



NOVEMBER 8-24, 2019

# THE STORY OF THE CANAM CUP



RICH LEPPING

**At the 2017 Men’s World Curling Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada, Rich Lepping and Peter Inch met for the first time.**



PETER INCH

**Lepping, the chairman of the United States Curling Association, and Inch, the chairman of Curling Canada, warmly greeted each other. Over the next few days, they charted a path that led to the creation of the CANAM Cup of Curling. With agreement from each group’s board of directors, the cup was born.**

**The CANAM Cup is designed to foster fellowship and tradition between American and Canadian curlers. The tour will alternate between countries every five years, with Canada acting as the first host.**

*“And we must share with our two countries our love of the game, fellowship and traditions.”*

— RICH LEPPING

In November of 2019, the United States team—led by Captain Steve McKee—will take to the Maritime Provinces of Canada and, for almost three weeks, play for the Lepping-Inch Trophy. Also known as the Chairman’s Cup, the trophy was donated by the chairmen of the respective curling associations. The trophy is an antique George V English sterling silver presentation bowl dating from 1919. Valued at \$10,000 US, it will travel between the two countries and be engraved with the winning team’s name and country.



“The sport has given us much,” said Lepping in proposing the tour. “And we must share with our two countries our love of the game, fellowship and traditions.”

Inch agreed. “The men of our two nations have seen keen competition over the years,” he said. “But wouldn’t it be nice to see our beautiful countries along the way?”

Games between American and Canadian curlers have always been fierce, with stories of victories and losses handed down over the years. Now we launch an exciting new chapter of the saga, with the inaugural CANAM Cup of Curling.

# TEAM GAMBOA



SKIP

**MATT GAMBOA**  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
HOLLYWOOD CURLING CLUB

Growing up in Los Angeles, Matt never dreamed of being a curler. Even after watching the Olympics in 2002 and 2006, he didn't really consider the sport, until a friend invited him to a learn-to-curl event at a fledgling club—and the rest, as they say, is history.

As a founding board member of the Hollywood Curling Club, Matt has worked relentlessly to grow curling throughout California. Acting at various points as HCC's vice president, secretary, and at-large director, he has spearheaded initiatives to grow the sport, including pop-up curling, street curling, and School of Rocks. He is always involved in the club's successful Summer Blockbuster Bonspiel.

Matt was also director of the United States Curling Association's diversity and inclusion committee, ad hoc membership committee, and grow-the-sport committee. Working with the latter group, he helped launch the 5-and-Under National Championships in 2019.

Matt is a practicing city planner for the City of Los Angeles, having earned his master's degree in planning and real estate development from the University of Glasgow in Scotland (where he found time to both curl and teach lessons). He currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Jen, and two rescue dogs, Ailsa and Nola.



VICE

**CHARLIE MARING**  
MIDDLETON, WISCONSIN  
MADISON CURLING CLUB

Charlie grew up watching his parents curl at the Appleton Curling Club in central Wisconsin. After doing a little curling in college, Charlie took a long hiatus from the sport, rejoining the rinks 12 years ago in Madison. He currently serves on the board at MCC, where he is also an active volunteer at bonspiels and club events. (The oatmeal pancakes he whipped up for one bonspiel breakfast were a huge hit.)

Charlie has dabbled in competitive club events throughout the Midwest and especially enjoys participating in bonspiels. But then, who doesn't?

"I'm confident this tour will be the pinnacle of my curling career, bringing out the best camaraderie and sweep calls," says Charlie. And because his wife, Therese, has been force-feeding him folk music of the Maritime Provinces and the Canadian National Anthem, he feels especially prepared for this goodwill tour. When he's not curling, Charlie works in the print industry.



SECOND

**ROGER ROWLETT**  
HAMILTON, NEW YORK  
UTICA CURLING CLUB

Roger is a 16-year member of the Utica Curling Club, where he has served as president, webmaster, head of adult instruction, co-chair of college curling, Grand National Curling Club representative (2006-2017) and member of USA Curling's College Curling Committee. He and his wife, Mary Jane Walsh, share instructional duties for UCC's adult and college curlers. They also enjoy mixed curling and mixed doubles competitions together.

