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2009-10

Media Guide &



USA Curling 2009-2010 Media Guide & Directory...the Road to Vancouver

Directory



INSIDE: 2010 OLYMPIC
& PARALYMPIC WINTER
GAMES SECTION,
PAGES 2-11

2009–10 Championship Calendar

Event	Dates	Location
2010 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship	Dec. 3-6	Seattle, Wash.
2010 U.S. Nationals Qualifying Round		
Men's Midwest North	Jan. 5-10	Fargo-Moorhead, N.D.
Men's Midwest South	Jan. 5-10	Mankato, Minn.
Men's East	Jan. 5-10	Potomac, Md.
Men's & Women's West	Jan. 5-10	Fairbanks, Alaska
Women's East	Jan. 5-10	Nashua, N.H.
Women's Midwest	Jan. 5-10	Green Bay, Wis.
2010 U.S. Junior National Championships	Jan. 23-30	Bemidji, Minn.
2010 U.S. Senior Men's Nationals	Jan. 27-31	Portage, Wis.
2010 U.S. Senior Women's Nationals	Jan. 28-31	Cape Cod, Mass.
2010 U.S. Nationals Challenge Round		
Men's	Feb. 4-7	Grafton, N.D.
Women's	Feb. 4-7	Janesville, Wis.
2010 Olympic Winter Games	Feb. 12-28	Vancouver, Canada
2010 U.S. Club National Championships	Feb. 20-27	Madison, Wis.
2010 World Junior Championships	March 5-14	Fliems, Switzerland
2010 U.S. National Championships	March 6-13	Kalamazoo, Mich.
2010 Paralympic Winter Games	March 12-21	Vancouver, Canada
2010 U.S. Mixed National Championship	March 20-27	Chicago, Ill.
2010 Ford World Women's Championship	March 20-28	Swift Current, Canada
2010 World Men's Championship	April 3-11	Cortina, Italy
2010 World Mixed Doubles Championship	April 15-24	Chelyabinsk, Russia
2010 World Senior Championships	April 16-24	Chelyabinsk, Russia



Feb. 12–28, 2010 • www.vancouver2010.com

Curling Sheet of Ice

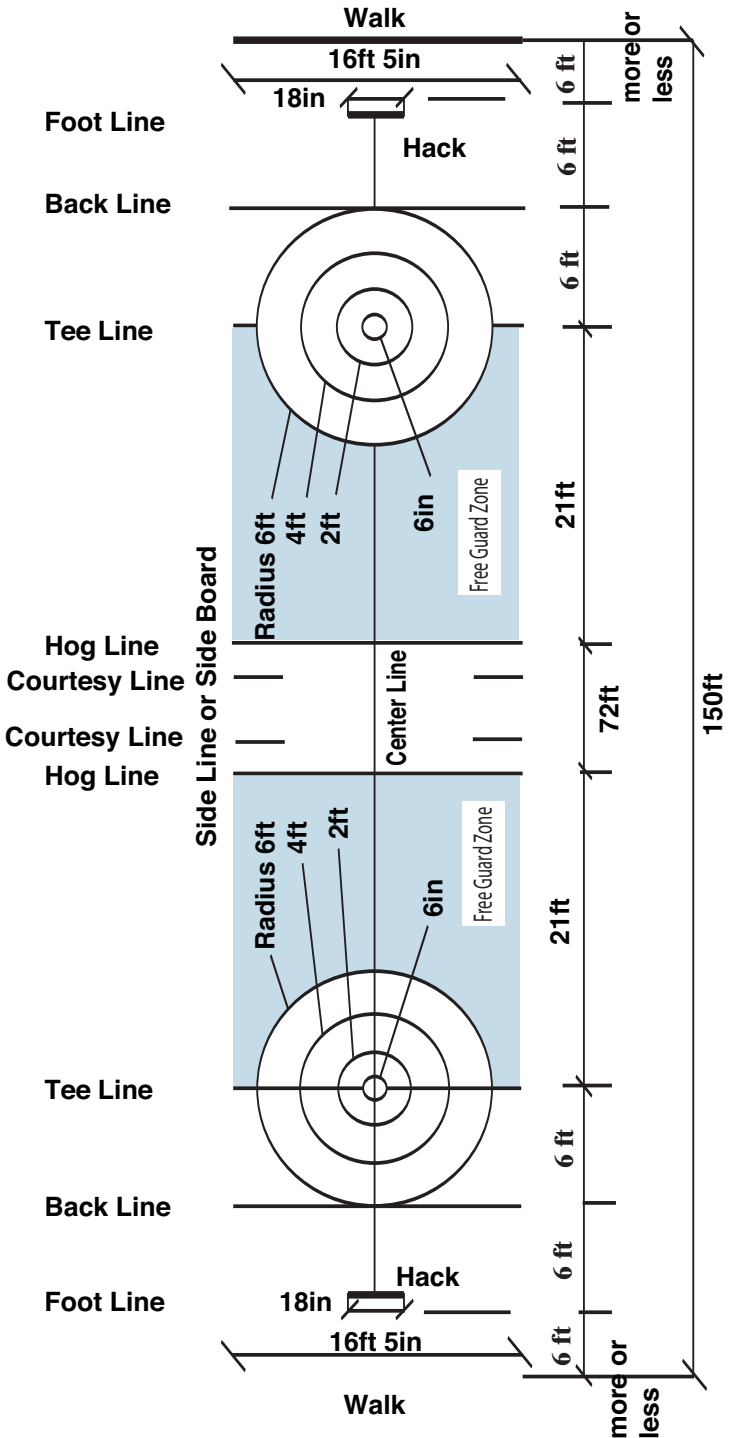


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Team USA 2010

Debbie McCormick

Position: Skip

Birthdate: Jan. 8, 1974

Hometown: Saskatoon,
Saskatchewan

Currently resides: Rio, Wis.

Occupation: Works for
Home Depot

Family: Married to Pete
McCormick

Highlights:

- 2003 world champion
- Three-time Olympian (2010, 2002, 1998)
- 7-time U.S. national champion (2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2003, 2001, 1996; 4 most recently as skip)
- 4-time U.S. junior champion; two silvers and one bronze at World Juniors

Allison Pottinger

Position: Vice skip

Birthdate: July 5, 1973

Hometown: Brampton,
Ontario

Currently resides: Eden
Prairie, Minn.

Occupation: Marketing
research analyst

Family: Married to Doug
Pottinger; two daughters,
Lauren & Kelsey

Highlights:

- 2003 world champion; silver medals in 2006, 1999, 1996
- 9-time U.S. national champion
- 1994 U.S. junior champion; silver medal at Junior Worlds

Nicole Joraanstad

Position: Second

Birthdate: Nov. 10, 1980

Hometown: Seattle

Currently resides: Madison,
Wis.

Occupation: Senior corporate
recruiter for TDS
Telecom

Family: Engaged

Highlights:

- 6-time U.S. champion; won silver at 2006 Worlds
- Two-time U.S. Junior national champion; won bronze at 2000 World Juniors



Debbie McCormick



Allison Pottinger



Nicole Joraanstad

Team USA 2010

Natalie Nicholson

Position: Lead

Birthdate: March 10, 1976

Hometown: Bemidji, Minn.

Occupation: Nurse practitioner

Family: Married to John; one daughter, Stella

Highlights:

- 7-time U.S. national champion
- 2009 USA Curling Female Athlete of the Year
- Two-time U.S. junior champion

Tracy Sachtjen

Position: Alternate

Birthdate: Feb. 20, 1969

Hometown: Lodi, Wis.

Occupation: Events coordinator & sports coordinator with Lodi School District and YMCA

Family: Married to Karl; two children, Sierra and Desmon

Highlights:

- 2003 world champion
- 5-time U.S. national champion
- 3-time U.S. junior national champion
- 1998 U.S. mixed champion
- 1989 USA Curling Female Athlete of the Year
- 2003 and 1999 USA Curling Team of the Year

Wally Henry

Birthdate: May 5, 1947, in

Portage La Prairie, Manitoba

Hometown: Beaver Dam, Wis.

Occupation: Retired

Family: Two children, Debbie McCormick and Donnie Henry

Highlights:

- Has coached Team McCormick since 2003, earning gold medal with team in 2003
- 2007 USA Curling Coach of the Year
- 2007 U.S. senior men's champion
- 2-time U.S. men's champion (two bronze medals at Worlds)
- Assistant coach at 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City



Natalie Nicholson



Tracy Sachtjen



Wally Henry

Team USA 2010

John Shuster

Position: Skip

Birthdate: 11/3/82

Hometown: Chisholm, Minn.

Currently resides: Duluth, Minn.

Occupation: Assistant manager/bartender

Family: Engaged

Highlights:

- 2006 Olympic bronze medalist
- Four-time U.S. men's national champion
- 2007 World University Games gold medalist
- 2004 U.S. junior champion
- 2006 U.S. Olympic Committee's Team of the Year
- 2006 USA Curling Team of the Year
- 2009 USA Curling Male Athlete of the Year



John Shuster

Jason Smith

Position: Vice skip

Birthdate: 9/18/83

Hometown: Chisholm, Minn.

Currently resides: Cape Coral, Fla.

Occupation: Highway Services Technician

Family: Single

Highlights:

- 2009 U.S. national champion; fifth at Worlds
- 2005 U.S. Junior champion; finished fourth at World Juniors



Jason Smith

Jeff Isaacson

Position: Second

Birthdate: 7/14/83

Hometown: Virginia, Minn.

Currently resides: Gilbert, Minn.

Occupation: Teacher

Family: Single

Highlights:

- 2009 U.S. national champion; fifth at Worlds
- 2007 World University Games gold medalist
- 2005 U.S. Junior champion; finished fourth at World Juniors



Jeff Isaacson

Team USA 2010

John Benton

Position: Lead

Birthdate: 6/23/69

Hometown: Afton, Minn.

Currently resides: St. Michael, Minn.

Occupation: Operating systems analyst with Fairview Health Services of Minnesota

Family: Married to Carrie Benton

Highlights:

- 2009 U.S. national champion; fifth at Worlds



John Benton

Chris Plys

Position: Alternate

Birthdate: 8/13/87

Hometown: Duluth, Minn.

Currently resides: Duluth, Minn.

Occupation: Works in family business

Family: Single

Highlights:

- 2009 World Junior bronze medalist
- 2008 World Junior gold medalist
- Five-time U.S. junior champion
- 2008 USA Curling Team of the Year
- 2007 World University Games gold medalist



Chris Plys

Phill Drobnick

Position: Men's team head coach

Birthdate: 10/8/80

Hometown: Virginia, Minn.

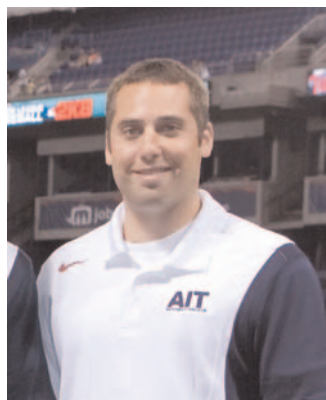
Currently resides: Duluth, Minn.

Occupation: Probation officer with St. Louis County

Family: Married

Highlights:

- Coached the Chris Plys rink to world junior gold medal in 2008 and bronze in 2009.
- As an athlete, won the 2000 U.S. Junior Nationals and competed in four U.S. national championships
- 2009 & 2008 USA Curling Coach of the Year



Phill Drobnick

Team USA 2010

2010 Olympic Winter Games Draw schedule, Feb. 12-28, Vancouver, B.C. Men

(specific Team USA draw schedule not available at press time)
All times local Pacific Time (PT)

- 2/16: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/17: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/18: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/19: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/20: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/21: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/22: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/23: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/24: Tiebreakers (if needed), 9 a.m., noon & 7 p.m.
- 2/25: Semifinals at 2 p.m.
- 2/27: Bronze-medal match, 9 a.m.; gold-medal match, 3 p.m.



MEN—Top 10 qualify to 2010 Olympic Winter Games

Rank	Association	2007	2008	2009	Points
1	Canada	14.0	14.0	12.0	40.0
2	Scotland/Great Britain	3.5	12.0	14.0	29.5
3	USA	10.0	6.0	8.0	24.0
4	Germany	12.0	5.0	7.0	24.0
5	Norway	3.5	10.0	10.0	23.5
6	Switzerland	9.0	2.0	9.0	20.0
7	France	6.5	8.0	5.0	19.5
8	Denmark	3.5	4.0	6.0	13.5
9	China	—	9.0	4.0	13.0
10	Sweden	8.0	3.0	—	11.0
11	Australia	3.5	7.0	—	10.5
12	Finland	6.5	—	1.0	7.5
13	Japan	—	—	3.0	3.0
14	Czech Republic	—	1	2.0	3.0
15	Korea	1	—	—	1.0

Team USA 2010

2010 Olympic Winter Games

Draw schedule, Feb. 12-28, Vancouver, B.C.

Women

(specific Team USA draw schedule not available at press time)

All times local Pacific Time (PT)

- 2/16: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/17: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/18: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/19: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/20: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/21: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/22: Draw at 2 p.m.
- 2/23: Draws at 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- 2/24: Tiebreakers (if needed), 9 a.m., noon & 7 p.m.
- 2/25: Semifinals at 9 a.m.
- 2/26: Bronze-medal match, 9 a.m.; gold-medal match, 3 p.m.



WOMEN—Top 10 qualify to 2010 Olympic Winter Games

Rank	Association	2007	2008	2009	Points
1	Canada	14.0	14.0	9.0	37.0
2	China	6.0	12.0	14.0	32.0
3	Denmark	12.0	8.0	10.0	30.0
4	Sweden	7.5	7.0	12.0	26.5
5	Switzerland	7.5	10.0	8.0	25.5
6	USA	9.0	6.0	4.0	19.0
7	Scotland/Great Britain	10.0	3.0	5.0	18.0
8	Germany	4.0	4.0	7.0	15.0
9	Russia	4.0	5.0	6.0	15.0
10	Japan	4.0	9.0	—	13.0
11	Italy	1.5	2.0	1.0	4.5
12	Korea	—	—	3.0	3.0
13	Czech Republic	1.5	1.0	—	2.5
14	Norway	—	—	2.0	2.0

Curling's Olympic History

The Pete Fenson rink based out of Bemidji, Minn., won U.S. curling's first Olympic medal when the team defeated Great Britain to win the bronze medal at the 2006 Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy. The U.S. women's team, led by Cassie Johnson, struggled in its opening games and finished eighth overall. Canada's Brad Gushue rink would capture the men's elusive gold medal defeating Finland, while Anette Norberg of Sweden added to its collection of medals by defeating Switzerland for the gold.

The first Olympic demonstration was in 1924, in Chamonix, France, where men's teams from England, France and Sweden competed. England won the gold, and Sweden the silver. Games at this time were 18 ends long versus 10 today. This event was most recently recognized as the first time curling was an Olympic medal sport. However, the sport would not have full medal status again until the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan.

Curling was next a demonstration sport in 1932, in Lake Placid, N.Y. Eight men's teams competed—four from Canada and four from the United States. The U.S. teams came from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan and New York. Canada won the round robin competition, taking 12 games to the USA's four. Games were 16 ends long.

After a long absence, curling returned to the Olympics as an official demonstration in 1988, in Calgary, Canada. For the first time, a women's competition was included. Canada won the women's event, followed by Sweden and Norway. On the men's side, Norway took the gold, followed by Switzerland and Canada. (Bronze medals were awarded to the team that lost in the play-offs to the eventual champion.) The U.S. men's and women's teams both finished fourth.

Curling was again part of the Olympic demonstration sport program in 1992, in Albertville, France. This time, Germany won the women's gold, followed by Norway and Canada. A bronze medal game was held, with Canada defeating Denmark. Switzerland took the men's championship, with Norway earning the silver medal and the USA defeating Canada for the bronze medal. The USA's team included Bud Somerville, Mike Strum, Bill Strum and Tim Somerville, all from Superior, Wis. (The U.S. women failed to earn a berth in the Olympic competition in 1992.)

In Salt Lake City in 2002, curling was a medal sport on the Olympic program for the third time. The U.S. men, led by Tim Somerville, finished seventh, while the women's team, skipped by Kari Erickson, missed a bronze medal by just a few rocks.

Curling was officially a demonstration sport three times, but there were also "domestic exhibitions" (host country participants only) in 1948 (St. Moritz, Switzerland) and 1964 (Innsbruck,

Team USA 2010

Olympic Results

Men

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2006	CAN	Brad Gushue	FIN	USA	3
2002	NOR	Pal Trulsen	CAN	SUI	7
1998	SUI	Patrick Hurliman	CAN	NOR	4
*1992	SUI	Urs Dick	NOR	USA	3
*1988	NOR	Eigel Ramsfjell	SUI	CAN	4
*1932	CAN	William Burns	USA	N/A	2
1924	ENG	Col. Robertson-Aikman	SWE	FRA	**

*denotes demonstration sport

** did not qualify for competition

Women

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2006	SWE	Anette Norberg	SUI	CAN	8
2002	GBR	Rhona Martin	SUI	CAN	4
1998	CAN	Sandra Schmirler	DEN	SWE	5
*1992	GER	Andrea Schopp	NOR	CAN	**
*1988	CAN	Linda Moore	SWE	NOR	4

*denotes demonstration sport

** did not qualify for competition



The Pete Fenson rink made history when they won the bronze medal – the first for the U.S. curling program – in 2006 in Torino.

Photo by Michael Burns Jr.

Team USA 2010

Augusto Perez will lead the American team at the 2010 U.S. Paralympic Winter Games, March 12-21 in wheelchair curling action in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Perez (East Syracuse, N.Y.) will team up with fellow 2006 Paralympians James Pierce (North Syracuse, N.Y.), James Joseph (New Hartford, N.Y.) and newcomers Jacqueline Kapinowski (Point Pleasant, N.J.) and Patrick McDonald (Orangevale, Calif.). The

team finished fourth at the most recent world Wheelchair Championship held at the Paralympic venue in Vancouver. This is the second time wheelchair curling will be featured as a Paralympic medal sport. The Americans finished seventh in 2006 in Torino. The team is coached by Steve Brown (Madison, Wis.).



U.S. Olympic Team Trials

Olympic Trials Winners: Men

2009	Broomfield, CO	Duluth, MN
2005	Madison, WI	Bemidji, MN
2001	Ogden, UT	Superior, WI

Skip

John Shuster
Pete Fenson
Tim Somerville

1997	Duluth, MN	Superior, WI
1991	Hibbing, MN	Superior, WI
1987	St. Paul, MN	Superior, WI

Tim Somerville
Tim Somerville
Bob Nichols

Olympic Trials Winners: Women

2009	Broomfield, CO	Madison, WI
2005	Madison, WI	Bemidji, MN
2001	Ogden, UT	Highland Park, IL

Skip

Debbie McCormick
Cassie Johnson
Kari Erickson

1997	Duluth, MN	Madison, WI
1987	St. Paul, MN	Madison, WI

Lisa Schoeneberg
Lisa Schoeneberg

Team USA 2010



Team USA for the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games named in 2009. Team members include (l-r) Augusto Perez, James Pierce, Jimmy Joseph, Jacqui Kapinowski and Patrick McDonald. They are coached by Steve Brown, USA Curling's national wheelchair coach. The 2010 Paralympic Winter Games will take place March 12-21 in Vancouver.

The complete draw with match-ups was not available at press time but here is a look at the schedule. You can check the Paralympic website at www.vancouver2010.com as the event nears (all times below are local, Pacific Time):

- March 13-18, games at 12:30 and 6 p.m.
- March 19, tiebreakers (as needed) at 9 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- March 20, semifinals, 10 a.m.; bronze & gold matches, 3:30 p.m.

U.S. Olympic Team Trials

Vice Skip
Jason Smith
Shawn Rojeski
Mike Schneeberger

Mike Peplinski
Mike Strum
*Bud Somerville

Vice Skip
Allison Pottinger

Jamie Johnson
Debbie McCormick

Erika Brown
Carla Casper
*skipped but threw other than fourth stones

Second
Jeff Isaacson
Joe Polo
Myles Brundidge

Myles Brundidge
*Bud Somerville
Tom Locken

Second
Nicole Joraanstad

Jessica Schultz
Stacey Liapis

Debbie Henry
Lori Mountford

Lead
John Benton
John Shuster
John Gordon
Don Barcome Jr.
John Gordon
Bill Strum
Bob Christman

Lead
Natalie Nicholson
Tracy Sachtjen
Maureen Brunt
Ann Swisshelm
Joni Cotten
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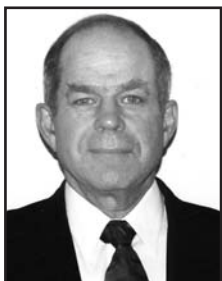
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USCA Executive Committee

About the USCA

The United States Curling Association is the National Governing Body of the sport of curling in the United States and has its national office in Stevens Point, Wis.

As the NGB for the sport of curling, the USCA strives to grow the sport and to win medals in world championships and Olympic Games. The USCA is a member of the World Curling Federation and the U.S. Olympic Committee.

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* board-elected

** voice, no vote

Athletes Advisory Council

The purpose of the USCA's Athletes Advisory Council is to provide comprehensive guidance and/or recommendations to the USCA on any issue relating to athletes. The mission of the AAC is to provide guidance to the USCA as the collective voice of elite athletes in the United States. AAC members make up 20 percent of the USCA Board of Directors.

Members:

Nicole Joraanstad, Wisconsin, chairwoman

Richard Maskel, Wisconsin, vice chairman

Chrissy Haase, New York, secretary

Maureen Brunt, Minnesota

John Benton, Minnesota

Tom O'Connor, Minnesota

Jacquelyn Kapinowski, New Jersey, wheelchair representative



Team USA in action in Korea at the 2009 Women's World Championship.

USOC & WCF Representatives

U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

USCA RepresentativesRick Patzke & Leland Rich

USCA Rep to USOC AAC.....Richard Maskel [2012]

USCA Alternate to USOC AAC..... Maureen Brunt [2012]

WORLD CURLING FEDERATION

USCA RepresentativesAndy Anderson [2012]; Peggy Hatch [2011]; Mark Swandby [2010]; and Leland Rich [2012]

Affiliated Organizations

World Curling Federation

www.worldcurlingfederation.org

President	Les Harrison (CAN)
Vice-President	Kate Caithness (SCO)
Director of Finance	Warren Lowe (USA)
Secretary General	Mike Thomson

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USA Representatives – Peggy Hatch, Andy Anderson,
Leland Rich, Mark Swandby

Royal Caledonian Curling Club

President	Matt Murdoch
CEO	Colin Grahamslaw

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Scotland EH28 8NB
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office@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org

American Curling Foundation & Museum

Location: Chicago Curling Club, 555 Dundee Road,
Northbrook, IL 60062.

