



Ontario Curling Council

NEXT GEN

2024 -2025



curlinginontario.ca

Program Introduction

The Ontario Curling Council is pleased to open intake to our Next Gen Program for the 2024-25 Season.

The Ontario Curling Council's Next Gen Program is designed to support athletes who have proven competitive success over time and help advance them along the LTAD pathway as individual athletes and teams.

The Ontario Curling Council (OCC) wishes to recognize the continued support of our stakeholders of this program and others: The Government of Ontario, Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario (CSIO), Curling Canada, CurlON, Northern Ontario Curling Association (NOCA) and the Coaches Association of Ontario.

Program Scope

The Ontario Curling Council will support ten (10) teams through its Next Gen Program.

Only Teams/Athletes that are actively planning to train and compete for the 2024-25 season will be considered. Teams will need to submit an application to be considered for selection.

Overall package scoring is weighted to put a higher priority on proven competition results over time. Competition results comprise 85% of a team's overall score while the written submission comprises the additional 15% of a team's overall score.

Tier 1: Four Teams will be supported at a rate of \$7000.00 per team. These teams will be supported specifically through our Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI) partnership with the Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario.

- One female U27 team from either NOCA or CurlON region (see definition under eligibility).
- One male U27 team from either NOCA or CurlON region (see definition under eligibility).
- Highest Ranked (one) female U18/U20 team from either NOCA or CurlON region
- Highest Ranked (one) male U18/U20 team from either NOCA or CurlON region

Tier 2: Six (6) teams will be supported at a rate of \$4000.00 per team

- One female U18/U20 team from NOCA region
- One female U18/U20 team from CurlON region
- One male U18/U20 team from NOCA region
- One male U18/U20 team from CurlON region
- One female "Adult" from either NOCA or CurlON region
- One male "Adult" from either NOCA or CurlON region

Mixed Doubles:

- Up to 10 Mixed Doubles Teams consisting of athletes who are selected to either the Tier 1 or Tier 2 Program (i.e. partnerships formed between athletes who are part of the Next Gen Program) will be eligible to apply for \$300 towards their entry fee for their provincial Mixed Doubles Playdown or the Ontario Winter Games Mixed Doubles Competition.
- IF all 10 spots are not filled with program teams, then individual program athletes may make the request to play with a partner outside of the program and be considered for entry (50%) of entry support.

General Eligibility

- In order to be considered, all athletes must be residing in and training in Ontario for the majority of the season (May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025). Exceptions to this criteria will be considered on a case by case basis.
- Athletes must play in either CurlON or NOCA playdowns – i.e., Athletes with a residence in Ontario, but who play out of province will not be considered for the program (in Fours play). Failure to enter provincial playdowns will result in a **100% penalty in funding**.
- Teams are ineligible for Next Gen support if the athletes are current National Team Program Athletes or are selected to the U27 category of Curling Canada's National Next Program.
- Adult teams have no age restriction, but no member of the team can have previously received Sport Canada A or D Card funding (Sport Canada AAP Funding).
- Athletes and Coaches must adhere to the Ontario Curling Council's Code of Conduct and must participate in the Ontario Curling Council's Safe Sport Program by Aug. 1, 2025.
- All athletes and coaches must complete the Ontario Curling Council's Athlete Agreement.

- **No member of the team or coach can have been disciplined by ANY sports organization within the last 12 months or have an open investigation of Code of Conduct or UCCMS violations. Teams to whom this applies are INELIGIBLE and should not apply.**
- U18/U20/U27 teams MUST have an NCCP Certified Coach or Higher working with their team.
- U27 Four person same gender teams must have a cumulative age of 108 years or less as of June 30, 2024.
- All four members of U20 or U18 teams must be under 21 years of age as of June 30, 2024.

Program Offering

Eligible Expenses - Payments are subject to the Engage and Unlock system. All teams will start with a base amount of funds. As they complete tasks, they will unlock funds. Tasks include the completion of UPDATED planning documents, fitness testing results (2x per season), training reports. All the details will be outlined in the Orientation Package that teams will receive once selected to the program. Minimum and maximums will apply to various funding areas and will be shared with successful teams. NOTE: No expenses will be paid out until March 15, 2025 upon review of the completion of required activities and unlock activities.

