



UNITED STATES
WOMEN'S CURLING
ASSOCIATION

Winter 2025

WREP SHEET

News from the USWCA March 2025 Meeting and Committee Highlights

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Friends and Members,

As we wrap up another incredible year, I want to take a moment and reflect on all that we've accomplished together. We began the year with an unforgettable Friendship Tour to Canada where 16 women embarked on a 11 day journey of camaraderie and competition. The memories made and the friendships formed during this trip will last a lifetime – a true celebration of the spirit of curling. Looking forward, we are making significant progress on preserving our history for future generations. Our collaboration with the Wisconsin Historical Society brings us closer to ensuring that the legacy of women's curling is preserved for years to come. Special thanks to the Bylaws Committee for their dedication in streamlining our governing documents. The bylaws now focus solely on bylaws with all procedures moved to the appropriate committee's procedure manuals. This structural work strengthens our organization and sets us up for continued success. Our Communication committee has been hard at work and we have a new website up and running. The improved platform looks great. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the dedication, passion and support of this incredible community of women. Thank you for all your hard work, your commitment to this organization. This has been a fantastic year, and it has been my honor to serve as your President.



In the Spirit of Curling
Terri Gleason

SENIOR FRIENDSHIP TOUR CONCLUDES

Sixteen women from eight states across the United States were immersed in curling when they traveled to Canada on the USWCA Senior Friendship Tour from November 3-14, 2024.

Eight-end games of friendly competition with women club members were played on eight of the Tour's ten days. The six host curling clubs in Ontario were: Burlington Curling Club (Burlington), Leaside Curling Club (Toronto), Idylwyld Curling Club (Sudbury), Huntsville Curling Club (Huntsville), Quinte Curling Club (Belleville), and Ottawa Hunt Club (Ottawa). Two additional clubs in the province of Quebec were visited: Montreal West Curling Club (Montreal), and Royal Montreal Curling Club (Montreal).

The team was welcomed in many ways, including by a marching band, bagpipers, broom arches, gifts, meals, and host home stays. A highlight of each program was the Tour members' performance of curling-inspired lyrics set to familiar tunes, and concluding with "O Canada" in song with our new curling friends. Off-ice experiences included a scavenger hunt in Ottawa, a Remembrance Day ceremony, and a guided tour to Montreal Mountain. Memories were captured daily through images and notes. A video compilation set to music was recently produced and is available for viewing with other tour information on the USWCA website.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 2025

- 5th Super Senior Bonspiel entries due August 15
- 43rd Senior Bonspiel entries due August 20
- 5 & Under Open Bonspiel, Four Seasons Curling Club, Blaine, Minnesota, August 2025, date TBD

September 2025

- Grant applications for the Fall Meeting due September 5
- Fall Meeting, Belfast, Maine, September 12-14

October 2025

- 5th Super Senior Bonspiel, Rice Lake Curling Club, October 28-30, 2025

December 2025

- 77th National Women's Bonspiel entries due to Regional Coordinators December 2
- 43rd Senior Women's Bonspiel, Grand Forks, North Dakota, December 10-14

January 2026

- All dues payments due to USWCA Comptroller, January 15
- 5 & Under Open Bonspiel, Schenectady Curling Club, NY, January 16-18

February 2026

- National Women's Bonspiel, Broomstones Curling Club, Wayland, Massachusetts, February 18-22

NATIONAL WOMEN'S BONSPIEL PARTICIPANTS CURL WISCONSINIBLY

This February, 128 women curlers from USWCA member clubs from across the country came together to Curl Wisconsinibly at the Madison Curling Club, Madison, Wisconsin. The 32-team event began on Wednesday evening February 19th and continued through Sunday afternoon. In between draws, the teams visited Steve's Curling Supply, the New Glarus brewery and toured the UW Campus where they enjoyed Babcock Dairy Ice Cream.



The first event winners were Team Yapple from Chicago Curling Club. Congratulations to skip Haley Yapple, vice Sara Gaum, second Kailey Meyer and lead Kerry Myers.

Visit <http://www.uswca.org/national-womens-bonspiel> for a full listing of event winners and search social media using hashtag #uswcanb2025.

