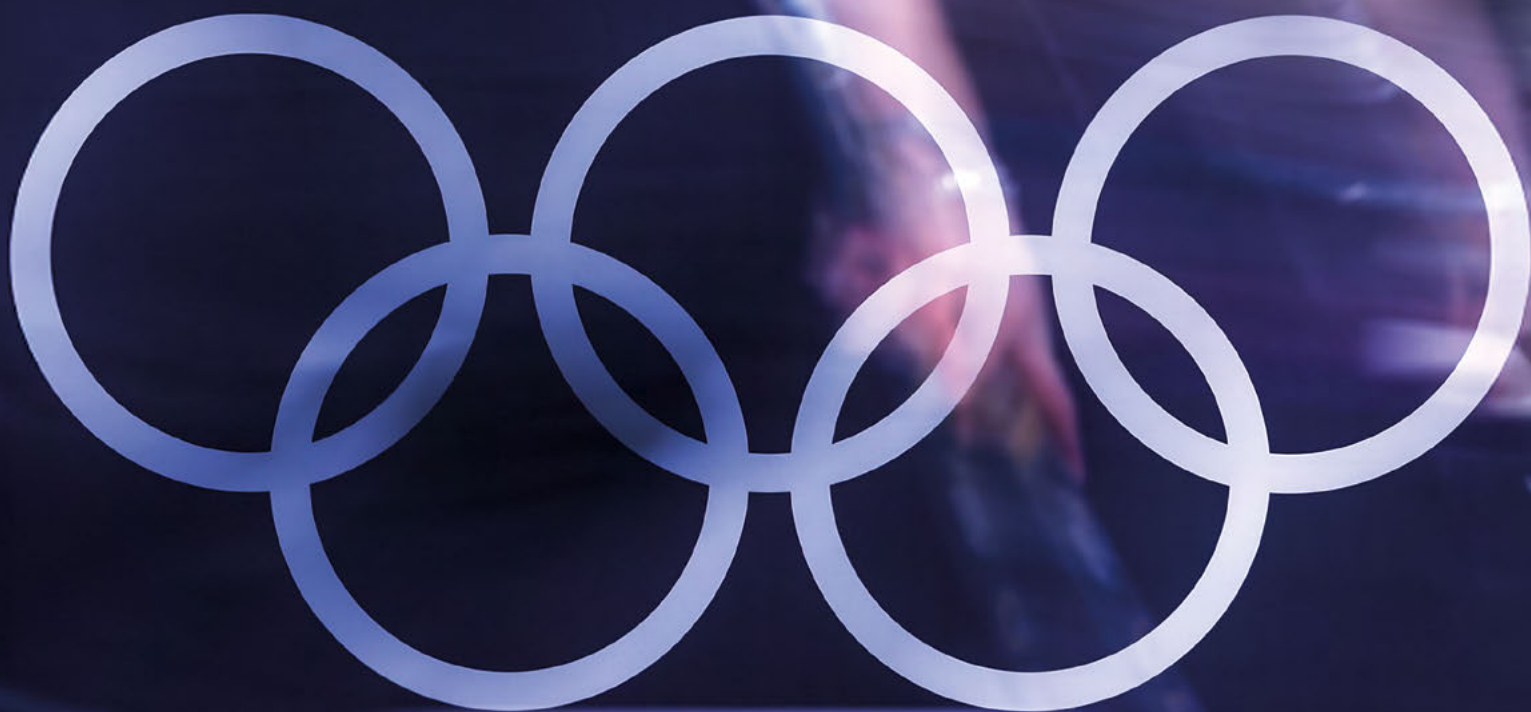


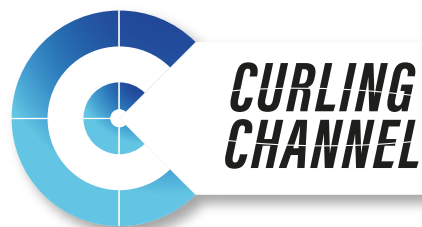
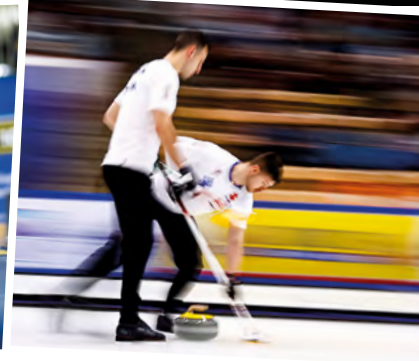
MILANO CORTINA 2026

ANNUAL REVIEW

2025-2026



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From the President

What an exciting season that we all experienced in 2025–2026!



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The Olympics and Paralympics always add an extra level of excitement every four years and this season was no different with curling at the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games delivering amazing athletes, competition and record-breaking viewership numbers.

Before we look back on the excitement of the season, I want to offer a big thank you to all of the athletes, who delivered many memorable moments, shots and memories this season. Your incredible devotion to being the very best of the best is awe inspiring, as you generate interest and become role models for the next generation of young athletes.

We could not have pulled off such an incredible season without all the many wonderful volunteers, local organising committee members and corporate sponsors, who all joined together to make our events such a success. Thanks to our amazing World Curling staff for their many hours, tireless commitment to our sport and the many different championships we hosted around the world.

As a Federation, we continue to experience both opportunities and challenges, while navigating an ever-changing global sports landscape. Broadcast disruptions continue with costs rising and revenue declining, which means financial stability is paramount for the future.

Organisationally, we are leading, adapting, innovating and more in this constantly changing global environment. This past season we instituted a number of changes that were the result of robust dialogue and an extensive 18-month consultation process with Member Associations and the Athlete Commission. Those changes include:

- New qualification pathways ahead of the 2026–2030 Olympic cycle
- Expansion of world women's & men's championships
- Introduction of a new world curling championships qualifying process
- European Curling Championships continuing as a stand-alone event
- World Junior Curling Championships expanded and format changed

Both the World Women's and World Men's Curling Championships will expand from 13 to 18 teams in the upcoming 2026–2027 season. More details of this and the competition changes are detailed later in this publication.

The process for these changes was long, comprehensive and passionate, but in the end, we work best when we all work together. That work is not done as we will continue to evaluate and adapt in search of constant improvement.

One of the most passionate aspects of the process was the overwhelming sentiment to continue with the European Championships. We have had great sponsorship and broadcast interest in Europeans over the years and are excited for that to continue. While Europeans marches on, we said "goodbye" to the final instalment of the Pan Continental Curling Championship. Financially, that event wasn't sustainable, and we began to look at different qualification pathways.

New Sweeping Technique Policy

A new sweeping policy was enacted in January, as a result of advanced brushing techniques that were deemed to have unacceptable effects on the stone. The effect of the new policy is designed to "make the stone go further and to hold a

stone straighter, while allowing for some enhancement of the curling trajectory." In short, the new policy is aimed at brushing techniques that aim to slow down the stone by using single brush strokes.

The Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

As the calendar turned to 2026, all eyes shifted to the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in the Dolomites of Italy and wow, what an incredible time to shine in the global spotlight.

We have a Milano Cortina 2026 section later in this publication to discuss this important aspect of our season in detail.

Challenges we face

As we move ahead into another season, we are not without issues and challenges. We continue to be challenged by financial headwinds, including the disruption of traditional broadcast along with the fragmentation of sponsorship markets.

I'm asked regularly about the amount of time Secretary General Colin Grahamslaw and I spend interfacing with the International Olympic Committee and within the larger IOC ecosystem. The answer is simple — the IOC is our largest funding source, and all of us, from our largest Member Associations to our smallest, depend on that funding for our many development programs and more.

Much like us and other International Federations, the IOC is facing uncertainty with the future given financial realities with rising costs, debates about the summer and winter programs, the disruption in sports broadcast, and increasingly complex global realities.

Tied directly to that funding is our participation in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. But that isn't a guarantee. The IOC's "Fit For The Future" programme is looking at strategic changes for the future of the Olympic movement, which could include possible changes to both the summer and winter sports lineup.

We have strengthened our credibility and continue to elevate our sport's global value within the IOC ecosystem.

As the IOC values World Curling as a trusted partner, we value the IOC for their support as we adapt, change and innovate to best position our sport for future success.

Another one of our challenges is reaching new fans and continuing to grow our sport globally. Floor curling is one of the entry points into the sport for non-traditional areas and Member Associations, and this past year we had several new floor curling championship events — with further details on this later in this publication. But we must also reach new fans and audiences by innovating with new event offerings. We hope to share more information on an exciting idea we have been working on in the coming months.

The excitement of the new season will be here very soon with our annual World Curling Congress hosted by Bratislava, Slovakia, where we will welcome a new set of Board Members, hold another Presidential election and discuss an important slate of issues for the upcoming season.

Thank you to all of our World Curling partners, sponsors and fans who bring the passion to all corners of the globe and for making curling what is so unique and special to so many of us. As many of you have heard me say before, the world would be a better place if we had more curlers and I don't think that's ever been more true than it is today.

Thank you for your trust in me and all of us on the Board. We are all very honoured to be able to serve you and a sport we love so much. Good curling and I hope to see you rinkside soon!

The Four Pillars

and the Strategic Way Forward

Under the leadership of President Beau Welling, who was elected in 2022 by the Member Associations, the Board and staff of World Curling are guided by an agreed strategic framework – The Way Forward – which focuses on four key areas of activity. These 'Four Pillars' are:



The work of World Curling is supported by a number of specialist Commissions – currently seven – who provide advice and support to the Board and staff.

The Commissions are:

- Athlete** (membership voted on by eligible athletes)
- Competition and Rules** (sub-group: Wheelchair Curling Expert Group)
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
- Finance**
- Governance**
- Sustainability**
- Technical.**

As we begin a new Olympic and Paralympic cycle, the Board has updated and laid out ambitions for World Curling for the coming four years.

These plans are built on the previous Forward Plan, the Big Ideas and input and feedback from Member Associations in Congress, Open Meetings and Member Group meetings.

This new Plan is based on evolution not revolution, respecting the traditions of the sport while looking to embrace a new reality led by digital and AI solutions.

To deliver on the long-term Strategic Areas of Focus and following a review by the Board, nine priorities have been identified for the next Olympic and Paralympic cycle. These are:

- Enhance the viewership experience through interactive and engaging content
- Connect with the global curling community by leveraging a comprehensive Customer Relationship Management (CRM) registration platform
- Lead the certification and implementation of sustainable curling facilities
- Develop and implement a clear pathway for athlete and coach development
- Lead the development of a coherent curling calendar
- Create and promote new, dynamic curling events to attract and engage audiences
- Improve the spectator experience both in-venue and at home
- Foster engagement and information sharing within the curling community
- Trial and implement game innovations to keep the sport interesting and engaging

Board & Staff



Beau Welling
President, United States
(2022–2026)



Kim Forge
Vice-President, Australia
(2024–2028)



Morten Søgård
Vice-President, Norway
(2024–2028)



Helena Lingham
Director, Sweden
(2022–2026)



Rob Niven
Director, Scotland
(2022–2026)



Jill Officer
Director, Canada
(2024–2028)



David Šik
Director, Czechia
(2024–2028)



Sergio Mitsuo Vilela
Director, Brazil
(2022–2026)



Zhang Hong
Independent Director
China



Andrew Ryan
Independent Director
England



Tyler George
Athlete Commission Chair,
United States
(until May 2026)

Staff

Secretary General

Colin Grahamslaw

Competitions and Development

Broadcast

Richard Harding

Secretariat

Chief Operating Officer

Accountant

Anti-Doping Officer

Athlete Support Officer

Commercial Strategy Lead

Education Services Officer

Equipment and Logistics Officer

IT Officer

Member Services Officer

Office Manager

Projects Officer

Travel & Accommodation Officer

Alan Chalmers

Karen Gourlay

Susan Keith

Rob Gordon

James Beatt

Karri Willms

Rhona Howie

Allan McElrath

Ben Rowlings

Liz Munro

Saskia Mueller-Gastell

Hazel Wotherspoon

Head of Competitions

Development Officer and

Head of Ice Services

Competitions and Development

Officer

Competitions and Development

Officer

Competitions Officer

Media

Head of Communications

and Marketing

Content Manager

Content Creator

Media Officer (until May 2026)

Streaming Operations Manager

Eeva Röthlisberger

Mark Callan

Laura Mutch

Jiri Snitil

Octavia Traila

Christopher

Hamilton

Emily Dwyer

Amy Gibson

Shona Ironside

Jodi Cranston

Head of Broadcast

Distribution, Booking and

Servicing Manager

WCTV Production Manager

Sylvie Aubrit

Belinda Bantle-

Carboni -

Organisational Sustainability & Commercial Development

World Curling acknowledges the need to have adequate leadership expertise, knowledge and resources to sustain the organisation. Our primary goal is to constantly seek improvement as an organisation.

To do so, this requires:

- A Board with strategic capability
- Staff of the highest possible quality
- The development of Member Associations of all sizes
- Good relationships with stakeholders
- Diversification of revenue away from the Olympic Winter Games
- Improved tools to develop and maintain commercial and member relationships
- Improved gender balance
- Improved environmental sustainability

World Curling Congress

The World Curling Congress 2025 took place in Gold Coast, Australia, starting on Friday 5 September, and concluding with the Annual General Assembly on Monday 8 September.

This 14th edition of the event saw delegates representing 46 of World Curling's 76 Member Associations in attendance, alongside members of the Athlete Commission and World Curling partners and sponsors.

Prior to the Annual General Assembly, World Curling personnel, Member Association delegates and other external specialists took part in a programme of workshops, presentations and Q&A sessions. The topics ranged from promotion of winter sports in the lead up to the Olympic Games, to the future of global sport and International Federations.

Delegates also had the opportunity to meet World Curling's two new Independent Directors, Andrew Ryan MBE (England) and Zhang Hong (China).

The Annual General Assembly's formal business included reports from World Curling President Beau Welling, the Board and other committees, as well as the annual finance report. There were no Board elections.

The World Curling Annual Review 2024–2025 was also launched.

During the Annual General Assembly, delegates had the opportunity to discuss and vote on a number of constitutional amendments, as well as motions presented by Member Associations.

These included votes on a series of constitutional amendments including upgrading the level of several Member Associations, altering the structure of the Board elections, and changing the status of several Commissions and Working Groups.

- The Members voted to alter language clarifying World Curling's rights as the governing body for all forms of the sport, including but not limited to the disciplines of curling, para curling, e-sports curling and floor curling.
- The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group and Sustainability Working Group were formally changed to full Standing Commissions.
- The three Zonal Commissions were removed from the Constitution as they had previously been replaced by Member Working Groups that meet in line with the member size and stage in their development, rather than region.

Motions clarifying situations involving the election of new Directors were also passed.