- Fees for Consultant /Mentor Coach Services (OCC rates apply See Schedule A)
- Integrated Support Team Fees (*See Schedule B for Qualification requirements)
 - Mental Performance Training
 - Strength and Conditioning Coaches
 - Nutritionist/Registered Dieticians
 - Medical professionals
- Team Coach Education Fees
- Training Camp Expenses (Camp Dates TBD)
- Curling Membership Fees
- Gym Membership Fees
- Ice Rental Fees
- Limited Competition Expenses
 - Hotel costs (travel related to competition/training)
 - Equipment costs
 - Competition Entry Fees
- Team mileage/fuel is NOT eligible.

In addition to reimbursing Training Expenses the Ontario Curling Council will offer selected teams the following:

- Referrals to Integrated Support Personnel
- Access to Coach Services (Virtual or In-person) – Fees for Coach Services deducted from Team Training Budgets.
- Remote Video Analysis
- Free access to Ontario Curling Council Webinars for athletes and Team Coaches.
- Free (priority) access to rental equipment (timing devices, instrumented brushes, wireless mics)
- Team Coach Development
 - o Free access to Archived Webinars for Professional Development Credits

Program Fees

Teams selected into the program must pay a user fee (Team Coaches exempt).

Tier 1: \$400/athlete (four athletes)- \$1600 / team

Tier 2: \$300/athlete (four athletes) - \$1200 / team

All fees are due by June 30, 2024

Program Expectations and Mandatory Activities

OHPSI - Teams selected to Tier 1 will be required to complete a season plan with the Manager of High Performance Development for the 2024/25 season. Teams will be required to update the plan as the season progresses as part of the unlock portion of the program.

Tier 2 teams must also submit season plans to the Manager of High Performance Development. Those plans will be reviewed and feedback provided.

As part of the planning exercise, Tier 1 Teams will complete an assessment of their expected needs with respect to CSIO services. Once the request for those services has been submitted to the CSIO, the cost for those services will be deducted from the team's payout budget **WHETHER THE TEAM ENGAGES WITH CSIO OR NOT**. Teams are **NOT** required to use CSIO services for their IST needs.

Tier 1 teams will be required to have two training update meetings with the Manager of High Performance Development, one before Dec. 15, 2024 and the second before Feb. 15, 2025 to review their progress to the established plan. Teams

may schedule in person sessions with the Manager of High Performance Development as well to help with development.

Tier 2 teams may schedule an update meeting as well. Updates on training progress must be submitted by Dec. 15, 2024 and again by Feb. 15, 2025.

OHPSI Teams will be required to attend a team camp in Waterloo August 17/18. **This date is dependent on facility availability.** Team training camp content will be developed by the Team Coach and the selected NextGen Mentor Program Coach or Manager of High Performance Development. Training focus will be directly aligned with the time of season, individual and team gaps and priorities and will involve appropriate analytics and other performance evidence. \$1000 from their team budgets will be deducted from their budgets for this team camp.

U27, U20 and younger teams are required to work with a Team Coach. This is optional for Adult teams. All team coaches will be required to complete a professional development plan as part of the team's admittance into the Next Gen program. Updates to this plan will be required on a regular basis during the season with the Manager of High Performance Development. Coaches must be a minimum Competition Int. Certified.

This season OHPSI Tier 1 teams will be required to work with a Consultant / Mentor Coach. The Mentor Coach can be used for practice support or as competition support. There is a mandatory minimum amount of money that must be spent on the Consultant / Mentor (See Schedule A for payment schedule). Teams will decide how many hours the Consultant / Mentor works with them in their preferred arrangement. Consultant / Mentor Coaches will be Competition Development "In-Training" and ideally will be Competition Development Certified. Mentor Coaches may also be former or current athletes who have significant national or international competitive experience (with the approval of the Manager of High Performance Development). All Mentor Coaches will be required to complete Safe Sport training if they have not already done so.

Fitness Testing for the entire team will be required twice within the season.

