

Six Undefeated Teams Left in 2017 PIC

The 2017 Pacific International Cup hit the half-way mark of the round-robin with just six teams left undefeated. In the B.C. Women's Pool, Comox Valley's Val Schultz beat 2015 PIC champion Leanne Andrews of Cloverdale 7-3 in a battle of 2 and 0 teams. Comox Valley broke open a tight game with a steal of 1 in the 5th, and stole 2 more in the 6th. The loss drops Cloverdale into a 4-way tie for second place at 2 and 1, along with Kamloops, Richmond and Golden Ears. The top three teams in each pool make the playoffs.

In the International Men's Pool, Oregon leads the pack at 4-0 after a 5-2 win over Alaska in the late draw. Oregon scored singles in the first five ends before finally letting Alaska on the scoreboard. Washington State won a battle of 2-0 teams, beating the Yukon 7-3 in what the Washington guys called "an unconventional game". The Yukon started with hammer, blanked the first two ends, then gave up a steal of 5 in the 3rd end when their last shot wrecked on a guard.

Nevada is the only unbeaten team left in the International

Women's Pool. Skip Edith Hazard's squad from Lake Tahoe Epic Curling beat Oregon 6-3 in the afternoon draw, after squeezing out a 9-7 extra-end win over Australia Thursday morning. Minnesota, Washington and the Yukon are all tied at 3 and 1.

In the B.C. Men's pool, Nanaimo and Vernon are tied for first place at 3 and 0. Bart Sawyer's team from Nanaimo beat Langley 10-1 and Kimberley 9-2 on Thursday. Darren Heath (former BC Men's participant) and his club team from Vernon beat Richmond 7-6 and Vancouver 9-6. Langley and Vancouver are still in the hunt at 2 and 1.

The 2017 PIC is the 18th annual championship of club curling teams from all over British Columbia, along with teams from the Yukon, eight U.S. states, Australia, and New Zealand. At stake for the 16 B.C. teams is a chance to represent the province at November's Travelers Canadian Curling Club Championship in Kingston, Ontario.

Fresh faces on Aussie Women's Squad

Australia has been a fixture at the PIC for many years (men since 2006, women since 2007), and this year there are two new faces on the Aussie women's team. Second Katherine (Kate) Hayes and Lead Roslyn (Roz) Gallagher are both new to curling. Kate was recruited by former PIC participant Steph Barr (a high school friend). Roz plays soccer with Skip Jennifer Westhagen, heard all about her passion for curling and wanted to give it a try. They threw their first ever rocks last July in Melbourne at the "Ice House" public skating arena (there is no dedicated curling ice in Australia). Kate and

Roslyn joined a league for the two-month "curling season" (July-August)—then played in a beginner league taught by Australia men's skip Matt Panoussi--and were hooked. Westhagen needed 2 players to travel to Canada for the PIC, and the newbies jumped at the chance for their first international competition. They made a quick "training camp" stop in Seattle (Westhagen's former home) to throw rocks at the Granite Club—Kate and Roz's first ever experience on dedicated curling ice.



Team Australia Newbies - Roslyn Gallagher and Katherine Hayes

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David Hill - Skip of Team Alaska

PIC Bitters

Birthday Friday, April 21—Cloverdale
Lead Jaime Milward (age undisclosed so far)

Did you know? Arizona lead Megan Groh met her husband Kent at the Coyotes Curling Club, and he proposed to her on the ice!

Vancouver Curling Club Lead Kris Davis has a daughter named 'Brier'. Was 'Scottie' overruled?

Have you seen the crossword puzzles around the club? If not, you should look for them... if you can fill them out, you may win a prize (random draw from all the completed entries).

Alaska Skip "sticking" with the Game

Alaska Skip David Hill is the only player in the field who throws using a stick. And he's a left-handed stick thrower! Hill, from Anchorage, says he has played in the PIC eight times—starting with the PIC's inaugural season of 2000 (playing Third with a Fairbanks team). In those days Hill was a conventional thrower, and he was still sliding to throw rocks until 2009, when various injuries forced him to start using a stick. Currently Hill has bursitis in his ankles which makes it almost too painful to

play. "The great thing about the stick is that it keeps me in curling." Since going to the stick Hill has been on two silver medal teams (2012 and 2013). Hill says using the stick is challenging on hits, as all the weight has to be generated by arm extension. Draws seem to be Hill's strength, based on two wins in his first three games. If he keeps the hot streak going, you might see more curlers trying out the stick!

Meet the Teams

Cowichan Rocks (Vancouver Island South)

Skip Diane Myrden has thrown rocks from coast to coast since she was 11 growing up in Corner Brook, NL. This is her 4th time at the PIC. In 2014, Team Myrden won the BC championship at the PIC.

Third Kari McKinlay has been curling for close to 25 years at Cowichan Rocks Curling Club. This is also her 4th time qualifying for the PIC, and she was also on the 2014 team that represented BC in Halifax. Some of Kari's other interests include golfing, skiing, softball, and going to 'Karaoke'.

Second Lynn Post is the proud mother of 2 boys, Jacob and Lucas, and also enjoys slo-pitch softball, fitness training, camping and spending as much time as she can at the beach on Cowichan Lake.

Lead Dana Neuffer is a first year curler! The PIC will be her 3rd tournament ever! She is the mother of an 8 year old daughter and a 5 year old son. Slo-pitch, fishing, and camping are just a few things you will find her doing in her free time.

All four players wanted us to mention that they love long walks on the beach. Consider it done.

Washington Women – Granite Curling Club of Seattle

Skip Miyo Konno started curling at the age of 41 and made her first appearance at the PIC as the lead for Team Washington, in 2005. She works as a graphic artist for Schawk in Redmond, WA.

Third April Gale-Seixeiro started curling at age 12 in her hometown of Thunder Bay, Ontario. She has been a member of Granite Curling Club since 1997, including President from 2013 through 2016. April recently retired from a 20 year career in benefit pension administration.

Second Nikki Lorvick is a high school senior, and next year will be attending the University of Idaho, where she plans to study civil engineering and environmental science. She has been curling at Granite Curling Club for seven years. In her free time she likes to be outdoors hiking or camping.

Lead Aryn Grause has been curling for 3 years. Prior to curling, Aryn was a collegiate softball player for the University of Puget Sound. Outside of athletics, Aryn is a software engineer and an avid crafter/sewer.

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