



World Wheelchair
Curling Championship

FINLAND 2015

MEDIA GUIDE

WORLD WHEELCHAIR CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2016
Kisakallio Sports institute, Lohja, Finland
7-13 February



media@worldcurling.org

1. Contacts/links

Event Website: <http://www.wwhcc2015.curlingevents.com>
Live Scores and Results: <http://www.wwhcc2015.curlingevents.com/livescores>
WCF Image Library: <http://photos.worldcurling.org>

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2. Organising Committee & Competition Officials

WCF President	Kate Caithness OBE
WCF Vice President	Bent Ramsfjell

WCF Technical Delegate	Eeva Röthlisberger
Event Chairman	Lauri Ikävalko

Secretary General and Main contact

Jenni Korhonen	jenni.korhonen@kisakallio.fi	+358 44 584 9122
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Technical support

Jukka Pakarinen	jukka.pakarinen@kisakallio.fi	+358 500 482 775
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COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Chief Umpire	Linda Kirton (CAN)
Deputy Chief Umpire	Colin Melrose (SCO)
Game Umpire	Michele Gower (CAN)
Game Umpire	Roland Basler (SUI)
Game Umpire	Daryl Kirton (CAN)
Game Umpire	Timo Kauste (FIN)
Game Umpire	Kirsti Kauste (FIN)

Chief Timer	Guido Caccivio (SUI)
Deputy Chief Timer	Aapo Nyman (FIN)

Chief Ice Technician	Jørgen Larsen (DEN)
Deputy Chief Ice Technician	Mika Ollikainen (FIN)

WCF Media Relations Officer	Danny Parker (WCF)
WCF IT & New Media Officer	Chris Hamilton (WCF)
WCF Photographer	Alina Pauliuchyk (WCF)

3. Venue

Kisakallio Sports Institute
Kisakalliontie 284, FI-08360
Lohja, Finland
Tel. +358 19 31 511
<http://www.kisakallio.fi>



4. Rules & Anti-Doping

The competition will be played under the World Curling Federation rules, as published in the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition Booklet October 2014.

Competitors should note that the WCF forbids doping and maintains an active policy to prevent the supply and taking of "prohibited substances" to or by players, coaches, umpires, officials or other agents involved with the conduct of the sport of curling.

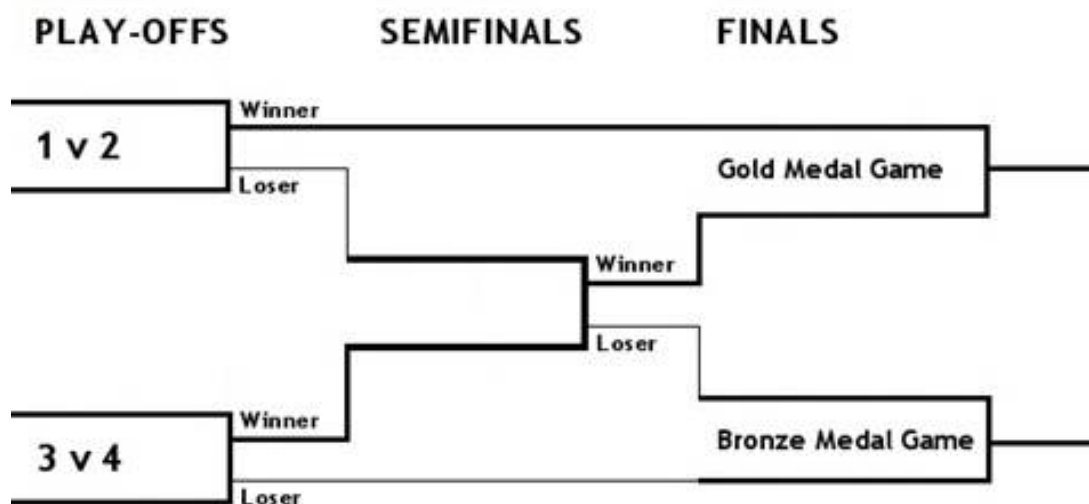
"Prohibited substances" shall be those substances which shall from time to time appear on lists prepared by the World Anti-Doping Agency and which have been shown to affect an individual's physical or mental condition and thereby influence the sporting performance of players or officials.