- The first of these formalises an emergency rule that was implemented at the 2024 Annual General Assembly to clarify the circumstances where candidates received a tied number of votes during the election.
- The second motion removed the official election of Vice-Presidents. Now candidates will be voted to the Board as Directors, then the Board themselves would select the two Vice-Presidents from those elected. This removes the complication whereby an incumbent Director would run for the Vice-President position and potentially trigger a by-election.

A motion to strengthen the role of the Nominations Committee was approved. This motion included changes to give the committee the authority to make a stronger set of recommendations regarding the best candidates for vacant Board positions and to allow the committee to re-open or extend the nomination period prior to the Annual General Assembly.

Also at the Annual General Assembly, the Iran Curling Association and the Monegasque Skating Federation were upgraded to Provisional Members, from their initial Conditional status.

Operations

Staffing

Since the last review, Gill Amatt has left World Curling after many years of dedicated service — a full-time replacement has yet to be appointed.

Hazel Wotherspoon has joined as a full-time Travel and Accommodations Administrator within the Perth Office.

Shona Ironside left her role as Media Officer to pursue a role with Bath Rugby in England. A replacement Media Officer will be appointed ahead of the 2026–2027 season.

In 2026, World Curling initiated several key operational improvements aimed at modernising its infrastructure, strengthening member engagement, and enhancing education across the sport.

Database Redesign Project



A major initiative in 2026 was the comprehensive redesign of World Curling's central database systems. This project focused on:

- Improving data accuracy and accessibility across all member associations
- Integrating floor and ice competition results, athlete profiles, rankings, and historical records into a unified platform.

The redesigned system, which will be completed within 2026, should enable more efficient communication between World Curling and its members, while also supporting better transparency and operational efficiency.

The new database will be called Curlhub (Centralised User Registration and Licensing System), and should be operational in late 2026.

Increased Visibility for Member Associations

By having a dedicated member of staff, World Curling hopes to raise its own profile within its member associations globally, and to provide operational clarity to these associations.

- One point of contact for all associations
- More opportunities for members to feature in international strategy.

This increased visibility aims to strengthen engagement, attract new participants, and enhance commercial opportunities for member organisations.

Establishment of a Dedicated Education Department

To support long-term development, World Curling established a dedicated Education Department in 2026. Its key responsibilities include:

- Designing and delivering structured training pathways for coaches, officials, and administrators
- Developing online and in-person learning platforms and certification programmes
- Standardising education materials across regions.

This department plays a critical role in ensuring consistency, professionalism, and knowledge-sharing across the global curling community.

It is anticipated that, in 2027, World Curling will be able to offer adult and junior residential camps. These camps will be an important part of World Curling's development pathway, bringing together athletes in a structured immersive environment.

Impact of 2026 Initiatives

These developments collectively represent a shift towards a more digitally integrated, member-focused, and education-driven organisation. The benefits include:

- Greater operational efficiency and improved data management
- Stronger global identity and visibility for the sport
- Enhanced skills development at all levels
- Improved support for both established and emerging curling nations.

Finance

World Curling reported a net deficit of approximately \$USD 1.7m for the financial year 2026. The Q3 summary had shown that the organisation was already forecasting a significant deficit, then year-end results deteriorated further despite later revenue increases not matching higher operating costs.

Income

- The Federation received more in the way of IOC/IPC Grants than previous years as more routes to funding were explored. This mitigated some of the extra costs that the 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Games cost.
- Sponsorship and Partnership income held up well in challenging market conditions. All minority sports are feeling the strain against the giants of football, cricket and USA-based sports.
- As cash reserves were lowered during the year, bank interest and dividend income on a smaller portfolio were reduced. This was offset by over \$USD 279k of realised profits on portfolio sales and foreign exchange forward hedges.
- Broadcast income was ahead of budget across the competition spectrum. The only notable under-performance from the forecast was The Curling Channel, caused by some competitions lacking star-power in the post-Olympic space and a poorer performance from the Pan-Continental Curling Championships than the previous season.

The Board will continue to monitor the accounts to ensure that good stewardship is in place at all levels of the Federation and have committed to a zero-loss budget in the next quadrennial.

Expenditure

Governance

- Our Spring Meeting in Geneva turned out to be more expensive than planned — a larger number of attendees than in previous years in an expensive city for accommodation.
- Congress in Gold Coast came in under budget in comparison, despite the extra distance most attendees had to cover.

Operations

- The increased number of competitions in the Olympic year required the purchase and transport around the world, often with short turnaround times, of additional equipment. Increased costs at North American and European borders as well as higher fuel costs all contributed to the overspend.
- The advanced testing and subsequent implementation of the new electronic handles at championships in Europe and Canada also increased the freight and border charges incurred.
- We saw a higher spend on professional fees — accountants to complete the Systems review work and lawyers to assist with ongoing cases within the Court of Arbitration in Sport.
- We also saw higher fees for WADA — more in-competition and out-of-competition tests took place in the year, particularly in the disciplines on the Olympic qualification pathway.
- The Games themselves were expensive, although wherever possible some costs incurred by the Federation were rechargeable to other agencies offsetting the initial cost.

Competitions

- Again, we were subject to higher costs in Geneva and Copenhagen that first envisioned. We also expected Geneva to make an overall surplus, in which case, some fees would have been recoverable, however this turned out not to be the case.
- There were also extra competitions at the end of the season which we added after the budget was created in Gold Coast.

Development

- Significant savings were made on Junior-A and Junior-B flights which covered some of the higher DAP expenditure. Although DAP was reduced for most countries, there was a higher take up than normal, as Member Associations capitalised on the increased Olympic exposure to drive up participation numbers.

Media And Marketing

- There were major savings on systems software as we actively opted out of some services in the year.

Broadcast

- Although broadcast costs remain a huge area of expenditure at over \$USD 3.6m, the process was extremely well controlled so had no material overspend in the year.

Other

- There was a major revaluation of assets at the year end to the current foreign exchange rates. As Sterling moved over USD 0.12 in the year, due to a declining Dollar and global geopolitical issues, this had a major impact on the net results.

Balance Sheet

- The Federation remains strong, with a net worth of \$USD 6m. Of this, \$USD 10m is held on deposit with our banks and \$USD 3m is placed in an passive investment portfolio. The third and final tranche of the Olympic distribution is likely to arrive in December to further strengthen the Balance Sheet.
- Loans to the Member Associations currently sit at \$USD 1.4m, recoverable over the next five to ten years.
- Creditors shown as \$USD 13m is due to the accounting treatment of the Olympic distributions received to date which is allocated against future accounting periods.
- With the move to Xero happening in the new financial year, there will be a stripping out of obsolete assets, which will have no impact on the accounts but will simplify the overall look of the Balance Sheet.

Income & Expenditure Account

for the year ended 30th June 2026

	2026	2025
	\$ USD	\$ USD
Income		
Membership Income	42,450	43,150
IOC Monies	5,026,650	5,072,949
Marketing and Sponsorships	1,141,037	1,089,126
Bank Interest	15,988	151,373
Dividends	117,623	150,224
Profits on Investments	160,696	354,505
Event Rights Fees	176,986	165,388
Development Programmes	99,280	125,360
Broadcasting Income	1,728,340	1,251,158
Miscellaneous Income	264,840	127,577
	8,773,890	8,530,810

Expenditure

Board Expenses and Congress	494,992	549,153
Commissions and Working Groups	67,818	68,064
Operations	2,716,556	2,521,321
Development Programmes	640,079	729,138
Competitions	942,501	848,448
Finance	189,044	206,907
International Relations	21,723	12,970
Media Expenses	356,644	378,494
Marketing	746,659	751,073
Broadcasting Expenses	3,611,284	3,077,256
Olympic Games	362,785	2,432
World Anti-Doping Agency	117,701	135,758
Other Administrative Expenses	58,056	(11,431)
Loss on Foreign Exchange	200,622	152,016
	10,526,464	9,421,599
Ordinary (Deficit)/ Surplus for the Year	(1,752,574)	(890,789)
Reserves Brought Forward	7,745,186	8,635,975
Reserves Carried Forward	5,992,612	7,745,186

Balance Sheet

for the year ended 30th June 2026

	2026	2025
	\$ USD	\$ USD
Fixed assets		
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,458,115	1,209,413
Investments	3,124,059	7,498,388
	4,582,174	8,707,801
Other assets		
Stock	257,316	213,168
Debtors and Prepayments - due after 1 year	1,297,301	1,216,008
	1,554,617	1,429,176
Current assets		
Debtors and Prepayments - due within 1 year	2,066,103	2,600,343
Bank and Cash	10,968,368	812,916
	13,034,471	3,413,259
Current liabilities		
Creditors and Accruals	3,428,650	5,805,049
	3,428,650	5,805,049
Net current assets		
	9,605,821	2,391,790
Total assets less current liabilities		
	15,742,612	7,745,187
Long term liabilities		
	9,750,000	-
Total assets less total liabilities		
	5,992,612	7,745,187
Retained reserves		
Represented by	5,992,612	7,745,186

Anti-Doping

In the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, World Curling's Anti-Doping programme was active, with these results:

In-Competition Tests: 73

Out-of-Competition Tests: 40

Adverse Analytical Findings (AAFs): 0

The total number of tests was slightly lower than in the previous season, as a greater proportion of testing resources were allocated to pre-Games testing ahead of the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Since 2017, World Curling's **#CurlClean** programme has reached hundreds of athletes and coaches. This activity continues with monthly **#CurlClean Communications**, highlighting key anti-doping topics and raising awareness of upcoming International Testing Agency (ITA) Anti-Doping Education webinars.

...a greater proportion of testing resources were allocated to pre-Games testing ahead of the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The next major step will be the implementation of the 2027 World Anti-Doping Code and the formal adoption of the World Curling 2027 Anti-Doping Rules, which is scheduled to be approved at the Annual Congress in September 2026.

Both will come into effect on 1 January 2027.



Commissions, Committees and Working Groups

There are seven specialist Commissions that provide advice and support to the World Curling Board and staff. World Curling also creates specialised Working Groups that engage on specific topics and challenges faced by the Federation and the sport at large. A newly created working group, is the Development Assistance Programme working group, chaired by World Curling Vice-President **Morten Søgård**.

Also, in 2020, a Nominations Committee was approved by the Member Associations with the remit of soliciting and reviewing nominations for vacancies on the Board. This is chaired by former World Curling Vice-President, **Graham Prouse**.

A Hall of Fame Induction committee is now in place, chaired by **Keith Wendorf**.

The seven World Curling Commissions are:

- Athlete Commission; chaired by **Harri Lill**
- Competition and Rules; co-chaired by **Jill Officer** and **Rob Niven** (sub-working groups under this commission include the Wheelchair Curling Expert Group, the Equipment Advisory Group and the World Ranking Group)
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; chaired by **Helena Lingham**
- Finance; chaired by **Sergio Mitsuo Vilela**
- Governance; chaired by **Morten Søgård**
- Sustainability; chaired by **Kim Forge**
- Technical; chaired by **David Sik**

The work of these commissions is detailed on the World Curling website throughout the year and is a fundamental aspect of the good governance of a modern International Federation.

Athlete Commission Membership Changes

The role of the Athlete Commission is to communicate the interests of high-performance curlers and to act as the collective voice for those curlers. It works in cooperation with World Curling and acts as the link among high performance athletes, the Board, the Rules and Competition Commission as well as the International Olympic Committee Athlete Commission.

The Athlete Commission strives to have diversity among its members. It comprises athletes of both genders and from all curling disciplines — women, men, mixed doubles and wheelchair and also includes members based on their World Curling Team Rankings.

Necessitated by several members being time-served, a membership election was held in 2026 in which six new membership places were available to serve alongside existing Commission members Eve Muirhead (Scotland), Harri Lill (Estonia), Collinda Joseph (Canada), and Benoit Schwarz-van Berkel (Switzerland).

The six new members are:

- Kristin Moen Skaslien (Norway) – Female Athlete Representative
- Geoff Walker (Canada) – Male Athlete Representative
- Koana Tori (Japan) – Female Mixed Doubles Representative
- Geir Arne Skogstad (Norway) – Male Wheelchair Curling Representative
- Chelsea Carey (Canada) – Female World Curling Team Ranking System (WCTRS) Representative
- Dean Hewitt (Australia) – Male WCTRS Representative.

From within the Commission, **Harri Lill (Estonia)** has been appointed as Chair, and following election confirmation at the 2026 Annual General Assembly will duly sit on the World Curling board in that capacity.

The Athlete Commission thanked outgoing members Tyler George (USA), Analena Jentsch (Germany), Rune Lorentsen (Norway), and Matt Dunstone (Canada) for their contributions.



The Curling Stones of Milano Cortina 2026



For both the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, 132 new curling stones were created and delivered by manufacturers Kays Scotland.

After the Games, a unique initiative gave the curling family a chance to possess their own little piece of genuine Olympic history. The project involved World Curling, the International Olympic Committee, and Kay's Scotland.

Paul Davidson is the owner of Kay's of Scotland, and he explained the exciting plans. He said, "normally these stones would have gone into circulation with World Curling and be

used for future events, but after discussions with World Curling and the International Olympic Committee, we realised we had a unique chance to turn these stones into very special giftware."

He continued, "These stones came back to Kay's and we replaced them with another set like-for-like. We then made giftware from these stones, allowing curling fans to own a genuine piece of Olympic history."

"It was a very limited edition, because it's quite a complicated thing to chop these stones up, so we restricted it to about 2,000 pieces."

Paul continued, "We gave the first chance to buy to athletes and support teams and then the families." Not surprisingly, the giftware sold out in a matter of weeks.

Paul Davidson bought over Kay's of Scotland three years ago and his efforts mean that the company has gone from strength to strength.

"We've never had the amount of exposure that we're enjoying now. We've broadened our company's story beyond the 'Ailsa Craig uninhabited Scottish island' tale."

He added, "This is a good business using artisans to make a true world-class product."

Given the craft nature of the work, Paul identified an immediate problem, "We knew as soon as we took over, we had to get young people in to get knowledge transfer going. And we've got a fantastic set of young people there. One of those young guys made half of the Olympic stones. John Brown, who has done six Olympics, made the other half. When we gave the stones over to World Curling, they couldn't tell them apart."

And as a businessman with promotion of his company and product in mind, Paul recognises a publicity gift when he sees it.

The USA Olympic Team brought international rap star Snoop Dogg to the Games, as an honorary coach. And when Snoop turned up at the curling venue, he had to give it a try.

Fortunately, World Curling's photo manager, Stephen Fisher, was on hand to capture the moment when Snoop stepped onto the ice. As Paul said at the time... "Snoop Dog throwing one of our stones... you just can't buy that kind of publicity."

"Snoop Dogg throwing one of our stones... you just can't buy that kind of publicity."



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Development

Much of World Curling's development work is undertaken under the umbrella of the World Curling Academy, with activities and courses covering a broad range of topics and activities.

