



2024-2025

Championship Qualifying Procedures

6.12.24 (Original)

10.3.24 (Updated—See History)

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Notice: USA Curling Championship Qualification Procedures may be changed, in whole or in part, prior to or during a playdown or qualification event process. This includes championship berth allotments for Recognized Regional Associations (RRAs) and specific teams, as granted in these rules. RRAs and teams are not guaranteed a berth beyond a current year USA Curling Championship. The procedures for one year of championships will not be construed to give or imply any right for future championships. USA Curling policy is to promulgate its procedures in advance of the competition affected by those rules. Any mistakes, omissions, or ambiguity may be subject to clarification by USA Curling.

History

Date	Revised Section	Summary
2024-06-06 (original release date)	NA	<p>Notable changes from 2023-24:</p> <p>Mixed Fours now open to both US Citizens and Residents (see Residency requirements).</p> <p>Senior Men's/Women's now open to both US Citizens and Residents (see Residency requirements).</p> <p>Language revised in 5-and-Under Nationals qualification to add clarity.</p>
2024-06-12	Section II – Arena Nationals Men's and Women's	Adds announced Qualifying Bonspiel details and clarifies fill policy language.
2024-06-28	Section II – Five-and-Under Nationals eligibility.	Age requirement change. Now must be at least 21 years of age by time of competing in a qualifying event. Previously, had to be 21 years of age by June 30 th of the year preceding the National Championship.
2024-06-28	Section II – Mixed Fours Nationals.	Since World Curling has canceled the 2025 World Mixed Fours Championship, the winner of the 2025 Mixed Fours Nationals will not advance to World play. If Mixed Fours Worlds returns in 2026, the winner of the 2026 Mixed Fours Nationals will represent the United States at that championship.
2024-08-09	Section 3 (c) – U21 Junior Nationals	Addition of CurlVegas Junior Bonspiel
2024-10-03	Section 2 – U21 Junior Nationals	Revised for clarity. June 30 th preceding “the event” referred to the 2026 World Junior Championships, not the 2025 Junior Nationals. The teams that win the 2025 Junior Nationals will represent the United States at the World Junior Championships the following season and must be eligible to compete in that event to compete at the USA Curling Junior Nationals.
2024-10-03	Section 2 – U21 Junior Mixed Doubles Nationals	Revised for clarity. June 30 th preceding “the event” refers to the 2025 World Junior Mixed Doubles Championship, scheduled for May of 2025. The team that wins the Junior Mixed Doubles Nationals will represent the United States at the Junior World Mixed Doubles Championship in May of 2025, and must be eligible to compete in that event to play at the 2024 Junior Mixed Doubles Nationals.

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Section I—Championships—General Rules and Guidelines

1. Overview

The policies stated in this section apply to all USA Curling Championships, unless otherwise noted. Specific Event Procedures Documents (EPDs) provided by the Chief Umpire of each championship override policies in this section. For any national championship, the World Curling Rules of Curling apply.

For the Men's and Women's National Championships, Mixed Doubles National Championships, the Wheelchair Mixed Doubles National Championships, and the Junior National Championships, all players who advance to the world event are required to sign and abide by the USA Curling National Team Athlete Agreement.

2. General Eligibility

Playdown or qualifier event eligibility criteria varies by championship. Refer to specific event eligibility in Section II. Every team member, including fifth players (alternates) AND coaches must have completed online registration before participating in a championship. All players must also have a valid USA Curling Competitor or Coach membership. Team members can be added through online registration up to 24 hours prior to the start of the event. If applicable, acceptable proof of citizenship must also be provided.

3. Coaches

Coaches must be at least 21 years of age and registered on [MyUSACurling](#). Coaches must be SafeSport-certified, review the [MAAPPs](#) in advance, and have a valid Background Screening.

Non-registered players or those who knowingly provide false information are subject to disqualification. If registration information is intentionally falsified and an individual is found to be ineligible because of it, the player will not be allowed to compete, entry fees will not be refunded, and the entire team can be declared ineligible to compete due to a lack of personnel.

- a. **Membership.** Anyone who registers for a USA Curling Championship event or regional playdown leading to a national championship must have a USA Curling Competitor membership. Anyone who registers for the Club National Championships or the Arena Nationals Championships must also be a dues-paying, league-playing member of a USA Curling Member Club. Updates can be made by athletes to their [MyUSACurling](#) profile as necessary.
- b. **Citizenship.** Proof of citizenship is required, at time of registration for any qualifying event, for: Junior Nationals, Mixed Doubles Nationals, Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Nationals, Men's Nationals, Women's Nationals, Olympic Team Trials, World University Games, and Youth Olympics.
- c. **Residency Eligibility.** Residency is required for all other events.
- d. **Residency Definition.** To meet the residency requirement, athletes must be a resident of the United States for a period of at least two consecutive years immediately prior to the start of the competition.
- e. **Level of Competition.** No player may register on more than one team competing at the same level of play leading to the same national championship. In region-based championships, a

full team of eligible players must register before being allowed to represent an RRA in a national championship.

4. Entry Process, Deadlines, and Fees

Teams enter the playdown process through online registration on [MyUSACurling](#). All registrations and payments are made online. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are complete by the entry deadline date. Incomplete entries will not be accepted. Teams are encouraged to enter at least two weeks prior to the deadline date to avoid disqualification due to incomplete entries. It is important to keep contact information current on your [MyUSACurling](#) profile. Please note: *parents or Legal Guardians of Minors are responsible for registering their children.*

Online registration must be completed by 11:59 p.m., Central Time, on the event registration deadline date. If a team has a coach, the coach must also register online and have an updated profile on [MyUSACurling](#).

5. Alcohol Consumption Policy

Consumption of alcohol by players under 21 is prohibited from the time of departure from the city of home/school residence, through the competition, and until the return to the city of home/school residence, including, without limitation, any banquet or post championship/event celebration.

Older players on a team with younger players who cannot drink alcohol may not encourage drinking by the underage members of their team. Sanctions for violation of this policy are as set forth within the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is Policy 21-13 in [USA Curling Policies and Procedures](#).

6. USA Curling Recommended Format Policy

When the number of teams is unknown (i.e., Open entry events) or the format is not specifically stated, the following are recommended:

- a. Two teams – Best three out of five games
 - b. Three or four teams – Double Round-Robin
 - c. Five to ten teams – Single Round-Robin
 - d. 11 teams or more - Knockout format or pool play
- Alternative formats may be considered when circumstances warrant.