Curator: James Miller
Home: 847-272-7224

United States Olympic Committee

Chairman	Larry Probst
Acting CEO	Stephanie Streater
Olympic House	One Olympic Plaza Colorado Springs, CO 80909
USCA Representatives	Rick Patzke & Leland Rich Richard Maskel, USOC–AAC

U.S. Women's Curling Association

www.uswca.org

President	Jennifer Stannard
USCA Representative	Janet Farr

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E-mail: jfarr103@sbcglobal.net

What is Curling?

Curling is a team game, where all four team members' efforts contribute directly to each shot. Teams can be composed of both sexes and all ages, and like golf, curling is a lifetime sport.

A curler at any skill level, like a golfer, finds that his or her skills decline only gradually from about age 45 onward. A national class curler, like the pro golfer, realizes that once the physical aspects are mastered, the mental aspect of the game separates the good player from the champion.

To continue with the golf analogy, it can be said that the curler who is at the height of his or her game has the same edge as the golfer who is sinking the key putts: great nerves, will to win, and mental toughness.

Historical and Descriptive Notes

It is generally agreed that curling was developed in Scotland in the 16th century. The climate in Scotland was colder then, and curling took place on the many marshes (since drained).

Scottish farmers curled on the frozen marshes using "channel stones," which were naturally smoothed by the water's action. The principles of the game were similar to the modern game, although there were many differences in rules and equipment.

The spirit of curling evolved in the early centuries in Scotland. It is this spirit of honorable competition followed by egalitarian sociality that made curling a special game in curlers' minds. An excerpt from "The Spirit of Curling:"

"Curlers play to win but never to humble their opponents. A true curler would prefer to lose rather than win unfairly ... while the main object of the game is to determine the relative skill of the players, the spirit of the game demands good sportsmanship, kindly feeling, and honorable conduct."

Scottish immigrants brought the game with them to North America, first to Canada around 1759, then to the United States around 1832. By 1855, curling clubs flourished in New York City, Detroit, Milwaukee and Portage, Wis. Curling in the rest of Europe developed in the 20th century.

Two developments ensured that the modern game would be marked by a high degree of physical skill and mental toughness:

1. the standardization of the stone, and
2. indoor, refrigerated ice.

The modern stone is round, and about 42 pounds. Curling is played, for the most part, on indoor, refrigerated ice, which helps ensure a fast, consistent and predictable playing surface.

The Game

A game is made up of 10 ends (like innings). An end consists of each team member shooting (delivering) two rocks, or stones, alternately with the opponent's player at the same position. When all 16 rocks have been delivered, the score for that end is determined.

A 12-foot circle (the "house") is the scoring area. For each stone closer to the center of the circles (the tee) than any of the opponent's, one point is scored. The team scoring shoots first in the next end, giving the opponent the "hammer," or last shot of that end. Teams will sometimes ignore taking a point to retain

the next end's hammer.

The sheet of ice (playing surface) is 16' 5" wide and 150 feet long, set up to accommodate play in both directions. Most curling takes place in curling clubs, which commonly have two to six sheets of ice. Hockey arenas are also used as temporary curling rinks; they accommodate up to six sheets.

All four players shoot two rocks per end, beginning with the player referred to as the "lead." The "second" shoots next, and then the "third," or "vice skip." The skip usually shoots the last rocks, and calls the strategy for the game.

The skip decides on shot selection, and "reads" the curl in the ice for the shooter. The shooter must be accurate in three functions:

1. Aim (at the broom)
2. "Weight" (velocity imparted to the stone)
3. Imparting the correct "handle" (curl) to each shot

Shots are called either to stop at a certain point on the sheet ("draws" or "guards") or to have enough weight to strike another rock out of play ("takeouts" or "hit and rolls").

Each running stone curls, or curves, as it proceeds down the ice based on the twist given the handle during the delivery. The amount of curl varies based on the ice surface and the speed of the rock. The curl allows for better control of the stone and also provides a means to shoot around guards.

Sweeping—with either a straw broom, hog hair or horse hair brush, or synthetic brush—adds the element of fitness to curling because, to be effective, sweeping must be very vigorous. Sweeping slightly melts the ice, which reduces the friction between the running stone and the ice. The result is that the stone will curl less, and slide farther.

Sweeping is called for when the stone has not been delivered firmly enough, and/or when the shot is aimed "narrow," or inside the broom target. Sweeping can help a rock slide up to an additional 15 feet. Top teams control most shots by using aim and weight "within the sweeping zone."

Strategy is a major part of curling. Shots are played with an eye to the last rocks of each end, not simply placed at the center of the circles. The strategy can be rather complex. Innovations are constantly being made and adopted when the innovators win, similar to other sports where strategy and the game plan plays a major role.

It is common for games between national-class teams to be very close, with both skips jockeying for the last shot in the last end.



John Shuster, Skip, Team USA

Who curls, and where?

Curling opportunities exist for males and females of all age groups. Twenty-four-pound “junior stones” are available for younger children to use. The game has equal appeal as both a social outlet and a competitive sport.

Recreational curling competitions, called “bonspiels,” are organized for men, women, couples, seniors and juniors. Local clubs have regular leagues for these same constituencies. “Open” events feature curlers of all ages and both genders competing in one competition.

Curlers come from all walks of life, and value the special camaraderie integral to the sport.

Curling is played in 33 states, mostly across the north. It is a winter sport, but it is being played more and more in warmer climates with the growth of indoor ice facilities.

There are approximately 16,000 curlers in the United States, and more than 140 clubs. Wisconsin has the largest concentration of curlers, with nearly 4,000, while Minnesota has more than 3,000. There also are substantial clubs along the East Coast as well as in Seattle and Fairbanks, Alaska, and even in Texas, which now boasts three active clubs.



Team USA works hard during action at the 2009 Men's Worlds in New Brunswick. Women's team members (next page, l-r) Nicole Joraanstad and Natalie Nicholson sweep strong.

Photos by Michael Burns Jr.

Curling Across the Globe

Curling is mostly concentrated in countries with colder climates. Canada has the most curlers of all, with nearly 1.2 million of the estimated 1.5 million in the world. Only four other countries have more than 10,000 curlers—Japan, Scotland, Switzerland and the USA. The 45 countries listed below have curling organizations that belong to the World Curling Federation:

Andorra	Australia	Austria	Belarus
Belgium	Brazil	Bulgaria	Canada
China	Chinese Taipei	Croatia	Czech Republic
Denmark	England	Estonia	Finland
France	Germany	Greece	Hungary
Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Japan
Kazakstan	Korea	Latvia	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Netherlands	New Zealand
Norway	Poland	Russia	Scotland
Serbia & Montenegro	Switzerland	Slovakia	Spain
Sweden	U.S. Virgin Islands	Turkey	United States
Wales			



Curling Across the Globe

Championship Contacts

54th USA Curling Men's National Championship & 34th USA Curling Women's National Championship

March 6-13, 2010 • Wings Stadium, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Executive Vice Chairman: Jeff Weber

3600 Vanrick Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

269-345-2277 • jweber@wingsstadium.com

6th USA Curling Club National Championships

Feb. 20-27, 2010 • Madison Curling Club, Madison, Wis.

Chairmen: *Jeremy Roe*

233 W. Rio St., Rio, WI 53960

920-992-5470 (H) • 608-242-4100, Ext. 32965 (B)

920-291-7524 (C) • jeremy.roe@amfam.com

Mark Hartman

227 Talon Place, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

608-234-2528 (C) • 608-242-4100, Ext. 36008 (B)

mark.hartman@amfam.com

36th USA Curling Mixed National Championship

March 20-27, 2010 • Chicago Curling Club, Chicago, Ill.

Chairmen: *Colin & Michele Rittgers*

675 Peoria #4S, Chicago, IL 60642

312-402-0202 (Michele's cell) • 312-307-3333 (Colin's cell)

crittgers@mindspring.com • mrittgers@mindspring.com

37th USA Curling Junior Men's National Championship & 24th USA Curling Junior Women's National Championship

Jan. 23-30, 2010 • Bemidji Curling Club, Bemidji, Minn.

Chairmen: *Terry Matson*

6121 Lagoon Drive NE, Bemidji, MN 56601

218-444-8991 (H) • 218-308-0949 (C) • 218-444-1579 (B)

218-751-0007 (Fax) • terry@securitybankusa.com

Brian Glynn

807 Bunchberry Lane NE, Bemidji, MN 56601

218-444-4596 (H) • 218-368-9199 (C)

bglynn@paulbunyan.net

9th USA Curling Senior National Championships

Jan. 28-31, 2010 (women), Cape Cod Curling Club, Cape Cod, Mass.

Chairwoman: *Liz Abeltin*

67 Quaker Road, Falmouth MA 02540

508-548-1214 (H) • 508-801-6323 (C) • whimbre@aol.com

Jan. 27-31, 2010 (men), Portage Curling Club, Portage, Wis.

Chairman: *Steve Benck*

842 Ridgeview Court, Portage, WI 53954

608-745-4344 (H) • 608-617-0443 (C) • 608-742-1408 (B)

mcgef@yahoo.com

3rd U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship

Dec. 3-6, 2009 • Granite Curling Club, Seattle, Wash.

Chairmen: *Doug Potter*

2155 N. 128th St., Seattle, WA 98133

206-362-5521 (H) • 425-706-4932 (C) • doug@conicwave.net

Jon Wilson

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TV coverage

NBC Universal Sports aired 12 hours of live coverage from the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Curling in February 2009 from the Broomfield Event Center in Broomfield, Colo., marking the first time curling was aired live in the U.S. outside of an Olympic Games. The coverage also was webstreamed via Universal Sports' website.

John Shuster (Duluth, Minn.) and Debbie McCormick (Rio, Wis.) led their teams to the titles and will now focus on the big picture – the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver.

NBC's coverage of curling during the Olympic Games has greatly increased over the past three Olympics.

Curling's exposure on NBC's networks during the 2006 Olympic Winter Games has helped further grow the sport across the United States from Southern California to Texas to Vermont. Much of the 80+ hours of U.S. curling programming from the 2006 Games appeared on CNBC. This was up from the 50-plus hours shown during the Salt Lake City Games in 2002. Weekday coverage of curling in the 5-8 p.m. ET time slot delivered an average of 876,000 viewers, 579 percent higher than CNBC's February 2005 average in the same time slot.

Vancouver, British Columbia, is set to host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games Feb. 12-28, 2010. The Vancouver Olympic Centre/Vancouver Paralympic Centre will be the site for curling and is set to be completed by Fall 2008. The venue will feature four ice sheets with space to fit about 6,000 spectators. Visit www.vancouver2010.com/en to learn more about the 2010 Olympic Games.

Early reports from NBC indicate the network will air live coverage of the morning and afternoon games in Vancouver with the night draws being aired via tape-delay. Curling is the only sport that has received an increase in ratings from the 2002 to 2006 Olympic Games.



The ABCs of Curling

In curling, all four players of a team are involved in each of their team's shots. While the skip, or captain, holds his or her broom for a target and calls the strategy for the shooter, the other two players sweep the stone's path when deemed necessary.

Sweeping clears the ice of any frost or debris that might slow the stone down or send it off course. Sweeping also polishes the ice, creating a thin layer of moisture that reduces friction and allows the rock to go farther and straighter (up to 15 feet farther with vigorous sweeping).

The "sweepers" are in the best position to judge whether or not the delivered stone has enough momentum to reach its target, while the person in the house can best judge the line and call for sweeping if the stone is curling too much.

Sweeping is allowed between the tee lines, and beyond the far tee line by only one player per team. All four players may sweep at the same time when the stone is between the tee lines.

The player in charge of the house may sweep an opponent's stone once it passes the tee line. Players may also sweep any of their own stones that have been set into motion by the delivered stone.

By the 1990s, the skill of top players had progressed to such a point that, once a team got a small lead, they were simply knocking out one another's rocks repeatedly, which translated to "boring games" for many spectators. To spice up the game, the World Curling Federation introduced the Free Guard Zone Rule (or Moncton Rule, since it was first tested in competition in Moncton, New Brunswick).

Simply put, the Free Guard Zone Rule specifies that players are allowed to bump—but not remove—the first four rocks of a given end if they come to rest between the hog line and the tee line, excluding the house (i.e., the guard zone). Any rock touching the tee line outside the house, or biting (touching) the 12-foot ring at the front of the house, is not considered to be in the Free Guard Zone and may be taken out by the opposing lead player.

When teams take advantage of the Free Guard Zone, there generally are more rocks in play throughout an end, and teams have a much better chance of coming back from a deficit. In turn, strategies have evolved that are significantly different from the old "hit" game, and the sport has become much more interesting for the majority of spectators, as well as for the players.

Curling Equipment

Clothing: Loose fitting, several layers, sweaters, pants, kilts, caps. Matching uniforms for many competitions.

Shoes: Special curling shoes are common but not mandatory. Shoes should grip the ice well for walking. Smooth soles are easy to clean to minimize dirt on the ice.

For the delivery, extremely slippery surfaces such as Teflon are used on the sliding foot to generate a long, smooth-sliding follow through. Some "sliders" are built into shoes, while others are strapped on over the sole.



Broom/Brush: Commercially manufactured for curling. The straw brooms, synthetic brushes, and short bristled brushes are all effective.

Stones: Made of a rare, close and evenly grained granite quarried primarily on Scotland's Ailsa Craig, with handles attached. Standardized, weighing 42 pounds, and provided by the curling clubs.



Curling Equipment

Brushes come in a variety of designs and materials.

Please report errors in this directory to the USCA office:
1-888-CURLERS (287-5377)
terry.kolesar@usacurl.org
Thank you!

Glossary of Curling Terms

BACK LINE – the line at the back of the house. Rocks completely beyond the line are out of play.

BONSPIELS – curling tournaments.

BROOM – the instrument used to sweep the ice. Brooms with synthetic heads are most common.

BURNED ROCK – a shooting team's rock that has been fouled (touched by a player or equipment) while in motion. It is removed from play.

CENTERLINE – the line dividing and running the length of the sheet of ice.

CURL – a turn of the rock's handle upon release makes the rock curl, or curve, as it travels down the ice. The rock curls in the direction of the turn.

DELIVERY – the release of the curling stone by the shooter.

DRAW – a rock that stops in front of or in the house.

END – One end is complete when all 16 rocks (eight per team) have been thrown to one end of the sheet. A game is usually eight ends, or about two hours. Championship games are 10 ends, or about 2 1/2 hours. After each end, the score is determined.

FREEZE – a draw that finishes in front of and up against another rock.

GUARD – a rock between the hog line and the house used to thwart the opposition from hitting a rock in the house.

HACK – a rubber foothold from which curlers deliver the rock. It is about 125 feet from the scoring area.

HAMMER – the last rock of each end.

HEAVY ICE – when the ice is "slow" and the rocks have to be thrown harder.

HIT & ROLL – a shot designed to take out an opponent's rock and then roll the shooter to a designated spot, such as behind a guard.

HOG LINES – located 21 feet from each tee. A rock must be released before the near hog line, and travel beyond the far hog line, or it is removed from play.

HOUSE – the round scoring area, 12 feet in diameter, with concentric circles of four and eight feet in diameter inside.

HURRY – a command shouted by the skip or shooter to tell the sweepers to sweep.

KEEN ICE – when the ice is "fast" and less momentum is needed on the rock.

LEAD – the player who delivers the first two rocks of each end, alternating with the opponent's lead.

NARROW – a rock delivered inside the intended line of delivery.

PEEL – a shot to remove a guard, or guards.

Glossary of Curling Terms

PORT – an opening through which teams try to draw or shoot through.

RAISE – a draw that raises another rock into the house.

RINK – a curling team, which consist of four players, the skip, third (vice-skip), second, and lead. All players are involved in every shot, with one shooting, two sweeping, and one calling strategy. Two rinks play against each other.

ROCKS – also known as stones, are made of rare, dense, polished granite. Each rock weighs 42 pounds.

SCORING – only one rink scores per end, that being the rink with the rock(s) closest to the center of the house. The team with the highest score at the end of a game wins. The maximum score in each end is eight, which is very rare. Typically, one to three points are scored per end.

SECOND – the player who delivers the second two rocks of each end, alternating with the opponent's second.

SHEET – the 146-ft. long ice playing area. The sheet's design allows play in both directions.

SKIP – player who holds the broom as a target for shots by the other three players. Skips are team strategists and must study—or read—the ice, judge the amount of curl, and call the shots. Skips usually throw the last two rocks of each end.

SLIDER – worn on the sliding foot, in the delivery of a stone to allow for long, smooth motion and follow through.

STRAIGHT ICE – when the ice is not curling much.

SWEEPING – players sweep to make the rock travel farther, or to keep it from curling too much. Good sweepers can increase the distance a stone travels by more than 10 feet. Sweeping creates a thin film of water under the rock that allows it to glide easier. Two players are ready to sweep each shot.

“SWINGY” ICE – when the ice is curling a lot.

TAKEOUT – a rock that removes another rock from play.

TEE (or BUTTON) – center of the house.

THIRD – the player who delivers the third two rocks of each end, alternating with the opponent's third. The player who holds the broom for the skip, and who assists the skip with game strategy. Also known as a vice skip.

WEIGHT – the momentum, or force, behind a rock as it glides down the ice.

WIDE – a rock delivered outside the line of delivery.

USCA Awards

2009 USA Curling Athletes of the Year

2009 National Champions John Shuster (Duluth, Minn.) and Natalie Nicholson (Bemidji, Minn.) have been selected USA Curling Male and Female Athlete of the Year, respectively.

Shuster skipped his team to a victory at the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials and a fifth-place finish at the 2009 Ford Men's World Championship.

Nicholson was the top performer at the lead position at the 2009 Women's World Championship in South Korea. She also helped Team Debbie McCormick capture the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials and fourth straight national championship title.

In the team category, Seattle's Brady Clark, Cristin Clark, Philip Tilker and Bev Walter, 2009 U.S. mixed champions, were named 2009 USA Curling Team of the Year. The Clarks have now won a U.S. record six of the last eight mixed national titles while Walter has won five. This was Tilker's first. The Clarks also teamed up to win the 2009 U.S. mixed doubles title and represented the U.S. at the 2009 World Mixed Doubles in Italy. This was the first time a mixed team was honored as Team of the Year.



Shuster



Nicholson

Athletes of the Year

2009	John Shuster	Natalie Nicholson
2008	Augusto Perez	Allison Pottinger
2007	Todd Birr	Nicole Joraanstad
2006	Shawn Rojeski	Debbie McCormick
2005	Pete Fenson	Cassie Johnson
2004	Joel Larway	Erika Brown
2003	Pete Fenson	Debbie McCormick
2002	Paul Pustovar	Kari Erickson
2001	Jason Larway	Ann Swisshelm
2000	Craig Brown	Amy Wright
1999	Myles Brundidge	Patti Lank
1998	Paul Pustovar	Stacey Liapis
1997	Kevin Kakela	Joni Cotten
1996	Travis Way	Lisa Schoeneberg
1995	Tim Somerville	Lisa Schoeneberg
1994	Mike Peplinski	Erika Brown
1993	Scott Baird	Kari (Liapis) Erickson
1992	Doug Jones	Lisa Schoeneberg
1991	Eric Fenson	Lori Mountford
1990	Doug Jones	Bev Behnke
1989	Kurt Marquardt	Tracy Zeman
1988	Bob Nichols	Erika Brown
1987	Bud Somerville	Lisa Schoeneberg

USCA Awards

USA Curling Team of the Year

- 2009 The Brady Clark rink of Seattle, Wash. (Brady Clark, Cristin Clark, Philip Tilker, Bev Walter)
- 2008 The Chris Plys rink of Duluth, Minn. (Chris Plys, Aanders Brorson, Matt Perushek, Matt Hamilton, Daniel Plys)
- 2007 The Todd Birr rink of Mankato, Minn. (Todd Birr, Bill Todhunter, Greg Johnson, Kevin Birr)
- 2006 The Pete Fenson rink of Bemidji, Minn. (Pete Fenson, Shawn Rojeski, Joe Polo, John Shuster, Scott Baird)
- 2005 The Cassie Johnson rink of Bemidji, Minn. (Cassie Johnson, Jamie Johnson, Jessica Schultz, Maureen Brunt)
- 2004 The Patti Lank rink of Wisconsin (Patti Lank, Erika Brown, Nicole Joraanstad, Natalie Nicholson)
- 2003 The Debbie McCormick rink of Illinois (Debbie McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Ann Swisshelm Silver, Tracy Sachtjen)
- 2002 The Cassie Johnson rink of Bemidji, Minn. (Cassie Johnson, Jamie Johnson, Katie Beck, Maureen Brunt)
- 2001 The Andy Roza rink of Ak-Sar-Ben (Omaha), Neb., (Andy Roza, Steve Jaixen, Chris Becher, Scott Jordan)
- 2000 The Laura Delaney rink of Wisconsin (Laura Delaney, Nicole Joraanstad, Kirsten Finch, Rebecca Dobie)
- 1999 The Patti Lank rink of Wisconsin (Patti Lank, Erika Brown, Allison Darragh, Tracy Sachtjen)
- 1998 The Andy Roza rink of Ak-Sar-Ben (Omaha), Neb., (Andy Roza, Steve Jaixen, Kevin Jordan, Chris Becher, Scott Jordan)
- 1997 The Risa O'Connell rink of Bemidji, Minn. (Risa O'Connell, Amy Becher, Natalie Simenson, Missi O'Connell)

2009 USA Curling Team of the Year



2009 U.S. Mixed National champions Brady Clark, Cristin Clark, Philip Tilker and Bev Walter of the Granite Curling Club in Seattle were named the 2009 USA Curling Team of the Year.

Coach of the Year

At just 28 years of age, Minnesota's Phill Drobnick has coached a team to world junior gold, the Olympic Team Trials and now will be on the sidelines at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games as head coach of the men's team. These accomplishments and many more have paved the way for Drobnick to be named USA Curling's Coach of the Year for the second straight year.



