



ROCK STARS CURLING

The OCC Competitive Youth Program

OVERVIEW OF ROCK STARS CURLING

The Oshawa Curling Club Competitive Youth Program

ROCK STARS CURLING - The OCC Competitive Youth Program is designed to identify and develop youth curlers in an effort for them to reach their full potential. The Program is designed to accommodate various levels of athlete commitment and skill level in one of three (3) age categories that match those of the CCA, OCA and other governing bodies. Participants will compete outside the OCC in events that will vary by program and age division. This program is an opportunity for our youth to expand their skills and reach their potential. Although this program does have similarities to other sports "Rep" or "Select" programs the intention is to provide opportunities for any athlete who wants to grow as a curler.





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THE FRAMEWORK

Participants will fall within one of three (3) age categories and may be sub-divided into two or more streams based on a variety of factors such as current skill level, development potential, participant/family commitment level, program size, etc. The program uses age definitions which parallel those set out by the OCA for its competition entries. These mirror a school year and as such use December 31st as a cut-off date. The age categories will set forth only a MAXIMUM age as athletes may be placed in a higher age category based on skill level, development need or other determining factors.

Age Category Definitions

For purposes of the Rock Stars Curling program a curling season shall run from June thru May. For the 2014-2015 Curling Season the age categories will be as follows:

- **Junior** – Each player shall be a maximum of twenty (20) years of age on December 31st of the current curling season. (2014-15 curling season = Birth Year 1994)
- **Bantam** – Each player shall be a maximum of sixteen (16) years of age on December 31st of the current curling season. (2014-15 curling season = Birth Year 1998)
- **Little Rocks** – Each player shall be a maximum of twelve (12) years of age on December 31st of the current curling season. (2014-15 curling season = Birth Year 2002)

NOTE: There is no MINIMUM AGE required for this program however participants do need to be of sufficient maturity to participate.

Program Streams

Each age category may be divided into the following streams;

- **COMPETITION STREAM**
 - Athletes participate with consistent team(s) in high level competitions and are committed to a high number of events and training sessions.
- **DEVELOPMENT STREAM**
 - Athletes participate with consistent team(s) outside of the club in “less competitive” events and are committed to a moderate number of events and training sessions.
- **INTERCLUB STREAM**
 - Athletes participate with various teams outside of the club in “less competitive” events. Commitment level will vary by participant. This stream is an “ad-hoc” stream allowing participants to set their own commitment level.



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Administration

The program is directed by a group of unpaid volunteers dedicated to the development of curlers. The program shall have a minimum of 2 directors to ensure that there are always multiple contact points. Should the program have sufficient size, a Board of Directors or Program Committee may be formed by the volunteer group as appropriate.

Coaches

Coaches are unpaid volunteers and may include the program directors. Coaches may be a parent or other relative of a participant, especially at the entry level stages of the program. Advanced coaching may be sourced as required in conjunction with team development needs and budget. With the exception of the interclub stream, each team will require a minimum of one (1) coach. Coaches will have full discretion of team's activities (subject to approval by the program administration) including budget, competition schedule, etc.

Coaches will also set a practice schedule, subject to ice availability. The booking of this practice time is the responsibility of the coach. It is expected that the duration and frequency of practices matches the program goals and objectives.

Coaching certification is required by some streams and those requirements will follow guidelines set out by the competition governing bodies. Currently coaches of a COMPETITION STREAM team must have a minimum of "Competition Coach" certification prior to the commencement of the corresponding zone playdown event. Coaches of a DEVELOPMENT STREAM team do not currently require certification unless entering the playdown events. It is however recommended that coaches at this level possess at least a "Club Coach" certification. Interclub coaching will be less structured and may vary from event to event given that teams will change from event to event. Each interclub team will have one parent "Assigned" as the contact point for that team's activities.

With the exception of Interclub, all coaches require a police check no older than 3 years to be on file with either the OCC or the OCA. Police checks are at the expense of the coach. Currently the OCA has a partnership with BACKCHECK to facilitate an Online Check.

COACHES ARE NOT ASSIGNED A TEAM UNTIL AFTER PLAYER EVALUATIONS!

Athlete Assessment

Every effort will be made to place athletes at a level that matches their commitment level and skill. Players will be evaluated regularly during the curling season. Towards the end of each curling season, one or more evaluation sessions may be held. These sessions will give administrators and coaches additional opportunities to assess skill level for appropriate placement within the program.

Event Coordination

All event entries will be coordinated by a single point of contact to minimize the chance of duplicate or incomplete entries. The event coordinator will also coordinate payment of all entry fees.



