

FEBRUARY 2012

## EVENTS & NEWS - round up

Since my last newsletter we have had some fantastic curling activity and events taking place in all four corners of the world.

The Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2011 in Nanjing, China and Le Gruyère European Curling Championships 2011 in Moscow took place before Christmas. In the New Year, the European Junior Curling Challenge was held in Denmark, the World Financial Group Continental Cup in Canada and they were followed by the inaugural Winter Youth Olympic Games in Austria (see more on the Games below).

Congratulations go to all the teams who qualified their Member Association for this year's World Curling Championships. The following WCF Member Associations will compete in Lethbridge for the Ford World Women's Curling Championship 2012: Canada (as host), USA, China (PACC 2011 Gold), Korea (PACC 2011 Silver), Scotland (ECC 2011 Gold), Sweden (ECC 2011 Silver), Russia (ECC 2011 Bronze), Denmark, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and the Czech Republic.

For the World Men's Curling Championship 2012 in Basel, teams from the following MAs will compete: Switzerland (as host), Canada, USA, China (PACC 2011 Gold), New Zealand (PACC 2011 Silver), Norway (ECC 2011 Gold), Sweden (ECC 2011 Silver), Denmark (ECC 2011 Bronze), Czech Republic, Scotland, Germany and France.

Italy's juniors are also celebrating after both their women's and men's team won Gold in the European Junior Curling Challenge which was held in Taarnby, Denmark in early January.

They will join the Japanese junior women's team and the Chinese junior men's team at the World Junior Curling Championships 2012 in Östersund, Sweden, in March, both having won gold in the Pacific-Asia Junior Curling Championships.

You can find out more about all of these events on our website: <http://www.worldcurling.org/events>



*China Men, winners of the PACC 2011. Photo: Chinese Curling Association*



*Scotland Women, winners of the ECC 2011  
Photo: WCF / Richard Gray*



*Italy Men & Women, winners of the EJCC 2012  
Photo: FISG*

**FEBRUARY 2012**

## Youth Olympic Games

The very first Winter Youth Olympic Games was held in Innsbruck, Austria from 13 – 22 January. It was a huge success and a fantastic opportunity to showcase our sport, its values and our young athletes. The Mixed Team event proved to be a great spectacle, with a high standard of curling throughout the competition. Switzerland beat Italy in the final to win Gold with Canada winning the Bronze. This was followed by a unique Mixed Doubles event, the composition of the mixed-nationality teams were determined by the final standings of the Mixed Team event.

A male and female athlete from two different nationalities played together as a team in a straight knock-out competition. This event truly embraced Olympic values, encouraging many of the athletes to share their sporting skills and experiences with one another. It also gave them the opportunity to learn about different cultures and languages. In this competition, Switzerland's Michael Brunner picked up his second Youth Olympic Gold medal playing with his partner Nicole Muskatewitz from Germany.

We would like to thank Eve Muirhead and Uli Kapp, our Athlete Role Models, who came to Innsbruck to share their Olympic experiences with the young athletes as part of the Education and Culture programme. Special thanks must also go to the Austrian Curling Association. They, along with numerous volunteers, worked tirelessly behind the scenes to put on a first class event.

Now we can look forward to heading to Lillehammer in Norway where the second Winter Youth Olympic Games will be held in 2016.

All of the news and results from YOG 2012 can still be viewed on our event website: [www.innsbruck2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.innsbruck2012.curlingevents.com)

## World Financial Group Continental Cup

This year's Continental Cup proved to be another exciting challenge. Both spectators and a worldwide TV/online audience were able to enjoy this year's event and we congratulate the curlers of Team World on their 235 to 165 win over Team North America. Both sides are now tied at four wins each, setting the scene for another exciting event in Penticton, British Columbia next year.



*The Mixed Nationality Mixed Doubles event at YOG*

*Photo: WCF/Richard Gray*



*Swiss skip Michael Brunner (centre) won gold in the Mixed Team and Mixed Doubles in Innsbruck*

*Photo: WCF/Richard Gray*



*WCF President Kate Caithness with IOC President Jacques Rogge at YOG*

*Photo: WCF/Richard Gray*



*Team World, winners of the 2012 WFG Continental Cup. David Hay, Captain & Peja Lindholm, Coach of Team World*

*Photos: WCF/CCA Michael Burns*

# PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2012

## WCF Board

### Board Elections

Elections for the WCF Board will be held at the Annual General Assembly in Basel. The following nominations have been received:

#### President:

Mrs Kate Caithness (SCO)

#### Vice President:

Mr Bent Ramsfjell (NOR)

Mr Celal Cüneyt İşgör (TUR)

#### Director of Finance:

Mr Andy Anderson (USA)

#### Members at Large (four places):

Young C Kim (KOR)

Niels Larsen (DEN)

Toyo Ogawa (JPN)

Leif Ohman (SWE)

Graham Prouse (CAN)

As Canada, Scotland and USA have guaranteed places on the WCF Board, Graham Prouse will take one of the Member at Large positions. The remaining four candidates will face an election for the final three Member at Large positions.

