WINTER WORLD MASTERS GAMES • FINLAND 2028

Curling · Winter World Masters Games 2028

INVITATION TO COMPETE AND SPORTS INFORMATION

Pajulahti, Lahti · 16–22 January 2028 · October 2026, v.1.1

1. Welcome to Lahti

The Winter World Masters Games 2028 bring 14 winter sports to Lahti, Heinola and Levi on 14–23 January 2028. Curling is played at the Pajulahti Olympic and Paralympic Training Center in eastern Lahti on 16–22 January.

Two events, five sheets, one week. Mixed Team 35+ for up to 24 teams and Mixed Doubles 50+ for up to 12 pairs, played under the World Curling rules.

Groups of six, five round-robin games for every team, then play-offs and medal games.

Masters compete for themselves. There are no national delegations, quotas and teams with players from several nations are welcome.

Nothing stops us.

2. Organisers

Role	Organisation
Event owner	World Masters Sports (WMS)
Organising committee	Salppuri Oy, Lahti
Competition organiser	Salppuri Oy / Kolme kampusta, in co-operation with Curling Finland
Rules	World Curling Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition, played with the permission of Curling Finland
Chief of Competition	Lauri Ikävalko

Technical Delegate	Keith Wendorf
Contact	nothingstopsus@masters2028.com, subject "Curling"

3. Venue

Venue	Details
Pajulahti Olympic & Paralympic Training Center, Lahti	Five sheets of curling ice in the ice arena. Games, official practice, Team Captains' Meeting and medal ceremonies.

- Pajulahti is 20 kilometres east of Lahti. Accredited participants travel on local transport at a special reduced rate, and a paid shuttle runs between Lahti and Pajulahti. Timetables and prices are published in 2027.
- Curling stones are provided by the organiser. Bring your own brooms and shoes. Brush heads must be World Curling approved.
- Helsinki Airport to Lahti: about 100 km, one hour by train or car. From downtown Lahti to Pajulahti, 20 minutes by car.

4. Who can enter

- Mixed Team: you are 35 or older on 30 June 2027.
- Mixed Doubles: you are 50 or older on 30 June 2027,
- Entry is open. No club or federation membership is required. We ask for your club and your national curling association in the registration.
- The Games are for amateurs. You cannot enter if you played in the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, in the World Men's, World Women's or World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship in the 2025–26 or 2026–27 season, or were in a winning team at the men's or women's World Qualification Event for the 2027 World Championships.
- Players from the World Senior and World Mixed Curling Championships are welcome.
- One curling event per player. The two events are played at the same time, so you enter either Mixed Team or Mixed Doubles.
- You have your own accident, health and liability insurance, including repatriation, valid in Finland for training and competition. The organiser takes out no insurance for participants.
- You compete at your own risk and you are responsible for your own fitness to compete. No medical certificate is needed; you confirm your health in the registration.

- Masters compete for themselves. There are no national delegations.
- Participants holding Russian or Belarusian citizenship may attend the Winter World Masters Games 2028 only if they also hold citizenship of another country or are permanent residents of a country other than Russia or Belarus, and they participate individually without using or displaying any Russian or Belarusian flags, symbols, names, abbreviations, colour combinations, anthems, or other national identifiers. This decision has been made by the Local Organising Committee and follows the policies of the Finnish Government and Finnish sports organisations. If the political situation changes, LOC is able to re-consider the decision any time.

5. The events

	Mixed Team 35+	**Mixed Doubles 50+**
Team	Four players, two women and two men. The line-up alternates between women and men. One alternate allowed.	One woman and one man. No alternate.
Field	24 teams	12 pairs
Game	8 ends, World Curling Mixed rules	8 ends, World Curling Mixed Doubles rules
Tie after 8 ends	Extra end	Extra end
Medals	Gold, silver and bronze, one set	Gold, silver and bronze, one set

There are no age classes within an event. Each event has one medal set.

6. Competition format

Mixed Team 35+.

Four groups of six teams. Single round robin in the group, five games per team. The top three in each group qualify for the play-offs, 12 teams in total. Group winners go straight to the quarter-finals. Second and third play a qualification game, and the winners meet the group winners: A1 v D2/B3, B1 v C2/A3, C1 v B2/D3, D1 v A2/C3. Then semi-finals, bronze medal game and gold medal game.

Mixed Doubles 50+.

Two groups of six pairs. Single round robin in the group, five games per pair. The top three in each group qualify for the play-offs, 6 pairs in total. Group winners go straight to the semi-finals. Second and third play a qualification game, and the winners meet the group winners: A1 v B2/A3, B1 v A2/B3. Then the bronze medal game and gold medal game.

Ranking.

A win counts one point, a loss zero. Tied teams are separated by the result between them, then by the record among the tied teams, then by the Draw Shot Challenge (DSC), the average distance of a team's Last Stone Draws in the round robin.