All Next Gen Teams will be required to enter their provincial playdowns. Failure to do so will mean a forfeiture of 100% of the funding and disqualification for each athlete on the team from applying to the program next season.

Application

Applications will only be received ONLINE and can be accessed by clicking the links below. The application must be completed in one sitting, once you have left you will not be able to access it again. Incomplete applications will be deleted without contacting the applicant. Applications should NOT be attempted on a smartphone or tablet. It is strongly suggested that a computer is used for the submission. The submission requirements are listed below and applicants are encouraged to prepare the required documents prior to starting the application form.

[U18/U20 Team Application](#)

[U27 Team Application](#)

[Adult Team Application](#)

Application Deadline: All applications must be received by June 3, 2024 at 9am. Late applications will not be considered.

Scoring Committee

Submissions will be reviewed by the Next Gen Performance committee in a fair and objective manner. Appeals to the committee decisions will be settled in accordance with the Ontario Curling Council Policy for Dispute Resolution which can be found at this [LINK](#).

Submission Requirements

The following information will be required in your submission. It is advised to collect the information detailed below before starting the submission. Some items require file uploads that can be uploaded within the form however in order to upload files the submitter must be logged into their google account. IF the submitter does not have a google account, then the required files can be uploaded to this **dropbox folder** instead. If the dropbox option is used then teams should clearly name the files with their team names and what the files are. E.g., teamsmith-teamassessment.xls

Submitted files (points form and written submission) MUST be in one of the following formats:

- Word
- Excel
- Pdf
- JPG / PNG (for team photo only)

If other formats are submitted the application will be returned to the applicant and the team may submit the requested file formats as long as the resubmission is received by the original due date. **NO EXTENSION WILL BE GIVEN IF THE TEAM SUBMITS AN INELIGIBLE FILE FORMAT.**

Section 1: Demographics

All demographic information must be provided for each team member and coach.

- Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email
- Parent/Guardian information for athletes under 18 years old.
- Date of Birth
- Number of years the athlete has previously been in the Next Gen Program.
- Team Photo
- NCCP Number (Coach)

Section 2: Past Performance (85% of application weight)

Performance results from the 2022/23 and 2023/24 will be counted.

The Ontario Curling Council recognizes that it takes time and funds to develop athletes. To provide athletes the best opportunity to reach their potential, the competition points value of previous Next Gen program athletes increases with the amount of time an athlete has spent in the program. Athletes who have already been in the program will be given a multiplying factor of 0.05 x each year in the program to be applied to their submitted Past Performance points. For example, if an athlete has been in the program for 1 year and has 10 performance points, they will receive a multiplier of $1.05 \times 10 = 10.5$ total performance points. If that same athlete had spent 2 years in the program, they would receive a multiplier of $0.05 \times 2 = 0.1$ and their total performance points would be $10 \times 1.1 = 11$ points.

Players on newly formed teams will carry $\frac{1}{4}$ of their previous teams points for application purposes.

U18/U20 Teams

- Teams must download and complete the [U18/U20 Next Gen Points form](#) and insert totals into the application form.
- Teams must attach (upload) the completed form in their application.

Adult / U27 Teams

- Teams must download and complete the [U27/ Adult Next Gen Points form](#) and insert totals into the application form.
- Teams must attach (upload) the completed form in their application.

Section 3: Written Submission

Teams will be selected based on a ranking system of past Competition results and a written submission not to exceed 500 words explaining:

- How would being involved in the Next Gen program accelerate your teams' development?
- What services would be particularly important in improving your team?
- How would you plan to take advantage of what the program is offering? (e.g. what gaps do you have that could be closed through participation in the program?)
- How have you determined your gaps?

For Planning Purposes teams will be asked:

- If you are a successful OHPSI team – are there any IST services you would like to access through the CSIO? (**file submission optional**) – This is for planning purposes only and if accepted, the team will be asked to confirm their plan to utilize CSIO services. Again, once this confirmation is received from the team and submitted to the CSIO, the cost for PLANNED services with CSIO resources will be deducted from your team's budget. You are NOT required to use CSIO resources for your IST needs.
- Provide a team photo.