Outside of curling, Roger has served as president and member of the executive board of the National Council on Undergraduate Research, a nonprofit higher education advocacy organization. He recently retired from Colgate University as the Gordon and Dorothy Kline Professor of Chemistry, where he spent 36 years teaching and directing a biophysical chemistry research laboratory investigating the structure and function of enzymes.

Roger's other interests include photography, flying (he is an instrument-rated pilot and owns a single-engine Grumman Traveler), hiking, and kayaking.

"I am looking forward to some friendly competition and to making new curling friends north of the border," says Roger of the 2019 CANAM tour.



LEAD

**J.D. WISE**  
TELLURIDE, COLORADO  
TELLURIDE CURLING CLUB

J.D. began his curling career in 2010 with the Coyotes Curling Club in Tempe, Arizona. In fact, fellow tour member Darryl Horsman was one of J.D.'s first skips and taught him the fundamentals of the sport, as well as the finer aspects of broomstacking.

J.D. currently resides in Telluride, Colorado, a ski town nestled at an elevation of 8,750 feet in the heart of the San Juan Mountains. In 2015, he and his wife, Megan, founded the Telluride Curling Club, a four-sheet arena club that has seen great enthusiasm and growth. In addition to serving as the club's president, he teaches learn-to-curl clinics as a USCA Level 1 Instructor, represents TCC in the Mid-America Curling Association, and previously served on the USCA ad-hoc membership committee. Outside of curling, he enjoys spending as much time as possible outdoors, skiing, hiking, camping, fly fishing, and finding adventures with Megan and their dog, Sedona.

Says J.D., "I'm looking forward to embracing the full experience of the tour—forging lasting friendships with fellow tour members and Canadian counterparts, throwing lots of stones on keen ice, and enjoying all that Eastern Canada has to offer."

# TEAM GODAR



SKIP



VICE



SECOND



LEAD

## TOM GODAR

**OCONOMOWOC, WISCONSIN  
KETTLE MORAINÉ CURLING CLUB**

Although Tom grew up in a curling family, he never curled as a youth. He waited until he'd married his wife, Cindy, and began his legal career; then he joined the Milwaukee Curling Club around 1985. Both Tom and Cindy fell in love with the sport and its people—making friends with every win (there were a few) and loss (there were plenty)—and with the traditional beverage after the game.

Tom has inflicted himself on a series of Wisconsin clubs. After Milwaukee, he had a 20-year stint at the Madison Curling Club. He is currently a member and on the board of the Kettle Moraine Curling Club, just west of Milwaukee. In the summer, Tom might be seen with Cindy on their pontoon boat or antique Chris-Craft, wine in hand, enjoying Wisconsin's wonderful lakes—and occasionally behind a ski boat, stirring memories of youth.

The CANAM tour has Tom very excited about November. "I look forward to making new friends on both sides of the border and to hoisting a few in the evenings," he says. "Throwing rocks seems a small price of admission for this grand holiday. Good curling!"

## DOUG OWENS

**WESTON, MISSOURI  
KANSAS CITY CURLING CLUB**

Doug and his wife, Rebekah, joined the Kansas City Curling Club in 2010 after watching the Vancouver Winter Olympics on TV. He is currently the club's vice president, head ice and equipment technician, and a board member.

Doug played on the Kansas City men's teams for the United States Arena Nationals in 2016 and 2018. During 2017 Arena Nationals, he assisted the USCA's head arena icemaker, Kevin Madsen. During the Olympic Trials and Curling World Cup in 2018, Doug assisted the ice crew for USCA's head icemaker, Dave Staveteig.

"For me, the CANAM tour is an opportunity to learn how other clubs work, develop, and grow the sport," says Doug. "I'm looking forward to seeing the similarities and differences between all the clubs on the tour, to meeting other players, and to visiting places I never thought I would see in my lifetime."

