

# **Canadian Gay Curling Association & Canadian Gay Curling Championships**



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***ADMINISTRATION, RULES, AND BEST PRACTICES FOR HOSTING***

***Revised September 2021***

Canadian Gay Curling Association (CGCA)  
Administration

Purpose and Scope

This section deals specifically with the Canadian Gay Curling Association (CGCA) which is the umbrella organization for the CGCC, and the governance structure of that Association.

Member Cities & Leagues

Member cities of the CGCA, and their leagues, from east to west are St. John's (Odds & Ends), Halifax (Loose Ends), Montréal (Les Fous du Roi & Les Phénix), Ottawa (Rainbow Rockers), Toronto (Riverdale & Rotators), Winnipeg (Keystone Rainbow), Saskatoon (Prairie Lily), Calgary (Apollo), Edmonton (Curling With Pride), and Vancouver (Pacific Rim).

Meetings of the Association

Meetings of the Association are chaired by the current host city of the CGCC and are held at the pleasure of the Chair. Meetings should be held virtually and should be held at regular intervals. Typical past meetings include a kickoff and preliminary meeting at the start of the season, an update on the organization and CGCC mid-season, and a hand off/final meeting after the conclusion of that year's CGCC.

Membership Eligibility

New members are admitted to the Association at the discretion of the current Association Members. Membership eligibility is open to any LGBTQ2S+ Curling League in Canada that the Association agrees to admit to membership following the qualification guide outlined below.

Any LGBTQ2S+ league that desires to become a member should make their intention known to the current Chair/Host City via the contact info for that league located on [gaycurl.ca](http://gaycurl.ca).

Membership Qualification Guidelines

This section is meant to guide the CGCA in determining if a new LGBTQ2S+ curling league in Canada should be admitted to membership. Based on past member admissions the following general principles should be considered before a league is considered for membership:

- 1) The potential new member league should have proven themselves as a viable LGBTQ2S+ curling league, operating for 1 or 2 full seasons before admission. Proof of concept is critical to ensure a new member does not join the Association for a short term and then become defunct.
- 2) It is recommended, although not required that the league seeking membership be registered as a non-profit organization in the province or territory in which they are located.
- 3) The potential new member league should be given the opportunity to join the CGCC as an "orphan" team as spots are available to allow for the potential member to become familiar with the CGCA/CGCC and the organization.

Canadian Gay Curling Championships (CGCC)  
Rules and Best Practices for Hosting

Purpose and Scope

This section sets out rules and best practices for hosting the annual Canadian Gay Curling Championship (CGCC). Clearly established and well documented rules and best practices can further develop and promote the CGCC as our national championship with widespread participation from across Canada while at the same time establishing a fair process for determining a national champion. It is also recognized that rules and best practices should provide for local flexibility to host bonspiels in accordance with member city resources, traditions, and goals.

CGCC Rotation

Cities shall host the CGCC on a rotational basis as mutually agreed upon by the Association. The date of the Nationals bonspiel shall be determined by the host city and shall be complemented by an invitational bonspiel to be held at the same time. If a member city cannot host the CGCC in the year which it is supposed to, the rotation will proceed to the next member city in order of rotation. The skipped city may host the CGCC when able at the discretion of the Association. New member cities should be added to the rotation at the end of the rotation list, while trying to maintain an East/West alternation for hosting the CGCC.

Past bonspiels and the proposed rotation of bonspiel host cities as agreed to by the CGCC are as follows:

Host City	Season and CGCC Date
1) Edmonton	2005/06 (November 11-13, 2005) 2013/14 (April 3-6, 2014) 2024/25
2) Toronto	2006/07 (November 24-26, 2006) 2014/15 (March 5-8, 2015) 2025/26
3) Winnipeg	2007/08 (February 15-17, 2008) 2015/16 (February 19-21, 2016) 2026/27
4) Montreal	2008/09 (April 10-12, 2009) 2016/17 (Feb. 10-12, 2017) 2027/28
5) Calgary	2009/10 (April 1-3, 2010) 2017/18 (March 29 - April 1, 2018) 2028/29
6) Ottawa	2010/11 (March 25-27, 2011) 2018/19 (March 21-24, 2019) 2029/30
7) Vancouver	2011/12 (February 3-5, 2012) 2019/20 (January 24-16, 2020) 2030/31
8) Halifax	2012/13 (April 25-28, 2013) 2020/21 – CANCELED Due to Pandemic 2022/23 (April 2023) 2031/32
9) Saskatoon	2021/22 (March 10-13, 2022) 2032/33
10) St. John's	2023/24 TBC 2033/34

## Teams and Team Eligibility

Each of the ten member cities is eligible for one to two team entries based on the CGCC “Order of Merit” (OOM) for a total of 16 teams. See Appendix A attached.

