



Competitors Guide

2019-2020 Season

Version 5.0

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regarding this Competitors Guide to

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Introduction

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour was created during the summer months of 2011 in hopes of developing high-end curling teams to represent the province of Alberta at Canada Winter Games, U18 Nationals and the Junior Nationals. As well, the majority of junior-aged curlers within the province will see their season end near Christmas, as only one U21 team will represent the province. The Alberta Junior Curling Tour is aware of this, and looks to extend the competitive season into March by creating additional cash spiels (AJCT Player's Championship, AJCT-run events, etc.) across the province.

General Information

Teams can join the Alberta Junior Curling Tour by registering on the website and paying the registration fee of \$75 per team. Registered teams will collect points from tour events as listed on the website [here](#). All Alberta Junior Curling Tour events are to be played under the "Rules for General Play" in the latest edition of the rulebook published by Curling Canada.

Teams will be comprised of four (4) Junior/U18/U15 Men's curlers or four (4) Junior/U18/U15 Women's curlers. Teams have the option of registering an alternate, 5th player. Curlers may be registered in a maximum of one (1) team per division, only for the reason of age differences (e.g. a player is on different Junior and U18 teams). Two (2) members of the registered team must remain the same throughout the season for the team to earn points.

Transportation, accommodation and meals are at the expense of each team during their travels to and from each event on the tour. The local host committee will advise you of any functions provided at each event. The AJCT is not responsible for any damages, loss or other harm caused by transportation to and from, and general participation at any AJCT-sanctioned events.

Teams registering with the AJCT consent to having their pictures and team information displayed for purposes of promotion of the tour. This may include but is not limited to the AJCT website, social media pages, brochures, or other purposes as deemed necessary. The information provided to the AJCT at registration is used for contact and information purposes only and will not be provided to any other organizations without written consent of the teams. Teams and/or players are able to withdraw their consent at any time with written notice to the AJCT.

Alberta Junior Curling Tour Sponsorship

In the event that the Alberta Junior Curling Tour has sponsors for the season, or select events throughout the season, it is on request by the Tour that these logos will be displayed at events across the province. The Alberta Junior Curling Tour will provide host committees with signs or banners as necessary. The host committee is still permitted in these situations to display their own sponsors, as long as when requested by the tour, tour sponsors are displayed as well.

If you are interested in partnering with the tour, please reach out to albertajuniorcurling@gmail.com.

Rules and Regulations

Curling is based on a code of ethics, good sportsmanship and personal integrity. You are expected to follow this tradition and the rules of the game throughout the competition. Please become familiar with the rules and regulations of the ACJT as follows.

Player Eligibility

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour is open to Men's and Women's teams of junior or U18 eligibility as defined by Curling Canada. The Alberta Junior Curling Tour requires that **a minimum of two (2) players from the registered team must be present to earn points for the event**. As well, a maximum of two (2) spares may be used to earn points. In the event that a team member is unable to compete in an event, a spare or replacement may be used, however this player may not be currently registered within the specific event and must respect event and AJCT rules regarding spares and replacements.

Event Eligibility

All events on the Alberta Junior Curling Tour will be sanctioned on meeting the following criteria.

- The minimum field requirement for Alberta Junior Curling Tour Events is 8 women's and/or 8 men's teams per division.
- Divisions **must** be separated by gender.
- Double knockout, triple knockout, and round robin pool formats are acceptable with the simple conditions that the five rock Free Guard Zone Rule must be used and games must be 8 or 10 ends.

Brush Head Moratorium

All Alberta Junior Curling Tour Events will be required to follow the brush head moratorium put in place by Curling Canada. Failure to comply with this moratorium will result in consequences deemed appropriate by the AJCT and host event committee. Teams may be deemed ineligible for points and could face disqualification from the AJCT.

Pre-Competition Practice

Unless noted in a Pre-Competition meeting, or outlined by your host committee, there will not be any pre-competition practice of any kind.

Dress Standards/Cresting

It is a request that at all events of the Alberta Junior Curling Tour the guidelines from Curling Alberta are followed. Please educate yourself on the dress standards required for Curling Alberta-sanctioned events (qualifiers and provincials).

- The AJCT will not regularly enforce a dress policy at its events. However, if a tour has a request (ex. Business casual at banquets, matching uniforms for televised events), teams will be notified and compliance is expected.

Team Sponsorship

Teams entered in AJCT events are more than welcome to wear sponsor logos on uniforms, as well as bring a sign/banner with sponsor logos. It is up to the discretion of individual bonspiel organizers to inform teams on where banners and signs may be placed in their facility.