When Doug isn't curling, he and Rebekah keep busy with their eight-year-old daughter and five-year-old son. Doug works as a mechanical design engineer for Schenck Process LLC. His hobbies include woodworking, running, and volunteering as a sound technician for First Baptist Church in Platte City, Missouri.

## MARK KRETZMANN

**POYNETTE, WISCONSIN  
POYNETTE CURLING CLUB**

Columbia County, Wisconsin, is home to five small curling clubs, so it may be inevitable that Mark took up the sport. He has been curling for 25 years; in addition to competing at the two-sheet club in Poynette, Mark coordinates two countywide leagues and the year-end county championship. He is also vice president of the United States Senior Men's Curling Association.

For nearly 40 years, Mark wrote a business column for a Japanese government publication and was a part-time contract interpreter for the U.S. State Department. Now retired, Mark and his wife, Sumiko, have two grown children living in California.

"They all wish they could join me in this wonderful opportunity to curl in Canada, see the beautiful Maritime Provinces, and meet some of the kind people there," says Mark.

## ADAM KAPP

**SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND  
POTOMAC CURLING CLUB**

Adam's curling adventures began in Oakland, California, during the 2010 Winter Olympics, when he joined the San Francisco Bay Area Curling Club. The sport has since taken him across the country, to Canada, and Iceland.

Adam is a member of the Potomac Curling Club in Laurel, Maryland, where he is currently president and a member of the board of directors. He is also a co-coordinator of the Mid-Atlantic Curling Association, a loose confederation of curling clubs with dedicated facilities in the Mid-Atlantic area.

Originally from West Chester, Pennsylvania, Adam works as a digital project manager at a non-profit organization.

*"For me, the CANAM tour is an opportunity to learn how other clubs work, develop, and grow the sport"*

— DOUG OWENS

# TEAM HORSMAN



SKIP



VICE



SECOND



LEAD

## DARRYL HORSMAN

AVONDALE, ARIZONA  
COYOTES CURLING CLUB

Darryl's 40-year curling career includes achievements such as competing in Curl Canada, Manitoba Juniors, the Pacific International Cup, Club Nationals, and International Tankard. He was Mountain Pacific Region Champion 2007, 2008, 2012; 2015 USCA Volunteer of the Year; a 2016 US Challenge Round Participant, and 2017 USCA Nationals Team Coach. He is currently a Level 3 USCA Instructor.

Darryl was part of the crew that launched the Coyotes Curling Club in Tempe, Arizona. His off-ice hobbies include golfing, hiking, and traveling. He claims his secret identity is as program manager for U-Haul International. (Not so secret anymore, Darryl.)

## JOHN KRAM

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA  
CAPITOL CURLING CLUB

John started curling at age 13, when he realized he was too clumsy for basketball, he claims. Born and raised in North Dakota, he is still at the sport 51 years later. John has been president of more than one club and at the state association level.

At each club he joined, John became involved in icemaking. Eventually he took his skills to the next level: he has volunteered for many years as Level 2 icemaker for the United States Curling Association, working at dozens of national-level and even a few world-level competitions.

John and his wife, Colleen, have two daughters, Jayne and Jessica, and five grandchildren. Curling is his passion, but he also finds time to hunt, fish, bowl, and go to work. John farmed for many years, then worked as an emergency medical technician and security guard. For the past 13 years he has worked for a landscape company.

"I am truly honored to be selected for the inaugural CANAM friendship tour," says John. "It will not only give me the opportunity to see new clubs, but to add to the hundreds of friendships I have gained through curling from all over the world."

## STEVE MCKEE

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLOTTE CURLING ASSOCIATION

Steve has been a curler since 2010 and the president of Charlotte Curling Association for the past five years. One of his major accomplishments is helping guide the organizations' move to dedicated ice in record-breaking time. He also helped the club grow from 40 members to over 300.

