of the cost of a project, where facilities can demonstrate that they can improve energy efficiency and environmental merits.

This initiative will not only encourage curling facilities to cut energy usage and help prevent energy loss - thereby helping the environment - it will also improve operating costs and, in turn, lead to improved sustainability, as overall energy costs continue to rise.

Kinross Curling Club in Scotland is the first facility expected to make use of this new programme.

In addition to the GIP, the WCF also offers a New Facility Assistance (NFA) programme which helps fund new curling facilities up to a maximum of \$50,000 USD per sheet of curling ice created.

This programme has been running for 13 years and, in many cases, WCF financial assistance has unlocked support from other funding agencies.

This programme has been used in the Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA.

All loan repayments are held in a ring-fenced fund to be used exclusively for facility projects. Currently, \$1,300,000 USD is available for loans.

Another new programme, 'Portable Curling Rinks' - to help MAs to start curling on dedicated curling ice, will be launched at the World Curling Congress in Reno.

MAs can also take advantage of a deferred payment scheme to help with the purchase of major pieces of equipment, such as curling stones, ice scrapers and ice plants.

Up to 2014, this scheme has supplied 3,418 new curling stones, 4,194 reconditioned curling stones and 30 power scrapers.

Over the past year, the WCF provided technical support and assistance to a number of projects around the world. One of these included research conducted by Uppsala University in Sweden on 'Why curling stones curl?' (see right).

Technical assistance was also provided for the building of new curling facilities in Karuizawa, Japan, Jonkoping, Sweden and for a new three sheet curling rink in an ice complex nearing completion in Tallinn, Estonia. This new complex will play host to the World Junior Curling Championships 2015.

In addition to continuing high quality maintenance to 24 sets of Championship stones, which are used at most World Curling Championships, the WCF Executive Board has approved additional resources to fund a number of technical resources and activities, including:

- Holding a library of curling facility blueprints and producing a handbook on 'How to build Curling Rinks'.
- Maintaining a Chief Ice Technicians' manual and updating the WCF's 'Curling Ice Explained' publication on a regular basis.
- Arranging Chief Ice Technician meetings and courses and providing technical experts for competitions.
- Developing and delivering technical ice-making courses at various levels.
- Developing clear WCF technical standards and providing advice and support to MAs in technical matters.
- Leading research & development in the technical areas of the sport.
- Conducting technical site visits for major WCF events.
- Helping to review Facility Loans and Deferred Payment applications for major equipment items.



Top: Grand opening of new facility at Åland Islands.

Above: Exterior view of two Sheet Åland Islands.

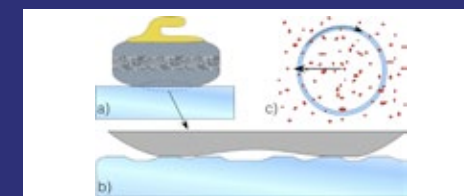
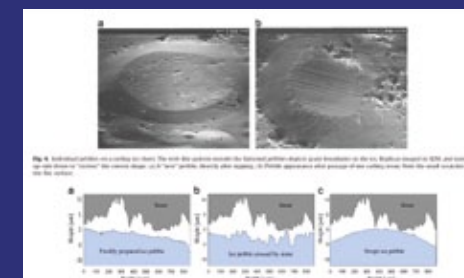
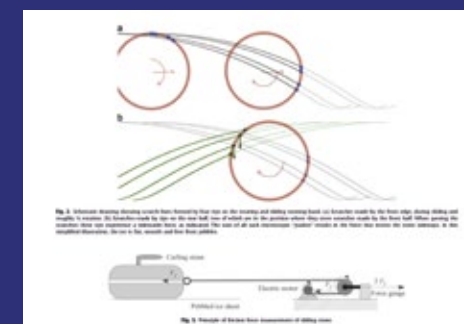
## Why curling stones curl

Despite various studies in the past, the reason why a curling stone curls has never been explained.

Recently, a team from Sweden's Uppsala University, in cooperation with the WCF and the Swedish Curling Association, have tried to get to the bottom of this mystery.

Working together, this team has shown that it is scratches on top of the pebble, created by scratches on the running band of the stone, that make curling stones curl. Experiments on ice and with electron microscopes have confirmed this.

Full details of the Uppsala University team's work can be found at <http://wcf.co/curlingstudy>







# Olympic Qualification Event

Fuessen, Germany; 10-15 December 2013

**With eight nation places already allocated for both men and women in Sochi's Olympic Winter Games curling competition line-up, eight men's teams and seven women's teams came together to compete for the last two places left in the line-up, at the WCF's first-ever Olympic Qualification Event in Fuessen's BLZ Arena in Germany.**

To qualify for this event, all of the nations involved had taken part in at least one of the 2011, 2012 or 2013 World Curling Championships, but had not amassed enough points to qualify directly for the Olympics.

The eight men's teams involved were the Czech Republic; Finland; France; Germany; Japan; Korea; New Zealand and the USA, while the women's teams were: China; Czech Republic; Germany; Italy; Japan; Latvia and Norway.

The format for the event meant that both men's and women's teams would play seven sessions of round-robin play. After tie-breakers, if required, the top three teams would then go onto qualifiers, with the round-robin leader playing the second-placed team in the first play-off, a match-up that would see the winner gain the first of the two Olympic places and the loser playing the third-placed round-robin team in a sudden-death game for the second and last available Olympic slot.

In the men's event, four teams shared top spot at the end of round-robin play. Germany, the Czech Republic, Korea and the USA all shared the same won five, lost two record.

Using the success rate among them, Germany ranked first and the Czech Republic ranked second, meaning these two played in the 1-2 game, with the winner qualifying for Sochi while the loser would face the winner of a third-place tie-breaker between USA and Korea in the final play-off game for the last available place in the Sochi line-up.

It was Germany who won the first qualification place when they beat the Czech Republic by 7-4 after an extra end. Before that, USA beat Korea 7-5 to make it to third place leaving them to play the Czechs for the last available slot in the Sochi line-up. The USA then secured Olympic qualification by beating the Czech Republic by 8-5.

Reviewing their performance German skip John Jahr said: "We lost two games at the start and we were at the bottom, but we got it

together in the next games. For the German Curling Association, it's really important. They said we had to be at the Olympics to be recognised here in Germany."

USA skip John Shuster said: "I was extremely happy to win the (USA) Olympic Trials, but to come here and win this and to finally say we're Sochi bound is pretty special."

At the end of the women's round-robin, four teams had kept their Olympic hopes alive - China and Japan finished top and second in the rankings respectively, while Norway and Germany would play a tie-breaker to decide the third place for the play-offs.

China beat Japan by 7-6 in the 1-2 game to send the 2010 Olympic bronze medalists back to the Olympics.

Upon qualification for Sochi, Chinese Skip Bingyu Wang said: "This is so exciting. After our poor performances at the last two World Championships the Olympics seemed so far, far away."

Japan faced a second chance to get to the Olympics in the 2-3 game against Norway who had beaten Germany 5-4 to take the third place spot.

Thanks largely to a game-turning score of six points in the eighth end on their way to a 10-4 victory, Japan eventually joined China in the Olympic line-up.

In tears, with joy and relief, Japanese skip Ayumi Ogasawara said: "I'm so happy and I really wanted to win... we were patient. We got our chance in the eighth end and we made it!"

### Online results:

Men: <http://wcf.co/oqe2013resultsmen>

Women: <http://wcf.co/oqe2013resultswomen>





# Development

## The WCF Competitions and Development Team, led by Director Keith Wendorf, had another busy season.

One of the highlights was the hosting of a pilot Coach Mentoring Programme, which took place during the Ford World Women's Curling Championship 2014 in Saint John, Canada.

This Programme gave experienced coaches an immersion into a World Championship by visiting behind the scenes, meeting national coaches and being lectured by a renowned sport expert, in this case Ken Bagnell, coach of Canadian world champion Colleen Jones. The course was conducted by Darryl Horne who guided 12 coaches (6 from Canada, 6 from USA) through the activities.



Several camps and courses were also organised. These included:

- ① The eighth WCF Adult Curling Camp in Prague, Czech Republic, with 42 participants representing 13 MAs.
- ① The 16th annual WCF/DCV Hummelt Junior Curling Camp and Courses in Fuessen, Germany, with 53 participants from 16 MAs involved in the courses, and 120 juniors, aged between 13 and 20, from 23 MAs attending the Junior Camp.
- ① The Sweetlake Junior Team Curling Camp in Zoetermeer, Netherlands had seven teams participating from five MAs.

The Development Assistant Programme (DAP) is now well-established and this year it saw 96 applications from 38 MAs approved. The total amount spent on those projects was \$381,840 USD.

The Curling Equipment Programme (CEP) continued to run in its second year and all the donated equipment was distributed to our MAs for their camps and courses.

The goal for this project was to support MAs by providing them and their membership with three levels of equipment packages for their camps or clinics. As we look at the past two years, over 350 equipment packages have been placed in the hands of curlers from 24 of our 53 MAs, who either attended a WCF or an MA camp or clinic during this period.

