

WORLD CURLING FEDERATION (WCF)

EVENTS

- Men's Tournament
- Women's Tournament

ATHLETES / NOC QUOTA

ATHLETES QUOTA	100 athletes Men: 10 teams of 5 athletes Women: 10 teams of 5 athletes
NOC QUOTA	1 Men's team (5 athletes) 1 Women's team (5 athletes)

QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The World Curling Federation (WCF) will use the two World Curling Championships (WCC) leading up to the 2014 Olympic Winter Games as qualification tournaments; thus all member federations will have a chance to qualify for the 2014 Olympic Winter Games Curling Competition.

SYSTEM IN DETAIL

The participating National Federations (NFs) in the following WCCs will all be allocated points for their participation based on their performance according to the table below:

	2012	2013
Men	Basle, Switzerland	TBC, Canada
Women	Lethbridge, Canada	TBC

Olympic Qualification Points Table

Olympic Qualification Points will be awarded as from the 2012 World Curling Championships (WCCs) as follows:

No.1 (World Champion)	14 points
No.2	12 points
No.3	10 points
No.4	9 points
No.5	8 points
No.6	7 points
No.7	6 points
No.8	5 points
No.9	4 points
No.10	3 points
No.11	2 points
No.12	1 point

RANKING, TIED POSITIONS AND DISTRIBUTION OF OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION POINTS

The WCF rule C9 - Team Ranking Procedure will be used to rank teams at the WCCs and the appropriate qualification points will then be awarded to each team. The Rule is noted below:

C9. TEAM RANKING PROCEDURE

- (a) A team tied for a place in the play-offs is not eliminated in any way other than by losing an extra game.
- (b) In determining the member association(s) to be challenged/relegated, tie-breaker games shall be played, as necessary. No team in a challengeable position shall avoid being challenged other than by winning an extra game.
- (c) The following criteria (in order) will be used to rank the teams at the completion of the round robin:
 - (i) Teams will be ranked according to their win/loss record;
 - (ii) If two teams are tied, the team that won their round robin game will be ranked higher;
 - (iii) Where three or more teams are tied, the record of the games between the tied teams shall provide the ranking (should this procedure provide a ranking for some teams but not all, then the record of the games between the remaining teams that are still tied shall determine the ranking);
 - (iv) For all remaining teams whose ranking cannot be determined by (i) or (ii) or (iii), ranking is determined using the Draw Shot Challenge (DSC). The DSC is the average distance of the Last Stone Draws (LSD) which were played by a team during the round robin portion of a competition. The single least favorable LSD result is automatically eliminated before calculating this average distance. The team with the lesser DSC receives the higher ranking. If the DSCs are equal, then the team with the best non-equal LSD receives the higher ranking. In case all LSDs are equal, the team ranked higher in the WCF World Rankings is ranked higher.
 - (v) The final ranking of teams that lose in a tie-breaker will be determined as follows:
 - Teams that are eliminated in an earlier tie-breaker session are ranked lower.
 - Teams that lose in the same tie-breaker session are ranked according to the same criteria as (c) (ii), (iii) and (iv).

HOST NATION QUALIFICATION

Russia will also be allocated Olympic Qualification Points according to their ranking in the two qualifying WCCs. In the situation where Russia does not hold a position amongst the seven best after the 2013 WCC, it will automatically be qualified.

DIRECT QUALIFICATION AFTER THE 2013 WCCs

After the 2013 WCC, the 7 NFs/National Olympic Committees (NOCs) in each section (women and men's) with the most accumulated points over two years will be eligible to join Russia in the 2014 Olympic Winter Games Curling Competition. In the situation where Russia holds a position amongst the seven best after the 2013 WCC, NF/NOC ranked 8th will automatically be eligible.

ELIMINATION IN THE EVENT OF A TIED POSITION

If, after the 2013 WCC, there are more than 7 NFs/NOCs (in addition to Russia) eligible for the 2014 Olympic Curling Competition because of the equal number of accumulated points, the elimination will be conducted on the basis of the following criteria.

1. In the event that two or more NFs are tied so that an elimination of one or more of these teams is necessary, the NF with the latest WCC appearance will be the preferred NF.

For example, if two NFs are tied for the 7th place after the 2013 WCC, and one of the NFs participated in the 2013 WCC and the other NF did not, then the NF which played in the 2013 WCC will be preferred and the other NF will be eliminated.

2. In the event of a tied situation and Criteria No.1 is insufficient to eliminate the necessary number of NFs, the ranking between the teams in the 2013 WCC will be the deciding factor, or 2012 if that was the latest appearance of the NFs that are tied.
3. Should there be a situation where in fact neither Criteria No.1 nor Criteria No.2 can eliminate the necessary number of teams, the elimination will be done by a play off between the tied teams at a time and venue to be decided by the WCF. If the tied teams are involved in the 2013 WCC, the play off will take place there.

QUALIFICATION THROUGH AN “OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION EVENT” (OQE)

1. Any association that earned qualification points at the 2012 or 2013 WCC’s, or participated at the 2011 WCC’s, who do not qualify as host or as one of the top 7 associations on the points list described above may participate (at their own expense) in an ‘Olympic Qualification Event’ (OQE) run by the WCF by 16 December 2013.
2. The top two teams from the OQE will qualify for the 2014 Olympic Winter Games.
3. The deadline date for entry into the OQE is 1st June 2013.
4. The format of the OQE will depend on number of entries and will be designed by the WCF accordingly.

NATIONAL FEDERATION REPRESENTING GREAT BRITAIN

The three National Federations from Great Britain – England, Scotland and Wales are all eligible to participate in World Curling Championships if they qualify from the European qualifying competitions. However, by an agreement between the Curling Federations of Scotland, England and Wales, only Scotland will be allocated Olympic qualifying points for Great Britain in 2012 and 2013. If required, only Scotland, representing Great Britain, will be allowed to enter the OQE.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED PLACES

After the ranking has been finally decided at the end of the 2013 World Curling Championships, the WCF will inform eligible National Federations and their National Olympic Committees (NOCs).

The NOCs will then have until 30 June 2013 to inform WCF if they intend to register a curling team for the 2014 Olympic Curling Competition. If any eligible NOC declines to register, the place(s) will be filled from the OQE

QUALIFYING TIMELINE

2012	17-25 March	Women’s World Curling Championships, Lethbridge, Canada
	31 March – 8 April	Men’s World Curling Championships, Basle, Switzerland
2013	16-24 March (tbc)	Women’s World Curling Championships, venue tbc
	30 March -7 April (tbc)	Men’s World Curling Championships, Canada

30 April 2013	Confirmation by WCF to NFs and NOCs concerned regarding allocation of qualifying place 1 to 8.
31 May 2013	NOC confirm to WCF participation in the Olympic Winter Games
1 June 2013	Deadline for entry into the Olympic Qualification Event.
By 16 December 2013	“Olympic Qualification Event” (OQE) run by the WCF
December 2013	Unused allocation places filled from the OQE
27 January 2014	Deadlines for Sochi 2014 Organising Committee to receive entry FORMS submitted by the NOCs