The host city shall ask participating cities for the number of entries they would like to submit three months in advance of the date of the bonspiel with a cut-off date for response one month later. Entries which are not declared at this time shall be awarded to cities up to the 16-team maximum based on the OOM no later than six weeks in advance of the bonspiel. Set dates that are known well in advance will allow participating cities to determine their eligible teams by the deadline and allow for all entries to be made in time for participating teams to make travel arrangements.

Each city shall choose which teams will represent it based on its own criteria, though participants shall be members in good standing of a member curling league and endorsed by their city to qualify to participate. In submitting entries, each city shall rank teams for purposes of seeding the draw.

## Bonspiel Format

The format of the bonspiel shall be double knock-out followed by a page playoff. The double knock-out draw for a 16-team bonspiel is shown in Appendix B. Double knock-out draws for bonspiels with team entries for less than 16 can be obtained from the various provincial curling bodies.

The two “A” side finalists of the double knock-out (no losses) shall occupy positions 1 and 2 of the page playoff. The two “B” side finalists of the double knock-out (each with 1 loss) shall occupy positions 3 and 4 of the page playoff. The page playoff shall follow the format used by Curling Canada. Team 1 plays Team 2. The winner advances directly to the bonspiel final. Team 3 plays Team 4. The loser is eliminated from further play. The winner plays the loser of Team 1 vs. Team 2 in the bonspiel semi-final. The loser of the semi-final is eliminated while the winner advances to the final. Figure B shows the page playoff format schematically. Last Rock advantage for the 1-2 Game and 3-4 Game shall be done by a coin toss, whereas in the Semi-Final the last rock advantage is given to the team who won the 3-4 Match, and in the Final the last rock advantage is given to the team who won the 1-2 Match. Teams which are eliminated prior to the page play-off compete in a single knock-out consolation event.

## Team Rankings and Seeding

Teams shall be seeded in the double knock-out draw based on rankings provided by participating cities. Any byes shall be received by the top-ranked team from each city. The top-ranked teams from each city shall not play each other in the first draw of the bonspiel. Likewise, teams from the same city shall not play each other in the first draw. The host city shall also take into account the previous year’s draw to avoid the same cities playing one another in the first-round year after year.

## Rules of Play

Except as otherwise noted in this document, the rules of play shall follow Curling Canada’s rules for General Play as updated from time to time by Curling Canada, which are currently set out in the “Rules of Curling for General Play 2018-2022” document. As of Sep 2021 located here; <https://www.curling.ca/about-curling/getting-started-in-curling/rules-of-curling-for-general-play/>

## Team Composition

Each team shall include four players and may also include a fifth player who shall be the alternate player. Cities may alter their team rosters up to the time of the bonspiel for any reasons deemed appropriate by the applicable city.

## Sparing

As a best practice, the host city shall establish a pool of spares available to play in the bonspiel. Spares may also be used from the invitational bonspiel being held at the same time or from a spare pool established by the host city. Spares may play any position on the team if regular players are not demoted to a lower position. The exception is demotions which are agreed to by the host city prior to the applicable game based on extenuating circumstances. The opposing team cannot dispute a spare being used once a game has commenced.

### Length of Play

Games shall be 8 ends in length. If, after 8 ends the score is tied, play shall be continued for an additional end or ends as may be required to decide the winning team. For the sake of viewers, all extra ends should be played towards the glass.

### Game Time Operation

Where possible, it is recommended that timers be used. Where timers are used, the game time allocated to each team to complete an 8 end game shall be 60 minutes with no time-outs and no breaks during the game. The time allocated to each team to complete each extra end shall be 9 minutes.

### Judges of Play

The host city shall appoint judges of play for purposes of resolving disputes. At least one official shall always be available when games are in play.

### Measurement

All curling rock measurements shall be conducted by the participating teams. If there is a dispute in any measurement, a host city official shall be requested to do the measurement.