Drobnick

This year alone, Duluth's Drobnick helped the Chris Plys team win its fourth straight junior title, compete as the youngest team at the 2010 Olympic Team Trials and win bronze at the 2009 World Juniors. He also worked closely with the Aileen Sormunen rink as they made a run at the Olympic Trials.

When he's not coaching, Drobnick works as a probation officer full-time for St. Louis County in Minnesota. Selected as team coach for the John Shuster team for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in April, Drobnick assisted the team at the 2009 Ford World Men's Championship in New Brunswick, where the Americans just missed the playoffs.

Fellow Minnesotan Tim Muller has been named 2009 USA Curling Developmental Coach of the Year. Muller (Hibbing, Minn.) has coached the Aaron Wald rink for the past four years. Wald's team has advanced to the U.S. Junior Nationals the past three seasons, this year finishing second, and shown steady improvement in the four years under Muller's guidance.

USCA Coaching Awards

Coach of the Year		Developmental Coach of the Year	
2009	Phill Drobnick	2009	Tim Muller
2008	Phill Drobnick	2008	Mike Solem
2007	Wally Henry	2007	Karyn Cousins
2006	Bob Fenson	2006	Mary Jaster
2005	Neil Doese	2005	Dave Jensen
2004	Cyndee Johnson	2004	John Lesnak
2003	Joni Cotten	2003	Larry Barott
2002	Jim Dexter	2002	Lynita Delaney
2001	Mike Liapis	2001	Not awarded
2000	Lisa Schoeneberg	2000	Sharon O'Brien
1999	Ralph Roza	1999	Liz Johnson
1998	Scott Baird	1998	Neil Doese
1997	Bob Fenson	1997	Ralph Roza
1996	Steve Brown	1996	Michael Naylor

USCA Hall of Fame

1984 Bud Somerville	1995 Bob Christman Jim Stephens
1988 Ted Childs Glenn Harris Hughston McBain Don McKay Bruce Roberts	1996 Bernie Roth Ernest Slyziuk
1989 Art Cobb Harvey Marshall Bill Strum	1997 Harold Lauber Ken Sherwood
1990 Bob Nichols Mike Slyziuk	1998 Frank Befera Steve Brown
1991 J. Nelson Brown Norman Rickards Mary Van Ess	1999 Tom Satrom
1992 Orvil Gilleshammer	2000 Glenn Gilleshammer
1993 Ann Brown	2001 George Godfrey Nancy Richard
1994 Dr. Donald Barcome Tom Locken The 1965 World Champions Bud Somerville Bill Strum Al Gagne Tom Wright The 1976 World Champions Bruce Roberts Joe Roberts Gary Kleffman Jerry Scott	2002 Robert Hardy John Williamson
	2003 Elgie Noble
	2005 Scott Baird
	2006 Lisa Schoeneberg
	2007 Mark Haluptzok

Coach of the Year & Hall of Fame

The U.S. Curling Hall of Fame is displayed at the USCA national office in Stevens Point, Wis. Call 888-287-5377 for more details or to schedule a visit.

USCA Bruce Bennett Media Award

Recipient(s)	Year
Jon Miller & Peter Diamond, NBC Sports	2007
Tom Erskine, WKTU-NBC, Utica, N.Y.	2003
Walter Brzoza, curling cartoonist	2002
Frank & Mary "China" Rhyme, Portage, Wis.	2000

USCA Memorials

The sport of curling lost a great supporter and proud fan as R. Chris Moore, 53, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, passed away Feb. 20, 2009, from cancer.

Chris was president of the USCA up until a few weeks before, when he resigned to focus on his health. Battling cancer since January 2008, Moore served the sport of curling in many capacities — bonspiel competitor, curling fan and many years on the Board of Directors for the USCA serving as president, a vice president and secretary/treasurer to name just a few. By day, he worked as first vice president and chief operating officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.



Moore

The Chris Moore Legacy Fund has been established to support USCA championships and junior curling. Please direct donations, in care of the USCA, to 5525 Clem's Way, Stevens Point, WI 54482.

USA Curling Head Ice Technician Garland Legacie passed away May 26, 2009, after a nearly four-year battle with cancer. Legacie, 53, died at his home in rural Edmore, N.D., surrounded by family and the fields he farmed when not pursuing his curling passion.

Legacie was diagnosed with esophagus cancer in June 2005, and had surgery shortly thereafter. He was in and out of treatment many times since then. It was discovered that the cancer had spread throughout his body in early May 2009, and doctors advised that he would not survive additional surgeries or chemotherapy. At that time, Legacie returned home to be with his family and friends on the North Dakota prairie.



Legacie

Legacie became the head ice technician for USA Curling in June 2006 and worked diligently on the ice at the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in February in Colorado despite his weakened condition. He could not be persuaded to be anywhere else, stating that working on the ice was the best therapy he could get.

Legacie was a certified Level I World Curling Federation icemaker. He made the ice at more than 15 North Dakota state championships, 10 national championships, and one world championship.

USCA Past Presidents

1958-59	Walter E. Selck — Illinois
1959-60	Walter C. Rhodes — Wisconsin
1960-61	Coleburke Lyons — Michigan
1961-62	Joseph Carlson — Wisconsin
1962-63	Ralph A. Trieschmann — Illinois
1963-64	W. Lincoln Seibert — New York
1964-66	Ray C. Meddaugh — Illinois
1966-67	Ralston B. Reid — New York
1967-68	Joseph A. LeVine — Minnesota
1968-69	Ernest R. Nyman — North Dakota
1969-70	Edward C. Childs — Connecticut
1970-71	William C. Livingston — Minnesota
1971-72	David E. Brown — Illinois
1972-73	Edward J. Shipstad — Colorado
1973-74	Arthur J. Cobb — New York
1974-75	J. Nelson Brown — Michigan
1975-76	Elgie L. Noble — Wisconsin
1976-77	L. T. Kreutzig — Wisconsin
1977-78	Donald G. McKay — New York
1978-79	Norman P. Rickards — Illinois
1979-80	Harvey Marshall — Minnesota
1980-81	Kenneth Sherwood — Washington
1981-82	Howard P. Chandler — Massachusetts
1982-83	Dr. Donald Barcome — North Dakota
1983-84	Dr. William J. Ensign — Minnesota
1984-85	John Woodin — Wisconsin
1985-86	Robert E. Hardy — Washington
1986-87	Robert Sponaugle — Pennsylvania
1987-88	William B. Pattinson — Wisconsin
1988-89	Robert L. Whitehead — Ohio
1989-90	C. Kenneth Cooper — Connecticut
1990-91	Thomas L. Satrom — Minnesota
1991-92	Ann Brown — Illinois
1992-93	David Russell — Wisconsin
1993-94	Evelyn Nostrand — Connecticut
1994-95	Denis Fox — Alaska
1995-96	Warren R. Lowe — Illinois
1996-97	Winnifred H. Bloomquist — North Dakota
1997-98	Tom Brooke — Maryland
1998-99	D. Clark Higgins — Wisconsin
1999-00	Leland Rich — Alaska
2000-01	Albert M. Anderson — Illinois
2001-02	Peggy Hatch — Pennsylvania
2002-03	Jack McNelly — Colorado
2003-04	Bob Fenson — Minnesota
2004-06	Mark Swandby — Wisconsin
2006-08	Georgia West — Illinois
2008-09	R. Chris Moore — Ohio

2008 Continental Cup



USA's Pete Annis (from left), Craig Brown and John Dunlop in action at the 2008 Continental Cup in Camrose, Alberta.

Photo by Michael Burns Jr.

With their backs against the wall, the 2008 world champion Kevin Martin rink of Canada wasn't able to carry North America as Team World overcame the Canadians and Americans, 208-192, to win the 2008 Continental Cup at the Edgeworth Centre in Camrose, Alberta, Canada.

Team World entered the final event needing a mere eight points for the win. Martin and his 2008 world champion teammates John Morris, Marc Kennedy and Ben Hebert kept Norway's Thomas Ulsrud's team at bay for four ends before the cup title was seized when Ulsrud made an angle runback to grab the 11-point skin for the win.

The remaining ends were played despite the early overall win by Team World with Martin prevailing over Ulsrud, 40-15.

USA team members included Craig Brown, Rich Ruohonen, John Dunlop, Pete Annis, Debbie McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Nicole Joraanstad and Tracy Sachtjen. They teamed up with four teams from Canada to form Team North America.

This was the sixth Continental Cup of Curling. Both sides have now won three titles a piece. There won't be a Cup in 2009 due to the Canadian Olympic Team Trials. Pending a sponsor, details regarding the 2010 Continental Cup will be announced soon.

2008 Continental Cup

Event:	World	North America
Women's team – Round 1	15	3
Mixed Doubles – Round 1	15	3
Men's team – Round 1	6	12
Women's team – Round 2	18	0
Mixed doubles – Round 2	12	6
Men's team – Round 2	6	12
Men's/Women's/Mixed Skins A	30	30
Singles (+ bonus)	22	10
Men's/Women's/Mixed Skins B	28	62
Women's Skins C	41	14
Men's Skins C	15	40
Total:	208	192

Year	Site	North America	World
2008	Camrose, Alb.	192	208
USA members: <i>Debbie McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Nicole Joraanstad, Tracy Sachtjen, Craig Brown, Rich Ruohonen, John Dunlop, Pete Annis</i>			
2007	Medicine Hat, Alb.	290	110
USA members: <i>Debbie McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Nicole Joraanstad, Natalie Nicholson, Todd Birr, Bill Todhunter, Greg Johnson, Kevin Birr</i>			
2006	Chilliwack, BC	171	229
USA members: <i>Debbie McCormick, Nicole Joraanstad, Natalie Nicholson, Tracy Sachtjen, Pete Fenson, Shawn Rojas, Joe Polo, Doug Pottinger</i>			
2004	Medicine Hat, Alb.	228	172
USA members: <i>Patti Lank, Erika Brown, Nicole Joraanstad, Natalie Nicholson, Jason Larway, Doug Pottinger, Joel Larway, Bill Todhunter</i>			
2003	Thunder Bay, Ont.	179	208
USA members: <i>Debbie McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Ann Swisshelm, Tracy Sachtjen, Pete Fenson, Eric Fenson, Shawn Rojas, John Shuster</i>			
2002	Regina, Sask.	207	193
USA members: <i>Patti Lank, Erika Brown, Nicole Joraanstad, Natalie Nicholson, Paul Pustovar, Mike Fraboni, Geoff Goodland, Richard Maskel</i>			

2009 Wheelchair Worlds

2009 World Wheelchair Championship Feb. 21–28, 2009 • Vancouver, B.C.

Team USA was persistent in its pursuit to repeat as bronze medalists at the 2009 World Wheelchair Championship in Vancouver, British Columbia, but came up a few rocks short to Germany's Jens Jaeger rink, 6-4. Led by Augusto Perez (East Syracuse, N.Y.), the Americans finished the round robin with a 5-4 record to earn a playoff berth.

They lost the page playoff #3 v. #4 game to Canada, 9-2, and hoped to bounce back with another return to the medals podium.

In the bronze medal game, Perez and teammates James Pierce (North Syracuse, N.Y.), James Joseph (New Hartford, N.Y.), Jacqueline Kapinowski (Point Pleasant, N.J.) and alternate Patrick McDonald (Orangevale, Calif.) struggled to put points on the board, scoring only singles with the last-rock advantage. They held a brief 2-1 lead after a steal of one in the third end but Germany would take control thereafter. Canada's Jim Armstrong rink would go on to win the gold. This American team is nominated as Team USA for the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, March 12-21, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Round robin standings

Sweden	6-3
Germany	6-3
USA	5-4
Canada	5-4
Scotland	4-5
Korea	4-5
Norway	4-5
China	4-5
Italy	4-5
Switzerland	2-7

Page Playoff 1-2 game:

Germany	000	201	03	6
*Sweden	111	020	20	7

Page Playoff 3-4 game:

Canada	010	212	3x	9
*USA	101	000	0x	2

Semifinal:

Canada	100	320	13	10
*Germany	021	001	00	4

Bronze:

*Germany	100	102	02	6
USA	011	010	10	4

Gold:

Canada	210	202	2x	9
*Sweden	001	010	0x	2

*last stone in first end

USA Round Robin scores:

China	6, USA 3
USA 10, Scotland 6	
Germany 10, USA 8	
Korea 11, USA 3	
USA 6, Canada 3	
USA 8, Italy 5	
Switzerland 7, USA 5	
USA 10, Norway 5	
USA 7, Sweden 2	

2009 Wheelchair Worlds



Team USA finished fourth at the 2009 World Wheelchair Championship. Team members included (l-r) Augusto Perez, James Pierce, James Joseph, Jacquelyn Kapinowski and Patrick McDonald.

2009 Wheelchair World Championship

Overall results

Paralympics Results:

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2006	CAN	Chris Daw	GBR	SWE	7

Paralympic Sportsmanship Award

Year	Country	Recipient
2006	USA	Danell Libby

Wheelchair Worlds Results:

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	CAN	Jim Armstrong	SWE	GER	4
2008	NOR	Rune Lorentsen	KOR	USA	3
2007	NOR	Rune Lorentsen	SUI	SCO	5
2005	SCO	Frank Duffy	DEN	SUI	8
2004	SCO	Frank Duffy	SUI	CAN	5
2002	SUI	Urs Bucher	CAN	SCO	5

World Wheelchair Championship Sportsmanship Award

Year	Country	Recipient
2007	USA	Augusto Perez
2005	SWE	Jalle Jungnell
2004	USA	Loren Kinney
2002	SWE	Jalle Jungnell and Frank Duffy of Scotland

2010 Paralympic Qualifying Points:

	2007	2008	2009	Total
Norway	12	12	4	28
Canada	7	7	12	26
USA	5.5	8	7	20.5
Korea	4	10	5	19
Scotland	8	4	6	18
Sweden	1	5	10	16
Switzerland	10	3	1	14
Germany	–	–	8	8
Italy	–	6	2	8
Japan	5.5	2	–	7.5

Top 10 qualified nations for the 2010 Paralympic Games.

2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles

2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship Dec. 4-7, 2008 • Two Harbors Curling Club Two Harbors, Minn.

Seattle's Brady and Cristin Clark added mixed doubles champions to their growing curling resumes after defeating the previous year's champions, 8-7, Dec. 7 at the 2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship at the Two Harbors (Minn.) Curling Club.

With the win over Nate and Jamie Haskell (White Bear Lake, Minn.), the Clarks got the opportunity to represent the U.S. at the 2009 World Mixed Doubles Championship in Cortina, Italy.

"I feel fantastic," Brady Clark said after the win. "I got the chills just thinking about the opportunity to represent the USCA in Italy. This is something Cristin and I have thought about for a long time."

The Clarks got off to a shaky start in the first end when Cristin Clark accidentally bumped the Haskell stone in second position closer to the button than her own. Brady Clark eventually made a runback to remove it but was only able to score one point. Jamie Haskell gave up a steal of one in the next end trying to make a double takeout. They'd take the lead in the next end, however, when Cristin Clark missed two key shots, allowing the Haskells to set up a big end. Brady Clark made a come around draw into the four-foot that looked like it might set up a steal, but Haskell chipped it out to score three.

A couple of half-shots by the Haskells in the fourth end resulted in a takeout to score four points for the Clarks. The woes continued for the defending champions as the Clarks got two stones around the four-foot behind a guard early that Nate Haskell couldn't remove. Jamie was forced to attempt a runback and couldn't convert, giving up a steal of two.

"Nate and Jamie are both great curlers so when they came back with that three we knew we had to score," Brady Clark said. "Getting the four points then really changed the momentum in our favor."

The Haskells had an opportunity for a big end in the sixth until Brady Clark made a double takeout, putting the pressure on Jamie Haskell again. She made the takeout but rolled her shooter, only scoring one. "We had a little bit of difficulty with our weight. We were a little heavy on some shots and would have liked to have played some angles a little better," Nate Haskell said. "They played really well and capitalized on our mistakes."

The Haskells stole two points in the seventh end to pull within two points. Needing to steal two more to set up an extra end, Jamie Haskell tried to draw around stones into the four-foot but wrecked on a stone in the top of the house. Not needing to throw their final stone, Brady and Cristin Clark clinched the championship title.

2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles



2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship

Brady and Cristin Clark of Seattle's Granite Curling Club won the 2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship held in Two Harbors.

Round robin standings

Pool A:

Ryan Lemke-Jackie Lemke	6-1
Jamie Haskell-Nate Haskell	6-1
Nate Gebert-Laura Roessler	5-2
John Hoffoss-Senja Lopac	3-4
Alex Ryan-Rachel Ryan	3-4
Steve Pickle-Madonna Fitzgerald	3-4
David Cornfield-Gabrielle Coleman	2-5
Bart Read-Abigail Read	0-7

Pool B:

Miyo Konno-Steve Lundeen	6-1
Brady Clark-Cristin Clark	6-1
Cassie Potter-Corrie Potter	5-2
Justin Haworth-Melissa Gilbertson	4-3
Carmen Delaney-Scott Abrahamson	2-5
Katharine Gibeau-Gary Gibeau	2-5
Tom Hemenway-Margie Nelson	0-7

Semifinals:

*Haskell-Haskell	103	103	01	9
Konno-Lundeen	010	010	20	4
*Clark-Clark	401	010	01	7
Lemke-Lemke	010	101	10	4

Final:

*Clark-Clark	110	420	00	8
Haskell-Haskell	003	001	21	7

*last stone in first end

U.S. Mixed Doubles Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Team
2009	Two Harbors, MN	Granite, WA	Brady Clark Cristin Clark
2008	Bemidji, MN	Bemidji, MN	Jamie Haskell Nate Haskell

2009 World Mixed Doubles

2009 World Mixed Doubles Championship
April 17-25 • Cortina, Italy

Making their first appearance at the World Mixed Doubles Championship, USA's Brady and Cristin Clark ended the competition at the Olympic Ice Stadium in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, with a win over Korea.

Playing for pride as they'd been eliminated from play-off contention the day prior, the Clarks (Lynnwood, Wash.) handed Jun Pyo Hong and Kyung Mi Park an 8-3 defeat to finish the round robin.

Leading 3-2 at the halfway point, the American duo, which has won six U.S. mixed national titles, stole a key deuce in the fifth and sealed the win with three points in the seventh end to finish with a 3-5 record.

"We would have like to have at least made the semis, but we are determined to perform better and get a medal during our next go around," Brady Clark said. "We had a lot of close games that could have went either way. Our recommendation for next year would be to really encourage Team USA to take a coach if at all possible. We did struggle with the rocks and we believe that a coach could have helped tremendously in practice sessions and in watching other teams to aid in rock matching, including the speed and curl of the rocks."

The Americans finished 18th overall in their rookie performance.



2009 World Mixed Doubles

Round robin standings

Green Group:

China	8-0
Sweden	6-2
Hungary	6-2
Denmark	4-4
Estonia	4-4
USA	3-5
Korea	3-5
Norway	2-6
Spain	1-7

Blue Group:

Switzerland	8-0
Czech Republic	6-2
Poland	6-2
Latvia	4-4
France	4-4
Austria	3-5
Japan	3-5
Slovakia	2-6
Wales	0-8

Red Group:

Canada	8-0
Finland	7-1
Scotland	6-2
Russia	4-4
New Zealand	4-4
Italy	3-5
England	2-6
Australia	2-6
Bulgaria	0-8

*Czech Rep.	303 212 xx	11
Poland	030 000 xx	3
*Hungary	410 103 0x	9
Czech Rep.	004 010 1x	6
Finland	010 002 0x	3
*Hungary	204 110 1x	9

Semifinals:

Hungary	102 003 10	7
*Canada	010 210 01	5
China	020 000 xx	2
*Switzerland	202 114 xx	10

Bronze:

*Canada	000 003 21	6
China	111 110 00	5

Gold:

Hungary	100 000 30	4
*Switzerland	021 111 01	7

*last stone in first end

Team USA game scores:

Estonia 11, USA 9
Hungary 7, USA 6
USA 9, Norway 2
USA 7, Spain 5
China 10, USA 6
Denmark 8, USA 6
Sweden 9, USA 4
USA 8, Korea 3

Tiebreakers:

Hungary	020 331 0x	9
*Sweden	101 000 2x	4

Overall results

World Mixed Doubles Results:

Year	Gold	Team	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	SUI	Toni Mueller-Irene Schori	HUN	CAN	18
2008	SUI	Toni Mueller-Irene Schori	FIN	SWE	15

USA's Cristin Clark (opposite page) looks on intently during play at the 2009 World Mixed Doubles Championship in Italy.

Photo courtesy of the World Curling Federation

2009 Junior Nationals

2009 U.S. Junior Nationals

Feb. 7–14 • Lake Region Curling Club
Devils Lake, ND

It was a Minnesota sweep of the gold medals at the 2009 USA Curling Junior National Championships at the Lake Region Curling Club in Devils Lake, N.D.

Minnesota I's Chris Plys rink defeated Minnesota II's Aaron Wald, 10-5, to capture the men's title and earn the chance to defend the world title they won together in 2008. Minnesota I's Alexandra Carlson defeated Wisconsin I's Nina Spatola, 8-2, to win their first junior women's title. The win was bittersweet for Carlson (Wayzata, Minn.) and teammates Tara Peterson (Eagan, Minn.), Tabitha Peterson (Eagan, Minn.) and Sophie Brorson (Duluth, Minn.) after losing last year's final to Spatola, 6-4.

This is the second straight junior men's title for Plys and teammates Anders Brorson (Duluth, Minn.), Matt Perushek (Eveleth, Minn.) and Matt Hamilton (McFarland, Wis.), third straight for Plys, Brorson and Perushek, and fourth straight – and fifth overall – for Plys, a USA Curling record.

The Plys rink started the match against Wald (Chisholm, Minn.) and teammates Josh Bahr (Bemidji, Minn.), Jared Zezel (Hibbing, Minn.) and John Muller (Hibbing, Minn.) much like the 1-2 page playoff game – with four points. Wald responded with a single and a steal to stay in the game, but Plys would mimic him in the following two ends to build a 6-2 lead at the half-way point. The teams exchanged deuces over the next two ends as Wald tried to keep pace. But, Plys forced Wald to a single in the eighth end and sealed the win with a deuce in the ninth.