7. Personnel

- a. Registered Players - Upon entering a playdown or national championship of any four-person team event, a team MUST register a minimum of four and maximum of five players to complete registration. A team may start, play, and/or end a competition with three of their registered four or five players. *There is no option for a player to resign from a team, or to be replaced.* In extenuating circumstances, an appeal to replace a player can be emailed to competitions@usacurling.org.
- b. Fifth Players - Teams are encouraged to register only four players prior to the entry deadline. Teams may then add a fifth player at any point in the playdown process up until the day prior to the start of the National Championship. (Please note there are no fifth players in Mixed Fours Nationals or playdown events.) When adding a fifth player, that player:
 - i. Must meet all general eligibility requirements

- ii. Must have completed online registration and the USA Curling Event Waiver (included in the online registration process) prior to competing.
- iii. Must prove U.S. citizenship when applicable; and
- iv. In any competition where a team represents a Recognized Regional Association (RRA), the added fifth player must have a primary affiliation with a club in that RRA, unless the RRA represented would not be different had the added fifth player registered prior to the registration deadline. For Club Nationals, the fifth player must meet the same eligibility requirements (league-playing, dues-paying member of a USA Curling Member Club) as the other four players. Any player from a team that has been eliminated from competition is eligible to become another team's registered fifth player only at a subsequent level of play.

Caution: After the entry deadline, teammate additions are allowed (resulting in up to 5 teammates), however, existing teammates may not be removed/replaced, except at the World Championships and U.S. Olympic Team Trials as noted below. In extenuating circumstances, an appeal to replace a player can be emailed to competitions@usacurling.org.

- c. Coaches & Team Officials - Must be at least 21 years of age. All coaches and team officials must have an updated profile on MyUSACurling with SafeSport requirements, have a valid USA Curling Coach membership, an Event Waiver valid at the time of the event, must review MAAPPs and have an updated Background Screening. USA Curling coaches are required for teams at USA Curling U21 and U18 events. Legal Guardian consent forms are required in all cases that consent is given to a supervising adult or coach when a legal parent or guardian is not present or accompanying a minor athlete. Consent forms are to be carried by all designated coaches and supervising adults.
- d. Regional Playdowns and Request for Rulings (RFRs)- For any championship in which teams represent a Recognized Regional Association (RRA), the RRA will determine if a team is eligible to compete for their regional championship. If the majority of players belong to a club within the RRA, they are required to play in the championship of that RRA in order to advance to the national championship. If two players belong to clubs in one RRA and two players belong to clubs in a different RRA, the team should file a Request for Ruling (RFR) with the RRA they want to represent.
 - i. Individuals who have any confusion or ambiguity regarding their region of residence should consult their RRA and USA Curling.

Any questions regarding the interpretation of these rules should be sent to:
competitions@usacurling.org.

8. Uniforms

Rules for uniforms vary by championship. At national championships that require uniforms, each team member shall wear identical uniforms for all games, including pants and hats, if worn. Each garment (jacket, sweater, shirt, or vest) shall have the player's surname in 2-inch letters across the upper back of the playing garment. All coaches and team officials are required to wear a matching team jacket to sit on the coaching bench. Jeans are not acceptable within the field of play or coach's bench. When two players have the same surname, the first letter of their given name shall be added

to the player's name on the garment. If the first letter is also the same either another initial should be added, or the full or abbreviated given names shown. A player or coach with an improper uniform shall be denied access to the field of play and the coaching bench.

Uniforms are strongly encouraged at all levels of play but are not mandatory at certain qualifying events and national championships. Uniforms are mandatory at the following national championships: Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Wheelchair Mixed Doubles, U21 Junior Men's, U21 Junior Women's, U21 Mixed Doubles. They are also required at Olympic Team Trials.

9. [Advertising/Cresting](#)

Advertising shall be permitted on a player's on-ice uniform and equipment as follows:

Shall consist of embroidery, patches, screen printing, sublimation, or other design integration or adhesion (particularly in the case of equipment) in the exact same positions for each team member. The advertising/cresting must be neatly attached or incorporated into the uniform or on the equipment and be professional in appearance.

Advertising/crests on team uniforms are generally allowed. To streamline the review process and avoid on-site delays, teams must submit advertising/cresting for approval to USA Curling, no later than two weeks prior to the start of the event, at [USA Curling Logo Submission](#).

If the pre-event notification and review process is not followed, or any advertising/crests are added to uniforms after this review, players are advised that the Chief Umpire of the event may direct any team or player to remove any advertising deemed objectionable by her/him or other USA Curling representatives before being allowed on the ice. Any appeal of the Chief Umpire's ruling to ban a crest will be reviewed by USA Curling.

Advertising/sponsor crests may be placed on team uniforms in any locations other than those listed below:

- a. The upper right chest of the jacket or jersey below*
- b. On the seat or crotch area of a competitor's pants, tights or skirt

*USA Curling reserves the right to request that teams wear certain USA Curling sponsor crests while competing at USA Curling National Championships. If USA Curling does not notify teams of a National Championships cresting sponsor 30 days prior to the event, teams may leverage the upper right chest location for their own cresting.

Advertising/sponsor crests may not be placed, worn, or otherwise applied to a player's skin or hair. Players may wear hats, scarves or other headgear with advertising/sponsor crests while competing. If more than one player on a team is wearing such an item, the items must be matching (exactly the same).

Separate advertising/sponsor cresting rules apply for National Team Athletes, all World Championship events, and other international events in which USA Curling may enter a team or teams.

All USA Curling Advertising/Sponsor cresting rules are subject to review and could change at any time, with ample notice to be given to competitors in USA Curling events.

10. Media

By entering the National Championships at any level of play, athletes and their coaches waive their rights to royalties from broadcast or print media. They also permit editorial use of their image and description by the media. Athletes and coaches are advised that USA Curling National Championships are commercial properties owned exclusively by USA Curling.

11. Drug Testing

By entering any competition, all players acknowledge that they are subject to testing for substances banned by USA Curling, the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) substance abuse program, in accordance with the USOPC/USADA testing standards and procedures, and that by failing such a test, or by refusing to be tested, the player will be subject to disqualification. (The WCF Anti-Doping rules and procedures, which meet the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Agency, are applicable, and published in the WCF Anti-Doping Pamphlet.)

