

75th Annual USWCA National Bonspiel

Cheers to 75 years!

Hosted by the Bonnie Spielers of the St. Paul Curling Club February 14-18, 2024

• Host: St. Paul (Bonnie Spielers), St. Paul Curling Club

When: February 14 - 18, 2024

Hotel: Hampton Inn & Suites, Downtown St. Paul

The competitors of the 2024 USWCA National Women's Bonspiel (NWB) were comprised of 32 teams, representing 27 different Clubs from 13 states!

Team photos and the Opening Ceremonies took place during the Kit Party on Wednesday, February 14 at the St. Paul Curling Club (SPCC). Being that it was the 75th anniversary of the National Bonspiel, we took it up a notch and had teams and Presidents, piped onto the ice.

After the teams were welcomed by the event hosts, the Bonnie's President, and the SPCC President; the ceremonial first rock of the Bonspiel was delivered by USWCA President (and bonspiel participant), Kelly Stephens. Past Presidents: Donna Pearson, Carol Stevenson, Martha Mazzarella (and bonspiel participant), Star Pfiffner and Maureen Guay (and bonspiel participant) swept the ceremonial stone to the button!



L-R: Star, Martha, Carol, Kelly, Maureen, Donna

The St. Paul Bonnies wanted to celebrate the 75th NWB and its great history, so a highlight of the decorations was showcasing previous bonspiel programs and club logos. A banner highlighting some of the artifacts was created and lead the teams onto the ice. The USWCA Past Presidents in attendance posed with the bonspiel banner at the opening ceremony.

The Kit party included a smorgasbord of heavy appetizers from land and sea, spread throughout the upstairs club room for maximum mingling. A special salute was our 75th anniversary being called out in "Minnesota sushi" (dill pickle rollups with ham and cream cheese)! Participants enjoyed the spirit of curling by catching up with old friends, meeting women new to the USWCA Bonspiel and soon to be new friends.





Table decorations

Thursday began at 6:30 am when a local TV morning show filmed President Kelly Stephens and her team with some Bonnies participants, giving a little insight about curling in a couple live segments from the curling club. It was a great recognition to women athletes and our bonspiel. Kelly's team from Coyotes Curling Club not only was made up of three generations of curlers, they fought their jet lag to happily take part in the live tv segments!

Draw 1 began at 8:00 am. Chief Umpire, Ann Kirkpatrick provided opening instructions, and the first stones of the bonspiel were delivered!



Following Draws 2 and 3; the evening banquet was held at DeGidios Italian Restaurant and included a dessert bar of cupcakes created by a St. Paul Bonnie Spieler. President Stephens provided some post dinner comments and led a champagne toast (in commemorative glasses) to the 75th Bonspiel Anniversary. The banquet finished with a short skit imagining the (possible) creation of the USWCA National Women's Bonspiel, followed by team introductions incorporating fun, historical, NWB trivia.





After the banquet, many curlers gathered at the host hotel in the "Northern Lights Hospitality Oasis". The "oasis" was a welcoming space available in the evenings and provided a place to gather and relax with Minnesota themed mocktails, light snacks, games, and amazing camaraderie.





Curling resumed on Friday with 4 draws and was capped with a catered dinner from local restaurant Skinner's, whose Turkey Wild Rice Casserole may have stolen the show. Yum!



Saturday closed out much of the competition with 3 draws, leaving some semi-final games for early Sunday morning.

Finals on Sunday began at 11:30am after all finalists were piped onto the ice and toasted with remarkable single malt Scotch and 'Good Curling'.



The first event final game was live streamed with commentary and included a visit from President Stephens, and the game came down to the final stones, with the Angie Montgomery rink of Madison, WI prevailing over the Elizabeth Demers rink of Detroit, MI.

Overall, the 75th USWCA National Bonspiel was a wonderful salute to the current and past USWCA membership and truly celebrated why we are The Heart of Curling!