SUPER SENIOR BONSPIEL RESULTS

The 4th Annual USWCA Super Senior Women's Bonspiel was a huge success! The bonspiel was held April 1-3, 2025 at Coyotes Curling Club in Tempe, AZ. Twenty-four teams participated from across the US. A huge thank you to the chairs Kelly Stephens and Carrie McDonald.

Congratulations to the First Event Winners – Carolyn Mickelson (skip, Rice Lake CC), Patty Smith (vice, Rice Lake), Deborah Wishner (second, Broomstones CC) and Jan Barber (lead, Coyotes CC).

For more winner and photos, visit <https://www.uswca.org/super-senior-womens-bonspiel>



SENIOR WOMEN'S BONSPIEL RESULTS

Senior women (aged 55+) enjoyed "The Art of Curling" at the 42nd Senior Women's Bonspiel on January 15-19, 2025, hosted by the Columbus Curling Club. Events held during the Bonspiel were related to art such as team pictures in a frame, a wine party at an art gallery, and a silent auction which included some curling-themed artwork. There were 24 teams participating on 3 sheets of ice.

Congratulations to the First Event winners, the Augustin rink from Arden Hills Curling Club of St. Paul, Minnesota. Pictured left to right are second Barb Chapman, vice Linda Turner, skip Sally Augustin, and lead Barb Klussendorf.

For a full listing of event winners, visit <http://www.uswca.org/senior-womens-bonspiel>, and search social media using hashtag #uswcasb2024.

OUTGOING SCOT TOUR 2026

Tour planning continues! The committee reports that the application process is closed. The tour selection committee is now tasked with the difficult job of selecting 20 women to represent the United States in Scotland. The selection process will wrap up in September and all applicants will be notified on October 1st. The tour is scheduled for late Fall 2026; exact dates are still being determined based on availability of rinks in Scotland.



Follow the Tour news on social media using hashtag #USWCAScotTour26 and on our website <https://www.uswca.org/scot-tour>.

CIRCUIT UPDATE

This season we had 50 individuals join the Circuit and 23 Bonspiels. We are still awaiting some results before we can calculate the totals and divide out the cash back to those who registered for the circuit. We will post this year's results to the Website this Spring.

The goal of the Circuit is to support women's bonspiels at our member clubs by attracting more teams to fill them up and support women curlers in the Spirit of Curling -- meeting other women curlers, involving newer curlers in the sport, improving skills through friendly competition and awarding cash prizes! All funds collected go back as prize money to the Circuit Curlers (per region). We invite all USWCA women curlers to join the USWCA Circuit. The committee is creating a flyer to send out to all the clubs this summer to encourage women to sign up and get the word out.

The Circuit Committee is excited to announce two pilot programs for the 2025-2026 season.

Pilot 1: Individual credit - Only one person on a team needs to be on the Circuit to earn the points, which means that as an individual, you can earn points for participating in the Circuit Events.

Pilot 2: New Scoring – Simplified scoring will enable individual scores to be posted on the website as the season progresses.

- A Event Winner – 200 points
- A Event Finalist – 150 points
- All other events Winners - B, C, D, E, & F Event – 100 points
- All other Event Finalists - B, C, D, E, & F Event – 50 points
- All those who attend a Circuit Event will earn 25 points

The new season start on May 1:

USWCA Member Women Curlers \$30 per season

USWCA Member Clubs \$100 per bonspiel (\$75 before Oct. 1)

Individuals can register at <https://www.uswca.org/circuit-individual-application> and clubs can register their bonspiels at <https://www.uswca.org/participating-bonspiels> . If you have any questions, please email Shannon@norfolkcurlingclub.org.



ALL-AMERICAN

Has your club held an All-American event this season? The All-American is a fun way to introduce bonspieling to newer curlers. It can also provide some playing time with women who may not curl together on a regular basis. You need 3 teams made up of USWCA members. If your number of women members is low, men can play Lead and Second, not Vice or Skip. Men can become associate members of the USWCA for \$7.00. You can be creative as to how you schedule your event—in league play, a one-day event, a weekend, sharing with another USWCA-member club. Short on ice time at your club? Playing 4 or 6 ends might be a good way to use your time. Eight end games are not required. What is required is a draft-type team selection. Food and other extras are up to you. The USWCA provides lovely pins to the First and Second place winners. Thirty-nine clubs requested pins this season!