### Finances and Sponsorships

Host cities shall be responsible for all costs associated with the annual bonspiel with the goal to have the event break even financially. In addition to revenues associated with entry fees, host cities may wish to fund raise through various means and encourage sponsorships. Sponsorship may also be provided through the CGCA.

### Prize Structure

Host cities shall be responsible for prizes for winning teams. Prizes shall be cash in an amount determined by the host city and may be supplemented by trophies and other such mementos.

Suggested amounts are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> place – \$1000

2<sup>nd</sup> place – \$800

3<sup>rd</sup> place – \$600

4<sup>th</sup> place – \$500

5<sup>th</sup> place – \$400

6<sup>th</sup> place – \$300

### Celebration of Past Events

Host cities may wish to continue the practice started by Montreal in providing and displaying banners naming the winning team members, host cities and dates.

### French and English Translation

Host cities should make every effort to provide all available documents in both official languages.

## Other Items

While not specifically addressed in this document, below is a checklist of other items to be considered by a city in hosting the CGCC (and which may be combined with the parallel invitational bonspiel):

- host hotel
- drivers for participants between host hotel and curling club
- opening ceremonies (including local curling celebrities)
- official photographer
- musical/theatrical entertainment
- banquets and other meals
- food and drink vouchers
- games of skill and chance on and off the ice (Calcuttas, raffles, draw to the button, cow bell pitchers, etc.)
- media availability
- participant agreement and waiver
- piper for final game
- closing ceremonies

## **Appendix A: CGCC “Order of Merit” (OOM) for City Entries Distribution**

### **Purpose:**

To determine a 16-team draw for the CGCC based on 10 member cities.

### **CGCC Order of Merit:**

The “Order of Merit” (OOM) is based on a city’s performance in the previous year’s CGCC event. A city’s team that went the “deepest” into the draw determines a city’s standing on the OOM (this is so cities that only send a single team are not treated differently).

Please see the table below for how to allocate the OOM standing based upon the 16-team double-knockout/page-playoff draw used in the CGCC event (additional events to more accurately determine positions lower than 4<sup>th</sup> place may be played as per host city’s discretion).

Ties are broken by the cumulative distance from the button of an in-turn and out-turn draw after a team’s first game. Member cities that did not participate in the previous year’s draw followed by new member cities would be given the lowest OOM score, with ties broken by a coin-flip.

### **Allocation of 16 CGCC entries:**

The host city is allocated 2 entries and all member cities are allocated at least 1 entry for a base total of 11 entries.

In this example, allocation of the remaining 5 spots would be based upon a city’s position on the OOM ranking from the previous year’s event, allocating down the list until the 16 spots are filled. If a city declines one or more of their entries, the OOM provides the next city in line to get the spot. Again, the only exception is that the host city would always be granted a minimum of 2 entries (this means their spot is initially skipped twice when allocating entries, but any 3<sup>rd</sup> entry would follow as per normal order).

Practically, this means each city can announce at an agreed to deadline how many teams they can send (which could be more than 2). Using this information and the OOM, the event organizers can quickly allocate all 16 spots to the member cities.

It is recommended that this deadline be set early in the Fall (e.g. by November 1), which would allow each city to know how many spots their teams are playing for before their play downs begin. Normal practice of providing team rosters in January could continue, following play downs.

In the event that 16 teams could not be allocated amongst the member cities, the host would be allowed to continue to fill the draw with non-member cities.

<b>Example of Proposed Allocation (Note: First allocation is simply west to east)</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	Ottawa 1	Host city
2	Ottawa 2	Host city
3	Vancouver 1	1st Allocation
4	Calgary 1	1st Allocation
5	Edmonton 1	1st Allocation
6	Saskatoon 1	1st Allocation
7	Winnipeg 1	1st Allocation
8	Toronto 1	1st Allocation
9	Montreal 1	1st Allocation
10	Halifax 1	1st Allocation
11	St John's 1	1st Allocation
12	2018 1st place winner	If not host city
13	2018 2nd place	If not host city and not already at 2 teams
14	2018 3rd place	If not host city and not already at 2 teams
15	2018 4th place	If not host city and not already at 2 teams
16	2018 5th place	If not host city and not already at 2 teams
	2018 6th place	next on list if any of above decline
	2018 7th place	next on list if any of above decline
	2018 8th place	next on list if any of above decline
	2018 9th place	next on list if any of above decline
	and so on	next on list if any of above decline