5. System of Play

The teams are placed in one group and play a single round robin. At the end of the round robin there will be a ranking established for places 1 to 4 using the October 2014 WCF Rules of Competition (C9) - Team Ranking Procedure.

The team ranked 1st will then play against the team ranked 2nd and the team ranked 3rd will play against the team ranked 4th in the Page Play-off games.

The loser of the 1v2 game will play the winner of the 3v4 game in the single semi-final game, followed by the Bronze and Gold Medal games.





6. Special Awards

Sportsmanship Awards are presented to an athlete selected by their peers, as those 'who exemplify the traditional values of skill, honesty, fair play, sportsmanship and friendship in the world of curling.' <http://www.worldcurling.org/wwhcc-sportsmanship-award>

Year	Awardee	Country
2013	Jalle Jungnell*	Sweden
2012	Hak-Sung Kim	Korea
2011	Aileen Neilsen	Scotland
2009	Anette Wilhelm	Sweden
2008	Gabrielle Dallapiccola	Italy
2007	Augusto J. Perez	USA
2005	Jalle Jungnell*	Sweden
2004	Loren Kinny	USA
2003	Jalle Jungnell*	Sweden
2002	Frank Duffy	Scotland

* denotes three time winner

No WWhCC in Paralympic Year (2006, 2010, 2014)

7. About Wheelchair Curling

Wheelchair curling was first introduced during the 2000 World Handi Ski Championship in Crans Montana Switzerland. Switzerland and Sweden were the only countries trying the sport at the time and three teams (two from Switzerland and one from Sweden) attended a seminar/workshop along with a representation from the World Curling Federation and other interested parties.

During the seminar there was huge discussion on how to play the game perhaps on a shorter field of play with junior stones. It was decided that the game should be played as close to the regular game as possible and at the close of the seminar the rules were formulated.

The following year the first International Wheelchair Curling Bonspiel took place in Sursee Switzerland. This proved to be a Test Event for the first World Wheelchair Championship which took place in January 2002.

In March that year the International Paralympic Committee granted official medal status to Wheelchair Curling for mixed gender teams. The organising committee of the Torino Paralympic Winter Games in 2006 agreed to include wheelchair curling in their programme.

<http://www.worldcurling.org/wheelchair-curling>



8. TEAMS

CAN - Canada

4	V	FORREST Ina	F
3		THIESSEN Dennis	M
2		GAUDET Sonja	F
1	S	IDESON Mark	M
A		WRIGHT Marie	F
C		REA Joe	M

CHN - China

4	S	WANG HaiTao	M
3	V	LIU Wei	M
2		ZHANG Qiang	M
1		XU GuangQin	F
A		HE Jun	M
C		LI JianRui	M

FIN - Finland

4	S	KARJALAINEN Markku	M
3	V	KARJALAINEN Sari	F
2		MOJTAHEDI Mina	F
1		AARNIKKA Tuomo	M
A		LEPPANEN Vesa	M
C		MALMI Anne	F

GER - Germany

4	S	JAEGER Jens	M
3	V	PUTZICH Christiane	F
2		SCHLITT Martin	M
1		MELCHIOR Heike	F
A		HERING Robert	M
C		WEISSER Bernd	M

NOR - Norway

4	S	LORENTSEN Rune	M
3		STORDAHL Jostein	M
2		SYVERSEN Ole Fredrik	M
1		LOECHEN Sissel	F
A		BROENDBO Gina Kristin	F
C		ANDREASSEN Per	M

RUS - Russia

4	S	SMIRNOV Andrey	M
3	V	ROMANOV Marat	M
2		SLESARENKO Oxana	F
1		SHEVCHENKO Alexander	M
A		PAKHOMOVA Svetlana	F
C		BATUGIN Anton	M