In addition to the work of the World Curling Academy, significant development activities are carried out across the globe by World Curling staff. World Curling supports Member Associations in their own development through advice, and targeted grants and loans.

In the following pages we highlight two significant areas of activity the World Curling Academy and World Curling's floor curling partnership with Rock Solid Productions.



Development

World Curling Academy Progress

The World Curling Academy is a partnership between World Curling and the World Academy of Sport, which aims to provide education and certification for all aspects of the sport as well as providing resources to develop and grow curling locally and globally.

Among the Assessment Courses completed in season 2025-2026, six umpire courses were delivered, four in Korea and one each in Japan and Scotland.

In addition, two technical coach courses were delivered — in Norway and Poland.

Other online courses are available, with subject matter including Introduction to Wheelchair Curling, Rules of Competition, Time Clock operation and many more. Many of these courses are available free of charge.

For the fourth year, the annual Youth Curling Camp was held in Lillehammer, Norway, with a total of 14 countries represented.

During the Olympic Winter Games, World Curling staged an Olympic Ultimate Access programme in Milan, with Olympian and World Curling Education Services Officer, Karri Willms, and 2025 World Junior Mixed Doubles champion Lucrezia Grande showcasing curling to an Olympic audience.

Ice Maintenance and the work of Ice Technicians are prominent topics addressed in the work of the World Curling Academy and a number of courses were held across the curling world in 2025-2026.

These included:

- A first course in China, which saw nine Ice Technicians qualified as Chief Ice Technicians
- A first course in United States, held in Ogden, which saw nine Ice technicians qualified as Chief Ice Technicians
- "Introduction to Curling Ice Maintenance" courses run in Italy (Cortina), Netherlands, Poland and Türkiye.
- In addition, a more general information and participation course was held in Erzurum, Türkiye with 38 participants.

There are also plans for courses to be held in Auckland, New Zealand, and Doha, Qatar.

The Academy has also developed a Venue Certification Programme. This programme is set up to allow facilities to become a recognised curling facility by World Curling.

The certification has three levels:

1. A recognised curling facility.
2. A recognised training facility
3. A recognised excellence facility.

These rinks have achieved the level 1 recognition:

Zemst, Belgium

Lodz, Poland

Budapest, Hungary

Hyvinkää, Finland.



Development Floor curling



World Curling's floor curling partnership with Rock Solid Productions continues to grow, with this version of curling being used as a "gateway" introduction to the sport in many situations — such as with schools and social clubs, and in many countries, including Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Mexico and Pakistan.

Floor Curling is the fast-paced, inclusive curling experience played by individuals of all ages and abilities all across the world. This modified iceless version of curling can be played on any smooth, flat surface and involves strategy, communication, teamwork, and precision.

As floor curling continues to expand, during this year, national floor curling championships took place for the first time in Mexico, Spain and Türkiye.

In Mexico, a floor curling pilot programme based at Universidad Anáhuac in Mexico City has been established.



The event in Türkiye was staged in Samsun and involved 54 clubs representing 25 cities and 340 athletes, competing across men's, women's, and mixed categories.

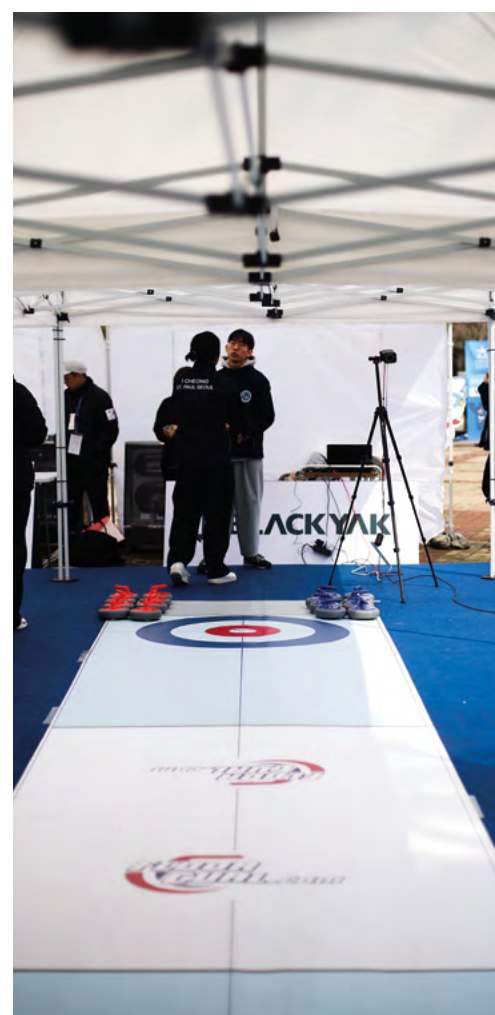
In Spain, the first ever officially sanctioned World Floor Curling Event took place in June 2025 in Pamplona, Spain.

This was held in collaboration with International Mixed Ability Sport (IMAS), and was an exciting opportunity for floor curlers at the International Mixed Ability Rugby Tournament (IMART) and Mixed Ability Games, Inclusion and Co-Production 2025 (MAGIC). This event was open for athletes of all ages, skill levels and abilities.

Other special floor curling events took place. For example, World Curling announced a strategic partnership with London and Manchester-based winter entertainment destination The Curling Club, to support the promotion of floor curling across the United Kingdom.

This partnership introduced the inaugural UK Floor Curling Championships, in February 2026, coinciding with the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

With some 20% of World Curling's Member Associations lacking regular access to curling ice on their territory, floor curling plays an important role in bringing new people into the sport and contributing to overall growth and success.



Development Electronic Handles

In a significant move, particularly in an Olympic season, a new model of electronic handles — capable of detecting and flagging up hogline violations — was introduced at the Le Gruyère AOP European Championships in Lohja.

This approach had been in place before, but the previous system was put aside after the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Korea, due to reliability and technical issues. This new system has been developed to be more robust as well as absolutely accurate in its operation.

This project was developed by World Curling's Technical Commission and its Chair, Board Director David Sik, was in Lohja to keep an eye on the trials. He explained, "We did this to help with the rules. It is difficult for players and umpires to judge, so we wanted to get back to having electronic handles."

And he also explained some background to how the new project has developed, "We investigated and we got the Czech Technical University in Prague to give us some analysis of the problems that we had before and that we had to solve." With the initial groundwork done, the Czech Technical University team came onboard as project partners.

As was the case with the old system, the handle on each stone is fitted with a touch sensor and a pair of lights with changing colours to indicate the system's status — blue means initiated and ready, green indicates all is in order, and red flags up a problem or a violation, after the stone crosses the hogline sensor.

This set-up gives players immediate feedback on each stone as it is being played.

Estonia's Harri Lill is now Chair of World Curling's Athlete Commission and before the European competition began, he spent some time testing the stone in Lohja. He said, "I've played with them now and I think these new handles are brilliant. They

work really well — we tried all sorts of tricks to try to make them not work, and still they worked.

"Really, I think they will help the athletes a lot, in the sense of making it very clear if people are over the hogline or not over the hogline. They will also help the umpires too, I think."

Harri added, "Our athletes have voiced their wish for new handles for a while, and now it's finally here — during the Olympic season as well, that's very important. I think the athletes are happy."

Two experts from the Czech Technical University — Jacob Vanek and Martin Faltus — were in attendance in Lohja, and only one slight problem was reported — in activating the system in the first place.

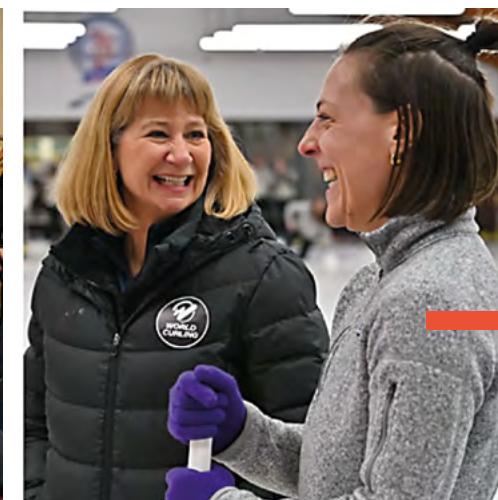
"At least it is before they throw the stone that the player knows something is wrong" Martin said, before adding, "it is important that we test the stones in competition. We need to test for robustness at competitions — it is very hard to replicate 200 big hits in the laboratory."

With the new system used for the rest of the season, it is clear that this is a technical development welcomed by all.



Development

Olympic Celebration Tour Reaches Chicago



Over the years, the World Curling Olympic Celebration Tour initiative has been a successful 'shop-window' in introducing new communities — of all ages and stages — to the sport, thanks to the ambassadorial work of many prominent curling Olympians and other elite performers.

In January, the Olympic Celebration Tour came to the Chicago Curling Club in the US state of Illinois for the weekend. When it was over, more than 200 participants had spent a fun and informative weekend — on and off the ice — with Olympic champion Tyler George, US Olympian Joni Cotton, and World Curling's Education Services Officer and Olympic bronze medallist Karri Willms.

Over 80 of the participants were from local schools, while the adults taking part included newcomers to the sport as well as members of the Chicago Curling Club. The Chicago Curling Club members also played important roles in setting up and delivering the whole celebration.

The presence of the Olympians also meant that Chicago Curling Club was able to host over 20 visiting VIPs and dignitaries from neighbouring communities.

As well as on-ice sessions — with the Olympians sharing hints and tips, every group of participants took part in extensive Q & A sessions with the Olympians. The youngsters in particular appreciated the chance to see and hold a real, live Olympic gold medal, which Tyler George kindly brought with him.

In addition to growing interest in the sport, the Olympic Celebration Tour also included fundraising efforts for Second City Curling, a non-profit entity established in 2015 to grow the sport of curling, primarily through youth engagement. Several thousands of dollars were raised.

The event also generated significant media attention and exposure in a variety local and regional outlets.



Development Auckland Dream Realised

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"The fact we've now got a dedicated curling rink here in Auckland is a quantum leap. It's a huge, huge breakthrough because we'll have hundreds of young people coming in to curl."

After many years, the long-held dream of the Auckland curling community of having their own dedicated ice facility is now reality, with the opening of the multi-million dollar Auckland Curling Centre in Penrose in April.

Open to the public and designed for both experienced curlers and first timers, the purpose-built facility will welcome social leagues, schools, and families alongside high performance competitors, helping grow the sport across the region and attract international competition.

The four-sheet facility combines precision ice technology with welcoming social spaces, making it equally suited to elite curlers preparing for global competition and newcomers trying curling for the first time. The Olympic grade rink will also feature a bar, café and hang out spaces, and will provide a new home base for the popular Auckland Curling Club.

The facility, in a property that was previously a large un-used warehouse in central Auckland, features the first and only dedicated curling ice on New Zealand's North Island. It was formally opened on Saturday, 18 April by Auckland's Deputy Mayor, Desley Simpson.

At the opening, Auckland Club President Rhys Greensill said "Curling is a sport for everyone, and we're excited to invite current and future teams to join us for a session on the ice."

"We're also looking forward to providing a much-needed North Island training and competition venue for our Olympic and World Championship curlers."

New Zealand Olympian Lorne DePape was one of the main champions of the project. He said, "The fact we've now got a dedicated curling rink here in Auckland is a quantum leap. It's a huge, huge breakthrough because we'll have hundreds and hundreds of young people coming in to curl."

He added, "To construct the venue, produce the ice and provide facilities that meet the needs of both high performance curlers and have-a-go local teams is a major investment. We're hugely grateful to Auckland Council and World Curling for their financial support, and to the many Auckland Curling members who gave generously of their time and resources. We also acknowledge an important anonymous gift that was vital in getting the project underway."

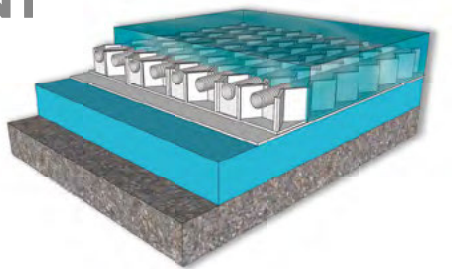
And the new facility has lost no time in getting up to speed, with a full programme of come-and-try sessions, corporate events and formal competitions already happening. In addition, four Australian national championship events — juniors, mixed doubles, mixed team and seniors — have been held there.

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World Curling engages with the curling community to promote our identity, culture and values to our global audience.

Engagement

To achieve this vision, our activities are focussed on these areas:

- Provide world-class and modern broadcasts of our championships to a world-wide audience to traditional broadcast partners and our own platform, The Curling Channel
- Transform the perception of curling through engaging and youthful coverage on social media
- Tell the stories of our Member Associations and athletes through written and video features
- Ensure that World Curling becomes the authority of our sport through informative and detailed content on the organisation's website and in our monthly newsletter

Over the course of the 2025–2026 season, World Curling has engaged with a growing number of the athlete community. From established athletes to those making their international debuts, World Curling has striven to tell their stories and bring their voices to the rest of the curling community.

Engagement Media

World Curling's media team covered all 16 events this season, either on-site, or remotely with the aid of contracted professionals capturing assets. The operational needs of the season required significant additional on-site coverage of the Olympic Qualification Event and the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, which resulted in an increase in staffing costs over the previous season.

Shona Ironside left the role of Media Officer in May 2026, to pursue an opportunity with Bath Rugby in England. Following a competitive hiring process, her replacement has been selected and will be joining the Federation in September 2026.

World Curling media continued the strategy of engaging more closely with our athlete community, both on social media and with written features. This season saw us collaborate with a large number of our athletes and Member Associations on stories both on and off the ice .

The continuation of this strategy enabled us to focus on creative and engaging social content with a particular focus on the journey of our athletes to the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games with every team also receiving a detailed preview ahead of the Games.

This approach allowed us to bring the curling community behind the scenes of our championships and share the stories of our athletes in a more dynamic and entertaining way, drawing in a new and younger audience.

All our owned channels continue to experience significant growth, with several pieces of content going viral throughout the year, particularly during the Games. Many short form pieces receiving millions of views across our platforms.

Reports from external providers monitoring the coverage of the Games suggest that social media consumption extended beyond the traditional broadcasting, with World Curling featuring a YouTube short with over 800,000 engagements, which is almost double the next ranked post of curling content provided by the International Olympic Committee.

Our live scores sub-site, which provides real-time information to the community from our championships, remains a significant resource, receiving 35 million views throughout the season.

The World Curling website continues to be an important channel for the Federation, which holds important information and engaging stories, with over 3.6 million views throughout the 2025–2026 season.

We have engaged multiple writers to produce long form written feature content — some of which you can find elsewhere in this review — sharing the stories of our athletes, Member Associations, local organisers and the wider curling community.

We also formed a partnership with the team at the Inside Curling podcast, to give us another

Broadcast

World Curling's broadcast output remains a major element of how the federation showcases the sport, engages with curling fans all around the world and highlights the talents of our best athletes.