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Program Timing (Season)

The program season will vary by age and stream. The following chart outlines estimated timelines for each.

Stream	Team Selection	Off-Season Training	Season Begins	Season Concludes
Junior Competitive	Early-Mid April	Late Apr –Aug	Late Aug / Early Sept	Mid April
Junior Development	Early-Mid April	Late Apr –Aug	Mid October	Mid April
Bantam Competitive	Early-Mid April	Late Apr –Aug	Late Aug / Early Sept	Mid April
Bantam Development	Early-Mid April	Late Apr –Aug	Mid October	Mid April
Little Rock Development	Early-Mid April	TBA – Based on Team	Early-Mid Nov	Mid April



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Detailed Division/Stream Information



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JUNIOR COMPETITIVE

The Junior Competitive program is geared to developing athletes at the highest level possible within the club environment. Teams will participate in Ontario Junior Curling Tour (OJCT - www.ojct.ca) and/or other competitive bonspiels and leagues (Toronto Curling Association (TCA), for example). Ideally a team will be built at the lower ages with in attempt to grow together in a 4 year plan.

- Year 1 – GOAL: Experience at the Zone Level
- Year 2 – GOAL: Competitive at the Zone Level
- Year 3 – GOAL: Competitive at the Regional Level
- Year 4+ – GOAL: Competitive at the Provincial/National Level

Program Time Commitment

Players will be expected to participate in team activities 3-6 times/week and commit to a heavy competition schedule. Typically this will include

- Practice: 1-2 week
- Game Play (Junior Program): 1/week
- Game Play (TCA Interclub): 1/every second week
- Game Play (OCC League): 1-2/week
- Competition Load: 12+ events/year

Program Financial Commitment

Players will be asked to submit a series of post-dated cheques or a pre-authorized debit form for installment payments. It is expected that participation in the Junior Competitive program will require a financial commitment of approximately **\$1500/participant**. This will include team uniforms, bonspiel entry fees, miscellaneous items such as competition brush heads, etc. Players will also be required to be a **FULL JUNIOR MEMBER** in good standing with the Oshawa Curling Club as it will be expected that participants will play in league(s) other than the junior program. Club membership fees will be in addition to team fees. Fundraising or Sponsors may reduce the financial commitment. Monies earned during cash spiels will be re-allocated to the team account. At the end of the season each team will conduct a disbursement of the winnings as directed by the players (parents) in conjunction with the coach. A down payment will be required upon acceptance of your invitation with monthly payments due on the first of the month from May-November. Many bonspiels are also a significant distance from Oshawa and run for 2-3 days so travel related expenses will be incurred and are the responsibility of the participant's family.

Equipment Required

Players in the Junior Competitive Program will receive a uniform as part of their Team Fees. A selection of other OCC Rock Star Sweaters/Jackets/Jerseys, etc. will be made available for order. At this level players should have their own brush and curling shoes.



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BANTAM COMPETITIVE

The Bantam Competitive program is geared to developing athletes to become ready for the Junior Competitive program. Teams will participate in The Ontario Junior Curling Tour Bantam Division (OJCT - www.ojct.ca) and/or other competitive bonspiels and leagues (Toronto Curling Association (TCA), for example). Ideally a team will be built at the lower ages with in attempt to grow together in a 4 year plan. Ideally a team will be built at the lower ages with in attempt to grow together in a 4 year plan.

- Year 1 – GOAL: Experience at the Zone Level
- Year 2 – GOAL: Competitive at the Zone Level
- Year 3 – GOAL: Competitive at the Regional Level
- Year 4 – GOAL: Competitive at the Provincial/National Level

Program Time Commitment

Players will be expected to participate in team activities 3-6 times/week and commit to a heavy competition schedule. Typically this will include

- Practice: 1-2 week
- Game Play (Junior Program): 1/week
- Game Play (Youth Interclub): 1/every second week
- Game Play (Advanced - OCC League Play): 1-2/week
- Competition Load: 12+ events/year

Program Financial Commitment

Players will be asked to submit a series of post-dated cheques or a PAD form for installment payments. Teams are expected to operate using a budget (estimated at **\$1025/player**) during the season. This will include team uniforms, bonspiel entry fees, miscellaneous items such as competition brush heads, etc. Players will also be required to be a **FULL JUNIOR MEMBER** in good standing with the Oshawa Curling Club. Club membership fees will be in addition to team fees. Fundraising or Sponsors may reduce the financial commitment. Monies earned during cash spiels will be re-allocated to the account at the end of the competition and disbursement of the winnings will be directed by the players (parents) at the conclusion of the curling season. A down payment will be required upon acceptance of your invitation with monthly payments due on the first of the month from May-November. See appendix for a sample team budget and payment schedule. Some bonspiels are also a significant distance from Oshawa and run for 2-3 days so travel related expenses will be incurred and are the responsibility of the participant's family.

