

YOUR CURLER

Scottish Championships
Approaching

Team Whyte
Win Slam

Gail Munro
Awarded MBE



SCOTTISH DOMINANCE

JANUARY 2025

Scottish Curling

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WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, VINCENT BRYSON



Hello everyone

We're in the busiest part of the season for all of us here at HQ so once again a big "Thank You" to everyone across the community.

We're lucky we get to spend time in and around the rinks so we experience first-hand all the awesome work being done by clubs, rinks and people. Sometimes this work goes unseen amidst the maelstrom of other activity - particularly at this point of the season where it's busy.

By the time our next YourCurler is released, we will have experienced the Scottish Masters, the Hardie Engineering Scottish Championships, The Scottish Seniors and the Henderson Bishop - and that's just the national level competitions. There are many more delivered locally so there is curling galore nationwide.

On the cover this month is Team Whyte who are definitely enjoying a powerful moment having won the most recent Grand Slam of Curling event across the pond.

As we all know (but tell your friends!) the next place to see the Best of the Best is in Dumfries next week. We have huge matches throughout both sides of the draw with and it will be a fantastic fixture of curling.

So I am looking forward to seeing you there. If you are around Dumfries please do buy a ticket and come along - and if you see me or any of my awesome Scottish Curling colleagues please do reach out and say hello, it would be great to speak with you."

Vincent Bryson
CEO, Scottish Curling

TEAM WHYTE SEAL THE SLAM

Scottish curlers claimed a fourth successive men's title on curling's most prestigious circuit but it was time for a new name to be put on a Grand Slam of Curling trophy when Team Whyte defeated 2014 Olympic champion skip Brad Jacobs' men in dramatic fashion to win the WFG Masters in Guelph.

Whyte's men had never been in front at any stage and when the skip lined up his final delivery, he could see only a sliver of the opposition stone that was lying shot, close to the button, however perfect execution saw him remove it to score the two that won the match and the title.



The victory provided further evidence of the current quality within the Scottish men's game and the work being done on the British Curling programme and Whyte is hoping his team's rivalry with world number one ranked Team Mouat, who had won this season's three previous Grand Slam of Curling events, will now move to a new level.

"The Scottish boys are doing well and we've contributed to that now," said Whyte of his and his counterparts performances.

You can see the best that Scotland has to offer face off next week in Dumfries - the only place you'll see both the Grand Slam of Curling Champions this year other than one of the slams themselves.

More on that later!



Thanks to the Grand Slam of Curling for all the photos!

GAIL MUNRO AWARDED MBE FOR SERVICES TO CURLING

Many thanks to Jim Ryder for providing the images.

Gail Munro, Ice Rink Manager at Stranraer Ice Rink, has been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours list.

Scottish Curling CEO, Vincent Bryson, celebrated the news:

"I'm delighted to see the contribution of Gail Munro to curling in Scotland acknowledged by his Majesty."

"Gail has been a unique personality within curling in Scotland for over 40 years and her singular contribution to the growth of the game as a competitor, coach and developer of volunteers is outstanding."

"On behalf of Scottish Curling I am delighted to offer all our congratulations to Gail and her family. This is truly a moment to cherish."

A huge congratulations to Gail for such a wonderful achievement.



CASTLE KENNEDY RETAIN COUNTY CUP

Many thanks to Louise Kerr for providing this article.

For the third season in a row, a rink from Castle Kennedy Curling Club, representing the Galloway Province, won the County Cup, sponsored by Agrovista, at Stranraer Ice Rink last week.

The County Cup is the traditional start of the year challenge between rinks for the Rhins O' Galloway Province and the Galloway Province.



This year eight rinks from each province took part in the competition over two sessions.

At the end of the first session, the Galloway Province held a six shot lead.

The Rhins team dominated the second session and soon made up to deficit to sure ahead to a seven shot victory, 52 shots to 45.

The winners of the County Cup were the rink of Hugh Nibloe, Niall Ryder, Karlyn Lyon and Megan Henry from Castle Kennedy and the highest up rink in the losing province was the Glasserton Curling Club rink of Forsyth Galloway, Alistair McMillan, Gary Huxtable and Kevan McGuire. They received the John Smith Salver.