*...over 350 equipment packages have been placed with curlers from 24 of our 53 MAs...*







Harvesting



Coring



Shaping



Glueing

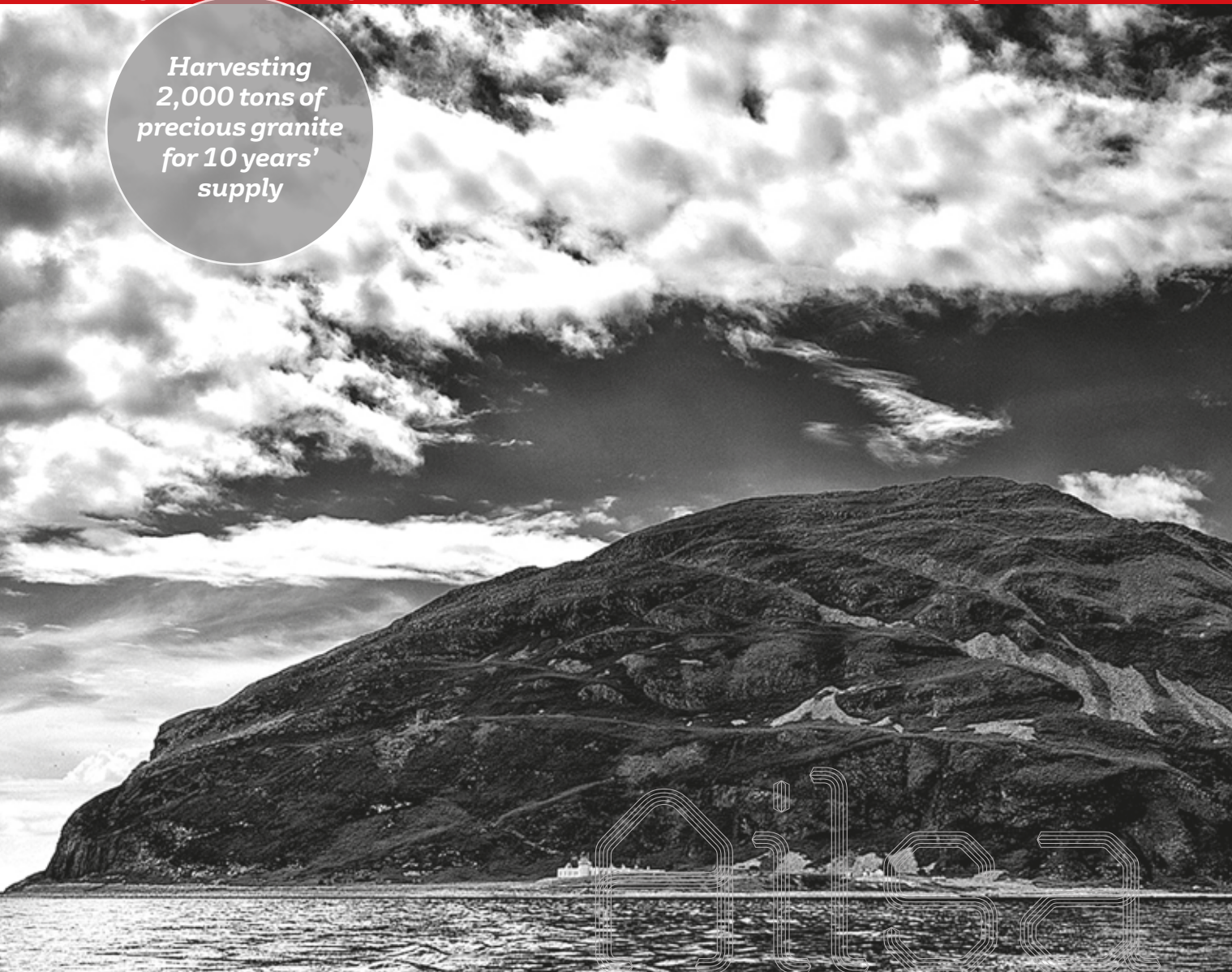


Polishing



Final inspection

*Harvesting 2,000 tons of precious granite for 10 years' supply*



## From island to ice

**Ailsa Craig: an uninhabited, rugged one-mile long volcanic plug rising out of the Firth of Clyde, ten miles off Scotland's west coast.**

The island's prized high-density blue hone granite is used as the running band on virtually every curling stone in the world, and is found nowhere else in reasonable quantities. Last summer, a team from curling stone manufacturers Kays of Scotland harvested 2,000 tons of precious granite, ready for the next ten years' supply of stones.

The project received the backing of the WCF with President Kate Caithness saying: "This has ensured the supply of high-quality stones for club players and Olympic champions alike for years to come."

ailsa

craig



# Athlete Commission

*This Commission will serve as an independent and consultative body*

**The inaugural WCF Athlete Commission was appointed at the WCF Executive Board meeting in Riga in March 2013.**

MA's were invited to propose members and from those volunteers, the following athletes were appointed:

## Chair

**Bent Ramsfjell** (WCF)

## Members

**Cathrine Lindahl** (Sweden)

**Michael McCreddie** (Scotland)

**Andi Schwaller** (Switzerland)

**Kelly Scott** (Canada)

**Ann Swisshelm** (USA)

**Bingyu Wang** (China)

This Commission will serve as an independent and consultative body, acting as a link between active curlers (athletes), the WCF Board, the WCF Competition and Rules Commission as well as the IOC Athletes' Commission.

The IOC Athletes' Commission has appointed Angela Ruggiero as liaison to curling. Ruggiero also serves as the IOC Coordination Commission Chair for the Youth Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway, in 2016.



The Commission had its first meeting during the World Curling Congress in Copenhagen in September 2013. Topics for this meeting were:

Learn from best practices from other Athlete Commissions.

Discuss activities and focus areas for the Commission (including competitions, rules, and Anti-Doping for example).

Define the mission of the Commission.

Draw up a work plan for the Commission.

Identify and allocate prioritised tasks, including:

- Election procedures
- A communication plan
- Refine the mission statement and activities
- Opportunities for wheelchair curling.

In the autumn of 2013, a survey was conducted among wheelchair curlers competing in Kinross, Scotland. The purpose was to have input on what works well and what kind of initiatives could potentially improve wheelchair curling.

The Commission held a further meeting in June in Zurich, Switzerland.

This meeting focussed on:

- The target audience - who does the Athlete Commission represent?
- Communication lines within the Commission.
- Election procedures and structure after the World Curling Congress 2014.
- Outcome of the survey among wheelchair curlers, how to give proper feedback to the respondents and what kind of similar surveys should be conducted in the future.
- Feedback to the WCF Competition and Rules Commission on specific topics which required responses as part of the preparation for the World Curling Congress in 2014.

The outcome of this process will be presented at the World Curling Congress in Reno, where the Athlete Commission will reconvene.







# World Financial Group Continental Cup

Las Vegas, USA; 16-19 January 2014

**The World Financial Group Continental Cup moved out of Canada for the first time, with the tenth edition staged at the Orleans Hotel and Casino Arena in Las Vegas, USA.**

This unique international curling competition features six teams from North America versus six teams representing the World in a variety of curling disciplines during its four days – Team Games, Mixed Doubles, Singles, Mixed Skins and Skins. Each segment awards points for wins (or ties), with a total of 60 points available, therefore the first side to earn more than 30 points was declared the champion.

The inaugural Continental Cup was contested in 2002 in Regina and before the 2014 event started, Team North America led Team World by 5-4.

Team World featured then reigning world champion teams, led by Sweden's Niklas Edin and Scotland's Eve Muirhead, who were joined by teams skipped by David Murdoch from Scotland, Thomas Ulsrud from Norway, Sweden's Margaretha Sigfridsson and Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa.

Team North America featured four Canadian teams skipped by Brad Jacobs, Jeff Stoughton, Jennifer Jones and Rachel Homan. They were joined by two USA teams led by John Shuster and Erika Brown.

After three days of competition - held in front of huge crowds that would eventually top the 50,000-mark over the duration of the event, it all came down to the final round of skins games to determine the eventual winner.

Team World was down by five points going into the first round of skins competition but thanks to some come-backs in that session, Team North America had only a 24-21 lead going into the final session.

The Cup was won when, in the sixth end of the evening skins game between Team North America's Brad Jacobs and Team World's Thomas Ulsrud from Norway, Ulsrud missed his final shot. That gave Team North America a half-point to push them over the 30 points in the overall standings.

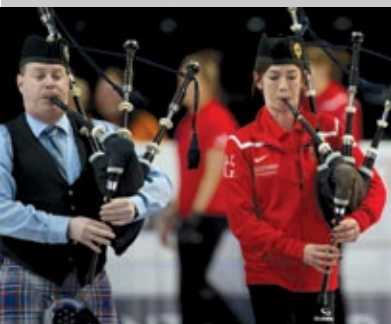
This was the first time that either team had managed back-to-back wins in the event's ten-year history.

This was the last Continental Cup that the WCF will be involved in, in its current format.

The WCF Executive Board agreed that it was no longer justifiable for the WCF to spend the levels it had been over the past few years to maintain this event. Over the period of the Continental Cup, the WCF invested almost \$2,000,000 USD (in team costs, prize money and share of losses) and unfortunately it has not really caught on beyond the North American TV market.

The Canadian Curling Association (CCA) and the United States Curling Association (USCA) were informed that the WCF would not be seeking a renewal of the contract for this particular event. The CCA has opted to take control of the event.

**Online results:**  
<http://wcf.co/cc2014results>





# Zonal Reports

*The revision of the WCF's governance structure is on-going...*

**The revision of the WCF's governance structure is on-going, with important steps due to take place at the 2014 World Curling Congress, including elections for Vice-Presidents - each from one of three geographic Zones - the Americas, Europe and Pacific-Asia. The establishment of these WCF Zonal Commissions is a direct result of the new WCF Constitution, approved at the 2013 World Curling Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark. Work has been on-going in each of these Zones.**

## Americas

(Commission members: Brazil; Canada; US Virgin Islands; USA)

This Commission met during the 2013 Congress in Copenhagen with representatives of the Brazilian Federation and the Canadian and United States Curling Associations involved.

At this meeting, it was suggested that the Commission should meet formally more than once a year and that Zonal Commission meetings during the World Curling Congress should take place early in the Congress schedule to allow members of each Zone to discuss matters of mutual interest before a discussion with the full membership takes place.

## Europe

(Commission members: Andorra; Armenia; Austria; Belarus; Belgium; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; England; Estonia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Kosovo; Latvia; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Romania; Russia; Scotland; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; Wales)

With 41 MAs involved, the European Commission is by far the largest of the three Zonal Commissions.

It is agreed that the best way forward for this Commission is to establish project-based working groups. Project areas under consideration include development, especially youth development; competitions; cross-border initiatives and facility development.

## Pacific-Asia

(Commission members: Australia; China; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea; Mongolia; New Zealand; Chinese Taipei)

In preparation for the new WCF Zonal structure, the Pacific-Asia Curling Federation was formally dissolved in January 2014. Prior to this, six MAs attended the Federation's Annual General Assembly in November 2013 and agreed the forward rotation of the Pacific-Asia Championships as follows:

- 2014 in Karuizawa, Japan
- 2015 Australia
- 2016 Korea
- 2017 Chinese Taipei (to be confirmed)
- 2018 New Zealand.





# Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

Sochi, Russia; February & March 2014





...what a thrill the past year has been. To win the Brier, then the Trials and now the Olympics...



# Olympic Winter Games – Men

Sochi, Russia; 7-23 February 2014

**With its purpose-built venue – the 3,000-seat Ice Cube Curling Centre – situated at the heart of the Coastal Cluster, curling was at the centre of the action at the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.**

The curling competition had ten of the world's top men's and women's teams vying for medals.

The ten men's teams were: Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA.

Russia was there as hosts, with another seven teams qualifying through their performances at the last two WCF world championships (in 2012 and 2013).