The Carlson-Spatola match also was reminiscent of the 1-2 page playoff match, with Carlson applying pressuring to force multiple steals from Spatola's team. After a slow start, the teams exchanged singles to tie the game after three ends. A deuce by Carlson in the fourth end was followed up with steals in the next three ends to pull ahead 8-1 after seven ends of play. Spatola would score just a single in the eighth end and concede the victory to Carlson's squad.



2009 Junior Nationals

Round Robin Standings

Women:

Minnesota I (Carlson)	8-1
Wisconsin I (Spatola)	8-1
Wisconsin II (Schieber)	6-3
*Minnesota II (Solem)	4-5
New York (Beebe)	4-5
North Dakota I (Kirkeby)	4-5
Alaska (Hufman)	3-6
Massachusetts (Tucker)	3-6
Illinois (Elko)	3-6
North Dakota II (Podoll)	2-7
*Minnesota II won tiebreakers to advance to the playoffs.	

Men:

Minnesota 1 (Plys)	8-1
Minnesota 2 (Wald)	8-1
Washington (Beighton)	6-3
*Wisconsin 2 (Morton)	5-4
North Dakota 1 (Roland)	5-4
New Hampshire (Clark)	3-6
Massachusetts (Leichter)	3-6
North Dakota 2 (Workin)	3-6
Alaska (Birkliid)	2-7
Wisconsin 1 (Caldwell)	2-7
*Wisconsin 2 defeated North Dakota 1 in a tiebreaker to advance to the playoffs.	

Page Playoff #1 v. #2:

*MN1	201 222 0xx x	9
WI1	020 000 1xx x	3

Page Playoff #3 v. #4:

MN2	010 101 101 0	5
*WI2	011 020 010 1	6

Semifinal:

WI2	000 100 10x x	2
*WI1	132 010 01x x	8

Final:

WI1	001 000 01x x	2
*MN1	010 212 20x x	8
*last rock in first end		

Page Playoff #1 v. #2:

*MN1	402 101 0xx x	8
MN2	010 010 1xx x	3

Page playoff #3 v. #4:

WI2	002 102 020 11	9
*WA	030 010 301 00	8

Semifinal:

WI2	010 002 010 x	4
*MN2	200 310 101 x	8

Final:

MN2	011 002 010 x	5
*MN1	400 110 202 x	10
*last rock in first end		

2009 U.S. Junior Nationals

All Star Team

Women:

Nina Spatola, skip, Wisconsin 1
Molly Bonner, vice skip, Wisconsin 1
Tara Peterson, second, Minnesota 1
Sophie Brorson, lead, Minnesota 1

Men:

Aaron Wald, skip, Minnesota 2
Josh Bahr, vice skip, Minnesota 2
Matt Perushek, second, Minnesota 1
John Mueller, lead, Minnesota 2

Chris Plys (opposite page) captured his U.S. record fifth junior title in 2009 in Devils Lake, N.D.

Photo courtesy of the World Curling Federation

2009 Junior Champions



The Chris Plys rink of the Duluth Curling Club won the 2009 Junior Men's National Championship in Portage. Members are (l-r) Matt Hamilton (lead), Matt Perushek (second), Aanders Brorson (vice skip) and Chris Plys (skip).



The Alexandra Carlson rink of the St. Paul Curling Club won the 2009 Junior Women's National Championship in Devils Lake, N.D. Members are (l-r) Sophie Brorson (lead), Tara Peterson (second), Tabitha Peterson (vice skip) and Alex Carlson (skip).

Curtis Cups

The 2009 Junior National Championship Curtis Cup Awards for Sportsmanship were presented to the Alaska junior women's and men's teams.

The awards, donated by the Curtis family of Portage, Wis., are given to the junior women's and men's teams best exemplifying the "Spirit of Curling" both on and off the ice. The competing teams select the winners.

Alaska women's team members included Kaye Huffman, Vickie Persinger, Tina Persinger and Tressa Shuttleworth. They were coached by Leland Rich. Men's team members from Alaska were Matt Birkliid, Chad Persinger, Atticus Wallace, Oliver Halvarson and Ryan Flippo. They were coached by Steve Birkliid and David Flippo.

College Curling

The USA College Curling program hosted the 2009 National College Tournament in March at the Chicago Curling Club and North Shore Curling Club. The championship tournament was divided into four divisions to provide a level field for all teams. Here are the results:

Division 1

Gold: University of Minnesota (Brad Caldwell, Matt Collom, Ty Vietanan, John Landsteiner)

Silver: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Bronze: Lake Superior College

Division 2

Gold: Hamilton College (Dave Hamilton, Tom Irvin, Yuqi Mao, Katherine Alser)

Silver: Northwestern University A

Bronze: Marquette University

Division 3

Gold: University of Tennessee (Eric Kortebein, Chris Barber, David Hooper, Teresa Hooper)

Silver: Bowling Green University

Bronze: Villanova University

Division 4

Gold: Northwestern University (Justin Scott, Mark Palmeri, Steph Chan, Daniel Kienzle)

Silver: Hamilton College

Bronze: Denver University

For more information about the USA College Curling Program, contact Bev Schroeder, USA Curling, beverly.schroeder@usacurl.org, 715-344-1199, Ext. 203.

Katie Beck Memorial Award

In honor of the late Katie Beck, 2002 World Junior champion and two-time U.S. Junior National champion, an annual award has been established by Sharon O'Brien to be presented at the U.S. Juniors each year to an athlete playing in the second position who is coachable and has a true love for the sport of curling. The 2008 recipient was Connor Gervais of North Dakota.

Katie Beck Memorial Award winners:

2009	Jared Zezel	Minnesota II
2008	Connor Gervais	North Dakota
2007	Molly Bonner	Minnesota

Jr. Men's National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Devils Lake, ND	Duluth, MN	Chris Plys
2008*	Portage, WI	Duluth, MN	Chris Plys
2007	Seattle, WA	Duluth, MN	Chris Plys
2006	Duluth, MN	Duluth, MN	Chris Plys
2005	Bismarck, ND	Chisholm, MN	Kris Perkovich
2004	Centerville, WI	Chisholm, MN	John Shuster
2003	Wayland, MA	Chisholm, MN	Jesse Gates
2002	Kettle Moraine, WI	Fairbanks, AK	Leo Johnson
2001	Rochester, NY	Ak-Sar-Ben	Andy Roza
2000	Bemidji, MN	Bemidji, MN	Randy Baird
1999	Waupaca, WI	Ak-Sar-Ben, NE	Andy Roza
1998	Kettle Moraine, WI	Ak-Sar-Ben, NE	Andy Roza
1997	Chicago, IL	Bemidji, MN	Matt Stevens
1996	Schenectady, NY	Seattle, WA	Travis Way
1995	Hibbing, MN	Centerville, WI	Mike Peplinski
1994	Madison, WI	Centerville, WI	Mike Peplinski
1993	Portage/Poynette, WI	Hibbing, MN	Garrett Paine
1992	Seattle, WA	Bemidji, MN	Eric Fenson
1991	Bemidji, MN	Bemidji, MN	Eric Fenson
1990	Exmoor-North Shore, IL	Poynette, WI	Kurt Marquardt
1989	Duluth, MN	Poynette, WI	Kurt Marquardt
1988	Rochester, NY	Poynette, WI	Will Marquardt
1987	Medford, WI	Grafton, ND	Darren Kress
1986	Bowling Green, OH	Cavalier, ND	Scott Brown
1985	Chicago, IL	Seattle, WA	Rodger Schnee
1984*	St. Paul, MN	Rolla, ND	Al Edwards
1983	Seattle, WA	Rolla, ND	Al Edwards
1982	Highland Park, IL	Seattle, WA	Dale Risling
1981	Superior, WI	Seattle, WA	Ted Purvis
1980	Colo. Springs, CO	Devils Lake, ND	Scott Dalziel
1979*	Wayland, MA	Grand Forks, ND	Don Barcome Jr.
1978	Seattle, WA	Seattle, WA	Jeff Tomlinson
1977	Detroit, MI	Grand Forks, ND	Don Barcome Jr.
1976	Wilmette, IL	Grand Forks, ND	Don Barcome Jr.
1975	Madison, WI	Hibbing, MN	Steve Penencello
1974	Arden Hills, MN	Hibbing, MN	Gary Kleffman

*world junior champion

Jr. Men's National Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Aanders Brorson Aanders Brorson	Matt Perushek Matt Perushek	Matt Hamilton Matt Hamilton Daniel Plys
Aanders Brorson	Matt Perushek	Joel Cooper Joshua Bahr
Matt Mielke	Kevin Johnson	Tommy Kent Aaron Wald
Jason Smith	Jeff Isaacson	Kevin Johnson Shaye Perkovich
Jason Smith	Kevin Johnson	Shane McKinlay Chase Schmitt
Jeff Thune	Kevin Johnson	Shane McKinlay Chris Plys
Colin Huffman	Martin Sather	Chris Benshoof Steven Birkliid
Steve Jaixen Phill Drobnick Steve Jaixen	Chris Becher Chase Jackson Kevin Jordan	Scott Jordan Cody Stevens Chris Becher Scott Jordan
Steve Jaixen	Kevin Jordan	Chris Becher Scott Jordan Jeremy Fogelson
Craig Brown Troy Schroeder Craig Brown Craig Brown	Bob Liapis Owen Bunstein Ryan Braudt Ryan Braudt	Brandon Way Cory Ward Cory Ward
Kevin Kosel Shawn Rojeski Shawn Rojeski	Danny Hadrava Kevin Bergstrom Kevin Bergstrom	Joel Koski Ted McCann Ted McCann
Jeff Falk Jeff Falk	Dan Thurston Dan Thurston	Mike Thurston Mike Thurston
Jim Falk Brett Davis Darin Holt	Jeff Falk Duane McGregor Perry Hillman	Kurt Marquardt Connor Oihus Darren Kress
Kelly Yalowicki Mark Larson Mark Larson	Shane Way Dewey Basley Kenny Mickelson	Mark Lundgren Kurt Disher Dana Westemeier
Milt Best Dale Risling Todd Dalziel	Rob Foster Milt Best Scott Gerrard	Jim Foster Dean Risling Paul Thompson
Randy Darling Ted Purvis Dale Mueller Dale Mueller	Bobby Stalker Curt Fish Gary Mueller Earl Barcome	Earl Barcome Marc McCartney Earl Barcome Gary Mueller
Rick Novak Jerry Scott	Ben Gardeski Rick Novak	Ken Baher Ben Gardeski

Jr. Women's National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Devils Lake, ND	St. Paul, MN	Alexandra Carlson
2008	Portage, WI	Madison, WI	Nina Spatola
2007	Seattle, WA	Duluth, MN	Aileen Sormunen
2006	Duluth, MN	Madison, WI	Nina Spatola
2005	Bismarck, ND	Bismarck, ND	Gillian Gervais
2004	Centerville, WI	Duluth, MN	Aileen Sormunen
2003	Wayland, MA	Bemidji, MN	Cassie Johnson
2002*	Kettle Moraine, WI	Bemidji, MN	Cassie Johnson
2001	Rochester, NY	Madison, WI	Nicole Joraanstad
2000	Bemidji, MN	Madison, WI	Laura Delaney
1999	Waupaca, WI	Bemidji, MN	Hope Schmitt
1998	Kettle Moraine, WI	Bemidji, MN	Hope Schmitt
1997	Chicago, IL	Bemidji, MN	Risa O'Connell
1996	Schenectady, NY	Omaha, NE	Amy Becher
1995	Hibbing, MN	Bemidji, MN	Risa O'Connell
1994	Madison, WI	Madison, WI	Erika Brown
1993	Portage/Poynette, WI	Bemidji, MN	Erika Brown
1992	Seattle, WA	Bemidji, MN	Erika Brown
1991	Bemidji, MN	Madison, WI	Erika Brown
1990	Exmoor/North Shore, IL	Bemidji, MN	Kari Liapis
1989	Duluth, MN	Lodi, WI	Erika Brown
1988	Grafton, ND	Lodi, WI	Tracy Zeman
1987	Madison, WI	Lodi, WI	Tracy Zeman

* world junior champion



Jr. Women's National Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Tabitha Peterson Rebecca Hamilton	Tara Peterson Anna Plys	Sophie Brorson Jenna Haag Karlie Koenig
Courtney George Megan O'Connell Sarah Gervais	Molly Bonner Jackie Mueller Stephanie Jensen	Jordan Moulton Jordan Moulton Stephanie Sambor Amy Hultstrand
Courtney George Katie Beck Jamie Johnson Kirsten Finch Nicole Joraanstad Nikki Baird Nikki Baird Amy Becher Theresa Faltesek Missi O'Connell Debbie Henry	Amanda Jensen Rebecca Dobie Katie Beck Katie Schmitt Kirsten Finch Katie Schmitt Katie Schmitt Natalie Simenson Monica Carlson Natalie Simenson Stacey Liapis	Amanda McLean Maureen Brunt Maureen Brunt Rebecca Dobie Rebecca Dobie Teresa Bahr Teresa Bahr Missi O'Connell Heather Miller Alison Naylor Analissa Johnson Allison Darragh Debbie Henry Bobbie Breyen Debbie Henry Debbie Henry Bobbie Breyen Jill Jones Shellie Holerud Lori Myers
Kari Liapis Kari Liapis	Stacey Liapis Stacey Liapis	
Jill Jones Stacey Liapis Tracy Zeman Erika Brown Pam Goetz	Shellie Holerud Heidi Rollheiser Shellie Holerud Marni Vaningan Shellie Holerud	

Junior Champions



USA's Anders Brorson (above) watches his stone slide down the ice during action at the 2009 World Junior Championships in Vancouver. Chris Plys (opposite) yells out for his teammates to sweep harder. USA captured the bronze medal.

Photos courtesy of the World Curling Federation

2009 World Juniors



2009 World Junior bronze medalists (l-r) Coach Phill Drobnick, Aaron Wald, Matt Hamilton, Matt Perushek, Aanders Brorson, Chris Plys.

2009 World Junior Championships March 5-15 • Vancouver, B.C.

Chris Plys (Duluth, Minn.) led his team of Aanders Brorson, Matt Perushek, Matt Hamilton and Aaron Wald to the bronze medal at the 2009 World Junior Championships at the Vancouver Olympic Centre, the venue for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Plys led his team to gold last year. This was the final year of junior eligibility for Plys, Brorson and Perushek.

"It feels good to go out playing like I know we can. It's a good way to cap our team's career, no complaints," said Plys, who was named as the alternate for the U.S. men's 2010 Olympic curling team.

As the most successful junior curler in U.S. history, Plys (Duluth, Minn.) won five junior titles and the last four in a row. In his appearances at the Junior Worlds he led his team to gold in 2008 and now bronze in 2009.

The Americans got off to a great start in the bronze-medal game, scoring two points in the opening end and capitalizing on a steal of three points for a 5-0 jump-start. They'd steal two more in the fourth end before Oskar Eriksson's rink would get on the scoreboard with a deuce in the fifth end. The USA men would score two more after that, leaving the Swedes derailed.

Denmark's Rasmus Stjerne denied Canada's Brett Gallant of the men's gold medal, 9-4.

2009 World Juniors

Junior Men Results

Round Robin Standings

Canada	8-1
Denmark	7-2
USA	6-3
Sweden	6-3
Norway	4-5
Switzerland	4-5
Russia	3-6
China	3-6
Scotland	3-6
Germany	1-8

USA round robin game results:

USA 7, Scotland 6
Denmark 7, USA 3
USA 9, Norway 8
Sweden 6, USA 5
USA 11, Germany 3
USA 5, Switzerland 4
USA 8, Russia 5
Canada 9, USA 3
USA 10, China 5

Page Playoff 1-2 game:

*Canada	101 026 01x x	11
Denmark	020 100 20x x	5

Page Playoff 3-4 game:

USA	011 020 010 2	7
*Sweden	200 100 002 0	5

Semifinal:

USA	020 010 10x x	4
*Denmark	202 101 03x x	9

Bronze-medal game:

Sweden	000 020 02x x	4
*USA	230 202 00x x	9

Gold-medal game:

Denmark	002 110 230 x	9
*Canada	200 002 002 x	6

* last rock in first end

Sportsmanship Award

2009	Markus Hoiberg	Norway
2008	Matt Hamilton	USA
2007	Niklas Edin	Sweden
2006	Logan Gray	Scotland
2005	Soo-Hyuk Kim	Korea
2004	Joel Retornaz	Italy
2003	David Robertson	Scotland
2002	Christoffer Svae	Norway
2001	Mike Adam	Canada
2000	Richard Woods	Scotland
1999	Daniel Jaeggi	England
1998	Makoto Tsuruga	Japan
1997	Scott Pfeifer	Canada
1996	James Dryburgh	Scotland
1995	Christopher Galbraith	Canada
1994	Daniel Herberg	Germany
1993	Takashi Hara	Japan
1992	Takashi Hara	Japan
1991	Marco Alberti	Italy
1990	Peter Lindholm	Sweden
1989	Brian Benkjaer	Denmark
1988	Derek Brown	Scotland
1987	Jonathan Mead	Canada
1986	David Aitken	Scotland
1985	Roger Schnee	USA
1984	Al Edwards	USA
1983	Mike Hay	Scotland
1982	Cristoph Moeckel	Germany
1981	Peter Wilson	Scotland
1980	Andrew McQuistin	Scotland
1979	Andrew McQuistin	Scotland
1978	Colin Hamilton	Scotland
1977	Donald Barcome Jr.	USA
1976	Massimo Alvera	Italy
1975	Claude Feige	France

USA's Chris Plys (below) led his team to bronze at the 2009 World Juniors. He's been selected as the alternate on the 2010 Olympic men's team.

Junior Worlds



2009 World Juniors

World Junior Championships Vancouver, Canada • March 5-15

The USA women completed their rookie appearance at the 2009 World Junior Championships with an 8-5 loss to Denmark to finish with a 4-5 record at the Vancouver Olympic Centre in British Columbia.

Alexandra Carlson (Wayzata, Minn.), Tabitha Peterson (Eagan, Minn.), Tara Peterson (Eagan, Minn.) and Sophie Brorson (Duluth, Minn.) started the game by spotting the Danish ladies five points over the first three ends.

"We weren't playing well at the beginning," Carlson said. "I missed some shots so they were able to steal. We didn't set up the ends as well as we should have."

Team USA tried to get back in the game, scoring deuces in the fourth and sixth ends to pull win two points at 6-4.

Molly Bonner (Virginia, Minn.), the team's alternate for this event who has three world juniors and two women's national championship appearances under her belt, played the final game at the vice skip position and shot 80 percent, but it was too late as the American ladies couldn't overcome the early deficit.

"It was nice to play. I felt like I played pretty well, but we had a few key misses in the first three ends that didn't work out as planned so we were kinda struggling to come back the rest of the game," said Bonner, who had just finished up competing at the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials at the end of February.

With the loss, the American women finished in fifth overall. "We would have liked to go out with a winning record," Carlson said. "But it is our first year here, and we outperformed the last couple of years so that is good.

There were a couple of close games that we would have liked to have gone our way."

Scotland's Eve Muirhead rink went on to defeat Canada, 8-6, to win gold. This was the third straight world junior women's title for Scotland. Young Muirhead was selected to lead the Great Britain team at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Sportsmanship Award

2009	Agnes Knochenhauer	Sweden
2008	Annaline Skarsmoen	Norway
2007	Marte Bakk	Norway
2006	Jordan Moulton	USA
2005	Marte Bakk	Norway
2004	Anna Viktorsson	Sweden
2003	Marliese Miller	Canada
2002	Mari Motohashi	Japan
2001	Stefanie Richard	Canada
2000	Laura Delaney	USA
1999	Henriette Wang	Norway
1998	Marianne Rorvik	Norway
1997	Nadia Benier	France
1996	Nadja Heuer	Switzerland
1995	Gerrit Muller	Germany
1994	Gerrit Muller	Germany
1993	Dorthe Holm	Denmark
1992	Mayumi Ohmura	Japan
1991	Dorthe Holm	Denmark
1990	Cecilie Torhaug	Norway
1989	Sandy Symyrozum	Canada

2009 World Juniors



Junior Worlds

USA's Sophie Brorson keeps a close eye on her shot during action at the 2009 World Junior Championships in Vancouver. Photo courtesy of the World Curling Federation

Junior Women—Final Results

Round Robin Standings	
Switzerland	7-2
Scotland	7-2
Canada	6-3
Russia	6-3
USA	4-5
Sweden	4-5
Czech Republic	3-6
Denmark	3-6
France	3-6
Japan	2-7

USA round robin game results:
 USA 9, Japan 8
 Switzerland 10, USA 7
 Scotland 11, USA 9
 USA 10, Sweden 6
 USA 13, Czech Republic 5
 France 7, USA 6
 USA 10, Canada 3
 Russia 9, USA 3
 Denmark 8, USA 5

<u>Page Playoff 1-2 Game:</u>	
Scotland	003 010 003 x 7
*Switzerland	000 102 100 x 4

<u>Page Playoff 3-4 Game:</u>	
*Canada	001 101 000 1 4
Russia	000 010 101 0 3

<u>Semifinal:</u>	
*Switzerland	010 001 01x x 3
Canada	200 310 30x x 9

<u>Bronze-medal Game:</u>	
Russia	010 020 010 0 4
*Switzerland	100 100 100 2 5

<u>Gold-medal Game:</u>	
*Scotland	200 020 201 1 8
Canada	002 101 020 0 6

Men's Junior World Champions

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	DEN	Rasmus Stjerne	CAN	USA	3
2008	USA	Chris Plys	SWE	CAN	1
2007	CAN	Charley Thomas	SWE	SUI	5
2006	CAN	Charley Thomas	SWE	SCO	8
2005	CAN	Kyle George	SWE	SCO	4
2004	SWE	Niklas Edin	SUI	SCO	***DNO
2003	CAN	Steve Laycock	SWE	SUI	***DNO
2002	CAN	David Hamblin	NOR	SCO	8
2001	CAN	Brad Gushue	DEN	USA	3
2000	CAN	Brad Kuhn	SUI	GER	6
1999	CAN	John Morris	SUI	USA	3
1998	CAN	John Morris	SCO	SUI	5
1997	SUI	Ralph Stoeckli	FIN	CAN	9
<i>(Star Choice World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1996	SCO	James Dryburgh	SUI	GER	6
<i>(Coca-Cola World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1995	SCO	Tom Brewster	GER	CAN	5
<i>(Karcher World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1994	CAN	Colin Davison	GER	SUI/USA	3
1993	SCO	Craig Wilson	CAN	FRA/GER	9
1992	SUI	Stefan Heilmann	FRA	SWE/CAN	5
1991	SCO	Alan McDougall	CAN	SUI/USA	3
1990	SUI	Stefan Traub	SCO	SWE	7
1989	SWE	Peter Lindholm	CAN	SUI	6
1988	CAN	Jim Sullivan	SWE	NOR	5
1987	SCO	Douglas Dryburgh	CAN	NOR	5
1986	SCO	David Aitken	CAN	SWE	8
1985	CAN	Bob Ursel	SUI	SCO	6
1984	USA	Al Edwards	SUI	SCO**	1
1983	CAN	John Base	NOR	SCO	4
1982	SWE	Soren Grahn	CAN	CAN**	4
1981	SCO	Peter Wilson	CAN	USA	3
1980	SCO	Andrew McQuistin	CAN	SWE	4
1979	USA	Don Barcome Jr.	SCO	CAN	1
1978	CAN	Paul Gowsell	SWE	(NA)	5
1977	CAN	Bill Jenkins	SWE	(NA)	3
1976	CAN	Paul Gowsell	SWE	(NA)	6
1975	SWE	Jan Ullsten	CAN	(NA)	5

*The bronze medal game was introduced in 1979. It was discontinued in 1991, when dual bronze medals were awarded. The bronze medal game was reinstated in 1995.