SCO - Scotland

4	S	NEILSON Aileen	F
3	V	EWAN Gregor	M
2		GAULT Jim	M
1		MALONE Angie	F
A		NIBLOE Hugh	M
C		ZUMMACK Tony	M

SVK - Slovakia

4	S	DURIS Radoslav	M
3		JAKUBEC Branislav	M
2		PITONAK Dusan	M
1	V	KUNKELOVA Monika	F
A		LYOCSA Imrich	M
C		PITONAK Frantisek	M

SWE - Sweden

4	S	JUNGNELL Jalle	M
3	V	KALLIN Patrik	M
2		PERSSON Ronny	M
1		ULANDER Kristina	F
A		REPPE Zandra	F
C		NARUP Peter	M

USA - USA

4	S	McDONALD Patrick	M
3	V	EMT Stephen	M
2		JOSEPH James	M
1		GREELY Penny	F
A		LINO Meghan	F
C		BROWN Steve	M



4 = Fourth, 3 = Third, 2 = Second, 1 = Lead, A = Alternate, S = Skip, V = Vice-Skip, C = Coach

M = Male, F = Female

9. Schedule of Play

Date	Time	Session	Sheet A	Sheet B	Sheet C	Sheet D	Sheet E
Saturday 7 February	09:30 - 10:00		Team Meeting - Mirror Hall Kisakallio Sports Institut				
	10:45 - 12:00	Training	CHN	SWE	NOR	FIN	SVK
	12:15 - 13:30	Training	CAN	USA	SCO	GER	RUS
	16:00 - 16:15		Opening Ceremony - on-ice				
	17:00	I	SWE v NOR	FIN v SVK	CHN v CAN	USA v RUS	SCO v GER
	20:30		Welcome Reception - Location to be confirmed				
NOTE:	The training sessions will be 15 minutes on each sheet moving from A to B to C to D to E. The Umpires will control the sessions and indicate the time that the teams change sheets.						
Date	Time	Session	Sheet A	Sheet B	Sheet C	Sheet D	Sheet E
Sunday 8 February	09:30	2	SVK v USA	NOR v RUS	SCO v SWE	GER v CAN	FIN v CHN
	15:30	3	CAN v FIN	SWE v GER	NOR v USA	CHN v SCO	SVK v RUS
Monday 9 February	09:30	4	RUS v SCO	CHN v USA	GER v SVK	CAN v SWE	NOR v FIN
	15:30	5	CHN v SVK	SCO v NOR	SWE v RUS	FIN v GER	USA v CAN
Tuesday 10 February	09:30	6	SCO v CAN	SVK v SWE	USA v FIN	RUS v CHN	GER v NOR
	15:30	7	FIN v RUS	GER v CHN	CAN v NOR	SCO v SVK	SWE v USA
Wednesday 11 February	09:30	8	NOR v CHN	USA v SCO	RUS v GER	SWE v FIN	CAN v SVK
	15:30	9	USA v GER	RUS v CAN	FIN v SCO	SVK v NOR	CHN v SWE
Thursday 12 February	09:30	TB	Tie-Breaker Games (if required)				
	15:30	Play-offs	1 v 2 and 3 v 4 games				
Friday 13 February	09:00	Semi-Final	Loser (1v2) v Winner (3v4)				
	14:00	Medal Games	Bronze and Gold Medal Games				
	16:30		On-Ice Closing Ceremony & Medal Presentation				
	19:00		Farewell Banquet - Location to be confirmed				



10. Qualification process for WWhCC 2016

10 teams will participate:

1 x team from the Host Association (**Finland**)

7 x teams from the Associations which qualified from the previous WWhCC (**Canada, Sweden, China, USA, Russia, Scotland, Slovakia**)

2 x teams from the Associations which qualified through the World Wheelchair Curling Qualification event 2014 (**Norway & Germany**).