It is the responsibility of each athlete to be aware of banned substances and whether he/she must file a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), and to follow through with all requirements in this regard. For information regarding banned substances go to the USADA website (www.usantidoping.org). You can obtain information from WADA at their website (www.wada-ama.org).

12. Smoking

Smoking is not allowed at any USA Curling event venue except in designated areas. Smoking, including e-smoking devices, and tobacco of any kind are never allowed within the confines of the competition area.

13. Supervision

Any player under 18 years of age participating in any USA Curling championship events must be supervised by an appropriate adult over the age of 21 who has received legal Guardian Consent. Legal Guardian consent forms are required in all cases that consent is given to a supervising adult or coach when a legal parent or guardian is not present or accompanying a minor athlete. Consent forms are to be carried by all designated coaches and supervising adults.

At the team meeting, the supervising adult must be in attendance and has Consent Forms for each athlete under 18 years of age. A substitute supervising adult may attend due to illness, emergency, etc., provided they are over 21 years of age and are willing to sign and accept responsibility for the U18 competitor and have completed the coaching requirements.

14. Refund/Withdrawal Policy

Teams and individuals that withdraw from events they registered to compete in will not receive a refund. Certain teams may qualify for an exception under the following conditions:

- a. Event was cancelled due to a lack of entered teams (and team elects not to travel to a proximate region to compete)
- b. Online registration system errors or registration overpayments
- c. Certain hardship exceptions (to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis). Refund exceptions will be made for athletes who signed up for more than one USA Curling championship

qualifier and advance to USA Curling championship events with scheduling that prevents their attendance at the other USA Curling championship event. The inability to get another day off from work, or to find an alternate (fifth) player, will not be considered a hardship and an exception will not be granted.

All refunds will have online processing fees deducted. Individuals declared by USA Curling as eligible for a refund and withdrawal from a championship event must submit a written request, including complete contact information, specific event title and region (if applicable), and amount of the entry fee to the Aaron Kaylor, Events Director at aaron.kaylor@usacurling.org.

SECTION II—Championship Qualifying Procedures

ARENA NATIONAL MEN’S & WOMEN’S CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The Arena National Championships are a region-based championship that determines the top teams that play regularly on prepped skating ice in an arena setting. An arena club is defined as a club that is a member in good standing of USA Curling and conducts all its on-ice activities by renting ice from a facility that is not solely or predominantly used for curling.
2. **Event Eligibility.** U.S. citizenship or residency is required. In addition to the USA Curling membership requirements in Section I, all team members must be dues-paying, league-playing members of a USA Curling Member Club. Team members can be from different Member Clubs, as long as all belong to Member Clubs from within the same Recognized Regional Association (RRA). To be eligible, competitors cannot curl in more than ten league games at any dedicated ice clubs in the calendar year of the championship. Curling in bonspiels or practicing at dedicated ice clubs does not affect event eligibility. Delivery of the stone with a stick device will be allowed. Wheelchair curlers are allowed to compete but must adhere to the USA Curling Wheelchair Curling rules.
3. **Playdowns.** Selecting team representatives will be at the discretion of each recognized regional association. If requested, USA Curling may act in an advisory role to assist in determining a fair process. Each RRA must declare their intent to send teams to the 2024 Arena National Championships by July 12, 2024. If a region fails to declare its intent to send a team, that region will lose its Arena Nationals berth.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** Twelve men’s and twelve women’s teams will advance to the Arena Nationals as follows:
 - a. One team from each of the following: Alaska, At-Large or GNCC, Dakota Territory, Great Lakes (GLCA), Mid-America (MACA), Midwest, Minnesota, Mountain Pacific (MOPAC), Pacific Northwest (PNWCA), Wisconsin. (If there is an At-Large playdown, it will be run by USA Curling.)
 - b. The previous year’s Men’s and Women’s Arena Nationals champions will also receive berths.
 - c. One team per gender from the [2024 Arena Nationals Qualifier Bonspiel](#), hosted by the [LaCrosse Curling Club](#) from September 6-8, 2024, in Onalaska, WI. To be eligible to compete in the Qualifier Bonspiel, team members must belong to a USA Curling Member Arena Club and meet all other event eligibility requirements (see #2 above). Winners will advance to the 2024 Arena Nationals. In the event that a winning team of the Qualifier Bonspiel declines their berth in the Arena Nationals, the runner-up will be offered the berth. If the runner-up also declines, the Fill Policy outlined below will be used to award the berth.
 - d. The RRA with the greatest number of entries per gender will receive an additional berth. In the event there are two regions with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the region with the highest finish in the previous Arena Nationals will receive the berth. If a tie still remains, a coin flip will determine which region receives the additional berth.
 - e. If the host club is not a dedicated ice facility, it will receive berths in Men’s and Women’s Arena Nationals. Should a team from the host club win the regional playdown, that team will receive the regional berth and the host club is still entitled to an additional host club berth.

- f. The Fill Policy below will be used for any remaining berths, including any that may occur if both the winners and runners-up of the 2024 Qualifier Bonspiel decline the berth.

*Fill Policy – In the event that one or more RRAs are unable to field a team, or the qualifier bonspiel berth(s) are unfilled, the vacant berth(s) will be filled to reach a total of twelve teams, beginning with the region that has the most regional playdown entries and does not already have an additional berth, and proceeding with the other regions in order of number of entries. In the event there are two regions with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the region with the highest finish in the previous Arena Nationals will receive the berth.

5. **Team Selection.** RRAs are responsible for determining the fairest possible selection or playdown process.
6. **Championship Format.** The championship will be a split round-robin event, with two divisions per gender of six teams each. Peer seeding will be used to rank teams in advance of play. The Round-Robins may be set up in a way that allows marquee matches in prime viewing time, as long as the drawmaster determines that the Round-Robin schedule remains fair in terms of time of play and sheet repetition. The top two teams from each division advance to the semifinals (A1 v. B2, B1 v. A2). The winners of the semifinals play in the gold medal game, while the losers of the semifinals play in the bronze medal game. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the [World Curling Rules of Curling](#). All games will be eight ends.