The direct qualifiers were Canada, China, Denmark, Great Britain (the Olympic qualification points gained by WCF member nation Scotland are allocated to Great Britain for Olympic purposes), Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

The fields were then completed by the top two teams from the WCF's Olympic Qualification Event, staged, for the first time, in Fuessen, Germany, in December 2013. In the men's event, Germany and the USA qualified for the Olympic Games.

Top-ranked Sweden and second-placed Canada both sat out the final session of round-robin play, knowing their semi-final places were already secure.

In that session, China beat Great Britain by 6-5 to finish in third place on the table and go on to face Canada in the semi-finals.

At the same time, Denmark – already out of medal contention beat Norway by 5-3 and this set up a tie-breaker between Great Britain and Norway for the last semi-final place.

Great Britain emerged victorious from this tense tie-breaker, scoring two points with a difficult last stone take-out for a 6-5 win. The British team then went on to beat world champions Sweden by 6-5 while Canada defeated China by 10-6 to set up the gold medal game, while Sweden and China moved on to the bronze medal game.

The bronze medal game between China and Sweden went all the way to an extra end. Eventually Sweden stole two points in this end, to win by 6-4 and take the bronze medals.

In the gold medal game, Canada took an early lead and were 5-1 up after just three ends. They then went 6-1 up in the next end when an umpire's measure gave them a single steal. By the eighth end, Canada held a 9-3 lead and the British team conceded.

This was the third successive Olympic title for Canada's men, who have now won medals in each of the Olympic Winter Games to take place since curling was re-instated onto the Olympic programme in 1998.

For Great Britain, this was a first men's curling medal since Britain won gold in the inaugural Olympic Winter Games of 1924 in Chamonix, France.

Canadian Skip Brad Jacobs on winning Olympic gold: "I can't tell you what a thrill the past year has been. To win the Brier, then the Trials and now the Olympics — it just seems amazing. And I couldn't have asked for a better group of guys to do it with."

## Online results:

<http://wcf.co/olympics2014resultsmen>

sochi.ru  
2014

## Results

### Medal teams

- 🇨🇦 **Canada**
  - Brad Jacobs (skip)
  - Ryan Fry (third)
  - E.J. Harnden (second)
  - Ryan Harnden (lead)
  - Caleb Flaxey (alternate)
- 🇬🇧 **Great Britain**
  - David Murdoch (skip)
  - Greg Drummond (third)
  - Scott Andrews (second)
  - Michael Goodfellow (lead)
  - Tom Brewster (alternate)
- 🇸🇪 **Sweden**
  - Niklas Edin (skip)
  - Sebastian Kraupp (third)
  - Fredrik Lindberg (second)
  - Viktor Kjell (lead)
  - Oskar Eriksson (alternate)





# Olympic Winter Games – Women

Sochi, Russia; 7-23 February 2014

## Results

### Medal teams

#### Canada

Jennifer Jones (skip)  
Kaitlyn Lawes (third)  
Jill Officer (second)  
Dawn McEwen (lead)  
Kirsten Wall (alternate)

#### Sweden

Maria Prytz (fourth)  
Christina Bertrup (third)  
Maria Wennerstroem (second)  
Margaretha Sigfridsson (lead/skip)  
Agnes Knochenhauer (alternate)

#### Great Britain

Eve Muirhead (skip)  
Anna Sloan (third)  
Vicky Adams (second)  
Claire Hamilton (lead)  
Lauren Gray (alternate)

**The ten teams in the women's Olympic lineup were Canada, China, Denmark, Great Britain, Japan, Korea, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA.**

Russia were there as event hosts, with another seven teams qualifying through their performances at the last two WCF world championships (in 2012 and 2013). The seven direct women's qualifiers were Canada, Denmark, Great Britain, Korea, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

The field was completed by the top two teams from the WCF's Olympic Qualification Event, staged, for the first time, in Fussen, Germany, in December 2013. China won the women's event, with Japan finishing in second place and subsequently both securing the last available women's positions.

With a 9-4 win over Korea in the final session of the round-robin, Canada became the first women's team in Olympic history to go through a round-robin programme undefeated. Elsewhere in the round-robin, Switzerland beat China by 10-6 to rank in third place overall and move on to a semi-final game against Sweden, who consolidated their second place position with an 8-4 win over Japan.

Great Britain became the fourth semi-final qualifiers despite losing to Denmark by 7-8 after an extra end. Canada then went on to face the British team in the semi-finals while Sweden were to face Switzerland.

In the semi-finals, Canada beat Great Britain by 6-4 while Sweden had a 7-5 victory over Switzerland in a game that saw the lead change hands four times.

These results meant that Great Britain and Switzerland would play for bronze medals and Canada and Sweden would play for gold.

The British team had to come from behind to win the bronze game. They levelled the score at 3-3 after five ends and took the lead for the first time in the eighth end. They then drew the final stone of the game into the house for a 6-5 win.

The gold medal game between Canada and Sweden was a tight affair, with the scores level at 5-5 at the halftime break. The turning point came in the ninth end when a Swedish mistake allowed Canada to steal two points for a 6-3 lead. Canada then ran Sweden out of stones in the tenth end and the Olympic title was theirs, with a final score line of 6-3.

With this result, Canada completed the entire tournament unbeaten, recording eleven wins. They are the first women's team to achieve this feat. This was also the first Olympic title for Canada's women's curling since the sport made its return to the Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan, when the late Sandra Schmirler won.

Canadian skip Jennifer Jones on winning Olympic gold: "Winning a gold medal at the Olympics takes so much time, so much hard work and so much sacrifice, and so much support from your friends and family."

#### Online results:

<http://wcf.co/olympic2014resultswomen>

*Winning gold at the Olympics takes so much time, so much hard work and so much sacrifice...*







# Paralympic Winter Games Wheelchair Curling

Sochi, Russia; 7-16 March 2014

**Ten mixed gender teams qualified to take part in the wheelchair curling event at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi. They were hosts Russia, defending champions Canada, China, Finland, Great Britain, Korea, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden and the USA.**

At the end of round-robin play, Russia topped the rankings, with only one defeat (4-5 against Canada) in their nine games. Canada suffered only two defeats – at the hands of Norway and then Finland – to rank second overall, while, behind them China and Great Britain shared the same won five, lost four record.

Because of their 6-3 win over the British team, China ranked third and Great Britain fourth. These rankings meant that Russia would play Great Britain in one semi-final while Canada and China would face off in the other.

In those semi-finals, Russia, 2012 world champions, raced to a 4-0 lead over Great Britain after two ends thanks to a steal of three points in the second end. They then went on to score seven points in the fourth end on their way to an emphatic 13-4 victory that guaranteed them a medal in what was Russia's first-ever Paralympic appearance.



The semi-final between Canada and China proved to be a lot tighter. Canada took an early advantage as they scored single points in the first two ends and eventually, when China could only score one point in the eighth end, sealed a 5-4 win for the opportunity to defend the gold medals that they won in the Vancouver Paralympic Winter Games in 2010.

China went on to face Great Britain for bronze medals. In this game, the Chinese took the early advantage, scoring one point in the opening end and then stealing two points in the second for a 3-0 lead. These were to be the only points that China scored in the game and eventually, after a succession of steals, Great Britain won the game and the bronze medals with a final score 7-3.

In the gold medal game between Russia and Canada, the home team took an early advantage, scoring two points in the first end. Canada then scored in each of the next five ends to take an 8-2 lead and when Russia could only score one point in the seventh end, they conceded, with the final score at 8-3.

This result meant that Canada has now won all three Paralympic curling competitions since the sport was introduced in Turin in 2006. Sonja Gaudet was on the team on each occasion and makes Paralympic history winning three consecutive wheelchair curling gold medals.

**Online results:**  
<http://wcf.co/paralympic2014results>

## Results

### Medal teams

- **Canada**  
 Jim Armstrong (skip)  
 Dennis Thiessen (third)  
 Ina Forrest (second)  
 Sonja Gaudet (lead)  
 Mark Ideson (alternate)
- **Russia**  
 Andrey Smirnov (skip)  
 Alexander Shevchenko (third)  
 Svetlana Pakhomova (second)  
 Marat Romanov (lead)  
 Oxana Slesarenko (alternate)
- **Great Britain**  
 Aileen Neilson (skip)  
 Gregor Ewan (third)  
 Robert McPherson (second)  
 Jim Gault (lead)  
 Angie Malone (alternate)

*Sonja Gaudet  
made Paralympic  
history winning  
three consecutive  
gold medals*





# Olympic Celebration Tour

**This season, the WCF launched its first-ever Olympic Celebration Tour.**



**With increased interest in curling due to the 2014 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the Olympic Celebration Tour is a series of instructional sessions with curling Olympians intended to attract interest and promote curling within WCF MAs.**

With tour stops in the USA, Slovenia, Denmark, New Zealand, Japan and Hungary, this first year was a great success, aided by a generous sponsorship support package from a US charitable foundation, The Foundation for Global Sports Development, which donated \$50,000 USD to help support the programme.

The first stop was in the USA with 2010 Vancouver silver medallist Carolyn (Darbyshire) McRorie, from Canada visiting the San Francisco area. Shortly after, Canada's 2006 Turin Olympic gold medallist Jamie Korab visited Detroit.

After this, it was on to Ljubljana, Slovenia, with 1998 Nagano silver medallist Mike Harris, also from Canada

These events took place before Sochi. Thereafter the Tour resumed after the Olympic Games when Canada's 2010 Vancouver gold medallist Marc Kennedy visited Esbjerg in Denmark. At this stop, Denmark's 1998 Nagano silver medallist Helena Blach Lavrsen made a surprise appearance as a guest of the local organisers.

Following his involvement in the OCT in Denmark, Kennedy said: "It was inspiring to work with so many young curlers who had such a passion for the game. They had a willingness to learn and an eagerness to improve – that was a coach's dream. I did not know what to expect when I arrived. I was caught off guard by these young juniors who had become so enamoured with our sport. They would do anything to have access to the coaches and resources we have here in Canada. There is a great opportunity to grow this game among the youth of the world, and the OCT is the avenue to do it."

The Tour then moved to New Zealand, where Canada's 2010 Vancouver silver medallist, Cheryl Bernard, made tour stops in the three major curling centres in New Zealand – Auckland, Dunedin and Naseby.

In Japan, Canada's 2006 Torino bronze medallist Shannon Kleibrink took part in sessions in Hiroshima and Aomori. The concluding country of the Tour's first season was Hungary where Great Britain's 2002 Salt Lake City gold medallist Rhona Howie (Martin) took the sessions.