In the 2025–2026 season, World Curling produced and delivered coverage at seven events:

- **United States Steel Pan Continental Curling Championships 2025 in Virginia, Minnesota, United States**
- **Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2025 in Lohja, Finland**
- **Olympic Qualification Event 2025 in Kelowna, Canada**
- **World Junior Curling Championships 2026 in Taarnby, Denmark**
- **BKT World Women's Curling Championship 2026 in Calgary, Canada**
- **LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2026 in Ogden, United States**
- **ACE & Company World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland.**

The Olympic and Paralympic curling broadcasts were not delivered by World Curling.

Each one of these events saw significant broadcast projects delivered, providing a wide range of content, taken up by national broadcasters and others across the globe.

The World Curling output was also made available on The Curling Channel, World Curling's subscription service, to a sizeable audience that continues to grow.

In addition, in each draw at each event, World Curling produces a “news” package, featuring highlights of each session. This is made available to international distributors and agencies and is regularly picked up and shown in sports highlights packages. This approach introduces broadcasters to international curling and can lead to them commissioning fuller coverage in the future.

The European Project

In its scale and content, the Le Gruyère AOP European Championships in Lohja, Finland was a typical World Curling production.

It used two different tiers of coverage level:

Tier One: full broadcast standard, used for “feature” games, featuring multi-camera coverage, full commentary, replay action, live graphics and post-game content.

Tier Two: used to ensure all games were covered and available, using four static cameras, to provide full “live” state-of-play coverage.

At Lohja:

- 50 Tier One games were produced and distributed
- 48 Tier Two games were produced and distributed
- 24 Newsfeed packages were produced and distributed

opportunity to engage with the curling community in the Olympic and Paralympic season.

There was a renewed focus on the World Curling Newsletter, with it being produced on a monthly basis throughout the year. This newsletter captures the key information from each month and is read by several thousand subscribers.

The World Curling Sports Media Trainee programme continued to be a source of discovering exciting talent and helping young individuals progress in their sports media careers. The 2025–2026 season saw four trainees from around the world join the World Curling media team at various events.

The winners of the programme for the 2025–2026 season were announced in July and saw four young creatives join the World Curling media team at the Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships and the United States Steel Pan Continental Curling Championships.

The Sports Media Trainee Programme has been paused for the 2026–2027 season as we revamp the programme with the intention of it returning the following year.

You can find all content created throughout the season and sign up to receive the monthly newsletter on the World Curling website.



- Eight broadcasters showed “live” games, these included regular national broadcasters in Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as other broadcasters in Czechia, Estonia and beyond Europe
- Two further broadcasters took extended highlights
- The World Curling TV crew — including some working remotely — numbered 38.

In addition, The Curling Channel had over half a million views of the produced games.

This was a typical-sized project for a World Curling event, and while pressure always remains to reduce costs, there continues to be a clear need to maintain quality standards.

Engagement

The Curling Channel



Driven by a growing demographic and digital shift in consumer needs for on-demand flexibility, live streaming is outpacing linear broadcast both in viewership and as a key revenue generator across multiple industries, making it a key focus for World Curling as we look to the future of showcasing our sport.

Since the official relaunch in 2024, World Curling's in-house streaming platform, The Curling Channel, works in parallel with media and broadcast, prioritising our commitment to deliver top-tier production coverage, while leveraging IP-based technology to reduce cost and by consequence, our physical footprint.

World Curling produced seven international events over the course of the 2025–2026 season, including the Olympic Qualification Event — which acted as the last qualification event for men's, women's and mixed doubles teams for the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games — hosted in Kelowna, Canada in December.

Delivering 641 live stream games for the 2025–2026 season, the channel garnered more than **half a million views** and brought in to the Federation a total revenue of over **\$USD 370,000**, which was an improvement over the previous year, but still lower than forecast for the Olympic season.

Streaming all international championship games continues to be a core deliverable for the channel. Subscriber and revenue numbers have both shown robust growth in the last year with a 24% increase in season pass sales across 34 markets, and a 14% increase in revenue from the previous season.

Athlete profiles and features, sequential launches of early-bird, season, half-season and summer passes — and immediate archive access to re-watch on-demand championship games from the current and previous season — offer a richer and more flexible viewing experience to accommodate markets in more than 24 time zones.

Additionally, a front-end redesign of the channel in early 2026, coupled with innovative development to optimise site performance and functionality, ensures the platform continues to evolve around consumer and broadcaster needs.

Keeping a close eye on improving the audience experience, the success of the channel's second full season continues to gain momentum, strengthening its presence as the platform of choice for our growing curling community.



Engagement

Rob & Romesh

Rob and Romesh swap comedy for curling in Olympic-build up special

In the build-up to the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games, Sky TV in the United Kingdom put the broadcast focus on curling in an unusual way.

At the World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2025 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, a special challenge game with a difference was staged and recorded.

A team of experienced Canadian curlers took on a Great Britain team that featured first-time curlers Romesh Ranganathan and Rob Beckett — comedians and TV personalities in the United Kingdom — supported by world champion Bobbie Lammie and Olympic champion Eve Muirhead.

The game was filmed for a special episode of Sky TV's "Rob and Romesh Vs", a show in which the comedians attempt various unfamiliar activities in the worlds of sport and entertainment. Previous episodes have included the comedians entering the world of Formula 1, meeting sprinting legend Usain Bolt and attempting Hollywood stunts with movie stars Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt.

The two part special called "Winter Olympics" was broadcast in the run-up to the Cortina Olympic Winter Games and saw Rob and Romesh try their hand at curling.

The Canadian team was skip Melissa Adams, third Alex Robichaud, second Reuben Tung-Shun and lead Monica Tung-Shun.

Played in front of a good-natured, full house of fans, the game showcased both the challenges and the charm of the sport for newcomers. It's fair to say that Rob and Romesh showed their inexperience as first-time curlers, but they did have a bit of beginners' luck too, that eventually allowed Eve Muirhead to play a take-out on the counting Canadian stone in the house, to score one point for a British victory.

While the game was light-hearted, there is a serious purpose behind it. James Beatt, World Curling's Commercial Strategy Lead explained, "We're going down the road of reaching out to new broadcasters and different forms of entertainment"

"We're trying to widen the appeal and reach new audiences and new markets. Shows like these have huge coverage in markets we're not strong in. We're trying to show that the game can be fun."

He added, "the guys had a great time out there and the crowd enjoyed it"

Rob and Romesh Vs is available to watch in the United Kingdom on Sky and Now TV.



Engagement

Sponsorship & Marketing

The 2025-2026 season saw continued stability for World Curling's sponsors and saw the Federation generate an income of over \$USD 1 million from sponsorship agreements and marketing efforts.

There were a number of new partners brought in across a variety of Championships.

Gray Dawes the Federation's exclusive international travel partner, saw Gray Dawes' commitment to supporting junior curling take its next step as an official sponsor of the World Junior Curling Championships 2026 that was held in Copenhagen, Denmark in February. This will continue in 2027 in Aberdeen, Scotland.

World Curling also introduced the first sponsored Pro-Am event at the Ace & Company World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland. More information about the pro-am event can be found in the following pages of this publication.

The season saw further changes in broadcast coverage for our sponsors — on both traditional channels and the Curling Channel. The Curling Channel allowed World Curling to broadcast over 600 games from international championships throughout the season. This further enhanced sponsor visibility, and with the continued success of the season and half-season passes, financial growth continued across the 2025-2026 season.

The Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2025 and LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2026 were sell-out events with our marketing agent, Infront. Curling Canada also sold out all available inventory at the BKT Tires World Women's Curling Championship 2026.



Engagement

Curling's First Pro-Am Staged Successfully



During the ACE & Company World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship in Geneva, World Curling staged a first-ever Pro-Am competition.

This involved four teams, each featuring one elite athlete, playing with a combination of novice sponsors and local club members, including a couple of wheelchair curlers.

The elite players were: Pablo Lachat (Switzerland), Marie Kaldvee (Estonia), Eilin Kjaerland (Norway) and Alexander Qvist (Denmark).

World Curling President Beau Welling was involved. His background is in the world of golf, the home of Pro-Am competitions, and he said, "Pro-Ams are massive for golf and golf tournaments. They allow the fans to engage directly with players in a way that's totally different. At the same time, it gives the athletes a chance to engage with fans. It's a great opportunity to do something in sport that's fun but allows for connections."

He added, "I think organisers and ourselves can see this is something that's worth doing. And athletes can see this as a way to promote the sport. These people had such a great time. We can build on what has happened here."

Although the emphasis was on fun, the hope is that this first successful event will lead to work being done to develop the concept, led by World Curling's Commercial Strategy Lead, James Beatt.

And James makes the very important point, "Inclusion is vital for creating a vibrant and thriving curling community. Therefore, at every event, we should be doing our utmost to provide participation opportunities."

"It's really important for the Federation to send a message to its communities — there's one thing that this sport does better than any other, and that's inclusivity. Whether you're very young or very old... you can play in a wheelchair, it's very easy to have a go. Through the Pro-am experience, we have the opportunity to engage all members of the community, provide a unique experience for sponsors, members of the community, and others."

He added, "Through the success in Geneva, we have already begun new discussions on future Pro-ams at various events around the world. We are excited to see where this goes."



Engagement

Hall of Fame

More details about World Curling's Hall of Fame can be found at: <https://worldcurling.org/awards/freytag>

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

There are two classes of honour:

Curler:
awarded to athletes who have achieved extraordinary distinction and outstanding results, and have demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship and character, in the sport of curling.

Builder:
awarded to individuals who have accomplished distinguished service and have made major contributions to the development and advancement of international curling.

World Curling's Hall of Fame Induction Commission considers nominations for the World Curling Hall of Fame, and makes recommendations to World Curling's Board. This year, three new recipients have been accepted.

Two of these inductees were in the "Curler" category – individual player **Glenn Howard** and **Team Randy Ferbey**, both from Canada.

The third inductee, **György Nagy** from Hungary, was inducted in the "Builder" category.

Glenn Howard

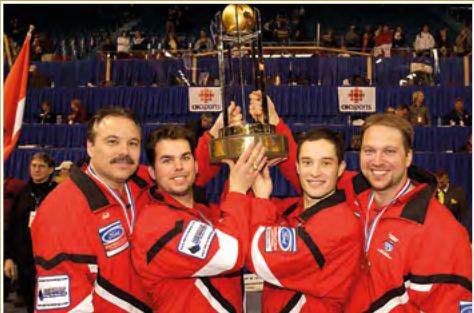


Glenn Howard's record of success representing Canada is particularly notable because of his longevity.

In total, Glenn played in four World Men's Curling Championships, and left all four of them with a gold medal. His first was won in 1987 playing third for his older brother Russ (who was inducted into the World Curling Hall of Fame in 2015) in Vancouver. Glenn and Russ would win another gold medal six years later in Geneva, Switzerland.

Glenn then skipped his own team, to a long-awaited third World Championship gold, in Edmonton in 2007. Five years later — a remarkable 25 years after his first title — Glenn skipped Canada to the 2012 World Men's Championship in Basel, Switzerland. This is, by far, the longest gap between first and final World Championship victories in the history of the event.

Team Randy Ferbey



Randy Ferbey is already a member of the World Curling Hall of Fame, and now his longtime teammates join him in acknowledgement of their achievements together.

Formed in 1999, the so-called Ferbey Four — including vice-skip David Nedohin (who threw last rocks), second Scott Pfeifer and lead Marcel Rocque — put together a stunning run of success over a six-year span that included four Canadian championships in five years, along with three gold-medal performances at the World Men's Curling championship. The Edmonton-based team became one of the most popular in the world and played a significant role in changing the way people play the sport at a competitive level today. They designed the

"numbered-zone" system, whereby sweepers called out a number that corresponded with the area in the house where they estimated the rock would reach. Prior to the arrival of the Ferbey foursome, most curling teams were defined by their skips, with their teammates considered as the supporting cast. Ferbey, Nedohin, Pfeifer and Rocque were four large personalities who meshed completely, on and off the ice. All four players had a voice in the decision-making process. That "team" concept was strengthened and sent a power message to the curling world that all four players on the ice are crucial to the success of a curling team. They are the sixth complete team to be inducted.

György Nagy



György Nagy has been involved in almost every aspect of curling in Hungary throughout his career. Nagy skipped the first Hungarian National Men's Champions and represented Hungary almost 200 times at 24 different World Curling events. He established a curling club in Budapest in 2005, which is the only dedicated curling facility in Hungary. He supports the operation of this curling centre to this day. He was also a key figure in the development of Mixed Doubles, and organised the first international Mixed Doubles Cup in Budapest

— now a popular annual tournament among top mixed doubles teams from all over the world. He is a member of the Hungarian Olympic Committee, and was a member of World Curling's 'Get Mixed Doubles into the Olympics' Committee". He was also a member of World Curling's Technical Committee and has now become a member of World Curling's Finance Commission. As a pioneer in a small nation, he has not only been instrumental in establishing curling but has also created a world-class infrastructure. His dedication is truly commendable.



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Competition

World Curling's 2025-2026 competition season started in October 2025 and concluded in May 2026.

The opening competition — the Pre-Olympic Qualification Event — was staged in Aberdeen, Scotland, while the calendar wrapped up eight months later, with the Booster Juice World Junior Mixed Doubles Curling Championship in Edmonton, Canada.

Altogether 16 different events were staged in the following countries: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Scotland, Slovenia, Switzerland, and United States.

Arguably the highlights were curling's participation in the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Winter Games in February and March. Wheelchair Mixed Doubles made its debut at these Games, meaning five different disciplines were contested in Cortina's iconic and historic Olympic Stadium.

We will look very carefully at how these new models are working and will continue consulting on the changes — especially with the athletes — as we go forward...

Eeva Roethlisberger,
World Curling's Head of Competitions

Competition

New Competition Structure

During this season, World Curling confirmed a comprehensive overhaul of its competition structure, set to take effect from 2026-2027 season.

These changes follow extensive consultation with the Member Associations (MAs), the Competitions and Rules Commission as well as the Athlete Commission over the past 18 months, with the aim of enhancing global competitions, streamline qualification pathways, and expand opportunities for MAs across all levels of the sport.

World Men's and Women's Curling Championships

From season 2026-2027, the World Men's and World Women's Curling Championships will expand from 13 to 18 teams. The new format will feature:

- Two pools of nine teams
- Pool winners progressing directly to the semi-finals
- Second and third placed teams from each pool will play crossover qualification games for the remaining semi-final spots
- The top 14 teams from each championship will retain their place for the following season, while the bottom four teams will be relegated to the newly introduced World Curling Championships Qualifier.

World Curling Championships Qualifier and Pre-Qualifier

To support the expanded format, a new tiered system has been introduced featuring a World Championships Qualifier and regional World Championships Pre-Qualifiers.