CLUB NATIONAL MEN'S & WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The USA Curling Club National Championships are a region-based, geographic championship that determines the best club-based team. Teams advance through a regional playdown process. Club National Champions do not advance to world play.
2. **Event Eligibility.** U.S. citizenship or residency is required. In addition to the USA Curling membership requirements in Section I, all team members must be dues-paying, league-playing members of the same USA Curling member club. Each entrant must also comply with the rulings or requirements of their region.
3. **Playdown.** There is no formal playdown window. RRAs may choose their own entry deadline. USA Curling encourages all RRAs to hold their playdowns at least five weeks in advance of the Club Nationals Championship and avoid conflicts with other competition dates as much as possible.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** Twelve men's and twelve women's teams will advance to the Club Nationals as follows:
 - a. One team from each of the following: Alaska, At-Large or GNCC, Dakota Territory, Great Lakes (GLCA), Mid-America (MACA), Midwest, Minnesota, Mountain Pacific (MOPAC), Pacific Northwest (PNWCA), Wisconsin. (If there is an At-Large playdown, it will be run by USA Curling.)
 - b. The RRA with the greatest number of entries per gender will receive an additional berth. In the event there are two regions with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous Club Nationals will receive the berth.
 - c. The host club will receive berths in Men's and Women's Club Nationals. Should a team from the host club win the regional playdown, that team will receive the regional berth and the host club is still entitled to an additional host club berth.

*Fill Policy – In the event that one or more regions or the host club are unable to field a team, the vacant slot(s) will be filled to a total of twelve teams per gender, beginning with the RRA that has the most playdown entries and does not already have an additional berth, and proceeding with the other RRAs in order of number of entries. In the event there are two RRAs with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If a tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous Club Nationals will receive the berth. If a tie still remains, a coin flip will determine which region receives the additional berth.

**An RRA is not required to have more than one team registered for a playdown in order to secure its berth in the year of the Club Nationals championship.

5. **Playdowns.** Selecting team representatives will be at the discretion of each Recognized Regional Association (RRA). If requested, USA Curling may act in an advisory role to assist in determining a fair process. RRAs must declare their intent to send teams to the 2025 Club National Championships by January 15, 2025. If an RRA fails to declare its intent to send a team, it will lose its berth in the 2025 Club Nationals.

6. **Championship Format.** The championship will be a split round-robin event, with two divisions per gender of six teams each. Peer seeding will be used to rank teams in advance of play. The Round-Robins may be set up in a way that allows marquee matches in prime viewing time, as long as the draw-master determines that the Round-Robin schedule remains fair in terms of time of play and sheet repetition. The top two teams from each division advance to the semifinals (A1 v. B2, B1 v. A2). The winners of the semifinals play in the gold medal game, while the losers of the semifinals play in the bronze medal game. Tiebreakers will be determined according to [World Curling Rules of Curling](#). All games will be eight ends.

FIVE-AND-UNDER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. **Overview.** The Five-and-Under National Championship determines our top team that is comprised of adult players with five seasons or less of curling experience. Teams qualify for the Five-and-Under Nationals through Five-and-Under Qualifier Bonspiels that are recognized and announced by USA Curling as national qualifier events. The Five-and-Under Nationals champion does not advance to world play.
2. **Event Eligibility.** U.S. citizenship or residency is required. In addition to the USA Curling membership requirements in Section I, all team members must be dues-paying members of USA Curling. Competitors must be 21 years of age prior to competing in any Five-and-Under Nationals Qualifier. Delivery of the stone with a stick device is permitted, but players cannot switch to a stick device during a game.
 - a. Competitors cannot have more than a total of five seasons of curling experience. A season of curling experience is defined as 10 or more games played between July 1 – June 30. Seasons where a player curled fewer than 10 games do not count against the total. Convenors at national qualifying event bonspiels will ensure that players are acting in good faith when claiming to be a competitor with five seasons or less of curling experience. The 2020-2021 (COVID) season does not count as a season of curling experience for any participant.

First Season of Curling	Final 5U Championship of Eligibility (if had ten games in all years)
2019-2020	2025
2020-2021	2026
2021-2022	2027
2022-2023	2027
2023-2024	2028
2024-2025	2029
<i>A season is defined as July 1 – June 30.</i>	
<i>*2026-2027 is the first season not affected by the COVID season.</i>	

**Chart assumes continuous seasons of curling experience*

- b. Teams may be comprised of players of any gender.
 - c. Teams that compete at Nationals must have Three of Four or Three of Five of the team members that played in the Qualifier Bonspiel.
 - d. For the 2024-2025 season only, players who began curling at any point during the 2019 calendar year, and curled in each consecutive year, are eligible for the 2025 championship.
3. USA Curling reserves the right to review and make a final decision on an individual's eligibility for this event.
4. **Event and Qualifying Process.** 24 teams will advance to the Five-and-Under Nationals as follows:
 - a. The winners of each of the 23 USA Curling-Sanctioned Qualifier Bonspiels will earn a berth in the Five-and-Under Nationals. (USA Curling reserves the right to remove qualifier spiels due

to limited entries, to add qualifier spiels to replace events that are not held, or to make changes to the announced dates of each qualifier spiel.)

5. The host club will receive a berth in the Five-and-Under Nationals.

*Fill Policy - If additional berths become available (teams declined, less than 23 Qualifying Bonspiels held, teams winning more than one Qualifying Bonspiel, etc.), vacant berths will be filled to a total of 24 teams, beginning with the runner-up team at the Qualifying Bonspiel with the most entries, and proceeding with the other Qualifying Bonspiels in order of number of entries. Ties in the number of entries between two Qualifying Bonspiels will be broken by comparing the number of entries in the previous season. If the tie remains, the records of the team that earned their berth at the previous Five-and-Under Nationals through each qualifying bonspiel will be used to break it. If the tie is still not broken, a coin flip will determine the berth.

Championship Format. The championship will be a split round-robin event, with four divisions of six teams each. Teams will be peer-seeded, but pools will also be balanced so each has teams from different parts of the country.

The top two teams from each division advance to the quarterfinals. (A1 v. B2, B1 v. A2, C1 v. D2, D1 v. C2). Winners of quarter-final games advance to the semi-finals—losers are eliminated. The winners of each semi-final play in the gold medal game. The losers of each semi-final play in the bronze medal game. Tiebreakers will be determined according to [World Curling Rules of Curling](#). All games will be eight ends.