Remember, submitted files (points form and written submission) MUST be in one of the following formats:

- Word
- Excel
- Pdf

Questions

Questions about this program should be directed to Sean Turriff, Manager High Performance Development.

Email*: sturiff@ontcurl.com

By phone during business hours – 905-717-5366

*Preferred communication.

Schedule A

Fees for Consultant Coach Services

The following Fee schedule must be followed to ensure equity for all teams and coaches.

Coaches providing services can submit expenses directly to the Ontario Curling Council on an OCC Expense form.

- 1) \$30/hour for facetime with the team (can be in person or via skype/webcam, etc...)
- 2) \$15/hour for return travel to work with a team
- 3) \$0.50/km for return travel (Rate subject to change)
- 4) Per Diem if time with team or travel to meet team goes over a meal period in the amounts of (\$15/breakfast, \$20/lunch, \$30/dinner)
- 5) Prep Time – i.e. if coach needs to do preparation for a session with the team – they are compensated at \$15/hour to a maximum of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the time spent with the team. I.e. For a 2 hour session, the coach can add \$7.50 for the 30 minutes of prep.
- 6) Hotels - \$150/night or less wherever possible.

Schedule B: Qualifications for Integrated Support Personnel

Integrated Support Personnel (IST) – must satisfy the following educational/professional qualifications in order to have their fees considered under the program.

IST personnel must also complete the Ontario Curling Council's Safe Sport Program for 2022-2023.

Biomechanics, Engineering, and Performance Analysis

- Degree in Kinesiology, Engineering, Physics, or equivalent
- Educational focus in biomechanics, performance analysis, or motor learning

Data Science

- Degree in Statistics, Computer science, Engineering, Physics, Mathematics, or equivalent
- Educational focus in applied statistics, interfacing with databases, and high-performance computing
- *If applicable:* Registered with one of Statistical Society of Canada, Engineers Canada, Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS), Computer Science Canada (CS-Can)
- *If applicable:* Associate Statistician (A.Stat) > Professional Statistician (P.Stat), Professional Engineer (P.Eng), Information Technology Professionals

Medicine (Physicians)

Medical Degree (MD)

- Diploma in Sport & Exercise Medicine (Dip. Sport Med.) + Certificate of Added Competence (CCFP, SEM)
- Registered Sport Medicine Physician with Canadian Academy of Sport and Exercise Medicine (CASEM)

Nutrition

- Degree in Kinesiology, Human Kinetics, Physiology, or Nutrition
- Educational focus in sport nutrition
- Registered with the Provincial College of Dieticians

Physiology

- Degree in Physiology, Human Kinetics, Kinesiology
- Educational focus on Exercise Physiology
- Certified as an Exercise Physiologist (e.g., CSEP, HFFC)

- In good standing as a Physiologist with the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (CSEP)

Psychology

- Degree in Kinesiology, Psychology, Clinical Psychology
- Educational focus in sport
- Professional Member of the Canadian Sport Psychology Association (CSPA)

Sport Therapy Services

- Physiotherapy
- Degree Physiotherapy
- Sport Physiotherapy (SPC) Diploma
- Registered with Sport Physiotherapy Canada (SPC)

Athletic Therapy

- Degree
- Health Science Athletic Therapy - BaHSc(AT) **or**
- BA or BSc Kinesiology, Human Kinetics, Physiology + Certificate in AT **or**
- Bachelor of Athletic & Exercise Therapy
- Registered with Canadian Athletic Therapy Association (CATA)
- Registered with Provincial Athletic Therapy Association

Massage Therapy

- Registered Massage Therapy (RMT) Diploma
- Registered with Canadian Sport Massage Therapy Association (CSMTA)

Chiropractic

- Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College Degree (DC)
- Degree in Human Kinetics, Kinesiology, Physiology or equivalent

Strength & Conditioning

- Degree in Biomechanics, Physiology, Human Kinetics, Kinesiology
- Educational focus on physical training processes and preparation for sport
- Certified as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist (NSCA, UKSCA, ASCA) or equivalent