Equipment Required

Players in the Bantam Competitive Program will receive a uniform as part of their Team Fees. A selection of other OCC Rock Star Sweaters/Jackets/Jerseys, etc. will be made available for order. At this level players should have their own brush and curling shoes.



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JUNIOR/BANTAM DEVELOPMENT

The Junior/Bantam Development program is suitable for those aspiring athletes who have a desire to compete at higher level but are not yet ready for the Competitive level. The objective of this program is to have players become competitive at events outside the club. These players may also enter playdowns to experience competition at a higher level.

Program Time Commitment

Players will be expected to participate in team activities 2-4 times/week and commit to a moderate competition schedule. Typically this will include

- Practice: 1/week
- Game Play (Junior Program): 1/week
- Game Play (OCC League): 0-1/week
- Competition Load: 8+ events/year

Program Financial Commitment

Players will be asked to submit a series of post-dated cheques or a PAD form for installment payments. Teams are expected to operate using a budget (estimated at \$700/participant) during the season. This will include team uniforms, bonspiel entry fees, miscellaneous items such as competition brush heads, etc. Players are required to be a **JUNIOR MEMBER** in good standing with the Oshawa Curling Club. Players are encouraged to become a **FULL JUNIOR MEMBER** and play in additional leagues available to them. Club membership fees will be in addition to team fees. Fundraising or Sponsors may reduce the financial commitment. Monies earned during cash spiels will be re-allocated to the account at the end of the competition and disbursement of the winnings will be directed by the players (parents) at the conclusion of the curling season. A down payment will be required upon acceptance of your invitation with monthly payments due on the first of the month from August-November. See appendix for a sample team budget and payment schedule. Bonspiels will be mostly one day events that are within a one hour drive of the OCC. Teams are free to participate in longer events or events that would require travel however this is to be done at a team level with input from all participants and families.

Equipment Required

Players in the Middle Rock Development Program will receive a uniform as part of their Team Fees. A selection of other OCC Rock Star Sweaters/Jackets/Jerseys, etc. will be made available for order. At this level players should have their own brush and either curling shoes or a slip on slider.



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LITTLE ROCK DEVELOPMENT

The Little Rock Development program is well suited for those aspiring athletes who have expressed an interest in progressing through the competitive system. The objective of this program is to have players become competitive at events outside the club. Essentially this is an INTRO to the competitive system. This is the first level where athletes will participate with a consistent team throughout the curling season. Participants in this program will also be encouraged to participate in the OCA Skill Awards Program.

Program Time Commitment

Players will be expected to participate in team activities 1-3 times/week and commit to a moderate competition schedule. Typically this will include

- Practice: 0-1/week
- Game Play/Instruction (Middle Rocks Program): 1/week
- Competition Load: 6+ events/year (in consultation with coach/families)

Program Financial Commitment

Players will be asked to submit a series of post-dated cheques or a PAD form for installment payments. Teams are expected to operate using a budget (estimated at \$400/participant) during the season. This will include team uniforms, bonspiel entry fees, miscellaneous items such as competition brush heads, etc. Players will also be required to be a **MIDDLE ROCK/LITTLE ROCK MEMBER** in good standing with the Oshawa Curling Club. Club membership fees will be in addition to team fees. Fundraising or Sponsors may reduce the financial commitment. Monies earned during cash spiels will be re-allocated to the account at the end of the competition and disbursement of the winnings will be directed by the players (parents) at the conclusion of the curling season. A down payment will be required upon acceptance of your invitation with monthly payments due on the first of the month from May-November. See appendix for a sample team budget and payment schedule.

Equipment Required

Players in the Little Rock Development Program will receive a uniform as part of their Team Fees. A selection of other OCC Rock Star Sweaters/Jackets/Jerseys, etc. will be made available for order.

At this level players should have their own brush and either curling shoes or a slip on slider.

NOTE: Some little rock events may also require "Head Protection" which could be as simple as a bike helmet.



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INTERCLUB

The Interclub program is for those athletes who have expressed an interest in participating in more than just club curling on some level. The objective of this program is to provide exposure to curling events outside the club environment. Essentially this is a “compete at your own pace” system where athletes are provided with available opportunities and are placed based on availability and equality. Events are typically less competitive in nature, usually one day in duration and run on Saturdays.