MIXED DOUBLES TRIALS/NATIONALS

1. **Overview.** In 2025, the Mixed Doubles National Championship will serve as the Olympic Team Trials in 2025. The 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/National Championship serves as the selection event for the 2025 World Mixed Doubles Championship and the 2026 Olympics or Olympic Qualifying Event. Rules for Mixed Doubles play are in the [World Curling Rules of Curling](#).
2. **Event Eligibility.** U.S. citizenship is required on or before the close of registration. Players need not be residents of the United States. Players must have a valid USA Curling Competitor membership (See Section I). Event eligibility requirements are listed within Section I.
3. **Playdown.** There is no formal playdown window.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** The 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/National Championship will have a ten (10) team field. To be eligible to earn a berth through qualifying events in 2024, players must have a Competitor Membership that is valid at the time of the 2025 Trials/National Championship.

See Section I for entry process information or visit usacurling.org.

Berths are awarded to teams in the 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/National Championship as follows:

- Top three (3) finishers from the 2024 Mixed Doubles Nationals: Team Hamilton/Hamilton, Team Thiesse/Dropkin, Team Geving/Shuster.
- Top (4) finishers at the Mixed Doubles Pre- Trials. August 8-11, 2024. Chaska Curling Center, Chaska, MN.
- Top finisher (1) of U.S. teams not already qualified at the Colorado Cup
- Top finisher (1) of U.S. teams not already qualified at the Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier
- Highest ranking team (1), not already qualified, as of January 14, 2025, on the World Curling Year-to-Date Mixed Doubles Team Rankings.

Mixed Doubles Qualifying Events

Mixed Doubles Pre-Trials. August 9-11, 2024, Chaska Curling Center, Chaska, MN. Eligibility for the Mixed Doubles Pre-Trials is as follows:

- Team has at least one athlete ranked in the Top 50 of the M/W World Curling World Team Rankings by May 1st, 2024.
OR
 - Team is ranked in the Top 75 of the World Curling MD Team Rankings by May 1st, 2024 (Year-to-Date).
OR
 - Team finished in the top half plus ties at the 2024 Mixed Doubles Nationals.
- Registration for the Mixed Doubles Pre-Trials closes May 24th, 2024.

Colorado Cup. September 26-29, 2024, Rock Creek Curling and Denver Curling Club.

Event is open to any U.S. team, regardless of ranking or Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals status, and international teams. The highest finisher among U.S. teams not already qualified will earn a berth in the 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/National Championship. Format will be determined based on number of entries.

Registration for the Colorado Cup closes September 1, 2024.

Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier. November 15-17, 2024, Curl Mesabi, Eveleth, MN.

Event is open to all U.S. teams not already qualified for the Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals. There will be no international teams in the field. Format will be determined based on number of entries. The team that wins this event will earn a berth in the 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals.

Registration for the Last Chance Olympic Trials Qualifier closes September 30, 2024.

*Fill Policy: If a team qualifies through more than one of these criteria (i.e., has earned two or more berths in the 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals), or if a team declines their berth in the 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals, that berth will be awarded to the next highest-ranked team, not already qualified, from the World Curling Mixed Doubles Team Rankings, as of January 14, 2025.

**If the Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals is canceled, the team that won the Mixed Doubles National Championship in the previous season will represent the United States at the World Championship. A different process for determining the 2026 Olympic team representative will be determined at an appropriate time.

5. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Mixed Doubles Trials/Nationals format will be a full Round-Robin. The top four teams in Round-Robin play will advance to a Page Playoff. The championship will be a Best-of-Three format between the two remaining teams. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the World Curling Rules of Curling. All games will be eight ends.
6. **International Representation.** The winning team will be invited to represent the United States at the 2025 World Mixed Doubles Championship, the Olympic Qualification Event (if necessary), and the 2026 Winter Olympic Games. Upon accepting the invitation, the athletes and team coach will be under the direction of the Sporting Director and National Team Staff through to the

completion of the 2026 Olympic Games. The Sporting Director will appoint a National Coach and support staff to assist the team in preparation for, and at, the World Mixed Doubles Championship and Olympic Games.

While the intent is to keep teams and coaches intact, USA Curling may modify teams if there is a code of conduct violation, the athlete is not maintaining necessary training, or the athlete is ill or injured and deemed unable to compete by a medical professional.

7. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for the Olympic Games, Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Juniors, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, USA Curling reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

MIXED FOURS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. **Overview.** The Mixed Fours National Championship is a region-based, geographic championship that determines the best Mixed Fours team. Teams advance through a regional playdown process. In most years, the winning team of the Mixed Fours National Championship advances to the World Mixed Championship in the following year but World Curling has cancelled the 2025 World Mixed Championship. This means the winners of the 2025 Mixed Fours National Championship will not advance to World play.
2. **Event Eligibility.** Teams are made up of 4 players: 2 men and 2 women. No alternates are permitted. U.S. citizenship or residency is required (see Section I). Players must have a valid USA Curling Competitor Membership. In addition to the requirements in Section I, teams must have at least two players who reside in the region where the team will compete in playdowns.
3. **Playdown.** There is no formal playdown window. Recognized Regional Associations (RRAs) may choose their own entry deadline. USA Curling encourages RRAs to hold their playdowns at least five weeks in advance of the Mixed Fours National Championship and should avoid conflicts with other competition dates as much as possible.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** Twelve teams will advance to the Mixed Fours Nationals as follows:
 - a. One team from each of the following: Alaska, At-Large/GNCC, Dakota Territory, Great Lakes (GLCA), Mid-America (MACA), Midwest, Minnesota, Mountain Pacific (MOPAC), Pacific Northwest (PNWCA), Wisconsin. (If there is an At-Large playdown, it will be run by USA Curling.)
 - b. The RRA with the greatest number of entries per gender will receive an additional berth. In the event there are two RRAs with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous Club Nationals will receive the berth.
 - c. The host club will receive a berth in Mixed Fours Nationals. Should a team from the host club win the regional playdown, that team will receive the regional berth and the host club is still entitled to an additional host club berth.

*Fill Policy – In the event that one or more RRAs or the host club are unable to field a team, the vacant berth(s) will be filled to a total of twelve teams, beginning with the RRA that has the most playdown entries and does not already have an additional berth, and proceeding with the other RRAs in order of number of entries. In the event there are two RRAs with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If a tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous Mixed Fours Nationals will receive the berth. If a tie still remains, a coin flip will determine which region receives the additional berth.

**RRAs are not required to have more than one team registered for a playdown in order to secure their berth in the 2025 Mixed Fours Nationals.
5. **Regional Competition Advancement.** Each RRA is responsible for determining its representatives to the Mixed Fours National Championship. USA Curling encourages RRAs to use the USA Curling

format formula described in Section I.