World Curling Championships Qualifier

- The World Curling Championships Qualifier will be held annually in November and feature 16 women's and 16 men's teams.
- The championships will see the top four teams promoted to the World Curling Championships, while the bottom four teams will be relegated to the regional World Curling Championships Pre-Qualifiers.

World Curling Championships Pre-Qualifiers

These will feature the four relegated World Curling Championships Qualifier teams and any remaining Member Associations — split into the Europe and Pan Continental regions.

- The top two teams from each region will be promoted to the World Curling Championships Qualifiers for the following season.
- These championships will take place at the end of the season, replacing the spot currently held by the European C-Division Curling Championships. (2026 Qualifiers: Europe Women: France, Poland; Europe Men: Slovenia, Latvia; Pan Continental Women: no competition; Pan Continental Men: Mexico, India)
- This new structure replaces the current world qualification system through the European and Pan Continental Curling Championships.
- As a result, the Pan Continental Curling Championships 2025 was the final edition of this event.

European Curling Championships

The European Curling Championship A-Divisions will continue as a standalone event. Twelve women's and men's European Member Associations will take part, and this season, on a one-off basis, these teams will be:

- Top eight from the 2025 European Championships A-Division
- Top two from the 2025 European Championships B-Division
- Top two remaining European Member Association from the World Rankings who have not already qualified..

The event will take place in October to begin the international season.

- In this new championship format, during the round-robin, teams will be separated into two pools of six.
- Each team will play five round-robin games. The top two finishers from each pool will then progress to a semi-final round.
- From 2027 onwards, qualification will be based on the top 12 ranked teams from the world championship ladder.

World Junior Curling Championships

From 2027 onward, the World Junior Curling Championships will also see significant changes. The event will:

- Expand to 16 teams per gender
- Feature two pools of eight teams
- Top three teams from each pool advance to play-offs
- Bottom three teams relegated to World Junior-B Curling Championships
- All games will be played over eight ends.

Speaking about these changes, Eeva Roethlisberger, World Curling's Head of Competitions, said, "We have made these changes following plenty of conversations and consultation with our Member Associations, players and stakeholders. We are trying to ensure a clear pathway that serves everyone involved in our competitions as well as trying to make our various events as attractive as possible."

Eeva also said, "We will look very carefully at how these new models are working and will continue consulting on the changes — especially with the athletes — as we go forward."



Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

MILANO CORTINA
2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Thoughts of the President



The stage was set for the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in the Cortina Curling Olympic Stadium, a beautiful and historic venue which showed incredibly well in-person and on TV before a record-breaking global audience. The venue capped an amazing few weeks by hosting the Closing Ceremony of the Paralympics.



We had 14 Member Associations take the ice at the Olympic Winter Games in February and they delivered some incredible shot making and dramatic moments. And of course, a little on-ice drama certainly brought a few extra eyeballs and attention to our sport. As an old saying goes, "It doesn't matter what the newspapers say, as long as they spell the name right."

There was excitement in the air from the very start of the Games when we had an array of dignitaries visit to the venue. International Olympic Committee President, Kirsty Coventry, spent the afternoon taking in a full draw, as we enjoyed teaching her more about the game and we also discussed an array of pertinent issues with her.

IOC member Prince Albert of Monaco stopped by and discussed sustainability issues, while Princess Anne (The Princess Royal of the United Kingdom) visited several times, including the Mixed Doubles Bronze Medal game. And

international rap star from the USA Snoop Dogg also made a guest appearance during the Mixed Doubles competition that drew quite a crowd and created some of the most vital special media clips of the Games.

The Paralympics followed in March, which was another huge success with record-breaking viewership numbers. An estimated 487 million cumulative digital audience made curling one of the most watched sports of the entire Paralympics, more than double from the previous Paralympic Games in Beijing.

For any curling fans who were fortunate to attend games in Cortina, I think they will agree with me that the town of Cortina was an amazing host and the perfect backdrop for all our athletes to showcase their talents and our sport to the world.

I would like to offer a big "thank you" to all our Italian partners and hosts, who helped make the Olympics and Paralympics such an incredible experience for everyone.

In the following section, you will be able to read the reports of our competitions from the Games as well as a few of the stories that came from the experiences of our athletes and sponsors there.

There are more stories than we can fit into these pages and I would always recommend you look at all of the stories from the Games shared on our website.





MILANO CORTINA 2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Qualification

In the three Olympic disciplines (team women, team men and mixed doubles), performances at both the 2024 and 2025 world championships were taken into account, and all direct qualification places were determined in this way, with the top seven-placed National Olympic Committees in each discipline invited to send teams to represent them, and join hosts Italy in the Games line-up.

(In the case of the British Olympic Association, by agreement, Scotland's world championships performances were used to gather points for Great Britain's qualification.)

Team qualification: The remaining two women's and men's team slots were then decided at an Olympic Qualification Event, staged in December 2025, in Kelowna, Canada.

National Olympic Committees that had finished between 9th and 13th on qualification rankings were entitled to be represented at this event, as were the top three finishers from the pre-Olympic Qualification Event, held in October in Aberdeen, Scotland.

The qualifiers from the pre-Olympic event were: (women): Czechia, Germany and Australia; and (men): Philippines, Poland and New Zealand.

Mixed Doubles qualification: In Mixed Doubles, any National Olympic Committee that competed at the 2024 or 2025 World Championship, but did not finish in a qualification position (top seven, plus hosts Italy), was entitled to enter the Olympic Qualification Event for Mixed Doubles. This Event had a field of 16 teams.



MILANO CORTINA 2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES



Olympic Qualification Event

The **eight women's teams** involved in the event were: Australia, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Japan, Norway, Türkiye, and United States of America.

The **eight men's teams** involved in the event were: China, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, and United States of America.

The sixteen mixed doubles teams were:

Group A: Austria, Czechia, Finland, Germany, Japan, Korea, Latvia, and Türkiye.

Group B: Australia, China, Denmark, France, Hungary, Netherlands, New Zealand, and Spain.

In the women's championship, three teams qualified from round-robin play for the play-offs.

Top-ranked Norway faced second-placed Japan in the first play-off, where Japan won, by 6-5 to qualify for the Games. Norway then returned to face third-ranked United States of America in the second play-off, but lost again, by 8-4. This meant that Japan and United States of America were the

two women's teams to go onto the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

In the men's championship, the qualification rules were the same. In the men's play-offs, second-ranked United States of America beat top-ranked People's Republic of China, by 9-4 in the first play-off to qualify. However, China then beat third-ranked Japan, by 9-4. This meant that United States of America and People's Republic of China both qualified for the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

In the mixed doubles championship, four teams qualified for the play-offs. Group-A leaders Czechia beat Group-B leaders Australia, by 6-5, in the first play-off game, to qualify directly.

Meanwhile, Group-A second-placed Republic of Korea defeated Group-B second-placed People's Republic of China, by 7-3, to go on to face Australia in the second play-off round, with People's Republic of China eliminated.

Republic of Korea then beat Australia, by 10-5, in the second play-off game to complete the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games lineup.



MILANO CORTINA 2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES Mixed doubles



Mixed Doubles was the first of the three Olympic disciplines to be staged in the iconic Olympic Stadium in Cortina and it saw ten National Olympic Committees involved.

They were:

Hosts: Italy (defending Olympic champions)

Direct Qualifiers (in qualification order): Estonia, Sweden, Great Britain (points gained by Scotland), Norway, Canada, Switzerland, United States of America.

Qualified from the Olympic Qualification Event: Czechia, Republic of Korea.

There were 13 round-robin sessions, with four teams qualifying for the semi-finals.

In the semi-finals, fourth-ranked Sweden beat top-ranked Great Britain, by 9–3, while third-placed United States of America beat second-placed Italy, by 9–8.

Italy then defeated Great Britain, by 5–3, in the bronze medal game, while Sweden beat United States of America, by 6–5, to win Olympic gold.



**Cortina, Italy
4–10 February
Medallists**

● Sweden

Isabella Wranå (female)
Rasmus Wranå (male)
Andreas Prytz (coach)

● United States of America

Corey Thiesse (female)
Kory Dropkin (male)
Cathy Overton Clapham (coach)

● Italy

Stefania Constantini (female)
Amos Mosaner (male)
Sören Gran (coach)



MILANO CORTINA 2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES Women's



The women's competition took place alongside the men's competition in the iconic Olympic Stadium in Cortina and it saw ten National Olympic Committees involved.

They were:

Hosts: Italy

Direct Qualifiers (in qualification order): Canada, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Denmark, Great Britain (points gained by Scotland and defending champions), People's Republic of China

Qualified from the Olympic Qualification Event: Japan, United States of America.

After round-robin play, top-ranked Sweden beat fourth-placed Canada, by 6–3, in one semi-final, while third-placed Switzerland beat second-ranked United States of America, by 7–4, in the other.

Canada then defeated United States of America, by 10–7, to take bronze medals.

In the final, Sweden beat Switzerland, by 6–5, to take gold medals and, having previously won in Pyeongchang in 2018, a second Olympic title.



**Cortina, Italy
12–22 February
Medallists**

● Sweden

Anna Hasselborg (skip)
Sara McManus (third)
Agnes Knochenhauer (second),
Sofia Scharback (lead)
Johanna Heldin (alternate)
Kristian Heldin Lindström (coach)

● Switzerland:

Alina Pätz (fourth)
Silvana Tirinzoni (skip and third)
Carole Howald (second)
Selina Witschonke (lead)
Stefanie Berset (alternate)
Pierre Charette (coach)

● Canada:

Rachel Homan (skip)
Tracy Fleury (third)
Emma Miskew (second)
Sarah Wilkes (lead)
Rachel Brown (alternate)
Renee Sonnenberg (coach)



MILANO CORTINA 2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES Men's



The men's competition took place alongside the women's competition in the iconic Olympic Stadium in Cortina and it saw ten National Olympic Committees involved.

They were:

Hosts: Italy

Direct Qualifiers (in qualification order): Great Britain (points gained by Scotland), Canada, Sweden (defending champions), Switzerland, Germany, Norway, Czechia

Qualified from the Olympic Qualification Event: China, United States of America.

After round-robin play, fourth-placed Great Britain beat top-ranked Switzerland, by 8–5 in one semi-final, while second-placed Canada beat third-ranked Norway, by 5–4, in the other.

Switzerland then beat Norway, by 9–1, to take bronze medals, while Canada defeated Great Britain, by 9–6, to take gold.

This was a second Olympic title for Canadians Brad Jacobs (2014), Marc Kennedy (2010) and Ben Hebert (2010), and a second successive Olympic silver medal for the Great Britain team.



● Canada

Brad Jacobs (skip)
Marc Kennedy (third)
Brett Gallant (second)
Ben Hebert (lead)
Tyler Tardi (alternate)
Paul Webster (coach)

● Great Britain

Bruce Mouat (skip)
Grant Hardie (third)
Bobby Lammie (second)
Hammy McMillan (lead)
Kyle Waddell (alternate)
Michael Goodfellow (coach)

● Switzerland

Benoit Schwarz-van Berkel (fourth)
Yannick Schwaller (skip and third)
Sven Michel (second)
Pablo Lachat-Couchepin (lead)
Kim Schwaller (alternate)
Håvard Vad Petersson (coach)



MILANO CORTINA 2026 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES

From paralysis to the Paralympics:

A story of pride, community and resilience

Life came at Katie Verderber fast. While serving as a judge advocate general in the United States Army, she injured her spine in 2019. She continued to serve in the military for three more years through the pain and three failed operations.

During her service, she met Danielle, and the couple married in June 2023. Just months into their marriage, life looked very different. Following an emergency surgery, Katie's spine never recovered and she suddenly had to navigate the world from a wheelchair.

She recalled, "As most people are when they find out they're paralysed, I was distraught, devastated, angry, and I still have all those feelings, just a little more controlled than it was at the time."

The next six months were a low point for Katie, who struggled to adapt to her new life back in her home state of Montana. For Danielle, life quickly shifted to include caring for her wife while navigating the emotional toll of a partner whose world had been turned upside down.

Then came an opportunity to try wheelchair curling in April 2024. That first session introduced Verderber to national team members Steve Emt, Dan Rose, Sean O'Neill and Laura Dwyer, who would become among her closest friends and mentors.

"Getting to know the team is part of the reason I fell in love with it," she said. "They were so welcoming, and not just for curling, but mentors."

A reinvigorated Verderber quickly became obsessed with the sport and she credits the team for creating a judgement-free environment and supporting her through some of the most difficult moments of her life.

"I remember being scared to tell them that I was gay and married to another woman and they were just so incredible," she said, "I'm so fortunate I found curling so soon into my injury, because it was working through that and being able to express myself that made me open and more vulnerable in my relationship — to hear how my wife was hurting through all of this and what she needed beyond me," added Verderber.

But Katie still had to make Team USA, with selection for the Paralympic Winter Games only decided in June 2025.

Fortunately, she did not have to dwell on the what-ifs for long and was selected as Team USA's alternate for the four-person wheelchair curling event, just over a year after throwing her first stone.

Although most of her Paralympic experience was spent in the alternate box, she still found herself at the centre of one unforgettable moment. After entering a game against Latvia following the fourth end, Verderber was greeted by a wall of noise.

"The whole arena was chanting my name and our sports psychologist took a video of it and he sent it to me after the game," said Verderber, still with a look of surprise at what occurred that day.

"Two years ago I was told I was never gonna walk again and now I'm like in the biggest arena at the biggest time of our sport and my name was getting chanted."

She still replays that video whenever she is having a bad day.





MILANO CORTINA
2026 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Wheelchair Mixed doubles



Wheelchair mixed doubles curling made its Paralympic debut in the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games and saw eight National Paralympic Committees compete.

Qualification for this championship was based on cumulative performances at the 2023, 2024 and 2025 world championships, with seven teams qualifying alongside hosts, Italy.

The National Paralympic Committees in the mixed doubles event were (in ranking order): Italy (hosts), Republic of Korea, United States of America, People's Republic of China, Japan, Latvia, Great Britain (points earned by Scotland) and Estonia.

After 12 sessions of round-robin play, four teams qualified for the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, top-ranked People's Republic of China beat fourth-placed Latvia, by 8-3, while third-placed Republic of Korea beat second-ranked United States of America, by 6-3.

After this, Latvia beat United States of America, in an extra-end thriller by 11-10, to take bronze medals.

In the final, People's Republic of China beat Republic of Korea, by 9-7 after an extra-end, to claim gold medals and the first ever Paralympic wheelchair mixed doubles title.

 Cortina, Italy 4 - 11 March Medallists	● People's Republic of China Wang Meng (female) Yang Jonqiao (male) Ru Xia (coach)	● Republic of Korea Baek Hyejin (female) Lee Youngsuk (male) Park Kilwoo (coach)	● Latvia Polina Rožkova (female) Agris Lasmans (male) Arnis Veidemanis (coach)
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MILANO CORTINA
2026 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Wheelchair team

Wheelchair team curling made its sixth appearance at the Paralympic Winter Games in Cortina, Italy.