Questions? Contact Kristin Smith at kshknitnut@gmail.com. She chairs the All-American Committee and will be happy to guide you on how to hold your All-American event. For more information, visit our website, <https://www.uswca.org/all-american>.



ELECTIONS RESULTS

At the Board of Directors Meeting held on March 16, 2025, officers were elected for the 2025-2026 season:

President Ann Kirkpatrick (Belfast CC), First Vice President Bethany Rivera (Detroit CC), Second Vice President Julie Denten (Coyotes CC), Secretary Cheryl Pieske (Belfast CC), Comptroller Elizabeth Demers (Detroit CC 2025-2027) and USWCA/USCA Liaison Tracy Lawless (Milwaukee CC 2025-2028).

Continuing in their terms are Treasurer Kelly Zahn (Windy City CC 2024-2026) and Parliamentarian Shelley Dropkin (St. Paul CC 2024-2026).

NEXT YEAR'S BONSPIELS

The 43rd Senior Bonspiel, "Spicy Senior Belles," will be held at Grand Forks Curling Club, Grand Forks, ND, in the West Region. The games will be held Wednesday, December 10 to Sunday, December 14, 2025. Grand Forks has 4 sheets of ice, so this will be a 32-team bonspiel. The entry fee will be \$500; the last day for entries is August 20, 2025. Visit <https://www.uswca.org/senior-womens-bonspiel> for the latest information. Follow the excitement on social media using hashtag #uswcasb2025.



The 5th Super Senior National Bonspiel, "Women with Brooms", will be held at the Rice Lake Curling Club, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, October 28-30, 2025. The last day for entries is August 15, 2025. Details and entry information will be available on the USWCA website <https://www.uswca.org/super-senior-womens-bonspiel>.

USWCA 77th National Bonspiel **BEANTOWN ROCKS**

February 18-22, 2026
Broomstones Curling Club, Wayland Massachusetts



32-team event open to members of USWCA clubs
Entry forms available in September 2025

The 77th National Bonspiel, "Beantown Rocks" will be hosted in the East Region at Broomstones Curling Club, Wayland, MA, from Wednesday, February 18 to Sunday, February 22, 2026. Visit <http://www.uswca.org/national-womens-bonspiel> for the latest information. Follow the bonspiel news and plans on social media using hashtag #uswcanb2026.

A HOME FOR USWCA HISTORY

The USWCA was founded in the Central/Wisconsin region in 1947. We are excited for the opportunity to preserve the USWCA historical artifacts for the public to view. What better way to display "The Heart of Curling!" than in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Historical Society's new history center is set to open in 2027. The five-story, 100,000-square-foot building will replace the current Wisconsin Historical Museum located on Capitol square. It will house nearly 290 million items and is expected to see 200,000 visitors annually.

The Wisconsin Historical Society is forming displays and filming components for the history center and looking to preserve curling history. The display options for the History Center include the golden age 1950s-1970s; women's auxiliary; contemporary-innovative curling equipment; individuals [olympian-elite-legends-paraplegic-wheelchair]; curling families/community builders.

We need your help to collect artifacts (photos, clothing, and curling equipment) for the museum. Please reach out to your club members by posting a flyer in your club (to be sent out) and email to request materials they are willing to donate to the museum. DO NOT send any items; please send a photo and description of the item/s for consideration to marypatricereilly@gmail.com with the subject line: USWCA – Wisconsin Historical Society.



Continued from page 1 Friendship Tour

Strong, lifelong friendships developed throughout this shared experience. The team looks forward to bonspiel reunions and encourages women curlers to consider applying for the next outgoing tour.

Final score: USA 10, Canada 22
New Friendships Made: Too Many to Count
Good curling!

Visit our website, <https://www.uswca.org/2024-friendship-tour> to view the Tour photos and video. For more information about the Senior Friendship Tour, visit <https://www.uswca.org/friendship-tour>.

5 & UNDER UPDATES



The Five and Under Bonspiel Committee sponsored 3 events across the USA in the 2024-2025 season. The USWCA provides the event pins and promotes the events across the USA to all organized curling clubs. Be sure to check out the USWCA website <https://www.uswca.org/5-year-and-under> to see the first-place winners in each event from this season.