Event Winners

First Event – Winners



Madison Curling Club, Madison, Wisconsin

Skip Angie Montgomery Vice Stephanie Erstad Second Anne Gravel Lead Kris Lund

First Event - Runners Up



Detroit Curling Club, Ferndale, Michigan

Skip Elizabeth Demers Vice Diana Jankowski Second Stephanie Whitmore Lead Jenny Levy

Second Event – Winners



Milwaukee Curling Club, Cedarburg, Wisconsin

Skip Kelly Conrardy Vice Kristin Smith Second Susie Hansen Lead Melissa Moran

Second Event - Runners Up



Blackhawk Curling Club, Janesville, Wisconsin

Skip Kim Rudkin Vice Suzanne Lindsay Second Jodeen Exner Lead Deb Richards

Third Event - Winners



Coyotes Curling Club, Tempe, Arizona

Skip Julie Denten Vice (throws lead) Marnie Devlin Second Jen Collins Lead Sally McGavock

Third Event - Runners Up



Fairbanks Curling Club, Fairbanks, Alaska

Skip Karen Spaleta Vice Martha Hanlon Second Joanne Hufman Lead Jeannette Smith

Fourth Event – Winners



Detroit Curling Club, Ferndale, Michigan

Skip Laura Call Vice Jennifer Legge Second Suzanne York Lead Theresa Tejada

Fourth Event - Runners Up



Grand Forks Curling Club, Grand Forks, North Dakota

Skip Beth Bohlman Vice Mary Jaster Second Amy Bushaw Lead Paige Niemann

2024 Participating Teams

EAST

- Albany: Wendy Berger, Leslie Cooke, Yuko Kashiwado, Kassandra Burkhard
- Rochester: Carol Wood, Rebecca Hahn, Andrea Greisberger, Bonney Bennett
- Schenectady: Laura Dolins, Lisa Miller, Jeanna Stapleton, Joan Pearson

CENTRAL

- Bowling Green: Mary Glowacki, Martha Mazzarella, Patricia Sill, Alana Malik
- Charlotte: Jennifer Mogavero, Stacie Pinnavaia, Dana Derylak, Nicole Smith
- Chicago: Laurie Longee, Kirsten Higashikawa, Brooke Borowiak, Leslie Gellatly
- Cleveland: Katy Mercer, Carole Negus, Kathleen Dean, Erin Wagner
- Detroit Call: Laura Call, Jennifer Legge, Theresa Tejada, Suzanne York
- Detroit Demers: Elizabeth Demers, Diana Jankowski, Stephanie Whitmore, Jenny Levy
- Mayfield Horn: Debra Horn, Irina Khusid, Sue Frankel, Jane Van Vliet
- Windy City: Jenny Houk, Kelly Zahn, Anne Pettinger, Beth DeGeeter

WEST

- Arden Hlls Cairn Lassies: Maureen Guay, Lysa Johnson, Liz Owens, Kristin Blomquist
- Coyotes Dentan: Julie Denten, Marnie Devlin, Jen Collins, Sally McGavock
- Coyotes McDonald: Andie McDonald, Kelly Stephens, Beki Horsman, Carrie McDonald
- Denver: Cynthia Smith, Dena Rosenberry, Michele Page, Anna Murphy
- Fairbanks: Karen Spaleta, Martha Hanlon, Joanne Hufman, Jeannette Smith
- Four Seasons: Teri Walti, Jennalee Johson, Sue Will, Heather Getty
- Grand Forks Bohlman: Beth Bohlman, Mary Jaster, Amy Bushaw, Paige Niemann
- Granite (Seattle): Nadyne Krienke, Jacequeline Clark, Mary Alice Benson, Rachel Lin
- St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Deuhs: Mary Deuhs, Erin Krug, Lisa Rudolph, Katy Schultz
- St. Paul Bonnie Spielers Mueller: Pam Mueller, Anya Normandeau, Twila Henning, Kari Gullickson
- Silicon Valley: Jennifer Asis, Jaclyn Pytlarz, Kathalin Aslmeier, Sydney Jorgensen
- Wine Country Dickerson: Patricia Dickerson, Amy Tucker, Jordan Ewing, Peg Anderson
- Wine Country Groh: Megan Groh, LeeAnn Shearing, Ilene Barbree, Chris Bilbrey

WISCONSIN

- Blackhawk: Kim Rudkin, Suzanne Lindsay, Jodeen Exner, Deb Richards
- Centerville: Laura Delaney Roessler, Toni Paisley, Megan Delaney, Sara Hein
- Madison Montgomery: Angie Montgomery, Miranda Hofmann, Anne Gravel, Kris Lund
- Madison Pielage: Kathy Pielage, Jo Lippitt, Lynn Vande Sande, Kithy Elliott
- Milwaukee: Kelly Conrardy, Kristin Smith, Melissa Moran, Susan Hansen
- Racine: Pam Wortley, Paula Okray Kalke, Kristin Feick, Virginia Anderson
- Rice Lake: Karen Dundore, April Micke, Laura Schutz, Jenna Green
- Wausau: Shaina Franzen, Susan Gould, Jordan Dinjer, Valerie Gorichs