



support@curling.org.nz

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NZCA VALUES: SPIRIT *Wairua*, PARTICIPATION *Whai Wāhi*, INTEGRITY *Ngākau Pono*, CAMARADERIE *Whanaungatanga*,

ENJOYMENT *Hakinakina*, DEVELOPMENT *Wakawhanake*

NZCA

Board Update

What's happening with the DAP Funding?

World Curling has completely redesigned its development funding system for the 2026–27 season. The old model (DAP + World Junior Travel Grants + various development activities) has been replaced with a new, more strategic, financially sustainable framework built around two programmes: DAP and EDAP.

This is a major structural shift in how World Curling supports Member Associations. This means that the old development model is gone as WC was spending over USD \$1 million per year on a model that wasn't financially sustainable, didn't consistently deliver strategic outcomes and was built for a much smaller membership base. In a nutshell World Junior Travel Grants are discontinued and this money has been redirected into two new programmes: DAP and EDAP.

1. Development Assistance Programme (DAP) Focus: longterm organisational development

- Up to USD \$5,000 per Member Association
- 75/25 co-investment model (25% might possibility relate to your volunteer workforce hours)
- Five funding pillars:
 - Governance & Organisational Development – e.g. review and implement key
 - Organisation policies & procedures (health & safety), new financial software,
 - Workforce Development – e.g. paid staff growth
 - Participation & Community Growth – e.g. have a go sessions
 - Infrastructure & Facility Development – e.g. new booking or membership communication systems
 - Emerging Nation & Strategic Growth Initiatives – e.g. wheelchair or disability leagues
- Strategic/Development Plan required
- Equipment only allowed in the first window of funding

2. Educational Development Assistance Programme (EDAP) Focus: education, workforce development, training Budget: USD \$125,000 Rolling, firstcomefirstserved so these need to be in early.

- World Curling Academy courses
- Coach, official, instructor, ice technician development
- Development camps
- NZCA member club led educational activities.

There will be much stronger accountability for any grant including a post project review & evaluation report, financial evidence, participant data and impact assessment.

In summary World Curling has:

- ended the old development model
- ended World Junior Travel Grants
- created a new strategic definition of “development”
- launched two new programmes (DAP + EDAP)
- tightened accountability

NZCA will shortly invite all member clubs to submit a Registration of Interest (to Sharon Gates support@curling.org.nz) for any projects they wish to have considered for World Curling development funding. The closing date for ROIs will be confirmed shortly as will the submission process and requirements. Now is the time to think about your club needs, such as coach and ice technician development, youth development, community engagement. What does your club need support with for long-term sustainability? All submissions will be reviewed by a NZCA committee in consultation with the Board. Projects that clearly align with the World Curling criteria and NZCA strategic goals (participation, youth development and inclusiveness), will have a significantly stronger likelihood of progressing to an application submission. DAP and EDAP funding is now contestable across all member clubs in New Zealand, this means that NZCA will assess and prioritise projects to ensure the strongest possible applications are submitted.

Member Spotlight

Craig MacFarlane



Upper Hutt based CNZ Board Director, Craig MacFarlane, brings a strong blend of practical experience, formal training, and deep passion to the world of sport governance and delivery. With a nearly 25-year career grounded in Sports Business Management and Administration, he understands the value of sport in connecting and enriching communities.

Currently employed with Sport NZ, New Zealand's government agency responsible for Sport and Recreation, he contributes to national-level strategy, sector development, and programme delivery working with a portfolio of 50+ national sport and recreation organisations, championing the broader diversity of the sector beyond the larger sports. His earlier career with Wellington Rugby and the Hurricanes ranged from coach and player development, competition management, judicial oversight and major operational programmes including the delivery of Test matches, the New Zealand International Sevens, a Golden Oldies World Festival and a British and Irish Lions tour which would all serve as useful grounding to later delivery and management of World Championship Major Events across multiple sports with Sport NZ.

Despite Scottish roots (Grandfather was from Hawick), there is no known curling connection within the family, although the hope is that this may change in time at the local rink at Upper Hutt's Brewtown – perhaps a fours team with other wider Wellington region locals made up of fellow Board CNZ Director Stephen Gallacher, new administrator Sharon Gates and player/coach Peter de Boer.

Outside of Sport NZ and the recent shift into the curling world, he has spent the past 26 years coaching, managing or administrating rugby at all levels from juniors to senior representative and holds World Rugby qualifications, however it is the amateur side of the game that holds his interest for many of the same reasons the opportunity to serve on the CNZ Board drew his attention – passionate people contributing to their sport for all the right reasons, creating positive and memorable experiences whilst operating on small budgets and volunteer resources, yet achieving remarkable things from local to international. This year is the first year of no rugby involvement for a very long time, although he now finds himself as a coach advisor to his wife Sarah who has returned to netball coaching after a lengthy break, albeit at the lofty heights of Year 7 netball (Intermediate Standard 1 for those of us a bit older), and trying to convince his sons, aged 16 and 20, that it's still okay for them to spend time with their old man.

