

DAWSON CREEK CURLING CLUB

2017 Alberta Senior Mens & Womens Curling Championships

PRESS RELEASE

February 19, 2017

Edmonton's White and King crowned 2017 Champions

The Dawson Creek Curling Club hosted the 2017 Alberta Senior Mens and Womens Curling Championship from February 15th – 19th. Two former winners, both representing the Saville Community Sports Centre in Edmonton were crowned as the 2017 Alberta champions on Sunday afternoon.

Eight each of the Alberta Curling Federation's best Mens and Womens senior (50+) teams started the event - the full round robin draw Saturday morning; final standings are below.

The champions will represent Alberta at the Canadian Senior Curling Championship in Fredericton, NB, March 20-25, 2017.

Senior Men's Report:

The final pitted undefeated Kurt Balderston and his Grande Prairie team of Terry Meek, Rob Bucholz and Del Shaughnessy against semi-final winner Wade White and his foursome from Edmonton. White had earlier Sunday beaten Calgary's Scott Egger in the semi-final with a last rock steal.

The final was a low scoring and close game with White earning a pivotal deuce in the 6th end to go up 2-1. Balderston tied the game in the 7th setting the stage for a dramatic finish. Without the hammer coming home, Balderston was left with a tough tap back and roll to the button which would have forced White into an almost impossible raise or perfect draw to the pin. Unfortunately for Balderston and his many Peace Country fans in attendance, he was slightly heavy and didn't curl enough leaving White the victory without having to throw the brick.

For Wade White and his team of Barry Chwedoruk, Dan Holowaychuk and George White, this was their second senior mens provincial title in the last five years. They reeled off five straight wins after splitting their first four games this week. This was eerily reminiscent of their Northern Alberta playdown; where they lost their first two games of a triple knockout, and were 4 points down in their third before they rallied to win 5 straight games and a berth to provincials.

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Final Round-Robin Standings:

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
1. Kurt Balderston (Grande Prairie, AB)	7	0
2. Wade White (Edmonton, AB)	5	2
3. David Olsen (Edmonton, AB)	4	3
4. Scott Egger (Calgary, AB)	4	3
5. Glen Hansen (Edmonton, AB)	3	4
6. Don Delair (Airdrie, AB)	2	5
7. Darrel Veiner (Dawson Creek, BC)	2	5
8. Wayne Heikkinen (Calgary, AB)	1	6

Senior Women's Report:

Defending Alberta champion and 2012 World Senior Ladies champion Cathy King and her Edmonton/Calgary team of Glenys Bakker, Lesley McEwan and Shannon Nimmo outscored 2015 Champion Terri Loblaw and her teammates Judy Pendergast, Sandy Bell and Cheryl Hall, from North Hill/Medicine Hat, by a final 5-2 score to secure yet another provincial title. King jumped out to an early 3-0 lead after three ends, and then secured a critical deuce in the 6th end to take full command of this contest.

For King and her full squad, it's now a chance to improve on their bronze medal finish at last season's nationals, and another chance to wear the coveted maple leaf.

Final Round-Robin Standings:

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
1. Cathy King (Edmonton, AB)	6	1
2. Terri Loblaw (North Hill/Medicine Hat, AB)	4	3
3. Michelle Ewanchuk (Calgary, AB)	4	3
4. Heather Caseley (Red Deer, AB)	3	4
5. Janet Plante (Grande Prairie, AB)	3	4
6. Marlene Maxwell (Dawson Creek, BC)	3	4
7. Amanda McMahon (Edmonton, AB)	3	4
8. Deb Santos (St Albert, AB)	2	5

For the Dawson Creek Curling Club, it was a perfect opportunity to showcase our facility, and our capacity to host championship curling. Rave reviews flattered organizers, ice-makers, and the entire event from start to finish.

For any questions or comments please contact:
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