



## Statement Regarding the 2021 NB TANKARD

*In these unprecedented times, Curling NB appreciates the full cooperation of all involved as we strive to act in the best interest of our athletes, coaches, umpires, club volunteers and our sport.*

The NB Tankard is currently scheduled as follows: Prelim-Jan. 15-17, Championship-Feb.10-14

Due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID 19 and the fact that plans and schedules can, quite literally, be cancelled at a moments notice, it is the decision of Curling NB, in consultation with the 2020-21 NB Players' Working Committee, to make the following amendments to the 2021 NB Tankard:

- The 2021 NB Tankard will be renamed "**2021 Brier Qualification Event**".
- The 2021 Brier Qualification Event will be scheduled for Jan. 14-17 with a rain date of Feb-11-14, if necessary. Event will be hosted by Miramichi Curling Club.
- Registration deadline date will be December 31,2020.
- Registered teams will have until NOON on January 8 to withdraw from the event without penalty. Should the event be postponed until the February rain date, registered teams will have until NOON on February 4 to withdraw from the event without penalty. Withdrawing teams must notify, by e-mail, the Curling NB Executive Director, the Curling NB Competitions Director and the Curling NB Draw Master. ([nbca@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:nbca@nb.sympatico.ca), [cmaclean1@gmail.com](mailto:cmaclean1@gmail.com) & [benkathy@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:benkathy@nbnet.nb.ca))
- Aside from team registrations, individuals who are willing and able to attend the 2021 Brier can register, at no cost, to be placed on a "spare" list. Should need be, this list may be used to help field a full team for the Brier. (eg: winning team needs a replacement player)
- Scheduled event will be cancelled if any registered team is unable to field at least 3 of the registered team players due to one or more regions being subjected to the COVID 19 Orange Alert Level.
- Should any regions subjected to the COVID 19 Orange Alert Level result in any team having the ability to field only 3 of their registered team players, said team(s) will have the following options:
  - Participate in the event with only 3 players
  - Choose a qualified replacement player. (Name and home club of replacement will need to be forwarded to the Curling NB Executive Director and event Chief Umpire no less than 24 hours prior to event start time for the purpose of eligibility verification.)
  - Withdraw from the event, without penalty, a minimum of four days prior to the event start date.
- The 2021 Brier Qualification Event will be an open event with a format to be determined based on the number of teams registered. (eg: TKO with page playoff)

- ***Winning team is expected to attend the 2021 Brier and assume all currently associated risks.*** (Curling NB has requested the Province of NB reduce the required 14 days self-isolation period upon return. There is no guarantee that this request will be approved and, as such, teams are required to make decisions with the assumption that this requirement will remain as is.)
- Winning team will have the option, without penalty, to replace one of the four original team players should that individual be unable to attend due to extenuating circumstance...including COVID 19. Replacement player must have participated in the 2021 Brier Qualification Event or have registered individually.
- Winning team will have the option, without penalty, to replace up to two of four OR three of five original team players should these players be unable to attend due to risks associated with COVID 19. (eg: 14 days self isolation period upon return) Replacement players must have participated in the 2021 Brier Qualification Event, or registered individually, and will require both Curling NB and Curling Canada approval.
- All participating teams must enter the 2021 Brier Qualification Event with, if applicable, a “replacement player(s) plan” already in place.
- Heart Crests will be awarded to each of the 2021 Brier Qualification Event Championship team members, regardless of individual player ability to attend the National Championship.
- Championship Banner will be awarded to the 2021 Brier Qualification Event Championship team bearing the names of each of the registered team players and, if applicable, registered team coach.
- Provincial Uniforms will be awarded to the players and coach that will be representing NB at the 2021 Brier.
- Please note that Tankard Trophies will only be ordered upon completion of the Qualification Event and will be shipped to players home club(s) for presentation.
- Due to potential COVID 19 restrictions that could be announced by the Province of NB at any time, should it not be possible to proceed with the **2021 Brier Qualification Event**, Curling NB will acclaim a team to represent the province at the 2021 Brier. The process to determine the acclaimed team will be as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> offer will be provided to the 2020 NB Tankard Championship team.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offer will be provided to the 2020 NB Men’s CTRS leader team.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> offer will be provided to the 2020 NB Tankard Runner-Up team.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> offer will be provided to the 2020 NB Men’s CTRS runner-up team.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> option will be for a Curling NB, in consultation with Curling Canada, to form a non-partisan committee to determine NB’s 2021 Brier representing team.
- Should it become necessary to acclaim a team to represent NB at the 2021 Brier, the acclaimed team must feature 2 of 4 or 3 of 5 of the team’s original players.

December 18, 2020