



Presented by  
**MANITOBA LIQUOR & LOTTERIES**

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**CHAMPIONSHIPS: December 12-14, 2014 – Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club**

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## **MCT Announces Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries Partnership**

The Manitoba Curling Tour (MCT) is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached with Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries which will see the tour renamed the Manitoba Curling Tour presented by Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries for the 2014-15 season.

First established in the 1991-92 season, the Manitoba Curling Tour provides a coordinating function for the fall cash bonspiel season across Manitoba. The Tour will conclude with a December 12-14 championship event at Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club featuring 16 men's teams and 12 women's teams invited based on rankings points for the top five finishes by each team in cash bonspiels and CurlManitoba berth bonspiels.

The fall season opens September 25-28 with a Men's event and a Women's event at Winnipeg's Granite Curling Club. Subject to confirmation of event affiliation, the tour season continues with 13 more bonspiels hosted by Thistle (2) and Rossmere in Winnipeg as well as Swan River, Dauphin, Portage (2), Morris (2), LaSalle and East St Paul (3) in rural Manitoba. A bonspiel at Winnipeg's Deer Lodge club in January 2014 was actual start of the 2014 season. The event will go again in January 2015 as a kick-off to the next competitive season.

Plans for support of the individual tour bonspiels as well as for the championship event at Assiniboine Memorial are being finalized and will be announced in the near future.

"Curling is not only one of Manitoba's most popular winter sports, but our competitive edge is world class and places us on the podium," said Winston Hodgins, President & CEO of Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries. "We have sponsored some of the most notable curling championships in the country, with home grown talent leading the field. We are honoured to partner with the Manitoba Curling Tour to help all curlers in the province reach for new levels of success."

The bonspiels on the Manitoba Curling Tour presented by Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries provide an opportunity for Manitoba teams to qualify into the Men's Safeway Championship and Women's Scotties Tournament of Hearts presented by Monsanto. The champions at Assiniboine Memorial on December 14, if eligible, will earn provincial championship invitations. In addition, the four men's teams and two women's teams at the top of the rankings, after the championship, will earn provincial championship invitations.

"We look forward to working with Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries," says Tour Coordinator Resby Coutts. "The new partnership enhances Manitoba curling's competitive season at the same time as it provides support for Manitoba curling clubs in their effort to provide competitive opportunities as well as great curling entertainment for curlers and curling fans."

The first bonspiel of the fall season is the new Mother Club Fall Classic, September 25-28 at the Granite CC, Winnipeg. The complete bonspiel schedule and other information about the Manitoba Curling tour presented by Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries is available at [www.mancurltour.ca](http://www.mancurltour.ca).

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