On the News

- If you haven't already seen this piece check out the [Seven Sharp team with Auckland Curling](#).
- [Seven Sharp -Curling](#)

Upcoming

Voice of the Participant Survey

NZ Curling Association is currently working with Sport NZ to undertake the Voice of Participant survey which asks members about their real experiences. The feedback helps improve things such as strategy, coaching, facilities and communication at all levels of the sport.

What's the survey about?

The voice of participant survey gives participants a chance to share honest feedback about their experiences in sport and recreation. These insights help the NZCA Board and clubs to understand what's working well and where improvements can be made.

The survey covers:

- overall experience – how satisfied members are, if they'd recommend the club and if they'd rejoin
- club environment – facilities, social atmosphere, fairness and how the club is managed
- areas for improvement – what could make the experience better
- sideline behaviour – how people see conduct at games and events
- gender equality – views on fairness and inclusivity.

Your feedback matters

What you say helps shape the club experience and shows us what to keep doing well. It is quick and confidential – it only takes 10 minutes and answers are anonymous.

The survey is independent of NZCA and managed by Sport NZ, therefore open and honest feedback is encouraged.

Everyone can take part – Indoor, Outdoor, social, competitive, casual. Parents/caregivers can answer for under-14s. Rangatahi and adults answer for themselves.

When?

We aim to launch the survey in August so keep your eyes peeled for further info.

On the Ice

Dunedin Club

Although we had a late start because of a breakdown in the ice making facility at the Dunedin Ice Stadium, we were able to hold the McGregor Cup tournament over the weekend of 9th-10th May after an unfortunate failure to hold the competition in 2025. We had a full complement of teams with teams from Windwhistle, Tekapo, Whitstone, Gore, Dunedin Town, Dunedin Country and a Dunedin Combined team. After some close competition and a full round robin of 7 games Dunedin Town were the winners with 6 wins and a draw followed by Dunedin Country with Gore bring up the third position.

The winning Dunedin City team. Brendan Hewson Glen (Bushy) Coster. Skip, Merv Wilkinson, Lee Calloway and Lester Peterson (Life Member and the McGregor man).



Although the Dunedin teams were successful, this year they did not have an advantage of knowing the ice as the first day of curling in the McGregor was the first time we had the use of the ice after the NZ Masters Games in February.

This year the Club has attracted several new Crampit curlers and our main Club competition the Edwin Harley trophy is currently being played among our 8 teams.

Last month a good representation of Club Members attended the funeral of Life Member and real stalwart of the Club, Dave Inder. Dave was with the Club from its earliest days when the Club was reformed by the Late Edwin Harley in the early 1990's and was a major contributor when the Club moved from the former Big Chill site in Kaikorai Valley to the current Ice Stadium.

In addition to our Club competitions played indoors at the Dunedin Ice Stadium, teams from the Club have curled in a number of outdoor competitions including the inaugural competition organised by the Windwhistle Club on its dam at Staveley.

Our club teams of:

Ash Beattie, Les Beattie, Gordy Jannink and Niki Gordon-Dixon and Glen (Bushy) Coster, Lee Callaway, Brendan Hewson and Trevor Bell managed to triumph and bring home the new trophy.

In addition to the Club Crampit competitions the Hack Members of the Club have commenced their doubles competition with 8 teams competing.



On the Ice

Curling Traditions Shine in Stuart McKnight & Idaburn Trophy Match's

A fantastic day of curling saw the Stewart McKnight trophy and the annual Idaburn trophy contested between the Naseby and Idaburn Councils. With strong representation from both councils, from 36 clubs over 80 curlers taking part, with competition centred on the Alexandar and Naseby rinks. The Idaburn trophy teams are chosen by each Council's president with each club in their Council nominating a senior curler to represent them. The ice was fast, the stones were true, and the rivalry was fierce but respectful. After 2 games of 21 ends or 7 hours of curling over 5 rinks the trophy was won back by the Idaburn Council. The Stewart McKnight trophy played in Naseby with the same format as the Idaburn trophy matches. This is very important trophy played by Council clubs young curlers is in memory of keen curler and Life Member Stewart McKnight (1935-2021) one of curling's most respected players. This trophy was retained by the Idaburn Council. These tournaments set the stage for the curlers Court process held at the spiritual home of curling in Otarehwa, where tradition and the curling community came together. The evening started with NZCA President, Richard Morgan welcoming over 100 curlers to the traditional dinner of beef and greens, before 32 curlers, 3 of whom are women curlers, commenced the Court's proceedings. This event marked another step forward in strengthening and diversifying our curling community. A brilliant day of sport, camaraderie, fun, and tradition. Curling is thriving across the Central Otago & Maniototo districts.



Stay in Touch



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027 2101164

Upcoming Events

Junior Mixed Doubles: 30th July- 2nd August, Dunedin

Senior Men & Women Championship: 13th-16th August, Naseby

Junior Men & Women Championship: 20th-23rd August, Dunedin