11. World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2013 Final Rankings

Pos	Record		Association
1	10 - 2		Canada, - <i>Jim Armstrong , Dennis Thiessen , Ina Forrest , Sonja Gaudet , Mark Ideson</i>
2	9 - 2		Sweden, - <i>Jalle Jungnell , Glenn Ikonen , Patrik Kallin , Kristina Ulander , Gert Erlandsson</i>
3	6 - 6		China, - <i>Haitao Wang , Wei Liu , Guangqin Xu , Jun He , Qiang Zhang</i>
4	8 - 4		USA, - <i>Patrick McDonald , David Palmer , James Joseph , Penny Greely , Meghan Lino</i>
5	5 - 6		Russia, - <i>Andrey Smirnov , Marat Romanov , Alexander Shevchenko , Svetlana Pakhomova , Oxana Slesarenko</i>
6	4 - 6		Scotland, - <i>Aileen Neilson , Gregor Ewan , Robert McPherson , Tom Killin , Angie Malone</i>
7	4 - 6		Slovakia, - <i>Radoslav Duris , Branislav Jakubec , Dusan Pitonak , Monika Kunkelova , Alena Kanova</i>
8	3 - 7		Finland, - <i>Markku Karjalainen , Vesa Hellman , Sari Karjalainen , Tuomo Aarnikka , Mina Mojtahedi</i>
9	2 - 7		Korea, - <i>Hak-Sung Kim , Seoung-Won Jung , Byeong-Il Noh , Mi-Suk Kang , Min-Ja Bang</i>
10	2 - 7		Norway, - <i>Rune Lorentsen , Jostein Stordahl , Sissel Løchen , Terje Rafdal , Ole Fredrik Syversen</i>



12. Paralympic Winter Games 2018, PyeongChang, Korea Qualification

The Paralympic Curling Competition in PyeongChang in 2018 will comprise 10 teams.

Korea, as host, receives an automatic entry. The remaining 9 places will be offered to the 9 National Paralympic Committees of the Member Associations of the World Curling Federation who have gained the most qualifying points from the World Wheelchair Curling Championships (WWhCCs) held in 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Points are awarded according to final ranking of the 10 participating teams in WWhCCs as follows:
12 – 10 – 8 – 7 – 6 – 5 – 4 – 3 – 2 – 1

Teams will be ranked at the WWhCCs, and Paralympic Qualification Points will be awarded, according to the [WCF Rules of Competition C9](#) – Team Ranking Procedure.

More information about curling at the Paralympics can be seen here:
<http://www.worldcurling.org/curling-at-the-paralympics>

13. Paralympic Winter Games - Medallists

Year	Host City	GOLD			SILVER			BRONZE		
		Country		Team	Country		Team	Country		Team
2014	Sochi	CAN	4	Jim Armstrong (Skip)	RUS	4	Andrei Smirnov (Skip)	GBR	4	Aileen Neilson (Skip)
			3	Dennis Thiessen		3	Alexander Shevchenko		3	Gregor Ewan
			2	Ina Forrest		2	Svetlana Pakhomova		2	Robert McPherson
			1	Sonja Gaudet		1	Marat Romanov		1	James Gault
			A	Mark Ideson		A	Oksana Slesarenko		A	Angie Malone
2010	Vancouver	CAN	4	Jim Armstrong (Skip)	KOR	4	Hak Sung Kim (Skip)	SWE	4	Jalle Jungnell (Skip)
			3	Darryl Neighbour		3	Myung Jin Kim		3	Glenn Ikonen
			2	Ina Forrest		2	Kilwoo Park		2	Patrik Burman
			1	Sonja Gaudet		1	Mi-Suk Kang		1	Anette Wilhelm
			A	Bruno Yizek		A	Yang Hyun Cho		A	Patrik Kallin
2006	Turin	CAN	4	Chris Daw (Skip)	GBR	4	Frank Duffy (Skip)	SWE	4	Jalle Jungnell (Skip)
			3	Gerry Austgarden		3	Michael McCreddie		3	Glenn Ikonen
			2	Gary Cormack		2	Tom Killin		2	Rolf Johansson
			1	Sonja Gaudet		1	Angie Malone		1	Anette Wilhelm
			A	Karen Blachford		A	Ken Dickson		A	Bernt Sjöberg



14. Facts & Figures

CANADA:

- Reigning World and Paralympic champions.
- Winners of WWhCC on three occasions (2013, 2011 and 2009)
- Mark Ideson (skip, lead), Ina Forrest (fourth), Dennis Thiessen (third) and Sonja Gaudet (second) are all Paralympic and World Championship gold medallists.
- Sonja Gaudet is the most successful international wheelchair curler having won the gold medal at all three Paralympic Winter Games and three WWhCC (2013, 2011 and 2009).