Qualification was based on cumulative performances at the 2023, 2024 and 2025 world championships, with nine National Paralympic Committees qualifying alongside hosts, Italy.

The National Paralympic Committees competing in the mixed team event were (in ranking order): Italy (hosts), People's Republic of China, Canada, Republic of Korea, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain (points earned by Scotland), Slovakia, United States of America and Latvia.

After 12 sessions of round-robin play, four teams qualified for the semi-finals. In the semi-finals, top-ranked Canada beat fourth-placed Republic of Korea, by 8-7, while second-placed People's Republic of China were 7-6 winners over third-ranked Sweden.

Sweden then went on to beat Republic of Korea, by 7-4, to take bronze medals, while in the final, Canada beat People's Republic of China, by 4-3 with a dramatic final stone, to win the gold medals and the Paralympic title for the fourth time.

This medal ensured that Canada have medalled at every edition of the Paralympic Winter Games in which wheelchair curling has been involved.



 Cortina, Italy 7 - 14 March Medallists	● Canada Mark Ideson (skip) Jon Thurston (third) Ina Forrest (second) Collinda Joseph (lead) Gilbert Dash (alternate)	● People's Republic of China Wang Haitao (skip) Chen Jianxin (third) Zhang Mingliang (second) Li Nana (lead) Zhang Qiang (alternate)	● Sweden Viljo Petersson Dahl (skip) Ronny Persson (third) Sabina Johansson (second) Kristina Ulander (lead) Marcu Holm (alternate)
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Competition
United States Steel
Pan-Continental
CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025



World Curling championship action returned to the United States for the first time since 2022 when the United States Steel Pan Continental Championships were staged in Minnesota.

The men's and women's A-Division teams played at the Iron Trail Motors Event Center in Virginia, while the B-Division competition was staged at the Curl Mesabi complex in Eveleth.

Virgina and Eveleth are adjacent cities located in the Mesabi Iron Range in the northeast of Minnesota.

Both the men's and women's A-Divisions featured eight teams:

Women: Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, United States

Men: Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, United States.

The women's B-Division featured eight teams while the men's B-Division saw twelve teams compete.

As well as being stand-alone Championships, the Pan Continental event also acted as a qualifier for the World Championships. The top-placed five women's teams joined hosts Canada in the line-up for the BKT World Women's Championship 2026, in Calgary, Alberta in March. The top-placed four men's teams joined hosts United States at the LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2026, in Ogden City, Utah.

Following the women's round-robin, top-ranked China beat fourth-placed Korea, by 6-5, in one semi-final. In the other semi-final second-placed Canada beat third-ranked United States, by 8-3.

Korea then beat United States, by 11-8, to take bronze medals while China were 7-6 winners over Canada in the gold medal final to remain undefeated and take the title.

After seven sessions of men's round-robin play, top-placed Canada beat fourth-ranked China, by 5-4 in the semi-final. In the other semi-final second-placed United States beat third-placed Japan, by 9-3.

Japan went on to claim bronze medals, beating China, by 6-5, while Canada took gold with a 7-3 victory over United States in the gold medal final.

In the B-Divisions, Philippines won the women's event, with Kazakhstan second and Hong Kong China third.

In the men's event, Hong Kong China won, with Kazakhstan second and Guyana third.

Competition
Le Gruyère AOP
European
CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships were staged in Finland for the second successive year, with the women's and men's A-Division returning to the Kisakallio Sports Institute in Lohja, while the B-Divisions took place at the Pajulahti Sports Centre in Lahti, some two hours' travel away.

This was the 50th European Championships to be held, once again supported by long-term sponsor Le Gruyère AOP, for the 23rd time.

Both the women's and men's A-Divisions featured ten teams, while ten women's and 16 men's teams contested the B-Divisions.

The **A-Division** teams were:

Women: Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland, and Türkiye.

Men: Austria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Sweden, and Switzerland.

As well as being stand-alone Championships, the Le Gruyère AOP European event also acted as a qualifier for the World Championships.

Among the women's teams, the seven top-placed teams from this competition joined the line-up for the BKT World Women's Curling Championship 2026, in Calgary, Alberta in March 2026.

Among the men's teams, the eight top-placed teams from this competition qualified for the LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2026, in Ogden City, Utah in April 2026.

In the women's event, Sweden topped the round-robin rankings, to face fourth-placed Norway in the semi-finals, while second-placed Switzerland faced third-placed Scotland.

Sweden beat Norway, by 7-6, while Scotland were 8-5 winners over Switzerland in the semi-finals.

Switzerland went on to take bronze medals with an 8-4 win over Norway, while Sweden took gold, beating Scotland, by 7-5, in the final.

In the men's event, Scotland went through the round-robin undefeated to face fourth-placed Sweden in the semi-finals. Second-ranked Switzerland played third-placed Italy in the other semi-final.

Sweden beat Scotland, by 8-5, in the semi-finals, while Switzerland were 8-7 winners over Italy.

Scotland went on to beat Italy, by 9-3, to claim bronze, while Sweden defeated Switzerland, by 5-4, to give their skip Niklas Edin his eighth European title.

In the B-Divisions, Latvia took gold in the women's event, with Estonia taking silver and England bronze. In the men's event, Belgium won the gold medals, while Spain took silver and Türkiye won bronze.



Virginia, Minnesota
and Eveleth
Minnesota, United
States
18-26 October
Medallists

Women
● China

Wang Rui (skip)
Han Yu (third)
Dong Ziqi (second)
Jiang Jiayi (lead)
Su Tingyu (alternate)
Zang Jialiang (coach)

● Canada

Rachel Homan (skip)
Tracy Fleury (third)
Emma Miskew (second)
Sarah Wilkes (lead)
Rachel Brown (alternate)
Viktor Kjell (coach)

● Korea

Gim Eunji (skip)
Kim Minji (third)
Kim Suji (second)
Seol Yeeun (lead)
Seol Yeji (alternate)
Guy Hemmings (coach)

Men

● Canada

Brad Jacobs (skip)
Marc Kennedy (third)
Brett Gallant (second)
Ben Hebert (lead)
Tyler Tardi (alternate)
Paul Webster (coach)

● United States

John Shuster (skip)
Chris Plys (third)
Colin Hufman (second)
Matt Hamilton (lead)
Daniel Casper (alternate)
Theran Michaelis (coach)

● Japan

Yanagisawa Riku (fourth)
Yamaguchi Tsuyoshi (skip and third)
Yamamoto Takeru (second)
Koizumi Satoshi (lead)
Usui Shingo (alternate)
Bob Ursel (coach)



Lohja and Lahti,
Finland
22-29 November

Medallists

Women

● Sweden

Anna Hasselborg (skip)
Sara McManus (third)
Agnes Knochenhauer (second)
Sofia Scharback (lead)
Johanna Heldin (alternate)
Kristian Lindström (coach)

● Scotland

Rebecca Morrison (fourth)
Jennifer Dodds (third)
Sophie Sinclair (second)
Sophie Jackson (skip and lead)
Fay Henderson (alternate)
Ross Paterson (coach)

● Switzerland

Corrie Hürlimann (skip)
Marina Loertscher (third)
Stafanie Berset (second)
Celine Schwizgebel (lead)
Melina Bezzola (alternate)
Janet Hürlimann (coach)

Men

● Sweden

Niklas Edin (skip)
Oskar Eriksson (third)
Rasmus Wranå (second)
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)
Simon Olofsson (alternate)
Alexander Lindström (coach)

● Switzerland

Benoit Schwarz-Van Berkel (fourth)
Yannick Schwaller (skip and third)
Sven Michel (second)
Pablo Lachat-Couchepin (lead)
Kim Schwaller (alternate)
Håvard Vad Petersson (coach)

● Scotland

Bruce Mouat (skip)
Grant Hardie (third)
Bobby Lammie (second)
Hammy McMillan (lead),
Kyle Waddell (alternate)
Michael Goodfellow (coach)

Competition

50 Years of History: The European Curling Championships

The first European Curling Championships took place in Megeve, France in 1975, and the 2025 edition in Lohja, Finland marked the event's 50th anniversary.

Eight men's and seven women's teams competed in 1975 while now, the championships have expanded, with 35 teams across three divisions taking part in 2025.

Now, in World Curling's recent competition changes, the European Curling Championships will remain as a stand-alone competition for the top ten teams. With these changes, the European Championships will no longer qualify teams to the World Championships.

Many of the top European athletes have played in the European Championships, which have enjoyed a 23-year long sponsorship arrangement with Swiss cheese-maker Le Gruyère AOP.

Over the years, there have been many record-making performances at the Europeans. In the women's event, Sweden have dominated,



winning 22 golds while making it to the podium 39 times from a possible 50.

Anna Hasselborg is the country's latest skip to lift the trophy back in 2018 and 2019, and now in 2025, but the undisputed queen of the country's curling scene is Anette Norberg, a seven-time European champion who also won three world titles, two Olympic gold medals and is a member of the World Curling Hall of Fame.

Other names from the past include Germany's Andrea Schöpp and Monika Wagner, who were also seven and six-time champions, respectfully. Schöpp also appeared at the European Championships a colossal 28 times while Norway's Dordi Norby — another World Curling Hall of Fame inductee — sits just behind with 23.

Other nations to win a women's European title are Denmark, Norway, Russia and Scotland. Eve Muirhead's win in 2011 was Scotland's first women's European title since Betty Law won the first gold medal back in 1975.

Russia's golden period came in the 2010s when skips Anna Sidorova and Victoria Moiseeva won three titles between 2012 and 2016. From 2011 to 2016, they made the podium five times from six.

In the men's Championship, the top teams from yesteryear remain amongst the best today. Sweden would take gold for the first time in 1977, with Scotland taking consecutive golds in 1979 and 1980. Today, they respectively have 12 and 16 gold titles.

Scotland's success came in bunches — with back-to-back wins in 1988 and 1989, followed by three consecutive victories for Hammy McMillan's rink from 1994 to 1996. After David Murdoch's

Over the years, the European Championships, has featured 42 national teams, with a total of 22 men's and 18 women's national teams have played in the A-Division.

team completed the double in 2007 and 2008, it would be another ten years before Bruce Mouat would win his first of four, with three coming successively, post-pandemic.

Sweden were not dominant in the earlier years. They only won their fourth gold in 1998 — the first of two won by Peja Lindholm. In 2009, Niklas Edin filled the void following Lindholm's retirement when he took his first European title. Now, he has become an eight-time world and European champion and owner of a complete set of Olympic medals gold, silver and bronze.

Switzerland has eight gold medals, with six of these won before 1986, while Germany has seven titles.

Norway's five victories have mostly been scattered throughout the Championships, winning the inaugural men's gold in 1975. 18 years later, Eigil Ramsfjell led his rink to victory in 1993. Then, it was another 22 years until Pål Trulsen's squad won in 2005.

From 2007, the country had their best run of form, making the podium ten years in a row. Pivotal to this was the late Thomas Ulsrud, who skipped in all of those tournaments, including the 2010 and 2011 editions where he claimed gold.

The only nation to win just one men's title is Finland, victors in 2000.

Over the years, the European Championships, has featured 42 national teams, with a total of 22 men's and 18 women's national teams have played in the A-Division. In the past 20 years, Estonia, Ireland, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Spain all competed in the top group for the first time.



The World Junior Curling Championships 2026 took place in Tårnby, Denmark from 24 February until 3 March.

Altogether ten women's and ten men's teams took part.

The **women's** teams were: Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, and United States.

Of these, Japan, Türkiye and United States had all qualified from the World Junior-B Curling Championships 2025, held in Lohja, Finland in December. Denmark qualified as event hosts and the others had qualified directly through their performances at the 2025 world junior championships.

After round-robin play, first-ranked Korea beat fourth-placed United States, by 6–5 in one semi-final, while second-placed Sweden beat fourth-placed China, by 8–4, in the other semi-final.

In the bronze medal game, China beat United States by 11–4, while Korea beat Sweden, by 14–7, in the gold medal game to claim the world title.

The **men's** teams were: Canada, Denmark, Italy, Japan, Korea, Norway, Poland, Scotland, Switzerland, and United States.

Of these, Poland, Switzerland and United States had all qualified from the World Junior-B Curling Championships 2025, held in Lohja, Finland in December. Denmark qualified as event hosts and the others had qualified directly through their performances at the 2025 world junior championships.

After round-robin play, fourth-ranked Italy beat first-ranked Scotland, by 8–6 in one semi-final, while second-placed United States beat third-placed Canada, by 7–6 in the other semi-final.

In the bronze game, Scotland beat Canada by 9–8 while United States beat Italy by 8–6 in the gold medal final to become world champions.



Tårnby, Denmark
24 February – 3 March
Medallists

Women
● **Korea**

Kang Bobae (skip)
Shim Yujeong (third)
Lee Boyoung (second)
Lee Yousun (lead)
Park Yealynn (alternate)
Kwon Young Il (coach)

● **Sweden**

Moa Dryburgh (skip)
Moa Tjårnlund (third)
Thea Orefjord (second)
Maja Roxin (lead)
Erika Ryberg (alternate)
James Dryburgh (coach)

● **China**

Wang Zhuoyi (skip)
Mu Jiayin (third)
Chen Zaoxue (second)
Dong Shihan (lead)
Liu Chenxi (alternate)
Kim Jisun (coach)

Men

● **United States**

Caden Hebert (skip)
Jackson Bestland (third)
Benji Paral (second)
Jack Wendtland (lead)
Daniel Laufer (alternate)
Michael Peplinski (coach)

● **Italy**

Stefano Spiller (skip)
Stefano Gilli (third)
Andrea Gilli (second)
Cesare Spiller (lead)
Francesco Vigliani (alternate)
Wolfgang Burba (coach)

● **Scotland**

Orrin Carson (skip)
Logan Carson (third)
Archie Hyslop (second)
Charlie Gibb (lead)
Fraser Swanston (alternate)
Alan Hannah (coach)



Competition

BKT

World Women's

CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026



The BKT World Women's Curling Championship 2026 was staged at the Winsport Arena in Calgary, the largest city in Alberta.

The Winsport Arena is familiar territory for curling events — having been used in controlled circumstances for both the women's and men's championships in 2021, as the world recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, it also hosted the Pan Continental Championships in 2022.

13 teams took part, including for a historic first time, a women's team representing Australia. They were:

Hosts: Canada

From the **Pan Continental championships** (in qualification order): China, Korea, United States, Japan, and Australia

From the **European championships** (in qualification order): Sweden, Scotland, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, Türkiye, and Italy.

After round-robin play, top-placed Switzerland and second-placed Canada qualified directly to the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, third-placed Japan beat sixth-ranked Türkiye, by 7-5, in one qualification game, while fourth-placed Sweden beat fifth-placed Korea, by 9-5, in the other.