### Semi-Annual General Assembly (Moscow, Russia)

At our assembly in Moscow, two new resources for you, our Member Associations, were announced - the Media Assistance Programme (**MAP**) and our new **Image Library**.

The WCF has created the **Media Assistance Programme (MAP)** to help fund the attendance of Member Association media or communications representatives at key WCF Championship events.

The **Image Library** has been set up to give members of the media and MAs access to professional photography from WCF events and to help you promote our sport on your own websites and in your communications. For more details please get in touch with Joanna Kelly and Danny Parker [media@worldcurling.org](mailto:media@worldcurling.org)



China Men, winners of the Pajcc 2012  
Photo: KCF



Japan Women, winners of the Pajcc 2012  
Photo: KCF



Images from WCF Championship events will be available at [photos.worldcurling.org](http://photos.worldcurling.org)  
Photo: WCF/Richard Gray

## FEBRUARY 2012

### Event Hosts

The WCF is still encouraging Member Associations to submit their bids for forthcoming championships over the coming seasons and would advise that all Associations submit their interest as soon as possible.

### The WCF is currently seeking bids to host the following events:

**European Junior Curling Challenge 2014** (3–8 Jan)

**World Junior Curling Championships 2014** (Feb/Mar)

**World Men's Curling Championship 2014** (29 Mar–6 Apr)

**World Senior Curling Championships 2014** (21-27 April)

**World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2014** (12-19 Apr)

**WCF Olympic Qualification Event 2013\*** (11 – 15 Dec)

**2014 Bid Deadlines:** Bid Deadline – **1 Mar 2012**. Latest decision at the WCF Congress Oct 2012.

\* 31st Dec 2012 is the deadline for bidding and the decision on the successful host of the WCF Olympic Qualification Event will be made by 15th Apr 2013.

If you would like to receive more information about the bidding procedure and guidelines, please contact the WCF Secretariat on [info@worldcurling.org](mailto:info@worldcurling.org)

### WCF Social Media Update

#### Twitter

[@worldcurling](https://twitter.com/worldcurling) has been set up to provide curling fans with a more fun and interesting source of information about curling. This feed is aimed at those interested in our sport – fans, athletes and coaches to name a few. Although it will still communicate all important WCF announcements, it will also be a lot more interactive so as to engage more with various audiences.

[@WCFmedia](http://www.worldcurling.org) remains the primary source of 'breaking news' from the World Curling Federation, such as key event announcements, championship medallists etc. This feed is aimed primarily at the media as a formal WCF news information feed.

#### Google+

Google+ is thought to be the fastest growing social network and we don't want to be left behind. As a result we have launched the official World Curling Federation Google+ site: <http://gplus.to/worldcurlingfederation>. If you're on Google+ please follow us.

#### LinkedIn

If you're a member of the professional networking site LinkedIn, feel free to follow us: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/world-curling-federation>. Here you will find information relating to our business activities over the coming months and any important announcements regarding the World Curling Federation.



The WCF has launched a new Twitter Fan feed [@worldcurling](https://twitter.com/worldcurling)



The WCF are also now on Google+ [www.gplus.to/worldcurlingfederation](http://www.gplus.to/worldcurlingfederation)



You can also follow the WCF on LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/world-curling-federation>

FEBRUARY 2012

## Event websites

In our last newsletter we announced that we were now using a new administration system for our event websites. The following have been set up this season:

[www.innsbruck2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.innsbruck2012.curlingevents.com)

[www.wwhcc2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.wwhcc2012.curlingevents.com)

[www.wjcc2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.wjcc2012.curlingevents.com)

[www.wmcc2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.wmcc2012.curlingevents.com)

[www.wmdcc2012.curlingevents.com](http://www.wmdcc2012.curlingevents.com)

As you will see, the layout is more consistent and easier to use. We will continue to use this system for future events and are always looking for support from LOCs and Member Associations to help populate the sites with relevant and engaging information. Therefore we want to encourage you to send us any additional information you feel would benefit these websites.

## Member Association News

### Sweden – New Secretary General appointed

The Swedish Curling Association has appointed Stefan Lund as their new Secretary General following the announcement that Håkan Sundström will be retiring from his position after 30 years with the Association. Stefan begins his employment with the Swedish Curling Association on 1 April before taking up his new position as Secretary General on 1 September 2012.

