

MEDIA RELEASE

Your Contact

Christopher Hamilton World Curling Federation Head of Media media@worldcurling.org 3 Atholl Crescent Perth, PH1 5NG Scotland. UK +44 1738 451 630

CURLING: LGT World Women's Curling Championship 2021 cancelled

For immediate release: Monday 8 February 2021

Schaffhausen, Switzerland – The LGT World Women's Curling Championship 2021 scheduled to take place from 19–28 March in Schaffhausen, Switzerland has been cancelled following a decision by the Swiss Local Health Authority not to support the event.

The World Curling Federation and the event's Local Organising Committee were informed that due to the current pandemic situation and concerns around the spread of new variants, permission to host an international sporting event will not be granted. This decision was made despite the extensive efforts by the World Curling Federation, the local organisers and Swiss Curling to develop a set of comprehensive safety protocols to deliver a COVID-safe event.

World Curling Federation President, Kate Caithness, said: "We are extremely disappointed that the event has been cancelled. Our staff and the local organisers had worked tirelessly to ensure the safety of all our athletes, officials, staff and volunteers working at the event. We are really sorry that the athletes who have worked so hard to compete for a World Championship title will not have that opportunity for the second year in a row.

"We will be evaluating all the options available to us in order to complete the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games women's team qualification process and do everything we can to ensure that it's carried out on the ice in competition."

Stakeholders and partners are now being consulted to determine the next steps to complete the Olympic Qualification process with a variety of options being investigated, including rescheduling the World Championship or replacing it with an alternative Olympic qualification event. Additionally discussions will be taking place about the opportunities for Schaffhausen to host a future WCF World Championship.

The BKT Tires & OK Tire World Men's Curling Championship 2021 and World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2021 continue to move forward as planned, with information on the protocols in place for each event to be released in the coming weeks.

Engage with the World Curling Federation on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Weibo</u> and by searching the hashtag **#OurHouse #curling**



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Ends

Notes to Editors

About the World Curling Federation

The World Curling Federation is the international sport federation governing the Olympic winter sport of curling and the Paralympic winter sport of wheelchair curling. The World Curling Federation is one of seven International Federations currently part of the Olympic Winter Games programme. It represents 66 Member Associations and is generally acknowledged to direct one of the fastest-growing international winter sports.

Media resources

Media Centre: worldcurling.org/media Photos: photos.worldcurling.org

For further information, please contact:

Christopher Hamilton Head of Media

Emily Dwyer Media Officer

World Curling Federation e: media@worldcurling.org