**Undefeated round robin teams earned first-round byes (no semifinal), meaning no bronze medal game was played.

***The United States did not qualify a team for Junior Worlds.

USA vice skip Tabitha Peterson (opposite) holds the broom for her skip Alex Carlson during action in Vancouver at the 2009 World Juniors. The American women finished fifth.

Women's Junior World Champions



Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	SCO	Eve Muirhead	CAN	SUI	5
2008	SCO	Eve Muirhead	SWE	CAN	8
2007	SCO	Sarah Reid	CAN	NOR	4
2006	RUS	Ludmilla Privivkova	CAN	DEN	10
2005	SUI	Tania Grivel	SWE	CAN	10
2004	NOR	Linn Githmark	CAN	SWE	4
2003	CAN	Marliese Miller	USA	ITA	2
2002	USA	Cassie Johnson	SWE	SCO	1
2001	CAN	Suzanne Gaudet	SWE	SUI	6
2000	SWE	Matilda Mattsson	CAN	USA	3
1999	SUI	Silvana Tirinzoni	JAP	CAN	5
1998	CAN	Melissa McClure	JAP	SWE	5
1997	SCO	Julia Ewart	SWE	CAN	4
<i>(Star Choice World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1996	CAN	Heather Godbersson	SCO	SWE	10
<i>(Coca-Cola World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1995	CAN	Kelly MacKenzie	SWE	SCO	6
<i>(Karcher World Junior Curling Championships)</i>					
1994	CAN	Kim Gellard	USA	SWE/DEN	2
1993	SCO	Kirsty Hay	CAN	DEN/USA	3
1992	SCO	Gillian Barr	USA	SWE/SUI	2
1991	SWE	Eva Eriksson	SUI	SCO/CAN	5
1990	SCO	Kirsty Addison	SWE	CAN	5
1989	CAN	LaDawn Funk	NOR	SCO	6
1988	CAN	Julie Sutton	SUI	DEN	6

*The bronze medal game was discontinued in 1991, when dual medals were awarded to the losing semifinalists. The bronze medal game was reinstated in 1995.



Junior World Champions

2009 World University Games

World University Games Feb. 20-27 • Harbin, China

The USA didn't come home with medals this time as the American teams finished eighth and ninth at the 2009 Winter World University Games at the Heilongjiang Skating Gym in Harbin, China.

The USA women's team of Katherine Stewart (Minneapolis), Amanda McLean (Duluth, Minn.), Casey Cucchiarelli (Wausau, Wis.) and Sarah McLeod (Esco, Minn.) finished with a 2-7 record after posting wins over Poland and Sweden for ninth place.

The men's team of Chris Pleasants (Seattle), Zachary Radmer (Seattle), Jon Chartrand (Seattle), Bret Nordlund (Issaquah, Wash.) and Cory Yalowicki (Seattle) finished eighth with a 2-7 record as well with wins over Finland and Japan in the round robin. The men's team had several close matches with two losses coming in extra-end games.

The Canadian women and the Swedish men would go on to capture the gold medals.

The Winter World University Games are held bi-annually. This is the third time curling has been featured as a medal sport. The U.S. won gold in 2007, led by future Olympians John Shuster, Jeff Isaacson and Chris Plys. That is the lone medal the U.S. has won at this event.



Team USA men (l-r): Chris Pleasants, Zachary Radmer, Jon Chartrand, Bret Nordlund.

World University Games U.S. Champions Men

Year	Skip	Vice Skip	Second
2009	Chris Pleasants	Zach Radmer	Jon Chartrand
2007	John Shuster	Jeff Isaacson	Chris Plys
2003	Joey Bonfoey	Kevin Deeren	Joel Dietz

Women

2009	Katherine Stewart	Amanda McLean	Casey Cucchiarell
2007	Jessica Schultz	Christina Schwartz	Megan O'Connell
2003	Laura Delaney	Hope Schmitt	Kaitlyn Schmitt

2009 World University Games



Team USA women (l-r): Casey Cucchiarelli, Amanda McLean, Katherine Stewart and Sarah McLeod

Round Robin Standings—Men

Sweden	8-1
Norway	7-2
Korea	6-3
China*	6-3
Switzerland	6-3
Canada	4-5
Great Britain	3-6
USA	2-7
Finland	2-7
Japan	1-8

*China won tiebreaker

USA round robin game results:

Great Britain 6, USA 5
China 6, USA 5
Switzerland 7, USA 6 (extra end)
Korea 8, USA 5
USA 12, Finland 4
USA 9, Japan 5
Sweden 7, USA 0
Canada 8, USA 4
Norway 7, USA 6 (extra end)

Semifinals:

*Sweden	030 110 010 2	8
China	103 001 002 0	7

*Norway	000 200 201 0	5
Korea	000 010 010 0	2

Bronze medal game:

*Korea	102 001 010 x	5
China	020030 301 x	9

Gold-medal Game:

*Sweden	202 000 102 01	8
Norway	010 021 010 20	7

*last stone in first end

Round Robin Standings—Women

Canada	9-0
China	7-2
Russia	6-3
Great Britain*	5-4
Czech Republic	5-4
Sweden	4-5
Korea	3-6
Japan	3-6
USA	2-7
Poland	1-8

*Great Britain won tiebreaker

USA round robin game results:

Korea 12, USA 1
Canada 13, USA 3
Russia 8, USA 5
Japan 9, USA 5
China 10, USA 1
USA 8, Poland 5
Great Britain 6, USA 5
Czech Republic 5, USA 3
USA 6, Sweden 4

Semifinals:

*China	115 121 00x x	11
Russia	000 000 11x x	2

Great Britain	010 040 000 x	5
*Canada	001 000 213 x	7

Bronze medal game:

*Russia	002 101 020 2	8
Great Britain	000 000 202 0	4

Gold-medal Game:

China	103 001 010 x	6
*Canada	010 100 201 x	5

*last stone in first end

World University Games U.S. Champions

Men

Lead	Alternate	Gold	Silver	Bronze	USA
Bret Nordlund	Cory Yalowicki	SWE	NOR	CHN	8
Shane McKinlay	Kevin Johnson	USA	GBR	SWE	1
Bob Johnansen	Scott Jordan	CAN	SUI	KOR	6

Women

Sarah McLeod		CHN	CAN	RUS	9
Steph Sambor	Lysa Hambley	CAN	RUS	JAP	7
Kirsten Finch	Chrissy Fink	RUS	CAN	NOR	7

2009 U.S. National Championships

2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials/ 2009 U.S. National Championships Feb. 21-28, 2009 • Broomfield, CO

Debbie McCormick will make her third Olympic appearance after defeating Patti Lank's team, 8-5, in the women's final Feb. 28 at the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials at the Broomfield Event Center in Broomfield, Colo.

McCormick (Rio, Wis.) and teammates Allison Pottinger (Eden Prairie, Minn.), Nicole Joraanstad (Madison, Wis.), Natalie Nicholson (Bemidji, Minn.) and Tracy Sachtjen (Lodi, Wis.) will now represent the U.S. at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia. McCormick competed for the U.S. at the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah, finishing fourth. She also was a member of the 1998 Olympic team that finished in fifth place in Nagano, Japan. This will be the first Olympic Games for the rest of McCormick's team. They are coached by Wally Henry (Beaver Dam, Wis.).

As a team this was the fourth straight national title win – a U.S. curling record.

"There are no words to describe how excited I am to go to the Olympics with these four other girls and our coach, my dad. It's going to be amazing; I can't wait," McCormick said.

In the final end, Lank had one stone in the four-foot and was attempting to place another one above it in the eight-foot but it slipped too deep, setting up a double takeout opportunity for McCormick for the win. "I was hoping for a shot like that or an open draw," McCormick said.

"All I could think was – let it get out of her hand; don't panic with the sweep call," Pottinger said. "Once it crossed the hogline, I knew we had won. I'm thrilled to death."

Tied 1-1 after two ends, McCormick got lots of rocks in play in the third end and was able to make a draw for three points when Lank came down too heavy with her final stone. Lank's team would close the gap with a tap for two points. The teams would exchange singles over the next five ends, with McCormick sealing the win in the 10th on a double takeout.

"We just relied on what we've been doing all season and wanted to come out and make precise shots," Joraanstad said. "There was a little bit of nervousness, sure, but we've played at worlds and have been in tight games before so that helps."

2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials



2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials/U.S. National Championships

Debbie McCormick's team captured its fourth straight national title and a ticket to the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Members include (l-r) McCormick, Allison Pottinger, Nicole Joraanstad and Natalie Nicholson.

Photo by Michael Burns Jr.

Scores and Standings

Women:

Debbie McCormick	8-1
Amy Wright	7-2
Patti Lank	7-2
Erika Brown	6-3
Aileen Sormunen	5-4
Cassie Potter	4-5
Norma O'Leary	4-5
Gillian Gervais	2-7
Cristin Clark	2-7
Charrissa Lin	0-9

Page System Playoffs:

#1 v. #2:

Wright	011 001 010 x 4
*McCormick	200 220 102 x 9

#3 v. #4:

Brown	010 020 011 0 5
*Lank	001 101 200 1 6

Semifinal:

Lank	010 400 100 x 6
*Wright	101 011 010 x 5

Tiebreaker to determine

No. 2 seed:

*Wright	220 020 201 x 9
Lank	002 002 010 x 5

Final:

Lank	010 201 001 0 5
*McCormick	103 010 010 2 8
*last rock in first end	

Ann Brown Sportsmanship Awards

Year	Recipient	Club	Team
2009	Laura Delaney	Centerville, WI	Cassie Potter rink
2008	Ann Swisshelm	Exmoor, IL	Patti Lank rink
2007	Caitlin Maroldo	Rochester, NY	Patti Lank rink

2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials

2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials/ 2009 U.S. National Championships Feb. 21-28, 2009 • Broomfield, CO

Although John Shuster already has won Olympic bronze, he's always dreamed of skipping a team to the gold medal. He'll have that chance now in Vancouver after winning the men's final at the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials. "I'm really, really excited," Shuster said. "I've been at the Olympics already once. I know exactly what we're in for. I'm unbelievably excited for my teammates. They carried me through the first half of this week. They held on just long enough for me to come around so we could maybe win this thing."

Shuster (Duluth, Minn.) and teammates Jason Smith (Cape Coral, Fla.), Jeff Isaacson (Gilbert, Minn.) and John Benton (St. Michael, Minn.) will now wear Team USA at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia, after defeating Tyler George's team, 10-9, in front of more than 1,600 fans at the Broomfield Event Center. Chris Plys (Duluth, Minn.), a fellow Trials competitor, has been named the team's alternate.

"All week long we tried not to think about the big picture," said Isaacson, who works as a school teacher in northern Minnesota. "But in the back of your mind you can't help but think about this moment."

It was an ending, however, that George will probably replay in his head more than once. Given the opportunity to draw for two points to send the game into an extra end, George would come up just short of the rings with his final stone.

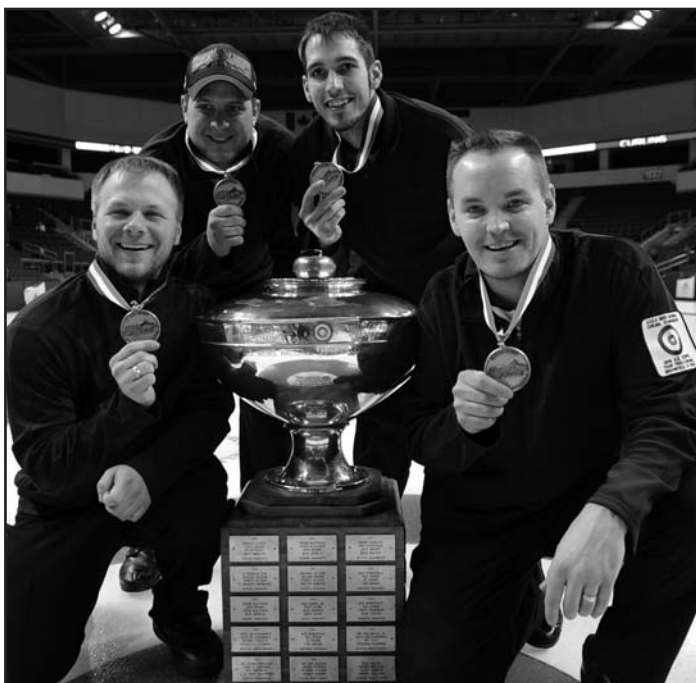
"There's no excuse. I just didn't make it," George said. "It's a shot I'll make 99 times out of 100. I don't know why that one time was the time I didn't get it."

It was an up-and-down game highlighted by huge swings in momentum in the high-scoring game. George (Duluth, Minn.) and teammates Kris Perkovich (Chisholm, Minn.), Kevin Johnson (Duluth, Minn.) and Mark Haluptzok (Bemidji, Minn.) appeared to be the front-runner early on.

Late in the game, the teams exchanged singles with Shuster taking the lead for good in the ninth end when he got an opportunity to draw for three after George missed both stones on his double takeout attempt.

Universal Sports provided 12 hours of live coverage of the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials as well as live webstreaming on www.universalsports.com. This was the first live TV coverage of U.S. curling outside of the Olympic Games.

2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials



U.S. Olympic Team Trials/U.S. National Championships

Team USA (l-r): Jeff Isaacson, John Shuster, Jason Smith and John Benton.

Scores and Standings

Men:

Tyler George	8-1
Todd Birr	6-3
John Shuster	6-3
Craig Brown	5-4
Greg Romaniuk	4-5
Mark Johnson	4-5
Mike Farbelow	4-5
Craig Disher	3-6
Chris Plys	3-6
Kevin Deeren	2-7

Tiebreaker to determine

No. 2 seed:

*Shuster	021 24x xxx x	9
Birr	100 00x xxx x	1

Page System Playoffs:

#1 v. #2:

Shuster	010 101 002 0	5
*George	102 000 020 1	6

#3 v. #4:

Brown	010 110 201 0	6
*Birr	003 004 010 1	9

Semifinal:

Birr	001 020 10x x	4
*Shuster	020 401 03x x	10

Final:

Shuster	010 410 103 0	10
*George	103 003 010 1	9
*last rock in first end		

Ann Brown Sportsmanship Awards

Year	Recipient	Club	Team
2009	Mike Farbelow	St. Paul, MN	Mike Farbelow rink
2008	Greg Romaniuk	Granite, WA	Greg Romaniuk rink
2007	Joel Jacobson	Langdon, N.D.	Craig Disher rink

Men's National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Broomfield, CO	Duluth, MN	John Shuster
2008	Hibbing, MN	Madison, WI	Craig Brown
2007	Utica, NY	Mankato, MN	Todd Birr
2006	Bemidji, MN	Bemidji, MN	Pete Fenson
2005	Madison, WI	Bemidji, MN	Pete Fenson
2004	Grand Forks, ND	Seattle, WA	Jason Larway
2003	Utica, NY	Bemidji, MN	Pete Fenson
2002	Eveleth, MN	Madison, WI	Paul Pustovar
2001	Madison, WI	Seattle, WA	Jason Larway
2000	Ogden, UT	Madison, WI	Craig Brown
1999	Duluth, MN	Superior, WI	Tim Somerville
1998	Bismarck, ND	Stevens Point, WI	Paul Pustovar
1997	Seattle, WA	Langdon, ND	Craig Disher
1996	Bemidji, MN	Superior, WI	Tim Somerville
1995	Appleton, WI	Superior, WI	Tim Somerville
1994	Duluth, MN	Bemidji, MN	Scott Baird
1993	St. Paul, MN	Bemidji, MN	Scott Baird
1992	Grafton, ND	Seattle, WA	Doug Jones
1991	Utica, NY	Madison, WI	Steve Brown
1990	Superior, WI	Seattle, WA	Bard Nordlund
1989	Detroit, MI	Seattle, WA	Jim Vukich
1988	St. Paul, MN	Seattle, WA	Doug Jones
1987	Lake Placid, NY	Seattle, WA	Jim Vukich
1986	Seattle, WA	Madison, WI	Steve Brown
1985	Mequon, WI	Wilmette, IL	Tim Wright
1984	Hibbing, MN	Hibbing, MN	Joe Roberts
1983	Colo. Springs, CO	Colo. Springs, CO	Don Cooper
1982	Brookline, MA	Madison, WI	Steve Brown
1981	Fairbanks, AK	Superior, WI	Bob Nichols
1980	Bemidji, MN	Hibbing, MN	Paul Pustovar
1979	Superior, WI	Bemidji, MN	Scott Baird
1978*	Utica, NY	Superior, WI	Bob Nichols
1977	Northbrook, IL	Hibbing, MN	Bruce Roberts
1976*	Wausau, WI	Hibbing, MN	Bruce Roberts
1975	Detroit, MI	Seattle, WA	Ed Risling
1974*	Schenectady, NY	Superior, WI	Bud Somerville
1973	Colo. Springs, CO	Winchester, MA	Charles Reeves
1972	Wilmette, IL	Grafton, ND	Robert LaBonte
1971	Duluth, MN	Edmore, ND	Dale Dalziel
1970	Ardsley, NY	Grafton, ND	Art Tallackson
1969	Grand Forks, ND	Superior, WI	Bud Somerville
1968	Madison, WI	Superior, WI	Bud Somerville
1967	Winchester, MA	Seattle, WA	Bruce Roberts
1966	Hibbing, MN	Fargo, ND	Bruce Roberts
1965*	Seattle, WA	Superior, WI	Bud Somerville
1964	Utica, NY	Duluth, MN	Robert Magie Jr.
1963	Duluth, MN	Detroit, MI	Mike Slyziuk
1962	Detroit, MI	Hibbing, MN	Dick Brown
1961	Grand Forks, ND	Seattle, WA	Frank Crealock
1960	Chicago, IL	Grafton, ND	Orvil Gilleshammer
1959	Green Bay, WI	Hibbing, MN	Dick Brown
1958	Milwaukee, WI	Detroit, MI	Mike Slyziuk
1957	Chicago, IL	Hibbing, MN	Harold Lauber

* won world championship ** skipped but threw third rocks

Men's National Champions

Third

Jason Smith
Rich Ruohonen
Bill Todhunter
Shawn Rojeski

Shawn Rojeski
Doug Pottinger

Eric Fenson
Mike Fraboni
Greg Romaniuk

Ryan Quinn
Don Barcome Jr.