After her experience in Hungary, Howie reflected on her experience. She said: "The WCF's Olympic Celebration Tour is a fantastic initiative. During my trip to Budapest I was greatly encouraged with the enthusiasm from all the participants throughout the weekend. Curling is a fast growing sport in Hungary and there was a great passion and energy for developing from all the coaches and a wide age range of curlers."

Funding for the next round of Tours for the forthcoming season 2014/15 has now been confirmed.



*The young curlers had a willingness to learn and an eagerness to improve*





# Broadcasting and Media



## 2013-2014 proved to be the busiest season yet for our World Curling TV (WCTV) broadcasting operations.

In addition to our annual host broadcast TV productions for the European Curling Championships and Women's and Men's World Championships, WCTV mounted operations for the inaugural Olympic Qualification Event (OQE) in Fuessen and a special operation in Las Vegas for the Continental Cup.

A global cumulative audience of 390 million people watched all this coverage, with live and delayed footage of the Olympic Qualifying Event alone reaching 186 million people in China and Japan.\*

From the five events, 86 curling games were produced for live television broadcast. An additional 37 games were produced for web streaming from the World Junior and World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships in collaboration with Sweden's LiveChannel.

World Curling TV broadcast firsts & landmarks for the 2013-2014 season include:

- TV2 Sport Norway: first time live coverage of the European Championships with commentators and reporters live onsite in Stavanger.
- NHK Japan: 31-strong crew onsite in Fuessen for dedicated, round the clock, Japanese coverage of the OQE.
- CT Sports: live coverage of OQE final men's games. This was the first time live curling was broadcast in the Czech Republic outside the Olympic Winter Games.
- Russia 2: first live televised coverage of a World Curling Championship event (Women's in Saint John).
- TSN Canada: matched its best-ever World Curling Championship audience – 1.13 million – for Canada v Switzerland Women's Championship final in Saint John.
- Brazil's Sportv/TV Globo: live coverage of Brazil's first appearance at a World Curling Championship event (World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2014).

\*Source: REPUKOM Reports

\*\*figures for period 1 May 2013 – 1 May 2014

## Media & Communications

As expected, the Olympic and Paralympic year brought a surge of growth in the number of people visiting our websites and following news about curling via the WCF's social media platforms.

The busiest period was the fortnight of the Olympic Winter Games in February which contributed to a 66% increase in the number of unique visitors to [www.worldcurling.org](http://www.worldcurling.org) (575,753 compared to 345,876 for the season before).\*\*

Of the nine curlingevents.com websites set up for the 2013-14 season, the most popular was [sochi2014.curlingevents.com](http://sochi2014.curlingevents.com) which covered the Olympic Qualification Event, the Olympics and Paralympics.

Facebook, Twitter and YouTube continue to be key platforms to reach out to fans. With a decision to concentrate tweets on the @worldcurling account, the number of followers jumped a staggering 359% (from 1,978 to 9,078).

World Curling TV on YouTube picked up another 6,000 subscribers, almost tripling the number from the start of the season. In the same period, there were almost a million views of the videos available on the channel (double the figure from the 2012-2013 season).

With the increase in followers comes the increased challenge to reach out to these fans and provide them with content. The recruitment of Chris Hamilton as IT and New Media Officer is vital support for the continued development of the WCF's online communication tools.

Additional support has come from MAs sending their media and communications representatives to championship events under the WCF's Media Assistance Programme (MAP). This season, seven MAs took advantage of the funding available to cover accommodation costs for a communications representative to be onsite at our events.

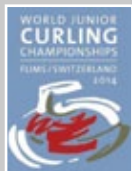
Following the success of its inaugural year, the WCF's Trainee Journalist and Photographer Programme was expanded to reach out to more media students. Jesse Kushneryk from Alberta, Canada and Rick Lane from Nottinghamshire, England, joined the WCF Media Operations team in Stavanger for the European Championships. Taylor Craig from Ontario, Canada, attended the Women's World Championship in Saint John and Céline Stucki from Berne, Switzerland, joined the team for the Men's World Championship in Beijing.



**A global audience of 390 million people watched WCTV coverage... 186 million in China and Japan.**







# World Junior Curling Championships

Flims, Switzerland; 26 February - 5 March 2014

## Results

### Medal teams – junior men

- Switzerland**  
Reto Keller (fourth)  
Yannick Schwaller (third/skip)  
Patrick Witschonke (second)  
Michael Probst (lead)  
Romano Meier (alternate)
- Scotland**  
Kyle Smith (skip)  
Thomas Muirhead (third)  
Kyle Waddell (second)  
Cameron Smith (lead)  
Duncan Menzies (alternate)
- Norway**  
Eirik Mjoen (skip)  
Markus Skogvold (third)  
Wilhelm Naess (second)  
Gaute Nepstad (lead)  
Martin Sesaker (alternate)

### Medal teams – junior women

- Canada**  
Kelsey Rocque (skip)  
Keely Brown (third)  
Taylor McDonald (second)  
Claire Tully (lead)  
Alison Kotlyak (alternate)
- Korea**  
Kyeong-Ae Kim (skip)  
Seon-Yeong Kim (third)  
Ji-Hyeon Kim (second)  
Eun-Jin Oh (lead)  
Young-Eun Koo (alternate)
- Russia**  
Iuliia Portunova (fourth)  
Alina Kovaleva (third/skip)  
Uliana Vasilyeva (second)  
Anastasiia Bryzgalova (lead)  
Anastasia Moskaleva (alternate)

**The 2014 World Junior Curling Championships were staged in the Waldhaus Arena in Flims, Switzerland, which was also the venue the last time this event took place in Switzerland, in 2010.**

Altogether ten junior women's and ten junior men's teams took part. The men's teams were Austria (qualifiers from the European Junior Challenge (held in January 2014 in Lohja, Finland), Canada, China (qualifiers from the Pacific-Asia Junior Championships held in January 2014 in Harbin, China), Italy, Norway, Russia, defending champions Scotland, Sweden, hosts Switzerland, and the USA.

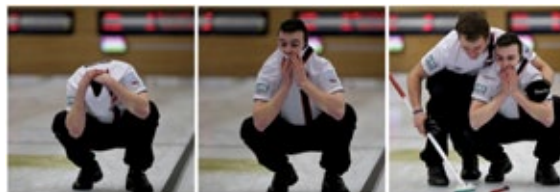
The women's teams were Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Italy (qualifiers from the European Junior Challenge), Korea (qualifiers from the Pacific-Asia Junior Championships), defending champions Russia, Scotland, Sweden, hosts Switzerland and the USA. This was the first time that a Korean team had qualified to take part in these Championships, although they did compete as hosts in Jeonju, Korea, in 2006.

In the men's event, despite losing their final round-robin game 3-4 to Italy, Norway concluded the round-robin in top spot to go into the Page 1v2 Play-off game. They faced Scotland, the team with the best head-to-head record among the four teams tied in second place - the other three being Italy, Switzerland and Canada. Switzerland beat Italy by 4-3 in a tie-breaker to go on to face Canada in the Page 3v4 Play-off.

In the Page games, Scotland kept their title defence going when they beat Norway by 8-5 in the 1v2 game, to take the direct route to the gold medal game. The other Page Play-off was a closer affair, with Switzerland winning by 6-5 after an extra end.

Switzerland then beat Norway by 10-2 in the sole semi-final to set up a gold medal game against Scotland and a bronze medal game between Canada and Norway. In the gold medal game, Switzerland were 3-1 up after three ends on their way to a 6-5 win, while Norway beat Canada by 7-5 to win bronze medals.

In the women's Championship, Korea topped the rankings to face Canada in the Page 1v2 Play-off. Three teams: Russia, Sweden and Switzerland, tied in third place. Because of their better record in games among the three teams, Russia move directly to the Page 3v4 Play-off game, while Sweden and Switzerland played a tie-



breaker to decide the fourth Play-off place, a game that Sweden won by 7-6.

In the Page Play-off games, Canada beat Korea by 7-6 to move directly to the final while Sweden beat Russia 5-4 to move to the sole semi-final. In that semi-final, Korea beat Sweden by 7-4 to set up a gold medal game between Canada and Korea and a bronze medal game between Sweden and Russia.

Canada won gold, and the women's title for the first time in eleven years, with a 6-4 victory over Korea. Russia, meanwhile, had an 11-4 win over Sweden to win the bronze medals.

Austrian junior men's skip Sebastian Wunderer and skip of the Czech Republic junior women's team Zuzana Hajkova were announced as winners of the WCF Sportsmanship Awards.

### Online results:

Junior Men: <http://wcf.co/wjcc2014resultsmen>

Junior Women: <http://wcf.co/wjcc2014resultswomen>

**Next year's championships will be held from 28 February to 8 March 2014, in Tallinn, Estonia.**





# Competition and Rules Commission

## Co-Chairs

**Kate Caithness**  
**Graham Prouse**  
(both WCF)

## Members

**Paul Ahlgren** (Sweden)

**John Brown** (England)

**Hew Chalmers** (Scotland)

**Karel Kubeska** (Czech Republic)

**Danny Lamoureux** (Canada)

**Mark Swandby** (USA)

**Keith Wendorf** (WCF)

**Leif Ohman** (WCF) is an advisory member of the Commission.

## The WCF Competition and Rules Commission is a Standing Commission formed in 2013 as part of the update to the WCF Constitution and By-Laws.

Its purpose is to proactively review, assess and enhance the rules of play and standards of competition to ensure the continued enjoyment, growth and marketability of curling, both as a sport in the Olympic programme and as a world-wide recreational activity.

The WCF General Assembly is responsible for approving changes to the rules of play and the cooperative process laid out in the Commission's terms of reference ensures the Competition and Rules Commission works closely with the WCF Athlete Commission and reports regularly to the WCF Board and MAs.

The Commission also has a mandate to include other stakeholders and experts in its work, as the subject matter deems necessary. The goal of the process is to ensure all relevant input is received, alternative points of view are well-known, and that important decisions can be taken with full information.

The inaugural meeting of the Commission was held in conjunction with the 2013 World Curling Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark and from that point, the Commission identified items requiring attention within its area of responsibility.

Over the winter, data was gathered and assessed and the Commission met again in Saint John, Canada, in March to discuss and consider ideas and concepts for enhancements.

These items included game duration, pace of play, electronic devices on the field of play, standards for competition equipment and clothing, coach interaction and sport presentation.

Through this process, priorities were identified and a number of options and recommendations were forwarded to the WCF Board, Athlete Commission and MAs for consideration and feedback.