Program Time Commitment

- Time commitment is individual ranging from one event to weekly.

Program Financial Commitment

Financial commitment will vary based on the number of events that an athlete chooses to participate in. Typically costs range from \$25-\$50 / event and usually include 2 games, prizes and lunch. Payment for each event will be due upon team formation. If you are subsequently unable to attend an event you should immediately notify the bonspiel coordinator. Note that you are still responsible for the event fee until a replacement has been confirmed.

Player Selection

The ROCK STARS Bonspiel Coordinator will post available bonspiels as they become known. Interested players simply sign up. Teams will be formed by the bonspiel coordinator. We will attempt to accommodate all requests however you may not receive an entry in all events you select.

Equipment Required

Players in the Interclub are encouraged to wear OCC Rock Star gear. A selection of Sweaters/Jackets/Jerseys, etc. will be made available for order.

It is also recommended that players have their own brush as they begin to play outside the club. Youth curlers have historically received a discount at the OCC Pro Shop. Curlers in this stream should also work towards using a slip on slider or curling shoes instead of slider tape.

NOTE: Some little rock events may also require “Head Protection” which could be as simple as a bike helmet.



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Appendix



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SAMPLE BUDGETS

OCC - ROCK STARS CURLING				Sample Budget	
Junior Competitive					
QTY	Description	Cost	Total	Payments	
4	Player Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Pants, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 275.00	\$ 1,100.00	Down Payment	\$ 100.00
1	Coaches Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	May-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 1 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Jun-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 2 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Jul-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 3 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Aug-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 4 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Sep-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 5 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Oct-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 6 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Nov-01	\$ 200.00
1	Bonspiel 7 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 8 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 9 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 10 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 11 (Tour)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 12	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Bonspiel 13	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		
1	Playdown Entry Fee (Gender Specific)	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
1	Playdown Entry Fee (Mixed)	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
16	Brush Heads (Competition Use Only)	\$ 35.00	\$ 560.00		
		TOTAL	\$ 6,000.00		
		Per Player	\$ 1,500.00		

OCC - ROCK STARS CURLING				Sample Budget	
Bantam Competitive					
QTY	Description	Cost	Total	Payments	
4	Player Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Pants, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 275.00	\$ 1,100.00	Down Payment	\$ 150.00
1	Coaches Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	May-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 1 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Jun-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 2 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Jul-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 3 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Aug-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 4 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Sep-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 5 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Oct-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 6 (TOUR)	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	Nov-01	\$ 125.00
1	Bonspiel 7	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00		
1	Bonspiel 8	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00		
1	Bonspiel 9	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00		
1	Bonspiel 10	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00		
1	Playdown Entry Fee (Gender Specific)	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
1	Playdown Entry Fee (Mixed)	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
8	Brush Heads (Competition Use Only)	\$ 35.00	\$ 280.00		
		TOTAL	\$ 4,100.00		
		Per Player	\$ 1,025.00		



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OCC - ROCK STARS CURLING				Sample Budget	
Junior/Bantam Development					
QTY	Description	Cost	Total	Payments	
4	Player Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 200.00	\$ 800.00	Down Payment	100
1	Coaches Uniform (Jacket, Jersey, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	Aug-01	150
1	Bonspiel 1	\$ 200.00	\$ 220.00	Sep-01	150
1	Bonspiel 2	\$ 200.00	\$ 220.00	Oct-01	150
1	Bonspiel 3	\$ 200.00	\$ 220.00	Nov-01	150
1	Bonspiel 4	\$ 200.00	\$ 220.00		
1	Bonspiel 5	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		
1	Bonspiel 6	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		
1	Bonspiel 7	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		
1	Bonspiel 8	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		
1	Playdown Entry Fee (Gender Specific/Mixed)	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
		TOTAL	\$ 2,800.00		
Per Player			\$ 700.00		

OCC - ROCK STARS CURLING				Sample Budget	
Little Rock Development					
QTY	Description	Cost	Total	Payments	
4	Player Uniform (Jacket, Warmup Hoodie)	\$ 130.00	\$ 520.00	Down Payment	100
1	Bonspiel 1	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	Oct-01	100
1	Bonspiel 2	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	Nov-01	100
1	Bonspiel 3	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	Dec-01	100
1	Bonspiel 4	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00		
1	Bonspiel 5	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00		
1	Bonspiel 6	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00		
1	Bonspiel 7	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00		
1	Bonspiel 8	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00		
		TOTAL	\$ 1,600.00		
Per Player			\$ 400.00		