

CHANGES TO MEN'S PLAYDOWN – SOUTHERN QUALIFYING
(effective the 2009-2010 competition year)

After numerous discussions/communications within the Board and with the Stakeholders, the following change (for the Men's category only) is being implemented for the 2009/10 competition year. This change is due to reduced entries (overall and specifically the Last Chance), as well as to ensure that the most consistent teams during the season reach the Southern's. It is also felt that it will encourage new or young teams to enter Districts to gain valuable experience and knowledge on their way to the Southern's.

THE CHANGE: Four (4) Men's teams will be pre-qualified directly to the Southern's based on current season results. These teams will come from the ACF Alberta Tour Ranking and the Canadian Team Ranking System. They will be the top two Southern Alberta Teams on each of these lists – after the direct to Provincial berths have been determined. We will be qualifying from the CTRS first in case of teams on both lists. Teams will be asked to register at the beginning of the season or after their first event. They must fully complete a registration form, specifically designed for this program. They must retain 3 of the 4 players, listed on their registration form, at each of their Bonsel events in order to count the points earned. These teams will also be obligated to abide by all SACA and ACF rules in regards to eligibility. For this program, a special SACA residency rule has been formulated. It states that 3 of the 4 members of the team must reside within the boundaries of SACA. The definition of reside, for the purpose of this program, will be to occupy a residential structure within the SACA Boundaries during the current curling season. Exceptions may be granted, by the SACA Board, for specific cases such as students and work re-locations.

The remaining 12 spots into the Southern's will be determined in the same way it is now (2 Districts prorated by total entries). The Last Chance Event will be eliminated. This proposal will be in effect for a minimum of two years. This is a specific requirement as the first year may not be fully representative due to the timing issues placed on the Playdowns with the Olympic Trials in November and December and the Olympics in February. In addition, where possible, every attempt will be made to limit the districts and Southern's to 3 days in duration. This will mean the possibility of playing 3 games in a day.