Dave Violette
Kevin Kakela
Mike Schneeberger
Mike Schneeberger
Pete Fenson
Pete Fenson
Jason Larway
Paul Pustovar

*Doug Jones
Curt Fish

Bard Nordlund
Ron Sharpe
Wally Henry
John Jahant
**Bruce Roberts
Jerry Van Brunt Jr.
Ed Sheffield
**Bud Somerville
John Jankilla
Dan Haluptzok
Bill Strum
Paul Pustovar
Joe Roberts
Charles Lundgren
Bob Nichols
Doug Carlson
Frank Aasand
Dennis Melland
Glenn Gilleshammer
Bill Strum
Bill Strum
Tom Fitzpatrick
**Joe Zbacnik
Bill Strum
Bert Payne
Nelson Brown
Terry Kleffman
Ken Sherwood
Glenn Gilleshammer
Terry Kleffman
**Douglas Fisk
Louis Lauber

Second

Jeff Isaacson
John Dunlop
Greg Johnson
Joe Polo

Joe Polo
Joel Larway

Shawn Rojeski
Geoff Goodland
Joel Larway

Jon Brunt
Myles Brundidge

Greg Wilson
Joel Jacobson
Myles Brundidge
Myles Brundidge
Mark Haluptzok
Mark Haluptzok
Joel Larway
George Godfrey

Murphy Tomlinson
Bard Nordlund
Jason Larway

Murphy Tomlinson
George Pepelnjak
George Godfrey
Jim Wilson
Gary Kleffman
Bill Shipstad
Huns Gustrowsky
Bob Christman
Gary Kleffman
Mark Haluptzok
Tom Locken
Gary Kleffman
Gary Kleffman
Gary Schnee
Bill Strum
Henry Shean
John Aasand
Clark Sampson
Ray Holt
Franklin Bradshaw
Al Gagne
John Wright
Gerry Toutant
Al Gagne
Russell Barber
Ernest Slyziuk
**Fran Kleffman
John Jamieson
Wilmer Collette
**Fran Kleffman
Ernest Slyziuk
Peter Beasy

Lead

John Benton
Pete Annis
Kevin Birr
John Shuster
Scott Baird
John Shuster
Bill Todhunter
Doug Kauffman

John Shuster
Richard Maskel
Travis Way
Doug Kauffman
John Dunlop
John Gordon
Bud Somerville
Cory Ward
Paul Peterson
John Gordon
John Gordon
Tim Johnson
Tim Johnson
Tom Violette
Wally Henry
Mike Fraboni
Tom Violette
James Pleasants

Mike Grennan
Gary Joraanstad
Richard Maskel
Russ Armstrong
Jerry Scott
Jack McNelly
George Godfrey
Robert Buchanan
Jerry Scott
Bob Fenson
Bob Christman
Jerry Scott
Jerry Scott
Dave Tellvik
Tom Locken
Barry Blanchard
Ray Morgan
Rodney Melland
Trueman Thompson
Gene Ovesen
Tom Wright
Doug Walker
Mike O'Leary
Tom Wright
Britton Payne
Walter Hubchik
Nick Jerulle
Bud McCartney
Donald LaBonte
Nick Jerulle
Merritt Knowlson
Matt Berklich

Women's National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Broomfield, CO	Madison, WI	Debbie McCormick
2008	Hibbing, MN	Madison, WI	Debbie McCormick
2007	Utica, NY	Madison, WI	Debbie McCormick
2006	Bemidji, MN	Madison, WI	Debbie McCormick
2005	Madison, WI	Bemidji, MN	Cassie Johnson
2004	Grand Forks, ND	Madison, WI	Patti Lank
2003*	Utica, NY	North Shore, IL	Debbie McCormick
2002	Eveleth, MN	Madison, WI	Patti Lank
2001	Madison, WI	Highland Park, IL	Kari Erickson
2000	Ogden, UT	Ak-Sar-Ben, NE	Amy Wright
1999	Duluth, MN	Madison, WI	Patti Lank
1998	Bismarck, ND	Wilmette, IL	Kari Erickson
1997	Seattle, WA	Arlington, WI	Patti Lank
1996	Bemidji, MN	Madison, WI	Lisa Schoeneberg
1995	Appleton, WI	Madison, WI	Lisa Schoeneberg
1994	Duluth, MN	Denver, CO	Bev Behnke
1993	St. Paul, MN	Denver, CO	Bev Behnke
1992	Grafton, ND	Madison, WI	Lisa Schoeneberg
1991	Utica, NY	Houston, TX	Maymar Gemmill
1990	Superior, WI	Denver, CO	Bev Behnke
1989	Detroit, MI	Rolla, ND	Jan Lagasse
1988	Darien, CT	Seattle, WA	Nancy Langley
1987	St. Paul, MN	Seattle, WA	Sharon Good
1986	Chicago, IL	St. Paul, MN	Gerri Tilden
1985	Hershey, PA	Fairbanks, AK	Bev Birkliid
1984	Wauwatosa, WI	Duluth, MN	Amy Hatten
1983	Grafton, ND	Seattle, WA	Nancy Langley
1982	Bowling Green, OH	Oak Park, IL	Ruth Schwenker
1981	Kettle Moraine, WI	Seattle, WA	Nancy Langley
1980	Seattle, WA	Seattle, WA	Sharon Kozai
1979	Winchester, MA	Seattle, WA	Nancy Langley
1978	Duluth, MN	Wausau, WI	Sandy Robarge
1977	Wilmette, IL	Hastings, NY	Margaret Smith

* world champion

** skipped but did not throw last rocks

Women's National Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Allison Pottinger	Nicole Joraanstad	Natalie Nicholson Tracy Sachtjen
Allison Pottinger	Nicole Joraanstad	Natalie Nicholson Natalie Nicholson Tracy Sachtjen
Allison Pottinger	Nicole Joraanstad	Natalie Nicholson Maureen Brunt
Jamie Johnson	Jessica Schultz	Natalie Nicholson
Erika Brown	Nicole Joraanstad	Tracy Sachtjen
Allison Pottinger	Ann Swisshelm Silver	Joni Cotten
Erika Brown	Allison Pottinger	Natalie Nicholson Nicole Joraanstad
Debbie McCormick	Stacey Liapis	Ann Swisshelm
Amy Becher	Joni Cotten	Natalie Simenson Corina Marquardt
Erika Brown	Allison Darragh	Tracy Sachtjen
Lori Kreklau	Stacey Liapis	Ann Swisshelm Risa O'Connell
Analissa Johnson	Joni Cotten	Tracy Sachtjen
Erika Brown	Lori Mountford	Allison Darragh Debbie Henry
Erika Brown	Lori Mountford	Marcia Tillisch Allison Darragh
Dawna Bennett	Susan Anshuetz	Pam Finch
Dawna Bennett	Susan Anshuetz	Pam Finch
Amy Wright	Lori Mountford	Jill Jones
Judy Johnston	Janet Hunter	Brenda Jancic
Dawna Bennett	Susan Anschuetz	Pam Finch
Janie Kakela	Cooky Bertsch	Eileen Mickelson
Nancy Pearson	Leslie Frosch	Mary Hobson
Joan Fish	Beth Bronger-Jones	Aija Edwards
Linda Barneson	Barb Polski	Barb Gutzmer
Peggy Martin	Jerry Evans	Katrina Sharp
Terry Leksell	Karen Leksell	Kelly Sieger
Dolores Campbell	Donna Purkey	Kathleen Wilson
Stephanie Flynn	Betty Kozai	Aija Edwards
Carol Dahl	Leslie Frosch	Nancy Wallace
Joan Fish	Betty Kozai	Aija Edwards
Dolores Wallace	Leslie Frosch	Nancy Wallace
Elaine Collins	Jo Shannon	Virginia Morrison
Cynthia Smith	Jackie Grant	Eve Switzer

2009 Men's Worlds

2009 Ford World Men's Championship April 4-12 • Moncton, New Brunswick

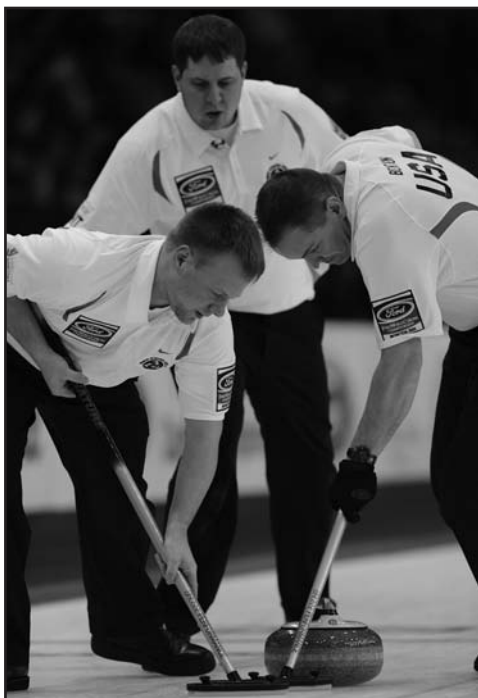
Team USA's luck ran out during the tiebreaker round April 10 at the 2009 Ford World Men's Championship, as Norway's Thomas Ulsrud rink eliminated John Shuster's Americans from playoff contention with a 10-2 defeat.

"It was a crappy way to end the week, but the thing about it is we made the tiebreaker at the world championships playing probably our C or D game," Shuster said.

Ulsrud shot a scorching 100 percent in defeating Shuster (Duluth, Minn.) and teammates Jason Smith (Duluth, Minn.), Jeff Isaacson (Gilbert, Minn.), John Benton (St. Michael, Minn.) and alternate Chris Plys (Duluth, Minn.). Shuster's team won the 2010 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in February and is nominated to Team USA for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

"I noticed he didn't miss," Shuster said about Ulsrud. "But, we didn't make him shoot any tough ones though. He really didn't have any tough shots the entire game."

With the loss, the Americans finished in fifth place in the team's first appearance at the World Championships (Shuster played lead at three other Worlds).



USA men in action in Moncton.

Photo by Michael Burns Jr.

In the gold-medal game, Scotland's David Murdoch defeated Canada's Kevin Martin, 8-6, for the third straight time during the competition to win gold. Norway defended its bronze medal by defeating Switzerland's Ralph Stockli rink, 6-4.

The 2010 Capital One World Men's Championship will take place April 3-11 in Cortina, Italy.

2009 Men's Worlds

MEN

Final Standings

Scotland	Gold
Canada	Silver
Norway	Bronze
Switzerland	Fourth

Round Robin Standings

Canada	10-1
Scotland	8-3
USA	7-4
Germany	7-4
Switzerland	7-4
Norway	7-4
Denmark	5-6
France	4-7
China	4-7
Japan	3-8
Czech Republic	3-8
Finland	1-10

U.S. Men's

Round Robin Games:

USA 6, Germany 5
 Scotland 12, USA 6
 USA 10, Switzerland 3
 Norway 7, USA 5
 USA 9, China 8
 USA 9, Japan 1
 Denmark 9, USA 6
 Canada 9, USA 6
 USA 6, Finland 5
 USA 7, Czech Republic 6
 USA 9, France 6

Page Playoffs:

Tiebreakers:

*Norway	210 220 3xx x	10
USA	001 001 0xx x	2
Germany	201 002 011 0	7
*Switzerland	010 300 300 1	8

#1 v. #2:

*Canada	100 020 101 0	5
Scotland	030 101 010 1	7

#3 v. #4:

*Switzerland	101 001 001 01	5
Norway	010 100 010 10	4

Semifinal:

Switzerland	001 000 021 1	5
*Canada	110 003 100 0	6

Bronze-medal game:

Switzerland	100 100 200 x	4
*Norway	011 010 021 x	6

Gold-medal game:

*Scotland	201 001 002 2	8
Canada	020 200 110 0	6

*last rock in first end

Shooting percentages & rankings, round robin

Player	%	Rank
John Shuster	72%	8
Jason Smith	76%	8
Jeff Isaacson	79%	8
John Benton	84%	7
Team	78%	9

Olympic Qualifying Points:

	2007	2008	2009	Total
Canada	14	14	12	40
Scotland	3.5	12	14	29.5
USA	10	6	8	24
Germany	12	5	7	24
Norway	3.5	10	10	23.5
Switzerland	9	2	9	20
France	6.5	8	5	19.5
Denmark	3.5	4	6	13.5
China	-	9	4	13
Sweden	8	3	-	11

Australia	3.5	7	-	10.5
Finland	6.5	-	1	7.5
Japan	0	0	3	3
Czech Rep.	-	1	2	3
Korea	1	-	-	1

Top 10 teams qualify nations for the 2010 Olympic Games.

2009 Women's Worlds

2009 World Women's Championship March 21-39 • Gangneung, South Korea

The American women concluded the 2009 Mount Titlis World Women's Curling Championship on a losing note as Denmark's Angelina Jensen rink, defeated the Americans, 9-3, at the Gangneung International Ice Rink in Gangneung, South Korea.

Debbie McCormick (Rio, Wis.) and teammates Allison Pottinger (Eden Prairie, Minn.), Nicole Joraanstad (Madison, Wis.), Natalie Nicholson (Bemidji, Minn.) and Tracy Sachtjen (Lodi, Wis.) finished with a 4-7 record, ninth overall. With the Vancouver Olympic Games right around the corner, the U.S. ladies are busy preparing to improve that record.

The Americans, assisted by Coach Wally Henry (Beaver Dam, Wis.), didn't get any lucky rolls in the round robin finale either as the Danes shot 92 percent. Early struggles in the round robin left the Americans at 0-4, but they'd make a run by winning four straight to gain momentum. That would come to a halt, however, as the American ladies, winners of the past four U.S. Nationals, ended the competition with three straight losses.

China's Bingyu Wang led her team to the nation's first world title by defeating 2006 Olympic gold medalist Anette Norberg of Sweden, 8-6. Jensen's Danish team defeated Canada's Jennifer Jones, 7-6, for the bronze medal.

The 2010 Ford World Women's Championship will take place March 20-28 in Swift Current, Saskatchewan.



*USA's (l-r)
Joraanstad,
McCormick and
Nicholson in
action in South
Korea.*

2009 Women's Worlds

WOMEN

Final Standings

China	Gold
Sweden	Silver
Denmark	Bronze
Canada	Fourth

Round Robin Standings

China	10-1
Denmark	9-2
Canada	9-2
Sweden	7-4
Switzerland	6-5
Germany	6-5
Russia	5-6
Scotland	5-6
USA	4-7
Korea	3-8
Norway	1-10
Italy	1-10

U.S. Women's

Round Robin Games:

Russia 7, USA 5
Canada 10, USA 3
China 8, USA 4
Italy 9, USA 6
USA 7, Germany 6
USA 12, Norway 7
USA 9, Korea 2
USA 10, Sweden 5
Switzerland 8, USA 2
Scotland 7, USA 6
Denmark 9, USA 3

Page Playoffs:

#1 v. #2

*China	100 100 300 1 6
Denmark	001 010 001 0 3

#3 v. #4

Sweden	000 001 012 01 5
*Canada	010 010 100 10 4

Semifinal

Sweden	022 000 200 1 7
*Denmark	100 210 020 0 6

Bronze-medal Game:

*Denmark	101 030 100 1 7
Canada	010 101 021 0 6

Gold-medal Game:

Sweden	010 010 202 0 6
*China	100 202 020 1 8

*last rock in first end

Shooting percentages & rankings, round robin

Player	%	Rank
Debbie McCormick	71%	9
Allison Pottinger	76%	9
Nicole Joraanstad	83%	2
Natalie Nicholson	87%	1
Team	79%	6

Olympic Qualifying Points:

	2007	2008	2009	Total
Canada	14	14	9	37
China	6	12	14	32
Denmark	12	8	10	30
Sweden	7.5	7	12	26.5
Switzerland	7.5	10	8	25.5
USA	9	6	4	19
Scotland	10	3	5	18
Germany	4	4	7	15
Russia	4	5	6	15
Japan	4	9	-	13

Italy	1.5	2	1	4.5
Korea	-	-	3	3
Czech Republic	1.5	1	-	2.5
Norway	-	-	2	2

Top 10 teams qualify nations for the 2010 Olympic Games.

Women's World Champions

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	CHN	Bingyu Wang	SWE	DEN	9
2008	CAN	Jennifer Jones	CHN	SUI	7
2007	CAN	Kelly Scott	DEN	SCO	4
2006	SWE	Anette Norberg	USA	CAN	2
2005	SWE	Anette Norberg	USA	NOR	2
2004	CAN	Colleen Jones	NOR	SUI	4
2003	USA	Debbie McCormick	CAN	SWE	1
2002	SCO	Jackie Lockhart	SWE	NOR	7
2001	CAN	Colleen Jones	SWE	DEN	5
2000	CAN	Kelly Law	SUI	NOR	6
1999	SWE	Elisabet Gustafson	USA	DEN	2
1998	SWE	Elisabet Gustafson	DEN	CAN	8
1997	CAN	Sandra Schmirler	NOR	DEN	6
1996	CAN	Marilyn Bodogh	USA	NOR	2
1995	SWE	Elisabet Gustafson	CAN	NOR	5
1994	CAN	Sandra Peterson	SCO	GER/SWE	6
1993	CAN	Sandra Peterson	GER	SWE/NOR	8
1992	SWE	Elisabet Johansson	USA	SUI/CAN	2
1991	NOR	Dordi Nordby	CAN	SWE/SCO	9
1990	NOR	Dordi Nordby	SCO	CAN/DEN	8
1989	CAN	Heather Houston	NOR	GER/SWE	9
1988	GER	Andrea Schopp	CAN	SWE	7
1987	CAN	Pat Sanders	GER	SUI	5
1986	CAN	Marilyn Darte	GER	SWE	7
1985	CAN	Linda Moore	SCO	SUI	9
1984	CAN	Connie Laliberte	SUI	NOR/GER	9
1983	SUI	Erika Mueller	NOR	CAN/SWE	6
1982	DEN	Marianne Jorgensen	SWE	SCO/NOR	8
1981	SWE	Elisabeth Hogstrom	CAN	NOR/SUI	8
1980	CAN	Marj Mitchell	SWE	SCO/USA	3
1979	SUI	Gaby Casanova	SWE	CAN/SCO	5

Frances Brodie Award

Norway's Marianne Rorvik was honored with this year's Frances Brodie Award for sportsmanship during the 2009 Women's World Curling Championship. The award is in honor of Scotland's Frances Brodie, one of curling's pioneers who helped establish the women's world championship.

Frances Brodie Award Winners

2009	Marianne Rorvik	Norway
2008	Mirjam Ott	Switzerland
2007	Lindsay Wood	Scotland
2006	Junko Tonobe	Japan
2005	Cassie Johnson	United States
2004	Madeleine Dupont	Denmark
2003	Dordi Nordby	Norway
2002	Mi-Yeon Kim	Korea
2001	Ann Swisshelm	United States
2000	Rhona Martin	Scotland
1999	Marianne Aspelin	Norway
1998	Jackie Lockhart	Scotland
1997	Jaana Jokela	Finland
1996	Kirsty Hay	Scotland
1995	Ayako Ishigaki	Japan
1994	Helena Blach-Lavrsen	Denmark
1993	Jaana Jokela	Finland
1992	Amy Hatten Wright	United States
1991	Veronika Huber	Austria
1990	Almut Hege-Scholl	Germany
1989	Christina Lestander	Switzerland

Men's World Champions

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	SCO	David Murdoch	CAN	NOR	5
2008	CAN	Kevin Martin	SCO	NOR	7
2007	CAN	Glenn Howard	GER	USA	3
2006	SCO	David Murdoch	CAN	NOR	4
2005	CAN	Randy Ferbey	SCO	GER	6
2004	SWE	Peter Lindholm	GER	CAN	9
2003	CAN	Randy Ferbey	SUI	NOR	8
2002	CAN	Randy Ferbey	NOR	SCO	4
2001	SWE	Peter Lindholm	SUI	SUI	6
2000	CAN	Greg McAulay	SWE	FIN	4
1999	SCO	Hammy McMillan	CAN	SUI	4
1998	CAN	Wayne Middaugh	SWE	FIN	6
1997	SWE	Peter Lindholm	GER	SCO	6
1996	CAN	Jeff Stoughton	SCO	SUI	5
1996	CAN	Jeff Stoughton	SCO	SUI	5
1995	CAN	Kerry Burtnyk	SCO	GER	4
1994	CAN	Rick Folk	SWE	SUI/GER	5
1993	CAN	Russ Howard	SCO	USA/SUI	3
1992	SUI	Markus Eggler	SCO	CAN/USA	3
1991	SCO	David Smith	CAN	USA/NOR	3
1990	CAN	Ed Werenich	SCO	DEN/SWE	6
1989	CAN	Pat Ryan	SUI	NOR/SWE	8
1988	NOR	Eigil Ramsfjell	CAN	SCO	7
1987	CAN	Russ Howard	GER	NOR	5
1986	CAN	Ed Lukowich	SCO	USA	3
1985	CAN	Al Hackner	SWE	DEN	4
1984	NOR	Eigil Ramsfjell	SUI	SWE	6
1983	CAN	Ed Werenich	GER	NOR	6
1982	CAN	Al Hackner	SUI	GER	6
1981	SUI	Jurg Tanner	USA	CAN	2
1980	CAN	Rick Folk	NOR	SUI	4
1979	NOR	Kristian Soerum	SUI	CAN	5
1978	USA	Bob Nichols	NOR	CAN	1
1977	SWE	Ragnar Kamp	CAN	SCO	4
1976	USA	Bruce Roberts	SCO	SUI	1
1975	SUI	Otto Danieli	USA	CAN	2
1974	USA	Bud Somerville	SWE	SUI	1
1973	SWE	Kjell Oscarus	CAN	FRA	5
1972	CAN	Orest Meleschuk	USA	SCO	2
1971	CAN	Don Duguid	SCO	USA	3
1970	CAN	Don Duguid	SCO	SWE	4
1969	CAN	Ron Northcutt	USA	SCO	2
1968	CAN	Ron Northcutt	SCO	USA	3
1967	SCO	Chuck Hay	SWE	CAN/USA	3
1966	CAN	Ron Northcutt	SCO	SWE/USA	3
1965	USA	Bud Somerville	CAN	SCO/SWE	1
1964	CAN	Lyllal Dagg	SCO	SWE/USA	3
1963	CAN	Ernie Richardson	SCO/USA	(NA)	2
1962	CAN	Ernie Richardson	USA	SCO	2
1961	CAN	Hector Gervais	SCO	USA	3
1960	CAN	Ernie Richardson	SCO	(NA)	(NA)
1959	CAN	Ernie Richardson	SCO	(NA)	(NA)

WCF Freytag Award

The World Curling Federation regularly honors those who have contributed significantly to the development and promotion of curling at the world level. It honors the memory of the late Elmer Freytag of the United States, one of the founding members and early leaders of the International Curling Federation.

Freytag Award Winners

2009	Sandra Schmirler	Canada
2008	Leslie Ingram-Brown	Scotland
2006-07	Not awarded	
2005	Kunio Nando	Japan
2004	Not awarded	
2003	Robert Whitehead (builder)	United States
2002	Franz Tanner (curler)	Switzerland
2001	Raymond "Bud" Somerville (curler)	United States
	Shirley Morash (builder)	Canada
2000	Bob Hardy (builder)	United States
	Ernie Richardson (curler)	Canada
1998-99	Not awarded	
1997	Erwin Sautter-Hewitt	Switzerland
1996	Elisabeth Paterson-Brown	Scotland
1995	Not awarded	
1994	Keith Wendorf	Germany
1991-93	Not awarded	
1990	Colin Campbell	Canada
1989	Don McKay	United States
1988	Kay Sugahara	United States
1987	Bob Picken	Canada
1986	Art Cobb	United States
1985	Don MacLeod	Canada
1984	Robin Welsh	Scotland
1983	Mabel DeWare	Canada
1982	Sven Eklund	Sweden
1981	Doug Maxwell	Canada
1980	Bob Grierson	Scotland
1979	Chuck Hay	Scotland
1978	Ken Watson	Canada



USA's Allison Pottinger, Nicole Joraanstad and Natalie Nicholson in action in South Korea.

Men's Sportsmanship Award

Colin Campbell award

China's Fengchun Wang received the 2009 Colin Campbell Memorial Award, which honors the memory of Colin A. Campbell, president of the International Curling Federation (now the World Curling Federation) from 1969 until his passing in 1978. The award is presented annually to the player in the men's World Curling Championship who best combines playing ability with sportsmanlike conduct, as determined by his fellow competitors.