6. **Championship Format.** The championship will be a split round-robin event, with two divisions of six teams each. Peer seeding will be used to rank teams in advance of play. The Round-Robins may be set up in a way that allows marquee matches in prime viewing time, as long as the drawmaster determines that the Round-Robin schedule remains fair in terms of time of play and sheet repetition. The top two teams from each division advance to the semifinals (A1 v. B2, B1 v. A2). The winners of the semifinals play in the gold medal game, while the losers of the semifinals play in the bronze medal game. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the World Curling Rules of Curling. All games will be eight ends.
7. **International Representation.** The winning team will be invited to represent the United States at the World Mixed Championship. USA Curling support will include uniforms, travel insurance, pins, trading cards, and administrative assistance.

SENIOR MEN'S & SENIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The Senior Men's & Senior Women's National Championships determine the top teams comprised of players who are at least 50 years of age. Event dates and format for both the Senior Men's and Senior Women's Nationals are subject to change each year, depending on the number of entries submitted.
2. **Event Eligibility.** A player must be not less than 50 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June of the year immediately preceding the year in which the championship is to take place. U.S. citizenship or residency is required (see Section I). Players must have a USA Curling Competitor Membership.
3. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** This is an open entry championship. Teams are required to register for the Senior Men's/Senior Women's National Championships by the entry deadline. See Section I for entry process information. There are no regional or state playdowns.
4. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Senior Men's and Senior Women's Nationals format will be determined and announced after registration for the event closes. Start and finish dates of the event are subject to change, depending on the number of entries (accordion in nature). It is recommended that travel arrangements not be made until the number of registered teams has been determined. The event is peer-seeded. All games will be eight ends.
5. **International Representation.** Winning teams will be invited to represent the United States at the World Senior Men's/World Senior Women's Championships. USA Curling support will include uniforms, travel insurance, pins, trading cards and administrative assistance.

A fifth player may be selected to join the team at the World Senior Curling Championships at any time after the UA Curling Senior National Championships.

6. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Juniors, Seniors, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, USA Curling reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

U18 BOYS and U18 GIRLS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The USA Curling U18 Boys and U18 Girls National Championships are region-based, national championships that determine our top teams under 18 years of age. U18 National Champions do not advance to world play.
2. **Event Eligibility.** To be eligible to play in the U18 National Championships and qualifying events, athletes must be less than 18 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June of the year immediately preceding the year in which the national championship is to take place. U.S. citizenship or residency is required (see Section I). Players must have a USA Curling Competitor Membership.
3. **Playdown.** There is no formal playdown window. Recognized Regional Associations (RRAs) may choose their own entry deadline. USA Curling encourages RRAs to hold their playdowns at least five weeks in advance of the U18 Nationals and avoid conflicts with other competition dates as much as possible.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** Twelve (12) Boys and twelve (12) Girls teams will advance to the U18 Nationals as follows:
 - a. One (1) team from each of the following: Alaska, At-Large or GNCC, Dakota Territory, Great Lakes (GLCA), Mid-America (MACA), Midwest, Minnesota, Mountain Pacific (MOPAC), Pacific Northwest (PNWCA), Wisconsin. (If there is an At-Large playdown, it will be run by USA Curling.)
 - b. The RRA with the greatest number of entries per gender will receive an additional berth. In the event there are two regions with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous U18 Nationals will receive the berth.
 1. The host club will receive berths in U18 Boys and U18 Girls Nationals. Should a team from the host club win the regional playdown, that team will receive the regional berth and the host club is still entitled to an additional host club berth.

*Fill Policy – In the event that one or more RRAs or the host club are unable to field a team, or the defending champions are not eligible, the vacant berth(s) will be filled to a total of twelve teams per gender, beginning with the RRA that has the most playdown entries, and proceeding with the other RRAs in order of number of entries. In the event there are two RRAs with the same number of entries, the number of entries in the previous season will be used to break the tie. If the tie remains, the RRA with the highest finish in the previous U18 Nationals will receive the berth. If a tie still remains, a coin flip will determine which region receives the additional berth.

**RRAs are not required to have more than one team registered for a playdown in order to secure their berth in the 2025 U18 Nationals.
5. **Team Selection.** Each RRA is responsible for determining its representatives to the U18 National Championships. RRAs are encouraged to use the USA Curling format formula in Section I.

6. **Championship Format.** The championship will be a split round-robin event, with two divisions per gender of six teams each. Round-Robin play may be set up in a way that allows marquee matches in prime viewing time, as long as the draw-master determines that the Round-Robin schedule remains fair in terms of time of play and sheet repetition. The top two teams from each division advance to the semifinals (A1 v. B2, B1 v. A2). The winners of the semifinals play in the gold medal game, while the losers of the semifinals play in the bronze medal game. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the World Curling Rules of Curling. All games will be eight ends.

U21 JUNIOR MEN'S & JUNIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The Junior National Championships determine the top U21 Junior teams of each gender. The Junior National Championships serve as a selection event for the World Junior Championships.
2. **Event Eligibility.** To be eligible to play in the 2025 Junior National Championships and qualifying events, a player must be a citizen of the United States (see Section I), have a USA Curling Competitor membership, and be less than 21 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June preceding the 2026 World Junior Curling Championships.
3. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** See Section I for entry process information. Upon qualifying for the U21 Junior National Championship, individuals and teams will be required to register and meet all eligibility requirements.

Teams will qualify for the U21 Junior National Championship as follows:

- a. The two (2) highest ranked U21 Junior Men's teams and the two (2) highest ranked U21 Junior Women's teams on the World Curling Team Rankings as of October 31st, 2024, will earn berths in Junior Nationals.
- b. Five (5) teams per gender from five (5) recognized Qualifying Bonspiels (Qualifying Bonspiels listed below) will earn berths in Junior Nationals. In each qualifier event, the highest-finishing U.S.-based Junior Men's teams and Junior Women's teams, not already qualified, will earn berths in Junior Nationals. Teams competing in Qualifying Bonspiels will be ranked by WCF World Team Ranking total points and then at the discretion of the Qualifying Bonspiel Conveners in collaboration with USA Curling.
- c. One (1) team per gender will earn the remaining berth based on points accumulated at Qualifying Bonspiels. Teams will accumulate points based on their top three (3) performances at qualifying events. Teams will earn four (4) points for a 2nd place finish, and three (3) points for a 3rd place and two (2) points for a 4th place finish. If both teams choose not to play the 3rd/4th place game, both teams are awarded two (2) points. If one team chooses not to play the 3rd/4th place game, the team choosing not to play will be reflected as a 4th place finisher. If a points tie occurs, it will be broken by head-to-head performance record from qualifying spiels. If a tie still exists, it will be broken by order of finish at the final Qualifying Bonspiel. If the order of finish is the same, teams will play one (1) game for the final berth. If no unqualified teams have earned a berth through this points system, the final Nationals berth will be awarded to the next highest finishing team, not already qualified, at the final Qualifying Bonspiel. If two (2) teams are tied on points but neither team is competing at the Final Qualifying Bonspiel, the berth will be awarded to the next highest finishing team, not already qualified, at the Final Qualifying Bonspiel.