### USA – Super Bowl Curling

In a great opportunity to promote our sport the US Curling Association was invited to be part of this year's Super Bowl held in Indianapolis. As you can see by the pictures below right, American football fans got the chance to try out curling on a synthetic sheet.

The USCA has to be congratulated for this innovative stunt – I'm sure this will have introduced curling to hundreds if not thousands more people in the United States and can only help raise the profile of the sport.

### Kazakhstan – Granted provisional membership

At the 2011 Annual General Assembly of the Pacific-Asia Curling Federation, the Kazakhstan Curling Association was granted provisional membership.

### China – New Chinese Curling Association website

The Chinese Curling Association has launched a brand new website. Providing all of the latest news and results from events which Chinese teams are participating in, the site is a useful information resource for curlers in China. You can view the new site, both in Chinese and English, here: <http://www.curling.org.cn/>



New WCF event websites are now live



Stefan Lund will replace Håkan Sundström as Secretary General of the SCA



The USCA's Superbowl activity was popular with American football fans  
Photo: USCA

FEBRUARY 2012

## DEVELOPMENT

### *Development Assistance Programme (DAP)*

So far this financial year, the WCF has approved more than \$270,000 USD of DAP funding for 31 Member Associations.

This has helped fund numerous projects around the world, below are just a few which have received support:

- Stone and ice-scrapers repayments in Kazakhstan, Iceland, Lithuania and Norway
- A come and try session in Glasgow, Scotland
- New equipment in Australia
- Help with the production of a video, a coaches course and a curling open day in Hungary
- Children's stones, the production of a curling brochure and new equipment in Denmark
- New equipment and the funding for the Super Bowl 'Come and Try' event in the USA.

This is an example of some of the projects which have already benefited from the DAP. We want to encourage all our Member Associations to make full use of this fund.

If you would like funding please send your DAP applications to Eeva: [eeva.roethlisberger@worldcurling.org](mailto:eeva.roethlisberger@worldcurling.org)

### *Camps and Courses*

We've been busy in the Pacific-Asia region over the past few months, running several successful courses.

In December, Eeva Roethlisberger, Development Officer for the WCF, ran two courses in Naseby, New Zealand. Eeva helped organise the first Pacific-Asia Junior Curling Camp, which attracted 24 participants from a range of countries including Australia, New Zealand and Japan. An Umpire Basic Course also took place before this camp. As you can see by the photos, everyone who attended had a great time and plans are already underway to hold more camps next year.

Special thanks must be given to the New Zealand Curling Association for their help organising these camps.



*Umpire course in Naseby, New Zealand*  
Photo: WCF



*Curling courses in New Zealand proved a great success*  
Photo: WCF



*Curlers cool off after the Naseby curling camp*  
Photo: WCF

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FEBRUARY 2012

## COURSE REGISTRATION DEADLINES [www.wcf-camps-courses.com](http://www.wcf-camps-courses.com)

Right now we still have a few places available on all of our courses, but we would urge you to register soon if you are interested to avoid disappointment.

DEADLINE	EVENT	LOCATION
24 June	WCF / DCV Hummelt Junior Curling Camp (1-7 July)	Füssen, Germany
24 June	WCF Level 1 Technical Instructor Course (29-30 June)	Füssen, Germany
24 June	WCF Umpire Advanced Course (27-28 June)	Füssen, Germany
24 June	Ice Technician Course (23-27 June)	Füssen, Germany
22 April	6th WCF Adult Curling Camp (25-29 May)	Prague, Czech Republic

## CHAMPIONSHIP PAPERWORK DEADLINE

Please be aware that teams registered for Championships should submit the required paperwork to the WCF Secretariat by the following dates:

DEADLINE	EVENT	LOCATION
2 March	Men's World Curling Championship 2012 (31 March – 8 April)	Basel, Switzerland
9 March	World Senior Curling Championship 2012 (14-21 April)	Taarnby, Denmark
16 March	World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2012 (23-29 April)	Erzurum, Turkey

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
18-25 February	World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2012	Chuncheon, KOR
3-11 March	World Junior Curling Championships 2012	Östersund, SWE
17-25 March	Ford World Women's Curling Championship 2012	Lethbridge, CAN
31 Mar-8 Apr	Ford World Men's Curling Championship 2012	Basel, SUI
14-21 April	World Senior Curling Championships 2012	Copenhagen, DEN
23-29 April	World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2012	Erzurum, TUR

More info on [www.worldcurling.org](http://www.worldcurling.org)

If you wish to share news or information from your association in this newsletter please let us know by contacting the WCF Secretariat: [info@worldcurling.org](mailto:info@worldcurling.org)

Yours in curling,

Kate