

Australian Curling International Representative Team Selection

These guidelines apply to all curling disciplines. For the selection process in years 2008-2009, part 2 does not relate to the men's team discipline. Please refer to Part 4 as being the prevailing section for selecting the men's team in the aforementioned years.

1. National Competition

1. When sufficient competitive teams exist as per the situations detailed below, an annual National competition will be held in each curling discipline.
2. Each registered curling State will have the option to enter up to 2 teams per 4 player discipline into the competition. For Mixed Doubles, each State may submit up to 4 teams.
3. State team(s) membership is not limited to players registered in that State but is limited to players registered to a State within Australia and to players eligible to represent Australia under WCF rules. See the general notes below for an explanation of eligibility.
4. Each State is responsible for developing its own selection and team nominating process/criteria. Teams are to be chosen and officially nominated to the National Championship State Running Committee as per the notices provided by that committee.
5. The Nationals will be, at a minimum, a double elimination competition. The exact nature of the competition (i.e. Round Robin, Page, etc.) for each discipline will be determined when registrations are received and total number of teams is known.
6. The National competitions will normally occur within Australia. A waiver to this regulation may be granted by the ACF if the situation warrants.
7. Team Australia, as selected in the previous year (see below), will have automatic entry into the National competition in addition to the entries permitted each State as outlined in paragraph 2 above. Non-attendance at the National championship will invalidate Team Australia's designation and the selection process will proceed in accordance with the cases outlined below titled 'there is no existing Team Australia'.
8. The winners of the competition will be declared the National Champions until the succeeding year's competition.

Note 1: In light of the possibility of dual entry into Men's/Women's and Mixed Doubles combined with the anticipated large numbers entering the Mixed Doubles, the latter National Championship will need to be a stand alone bonspiel held separately from the other disciplines.

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2. Team Australia Selection

9. In 2008 and subsequent years, Team Australia will be chosen as follows:

Situation 1: *There is no existing Team Australia and no teams register for the Nationals*

- The ACF will retain the right to form a National team in the discipline to represent the country as means to provide international competition experience and to maintain Australia's status as an international curling nation. That team will not be designated as Team Australia for the purposes of the following year's selection. Rather, its members will be obliged to compete for selection through the national competition process as outlined above.

Situation 2: *Only one team registers for the Nationals and there is no existing Team Australia*

- The team registered for the Nationals will become Team Australia for the purpose of international competition for the following year. That team will not be designated as Team Australia for the purposes of the following year's selection as detailed in this section. Rather, its members will be obliged to compete for selection through the national competition process as outlined above.

Situation 3: *Team Australia exists but no teams enter the national competition*

- Team Australia will retain their representative rights for the subsequent year.

Situation 4: *Team Australia exists and only one team registers for the nationals.*

- These two teams will compete at a National competition. Should Team Australia win the National competition, they will retain the designation as Team Australia for the following year and there will be no requirement for a further play-off. Should Team Australia not win the National competition, the two teams will play off in a best 3 out of 5 competition to be held on dedicated curling ice under WCF competitive rules. The winner of that competition will be Team Australia until the following year's selection process is complete.

Note 1: For the purposes of these regulations, 'dedicated curling ice' means a purpose-built facility whose ice is used solely for curling and is maintained at an appropriate international standard. For ease of logistics, until Australia has such a facility, Naseby or Dunedin are logical choices.

Situation 5: *Team Australia exists and two or more teams register for the Nationals*

- These teams will compete at a National competition. Should Team Australia win the National competition, they will retain the designation as Team Australia for the following year and there will be no requirement for a further play-off. Should Team Australia not finish first at the National competition, the winner of that competition will play off against Team Australia in a best 3 out of 5

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competition to be held on dedicated curling ice under WCF competitive rules. The winner of this competition will be Team Australia until the following year's selection process is complete.

Situation 6: *No Team Australia exists and two or more teams register for the Nationals*

- The winner of the National competition will become Team Australia.

Situation 7: *National Bonspiel is held on dedicated curling ice*

- If the National Bonspiel is held on dedicated curling ice, there will be no requirement for further competition, with the winning team being declared Team Australia.

Note 1: For situations 4 & 5 there must be sufficient time between Nationals and the Team Australia competition to allow for suitable travel and work arrangements to be made. Consequently, the ACF should aim for a June Nationals followed by a July/August Team Australia selection. The selection must be complete in time for the next international event registration, traditionally the PCCs which normally require a September registration. For the year preceding the Olympics, selection should be completed by the NZ Games registration cut-off (yet to be determined, but the end of July is probably a realistic target as the Games start near the end of August).

3. Team Australia:

10. Team(s) Australia will be the only team(s) permitted to curl internationally under that title. Should another team wish to participate in an international event where Team Australia is not participating (eg. PIC), that team may enter the bonspiel as 'Australia' for that event only with ACF concurrence.
11. When deciding the eligibility of the reigning Team(s) Australia to retain that title throughout the following selection year, the definition of a 'team' for the purposes of these regulations is one that consists of greater than 50% of the team players when previously designated as Team Australia. Therefore, teams that do not retain 3 of 5 players in the subsequent year lose the designation Team Australia and the benefits accrued as outlined below. For Mixed Doubles, this means the loss of one player invalidates the team. Further, should the team selected as 'Team Australia', in accordance with the processes defined below, fail to compete at the subsequent PCF qualifying event (or WCF event if there is no subsequent PCF event), that team will not retain the designation as Team Australia for the following year's selection process. In these cases, individual players will need to seek nomination for the national competition through their respective State bodies in order to re-enter the selection process.

Note 1: In the event that Team Australia (as selected below) fails to maintain its status as per Para 11 anytime between selection and the following year's process,

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the team that was runner-up in the selection process will become the new Team Australia. Should there be no runner-up, then the ACF Executive may act in accordance with Situation 1 above.

12. For the purposes of the implementation of these regulations and by nature of their wins at the 2007 National competition (under the selection rules that existed at the time), the 2007 Team(s) Australia are: Men's – Millikin rink; Women's – Forge rink; Mixed Doubles – Chick/Thomas. No Junior or Wheelchair teams have been selected at this time.
13. Teams are to abide by the eligibility and code of conduct rules and regulations as advised by the ACF from time to time.

4. Men's Selection Criteria

For the purposes of the men's selection bonspiel for 2008 and 2009:

14. The Bonspiel will be held on international quality ice;
15. The selection panel will consist of:
 - The incumbent skip;
 - The current coach of the Team Australia; and
 - One other member appointed by the Australian Curling Federation.
16. The squad that is chosen will consist of 9 members, of which 5 will be the incumbent Team Australia.
17. From the squad of 9 players, the panel will select a team of 5 players as the men's Team Australia.