**NWTCA Championship 2021-2022 New Rule Highlights**

**ATTENTION ALL CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Below are some of the rule changes that will be in effect during the 2021-2022 championship season.

**COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

All participants are required to provide proof of double vaccination by the registration deadline for the NWTCA Championship they are entering.

**CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

| **Number of Teams** | **Format** | **Playoffs** | **Number of Sheets** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | No championship required | n/a | n/a |
| 2 | Best 3 of 5 | Game #5, if required, is considered a one game final | 1 |
| 3 | Double Round Robin | Top team to final. Seed #2 and #3 play in semi-final. Winner to final against #1 | 1 |
| 4 | Double Round Robin | All four teams to Page playoff. | 2 |
| 5 to 7 | Single Round Robin | Top four teams to Page playoff.**Note: No tiebreaker games. See Tiebreakers below**  | (5) – 2(6) – 3(7) – 3 |
| 8 to 16 | Modified Triple Knockout | A, B, and C qualifiers to Page playoff | 3 or 4\*\* |

\*\* **Inuvik and Yellowknife will use four sheets**

**TIEBREAKERS**

There will be no tiebreaker games this season.  This follows the practice of Curling Canada and the World Curling Federation. Please note that additional playoff games have been added to the double round robin formats.

* Unbreakable ties after round robin will be broken using:
* Who won the head-to-head game.
* If there is an unbreakable tie with three or more teams, the Draw Shot Challenge (DSC) will be used.
* The Draw Shot Challenge (DSC) is determined by the total of all LSD shots thrown by the team in the competition less the longest shot.

**COACHES**

* All coaches must be identified by the registration deadline to allow the NWTCA to check coach’s qualifications.
* Coaching qualifications are Competition Coach Certified for all levels.

Please note: this is for a coach to have on-ice privileges at Championships and to be able to accompany a team to the national level (with on-ice privileges).

**TEAM LINEUPS**

* ALL FOUR PERSON EVENTS EXCEPT MIXEDTeams must start the competition with at least three (3) players. All four players must be registered prior to the event deadline but a team may start and/or play with at least three (3) players for the event.
* Spares – due to Covid, there will be no spare list provided by the host clubs. A team may register a designated spare for their team on their team line-up form.

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS LEADING TO THE SCOTTIES AND BRIER**

NWTCA Policy 4.2.A

d. Proof of Residency for team members declaring they reside in the NWT requires copies of four of the following six documents:

● Current driver’s license from Northwest Territories, or GNWT Issued General  Identification Card;

● Current Health Care Card from Northwest Territories;

● Letter from employer confirming employment within Northwest Territories;

● Statement from landlord (if renting), or bank (if owned) confirming residency within the  Northwest Territories. A copy of property tax invoice for non-mortgaged property is also  acceptable. Recommend a Statutory Declaration be obtained;

● Student Financial Assistance agreement from the Northwest Territories;

● Most recent year income tax return indicating the individual filed in the NWT.

e. Should a team be accessing the Birthright/Free Agent program, the composition of the

 team  will be no more than two non-resident players (eg two birthright or one birthright and

 one  free agent) commencing the 2021-2022 championship season.

f. Any teams accessing the Free Agent program or birthright must have all team members  submit the above noted documents for the NWT Residents, and the required documentation for the free agent/birthright players, and other teams may be asked to provide verification of residency in the above form by the NWTCA.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF FREE AGENT/BIRTHRIGHT DOCUMENTS

 Scotties – November 13, 2021

 Brier – December 17, 2021

Email nwtcurling@gmail.com for further information about free agents and birthright players.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR U20**

For many years, the NWTCA followed a policy of providing opportunities for as many youth athletes to attend national level competitions as possible. Previously, at our Junior championships, the winner usually attended the U20 national and the second place team went to the U18 national event. With the date changes Curling Canada recently made, our Junior championships were split into U18 and U20 championships. The NWTCA Board felt that the same philosophy of having different teams attend the national events was still an important one. This is similar to the eligibility for the Curling Clubs championship. Thus, the following new eligibility rule was created.

* Each team registering for the NWTCA U20 Championship (January 12 – 17, 2022) **is only allowed** to have one (1) player from the team who won the NWTCA U18 championships in March, 2021.

| Please note: Due to Covid-19, the NWTCA may have to make changes to these rules and others should we be directed by health officials or Curling Canada. We will provide as much notice as possible so the situation change.  |
| --- |

Draft for December 2021 meeting