The Commission's first recommendations developed using this process will be presented to the 2014 World Curling Congress for consideration by the General Assembly.

# Governance Commission

## The WCF Governance Commission began work on a review and renewal of the WCF Constitution and Bylaws in autumn 2011.

After two years considering governance best-practice; consultation with MA representatives, a new constitution was developed by the Commission, which includes:

### Chair

**Graham Prouse** (WCF)

### Members

**John Anderson** (Australia)

**Colin Grahamslaw** (WCF)  
WCF Secretary General.

**Laura Lochanski** (Canada)

**Willie Nicoll** (Scotland)

**Bent Ramsfjell** (Norway)

**Olli Rissanen** (Finland)

**Gerrit-Jan Scholten** (Netherlands)

The work of this group has so far seen a number of changes and improvements, including increasing the number of Directors from seven to eight. The new WCF Board structure is comprised of one WCF President, three Vice-President's, one for each of the regional zones: Americas, Europe and Pacific-Asia, and four Board Directors.

There will be elections for all eight Board Director positions at the Congress in Reno, USA in September 2014.

*...a new constitution was developed by the Commission...*

*The goal of the process is to ensure all relevant input is received...*







# Ford World Women's Curling Championship

Saint John, Canada; 15-23 March 2014

## Results

### Medal teams

**Switzerland**  
 Binia Feltscher (skip)  
 Irene Schori (third)  
 Franziska Kaufmann (second)  
 Christine Urech (lead)  
 Carole Howald (alternate)

**Canada**  
 Rachel Homan (skip)  
 Emma Miskew (third)  
 Alison Kreviazuk (second)  
 Lisa Weagle (lead)  
 Stephanie LeDrew (alternate)

**Russia**  
 Anna Sidorova (skip)  
 Margarita Fomina (third)  
 Alexandra Saitova (second)  
 Ekaterina Galkina (lead)  
 Nkeiruka Ezekh (alternate)



**The 2014 Ford World Women's Curling Championship was staged at Harbour Station, Saint John, Canada, as world championship curling returned to the largest city in New Brunswick for the first time since 1999.**

The twelve nations that qualified for this event were hosts Canada, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Korea, Latvia, Russia, Scotland, Switzerland, Sweden and the USA.

In three cases, teams that were in action at the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, represented their nations. These were the Olympic and world silver medallists from Sweden, the Korean team that finished eighth in Sochi and the Russian team that finished ninth in their home-nation Winter Olympics. Other nations separated their Olympic and world championship representation and sent different teams, including Scotland – title winners in 2013 with Eve Muirhead's team.

In the last session of round-robin play, Canada beat Sweden by 9-6 to rank at the top of the table, with ten wins from eleven games. Switzerland recorded nine wins to finish second and these two teams were scheduled to face each other in the Page 1v2 Play-off.

Meanwhile, Sweden, Russia and Korea all shared the same 'won eight, lost three' record and, when the results among these teams were considered, Russia ranked third and went straight to the Page 3v4 Play-off game.

Korea and Sweden played a tie-breaker to determine fourth place, which Korea won by 7-5 to take the last Page Play-off slot.



Canada beat Switzerland by 8-3 in the 1v2 game and Korea beat Russia by 7-5 in the 3v4 game. These results put Canada straight into the gold medal game, set up a semi-final between Switzerland and Korea, and put Russia into the bronze medal game.

In the semi-final, Switzerland beat Korea by 7-3 to qualify for the gold medal game against Canada and set up a bronze show-down between Korea and Russia.

In the bronze medal game, Russia produced an extra-end 7-6 win with a single steal to claim a historic, first-ever, world women's championship medal for their nation.

After seven ends in the gold medal game, Canada led by 5-3, but the eighth end was the turning point of the final. Canadian skip Rachel Homan tried to take out a collection of Swiss stones but her attempt went wrong and left two of them still in counting positions.

Swiss skip Binia Feltscher then drew her own final stone into the house to score three points and take a 6-5 lead. In the ninth end, Homan attempted to promote one of her own stones off the wing, but this missed, giving Switzerland a three-point steal and a 9-5 lead.

Switzerland then ran Canada out of stones in the tenth end to secure Feltscher and her team the gold medals, making them only the fourth Swiss women's team in the 36 year history of the event to become world champions.

Afterwards, Feltscher said: "It can't be better – winning a world curling championship in Canada against Canada is amazing! We were not expecting this at all!"

The Canadian team had the consolation of having their second player, Alison Kreviazuk, named winner of the Frances Brodie Award, voted for by all the players to recognise the player they think best exemplified curling's values and sportsmanship throughout the event.

**Online results:**  
<http://wcf.co/wwcc2014results>

**Next year's championship will be held from 14-22 March in Sapporo, Japan.**

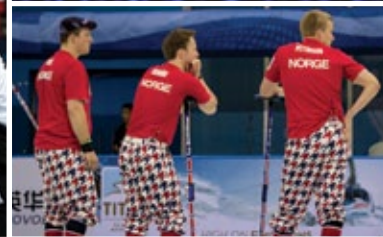
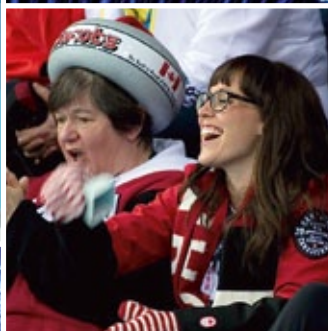




# The Spirit of Curling

*'The Spirit of Curling is here - even though we're playing hard against each other, everybody's still friends'*

Austria skip  
Sebastian Wunderer



*'If the Spirit of Curling ruled the world - can you imagine what kind of world we would live in?'*

Fan comment left on World Curling TV channel





# CPT World Men's Curling Championship

Beijing, China; 29 March-6 April 2014

## Results

### Medal teams

#### Norway

Thomas Ulsrud (skip)  
Torger Nergaard (third)  
Christoffer Svae (second)  
Havaard Vad Petersson (lead)  
Markus Hoeiberg (alternate)

#### Sweden

Oskar Eriksson (skip)  
Kristian Lindstroem (second)  
Markus Eriksson (second)  
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)  
Gustav Eskilsson (alternate)

#### Switzerland

Benoit Schwarz (fourth)  
Peter De Cruz (third/skip)  
Dominik Maerki (second)  
Valentin Tanner (lead)  
Claudio Paetz (alternate)

**New ground was broken when the 2014 CPT World Men's Curling Championship, presented by Ford of Canada, was staged in Beijing's Capital Gymnasium. This was the first WCF World Championship event to be held in China, and only the third time that any WCF Championship had been hosted in Asia. In 2007, Aomori, Japan staged the World Women's Championship and in 2009 Gangneung in Korea hosted the same event.**

The Beijing Capital Gymnasium is also known as the Beijing Indoor Arena, and it was the venue for volleyball events during the 2008 Olympic Summer Games.

Twelve of the top men's curling teams took part, representing Canada, hosts China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Norway, Russia, Scotland, defending champions Sweden, Switzerland and the USA.

Five of the team line ups – China, Denmark, Germany, Norway and Russia – took part in the recent Olympic Winter Games in Sochi Russia, with China having the best performance among them, finishing fourth.



Table-topping Norway and second-placed Canada sat out the final session of round-robin play while Sweden beat China to share third place with Switzerland and Japan. Among these three, Switzerland had the best round-robin record, so they were ranked third overall to go into the Page 3v4 Play-off game against the winner of a tie-breaker between Japan and Sweden, with Norway facing Canada in the Page 1v2 Play-off.

Sweden won the tie-breaker by 8-7 and then beat Switzerland by 5-2 in the Page 3v4 game to go into the sole semi-final against Canada, who had lost the Page 1v2 game against Norway by 2-3.

In the semi-final, Sweden kept their winning streak going by beating Canada by 10-8 to go on to face Norway in the gold medal game. Before that, Switzerland beat Canada by 7-5 to win bronze medals, starting off the game with two single steals. This fourth place finish marked the first time since 2001 that Canada had left a World Men's Championship empty-handed.

In the gold medal game, Norway scored in each of the first four ends to establish a 5-0 lead, a margin that Sweden could not overcome and the Swedes conceded after eight ends with the score at 8-3 in Norway's favour.

This was the first world title for Norway since 1988 when skip Eigil Ramsfjell skipped the team that won in Lausanne, Switzerland. By a happy coincidence, Ramsfjell was in the arena to watch this Norwegian triumph as, during the Championship closing ceremony, he was inducted into the World Curling Hall of Fame.

After the game, Norwegian Skip Thomas Ulsrud said: "We've been training so hard for this for so many years, for so many Worlds. I've been close a couple of times but to be called world champion, that sounds amazing."

Also during the closing ceremony, Scotland skip Ewan MacDonald was named as the recipient of the Collie Campbell Memorial Award, voted on by all the players in the tournament, and presented to the individual they feel best displays a spirit of sportsmanship and the values of curling.

#### Online results:

<http://wcf.co/wmcc2014results>

**Next year's championship will be held from 28 March-5 April in Halifax, Canada.**





# Sponsorship & Marketing

Over recent years, there has been a continuous positive development in WCF marketing revenue.



Last season's slight dip has been more than compensated for this season and the net WCF marketing income has gone back through the \$1,000,000 USD mark again.

The progress of WCF sponsorship revenues in USD (less commission and expenses) per year from 2008/2009 is illustrated below.

This season has seen the renewal of our contract with marketing agent Infront Sports & Media, valid until 2018. We also welcomed a new timing sponsor – EDOX.

Asia is recognised by the WCF as a growth area for curling in general and also in the marketing of curling. The hosting of this season's CPT World Men's Curling Championship in Beijing, China, sets the Federation up to successfully stage more championships in this part of the world.

For the upcoming season, WCF sponsors and partners include 361, Ford of Canada, Titlis Glacier Mountain, Le Gruyère, Lucerne, Mount 10, Edox, AtomAMPD, DB Schenker and Jet Ice.

