



# News from the Pacific International Cup

**Richmond Curling Club  
April 16-20, 2008**

## 9th Annual PIC to host great curling competition

The Pacific International Cup (PIC) is set to kick off on Wednesday, April 15 at the Richmond Curling Club, with 36 men's and women's teams from across BC, the US and as far afield as Australia ready for some tough competition.

"There is no other event that has as its core value the promotion of grass roots club curling at such a high international level," said Jim Schuman, volunteer chairman of the PIC since its inception in 2000.

Australia's Matt Panoussi is back for his third year competing, along with North American teams from as far south as California and Texas, and as far east as Wisconsin. BC will be represented by teams from all over the province, repre-

senting the Kootenays, North, Okanagan, Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland on both the women's and men's sides.

The PIC was initiated to provide club curlers with a significant competition that enabled them to get exposure to an international-calibre event. Operating since 2000, the event has been officially recognized this year by the World Curling Federation. Fans are invited to watch any of the draws, free of charge, and join in on the social aspects as well.

"Anyone who attends will see world class curling on the ice... and how despite the competition and desire to win, sportsmanship, fair play and fellowship really is dominant on and off the ice

between teams," Jim said. who have only the game in common and live thousands of miles apart and will probably never see one another again.

In addition to draws each morning, afternoon and evening, there will be a variety of fun social events on Friday and Saturday evenings, including a casino, silent auction and the legendary hospitality of the Richmond Curling Club lounge. Fans are welcome to come and join in the fun and watch some great curling all weekend.

For more information, go to [www.picup.ca](http://www.picup.ca)

## Aussie reps look forward to honing skills

What started as a joke may lead Paul Meissner and his friends to the Olympic Games.

Many Australians first saw the game of curling through coverage of the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, with commentators and comedians alike poking fun at a sport that was very foreign in a land of surfers and swimmers.

"We barely have any ice rinks in Australia, much less

something specialized like a curling facility. We had a chance to try out a learn-to-play session, so I told the guys we should give it a shot and have a laugh," Paul said.

They quickly discovered that it was harder than it looked, and that the combination of physical control with strategy and mental focus was addictive.

"We were hooked," said lead Vaughan Rosier.

This is the third year that Paul, Vaughan and teammate Matt Panoussi will be competing in the Pacific International Cup (PIC), where they get more game experience in one week than they typically get in Australia in an entire season.

"We love this event because we get lots of playing time and the people are all just so welcoming and friendly," Vaughan added.

*(continued on page 2)*

## PIC Draw Schedule

Wednesday, April 16

Draw #1 5:00 p.m.

Draw #2 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17

Draw #3 7:00 a.m.

Draw #4 9:30 a.m.

Draw #5 1:30 p.m.

Draw #6 4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18

Draw #7 7:00 a.m.

Draw #8 9:30 a.m.

Draw #9 1:00 p.m.

Draw #10 3:30 p.m.

Draw #11 7:00 p.m.

Draw #12 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 19

Draw #13 7:00 a.m.

Draw #14 9:30 a.m.

Draw #15 1:00 p.m.

Draw #16 3:30 p.m.

Social Fun Night 9 p.m. -??

Sunday, April 20

Semi-finals 10:00 a.m.

Finals 1:00 p.m.

**Go to [www.picup.ca](http://www.picup.ca) for the full draw for each team**

**All fans are welcome to watch any of the games!  
Join us at Richmond Curling Club, April 16-20**

***"It's marvelous to see the enthusiasm of these players as they participate in what to them is an equivalent to the Briar or Scotties."***

**Jim Schman,  
PIC Chairman**

## Australians (cont'd)

The team's goal for the week is to at least double the three wins they secured at last year's PIC. The long term goal? The Olympic Games. While they acknowledge that 2010 is a long shot for a team that's only been playing for five years, their sights are firmly set on 2014 in Sochi.

"The key will be getting good quality ice time, that's our biggest challenge," Paul said.



Photo: Yadranka Thompson

*Come watch Paul, Vaughan and Matt on Thursday at 4 pm and Friday at 7 pm. Go to [www.picup.ca](http://www.picup.ca) for full draw info.*

## PIC Promises Great Curling and Good Fun for Fans

What other event promises the Queen, curling and a casino all in one weekend?

And that's just for starters!

While the Pacific International Cup is an opportunity for fans to see some great curling, it's also a fun opportunity to finish up the season with some great social events.

Friday night there will be draws on the ice throughout the evening, with the lounge open and plenty of

fun and informal socializing.

Then, on Saturday evening there will be a play money casino, silent auction, prizes and much more to contribute to a fun evening. There are rumours that "the Queen" will also make a surprise appearance!

And of course, the Richmond Curling Club lounge will be open and providing its usual excellent hospitality to curlers and fans alike. The café will also be open for breakfast lunch and din-

ner every day.

For more info on draw times and event details, go to [www.picup.ca](http://www.picup.ca) or call the club.



Photo: Yadranka Thompson

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