CHINA:

- Same team finished 2014 Paralympics in fourth place.
- HaiTao Wang (skip) was bronze medallist at 2012 and 2013 WWhCC.

FINLAND:

- Qualified for their first WWhCC in 2013.

GERMANY:

- Qualified from the Qualification event in Norway last November.
- Skip Jens Jaeger is a WWhCC 2009 bronze medallist.

NORWAY:

- Skipped by 2007 and 2008 World Champion skip Rune Lorentsen
- Won the World Wheelchair Curling Qualification event in Lillehammer in November 2014.

RUSSIA:

- Same team won 2014 Paralympics silver medals.
- Same team were WWhCC 2012 winners.

SCOTLAND:

- Aileen Neilson, the only female skip in the field.
- Aileen Neilson (skip); Gregor Ewan (third); Jim Gault (second) and Angie Malone (lead) won 2014 Paralympics bronze medals.

SLOVAKIA:

- Made their WWhCC debut three years ago (2012)
- Same team finished sixth at the 2014 Paralympics.

SWEDEN:

- WWhCC 2013 runners up (silver medallists)
- Two-time Paralympic Games bronze medallist (2006 and 2010) and two time World Championship silver medallist (2009 and 2013), Jalle Jungell, skips Sweden.
- Ronny Persson (second), is a Paralympic bronze medallist in the downhill skiing competitions at both the 1998 Nagano and 2002 Salt Lake City Paralympic Winter Games.

USA:

- Same team finished fourth at WWhCC 2013.
- At the 2014 Paralympics, four members of this team - Patrick McDonald (skip); James (Jimmy) Joseph (second); Penny Greely (lead) and Meghan Lino (alternate) finished fifth.

OTHER FACTS:

**Oldest Skip:**

Jalle Jungnell (SWE) – 61 years of age.

Youngest Skip:

HaiTao Wang (CHN) – 25 years of age.

Birthdays:

Markku Karjalainen (skip, Finland) 13th February. Will be 49 years of age.

Athletes who have played in all three Paralympics (2006, 2010, 2014)

- Sonja Gaudet (CAN)
- Angela Malone (SCO [For GBR])
- Jalle Jungnell (SWE)
- Rune Lorentsen (NOR)
- James Joseph (USA)

Previous World Wheelchair Curling Championship Experience:

Six players will be participating in their eighth WWhCC (this being the tenth WWhCC):

- Jalle Jungnell (SWE)
- Oksana Slesarenko and Andrei Smirnov (RUS)
- Rune Lorentsen (NOR)
- James Joseph (USA)

Athletes with World Championship Medal Collections:**Four Medals:**

- Angie Malone (SCO): 2 x Gold; 1 x Silver; 1 x Bronze

Three medals:

- Sonja Gaudet (CAN): 3 x Golds
- Rune Lorentsen (NOR): 2 x Golds; 1 x Bronze
- Jostein Stordahl (NOR): 2 x Golds; 1 x Bronze

Former World Champions:

- Canada: Mark Ideson (skip, lead), Ina Forrest (fourth), Dennis Thiessen (third) and Sonja Gaudet (second) (reigning World Wheelchair Curling and Paralympic champions)
- Russia: Full team (2012 World Wheelchair Curling champions)
- Norway: Rune Lorentsen (2007, 2008), Jostein Stordahl (2007, 2008), Anne Mette Samdal (2008).
- Scotland: Angie Malone (2004, 2005)