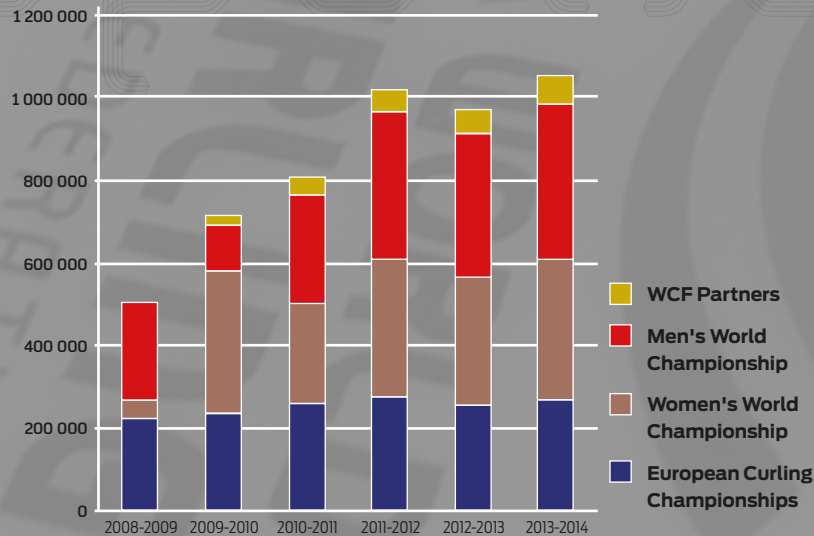
Looking forward, we are aiming to:

- ⊙ Take advantage of the marketing opportunities generated by having championships in Asia.
- ⊙ Develop a more diversified portfolio of sponsors to maximise the sponsorship potential and reduce dependency on only a few markets/nations.
- ⊙ Assess opportunities made by the current Eurosport contract to form a foundation for a WCF decision on the way forward for the European Championships.
- ⊙ Contribute to the development of a new and future-oriented WCF strategy with clear and transparent targets and priorities.

In terms of future marketing revenues, our aim is to have WCF-generated income equal to our IOC income by releasing the big marketing potential curling has on a worldwide basis. Increasing TV coverage beyond our current levels will be a key success factor in this.



Summary of WCF sponsorship revenues by year (2008-2014) in \$USD







# World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship

Dumfries, Scotland; 23-30 April 2014

## Results

### Medal teams

#### Switzerland

Reto Gribbi  
Michelle Gribbi

#### Sweden

Per Noreen  
Camilla Johansson

#### Spain

Sergio Vez  
Irantzu Garcia

### The Dumfries Ice Bowl in Scotland hosted the 2014 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship.

This was the seventh edition of this event (the inaugural Championship took place in Vierumaki, Finland in 2008) and saw a record total of 34 teams involved, from Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America and South America.

Instead of playing in teams of four, mixed doubles curling is for teams of two players – one male and one female (no alternate/spare player is allowed). The game is played on the same sheets of ice as 'traditional' curling, with some differences, including:

Teams have only six stones each (instead of eight) and one of those stones, from each team, is repositioned on the centreline before each end of play starts.

Player one delivers the first and last stones and player two plays the second, third and fourth stones. If they choose to, the two players may swap positions from one end to the next.

Sweeping can be done by both team members.

Each team receives 46 minutes of playing time and games are 8 ends – compared to 73 minutes and 10 ends for 'traditional' curling.



The teams were divided into four groups. They were:

**Group A:** Austria, Belarus, Denmark, England, defending champions Hungary, Italy, Korea, Russia, Wales.

**Group B:** Brazil, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Scotland, Slovenia, Sweden.

**Group C:** Australia, Czech Republic, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland.

**Group D:** China, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, USA.

For Belarus, Brazil and Kazakhstan, this was their first appearance at a World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship.

With the round-robin section completed, eight teams emerged as quarter-finalists – Switzerland faced Austria, Russia were up against Spain, defending champions Hungary lined up against Norway, and Sweden played the Czech Republic.

In these quarter-finals, defending champions Hungary controlled their game against Norway to emerge as 7-4 winners. They went on to face Sweden, who beat the Czech Republic by 10-5 in their quarter-final. Meanwhile, Switzerland beat Austria by 9-7 to face Spain in the other semi-final, after the Spaniards beat Russia by 9-7 in an extra end.

The semi-finals saw Sweden beat Hungary by 7-3 and Switzerland beating Spain by 8-5.

Sweden and Switzerland faced off for gold medals and the title and it was Switzerland who emerged as champions, beating Sweden by 8-6. At the same time, Spain won their first-ever world curling championship medal for their nation when they beat defending champions Hungary by 7-4 in the bronze medal game.

Spain's Sergio Vez spoke afterwards about their landmark bronze win: "You don't know how important this is for curling in Spain. We have no arenas so maybe now people will like to spend money on curling resources. We are really looking forward to coming back to Spain with our medals."

This year, the WCF will propose the inclusion of Mixed Doubles curling in the Olympic programme ahead of the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

### Online results:

<http://wcf.co/wmdcc2014results>

**Next year's Championship venue and dates are to be confirmed.**





# The World Curling Federation Hall of Fame

The WCF administers and convenes the World Curling Hall of Fame, and Canada's **Randy Ferbey**, Switzerland's **Patrick Huerlimann** and Norway's **Eigil Ramsfjell** were announced as inductees during the 2014 CPT World Men's Curling Championship in Beijing, China.



Huerlimann



Ramsfjell



Ferbey

**Induction into the World Curling Hall of Fame is the highest 'non-playing' honour that the WCF can bestow on someone and recognises outstanding contribution to the sport of curling whether through on-ice exploits or off-ice endeavours.**

There are two classes of honour:

**Curler:** Demonstrated World Championship level playing ability, sportsmanship and character, and who has achieved extraordinary distinction and outstanding results in the sport of curling.

**Builder:** Given distinguished service and has made a major contribution to the development and advancement of curling internationally.

**Switzerland's Huerlimann** won Olympic gold in Nagano, Japan in 1998, the year in which curling was reintroduced to the Olympic Winter Games Programme.

He also picked up several World Championship medals. This included a silver medal at the 1989 World Men's Curling Championship held in Milwaukee, USA; bronze medal in the 1996 Ford World Men's Curling Championship in Hamilton, Canada, and another bronze in 1999 in Saint John, Canada.

Off the ice, Huerlimann devoted considerable time to sports development. In addition to working closely with the Swiss Curling Association, Swiss Olympic Association and European Olympic Association (on their Athlete Commission), he was also an Executive Board Member of the WCF between 2006 and 2012, serving as Vice-President between 2010 and 2012.

After his induction, Huerlimann said: "This great news came out of the blue. For the past 40 years, curling has been a major part of my life on and off the ice. I am truly honoured with this nomination and to be part of the 'Great Ones' of our much loved game."

**Norway's Ramsfjell** shares, along with Scotland's Peter Smith, the record for winning the most World Men's Curling Championship medals - nine.

During his playing career he participated in 15 World Men's Curling Championships, winning three of them (1979, 1984, 1988) as well as picking up two silver medals (1978, 1980) and four bronze medals (1983, 1987, 1989 and 1991).

Ramsfjell also won the gold medal when curling was a demonstration sport at the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary, Canada. Ten years later, when curling finally returned to the Olympic programme, his team won the bronze medals in Nagano, Japan in 1998.

Ramsfjell will also be remembered for the instrumental role he played in introducing the 'Free Guard Zone' rule which is still used in WCF competitions today.

Speaking of his induction, Ramsfjell said: "My curling career has given me many highlights and I have been grateful for every one of those experiences. However, this recognition is truly outstanding. I am deeply honoured to be joining some of the greats of previous generations."

**Canada's Randy Ferbey** is a four-time World Men's champion (1989, 2002, 2003, 2005) and was a silver medallist at the 1988 World Men's Curling Championship. He was also a six-time national (Brier) champion (1988, 1989, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005).

Ferbey, along with fellow Canadian's Ernie Richardson, Arnold Richardson, Sam Richardson and Glenn Howard, holds the record for the most number of World Men's Curling Championship wins.

While Huerlimann and Ramsfjell were formally inducted in Beijing, Ferbey will officially be inducted at the Ford World Men's Curling Championship 2015 in Halifax, Canada.

"This came out of nowhere for me; I'm blown away, to be honest," said Ferbey. "I never played the game to earn accolades like this. I always considered it a team game, and I really want to share this with all the great teammates I had over the years. I could not have done it without them."

## World Curling Hall of Fame

Year	Curler/Builder	Award Recipient/Country
2014	Curler	Randy Ferbey, Canada
2014	Curler	Patrick Huerlimann, Switzerland
2014	Curler	Eigil Ramsfjell, Norway
2013	Curler	Don Duguid, Canada
2013	Curler	Ron Northcott, Canada
2012	Builder	Gunther Hummelt, Austria (posthumously)
2012	Builder	Jean-Paul Bidaud, Switzerland
2012	Curler	Elisabet Gustafson, Sweden

## World Curling Freytag Award Recipients

Year	Curler/Builder	Award Recipient/Country
2011	Builder	Ray Kingsmith, Canada (posthumously)
2010	Builder	Malcolm Richardson, Scotland
2009	Curler	Sandra Schmirler, Canada (posthumously)
2008	Builder	Leslie Ingram-Brown, Scotland
2007	Builder	Roy Sinclair, Scotland
2006	Builder	Kunio Nando, Japan
2004/2005	Not awarded	
2003	Builder	Bob Whitehead, USA (posthumously)
2002	Builder	Franz Tanner, Switzerland
2001	Builder	Shirley Morash, Canada
	Curler	Raymond (Bud) Somerville, USA
2000	Builder	Bob Hardy, USA
	Curler	Ernie Richardson, Canada
1998/1999	Not awarded	
1997		Erwin Sautter, Switzerland
1996		Elizabeth Paterson-Brown, Scotland
1995	Not awarded	
1994		Keith Wendorf, Germany
1991/92/93	Not awarded	

## Elmer Freytag Award Recipients

Year	Award recipient/Country
1990	Colin Campbell, Canada (posthumously)
1989	Don McKay, USA
1988	Kay Sugahara, USA
1987	Bob Picken, Canada
1986	Art Cobb, USA
1985	Don McLeod, Canada
1984	Robin Welsh, Scotland
1983	Mabel Deware, Canada
1982	Sven Eklund, Sweden
1981	Doug Maxwell, Canada
1980	Bob Grierson, Scotland
1979	Chuck Hay, Scotland
1978	Ken Watson, Canada



# The impact of event hosting

What benefits does a major curling championship bring to a community... and how many people does it touch?

WCF Trainee Journalist **Taylor Craig** went to find out...

*We're going to continue to bid for them - it's just good business sense...*

If you'd like to consider hosting an event in your city please email [info@worldcurling.org](mailto:info@worldcurling.org) or call us at the number in this review to request an information pack.

