



Competitors Guide

2021-2022 Season

Version 7.0

Please e-mail all questions and concerns
regarding this Competitors Guide to

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Introduction

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour was created in 2011 in hopes of creating meaningful competition to help develop high-end curling teams to represent the Province of Alberta at Canada Winter Games, U18 Nationals and U20 Nationals. Until the 2020-2021 season many junior-aged curlers saw their season end near Christmas, as only one U20 team represented the province at Nationals. The Alberta Junior Curling Tour formed to extend the competitive season into March by creating additional cash spiels (AJCT Player's Championship, AJCT-run invitational events, etc.) across the province. For the 2021-2022 season, the AJCT has facilitated the change in Championship dates by working with provincial bonspiels to ensure their event is on a weekend that provides meaningful competition for our curlers.

General Information

Registered teams will collect points from tour events as listed on the website [here](#). Points will be awarded based on the [Alberta Junior Team Ranking System \(AJTRS\)](#) structure. 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) U20/U18/U15 Men's curlers or four (4) U20/U18/U15 Women's curlers. 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 U20 and U18 teams). Three (3) members of the registered team must remain the same throughout the season for the team to earn points. Based on [Curling Canada's guidance](#), age eligibility will be evolving over the next few years and the AJCT will be following suit.

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 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. Teams and/or players can withdraw their consent at any time with written notice to the AJCT.

COVID-19 Protocols

"There is a Return to Play document on [the Curling Alberta] website which was released by Curling Canada (with input from the provinces). [Return-to-Play-2021-2022](#). Since we have no restrictions in Alberta we are free to play the game under the normal rules and without any mandatory Covid protocols. However, the Curling Canada Return to Play document still has recommendations around cleaning protocols, waivers, Covid Declarations, etc. Some clubs have decided to keep some of the protocols in place such as distancing when possible and asking teams not to shake hands, standing on the dots in the ice, etc. These will be individual club decisions though depending on their comfort level and the number of cases in their area."

~ Shannon Kleibrink, Director of Community Curling Centre Development for Curling Alberta

Alberta Junior Curling Tour Sponsorship

If 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, and 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.

Our title sponsor for the 2021-2022 season is Curlers Corner. If you are ever in the Calgary Curling Club, please stop by and say a big THANK YOU to Bernice and her team.

Curlers Corner



Your One Stop Curling Shop

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 AJCT as follows.

Player Eligibility

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour is open to Men's and Women's teams of U20, U18 or U15 eligibility as defined by [Curling Canada](#). The Alberta Junior Curling Tour requires that a **minimum of three (3) players from the registered team must be present to earn points for the event**. As well, a maximum of one (1) spare may be used to earn points. If 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 are required to follow specific criteria as outlined in our [Event Criteria and Bonspiel Information](#) booklet.

- The minimum field requirement for Alberta Junior Curling Tour Events is as follows:
 - 6 teams at the U20 category in each gender division
 - 8 teams at the U18 category in each gender 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 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. Please check each individual bonspiel's rules.

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 event has a request (e.g., 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 streaming of your games, please let both the AJCT and opposition coach(es) know.

Microphones

One-way communication devices such as microphones are allowed by the AJCT as a training device.

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.

Enhanced Coaching Involvement (ECI)

Curling Alberta is piloting the Enhanced Coaching Involvement project for the 2021-2022 season. The purpose of the ECI pilot project is to allow coaches to better support their teams by giving them more convenient and frequent access while the game is underway.

This begins by allowing coaches to sit on the backboards, where they are better able to listen in on their teams’ conversations. Furthermore, in U15, U18, and U20 categories the ECI pilot project also gives them the opportunity to interact with their teams a pre-determined number of times each end.

It is expected of the host clubs to follow the ECI pilot. For more information about ECI, please visit <https://curlingalberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Enhanced-Coaching-Involvement-Pilot-Revised.pdf>

Points Allocation

The AJCT Points system has changed for the 2021-2022 season and has now been combined with the Curling Alberta Excel Points Race. The new points system is the [Alberta Junior Team Ranking System \(AJTRS\)](#) and can be found on our website.

The AJTRS was developed jointly by Curling Alberta and the Alberta Junior Curling Tour. This is a single, unified system of ranking junior teams based on their performance at bonspiels and championships in Alberta. Please ensure you are familiar with the AJTRS prior to competing.

Tiebreakers

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. If 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 U20 or U18 qualifier 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.

AJCT Players' Championship

The qualification system for the 2022 AJCT Players' Championship is still to be determined. Typically this is an invitational event that includes the top teams on the Tour. Invitations are based off results from the Provincial Championships as well as standings on the AJTRS. Please stay tuned for more information!

AJCT U21 Mixed Doubles Tour

We are very excited for the inaugural AJCT U21 Mixed Doubles Tour! This season we have three Mixed Doubles events scheduled in March, followed by the Curling Alberta U21 Mixed Doubles Provincials in April. Take a look at our [events page](#) for more information.

Mixed Doubles teams will have a separate registration than 4-person teams. The registration fee is \$10 per player but is waived if the athlete is already registered on a 4-person U20/U18/U15 AJCT team.

Points will be awarded at the Mixed Doubles bonspiels as well as the Provincials in the following manner:

Placement	AJCT Mixed Doubles Bonspiels (x1.0)	Curling Alberta Provincials (x1.33)
Champion	30	40
Finalist	21	28
Semifinalist	15	20
Quarterfinalist	10.8	14.4
Points Per Win	2	2.67

At the conclusion of Provincials, there will be cash prizes awarded to the top 3 teams on the Mixed Doubles Standings. The amount is TBD and is based on available sponsorship funding. All 4 events will be included in points calculations.

Conduct

The Alberta Junior Curling Tour is a showcase of the finest curling talent (U20, 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 unfailing 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*

AJCT Social Media

Please follow us on social media and tag us in your communications.

Facebook: Alberta Junior Curling Tour (<https://www.facebook.com/AlbertaJuniorCurlingTour>)

Twitter: @ABJrCurlingTour (<https://twitter.com/ABJrCurlingTour>)

Instagram: albertajuniorcurlingt看 (<https://www.instagram.com/albertajuniorcurlingt看/>)

Hashtag: #ajct