

# The Dominion Daily

Thursday, November 26, 2009 – Day 2 of Gameplay



## O CANADA!

It was hard not to get a little misty-eyed, Wednesday evening, as men's and women's teams from every province and territory in Canada were piped onto the ice at St. George's Golf and Country Club for the traditional opening ceremonies of The Dominion Curling Club Championship. Not only is this the first-ever

championship to ever include all of the country's 14 provincial and territorial curling associations, noted emcee Jim Mann of Curl BC, but with 28 competitors and 112 curlers - not to mention all the teams that played down in the provincials and territorials - we're actually in the midst of the largest national curling championship

ever held anywhere. Players stood at attention and displayed their respective provincial and territorial flags while Rachel Bercovici sang the national anthem. The piper was then ceremonially toasted by Mann, George Cooke, Leigh Armstrong, Joe Murphy of St. George's, and Shelly Rae of The Dominion. The championship's first rock was thrown by Don Landry of Toronto's the FAN 590, who with

a little help from his sweepers landed his shot right on the button. Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of our first day of competition were the number of fans who came out to watch some good curling. Not only was there a full house for the ceremonies and late draws, but the St. George's bleachers were nearly full at 10am on a weekday morning! We've only just begun...

### Today's Draw Schedule

Blue Pool     Grey Pool

Follow the action live on



at [thedominioncurls.ca!](http://thedominioncurls.ca!)

		Sheet 1	Sheet 2	Sheet 3	Sheet 4	Sheet 5	Sheet 6	Bye
Women's Draw 5	10:00 AM	NT vs. YT	MB vs. NO	NL vs. ON	PE vs. NU	NB vs. AB	SK vs. NS	BC & QC
Men's Draw 6	1:30 PM	NT vs. YT	MB vs. NO	NL vs. ON	PE vs. NU	NB vs. AB	SK vs. NS	BC & QC
Women's Draw 7	4:45 PM	PE vs. SK	NL vs. NU	NT vs. MB	NB vs. YT	ON vs. QC	AB vs. BC	NO & NS
Men's Draw 8	8:00 PM	PE vs. SK	NL vs. NU	NT vs. MB	NB vs. YT	ON vs. QC	AB vs. BC	NO & NS



# Excitement at St. George's as Competition Begins

Tight competition, "television quality" shots, and curling history being made: not bad for Day One! As men's and women's teams each played out the first two draws in the round robin play of their respective pools, there were quite a few plays that had audiences buzzing – more than we can ever fit into a single newsletter – and the end-of-day standings promise four days of excitement and challenges still to come.

Right at the top of the day, one shot that had everybody talking came from Quebec men's skip Maxime Dufresne, who threw an angled run back double onto two frozen rocks for a triple take out against Saskatchewan (though not the victory).

Later on, also in the Men's Division, Alberta faced a stacked house and a seemingly

impossible shot against Northern Ontario, but pulled off a triple raise to sit two and take their end. Spectators enthusiastically applauded, calling it "one hell of a shot", "a television quality shot".

It was in the Women's Division, late in the day, however, when curling history was made as Nunavut defeated Saskatchewan 6-5. This victory marked the first time Nunavut has ever won a game in a national championship, and what's particularly noteworthy is that they did it against one of the western provinces that have long been known for their great curling.

The Nunavut victory capped off the first day in a Women's Blue Pool that shows several 1-1 records and no clear leaders. In Men's Blue, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland & Labrador are so



The Northern Ontario men's team curl their way to an even 1-1 record after their first day of competition.

far undefeated, while Alberta and Manitoba share 2-0 leads in both the Men's and Women's Grey Pools. Having said that, there are three days of draws left to come. At this stage, it's still anybody's championship.



Kate Arkilander (left) and Leigh Armstrong (right) prepare to sweep the opening rock thrown by Don Landry of Toronto's FAN 590 sports radio.

## Standings (at the close of Day 1)

Men's Blue Pool		Men's Grey Pool	
Ontario	2-0	Alberta	2-0
Saskatchewan	2-0	Manitoba	2-0
Nfld & Labrador	1-0	NW Territories	1-0
Quebec	1-1	Northern Ontario	1-1
P.E.I.	0-1	New Brunswick	0-1
Nova Scotia	0-2	British Columbia	0-2
Nunavut	0-2	Yukon	0-2

Women's Blue Pool		Women's Grey Pool	
Nova Scotia	1-1	Alberta	2-0
Nunavut	1-1	Manitoba	2-0
Ontario	2-0	New Brunswick	1-0
Saskatchewan	1-1	British Columbia	1-1
P.E.I.	1-0	NW Territories	0-1
Nfld & Labrador	0-1	Northern Ontario	0-2
Quebec	0-2	Yukon	0-2



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