Electronic Devices

No electronic devices of any type are allowed in the playing area during the course of a game. Teams may stream their games provided the host committee allows it. If your team does not consent to having their games streamed, please let us know.

Microphones

One-way communication devices such as microphones are allowed by the AJCT as a training device. Check with the organizing committee at each event for their policies.

Media

It is requested that all players and coaches cooperate with the media and grant interviews when requested. Please remember, there is no such thing as an “off the record” comment. Players are representatives of the AJCT and must conduct themselves in a respectful manner.

Point Allocation

Points will be awarded based on a strength of field and importance multiplier. The general formula is:

Points = base point value * strength of field (scaled to 16-team event) * importance factor

Base Point Values

<u>Final Placement</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 st	7.5
2 nd	5.5
3 rd – 4 th	4.25
5 th – 8 th	3
Points per win	0.375 * SFM (Strength of Field Multiplier)

In the case of a third place/bronze medal game, the base point value will be 4.50 for 3rd place and 4.00 for 4th place.

Strength of Field

Each team will contribute to the event's strength of field. Based on the current AJCT Standings, each team will provide an individual value to the SoF. The higher the team is placed in the standings, the higher their contribution.

<u>AJCT Rank</u>	<u>SoF Contribution</u>
1 st – 2 nd	0.5
3 rd – 4 th	0.4
5 th – 6 th	0.3
7 th – 8 th	0.2
9 th – 10 th	0.1
11 th +	0.05

The sum of the team's contributions to strength of field will be scaled to represent a 16-team event. For example, if 8 teams combine for a SoF of 2.4, the calculation will be $2.4 * (16/8) = 4.8$.

Teams not registered on the AJCT will be assigned a SoF contribution of 0.2, and **will be modified** as the AJCT sees fit to reflect an accurate SoF for the event.

Importance Factor

To reflect the relative importance of each event, there will be a multiplier to increase the number of points awarded.

Type of Event	Importance Multiplier
Regular Bonspiel	1.0 x
Provincial Qualifier	1.33 x
Bonspiel with Provincial Berth	1.5 x
Provincial Championship	1.75 x

Examples

8 teams provide a SoF of 2.9 in a Regular Bonspiel.

$$\text{SoF} = 2.9 * (16/8) = 5.8.$$

Importance factor = Regular Bonspiel = 1.00 x

Final Strength of Field Multiplier = **5.8**

Points Awarded:

$$1^{\text{st}} = 43.5$$

$$2^{\text{nd}} = 31.9$$

$$3^{\text{rd}}\text{-}4^{\text{th}} = 24.65$$

$$5^{\text{th}}\text{-}8^{\text{th}} = 17.4$$

Points per win = 2.175

10 teams provide a SoF of 1.6 in a Provincial Qualifier event.

$$\text{SoF} = 1.6 * (16/10) = 2.56$$

Importance factor = Provincial Qualifier = 1.33 x

Final Strength of Field Multiplier = **3.4048**

Points Awarded:

$$1^{\text{st}} = 25.536$$

$$2^{\text{nd}} = 18.726$$

$$3^{\text{rd}} - 4^{\text{th}} = 14.470$$

$$5^{\text{th}} - 8^{\text{th}} = 10.214$$

Points per win = 1.277

Placement Points

In each event we strive to award placement points to approximately half of the teams. We will use the following guidelines when determining how many teams receive placement points.

These guidelines may change at any point on an event-by-event basis.

- Number of teams receiving placement points will change based on the number of entries and number of qualifiers to the Championship Round
- Teams who are not awarded placement points will be awarded points per win based on the SFM
- Teams who are awarded placement points will not receive points per win
- In events where **all** teams qualify for the championship round, placement points will only be awarded to the semi-finalists

Standings

Points are divided into two categories; U21 Standings and U18 Standings.

- Teams who compete in U21 events will gain points towards their U21 standings
- Teams who compete in U18 events will gain points towards their U18 standings
- If a U18 team is playing in a U21 event, the points they obtain will be added ONLY to their U21 standings. The only way to get points in the U18 standings is to play in U18 events
- Teams that are not registered with the AJCT will NOT earn points, regardless of whether or not they are registered in following events.
 - Teams may enter the AJCT at any time throughout the season but points will only be awarded from the time of registration
- Games must be played in order for points to be awarded (e.g. no additional points are awarded to teams who directly qualify to provincials)
- Teams may only earn points at events listed on the tour schedule
- The U21 category will be capped at the completion of Junior Provincials. The U18 category will be capped at the completion of U18 provincials
- No points will be awarded at Mixed Doubles events

Tie-breakers

Teams with equal quantity of points earned throughout the season will be considered tied. The following process will break ties, which will rank teams into prior to the start of the event. In the event that the first rule does not declare a winner, proceed to the next ruling.