Colin Campbell Award Winners

2009	Fengchun Wang	China
2008	Thomas Dufour	France
2007	Ralph Stoeckli	Switzerland
2006	Ewan MacDonald	Scotland
2005	Marco Mariani	Italy
2004	Sean Becker	New Zealand
2003	Markku Uusipaavalniemi	Finland
2002	Paal Trulsen	Norway
2001	Spencer Mugnier	France
2000	Greg McAulay	Canada
1999	Sean Becker	New Zealand
1998	Markku Uusipaavalniemi	Finland
1997	Jussi Uusipaavalniemi	Finland
1996	Mikael Hasselborg	Sweden
1995	Peter Lindholm	Sweden
1994	Gert Larsen	Denmark
1993	Hugh Millikin	Australia
1992	Jussi Uusipaavalniemi	Finland
1991	Markus Eggler	Switzerland
1990	Tommy Stjerne	Denmark
1989	Tommy Stjerne	Denmark
1988	Bo Bakke	Norway
1987	Goran Roxin	Sweden
1986	Uli Sutor	Germany
1985	Tim Wright	United States
1984	Mike Hay	Scotland
1983	Keith Wendorf	Germany
1982	Rick Lang	Canada
1981	Mark Olson	Canada
1980	Greig Henderson	Scotland
1979	Keith Wendorf	Germany

John Shuster led his team to a fifth-place finish at the 2009 Men's Worlds in his rookie appearance as skip.

*Photo by
Michael
Burns Jr.*



2009 Senior Nationals

2009 U.S. Senior Nationals Jan. 16–20 • Exmoor Curling Club, Highland Park, Ill.

Paul Pustovar (Hibbing, Minn.) and Sharon Vukich (Seattle) won the 2009 U.S. Senior National Championships and moved on to compete at the 2009 World Senior Championships, April 24-May 3 in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Six-time U.S. men's national champion Pustovar finally added senior men's champion to his resume as he led his team to a 4-1 win over Seppo Sormunen's rink to capture the 2009 U.S. Senior Men's Championship at the Rice Lake Curling Club.

Pustovar and teammates Brian Simonson (Hibbing, Minn.), Tom Harms (Pengilly, Minn.), Don Mohawk (Nashwauk, Minn.) and John Kokotovich (Hibbing, Minn.) finished the competition with a 7-2 record.

Pustovar's team began the game with the last rock advantage but only managed a single. After Sormunen (Duluth, Minn.), Stan Vinge (Waunakee, Wis.), Wally Henry (Beaver Dam, Wis.) and Jim Wilson (Winnetka, Ill.) responded with a single of their own, Pustovar's team would score the game's remaining points. Another single in the fourth end was followed up with steals in the sixth and seventh ends to win the national senior title.

While this is the first senior title for Pustovar, it is the second for his teammates, who captured the title back in 2006. They brought home silver from the 2006 World Seniors that season.

Vukich won the senior women's title by completing her round robin competition with a perfect 4-0 record on Feb. 8 at the Blackhawk Curling Club in Janesville, Wis. Her teammates included Joan Fish, Cathie Tomlinson, and Aija Edwards, all of Seattle. Together Vukich, Fish and Edwards won two U.S. women's national titles and represented the U.S. at the 1980 and 1987 world championships.

2009 Senior Nationals

Men's Round Robin

Pool A:

Stuart Graves	6-1
David Russell	5-2
Mark Arnold	5-2
Jeff Wright	4-3
Phil DeVore	4-3
Ken Neidhart	2-5
Walt Ehler	1-6
Jim Jerylo Sr.	1-6

Pool B:

Paul Pustovar*	4-2
Seppo Sormunen*	4-2
Dwayne Jacobson*	4-2
Leland Rich*	4-2
Scott Edie*	4-2
Dale Gibbs	1-5
Larry Anderson	0-6

*multiple tiebreakers were played to finally determine Pustovar and Sormunen as semifinalists

Semifinals:

Sormunen*	021 040 2x	9
Graves	000 102 0x	3
Arnold*	100 010 1x	3
Pustovar	012 201 0x	6

Final:

Pustovar*	100 101 1x	4
Sormunen	010 000 0x	1

*last stone in first end

Women's Round Robin

(Single round robin played with a double knockout provision was used to determine the champion)

Sharon Vukich	4-0
Roberta Stolt	2-2
Star Pfiffner	2-2
Kelly Stephens	1-3
Donna Purkey	1-3



The American team of Sharon Vukich, Joan Fish, Cathie Tomlinson and Aija Edwards finished sixth in New Zealand.

2009 Senior Worlds

2009 World Senior Championships April 24-May 3 • Dunedin, New Zealand

Canada's Pat Sanders rink defeated Switzerland's Renate Nedkoff, 10-1, to win the women's title. In the bronze-medal matches, Scotland's Keith Prentice defeated Switzerland's Andre Pauli while Sweden's Ingrid Meldahl led her team to the women's bronze with a win over Scotland's Marion Craig.

The U.S. women's team of Sharon Vukich (Seattle), Joan Fish (Hansville, Wash.), Cathie Tomlinson (Seattle) and Aija Edwards (Hansville) finished the competition in sixth place with a 3-4 record in the round robin in the team's first appearance at the World Senior Championships.

Senior World Women's Champions

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	CAN	Pat Sanders	SUI	SWE	6
2008	CAN	Diane Foster	SCO	SUI	5
2007	SWE	Ingrid Meldahl	CAN	USA	3
2006	SWE	Ingrid Meldahl	CAN	SUI	11
2005	SCO	Carolyn Morris	JAP	SWE	7
2004	CAN	Anne Dunn	SWE	USA	3
2003	CAN	Nancy Kerr	SCO	ENG	5
2002	CAN	Anne Dunn	SUI	USA	3

U.S. Senior Women's Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Janesville, WI	Granite, WA	Sharon Vukich
2008	Highland Park, IL	Wauwatosa, WI	Pam Oleinik
2007	Milwaukee, WI	Wauwatosa, WI	Pam Oleinik
2006	No event	Broomstones	Jamie Hutchinson
2005	Portage, WI	Nutmeg, CT	Anne Wiggins
2004	Grafton, ND	Nashua, NH	Nancy Dinsdale
2003	Bemidji, MN	Grafton, ND	LaVonne Berg
2002	Superior, WI	Nashua, NH	Nancy Dinsdale

2009 Senior Worlds

Scores and Standings

SENIOR WOMEN

Final Standings

Canada	Gold
Switzerland	Silver
Sweden	Bronze
Scotland	Fourth

Round Robin Standings

Canada	7-0
Switzerland	5-2
Scotland	4-3
Sweden	4-3
Japan	3-4
USA	3-4
New Zealand	2-5
Italy	0-7

Semifinals:

*Switzerland	102	102	01	7
Scotland	010	030	20	6
*Canada	202	020	20	8
Sweden	010	201	00	4

Bronze-medal Game:

Sweden	210	110	1x	6
*Scotland	001	001	0x	2

Gold-medal Game:

*Switzerland	000	001	xx	1
Canada	412	210	xx	10

*last stone in first end

USA women round robin scores:

USA 8, New Zealand 4
 USA 7, Sweden 4
 Scotland 9, USA 2
 Canada 7, USA 5
 Japan 8, USA 3
 USA 7, Italy 3
 Switzerland 12, USA 1

Senior World Championships

U.S. Senior Women's Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Joan Fish	Cathie Tomlinson	Aija Edwards
Laurie Rahn	Susan Curtis	JoAnn Matthews
		Donna Purkey
Laurie Rahn	Susan Curtis	JoAnn Matthews
Shelley Johnson	Carolyn Macleod	Cheryl Pieske
		Karen Gloyd
Jean Murphy	Carol White	Rosemary Morgan
		Carolyn MacLeod
Anne Wiggins	Anne Robertson	Jan Stahlheber
		Rosemary Morgan
Delores McDonald	Paddy Hutson	Nancy Rentfrow
		Jean Vorachek
Donna Purkey	Linda Handyside	Rosemary Morgan
		Barbara Cornelsen

2009 Senior Worlds

2009 World Senior Championships
April 24-May 3 • Dunedin, New Zealand

The American men led by Paul Pustovar (Hibbing, Minn.) captured the silver medal May 2 at the 2009 World Senior Championships in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Pustovar and teammates Brian Simonson (Hibbing), Tom Harms (Pengilly, Minn.), Don Mohawk (Nashwauk, Minn.) and Dale Gibbs (Woodbury, Minn.) fell to Canada's Eugene Hritzuk rink, 4-3, in the championship final. It was the sixth overall men's senior title for Canada. It also marked the fifth time the American men have won silver – all losses to Canada in the final. The U.S. won gold back in 2002, the inaugural year of the event. This was the second silver medal for Simonson, Harms, Mohawk and Gibbs, who represented the U.S. in 2006 as well.

The gold-medal game didn't feature any ends with scoring bigger than singles. The Americans took a 2-0 lead after three with a steal of one, but the Canadians would take the lead after scoring singles in the next three ends. The U.S. tied the game with one point in the seventh giving Canada the last-rock advantage to use for the win in the eighth and final end.

Senior World Men's Champions

Year	Gold	Skip	Silver	Bronze	USA
2009	CAN	Eugene Hritzuk	USA	SCO	2
2008	CAN	Pat Ryan	SWE	USA	3
2007	SCO	Keith Prentice	CAN	SWE	4
2006	CAN	Les Rogers	USA	SWE	2
2005	CAN	Bas Buckle	USA	SUI	2
2004	CAN	Bas Buckle	USA	SUI	2
2003	CAN	Tom Reed	USA	SCO	2
2002	USA	Larry Johnson	CAN	SWE	1

U.S. Senior Men's Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Rice Lake, WI	Hibbing, MN	Paul Pustovar
2008	Highland Park, IL	Centerville, WI	David Russell
2007	Milwaukee, WI	Eau Claire, WI	Geoff Goodland
2006	Medford, WI	Hibbing, MN	Brian Simonson
2005	Portage, WI	Centerville, WI	*David Russell
2004	Grafton, ND	Madison, WI	*George Godfrey
2003	Bemidji, MN	Bemidji, MN	Scott Baird
2002	Superior, WI	Grand Forks, ND	Larry Johnson
*Skipped but threw third rocks **threw skip rocks			

2009 Senior Worlds



USA's team of (l-r) Dale Gibbs, Don Mohawk, Tom Harms, Brian Simonson and Paul Pustovar (skip) finished with the silver.

Senior World Championships

SENIOR MEN

Final Standings

Canada	Gold
USA	Silver
Scotland	Bronze
Switzerland	Fourth

Round Robin Standings

Group A

USA	5-0
Switzerland	4-1
Sweden	3-2
Finland	2-3
New Zealand	1-4
Italy	0-5

Group B

Canada	5-0
Scotland	4-1
Japan	3-2
Australia	2-3
Hungary	1-4
England	0-5

Semifinals:

USA	000 201 021 6
*Scotland	010 020 200 5
Canada	202 202 00 8
*Switzerland	030 010 21 7

Bronze-medal Game:

*Switzerland	002 010 xx 3
Scotland	210 501 xx 9

Gold-medal Game:

Canada	000 111 01 4
*USA	101 000 10 3
*last stone in first end	

USA round robin scores:

USA 7, Sweden 2
USA 6, Finland 4
USA 6, Switzerland 5
USA 8, New Zealand 7
USA 7, Italy 2

U.S. Senior Men's Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Brian Simonson	Tom Harms	Don Mohawk
Bill Rhyme	Mark Swandby	Dave Carlson
Stan Vinge	Wally Henry	Mike Fraboni
Tom Harms	John Kokotovich	Jim Wilson
**Bill Rhyme	Mark Swandby	Don Mohawk
**Bill Kind	Walt Erbach	Dave Carlson
Mark Haluptzok	Bob Fenson	Larry Sharp
		Bob Naylor
		Richard Reiersen
Stan Vinge	George Godfrey	Bill Kind

2009 U.S. Club Nationals

2009 U.S. Club National Championships March 7-14 • Utica, NY

Minnesota's Norma O'Leary defended her title by defeating Matina Heisler of Massachusetts, 10-9, in the women's final at the 2009 U.S. Club National Championships March 14 at the Utica Curling Club in Whitesboro, N.Y.

O'Leary (Silver Bay, Minn.) and teammates Pam Cavers (Duluth, Minn.), Mary Johnson (Duluth) and Patti Luke (Duluth) had to overcome an early deficit when Heisler (Falmouth, Mass.) and teammates Elizabeth Abeltin (Falmouth), Marinna Martini (Falmouth) and Wendy Scholes (North Falmouth, Mass.) scored five points in the fourth end to take a 6-4 lead. The Duluth Curling Club team would take control right back with four points in the sixth end, and held the Cape Cod Curling Club team to just a single in the 10th end to secure the win.

"We were very thrilled to defend our title in Utica," O'Leary said. "With Patti and I both playing in the Olympic Trials, our Club Nationals team didn't get a chance to play together prior to the Minnesota State Championships. We really didn't play all that well at State. We had to win our final game of the round robin to get the chance to make it to Utica. We then had to play a tiebreaker game against the Wapola rink to win the state championship, but both teams advanced to Utica.

"The championship game wasn't anything to brag about, but we played just well enough and made just enough shots to win the game. Winning feels great!"

In the bronze-medal match, Washington's Gabrielle Coleman rink defeated Wisconsin's Shelly Kosal, 10-7.

The Madison (Wis.) Curling Club will host the 2010 U.S. Club National Championships.

U.S. Women's Club National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Utica, NY	Duluth, MN	Norma O'Leary
2008	Mankato, MN	Duluth, MN	Norma O'Leary
2007	St. Paul, MN	St. Paul, MN	Margie Smith
2006	Superior, WI	Madison, WI	Nina Spatola
2005	Chicago, IL	Broomstones, MA	Shelley Dropkin

2009 U.S. Club Nationals



2009 U.S. Club National Championships

Norma O'Leary's team from the Duluth Curling Club repeated as Club National champions. Team members include (l-r) Norma O'Leary, Pam Cavers, Mary Johnson and Patti Luke.

Women's Round Robin Standings

Washington (Coleman)	7-2
Wisconsin (Kosal)	7-2
Massachusetts (Heisler)	6-3
Minnesota I (O'Leary)	6-3
Minnesota II (Wapola)	6-3
Illinois (Lawless)	5-4
California (Messier)	3-6
Pennsylvania (Anderson)	2-7
Michigan (Roberts)	2-7
North Dakota (Melland)	1-8

Semifinals:

*WI	000 101 000 0	2
MA	002 010 001 0	4
*WA	100 010 0xx x	2
MNI	004 401 2xx x	11

Bronze-medal Game:

WA	010 102 040 2	10
*WI	101 020 102 0	7

Final:

*MNI	301 004 002 0	10
MA	010 500 110 1	9

*last rock in first end

Tiebreaker:

*MNI	110 34x xxx x	9
MNII	002 00x xxx x	2

U.S. Women's Club National Champions

Third	Second	Lead
Pam Cavers	Mary Johnson	Patti Luke
Pam Cavers	Mary Johnson	Patti Luke
Debbie Dexter	Peggy Gazzola	Jennifer Kamarainen
Stephanie Radl	Shelley Pape	Martha Busse
		Mary Eisenbraun
Christine Scherz	Phelcia Howland	Dawn Gutro

2009 U.S. Club Nationals

2009 U.S. Club National Championships March 7-14 • Utica, NY

Wisconsin's Mike Fraboni rink captured the men's title at the 2009 U.S. Club National Championships March 14 at the Utica Curling Club in Whitesboro, N.Y., after defeating Jeff Wright's rink from Illinois, 8-6. For Wisconsin's Fraboni rink, it was a familiar foe in Wright (Libertyville, Ill.) and teammates Nils Johansson (Highland Park, Ill.), Russ Brown (Lake Forest, Ill.) and Ken Brown (Deerfield, Ill.). Fraboni and Brian Kopp (Sun Prairie, Wis.), Joel Dietz (Madison, Wis.) and Donnie Henry (Cottage Grove, Wis.) trailed after four ends but scored big with the last rock the rest of the way.

Wisconsin would force Wright's team to singles late in the game to earn its first national club title. Fraboni also has won the men's national title back in 2002 and represented the USA at the 2002 Men's Worlds, finishing fourth. He also won bronze last year at the 2008 World Senior Championships.

"I thought we played consistent curling all week," Dietz said. "The competition was tough, but we did our best to keep Mike out of trouble with his skip rocks. And, those few times that we needed Mike to have 4-foot draw weight, he came up with it every time. Winning my first national championship was great, but doing it with three friends was incredible."

In the bronze-medal match, North Dakota II's Rick Tangedal handed Minnesota's Mark Willmert a 7-1 loss.

The Madison (Wis.) Curling Club will host the 2010 U.S. Club National Championships.

U.S. Men's Club National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Utica, NY	Madison, WI	Mike Fraboni
2008	Mankato, MN	Madison, WI	Dave Brown
2007	St. Paul, MN	St. Paul, MN	Mike Farbelow
2006	Superior, WI	Duluth, MN	Dave Running
2005	Chicago, IL	Exmoor, IL	Russ Armstrong

2009 U.S. Club Nationals



2009 U.S. Club National champions (l-r) Mike Fraboni, Donnie Henry, Brian Kopp and Joel Dietz hoist the championship trophy after defeating Illinois for the title.

2009 U.S. Club National Championships

Men's Round Robin Standings

Wisconsin (Fraboni)	8-1
North Dakota II (Tangedal)	7-2
Illinois (Wright)	7-2
Minnesota (Willmert)	5-4
Washington (Kauffman)	5-4
Maryland (Faircloth)	4-5
Michigan (Jorgensen)	3-6
North Dakota I (Grzadzieleski)	2-7
Connecticut (Hannon)	2-7
Arizona (Gallagher)	2-7

Tiebreaker:

*WA	201 002 000 00	5
MN	010 010 011 11	6

Semifinals:

*NDII	012 010 301 0	8
IL	200 302 010 3	11
WI	001 021 030 x	7
*MN	010 100 201 x	5

Bronze-medal Game:

*NDII	130 12x xxx x	7
MN	001 00x xxx x	1

Gold-medal Game:

WI	100 030 202 0	8
*IL	001 102 010 1	6

*last stone in first end

U.S. Men's Club National Champions

Third
Brian Kopp
Kraig Deeren

Second
Joel Dietz
Kroy Nernberger

Lead
Donnie Henry
Richard Maskel
Wally Henry
Tim Gartner
Tony Lasky
Chip Anderson
Steven Waters

Nick Myers
Brad Jensen
Mike Griem

Tim Solin
Jeff Laundergan
Sean Silver

2009 Mixed Championship

2009 U.S. Mixed National Championship

March 21-29, 2009

Medford Curling Club, Medford, Wis.

Washington's Brady Clark rink won its sixth title at the 2009 U.S. Mixed National Championship at the Medford Curling Club March 29.

Clark (Lynnwood, Wash.) and teammates Cristin Clark (Lynnwood, Wash.), Philip Tilker (Seattle) and Beverly Walter (Seattle) got past Wisconsin's Ryan Lemke team, 3-1, in a very low-scoring national championship. This is the sixth title for the Clarks, fifth for Walter and the first for Tilker.

Lemke (Medford, Wis.) and teammates Jackie Lemke (Medford), Kroy Nernberger (Madison, Wis.) and Rebecca Wood (Madison) won silver last year as well. The Wisconsin team would score just one point in this match, and it didn't come until the fifth end. Jake Will (Madison, Wis.) was the team's alternate.

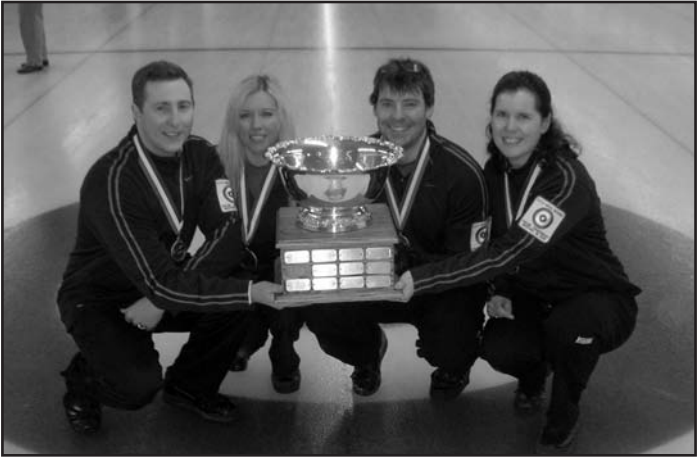
Holding a 2-1 edge, the Washington team held onto the hammer until the 10th as the ends in between were blanked. The Clarks also won the 2009 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship earlier this season and represented the U.S. at the 2009 World Mixed Doubles Championship in Cortina, Italy.

Arizona's Fred Maxie rink repeated as bronze medalists, defeating Ohio's Robb Borland, 11-6. After giving up two steals to begin the match, Maxie (Phoenix) and teammates Anne Stuhlman (New Hartford, N.Y.), Richard Maskel (Green Bay, Wis.) and Carol Ann Naso (Fountain Hills, Ariz.) got on the board with a deuce. A steal of two put them in control at 4-2. After earning just a single in the fifth, Borland's team allowed Maxie to score three in the sixth and a victory-clinching four points in the ninth.

The Clark rink would go on to be named the 2009 USA Curling Team of the Year to honor the accomplishments that this Seattle team has earned over the past few seasons.

The Chicago Curling Club will host the 2010 U.S. Mixed National Championship March 20-27.

2009 Mixed Championship



Winners of the 2009 USA Curling Mixed National Championship title were (l-r) Brady Clark, Cristin Clark, Philip Tilker and Bev Walter.