The trophies and prizes of butchers' vouchers were presented by Anne Robertson on behalf of the sponsors Agrovista.

The presentations were conducted by Tom Bell, the President of the Galloway Province and John Agnew from the Rhins Province thanked the continuing generosity of the sponsor Agrovista, Gail Munro MBE and the ice rink staff were thanked for the quality of the ice and the two province secretaries, Linda Haswell and Louise Kerr, for organising the competition.



JACKSON TROPHY PLAYED AT EDINBURGH CURLING CLUB

Many thanks to Ian Keron for providing this article.

On Saturday 18 January 2025, 14 invited teams took part in Edinburgh Curling Club's annual Jackson Trophy competition.

The teams played in a two round Schenkel format Bonspiel and after the second round, three teams were at the top of the table with two wins.

In top place with 11 ends were the team from Athelstaneford Curling Club.

The teams enjoyed lunch and post-match chat together after the completion of the two rounds of games, when the winning team was presented with the magnificent Jackson Trophy. The trophy was presented to Edinburgh Curling Club in 1955 by the family of WK Jackson, skip of the GB 1924 Olympic Gold Medal team.

Winning team, left to right - Frank Ross, John Shedden, Douglas Scott, Bob Bowie



SWAN TROPHY SUCCESS

The semi-finals and final of the Double Rink Swan Trophy were played at Curl Edinburgh on Thursday 9 January 2025

This event has been played continuously since 1912.

Each club has two teams and combined scores in the two games played are used to determine the winner of each tie.

After the semi finals, Oxenfoord and MidCalder curling clubs took to the ice in the final, having seen off Penicuik and Currie & Balerno respectively.

In what was an incredibly close final, Oxenfoord finished ahead by one shot overall.



DRUMMOND ROSEBOWL

Many thanks to Louise Kerr for providing this article.

The traditional opening bonspiel at Stranraer Ice Rink, the Drummond Rosebowl, was played last Thursday night to herald the start of the 2024-2025 curling season.

Six rinks played and the winners were the rink of John Agnew, Margaret Agnew, Rebecca O' Sullivan and Kathleen Stevenson.

At the close of play, Stranraer Ice Rink President James Maxwell welcomed the curlers back to the rink for the new season. He then congratulated the winners and presented them with the trophy and vouchers for the North West Castle Hotel. He also encouraged players to support the ice rink competitions throughout the season.



MALCOLM HENRY

Many thanks to Louise Kerr for providing this article.

The Malcolm Henry competition for mixed rinks (if possible) was won last Friday night by a rink from Logan Curling Club, skipped by John Gilmore.

Six rinks took to the ice for the annual challenge and after the games came to their conclusion after eighteen's had been played, the winning team were seven shots up.

Stranraer Ice Rink Vice President Alec Ross then noted that there was an air of sadness to the proceedings as this was the first time the Malcolm Henry Trophy had been played without Malcolm being there. We all felt the loss keenly, Alec commented. Malcolm's grandson, Henry, was there to present the trophy and prizes of hotel vouchers.



HARDIE ENGINEERING ANNOUNCED AS SPONSORS FOR SCOTTISH CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The Hardie Engineering Scottish Curling Championships 2025 are set to take place from February 2nd to 8th at the Dumfries Ice Bowl. This prestigious event will showcase Scotland's premier curling talent, featuring both men's and women's teams competing for national glory.

This year's championship is particularly noteworthy as it presents a rare opportunity to witness a face-off between this year's only two Grand Slam of Curling champions: Team Mouat and Team Whyte.



Team Mouat, currently ranked world number 1, boasts an impressive record with nine GSOC titles, including victories at the National (2017, 2024), Champions Cup (2021), and Players' Championship (2021, 2022). Their accolades also include an Olympic silver medal (2022) and a World Championship gold (2023).