In the semi-finals, Switzerland beat Sweden, by 8-5 while Canada were 11-3 winners over Japan.

Sweden then beat Japan, by 8-5, to take bronze medals, while Switzerland won the gold medal final, by 7-5, over Canada.

This marked a first-ever world title for the Swiss team that had won world junior gold in 2024.

During the closing ceremony, it was announced that Japan's third player Yoshida Chinami had won the Frances Brodie Award, the fair play award voted on by all the players.



Calgary, Canada

14 - 22 March

Medallists

● **Switzerland**

Xenia Schwaller (skip)
Selina Gafner (third)
Fabienne Rieder (second)
Selina Rychiger (lead)
John Epping (coach)

● **Canada**

Kerri Einerson (skip)
Valerie Sweeting (third)
Shannon Birchard (second)
Karlee Burgess (lead)
Krysten Karwacki (alternate)
Reid Carruthers (coach)

● **Sweden**

Isabella Wranå (skip)
Almida De Val (third)
Maria Larsson (second)
Linda Stenlund (lead)
Moa Dryburgh (alternate)
Vicent Stenberg (coach)



Xenia Schwaller and her team... World Junior Champions in 2024, World Champions in 2026. It looks straightforward when you read it, but the more you learn, the more you realise how outstanding this achievement actually is.

And it is even more remarkable when you consider that this young Swiss quartet — skip Xenia Schwaller, third Selina Gafner, second Fabienne Rieder, and lead Selina Rychiger — had to overcome very strong opposition at home, including four-times world champions Silvana Tirinzoni and her team-mate six-times world champion Alina Pätz (later both became Olympic silver medallists), to gain the right to represent Switzerland at the BKT World Women's Championship in Calgary, Canada in the first place.

And Xenia and her team completed their selection for the Worlds by beating Team Tirinzoni in a best-of-three Swiss Championship final, despite losing the first game in an extra end.

After appearances at the Youth Olympic Games and the European Youth Olympic Festival, Xenia first represented Switzerland at the World Junior Championships in 2002 in Sweden, finishing fifth. The current quartet first got together at the 2023 World Juniors in Germany, finishing fourth. Their breakthrough came in 2024 when they went through that year's Junior Championships in Finland undefeated to claim gold, beating Japan in the final.

Competition

The rise of Xenia Schwaller

At this year's World Championship in Calgary, the Swiss opened with a loss against Japan but went undefeated after that, to top the round-robin rankings and qualify direct to the semi-finals. In that semi-final game they beat Sweden, by 8-5, before defeating Canada, by 7-5, in the final to claim the title.

After this final against Canada's Kerri Einerson, Schwaller reflected on her team's outstanding victory, "I really cannot believe it — I'm speechless. We didn't feel fully in control but I feel the turning point was when we scored two in the eighth."

And thinking about her whole campaign she said, "I'm really happy and really proud of my team. We didn't really have any game where we struggled, except maybe the first, which is crazy."

Speaking further about the opening round-robin loss to Japan, she added, "I wasn't too concerned because my team played quite good and I knew I just had to play better and get used to the arena, the ice, the atmosphere."

Looking to the future, Schwaller says, "We started in Juniors and now we're on the Women's side. It's kind of crazy to see where we started and where we are now, but it's really cool to think that we

have a lot more potential. We're not there yet, we have a lot more things to work on, but the longer we play together, the better we get to know each other."

She added, "We have a lot of trust in each other which really helps, so I'm really excited for the next years — to work together and get even better."

Team Schwaller seems set to go now, the latest in a line of Swiss women's world championship teams that have won 11 titles so far. Perhaps, with Team Schwaller on the scene, that should read ...11 — and counting.



Competition
LGT

World Men's CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026



The LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2026 was staged at the Weber County Ice Sheet in historic Ogden City, Utah. This was the venue used for the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games.

13 of the world's top men's teams took part, including, for the first time, Poland. They were:

Hosts: United States

From the **Pan Continental championships** (in qualification order): Canada, Japan, China, and Korea



From the **European championships** (in qualification order): Sweden, Switzerland, Scotland, Italy, Germany, Norway, Czechia, and Poland.

After round-robin play, first-placed Sweden and second-placed Scotland qualified directly for the semi-finals.

Third-placed Canada beat sixth-ranked Italy, by 9-7, to join the semi-final line-up. They were joined by fifth-placed United States, following a 9-8 victory over Switzerland in the other qualification game.

The semi-finals saw Sweden beat United States, by 8-6, while Canada were 9-7 winners over Scotland.

Scotland then took bronze medals with an 11-6 win over United States, while Sweden beat Canada, by 9-6, to take gold.

This was an eighth world title for Swedish skip Niklas Edin, to sit alongside his complete set of Olympic medals. He announced his retirement some weeks later.

During the closing ceremony, the Collie Campbell Memorial Award was presented to Norway's third player Wilhelm Naess. This Award, voted on by all the competitors, recognises the player who best personifies the spirit of curling, fairness and sportsmanship.



Ogden, United States
27 March - 4 April
Medallists

Sweden

Niklas Edin (skip)
Oskar Eriksson (third)
Rasmus Wranå (second)
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)
Simon Olofsson (alternate)
Alexander Lindström (coach)

Canada

Bruce Mouat (skip)
Grant Hardie (third)
Bobby Lammie (second)
Hammy McMillan (lead)
Kyle Waddell (alternate)
Michael Goodfellow (coach)

Scotland

Brad Jacobs (skip)
Marc Kennedy (third)
Brett Gallant (second)
Ben Hebert (lead)
Tyler Tardi (alternate)
Paul Webster (coach)



Competition

Silvana and Niklas – Thank You!



The end of the four-year Olympic cycle is always a catalyst for team changes and athlete retirements.

Following the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games, that pattern has repeated again. This time, two of international curling's genuine superstar skips are among those who have

decided it is time for something different – Switzerland's Silvana Tirinzoni and Sweden's Niklas Edin.

In two remarkable careers, both of these players have achieved so much, but they have also given so much back.

Silvana

Silvana's competitive journey goes back to the late nineties as a teenager, winning the 1999 World Junior Curling Championship. At 26, she qualified for the 2006 World Women's Curling Championships for the first time, finishing 10th. The following year, she finished fifth. She returned in 2013, finishing fifth again.

Her next Worlds appearance was in 2019 when, with Alina Paetz now in her ranks, Silvana claimed the first of four world titles – the others coming in 2021, 2022 and 2023, and including an astounding run of 42 consecutive world victories. "I think this is a record that's probably never going to be broken," she says now.

Her world championship career saw two more medals – silvers – in 2024 and 2025.

Silvana played at eight European Championship, winning medals five times – two golds (2023 and 2024), two silvers and one bronze.

She also made three Olympic appearances, in 2018, 2022 and 2026, bringing the curtain down on her remarkable career with a silver medal earlier this year in Cortina.

Speaking about retiring, she said, "I feel OK with this decision. I absolutely know it was the right timing, but it is a very hard decision." She added, "I really cherish all those moments I had with my teammates. When I look back, I can hardly believe that we all achieved that."

Niklas

Before you even consider how many medals Niklas Edin has won, the sheer number of international appearances he has made in a career that started in 2002 is staggering: five Olympic Games, 15 World Championships, 15 European Championships, four World Junior Championships, one World University Games and others besides. Altogether he has represented Sweden 46 times, winning 19 gold medals, 12 silvers and four bronzes on the way.

In his Olympic career, he came fourth in 2010, won bronze in 2014, took silver in 2018 and gold in 2022, to complete the full medal set.

He played in his first world championship in 2006, then took gold for the first time in 2013, and again in 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024 and finally in 2026 in Ogden. He also took one silver and two bronzes at this level.

He played in 15 European Championships, winning gold eight times and taking silver four times.

His first world title came at the world junior championships in 2002, and he also won three silver medals as a junior.

Niklas's medal-strewn career saw him skip two different teams. He also had ups and downs, with injury not being too far away in the latter part of his career.

He went into the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Cortina as defending champion, and was clearly disappointed to finish in what for him was a lowly ninth position.

While Niklas is proud of his team, in him and in Silvana Tirinzoni, the sport of curling can be proud to have had two such high-achieving ambassadors gracing the game all around the world for over two decades.

However, showing the strength of character that has defined his career, he bounced straight back to win his eighth world title in Ogden.

After that win he admitted, "We were very disappointed after the Olympics, so I feel we had a monkey on our backs going into this week – we had to prove to ourselves that we can still curl at a high level. I think we played amazing. I think we found our groove and confidence again. I'm super-proud of this team."



Competition
ACE & Company

World Mixed Doubles

CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026



The ACE & Company World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship was staged for the second time at the Centre Sportif Sous-Moulin, Geneva — having previously been held there in 2022. The World Senior Championships were held there at the same time.

20 Member Associations were represented. 16 had qualified directly from the 2025 championship, while China, France, Hungary, and Netherlands had qualified through the World Mixed Doubles Qualification Event that had been held in Dumfries, Scotland in January.

The teams were divided into two round-robin Groups:

Group A: Australia, China, Denmark, Estonia, France, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden

Group B: Canada, Czechia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Korea, Scotland, Switzerland, United States.

At the end of round-robin play, group leaders Australia and Canada qualified directly to the semi-finals.

The qualification games saw Sweden, second in Group B, beat Scotland, third in Group A, by 7–5.

Meanwhile Italy, second in Group B, beat Japan, third in Group A, by 7–6.

In the semi-finals, Australia beat defending champions Italy, by 7–6, while Sweden were 6–4 winners over Canada.

Canada then took bronze medals with an 11–3 defeat of Italy before Australia went on to take an historic first-ever gold medal and world title in an Olympic discipline, as they defeated Sweden, by 8–4.

Because of changes to the competition calendar this was the last time that the World Mixed Doubles and Senior Championships will be staged together.

Mixed Doubles — the shorter, more dynamic 21st century version of curling — has played an important role in bringing more people into playing the game, more viewers to watching the game, and encouraging the Olympic movement to appreciate the sport more.

It has also seen more countries taking part in championships and winning medals — Australia, Estonia and Hungary for example — as well as helping the sport achieve gender parity.

The discipline ticks a lot of boxes and has come a long way since the very first World Mixed Doubles Championship, held in Vierumäki, Finland in 2008, won by Switzerland.

To add to the success story, wheelchair mixed doubles, after first appearing as a world championship in 2022, made its Paralympic debut at the Milano Cortina 2026 Games in February of this year, with the People's Republic of China duo of Jinqiao Yang and Meng Wang becoming the inaugural Paralympic champions.

Over the years, mixed doubles tactics and game management have evolved and World Curling commentator, Sander Rølvåg, has seen many of these changes. He said, "The standard of curling improves all the time, but especially in mixed doubles."

He identifies one big reason behind the improvements in mixed doubles, "It's natural because of mixed doubles becoming an Olympic discipline."

Proving Sander's point, when mixed doubles made its Olympic debut at the 2018 Pyeongchang Games in Korea, the Canadian duo of Kaitlyn Lawes and John Morris were the winners — both of whom were already Olympic champions in team curling — clear evidence that mixed double had come of age among elite athletes.

There have been big changes in tactics too, Sander says, "One big change was playing the run-backs and the big hits. That makes it a more attractive game because you see a more effective selection of shot-making, not just one big guddle of rolling into the four-foot over and over."

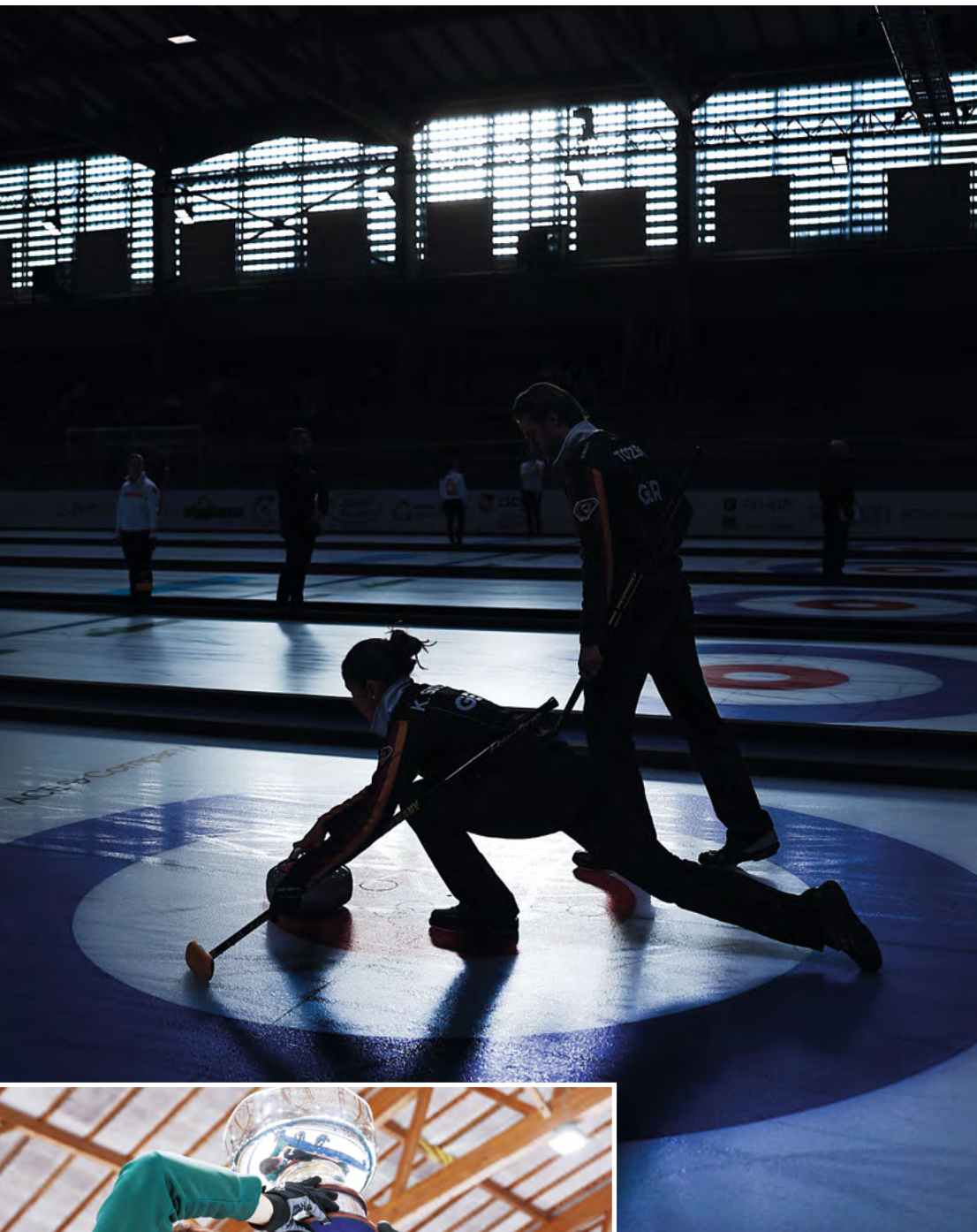
Another change — the Power Play — was first brought in in 2015, allowing teams to place their pre-positioned stones on either wing rather than the centre-line, making access to the button easier and encouraging big scores.