Last stone.

The choice of last stone in the first end is decided by the Last Stone Draw (LSD) in the round robin and by the round-robin ranking in the play-offs. The LSD procedure is presented at the Team Captains' Meeting.

Hog line.

Electronic handles are not in use. Release the stone clearly before the hog line.

Draw.

The groups and the draw are published on masters2028.com in December 2027.

7. Preliminary Programme

Day	Curling	Also on
Friday 14 January		Opening Ceremony, Lahti · accreditation and Masters Hub open at the Games Centre in Lahti Sports Center
Sunday 16 January	Official practice · Mixed Team and Mixed Doubles round robin begin · Team Captains' Meeting	
Monday 17 January	Mixed Team round robin · Mixed Doubles round robin	
Tuesday 18 January	Mixed Team round robin · Mixed Doubles round robin	
Wednesday 19 January	Mixed Team round robin · Mixed Doubles round robin	

Thursday 20 January	Mixed Team round robin ends · Mixed Doubles round robin ends
Friday 21 January	Mixed Team qualification games and quarter-finals · Mixed Doubles qualification games
Saturday 22 January	Mixed Team and Mixed Doubles semi-finals, medal games and medal ceremonies
Sunday 23 January	Farewell Party, Lahti (Lahti Sports Center)

Round-robin games start at 09:00, 12:30, 16:00 and 19:30, on Sunday 16 January at 15:00 and 18:00. Play-off games on 21 and 22 January start at 09:00 and 14:00. Times are considered initial, until the registration ends.

Your own game times are in the draw that is published later. Changes for organisational or safety reasons are announced at the Team Captains' Meeting and on masters2028.com.

Official practice on Sunday 16 January: 25 minutes of official practice on the sheet of the team's first game, included in your entry. Practice slots are published with the draw.

9. Team Captains' Meeting

The Team Captains' Meeting is held at Pajulahti on Sunday 16 January: Mixed Team at 11:10, Mixed Doubles at 14:10. One representative per team must attend, with a maximum of two per team attending. The Chief of Competition and the Technical Delegate present the competition, the umpires, the LSD procedure, ice access and the line-up form, which every team returns at the end of the meeting.

10. Rules

- The games follow the World Curling Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition, current edition, unless amended in this invitation. Every player is responsible for knowing the rules before the first game.
- Decisions on the ice are made by the umpires. The Chief Umpire's decision is final. There is no protest fee.
- Game clocks are not used. Slow play can be monitored by the umpires, giving warnings if necessary to keep the required playing pace.

- Stones are provided by the organiser. Own brooms with World Curling approved brush heads and clean curling shoes are required.
- Uniform team clothing is recommended, not required.
- Anti-doping: the WMS anti-doping rules and the WADA Code apply.

11. Entry and fees

- Registration opens on 2 November 2026 at masters2028.com. The first week is reserved for pre-registered athletes. Each player registers and pays personally online.
- Curling: 225 € per player, VAT 13.5 % included. The game entry covers up to three sports; curling counts as one. An alternate registers and pays like every other player.
- In the Curling form you choose your event, Mixed Team or Mixed Doubles, and give your team name, your skip, your club and your national curling association. A team is complete when all its players have registered and paid.
- Places are allocated to complete teams in the order they are completed: 24 Mixed Teams and 12 Mixed Doubles pairs. Later teams go on a waiting list.
- Curling entries close on 30 November 2027, or earlier when the field is full. Late fee +50 € from 1 October 2027.
- Changes to your team line-up are free until 30 November 2027, then 25 € per change. A new player pays their own entry.

12. Cancellation

When you cancel	Refund
Until 30 June 2027	Full refund minus 50 € admin fee
1 July – 30 November 2027	50 %
From 1 December 2027	No refund
With a doctor's certificate, any time	50 %

Entries cannot be transferred to another person. If the organiser cancels all your sports, 50 % is refunded. The general terms and conditions and the privacy policy on masters2028.com are part of this invitation.

13. Results and medals

Draws, line scores and results are on masters2028.com. The medals for both events are awarded at Pajulahti right after the medal games on Saturday 22 January. No flags, no national anthems: masters compete for themselves.

14. Accommodation and travel

Hotels and transport in Lahti are booked through masters2028.com. Local transport runs at a special reduced rate with your accreditation, and a paid shuttle connects Lahti and Pajulahti. Details in 2027 at masters2028.com

15. Coaches and companions

Access to the field of play and the team areas requires accreditation. Coaches register as accompanying persons on masters2028.com. Registration for accompanying persons opens in 2027.

16. Contact

nothingstopsus@masters2028.com · subject "Curling" · masters2028.com

Attachments: World Curling Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition.

Changes for organisational or safety reasons are possible.

The version date for this document is 8 November 2026.

NOTHING STOPS US.
WE ARE MASTERS.