



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14th, 2011

Great Lakes Curling Tour kicks off this summer

(ST. PAUL, Minn.) – Curlers in the Midwest will have more opportunities to compete against high-caliber competition and make some money along the way with the introduction of the Great Lakes Curling Tour this summer.

Spearheaded by Pat Brezowski, co-chair of the Courtesy Freight Superspiel (Thunder Bay, Ont.) and 2010 Olympian John Benton (St. Michael, Minn.), the Great Lakes Curling Tour was organized to enhance and promote reciprocity between the growing numbers of elite curling events in the Great Lakes area. The Tour, which kicks off Aug. 19 in Fort Wayne, Ind., at the Fort Wayne Cashspiel, will include eight men's events and five women's events. In addition to the Fort Wayne Cashspiel, the men's tour includes some familiar stops and a new event in Green Bay, Wis., in September. Having five women's events on the schedule is a vast improvement from the two previous WCT events in that geographic area. Organizers hope to include a Tour championship in the near future.

Phil Drobnick (Eveleth, Minn.) commented "The Great Lakes Curling Tour is something that we have needed for a long time. As chairman of the Curl Mesabi Cashspiel I feel it is going to not only help participation in our event, but continue to bring the level of play up to world class. The tour will help grow the depth of curling in the United States. Teams will be able to play at a high level many more times in a year because of this tour. It is a win-win situation for both the events and the teams participating in the events. At Curl Mesabi we are very excited to have added a Women's division to our event this year and to be a part of this tour."

The Great Lakes Curling Tour will work in association with the World Curling Tour. Teams competing on the tour will have the opportunity to earn bonus money at the end of the season based on overall performance on the tour (payout and eligibility to be determined).

Brezowski added "We have always had great competition with our American friends and The Great Lakes Tour will bring us all together to develop our skills. Our title sponsor for the Thunder Bay event, Courtesy Freight Systems, is extremely excited to not only be supporting The Tour but providing cooperative tourism on both sides of the border."

Information about the Tour can be found at www.greatlakescurlingtour.com as well as on Facebook (search Great Lakes Curling Tour).

Here is a look at the schedule of events this fall for the Great Lakes Curling Tour:

Schedule of Events

Fort Wayne Cashspiel – Fort Wayne Curling Club – Fort Wayne, Indiana, USA

August 19 – 21

Open Event: 20 Teams

Contact: Greg Eigner - gregory.eigner@gmail.com

Club Website: www.fortwaynecurling.com

Green Bay Cashspiel – Green Bay Curling Club – Green Bay, Wisconsin, USA

September 23 – 25

Men's Event: 16 Teams

Contact: Derek Casper - derrickcasper@hotmail.com

Club Website: www.curlgb.com

St. Paul Cashspiel – St. Paul Curling Club – St. Paul, Minnesota, USA

October 14 – 16

Men's Event: 24 Teams

Women's Event: Event: 12 Teams

Contacts: John Benton – jbcurler@gmail.com, Rich Ruohonen – ruohofam@comcast.net

Club Website: www.stpaulcurlingclub.org

NOCT/NOCA Superspiel "East" – Soo Curlers Curling Club – Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, CAN

October 28 – 31

Men's Event: 24 Teams

Contact: Steve Chenier - jcdhh@ntl.sympatico.ca

Club Website: www.socurlers.com

NOCT/NOCA Superspiel "West" – Port Arthur Curling Club – Thunder Bay, Ontario, CAN

November 11 – 14

Men's Event: 24 Teams

Women's Event: Event: 12 Teams

Contacts: Pat Berezowski - cpgapro@hotmail.com, John Cameron - jcamero@shaw.ca

Club Website: www.majorleaguecurling.com

Duluth Cashspiel – Duluth Curling Club – Duluth, Minnesota, USA

November 25 – 27

Men's Event: 24 Teams

Women's Event: Event: 12 Teams

Contact: John Shuster – shoostie@hotmail.com

Club Website: www.duluthcurlingclub.org

Laphroaig Curling Championship – Madison Curling Club – Madison, Wisconsin, USA

December 2 – 4

Men's Event: 16 Teams

Women's Event: Event: 12 Teams

Contacts: Jeremy Roe - jeremy.roe@amfam.com, Mark Hartman - mark.hartman@amfam.com

Club Website: www.madisoncurlingclub.com

Curl Mesabi Cashspiel – Curl Mesabi Curling Club – Eveleth, Minnesota, USA

December 16 – 18

Men's Event: 24 Teams

Women's Event: Event: 12 Teams

Contact: Phill Drobnick – curlmesabi@hotmail.com

Club Website: www.curlmesabi.com

For Great Lakes Curling Tour general information, participation information, and sponsorship opportunities, please contact: Tour President – Jeremy Roe, jeremy.roe@amfam.com

You can also find information on our website, www.greatlakescurlingtour.com or on Facebook (search Great Lakes Curling Tour).