**Ranking of Cities to Determine 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Allocation (Refer to Appendix B)**

Event winner	1
Runner-up	2
Semi-finalist winner in page playoff	3
Semi-finalist loser in page playoff	4
Losers of Game M and N	Tied 5
Losers of Games I to L	Tied 9
Losers of Games A to H	Tied 12



## Appendix B: 16 Team Double Knock-out

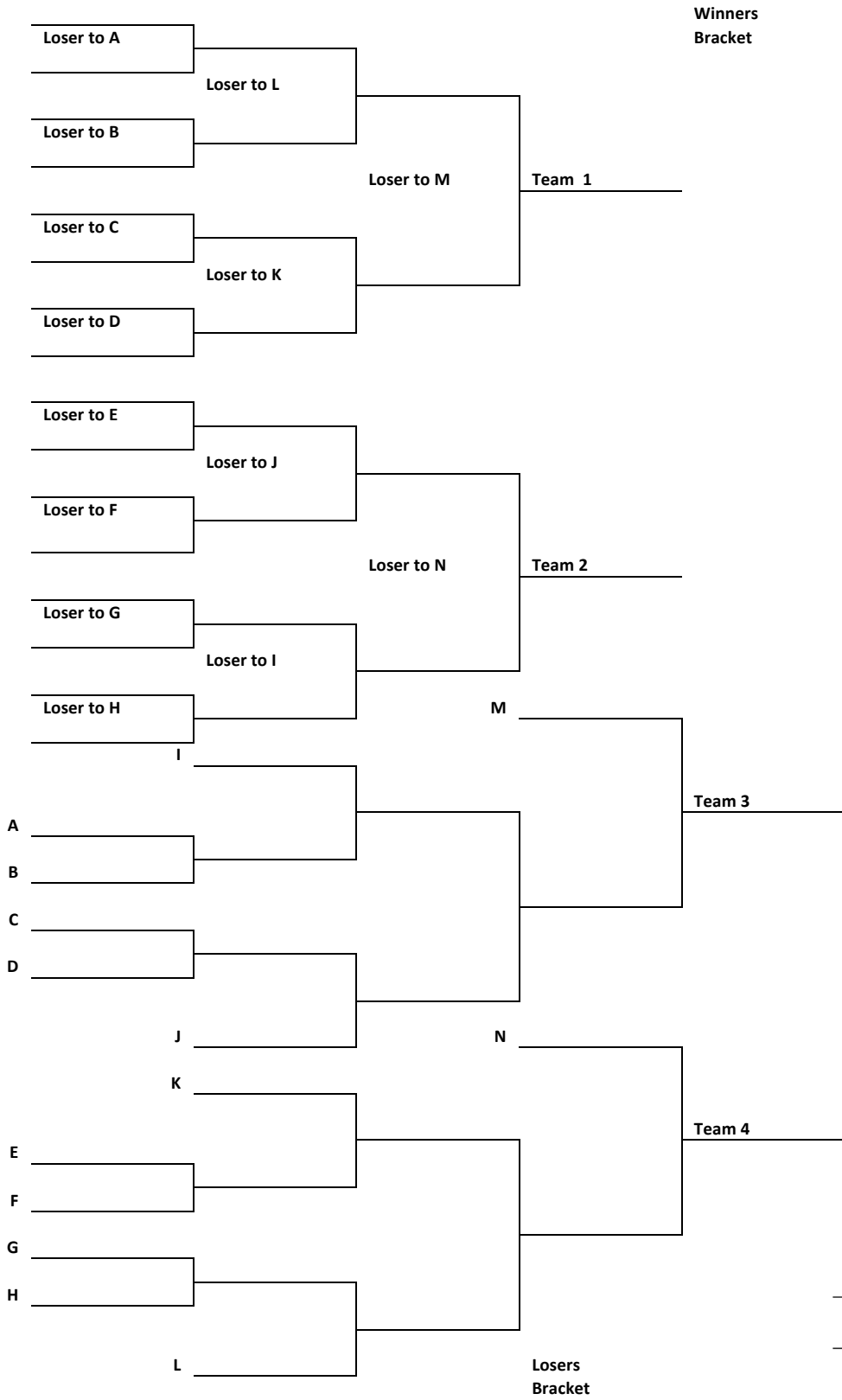


Figure B: Page Playoff