Over the years, the sheer physicality of the players has increased — the players are definitely fitter and stronger. Sander makes another observation, "You see some of the best players are utilising that a lot. People like Korey Dropkin of the United States is a very physical player, exerting a lot of energy."

He added, "It's fast-paced. Because there's only two players, it's a challenge. Overall, I think it's good that we're trying out new things. I don't think we should be afraid of trying."



Competition Mixed Doubles Comes of Age



ACE & Company

**Geneva,
Switzerland**
25 April – 2 May

Medallists

● **Australia**
Tahli Gill (female)
Dean Hewitt (male)
Perry Marshall (coach)

● **Sweden**
Therese Westman (female)
Robin Ahlberg (male)
Ingemar Edström (coach)

● **Canada**
Kadriana Lott (female)
Colton Lott (male)
Scott Pfeifer (coach)

Competition
ACE & Company
World Senior
CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026



In the ACE & Company World Senior Curling Championships 2026, 23 women's teams took part, while 34 men's teams contested their event.

The women were divided into four round-robin groups:

- Group A:** Canada, Finland, Philippines, Slovenia and Sweden
- Group B:** England, France, Korea, Norway, Scotland and United States
- Group C:** Australia, Denmark, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania and Poland
- Group D:** Czechia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand and Switzerland

In the quarter-finals, Canada beat Lithuania; Germany beat Sweden; Scotland beat Switzerland; and United States beat Japan.

Germany then beat Canada, by 4–1, in the semi-finals while Scotland were 12–2 winners over United States.

Canada then claimed bronze medals with an 8–1 victory over United States. Scotland then defeated Germany, by 10–1, to successfully defend their title.

The 34 men's teams were divided into six round-robin groups:

- Group A:** Canada, Ireland, Latvia, Nigeria and Slovenia
- Group B:** England, Hong Kong China, Italy, Poland and United States
- Group C:** Belgium, Estonia, Hungary, Philippines, Scotland and Slovakia
- Group D:** Greece, Israel, Japan, Korea, Norway and Switzerland
- Group E:** Australia, Austria, Finland, France, Sweden and Wales
- Group F:** Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand and Spain

After round-robin play, the top four ranked teams – United States, Canada, Scotland, and Switzerland – moved directly to quarter-finals where they were joined by four winners from the final qualification round – Australia, Germany, Norway and Slovenia.

From the quarter-finals, Canada, Scotland, Switzerland and United States qualified for the semi-finals.

In two tight semi-finals, Scotland beat Canada, by 6–5, while United States were 7–6 winners over Switzerland.

Canada then beat Switzerland, by 7–4, to claim bronze medals while United States were 7–5 winners over Scotland to take gold and the world title.

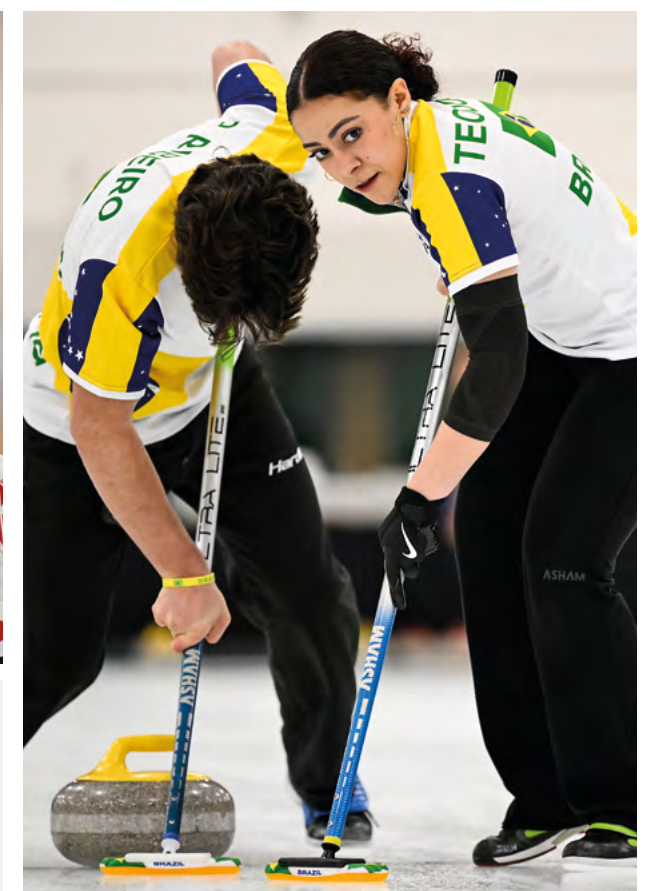
Competition
Booster Juice
World Junior Mixed Doubles
CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

The second edition of World Curling's newest world championship – the Booster Juice World Junior Mixed Doubles Curling Championship was staged in the Saville Community Sports Centre, Edmonton, AB, Canada, between 5–10 May.

Following enforced withdrawals by Nigeria and Russia, 29 teams took part. After play in four round-robin groups, the top two from each group qualified for quarter-finals.

In the quarter-finals, Denmark beat Germany, Canada defeated Norway, Scotland were winners over Korea, and Japan beat Czechia.

In the semi-finals, Canada beat Denmark, by 5–4, while Japan were 6–5 winners over Scotland. Scotland went on to beat Denmark, by 10–7, to take bronze medals, while Japan were 6–5 winners over Canada to claim gold and the world title.



ACE & Company

**Geneva,
Switzerland**
24 April – 2 May

Medallists

Women

● **Scotland**

Jackie Lockhart (skip)
Mairi Milne (third)
Claire Milne (second)
Katie Loudon (lead)

● **Germany**

Sabine Belkofer-Kroehnert (skip)
Heike Schwaller (third)
Michaela Reilly (second)
Christina Haller (lead)
Martina Knobloch (alternate)
Bernhard Matyr (coach)

● **Canada**

Sherry Middaugh (skip)
Karri-Lee Grant (third)
Melissa Foster (second)
Jane Hooper Perroud (lead)
Wayne Middaugh (coach)

Men

● **United States**

Mike Farbelow (skip)
Rich Ruohonen (third)
Bill Stopera (second)
Darren Lehto (lead)
Pete Annis (alternate)

● **Scotland**

Tom Brewster (skip)
Frazer Hare (third)
Robbie Stevenson (second)
Don Frame (lead)

● **Canada**

Bruce Korte (skip)
Darrell McKee (third)
Kory Kohuch (second)
Rory Golanowski (lead)
Arlen Hall (alternate)

Booster Juice

**Edmonton,
Canada**
5–10 May

Medallists

● **Japan**

Miura Yuina (female)
Fujii Kaito (male)
Ogasawara Ayumi (coach)

● **Canada**

Brooklyn Ideson (female)
Owen Henry (male)
Mark Ideson (coach)

● **Scotland**

Tia Laurie (female)
Ethan Brewster (male)
Nancy Smith (coach)

World Rankings

These tables represent the most recent Member Associations’ World Rankings for the Olympic and Paralympic disciplines of women, men, mixed doubles, wheelchair curling and wheelchair mixed doubles.

They take into account performances in the various championship events of the season. Further information on how these rankings are calculated can be found on the World Curling website.

In addition, World Curling maintains the World Ranking for the non-Olympic Mixed discipline and produces the World Curling Team Rankings List.

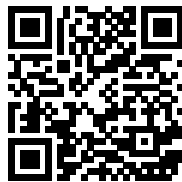
The World Curling Team Rankings Lists include the results from events across the world, including World and National Championships, Grand Slams, World Curling Tour events and other registered international and national events.

Further information on these Ranking List and other details – including changes for the new season - are also available on the World Curling website.

Links

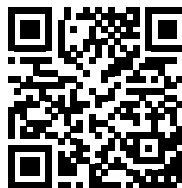
World Rankings Overview

<https://worldcurling.org/worldrankings/>



World Curling Team Rankings Overview

<https://worldcurling.org/teamrankings/>



Wheelchair

	Member Association	Points	+/-
1	China	85.091	/
2	Canada	83.182	/
3	Korea	53.673	+2
4	Sweden	52.727	-1
5	Norway	50.836	-1
6	Slovakia	30.800	+1
7	Scotland	29.818	-1
8	Latvia	28.218	+1
9	Italy	27.564	+1
10	United States	24.109	-2
11	Czechia	11.818	/
12	England	11.273	+1
13	Japan	10.444	-1
14	Estonia	7.527	/
15	Poland	7.375	+2
16	Finland	6.782	/
17	Switzerland	6.309	-2
18	Denmark	4.582	+1
19	Spain	3.840	+2
20	Hong Kong, China	2.073	+2
21	Germany	2.036	-1
22	Thailand	1.964	+2
23	Brazil	1.745	+2
24	Hungary	1.105	-1
25	Kazakhstan	0.989	+1

Wheelchair Mixed Doubles

	Member Association	Points	+/-
1	Korea	69.200	/
2	China	66.545	+4
3	Japan	53.309	-1
4	Latvia	50.073	-1
5	United States	45.091	/
6	Scotland	44.800	-2
7	Estonia	38.964	/
8	Italy	29.418	+1
9	Canada	21.236	+1
10	Slovakia	20.727	-2
11	England	15.418	+2
12	Norway	15.273	-1
13	Czechia	8.727	+2
14	Hungary	8.618	-2
15	Denmark	7.800	+1
16	Finland	7.545	+2
17	Switzerland	7.217	/
18	Poland	5.185	+2
19	Sweden	4.655	-5
20	Türkiye	3.927	+1
21	Spain	3.425	+1
22	Germany	2.909	-3
23	Brazil	1.964	/
24	Slovenia	1.484	/

Women

	Member Association	Points	+/-
1	Switzerland	84.651	/
2	Canada	77.442	/
3	Sweden	61.977	+1
4	Korea	45.256	-1
5	Japan	31.442	/
6	China	29.735	+5
7	Scotland	28.360	-1
8	Italy	27.674	+1
9	United States	26.279	+1
10	Norway	26.140	-3
11	Denmark	25.767	-3
12	Türkiye	20.163	/
13	Germany	11.244	/
14	Czechia	9.140	+1
15	Lithuania	8.814	+3
16	Australia	8.670	+8
17	Estonia	8.047	-3
18	New Zealand	7.733	-1
19	Hungary	7.593	-3
20	Mexico	6.595	+8
21	Chinese Taipei	5.526	+4
22	Latvia	5.293	-3
23	England	4.716	-1
24	Slovenia	4.312	-4
25	Austria	4.265	-4

Mixed Doubles

	Member Association	Points	+/-
1	Sweden	72.533	+3
2	Italy	57.067	/
3	Scotland	49.280	-2
4	Australia	49.213	+5
5	Canada	46.933	+2
6	United States	45.120	/
7	Estonia	40.720	-2
8	Norway	38.933	-5
9	Switzerland	31.013	-1
10	Japan	29.040	/
11	Korea	21.120	+1
12	Czechia	17.040	+1
13	China	13.512	+4
14	Netherlands	11.973	+7
15	Germany	11.733	-4
16	New Zealand	11.653	-1
17	Denmark	11.640	-3
18	Finland	9.840	-2
19	Türkiye	8.213	-1
20	Hungary	7.733	-1
21	Spain	6.219	-1
22	Latvia	5.992	/
23	France	5.872	+8
24	Austria	5.163	/
25	Poland	3.707	+3

Men

	Member Association	Points	+/-
1	Canada	81.105	+1
2	Scotland	75.000	-1
3	Sweden	59.349	/
4	Switzerland	52.372	/
5	United States	35.360	+1
6	Italy	34.883	-1
7	Germany	29.209	/
8	Norway	28.360	/
9	China	25.084	/
10	Japan	23.977	/
11	Czechia	21.488	/
12	Korea	18.860	/
13	Netherlands	11.209	/
14	New Zealand	9.477	+5
15	Austria	9.330	+2
16	Poland	8.398	+17
17	Denmark	8.312	-2
18	Australia	7.733	+4
19	Philippines	7.205	+19
20	Türkiye	6.430	-6
21	Chinese Taipei	5.791	/
22	England	5.584	-2
23	Spain	5.581	-5
24	Finland	5.116	-8
25	Belgium	4.933	-2

Event calendar

Name	Location	Start Date	End Date
15th World Curling Congress	Bratislava	9/3/2026	9/6/2026
World Mixed Doubles Qualification Event 2026	Colorado, United States	10/2/2026	10/9/2026
World Mixed Curling Championship 2026	TBD	TBD	TBD
Le Gruyère European Curling Championships	Ostrava, Czechia	10/27/2026	11/1/2026
World Championships Qualifier Men 2026	Aberdeen, Scotland	11/8/2026	11/13/2026
World Championships Quallifier Women 2026	Össtersund, Sweden	11/21/2026	11/26/2026
World Wheelchair-B Curling Championship 2026	Lohja, Finland	11/22/2026	11/30/2026
World Junior-B Curling Championships 2026	Lohja, Finland	12/8/2026	12/21/2026
World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2027	Lohja, Finland	1/4/2027	1/10/2027
FISU Winter University Games 2027	Changchun, China	1/15/2027	1/25/2027
World Junior Curling Championships 2027	Aberdeen, Scotland	2/6/2027	2/14/2027
World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2027	Lohja, Finland	2/20/2027	2/27/2027
World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Championship 2027	Lohja, Finland	3/1/2027	3/8/2027
LGT World Women's Curling Championship 2027	TBD	3/13/2027	3/21/2027
BKT World Men's Curling Championship 2027	Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada	3/27/2027	4/4/2027
World Mixed Doubles Qualification Event 2027	Winnipeg, Canada	4/10/2027	4/17/2027
World Senior Curling Championships 2027	TBD	4/29/2027	5/1/2027
World Championship Pre Qualifiers 2027	TBD	5/1/2027	5/8/2027
World Junior Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2027	TBD	5/4/2027	5/10/2027

Thank you!
Volunteers

In what has been arguably World Curling's busiest year yet, many people have helped World Curling's Board and staff to deliver competitions, clinics, programmes, and other activities around the world.

This page lists many of those who have given their time and expertise in this past season.

With apologies to anyone who may be accidentally left out, World Curling offers sincere thanks for doing so.

The volunteers listed on this page have all offered their service to roles appointed directly by World Curling. However, in addition, each and every event also depends on the volunteer efforts of many, many individuals recruited directly by local organising committees.

Although their names cannot be listed here, World Curling says an equally sincere 'thank you' to all these people for the essential contributions they have made ... thank you!

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