2009 U.S. Mixed National Championship

Scores and standings

Round Robin Standings		<u>Semifinals:</u>	
Washington (Clark)	8-1	OH	102 000 202 10 8
Arizona (Maxie)	6-3	*WA	010 113 020 02 10
Wisconsin (Lemke)	6-3	*WI	120 204 xxx x 9
Ohio (Borland)	5-4	AZ	001 010 xxx x 2
Minnesota (Stolt)	4-5	<u>Bronze-medal Game:</u>	
North Dakota II (Gulseth)	4-5	*AZ	002 200 304 x 11
Maryland (Edie)	4-5	OH	110 010 030 x 6
Connecticut (Surka)	4-5	<u>Gold-medal Game:</u>	
Illinois (Armstrong)	2-7	WI	000 010 000 0 1
North Dakota I (Buresh)	2-7	*WA	001 100 000 1 3
		*last rock in first end	

Mixed National Champions

Year	Site	Winning Club	Skip
2009	Medford, WI	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2008	Detroit, MI	Lake Region, ND	Duane Symons
2007	Grafton, ND	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2006	Fairbanks, AK	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2005	Laurel, MD	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2004	Mankato, MN	Fairbanks, AK	Steve Shuttleworth
2003	Medford, WI	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2002	Seattle, WA	Seattle, WA	Brady Clark
2001	Rice Lake, WI	Williston Basin, ND	Rick Tangedal
2000	Utica, NY	Madison, WI	Craig Brown
1999	Devils Lake, ND	Seattle, WA	Ian Cordner
1998	Wayland, MA	Madison, WI	Mike Fraboni
1997	Two Harbors, MN	Denver, CO	Jack McNelly
1996	Highland Park, IL	Broomstones, MA	Grayland Cousins
1995	Utica, NY	Madison, WI	Mike Fraboni
1994	Rochester, MN	Bemidji, MN	Andy Borland
1993	Bismarck, ND	Eau Claire, WI	Geoff Goodland
1992	Hartland, WI	Bemidji, MN	Andy Borland
1991	Denver, CO	Wausau, WI	Geoff Goodland
1990	St. Paul, MN	Denver, CO	Jack McNelly
1989	Seattle, WA	Duluth, MN	Lee Leksell
1988	Fairbanks, AK	Madison, WI	Steve Brown
1987	Brookline, MA	Wilmette, IL	Grayland Cousins
1986	St. Paul, MN	Alsen, ND	Joel Jacobson
1985	Detroit, MI	Seattle, WA	Doug Jones
1984	Bemidji, MN	Madison, WI	Steve Brown
1983	Two Harbors, MN	Poynette, WI	Elgie Noble
1982	Madison, WI	Bemidji, MN	Mark Haluptzok
1981	Falmouth, MA	Bowling Green, OH	Fred Arn
1980	Highland Park, IL	Bemidji, MN	Mark Haluptzok
1979	Duluth, MN	Wausau, WI	Neil Collins
1978	Colo. Springs, CO	Poynette, WI	Elgie Noble
1977	Hastings, NY	Seattle, WA	Garth Wallace
1976	Milwaukee, WI	Grafton, ND	Frank Aasand
1975	Chicago, IL	Wausau, WI	Neil Collins

Mixed National Champions

Third

Cristin Clark
Val Nash
Cristin Clark
Cristin Clark
Cristin Clark
Susan Carothers

Cristin Clark
Cristin Clark
Janet Tangedal
Erika Brown
Dolores Cordner
Allison Darragh
Bev Behnke
Sandy Resetich
Allison Darragh
Liz Johnson
Lori Mountford
Liz Johnson
Kathy Baldwin
Bev Behnke
Kelly Sieger
Lisa Schoeneberg
Sandy Resetich
Lori Kreklau
Beth Bronger-Jones
Diane Brown
Marilyn Noble
Liz Johnson
Betty Arn
Liz Johnson
Jo Shannon
Marilyn Noble
Sophie Wallace
Paddy Hankey
Sandy Robarge

Second

Philip Tilker
Chad Carlson
Leon Romaniuk
Tom Violette
Darren Lehto
Peter Lundquist

Ryan Beighton
Jason Larway
Garland Legacie
Jonathon Brunt
James Pleasants
Craig Brown
Bucky Marshall
Jim Wilson
Mark Swandby
Tim Johnson
Cal Tillisch
Tim Johnson
Cal Tillisch
Adolph Behnke
Kevin Stevens
Paul Schaefer
Jim Wilson
Tim Kreklau
Bob Anderson
Vince Fitzgerald
Bill MacLeish
Tim Johnson
Bob Vollmer
Tim Johnson
Rick Shannon
Dick Marquardt
Tom Wallace
Ray Morgan
Roger Robarge

Lead

Bev Walter
Christine Mikulich
Bev Walter
Bev Walter
Bev Walter
Cathy Floerchinger
Dennis Thies
Bev Walter
Kim Kropp
Jan Legacie
Jill Jones
Jaynie Pleasants
Tracy Sachtjen
Susan Anschuetz
Karyn Cousins
Toni Swandby
Jean Borland
Marcia Tillisch
Jean Borland
Marcia Tillisch
Dawna Bennett
Bonnie Leksell
Bonnie Mansfield
Karyn Markech
Lisa Jacobson
Cheryl Hardy
Georgia Fitzgerald
Mary MacLeish
Mary Jo Roufs
Micki Vollmer
Mary Jo Roufs
Elaine Collins
Nancy Marquardt
Jan Spencer
Vicky Aasand
Elaine Collins

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Instructional Materials

The USCA has several instructional brochures available for the 2009-10 season. The "USA Curling" brochure provides a colorful introduction for prospective curlers or those who would like to know more about the sport. Five educational brochures on the basics of delivery, sweeping, strategy & spirit, safety & etiquette, delivery with the stick, and wheelchair curling help introduce the sport's fundamentals. By following the steps in "Curling: A Lifetime Sport," new curlers can be playing a game and enjoying success in less than an hour. To order the video, call the USCA office toll-free at 1-888-CURLERS (287-5377). A flyer, "Learn to Curl in One Hour," is a follow-up to this video and is available upon request from the USCA office. Instructor training and certification also is available through the USCA. Also available is the excellent promotional video, "Sweeping the Nation."

Curling Camps

Curling camps for junior curlers continue to be popular. Camps are held annually – this year in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. The camps help junior curlers increase their knowledge of the sport and improve their fundamental skills. The camps also serve to help identify future Olympic talent. Adults also have the opportunity to tune-up their skills. Upon request, adult camps are offered each fall at various locations to help recreational curlers get ready for the season.

Curling Merchandise

USA Curling merchandise is available through XP Apparel in a variety of styles and sizes. Go to the USA Curling website, www.usacurl.org, for ordering information. In 2002, the USCA became merchandising partners with XP Apparel of Denver, Colo. – an official licensee for the U.S. Olympic Committee. Featured merchandise includes sweatshirts, T-shirts, polo shirts, fleece vests, baseball caps and more. Visit XP's website at www.xpapparel.com.

Membership Conference

The annual USCA Membership Conference has been changed to mini regional membership conferences to provide regional clubs representatives with opportunities to network with clubs in their respective regions as well as USA Curling. Plans include one or two mini conferences throughout the U.S. each year. The most recent was held in Denver in October 2008.

Member Services

College Curling

College curling continues to build across the United States. This year's National College Tournament showed steady participation.

The College Curling USA program is under the direction of and funded by the Illinois State Curling Foundation and the USCA's College Curling Committee. The ISCF began a college curling program in the late 1980s, and a successful national tournament has been held since the early 1990s.

Junior Programs

A Junior Merit program is available to member clubs for all ages of junior curlers, from beginner to the competitive youth/junior curler. The five-level program measures achievement at each stage by testing junior curlers' knowledge of the sport and on-ice skills. Participants are awarded colored bars (red, blue, bronze, silver, and gold) to wear on their curling jacket at each merit level. A junior merit manual with on-ice skills assessment and written examination for each level can be obtained through the USCA office. An on-ice drills manual has been developed to help coordinate the on-ice skills test and is available on the USCA website at www.usacurl.org.

Donation Program

This year's program will be similar to last year's program as donors to the USCA will be able to target 50 percent of the donation to one of two broad areas. The first area would be USCA events hosted at local curling clubs. The USCA understands the commitment of finances and manpower that the local curling clubs have in hosting USCA events, and wants to help provide another potential source of revenue to those clubs. The second area will be USCA line items that are under-supported in the budget process and that the donor would like to give additional support to. Such line items might include travel for juniors to our National Championships, travel and expenses for our senior national champions, support for junior camps or other Member Services programs that need additional support. As has been tradition, donors to this USCA program will receive a pin in appreciation of support. In addition, premiums will be provided to our donors. This program has been exceptionally valuable to the maintenance of USCA programs to our member clubs and regions and we thank all of you for the support you have given us over the years.

Curl TV

Curl-TV is now being offered to approximately 15,000 registered U.S. curling members. USA Curling has signed a three-year contract with Curl-TV to offer an annual subscription to Curl-TV.com, the world's first and only Internet TV network dedicated to the sport of curling. Passcodes for members are distributed annually to club presidents when membership rosters are reported to USA Curling.

Bonspiel Calendar

M=Men W=Women X=Mixed J=Junior
 S=Senior O=Open C=Cashspiel Col = College
 St = Stick XD=Mixed Doubles WHC=Wheelchair

	Sept. 26-27	
Bowling Green, OH–Early Bird		O
	Oct. 2-4	
McCall, ID–Rocktoberspiel		O
	Oct. 16–18	
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)–The Stan Invitational		M
Philadelphia, PA–Mid-Atlantic Women’s Bonspiel		W
Potomac, MD–Inaugural		O
Rice Lake, WI–Curl For A Cure (Oct. 17 only)		O
St. Paul, MN–Men’s Cashspiel		MC
	Oct. 23–25	
Anchorage, AK–Rookie ‘Spiel		O
Cape Cod, MA–Bog ‘Spiel		O
Rochester, NY–Big Pumpkin		O
	Oct. 30-Nov. 1	
Capital, ND (Bismarck)–Early Bird		O
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)–Fall Fling		W
Madison, WI–Halloween Bonspiel		O
	Nov. 6-8	
Blackhawk, WI (Janesville)–Women’s First Chance		W
Bowling Green, OH		W
Denver, CO–Denver Open		O
Duluth, MN–Duluth Cashspiel		C
Grand Forks, ND–Early Bird		O
Racine, WI–Men’s Invitational		M
Schenectady, NY–Carosella		W
Wauwatosa, WI–Wauwatosa Stick (Nov. 7 only)		St
	Nov. 13-15	
Belfast, ME–Ben Ames Memorial		X
Broomstones, MA–Mixed Doubles Bonspiel		XD
Exmoor, IL–Mixed Bonspiel		X
Mayfield, OH–Men’s Invitational/Chris Moore Memorial Trophy		M
Portage, WI–Curl for the Cure (Nov. 14 only)		O
St. Paul, MN–Mixed Doubles Bonspiel		XD
Wausau, WI–First Chance		O
	Nov. 20-22	
Broomstones, MA		J
Itasca, MN–Widows ‘Spiel		W
Mankato, MN–Harvest		O
Philadelphia, PA–Harvest		O
Schenectady, NY–Achilles		M
	Nov. 27-29	
St. Paul, MN–Fireball 500		X
	Dec. 4–6	
Centerville, WI–Centerville Junior		J
Chicago, IL–Old Boys’ Bonspiel		SM
Fargo-Moorhead, ND–FM Open		O
Grand Forks, ND–Senior Women’s Bonspiel		SW
Madison, WI–International Cashspiel		C
Mayfield, OH–Women’s One Day Invitational (Dec. 5 only)		W
Norfolk, CT–Calder Trophy		M
Nutmeg, CT (Bridgeport)–Crystal Snowflake		W

Dec. 11–13

Anchorage, AK–Christmas 'Spiel	O
Appleton, WI–Holly Hog	X
Columbus, OH–CCC Open	O
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth)–Cashspiel	C
Detroit, MI–Senior One-Day (Dec. 12 only)	S
Exmoor, IL–Continental	M
Lake Region, ND (Devils Lake)–Northern Lights	O
Madison, WI–Junior Bonspiel	J
Owatonna, MN–Dr. McGillicuddy	O
Schenectady, NY–10 & Under	M
St. Paul, MN–Jack McCann Men's 40+	M
Stevens Point, WI–Point Cashspiel	C

2010

Jan. 1–2

Grand Forks, ND–New Year's Party	X
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Jan. 3

Coyotes, AZ (Scottsdale)–All American Women's	W
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Jan. 8–10

Appleton, WI–Men's Invitational	M
Chicago, IL–Gloamin' 'Spiel	W
Detroit, MI–Men's International	M
Duluth, MN–Bruce Bennett Over 40	M
Eau Claire, WI–Eau Claire Open	O
Hibbing, MN–Jon Minne Jr. Bonspiel	J
Lodi, WI–Lodi Men's	M
Marshfield, WI–Women's Bonspiel	W
Milwaukee, WI–Kiltie Mixed	X
Philadelphia, PA–Cracked Bell	O
St. Paul, MN–Women's Cold Cash	WC
Wausau, WI–Tietge High School Bonspiel	J
Willmar, MN–New Year Bonspiel	O

Jan. 15–17

Broomstones, MA	M
Chesapeake, MD–Funspiel	O
Chicago, IL–Men's International	M
Hibbing, MN–Sunny Hill-Tiburzi	M
International Falls, MN–Ice Box Bonspiel	O
Itasca, MN	J
Portage, WI–Junior Bonspiel	J
Potomac, MD–Potomac Junior Friendly	J
Rice Lake, WI–Steinspiel	X
Utica, NY–Mitchell	M
Wausau, WI–Wausau Highlander's Bonspiel	W

Jan. 22–24

Blackhawk, WI (Janesville)–Blackhawk Mixed	X
Capital, ND (Bismarck)–Flurry Fest Outdoor Bonspiel	O
Centerville, WI–Centerville Senior Mixed	SX
St. Paul, MN–Winter Carnival	X
Two Harbors, MN–Men's International	M
Willmar, MN–MCA Willmar U-18 Bonspiel	J
Utica, NY–Empire State	W

Jan. 26–27

Itasca, MN–Senior 'Spiel	S
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Jan. 27-28

Milwaukee, WI–Milwaukee Kiltie Ladies	W
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Jan. 29–31

Albany, NY–Governor’s Bowl	M
Arlington, WI	M
Broomstones, MA–Little Rocks	J
Chesapeake, MD–GNCC Senior Men’s Bonspiel	S
Chicago, IL–Illinae Bonspiel	W
Cleveland, OH–49th Annual Mixed International	X
Hibbing, MN–Hibbing/Coors Mixed	X
Mankato, MN–Mankato Men’s	M
Schenectady, NY–SCC Open	O
Two Harbors, MN	O

Feb. 5–7

Cape Cod, MA	J
Centerville, WI	W
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth)	X
Detroit, MI–Ladies One-Day (Feb. 6 only)	W
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)–The Classic	X
Madison, WI–Madison Mixed	X
Milwaukee, WI–Milwaukee Men’s	M
Owatonna, MN–Miller Lite	O
St. Paul, MN–Ranger	O
Wausau, WI–Badger States Games	MWXJ

Feb. 12–14

Broomstones, MA–Francis Dykes	M
Centerville, WI–Centerville Mixed	X
Duluth, MN–International	MW
Grand Forks, ND–Women’s Bonspiel	W
Itasca, MN–Sweethearts	X
Madison, WI–Wisconsin High School Championships	J
Marshfield, WI–Men’s Bonspiel	M
Norfolk, CT–Norfolk Mixed	X
Racine, WI–Mixed Invitational	X
Rice Lake, WI–Men’s Invitational	M
Schenectady, NY–USWCA National Bonspiel	W
St. Paul, MN–Kyle Satrom	J
Wausau, WI–Wausau Men’s Invitational	M

Feb. 19–21

Arlington, WI–U.S. Senior Men’s Bonspiel	SM
Belfast, ME–Little International	M
Copper Country, MI (Calumet)–Copperspiel	O
Detroit, MI–Mixed International	X
Fargo–Moorhead, ND–FM Mixed	X
Grand Forks, ND–Youth Can-Am Bonspiel	J
Green Bay, WI	M
Heather, MN (Mapleton)	M
Portage, WI–Senior Bonspiel	S
Utica, NY–Cobb	X
Wauwatosa, WI–Wauwatosa Women’s	W

Feb. 23–24

Chicago, IL–Heathers’ Bonspiel	W
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Feb. 26–28

Albany, NY–Dutch Shoe	W
Anchorage, AK–Fur Rondy Spiel	O
Centerville, WI–Centerville Men’s	M
Duluth, MN–Bert Payne	J
Heather, MN (Mapleton)	W
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)–KMCC Mixed	X
Mankato, MN	W
Mayfield, OH–41st Evergreen	X
Schenectady, NY–Kayser 5 and Under	X
St. Paul, MN–Men’s International	M

	March 5-7	
Appleton, WI—Two-Man Stick (March 6 only)		St
Columbus, OH—CCC Women's		W
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)—KMCC Junior		J
Marshfield, WI—Lobstein		X
Schenectady, NY—Junior 'Spiel		J
Vikingland, MN (Alexandria)—Runestone		O
	March 12-14	
Arlington, WI		SM
Belfast, ME—Pine Tree		W
Duluth, MN—Dunlop Mixed		X
Green Bay, WI—Shamrock Invitational		W
Heather, MN (Mapleton)		X
Itasca, MN—Gopher State		W
Lake Region, ND (Devils Lake)—ND State High School Playdowns		J
Lodi, WI—St. Patrick's Day Mixed		X
Portage, WI—Alumni		O
Schenectady, NY—Gordon Emmett		M
Stevens Point, WI		M
Tri-City, WI (Wisconsin Rapids)		M
Wauwatosa, WI—Wauwatosa Men's		M
Willmar, MN—Olympic Novice 'Spiel		O
	March 19-21	
Belfast, ME—Wood Family		O
Centerville, WI—Centerville Senior Men's		SM
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth)		M
Grand Forks, ND—Men's Bonspiel		M
Green Bay, WI		J
Heather, MN (Mapleton)		J
Itasca, MN—High School State Championships		J
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)—KMCC Men's		M
Nutmeg, CT (Bridgeport)—Golden Handle		M
Utica, NY—Child's Challenge		W
	March 26-28	
Blackhawk, WI (Janesville)—Men's Last Chance		M
Broomstones, MA—Bantam		J
Itasca, MN—Second to Last Chance		O
Lake Region, ND (Devils Lake)—Year End		X
Mankato, MN—Bunny		O
Potomac, MD—Cherry Blossom		O
Stevens Point, WI		X
Two Harbors, MN		X
	April 9-11	
Anchorage, AK—Spring 'Spiel		O
Green Bay, WI—Mixed Fun 'Spiel		X
Hibbing, MN—Last Chance		M
	April 23-25	
Coyotes, AZ (Scottsdale)—Desert Ice		O
	June 4-6	
Great Smoky Mountains, TN (Knoxville)—Rocky Top		O
	July 1-4	
Pittsburgh, PA—Tropicurl		O
	July 8-11	
Cape Cod, MA—Mixed Summerspiel		X
	July 11-14	
Cape Cod, MA—Ladies Summerspiel		W
	July 16-18	
Cape Cod, MA—Men's Summerspiel		M
Capital, ND (Bismarck)—23rd Annual Summerspiel		O
Green Bay, WI—Tailgate Open		O
	Aug. 6-8	
Green Bay, WI—Senior Summerspiel		S

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2 sheets (arena)

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Grand National

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Grand National

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Minnesota

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[MOPAC, cont'd]

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1 sheet, outdoor ice

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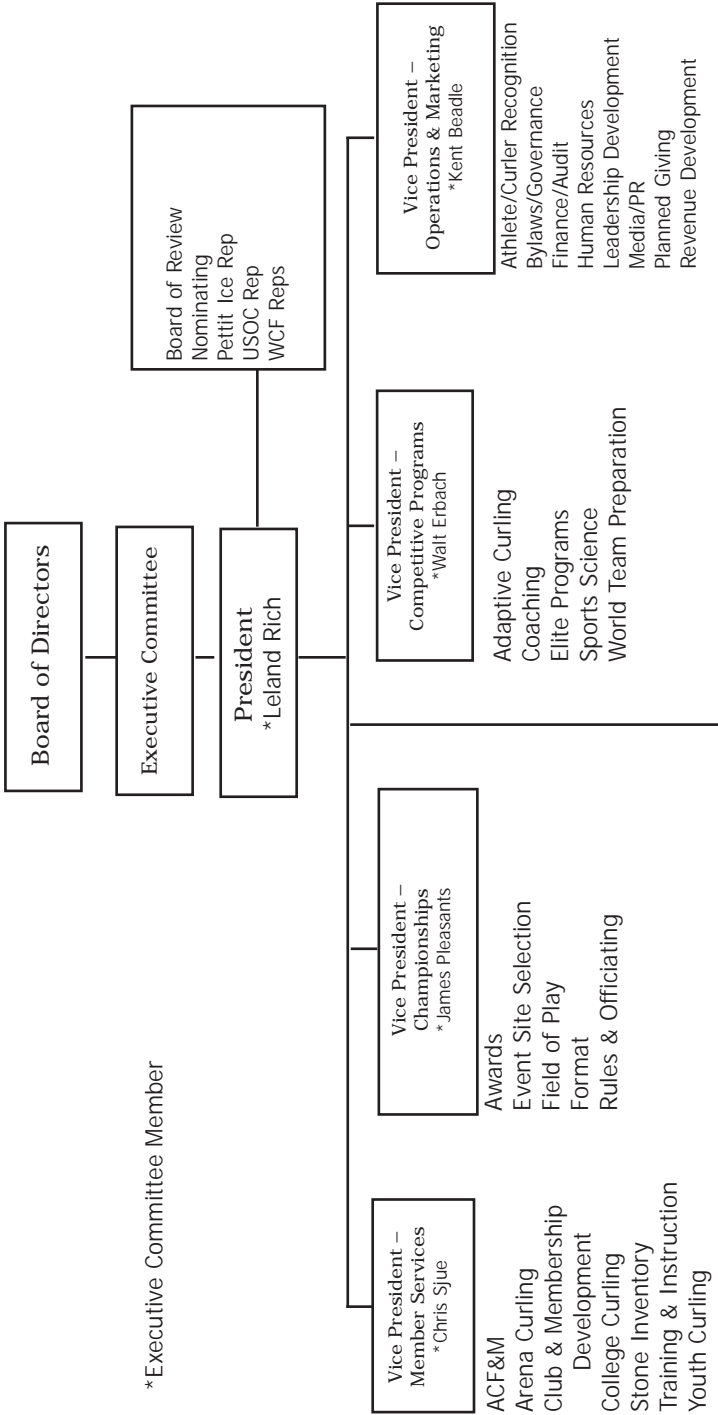
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USCA Committees

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