Steve and his wife own a disaster-restoration business with 30 employees, assisting people in recovering from events like fires and floods. The couple has two grown children, Lindsey and David. Steve also helps his wife with her travel business, McKee Travel, which specializes in group travel and retirement travel planning; they travel extensively around the globe.

## MIGUEL "MIGGY" GUTIERREZ

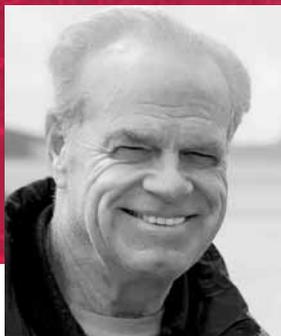
NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
BROOKLYN LAKESIDE CURLING CLUB

"Miggy" started curling with the Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) Curling Club, as a founding member of the curling team at Villanova University. After graduation, he carried on with the sport, playing with the Hollywood Curling Club while he lived in Los Angeles.

After moving back to the East Coast, Miggy became a member of the Brooklyn Lakeside Curling Club, where he is an instructor. He is also the club's current representative to the Grand National Curling Club, a union of curling clubs in New England and the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. Miggy works as the director of customer success for the sports technology firm Playbook Sports.

Of the CANAM tour, Miggy says, "I look forward to building on my experience with my first international curling exposure and to making new friends along the way."

# TEAM O'CONNOR



SKIP

## STEVEN O'CONNOR

MADISON, WISCONSIN  
MADISON CURLING CLUB

Steven began curling when he was 12 years old, playing with his father at Portage Curling Club in Wisconsin. He continued to curl throughout high school and college. After college he married his wife, Mamie, served in the United States Air Force, and began their family, raising three boys and a girl. He is a retired Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Steven and Mamie have been members of the Madison Curling Club since 1983. Steven served on the club's board of directors for six years and was president for two terms. He has been very active in senior curling in Wisconsin and is currently chairman of the Wisconsin Illinois Senior Curling Association.

"As secretary of the CANAM Cup of Curling, 2019 Eastern Canada Tour, my hope is to create lasting relationships and friendships among my tour teammates, as well as our Canadian opponents," says Steven. "And to enjoy some great curling competitions and camaraderie."



VICE

## SEAN STEVINSON

ARVADA, COLORADO  
DENVER CURLING CLUB

Sean began curling in 2006 with the Broadmoor Curling Club in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Forced to travel to find dedicated ice, Sean discovered a love for travel and competition, which curling has graciously supplied. Now a member of the Denver Curling Club, Sean has participated in multiple Pacific International Cups and US Club National Championships. He won a silver medal at the Finnish Bonspiel in Hyvinkaa, Finland, one of his favorite curling trips to date.

Sean has served as a board member and vice president of the Denver Curling Club, is an instructor for the DCC's junior program, and is awaiting final requirements for coaching certification. He curls with his wife, Mimi, once a week, and his 12- and 8-year-old stepdaughters are regular presences in the warm room.

"I am excited for this year's CANAM Cup tour," says Sean. "I'm really looking forward to forging new friendships from club to club, and I'm excited to experience parts of Canada I have yet to explore."



SECOND

## MARK TOLVSTAD

MELLETTTE, SOUTH DAKOTA  
ABERDEEN CURLING CLUB

Mark is a semi-retired farmer who started curling in 2014, during the inaugural year of the Aberdeen Curling Club. While relatively new to the sport, Mark is no stranger to hard work: he is currently president of the ACC and the vice president of the Dakota Territory Curling Association. He has been a club board member for five years, is a Level 2 Instructor, and a Level 2 Official. He is also a member of the Granite Society.

Mark and his wife, Mary, have three daughters, one son, and 10 grandchildren. Hobbies other than curling include riding motorcycles and building handcrafted Crokinole boards.

"I feel very fortunate to be part of this CANAM tour," says Mark. "As always, I'm sure we will have a great time with our fellow curlers to the north. I'm looking forward to friendship, fellowship, fun and lasting memories. Good curling!"