1. If tied, the team with the most first place finishes on the Alberta Junior Curling Tour will receive the tiebreaker.
2. If still tied, the team with the most second place finishes on the Alberta Junior Curling Tour will receive the tiebreaker.
3. If still tied, the team with the better junior playdown result will receive the tiebreaker. (Teams who qualify for provincials surpass teams who only qualified for regionals). In the event teams have identical records, teams remain tied.
4. If still tied, the team who has won more head-to-head games at tour events will receive the tiebreaker.

Qualification for Players' Championship

Eight (8) teams will qualify for the Players' Championship in the following order:

1. Winner of the U21 Provincial Championship
2. Winner of the U21 Bonspiel with the highest SFM
3. Highest-ranked team on the U21 standings not already qualified
4. Highest-ranked team on the U21 standings not already qualified
5. Highest-ranked team on the U21 standings not already qualified
6. Highest-ranked team on the U21 standings not already qualified

7. Winner of the U18 Provincial Championship
8. Highest-ranked team on the U18 standings not already qualified

If a team declines their invitation to the Players' Championship, the highest-ranked team on the respective standings that has not already qualified will be invited. Points cut-off for each division will be at the conclusion of the respective Provincial Championships.

Conduct

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour is a showcase of the finest curling talent (U21, U18 and U15) in our province. Players are required to conduct themselves on and off the ice in an appropriate manner. Please see your regional Code of Conduct policy.

Athlete's/Coaches Code of Ethics

1. *To ensure that all curlers are aware of their responsibilities when playing the game, the Canadian Curling Association has adopted the following Code of Ethics as an official supplement to the Rules of Curling:*
2. *Curlers' Code of Ethics*
3. *I will play the game with a spirit of good sportsmanship*
4. *I will conduct myself in an honorable manner both on and off the ice*
5. *I will never knowingly break a rule, but if I do, I will divulge the breach*
6. *I will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate or demean my opponents, teammates or umpires*
7. *I will interpret the rules in an impartial manner, always keeping in mind that the purpose of the rules is to ensure that the game is played in an orderly and fair manner*
8. *I will humbly accept any penalty that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate*
9. *The coach shall act with integrity in performing all duties owed to athletes, the sport, other members of the coaching profession and the public*
10. *The coach shall strive to be well prepared and current in order that all duties in their discipline are fulfilled with competence*
11. *The coach shall act in the best interest of the athlete's development as a whole person*
12. *The coach shall accept both the letter and spirit of the rules that define and govern the sport*
13. *The coach shall accept the role of umpires in providing judgment to ensure that competitions are conducted fairly and in accordance with the established rules*
14. *The coach's conduct toward other coaches shall be characterized by courtesy, good faith and respect*
15. *The coach shall maintain the highest standards of personal conduct and support the principles of Fair Play*

Fair Play

1. *Fair Play begins with the strict observance of the written rule; however, in most cases, Fair Play involved something more than even unflinching observance or the written rule. The observance of the spirit of the rules, whether written or unwritten, is important*
2. *Fair Play results from measuring up to one's own moral standards while engaged in competition*
3. *Fair Play is consistent demonstration of respect for teammates and opponents, whether they are winning or losing*
4. *Fair Play is consistent demonstration of respect for umpires, an acceptance of their decisions and a steadfast spirit of collaboration with them*

5. *Sportsmanlike behaviour should be demonstrated both on and off the ice. This includes modesty in victory and composure in defeat*

Parent's Code of Conduct

1. *I will not force my child to participate in curling*
2. *I will remember that my child curls for his/her enjoyment, not mine*
3. *I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence*
4. *I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the score of the game*
5. *I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly, for trying hard and/or for at least making a good shot sometime in the game*
6. *I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a game*
7. *I will remember that children learn best by example, I will: applaud good plays and performance by both teams*
8. *I will never question the umpires' judgment or honesty in public*
9. *I will support all efforts to remove verbal abuse from curling games*
10. *I will respect and show appreciation for all the volunteers that contribute to each team so that my child has an opportunity to curl*