2024-25 Junior Nationals Qualifying Events

*registration directly through host club

Madison Junior Bonspiel- Madison Curling Club, Madison, WI

October 18-20, 2024

Contact: Donnie Henry

extraend@gmail.com

Broomstones Junior Bonspiel- Broomstones Curling Club, Boston, MA

November 15-17, 2024

Contact: Scott Price

scott.price@broomstones.org

CurlVegas Junior Bonspiel- CurlVegas Curling Club, Las Vegas, NV

December 13-15, 2024

Contact: Sarah Miller

snmiller7720@outlook.com

Fargo Junior Bonspiel- Fargo-Moorhead Curling Club, Fargo, ND

January 3-5, 2025

Contact: Steve Scheel

smscheel013@gmail.com

Four Seasons Junior Bonspiel & Junior Tour Championship, Four Seasons Curling, Blaine, MN

March 7-9, 2025

Contact: Chris Johnson

chris@conceptfinancial.com

*Fill Policy—If no teams qualify via the World Curling Team Rankings, or if a Qualifying Bonspiel is cancelled or not held, the berth(s) will be awarded at the final Qualifying Bonspiel prior to the Junior Nationals.

**If a team already qualified for Junior Nationals wins a recognized Qualifying Bonspiel, the next highest-finishing US-based team not already qualified at that Qualifying Bonspiel will earn the berth in U21 Junior Nationals. There will be no berths awarded beyond 4th place. If a berth goes unfilled, the unfilled berth will be awarded at the final Qualifying Bonspiel.

4. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Junior Men's and Junior Women's National Championship format will be a Round-Robin. The top four teams, as determined by the Round-Robin, will advance to the Page playoffs. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the World Curling Rules of Curling. All games will be ten ends.
5. **International Representation.** Winning teams will be invited to represent the United States at the 2026 World Junior Men's/Women's Championships or, if necessary, the World Men's/Women's Junior B Championships that qualify teams for this event.

Upon accepting the invite, the athletes and team coach will be under the direction of the Sporting Director and National Team Staff through to the completion of the World Junior Championships or the World Junior B Championships or USA Curling Adult Men's & Women's Nationals if a team playing at Junior Bs does not advance to the World Junior Championships.

The Sporting Director will appoint a National Coach and support staff to assist the team in preparation for, and at, the World Junior Championships.

As necessary, a fifth player shall be selected to join the team at any time after the Junior National Championships.

While the intent is to keep teams and coaches intact, USA Curling may collaborate and modify teams if there is a code of conduct violation, the athlete is not maintaining the required training defined in their Junior National Team Athlete Agreement or the athlete is ill or injured therefore unable to compete healthy as deemed by a medical professional.

A fifth player for any World Championship team will be selected by the Sporting Director and the National Team Coaching staff. Consideration of previous national and international experience, coachability, and progress as a youth athlete will be evaluated in the selection process of a fifth player for the team.

6. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Juniors, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, USA Curling reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

U21 JUNIOR MIXED DOUBLES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The Junior Mixed Doubles National Championship determines the top U21 Junior Mixed Doubles team. This event serves as a selection event for the World Junior Mixed Doubles Championships.
2. **Event Eligibility.** To be eligible to play in the 2024 Junior Mixed Doubles National Championship, a player must be a citizen of the United States (see Section I), have a USA Curling Competitor membership, and be less than 21 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June preceding the 2025 World Junior Mixed Doubles Championship.
3. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** This will be an open event without qualification requirements, but all eligibility requirements must be met. See Section I for entry process information.

*Fill Policy—Not applicable.

4. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Junior Mixed Doubles National Championship format will be determined and announced when registration for the event closes. Start and finish dates of the event are subject to change, depending on the number of entries (accordion in nature). It is recommended that travel arrangements not be made until the number of registered teams has been determined.
5. **International Representation.** The winning team will be invited to represent the United States at the 2025 World Junior Mixed Doubles Championship. Upon accepting the invite, the Junior Mixed Doubles champions and team coach will be under the direction of the Sporting Director and National Team Staff through to the completion of the World Junior Mixed Doubles

Championship. The Sporting Director will appoint a National Coach and support staff to assist the team in preparation for, and at, the World Junior Mixed Doubles Championship.

6. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Junior Men's, Junior Women's, Junior Mixed Doubles, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, USA Curling reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

WHEELCHAIR MIXED DOUBLES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1. **Overview.** The USA Curling Wheelchair Mixed Doubles National Championship will be the selection event for the Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championship.
2. **Event Eligibility.** U.S. citizenship is required on or before the close of registration. Competitors do not need to be residents of the United States. In addition to the USA Curling membership requirements in Section I, all team members must be dues-paying members of USA Curling. Competitors must exhibit a recognized physical impairment which allows the competitor to meet one of the six eligibility criteria for international classification specific to the sport of Wheelchair Curling. Please see WCF Classification information.
3. **Playdown.** There is no formal playdown window.
4. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** The 2025 Wheelchair Mixed Doubles National Championship will not have a limit on team field size. Teams are required to register for the National Championship four (4) weeks prior to the competition start date.
5. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Wheelchair Mixed Doubles National Championship format will be determined and announced after registration for the event closes. Start and finish dates of the event are subject to change, depending on the number of entries (accordion in nature). It is recommended that travel arrangements not be made until the number of registered teams has been determined. All games will be eight ends.
6. **International Representation.** The Champion team will earn the right to represent the United States at the 2025 World Wheelchair Curling Mixed Doubles Championship. If both members of the winning team decline the invitation, it will be offered to the 2nd place team, who must accept the invite as a team (both individuals). If one athlete from the winning team declines the invitation, the position is first offered to the athlete of the opposite gender from the 2nd place team. Both athletes must agree to play with each other. If an agreement is not reached, the Team USA representatives will be determined through an application process. An application process will also be used if the National Championship is cancelled.
7. **Application Process.** In the event an application process must be used, selection for the team will be based on the following criteria:
 - Mixed Doubles experience
 - Mixed Doubles competitive results
 - Coachability of the athlete
 - Availability of athlete to train/prepare for the Mixed Doubles World Championships
 - Potential of athlete to perform in the future in Mixed Doubles
 - WCF classification status and/or potential to classify based on outlined criteria
 - Applications will be reviewed by the following Selection Committee (Two Athlete Representatives designated by the AAC, Director of the Wheelchair Curling Program, Sporting Director)
 - The World Mixed Doubles Wheelchair Curling Team will be named no later than January 31, 2025.