LEAD

## DIXON FREEMAN

ROME, GEORGIA  
ATLANTA CURLING CLUB

There was no curling in the state of Georgia (horrors!) until Dixon helped found the Atlanta Curling Club in 2010, just after the Vancouver Olympics. Dixon is a lifetime member of the ACC and has served in a variety of capacities; he has long carried the unofficial title of club ambassador.

Dixon grew up in the Atlanta area and has lived 75 miles northwest of the city for 17 years. Prior to that, he was an officer in the United States Air Force. Dixon is currently an ob/gyn physician and a professor. He has been married to his wife, Cathy, for nearly 29 years and has three children, the youngest of which just started college.

"I am thrilled to be a part of the CANAM Cup of Curling," says Dixon. "I hope to foster even stronger bonds between U.S. and Canadian curlers. While I love the competition, for me the best part of curling has always been the people and the sense of community."

*"The best part of curling has always been the people and the sense of community."*

— DIXON FREEMAN

# TEAM PACKARD



SKIP

## JAY PACKARD

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN  
MILWAUKEE CURLING CLUB

Jay is a fifth-generation curler and competes at the oldest curling club in the United States: the Milwaukee Curling Club. The sport is definitely staying in the Packard family; Jay met his wife, Lynn, at a bonspiel, and they now curl regularly with their sons Colin (age 17) and Campbell (age 14).

Jay has been icemaker at Milwaukee Curling Club since 1997. Since 2012 the club has been a five-sheet facility. Jay served as icemaker and event chair at the inaugural U18 National Championships in March 2017.

"I annually chair our Milwaukee Men's Bonspiel and lose in the club finals," says Jay.

"My hopes for this tour are to hone my out-turn, lots of Tim Hortons, and to spend two weeks seeing a corner of the world and developing lifelong friends."

Jay owns DeerShield LLC, a company he started in 1995 after inventing a method to keep deer from destroying landscaping. He enjoys audible books, downhill skiing, hosting parties and the numbers.



VICE

## SCOTT REICH

MADISON, WISCONSIN  
MADISON CURLING CLUB

Scott has 28 years of curling experience and has competed at the Madison Curling Club since 1991. He lives with his wife, Cary, on 40 acres just north of Madison. Scott worked for nearly 30 years as a pathologist at Meriter Hospital and the University of Wisconsin, both in Madison, where he specialized in surgical pathology and cytology.

Freshly retired, Scott often focuses his volunteer time on two favorite interests: beer and birds. He volunteers for the National Brewery Museum in Potosi, Wisconsin, and for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Snapshot Wisconsin Project. Snapshot Wisconsin helps monitor wildlife using a network of trail cameras. Scott also enjoys bicycling and spending time at the family cottage in northern Wisconsin.



SECOND

## SIMON GANET

NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS  
WINDY CITY CURLING CLUB

Simon grew up playing baseball, football, and basketball year-round. Always fascinated with curling, when he graduated college he decided to see if "the roaring game" could help fill the athletic void in his life. A learn-to-curl session at Chicago Curling Club drew 22-year-old Simon to the sport. Since then he hasn't looked back.

After a season-and-a-half at the Chicago Curling Club, Simon became an inaugural member of the Windy City Curling Club in Bolingbrook, Illinois, where he has been involved in all aspects of growing Windy City curling. He was elected board member in 2016, club president in 2018, and helped the club move to dedicated ice. Simon achieved USCA Level I Instructor certification, assists with learn-to-curl sessions and group outings, and leads events for Windy City Curling.

Simon also has been an umpire for 15 years and works games in and around Chicago. He works in downtown Chicago in advertising, as a digital media planner.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people, learning about other clubs and cultures, and finding new ways to grow the sport of curling for future curlers," says Simon. "I'm honored to be part of the first CANAM Cup, and I appreciate the opportunity to compete and represent curlers from the United States and Windy City Curling."