We are finalizing bonspiel sites for the 2025-2026 season in all regions. Current confirmed bonspiel sites are:

East Region

- 5U Open Schenectady CC, January 18-19, 2026

Wisconsin Region

- 5U Women Blackhawk CC, date TBD

West Region

- 5U Open Four Seasons CC, August 2025

Beginning with the 2025-2026 season on May 1st, all 5U Regional Bonspiels with sponsorship with the USWCA will play with the No Tick Rule.

USWCA club reps please continue to advise your clubs 5U women curlers that they can contact the 5U Bonspiel Committee directly with any questions they may have to mdawnakahm@yahoo.com

JUNIOR BONSPIELS

The Junior Bonspiel Committee sponsors three USWCA member Junior Bonspiels annually across the country: (1) East (1) Central & Wisconsin (two regions combined), and (1) West. As an event sponsor the USWCA provides winner and runner-up pins for 4 events, an inscribed plaque for the first event winners and advertisement of the bonspiel on the USWCA website. Travel assistance funds and funds for host clubs with arena ice are available through the Gifts and Grants Committee; see the Gifts and Grants section of the USWCA website. Clubs that are hosting a USWCA sponsored junior bonspiel must be a member of the USWCA. Bonspiel participants do not have to belong to a USWCA member club. The Junior bonspiels are open to teams of juniors 21 years of age and younger. If your club is hosting a junior bonspiel in the next couple of years and would like the USWCA to be a sponsor please contact Leslie Cooke osumamma@hotmail.com for more information.

For the latest information, visit the USWCA Junior Bonspiel website: <https://www.uswca.org/juniors>.

JUNIOR BONSPIEL RESULTS

The Minne Memorial Junior Bonspiel was held March 1-2, 2025 at the Hibbing Curling Club. The winners were Team Hellman out of the California and the Duluth Curling Clubs: Tucker Hellman, Luke Shuster and Carter Hellman. John Shuster was the first winner of this spiel back in 1999. Now his son has his name on the trophy. Super cool!

Twelve teams from Hibbing, Curl Mesabi, Duluth, Brainard, and Itasca Curling Clubs in the competitive division battled it out. There were 14 teams in the beginner division from Hibbing, Duluth, Itasca, Chisholm, and Superior curling clubs.



Utica curling club hosted the Eastern USWCA Junior Bonspiel March 15-16, 2025. This two-day spiel hosted 6 teams from 4 different clubs: Schenectady, Rochester, Nutmeg, and Utica. There were three events and one skills competition. For the first three events, we used the Schenkel/Swiss format. The winners of the First Event: Tyler Montgomery, Cooper Layman, Mariska Ball (Skip), Dante Benson.

NEW MEMBER CLUBS

We are pleased to announce that 5 new member clubs have joined the USWCA this year, bringing our membership to 71 total clubs. Please welcome them!

- Diamond State Curling Club (Newark, Delaware, Central Region)
- Kalamazoo Curling Club (Kalamazoo, Michigan, Central Region)
- Rocket City Curling Club (Huntsville, Alabama, Central Region)
- Frogtown Curling Club (St. Paul, Minnesota, West Region)
- Grafton Curling Club (Grafton, North Dakota, West Region)



View the complete list of member clubs on our website: <https://www.uswca.org/club-listing>

THANK YOU, DONORS

The Board of Directors would like to thank the following for their generous gifts to USWCA: Bethany Rivera, Leslie Cooke, Julie Denten, Dae Jean Jahnke, Susan Williams, Shelley Dropkin, Wendy Berger, Kristin Smith, Marsha Edmunds, Jen Mogavero, Shannon Zwick, Michelle Mast, Peggy Jacobs, Peggy Rotton, Dawn Brauningner, Nancy Dinsdale, Cindy Godar, Diane Kelly, Margie Knitter, Maggie McMahon, Deborah Moulton, Star Pfiffner, Michelle Riopelle, Carol Stevenson, Carol Wood, Diane Firari, Catherine Offinger, Doris Eberlein, Kathleen Hyslop, Patricia Cobb, Anne Pryor, Martha Mazzarella, Patricia Davis, Tracy Lawless, Blackbaud Trust, Cheryl Drake with Mayfield and Bowling Green CC, Nancy Seitz, PJ and Ted Feinson, Nadyne Krienke, and Leanne Halla.

