



Australia has three curling clubs located in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. The national body is the Australian Curling Federation.

At present Wheelchair Curling is conducted in Melbourne, and Brisbane.

## Website information:

**Australian Curling Federation**  
[www.curling.org.au](http://www.curling.org.au)

**World Curling Federation**  
[www.worldcurlingfederation.org](http://www.worldcurlingfederation.org)

**Australian Paralympic Commission**  
[www.paralympic.org.au](http://www.paralympic.org.au)

**Disabled WinterSport Australia**  
[www.disabledwintersport.com.au](http://www.disabledwintersport.com.au)

## Contacts

**Disabled WinterSport Australia**  
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[sven@dwv.org.au](mailto:sven@dwv.org.au)

**Australian Curling Federation  
Victorian Curling Association**  
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[jao1938@westnet.com.au](mailto:jao1938@westnet.com.au)

**NSW Curling Association**  
Ian Palangio  
02-9907-4010  
[ipanlangio@hotmail.com](mailto:ipanlangio@hotmail.com)

**Queensland Curling Association**  
David Imlah  
07-3893-2883  
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**IceHouse Melbourne,**  
105 Pearl River Rd., Docklands  
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“Disabled Winter Sport Australia, in conjunction with Australian Wheelchair Curling, are currently putting into place a series of introductory development programs designed to introduce as many interested wheelchair bound athletes as possible to become involved. From these programs hopefully will come a team that will represent Australia at the World Wheelchair Curling Championships”.

**Australian Paralympic Committee**





## Wheelchair Curling History

The Australian Curling Federation first considered wheelchair Curling in 1994. The following year Australia's representative to the World Curling Federation executive put up a proposal for the establishment of worldwide wheelchair curling.

Tested in Europe, Wheelchair Curling was officially accepted at an International Bonspiel and workshop in Crans Montana, Switzerland in January 2000.

Interest grew and in April 2001 it was decided the WCF would hold the first World Wheelchair Championship. Nine countries participated Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, England, Italy, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

At the Paralympic Winter games in Salt Lake City Wheelchair Curling was accepted as a future medal sport in Torino, Italy in 2006. The success of Wheelchair Curling in the 2006 Paralympics was supported by Sir Philip Craven, MBE President of the IPC, stating "You really pulled it off! Wheelchair Curling exploded into being one of the great successes of the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games."

## The Game

### Mixed Gender

At this stage in the early development of wheelchair curling we insist that teams be comprised of mixed gender.

### Safety

There is no safety issue in respect of wheelchair curling. Wheelchairs once braked are totally secure on the ice. Teams use the buddy system where the next player to play brakes his/her chair from behind and holds onto the wheels of the player who is about to play.

### Equity

Wheelchair Curling is a team event and we aim to encourage gender equality.

### Clothing

Layers rather than thick tops  
 Thermal underwear  
 Warm trousers – no jeans  
 Warm footwear – insoles  
 Gloves and hat  
 No part of the body to touch the metal frame of the wheelchair

### Stones

The game of wheelchair curling is played with stones or rocks, depending where you come from.

### Surface

The speed of the ice is important. We aim for the timing to be about 25 seconds tee line to tee line.

### Rink

The length of the rink is no different from normal ( 44 m x 5 m ).

### Team

Each game is played between 2 teams of 4 players, again just as normal.

Wheelchair curling is proving so popular as it is one of the few sports where only a minor modification of the rules is required to accommodate curlers with a disability - No sweeping.

The Australian Curling Federation's aim in the promotion of Wheelchair Curling is integration not segregation. Curling is a team sport where able-bodied curlers and wheelchair curlers can compete against each other.

Wheelchair delivery positions