LEAD

## CRAIG WICKMAN

COLUMBUS, OHIO  
COLUMBUS CURLING CLUB

Craig grew up in Northern Wisconsin and graduated with a degree in geography from University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. He now works as a geographic information system programmer (a title that we think means he's smarter than Google Maps).

Craig moved to Columbus, Ohio, for his first job. When he discovered the Columbus Curling Club a couple miles from his house, he signed up for the instructional league. After two sessions as a student, he started helping as instructor. That was 2010: Craig became league instructor a few years later and still holds that position. For the past six years, he has also chaired the committee that plans, organizes, and builds teams for most leagues.

Craig met his wife, Becky, in Columbus and has been married since 2000. When he is not curling, he enjoys golf and board games.

"I am looking forward to playing at the different clubs," says Craig. "And to getting to know everyone involved in the 2019 CANAM Cup."

# WHERE WE ARE FROM



# ITINERARY

DATE	ACTIVITY	GAMES	LODGING
11/8	Arrive BOS Depart BOS for Halifax		Halifax, NS
11/9	Practice at Metro Curling Club Game 1 – CC Halifax Halifax Curling Club Banquet	5	Halifax, NS
11/10	Depart Halifax for St. John's NL Game 2 – Bally Haly Curling Club Bally Haly Curling Club Banquet	5	St. John's, NL
11/11	Game 3 – St. John's Curling Club Tour St. John's Area Screetch-in at Christian's Pub	5	St. John's, NL
11/12	Depart St. John's for Halifax City Tour of Halifax Dine on our own		Halifax, NS
11/13	Game 4 – CFB Halifax Curling Club Game 5 – Truro Curling Club Truro Curling Club Banquet	5 5	Truro, NS
11/14	Game 6 – Westville Curling Club Game 7 – Highlander Curling Club Banquet at Highlander Curling Club	5 5	New Glasgow, NS
11/15	Bridge to Prince Edward Island Game 8 – Montaque Curling Club Monteque Curling Club Banquet	4	Charlottetown, PE
11/16	Game 9 – Cornwall Curling Club Game 10 – Charlottetown Curling Club Charlottetown Curling Club Banquet	5 5	Charlottetown, PE
11/17	Game 11 – Crapaud Curling Club Game 12 – Silver Fox Curling Club Silver Fox Curling Club Banquet	4 5	Summerside, PE
11/18	Depart Summerside for Saint John, NB Game 13 – Hampton/Carlton Carlton Curling Club Banquet	5	Saint John, NB
11/19	Game 14 – Riverside Curling Club Game 15 – Thistle St. Andrew Curling Club Thistle St. Andrew Curling Club Banquet	5 5	Saint John, NB
11/20	Game 16 – Gage Curling Club Game 17 – Capital Winter Curling Club Capital Winter Curling Club Banquet	4 5	Saint John, NB
11/21	Game 18 – Sussex Curling Club Game 19 – Moncton Curling Club Moncton Curling Club Banquet	4 5	Moncton, NB
11/22	Game 20 – Wolfville Curling Club Game 21 – Greenwood Curling Club Kentville Curling Club Banquet	3 4	Kentville, NS
11/23	Game 22 – Burwick Curling Club Game 23 – Mayflower Curling Club Mayflower Curling Club Closing Banquet	5 4	Halifax, NS
11/24	Depart Halifax for home		

# TOUR RULES

1. WCF and Canadian rules of play are virtually the same using the five rock rule
2. Games are 8 ends — all rocks must be played regardless of the score
3. Tied games are left as a Draw
4. USA has last rock to begin each game
5. Colors are assigned — USA is always on the top of the scoreboard; Canada on the bottom
6. Make sure that the eighth end is treated like any other end including measures
7. The score from the eighth end is to be posted on the scoreboard
8. The Courier & Captain (or designate) will agree on all scores and sign off on the sheet
9. All scores are accumulated into the Grand Total to determine the winner of the Cup
10. If the USA require a non USA to sub, the game will not count in the Grand Total unless previously agreed between the Captain & Courier