Team Whyte, under the leadership of skip Ross Wyte, recently clinched their inaugural Grand Slam title at the WFG Masters in January 2025, propelling them to No. 5 in the world rankings. This victory underscores their rising prominence in the curling world and sets the stage for an exhilarating matchup against Team Mouat.

The women's draw promises to be equally thrilling, as Team Henderson returns to defend their title against a fiercely competitive field. After their triumphant victory at last year's championships, skip Faye Henderson and her team are eager to solidify their legacy with back-to-back wins.

"This year's Hardie Engineering Scottish Curling Championships promises to be one of the most thrilling in recent memory," said Vincent Bryson, CEO of Scottish Curling.

"With the nation's top athletes, including our Grand Slam champions going head-to-head in the men's draw, and Team Henderson defending their crown in the women's draw with 2 current Olympic Champions in different teams, the excitement is unparalleled."

"Dumfries Ice Bowl will be the focal point of the curling world, and we can't wait to welcome fans from across the country to witness this spectacular showcase of skill and passion. We hope to see you there."

AMBASSADORTM

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THE WARMEST WELCOME AT SEA



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Discover our range of 2025 and 2026 Dundee sailings



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INCLUSIVE TRY CURLING SESSIONS OPEN UP THE SPORT TO ALL

Scottish Curling is dedicated to making the sport accessible to everyone, offering a variety of inclusive "Try Curling" sessions tailored to diverse communities. These sessions provide an opportunity for individuals to experience curling in a welcoming environment, regardless of age, ability, or background.

With a number of sessions having taken place across the last few months (thanks to everyone who hosted at your rinks, and lots of newbies to the sport welcomed, we are delighted that we have lots of new participants in the sport.

Clubs have been joined and ice has been booked, and thanks to the Scottish Curling Trust's support, this great work will continue.

To see the true power of our sessions, watch our chat between Rachel and Rhiannon, our Disability and Inclusion Development Officer, highlighting the journey Rachel has gone through,.

Click below:



TEAM GB TAKE GOLD AT THE WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES!

Team GB secured gold at the World University Games held in Turin, Italy, in early January.

Orrin Carson and Robyn Munro, as well as their coach Scott Andrews, competed for the Mixed Doubles gold medal at the games against Germany.

The match saw two four-enders, with each side taking one a piece in a back and forth battle. However, the Scottish duo stood strong and secured the medal.

Taking the match 10-8, it was another career highlight for Scottish Curling's own Scott Andrews, the team's coach for the event.



The FISU Summer World University Games are staged every two years in a different city. This celebration of international university sports and culture draws many thousands of student-athletes together to compete, making it among the world's largest and most prestigious multi-sport events.

The twelve-day FISU World University Games competition programme includes fifteen compulsory sports. To stay at the forefront of sports development and innovation, organisers may also include up to three optional sports from the FISU Recognised Sports list and the FISU World University Championships programme into their event.

Henderson Bishop Finals 2025

At Dumfries Icebowl

24th - 27th February



Monday 24th Feb
**Reception &
Barbour's Fashion
Show**
From 6pm
Drinks & Nibbles
In Ice Rink Cafe
(Competitors Only)



Tuesday 25th Feb
**Buffet
and
Strike Drive**
From 7.30pm
At Woodlands House
Hotel
£20 for Non Players



Wednesday 26th Feb
**Closing
Dinner**
From 6.30pm
At Woodlands House
Hotel
£40 for Non Players

Speak to any Members of the committee or Susan Morrison on 07715371104
or email : craigendfarm@aol.com to reserve tickets for either event

**All Guests and Supporters are welcome for the duration of
the week to watch the Henderson Bishop Finals and get
involved in the social events.**



**GUESS THE
CURLER**

**IT'S OF COURSE
RHONA HOWIE,
MBE**

“We are excited to be present once again at the prestigious Scottish Championships showcasing some of the top teams in the world. Over the last year we have supported Curling in Scotland behind the scenes in many ways including discounted products to all members, branding Academy hoodies and measuring blazers for National Champions and Tourists and we are delighted to further support the sport at the championships.”

Barbara Morton, Operations Manager