*Pupils from fifteen local elementary schools in the Saint John area researched a country participating in the Ford World Women's Curling Championship 2014. They created a mural for each country that represented its defining traits and they were displayed on the walls of the final pedway approach to the venue - Harbour Station.*

**In March, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada hosted the Ford World Women's Curling Championship for the first time since 1999, and Jeff Lacey, Host Committee Chair, gave some background as to how Saint John come to act as hosts again. He explained: "There was this rumour mill from our curling community saying: 'I think it's about time we do this again.' We then put a request into the Canadian Curling Association (CCA). Honestly, it was just overdue."**

Lacey's organising committee liaised with Discover Saint John, a local tourism and economic development organisation. As Jillian MacKinnon, their Marketing and Communications Manager explained, Discover Saint John's main goal was for the city to prosper from such an event, leaving a legacy long after the curlers had left. She said: "It's bringing wealth to the city, it generates consumer confidence for those living here and shows we're moving in the right direction."

To set up the World Championship, the organising committee raised around \$15,000 CDN from the regional communities, \$10,000 CDN of which was donated by the city. But as MacKinnon explained, positive benefits come from these investments. She said: "It's always a pleasure to host events like this because the monetary payback is a great economic booster." MacKinnon estimated Saint John and its curling community made \$8m to \$12m CDN from the event, adding: "We're going to continue to bid on them [major curling events]. It's just good business sense."

Local Saint John businesses also saw a significant influx of customer, with the event venue connected to the local market place, mall and hotels by an indoor pedway.

Cathy Hutchison, owner of local shoe store Manchester Shoes, said events like these create a massive consumer community. She said: "Any time when there's anything like that in the city it's a bump for retail and the restaurants, no question." She continued: "Having a group of people here in the city for a week plus has been phenomenal." Because her store is located along the pedway, on the way to local hotels, Hutchison saw a lot of business from people going to and from the event.

WCF President Kate Caithness says: "Volunteers make Championships!" For this event they included Robert

McKinnon who had travelled from Alberta in order to participate in his 10th curling volunteer experience. He said: "You meet some wonderful people from across the country and there's a great sense of pride and pleasure when you're involved in something you help make work."

The Saint John organisers also involved pupils from fifteen local elementary schools who took part in the CCA's Rocks and Rings youth curling programme.

Each school was assigned a participating country and pupils researched its history to create a mural representing its defining traits. These murals went on to decorate the walls of the final pedway approach to the Championship venue. In addition, the pupils attended many of the morning games, letting them support their assigned country.

"It's been very, very successful," said Programme Director Doreen Tait. She continued: "Our hope is to inspire these kids to become future curlers themselves."

Lauren Lockhart, a Grade five student at Sussex Elementary School, was one of the pupils involved. She said: "I didn't know much about curling when the programme started, but now I know it's really fun. It would be good to do it again!"





# History is made

**29**

competitions arranged or supported in a year a **new record**

**Canada**

Win **Olympic gold** – both men and women  
Win both Olympic and Paralympic gold medals  
3 Paralympic Gold medals in a row  
First time a women's team went undefeated at the Olympics

First World Championship appearances by



**Brazil**



**Belarus**



**Kazakhstan**



Australia's **Hugh Millikin** extended his record winning championship medal haul to

**22**



First

**Russian**

World Women's Curling Championship medal

First **World Men's** in the **Pacific-Asia** region

**Sonja Gaudet** made Paralympic history winning

**3**

consecutive gold medals at the Paralympic Winter Games.



First

**Korean**

medal at the World Junior Curling Championships

First **Olympic** Qualification Event



First time an **Austrian** team has qualified for the World Junior Curling Championships



First

**Spanish**

World Championship medal at the World Mixed Doubles Championship



**Russia**

take first medal at the Paralympic Winter Games







# World Senior Curling Championships

Dumfries, Scotland; 23-30 April 2014

## Results

### Medal teams – women

- 🇸🇨 **Scotland**  
Christine Cannon (skip)  
Margaret Richardson (third)  
Isobel Hannen (second)  
Janet Lindsay (lead)  
Margaret Robertson (alternate)
- 🇨🇦 **Canada**  
Colleen Pinkney (skip)  
Wendy Currie (third)  
Shelley MacNutt (second)  
Susan Creelman (lead)  
Judy Burgess (alternate)
- 🇺🇸 **USA**  
Margie Smith (skip)  
Norma O'Leary (third)  
Debbie Dexter (second)  
Shelly Kosal (lead)

### Medal teams – men

- 🇨🇦 **Canada**  
Mike Kennedy (fourth)  
Wayne Tallon (third/skip)  
Mike Flannery (second)  
Wade Blanchard (lead)  
Chuck Kingston (alternate)
- 🇸🇪 **Sweden**  
Connie Oestlund (skip)  
Morgan Fredholm (third)  
Lars Lindgren (second)  
Glenn Franzen (lead)  
Lennart Carlsson (alternate)
- 🇦🇺 **Australia**  
Hugh Millikin (skip)  
Wyatt Buck (third)  
Jim Allan (second)  
Rob Gagnon (lead)  
John Anderson (alternate)

**The Dumfries Ice Bowl in Scotland hosted the 13th edition of the World Senior Curling Championships for men and women's teams. This was the second time that the World Senior Championships have taken place in Scotland having been held at Greenacres in 2005.**

15 women's and 25 men's national teams took part – in both cases a new record number of competing teams for this event.

The women were divided into two groups:

**Group A:** Austria, Czech Republic, England, Japan, New Zealand, Slovakia, Sweden, USA.

**Group B:** Australia, defending champions Canada, Finland, Italy, Russia, hosts Scotland, Switzerland.

After five days of round-robin play, group leaders USA and Canada moved straight into the semi-finals while Scotland faced Slovakia and Sweden played Switzerland in two quarter-finals.

In these games, the Scots won by 8-4 while Sweden had an 8-2 victory to move into the semi-finals, where Scotland had a tight win 5-4 over USA and Canada defeated Sweden by 6-5 in another close encounter.

In the gold medal game, played in front of a full house, Canada faced a collection of Scottish stones in the house in the eighth and final end. An attempt by Canada to draw to the button wrecked on a guard, the Scots stole two points and won the game 6-5 and took the gold medals. In the bronze medal game, the USA women beat Sweden by 8-3.

Winning on home ice was special for Scottish skip Christine Cannon: "The support we've had all week has been great and there's been a lot of people cheering for us. It's nice to give them something back too, it's incredible."

The three men's Groups were:

**Group A:** Australia, defending champions Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Slovakia.

**Group B:** Czech Republic, England, Finland, Hungary, New Zealand, Russia, hosts Scotland, USA.

**Group C:** Austria, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Wales.

At the end of the men's round-robin, Norway faced the Netherlands to determine the last place in the quarter-final line up. Norway won, by 7-6, but they went on to lose to Sweden by 7-6 in the quarter-finals.

The other quarter-finals saw USA beat Ireland by 5-4, Australia beating England by 7-4 and Canada overcoming Scotland by 6-5.

In the semi-finals, Sweden beat Australia by 5-3 while Canada beat the USA by 5-4. Canada went on to dominate the final against Sweden, winning by 7-2 in just six ends, to claim gold and the title. At the same time, Australia beat USA by 6-3 to win bronze.

Reflecting on his win, Canadian skip Wayne Tallon said: "It makes it even that much more special having been involved in this Championship last year (as Chair of the World Senior Championships 2013 held in Fredericton, Canada). Last year my responsibility was to ensure everybody had a good time. This year it was to make sure that everyone played well."

### Online results:

**Men:** <http://wcf.co/wsc2014resultsmen>

**Women:** <http://wcf.co/wsc2014resultswomen>

**Next year's Championships venue and dates are to be confirmed.**





# Fiscal Year 2014

## The WCF continues to consolidate its financial position.

Once again, a share of the surplus from the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, marketing fees, combined with improved returns from investment activities have meant that our retained reserves have continued to grow to the levels that were planned in order to support future operations.

The WCF maintains its policy to defer income received from the Olympic Winter Games distribution and to take it into Income over the next four years.

This year, the remaining balance of \$5,789,602 USD from the Vancouver Olympics was taken into Income.

The WCF received an initial distribution from the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games of \$3,000,000 USD. This was deferred to Income in 2015. Additional distributions are anticipated and will be utilised under existing policy.

Early in the year, excess cash balances were transferred to the selected International Investment Banking firm. This has enabled a better return on the cash invested in suitable low risk securities respecting the fact that these funds ultimately belong to our MAs.

The increase in expenses, well within budgeted amounts, reflects increased activities in a number of areas:

Expenses of the Executive Board included the cost of the second World Curling Congress successfully held in Copenhagen, Denmark, with a larger than anticipated attendance by MA representatives, and the Executive Board meeting in Beijing, China, during the CPT World Men's Curling Championship 2014.

The increase in Operations Expenses reflects the full year impact of the additions to staff to support the various competitions, services and programmes in effect or assisting our MAs in growth and development of curling around the world. It also reflects the additional cost of depreciation of additional new assets as well as the fees paid to our investment advisor.

Competitions Expense increased slightly over last year with increased expenses associated with the WCF's management of the several events previously managed by the European Curling Federation, offset by lower WCF expenses associated with the Continental Cup. Expenses also included new costs associated with statistical results services during several competitions.

Media Expense increase is mainly attributed to higher photography costs incurred at the Sochi Olympic Winter Games.

The large increase in Marketing Expense is the result of a new contract with Eurosport for the European Curling Championships and the World Curling Championship held outside of Canada.

Costs associated with the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games accounted for a major increase in overall expenses compared to last year. These included costs for travel, accommodation and other expenses for WCF representatives at both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

As in previous years, the WCF carries cash in four currencies as it has major expenses in each of these. Balances are adjusted to reflect changes in the value of the US dollar against the other currencies which can result in 'paper' gains or losses. The impact of these adjustments was lower in comparison to last year.

The WCF Balance Sheet remains strong. Fixed Assets increased due to the acquisition of computer hardware. Loans made to MAs for stones and other equipment increased. Repayments remain on schedule with no delinquent payments.

The WCF has classified over \$1,300,000 USD of its cash position as available for future loans to MAs when qualified requests are made.

The WCF invested in a project to remove granite from Ailsa Craig in Scotland for the manufacturing of new curling stones. This represents \$419,248 USD of the Total Assets.

The Investment Balance represents the current value of the assets held by our investment advisor as per our investment policy. The major liability is the deferred income from the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games which will be used in fiscal year 2015.