USWCA is a non-profit organization; it could not meet its mission without the generosity of its membership. Donations are made to support the incoming Friendship Tour, the incoming Scot tour, Gifts and Grants, USWCA's General Fund and the Jean Borland Memorial Fund for Youth Curling. Donations can be made through www.USWCA.org

SHOP USWCA SWAG

The United States Women's Curling Association (USWCA) has partnered with Tilson Bay Company to offer a diverse range of new apparel and merchandise for curling enthusiasts. These products feature unique designs tailored for league curlers, members at large, and circuit spielers. Notably, 20% of all proceeds support USWCA programs.

Apparel Options:

- Women's Relaxed Jersey V-Neck Tee: Available in four designs and multiple colors, this Bella + Canvas tee is priced at \$20. uswca.org
- Softstyle T-Shirt: Offered in four designs with various color choices, this Gildan Softstyle T-Shirt is also \$20. uswca.org
- Heavyweight Long Sleeve Tee: This Comfort Colors unisex tee comes in ten colors and is priced at \$26. uswca.org
- Tie-Dye Sweatshirt: A Port & Company ladies' tie-dye sweatshirt in cloud design, available in four designs and various colors for \$42. uswca.org
- Soft Knit Hoodie: A comfortable hoodie available in four designs and multiple colors, priced at \$46. uswca.org

For a comprehensive list of products, including additional apparel, accessories, All American and specialty items supporting junior curlers, please visit the Tilson Bay Company's USWCA merchandise website. All prices include shipping fees within the United States. <https://tilsonbaycompany.chipply.com/USWCA/?action=viewall>

And visit <https://www.uswca.org/merchandise> to view our traditional merchandise.



GIFTS AND GRANTS

The Gifts and Grants Committee continues to financially support curling for women and youth. At the Winter Meeting in March 2025, the Board of Directors approved three requests presented by the Gifts and Grants Committee.

This season's grants were awarded to:

- Heather Garbes – Youth Coach at Granite Curling Club - \$100
- Junior Boys Team Granite Curling Club - \$300
- Junior Girls Team Granite Curling Club - \$300

Thank you to all who helped increase the funding for G&G through donations and purchase of promotional items.

Club representatives please encourage applications for Gifts and Grants for your clubs. It can be for travel for juniors and women, but also for coaching, helping your club be ADA compliant, and events that help a broader group.

Applications are reviewed twice per year during the Fall and the Winter meetings. The deadline for consideration at the Fall 2025 meeting is two weeks prior to the meeting, September 5, 2025. Applicants will be notified of their grant application status following each meeting. Funds will be released when receipts and pictures are received. Applications can be submitted with receipts for an event that has already taken place.

To find the application and for more information about the application process, visit our website, <https://www.uswca.org/gifts-and-grants> or from the home page <https://www.uswca.org> choose "About" and then choose "Gifts and Grants."

IN MEMORY

We are sad to report the passing of Past President Rose Marie Lacher. "Re" was President in 1991-1992. During her term the Treasurer was first allowed to serve two consecutive terms. See her obituary here:

<https://www.baumanfuneralhome.com/obituary/RoseMarieRe-Lacher>

HELP WANTED

The USWCA is seeking to fill two volunteer positions. We need people interested in curating content for our Social media platforms and posting based on our established policy. We also need a person to develop content aligned with both the USWCA and USA Curling that will benefit both organizations. Does this sound like you? Please contact Deb Coviello, uswcacommunicationscoviello@gmail.com.

BENEFITS OF USWCA MEMBERSHIP

The USWCA is comprised of capable, committed women dedicated to the expansion of the sport of curling. Our members are talented volunteers who collaborate to bring new ideas and direction which help grow this wonderful sport. Our objectives are to build friendships, have fun, and promote fantastic curling. The USWCA promotes women's and junior curling programs.

A full color brochure is available which summarizes our programs. It is ready to download and print. Share it with your club members, the men at your club, and anyone who wants to learn more about the USWCA. Visit the website <https://www.uswca.org/brochure>.



USWCA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Surf the website

www.uswca.org

for our brochure and latest news.

You can also follow the USWCA on Facebook (group name: United States Women's Curling Association).

X handle: @HeartofCurling
Join the conversation on X (formerly Twitter) at any USWCA event including the



The USWCA is the nation's oldest national curling organization.

Visit us at:

www.uswca.org.

Our Mission is to:
Develop, nurture and promote the sport of curling among today's women and all youth.