8. **International Representation.** Upon accepting the invite, the athletes and team coach will be under the direction of the Sporting Director and National Team staff through to the completion of the World Championships. The Sporting Director will appoint a National Coach and support staff to assist the team in preparation for, and at, the World Championships. While the intent is to keep teams and coaches intact, USA Curling reserves the right to modify teams if there is a code of conduct violation, the athlete is not maintaining necessary training, or the athlete is ill or injured and deemed unable to compete by a medical professional.
9. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Juniors, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, the CEO reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

2025 MEN'S & WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **Overview.** The Men's and Women's National Championships determine the top Men's and Women's teams. These championships serve as a selection event for the World Women's and World Men's Championships.
2. **Event Eligibility.** Players must be citizens of the United States (see Section I). Players need not be residents of the United States. Players must have a USA Curling Competitor membership. Other eligibility requirements are listed within Section I.
3. **Entry and Qualifying Process.** The 2025 Men's and Women's National Championships will have eight (8) teams per gender. To be eligible to earn a berth through qualifying events in 2024, players must have a valid Competitor Membership. Teams will qualify for the Men's and Women's National Championships as follows:
 - 2024 World Championship representatives
 - 2025 World Junior Championship representatives
 - Two (2) highest-ranking teams, not already qualified, from the published World Curling Team Rankings, as of September 25
 - Two (2) highest-finishing teams, not already qualified, from the St. Paul Cash Spiel, October 18-20, 2024
 - Two (2) highest-ranking teams, not already qualified, from the published Year-to-Date World Curling Team Rankings, as of December 26, 2024

*Fill Policy-If a team declines their berth in the National Championship, that berth will be awarded to the next highest-ranked team from the World Curling Team Rankings, as of December 26th of the current curling season. Teams must include Three of Four or Three of Five players to earn a berth.

**Qualifying Event draws will be seeded based on World Curling Team Rankings—organizers will collaborate with USA Curling.

***If any Qualifying Event is canceled, that berth will be awarded to the next highest-ranked team from the World Curling Team Rankings, as of December 26th.

4. **Championship Format.** The 2025 Men's and Women's National Championship format will be a Round-Robin.

The top four teams, as determined by Round-Robin play, will advance to a Page playoff. Tiebreakers will be determined according to the [World Curling Federation Rules of Curling](#). All games will be ten ends.

5. **International Representation.** Winning teams will be invited to represent the United States at the World Men's/World Women's Championships.

Upon accepting the invite, the athletes and team coach will be under the direction of the Sporting Director and National Team Staff through to the completion of the World Men's/World Women's

Championships.

The Sporting Director will appoint a National Coach and support staff to assist the team in preparation for, and at, the World Men's/Women's Championships.

As necessary, a fifth player shall be selected to join the team at any time after the Men's and Women's National Championships.

While the intent is to keep teams and coaches intact, USA Curling may collaborate and modify teams if there is a code of conduct violation, an athlete is not maintaining necessary training, or an athlete is ill or injured and deemed unable to compete by a medical professional.

A fifth player for any World Championship team will be selected by the Sporting Director and the National Team Coaching staff. Consideration of previous national and international experience, coachability, and progress as an athlete will be evaluated in the selection process of a fifth player for the team.

6. **World Team Code of Conduct.** All athletes invited to Team USA for Men's, Women's, Mixed Doubles, Juniors, Wheelchair Four Person, or Wheelchair Mixed Doubles World Championships are required to sign the USA Curling Code of Conduct. Any athlete failing to sign will be disqualified from representing the USA. If this occurs, USA Curling reserves the right to invite another athlete or, as necessary, another team to fill the vacant position.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & REFERENCES

USA CURLING ATHLETE/COACH CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

The USA Curling Player/Coach Code of Conduct Agreement is part of the online registration system in the MyUSACurling/Sport80 platform.

USA CURLING BYLAWS

A copy of the current USA Curling Bylaws can be found on the [USA Curling website](#).

USA CURLING TRANSGENDER POLICY

- The USA Curling Transgender Participation in Curling Policy be found in [USA Curling Policies & Procedures](#).
- Olympic Event. All events that lead to and include competitions conducted by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) must follow [the policies established by the IOC with respect to transgender athletes](#).
- World Events and World Curling Team Ranking. All USA Curling championships that lead to and include world-level events conducted by World Curling must follow the policies established by World Curling with respect to transgender athletes. In the absence of World Curling guidance, athletes should follow the IOC Guidelines on transgender athletes.
- Other USA Curling Competitive Events. USA Curling-sponsored events that do not lead to world-level play must follow USA Curling policy with respect to transgender athletes.

WORLD CURLING TEAM RANKING SYSTEM

The World Curling Team Ranking System is international and event-inclusive. Find more information at [worldcurling.org](#).

RANKING PROCEDURES, STONE ASSIGNMENTS, FORMATS

In championship play, USA Curling follows the World Curling Rules of Curling, including playoff ranking procedures, stone assignments, and formats.

World Curling Rules of Curling do not, however, outline playoff procedures for all USA Curling championship formats. Specifically, events that have two pools competing in a qualifying round are not covered.

USA Curling uses two pools of each gender for U18 Nationals, Club Nationals, and Arena Club Nationals, and uses two pools at Mixed Fours Nationals. For those events, USA Curling will follow the Ranking Procedures and Stone Assignments outlined in Sections C9 and C8 of the World Curling Rules of Curling.

All Ranking Procedures, Stone Assignments, and Playoff Formats will be outlined in the Event Procedures Document (EPD) that is created and released to competitors before each championship. The EPD will supersede any other information.