## Income and Expenditure

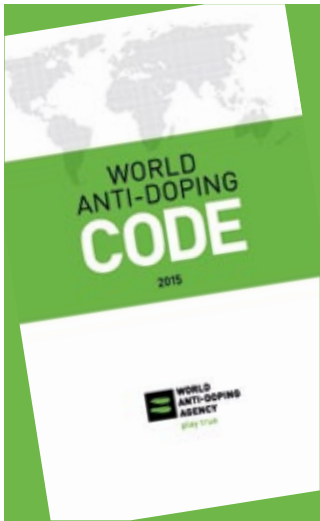
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014 US \$	2013 US \$
<b>Income</b>		
Membership subscriptions	26,400	24,180
IOC monies	5,908,327	5,926,262
Marketing fees	1,243,262	1,206,767
Investment income receivable	83,642	39,552
Rights fees	3,622	131
Broadcasting	155,054	412,758
Programs and services clinics	71,859	73,574
Miscellaneous income/ expenses	(18,379)	29,021
	<u>7,473,787</u>	<u>7,712,245</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Board expenses & congress	289,038	238,600
Standing/ad hoc committee expenses	62,001	17,516
Operations	1,148,015	971,800
Programs and services – development	550,220	478,249
Programs and services – facilities and technical	1,029	823
Programs and services – other	91,234	62,968
Competitions	793,085	790,412
Finance	22,362	36,036
International and corporate relations	6,260	16,813
Media expenses	240,041	208,826
Administrative expenses	334	8,823
Marketing	1,214,058	725,939
Broadcasting	2,097,300	1,911,484
Bad debt	14,860	-
Gain/ Loss on capital assets	2,878	144
Gain/ Loss on foreign exchange transactions	(11,757)	87,138
Olympic Games	310,906	8,044
World Anti Doping Agency	87,227	58,560
	<u>6,919,091</u>	<u>5,622,175</u>
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>	554,696	2,090,066
<b>Exceptional item - stock valuation uplift</b>	-	-
<b>Reserves Brought Forward</b>	<u>7,103,557</u>	<u>5,013,491</u>
<b>Reserves Carried Forward</b>	<u>7,658,253</u>	<u>7,103,557</u>



# Anti-doping for Member Associations

"WADA's mission is to lead a collaborative worldwide campaign for doping-free sport."



**In partnership with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the WCF aims to keep curling free from doping.**

As part of the WADA code, everyone involved in curling is committed to do all in their power, individually and collectively, to combat the scourge of doping, and to protect athletes' rights to safe and fair competition.

Throughout the season, the WCF conducts an extensive anti-doping programme. This includes numerous in and out-of competition tests and informational and educational programmes, both directly with MAs and also at our various camps and courses around the world.

The WCF's anti-doping strategy is based on prevention through education and by working with our MAs we can be most effective. The education of coaches and athletes is crucial to highlighting the dangers of doping, and key to eliminating it from sport.

Sir Craig Reedie, President of WADA says "At WADA, we take the view that prevention through education should be at the very heart of any anti-doping programme. It is pleasing to see the WCF prioritise this within its own programme, and I would urge member associations to do the same."

Various educational resources and tools are regularly emailed to MAs and are also available on our website. These include interactive quizzes for athletes and coaches, the latest Prohibited Lists, Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) information and much more.

Together, we have a responsibility to keep our sport and our athletes free from doping.

Together we **SAY NO! TO DOPING.**

[www.worldcurling.org/anti-doping](http://www.worldcurling.org/anti-doping)

[doping@worldcurling.org](mailto:doping@worldcurling.org)



*The WCF's anti-doping strategy is based on prevention through education*



# A Look Forward

President Kate Caithness explains how the WCF aims to build on the successes of this season...



**As this Review shows, we've just enjoyed an outstanding season. Now it's time to look forward and build on this year's successes.**

Like everyone else, I have been overwhelmed by the number of people I've met who have become curling fans thanks to our exposure during Sochi.

Our sport has developed hugely over the last Olympic quadrennial but, rather than waiting for another four years to be back in the spotlight, we need to work on gaining more exposure on a regular basis.

To do this, we need to seek out new opportunities for exposure and growth. I highlight some of the upcoming opportunities here:

Several new countries are currently going through the process of joining the WCF and I hope that they will, in turn, be welcomed into membership at our Congress.

We are taking one of our major Championships to a new host country next year when Estonia will stage the World Junior Championships in Tallinn.

Curling will be part of the World Masters Games for the first time, with 64 teams making up the field in Quebec, Canada, in February. Also, curling will be part of the Asian Winter Games once again in 2017.

In addition, we are exploring the introduction of new events which could complement our World Championship season and give us more visibility throughout the year, taking our sport to some exciting new locations.

Another turning point for our game would be the introduction of Mixed Doubles as an Olympic discipline. We will know the result of our formal application to the IOC in the spring of next year, and, if we're successful, this will open the door of Olympic participation to more MAs and their athletes.

For countries like Hungary and Spain - who have already won World Mixed Doubles medals - this discipline could really put curling on the map in terms of funding and support.

We're also looking at how to make our sport more attractive to youngsters and keep them curling. This is the reason why we are proposing to introduce Championships for the Under-18 and Under-23 categories.

Hand in hand with these new opportunities comes our responsibility to help existing MAs grow and develop. In the last couple of years we have built an excellent team of Curling Development Officers who are doing a great job travelling the world to expand our programmes and give help on the ground.

The recruitment of another member of staff to help with New Media and IT is helping us bring more focus to our sport and assist MAs with the development of their websites and other digital content and communications.

Now, in addition to that skill and expertise, we are producing semi-permanent structures that can be relatively quickly erected as dedicated curling facilities to help get people curling. These can be leased for two or three years by MAs who have no dedicated curling premises, with a view to purchasing at the end of this period.

As you can see, there is a lot of work to do to keep building and sustaining the interest in our sport and I look forward, upon endorsement of my re-election, to leading the new Board and the Federation through our endeavours over the next twelve months and beyond.

# Diary

World Curling Federation & Major International Curling Championships 2014-2015

## 2014

<b>4 - 8 September</b>	<b>3rd World Curling Congress</b>	Reno	USA
<b>6 - 11 October</b>	<b>European Curling Championships C-Division 2014</b>	Zoetermeer	Netherlands
<b>1 - 6 November</b>	<b>World Wheelchair Curling Qualification 2014</b>	Lillehammer	Norway
<b>8 - 15 November</b>	<b>Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2014</b>	Karuizawa	Japan
<b>22 - 29 November</b>	<b>Le Gruyère European Curling Championships 2014</b>	Champéry	Switzerland

## 2015

<b>3 - 8 January</b>	<b>European Junior Curling Challenge 2015</b>	Prague	Czech Republic
<b>17 - 24 January</b>	<b>Pacific-Asia Junior Curling Championships 2015</b>	Naseby	New Zealand
<b>31 Jan - 8 Feb</b>	<b>Winter World Masters Games</b>	Quebec City	Canada
<b>4 - 14 February</b>	<b>27th Winter Universiade</b>	Granada	Spain
<b>7 - 14 February</b>	<b>World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2015</b>	Lohja	Finland
<b>28 Feb - 8 March</b>	<b>World Junior Curling Championships 2015</b>	Tallinn	Estonia
<b>14 - 22 March</b>	<b>World Women's Curling Championship 2015</b>	Sapporo	Japan
<b>28 Mar - 5 April</b>	<b>Ford World Men's Curling Championship 2015</b>	Halifax	Canada

**Dates and venue to be confirmed** World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2015

**Dates and venue to be confirmed** World Senior Curling Championships 2015

For the latest information please visit [worldcurling.org/events](http://worldcurling.org/events)



## CREDITS

### Managing Editors:

Joanna Kelly, Daniel Parker

### Design:

Douglas Colquhoun Design  
(www.douglascolquhoun.co.uk)

### Editor:

Mike Haggerty

### Picture Editor:

Richard Gray

### Words:

Andy Anderson, Kate Caithness, Taylor Craig, Darrell Ell, Colin Grahamslaw, Mike Haggerty, Richard Harding, Joanna Kelly, Young C Kim, Leif Öhman, Daniel Parker, Graham Prouse, Bent Ramsjell, Keith Wendorf

### Pictures:

Michael Burns, www.curling.ax, Foundation for Global Sports Development, Yang Gao, Dara Gravara, Richard Gray, Richard Kleibrink, Jesse Kushneryk, Christian Leibbrandt, Alina Pavlyuchik, Eeva Röthlisberger, Céline Stucki, Glenys Taylor

## CONTACT

### World Curling Federation

74 Tay Street, Perth  
PH2 8NP United Kingdom

Phone: +44 (0)1738 451 630

Email: info@worldcurling.org

Web: www.worldcurling.org

Facebook: WorldCurlingFederation

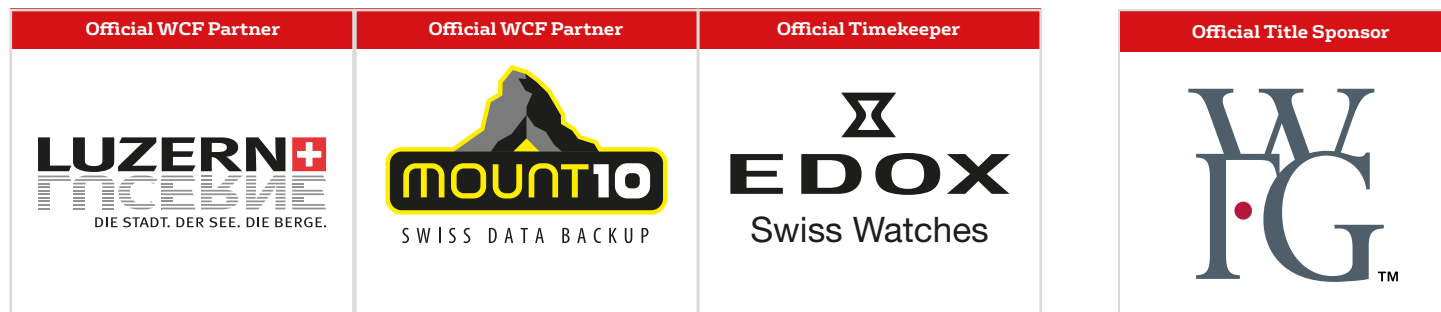
Google+: worldcurlingfederation

You Tube: WorldCurlingTV

Twitter: @worldcurling

Instagram: @worldcurling

LinkedIn: world-curling-federation





# Sochi 2014 - 100 Curling Olympians

