



DATE: October 2024

TO: **USWCA Curlers**

FROM: USWCA Outgoing Scot Tour Committee

RE: **2026 USWCA Tour to Scotland**

The USWCA Outgoing Scot Tour Committee invites you to consider applying to represent the US during the 2026 US Tour to Scotland. Every 10 years we invite curlers meeting requirements to apply for this international tour. This year we are implementing a new electronic process for the application and club selection. These new steps require applicants and clubs to follow specific steps ensuring the club selection reaches the USWCA Scot Tour Committee.

The application process has four phases:

- (1) Curler completes an application and sends it to Lisa Johnson, USWCA Scot Tour Committee Chair (uswca.scottour2026@gmail.com)
- (2) USWCA Scot Tour Committee Chair will send all completed applications to their respective curling club selection committee's main contact person
- (3) Club selection committee will complete their section of the application and will email to the USWCA Scot Tour Committee Chair
- (4) Upon review of all applications, final selection is made by the USWCA Scot Tour Committee

Additional information for the **Club Selection Process** is included below.

**Tour requirements** include the following:

- female U.S. citizen
- 21 years or older
- dues paying USWCA member through a USWCA member club
- US passport holder

**In addition:** All applicants for the outgoing Scot Tour must be (1) a member of the USWCA for a **minimum five years** and (2) a member of a club that has been a member of the USWCA for a **minimum of three years** leading up to and including the application year.

As noted on the application, other considerations are not limited to but include volunteerism, curling resume, USWCA ambassadorship, amiable/friendly, dependable, and good stamina. Stick use is allowed. Applicants must not have participated in any previous USWCA international tour. Additionally, all current Outgoing Scot Tour Committee members are not eligible for this Tour.

The Tour will last approximately three weeks in late October/early November 2026 and is funded by the Tour participants and the Royal Caledonian Curling Club (RCCC). Curling,

visiting, and sightseeing are the mainstays of the trip. Highlights include castles, lochs, a variety of food and beverages, and most importantly, meeting and making new curling friends. There will be eight-end games daily with multiple days having two games at the same club or after lunch traveling to a different curling club.

### **Club Selection Process**

**Each club must form a Club Selection Committee, even if there is only one applicant from the club.** The USWCA recommends the Club's Selection Committee be comprised of at least three club members including a club officer, the club's USWCA Representative (unless she is applying for the tour) and a previous participant of the USWCA Scot Tour or the Senior Friendship Tour, if available. **There should be no conflict of interest or bias between the applicant and the club selection committee members.** No applicant should be involved in the selection of committee members or the selection process of the applicants. The USWCA promotes and supports a selection process that is fair, inclusive, and unbiased.

### **Significant Note:**

**While everyone checks emails and communicates with families back home, this tour does not include time for remote work. Our digital age provides opportunities for communication previously not enjoyed on other tours, but the schedule is not designed for, nor will it sustain, opportunities to work while on this curling tour. Please see the timeline below.**

Below is a brief overview of potential events/activities in which Tour members will participate. We assure you this will be a great opportunity to meet "sisters across the pond" who enjoy curling just as much as you.

### **Overview of a Tour Day**

**7:00 AM** -breakfast

Travel to host club

Curl eight-end game

**Noon:** Lunch

Second eight-end game, sightseeing or travel to next host club

**Evening:** Dinner – banquet with host club and special guests

Host club entertains you

You reciprocate and entertain them

Return to host home for more socializing/visiting with your hosts

Hotel evenings you enjoy some down time

**The estimated cost of the tour is \$8,000 which includes the following:**

- Bus transportation from the US departure point to the airport for the flight to Scotland
- Airfare between the designated US departure point (TBA) and Scotland
- Bus transportation in Scotland and tips for Bus Drivers
- Hotel accommodations in Scotland
- Most meals and drinks while in Scotland
- Team uniforms & official off-ice clothing
- Hotel and meal costs at the US departure location
- One broom bag per team
- USWCA Scot Tour trading pins
- Official team gifts for the hostesses and 2 couriers

**Additional expenses of approximately \$2,000-\$4,000 beyond the estimated \$8,000 will vary by individuals and would include:**

- Mandatory attendance at the USWCA September 2026 Meeting in Central Region
- Round trip travel to the designated US departure city
- Individual luggage conforming to tour specifications
- Shoes, handbags, accessories to complete your uniform
- Trading pins – an estimate of 50 pins (25 region/state pins, 25 club pins)
- Individual gifts for hostesses and couriers (estimate at least 12)
- Additional meals, and drinks (free days in Scotland)
- Personal spending money

Please take this opportunity to review the guidelines and suggestions included here. Time spent on your application allows the committee to see and understand you at your best.

If there are questions, please feel free to reach out to **Lisa Johnson, Outgoing Scot Tour Chair ([uswca.scottour2026@gmail.com](mailto:uswca.scottour2026@gmail.com))**.

In the Spirit of Curling,

**USWCA Outgoing Scot Tour Committee**

Lisa Johnson, Chair; Lee Alexander, Linda Christensen, Julie Denten, Shelley Dropkin, Susan Fleck, Mary Glowacki, Maureen Guay, Diana Hoffman, Dae Jean Jahnke, Vietta Kampen, Donna Pearson, Jacquelyn Schmidt, Sandra Takata, and Shannon Zwick.