



# The PIC Times

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## Day 4 Activities – by Mike Hanafin

Almost all the playoff match-ups are set after the completion of the round-robin games of the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Pacific International Cup (“The PIC”) at the Richmond Curling Centre.

Three of the four pools avoided tie-breakers, but it was no such luck in the men’s International pool, with 4 teams tied for the third and final playoff spot. New Zealand/Australia and Oregon/Illinois play tie-breaker games at 5 pm PDT, with the winners facing off in another tie-breaker at 8 pm. The Yukon clinched first place in that pool with a 7-6 win over Wisconsin to finish the round at 6 and 1. Washington State avoided the tie-breaker mess and earned a berth in Sunday’s semi-final with a 5-4 win over Oregon.

The men’s B.C. pool playoffs will see Vancouver take on Vernon in Sunday morning’s (8 am) semi-final, with the winner taking on first-place Chilliwack in the B.C. Pool final at 10:30 am. Chilliwack’s Kevin Britz finished 7 and 0 after an 8-7 win over Richmond, dropping the host team to 3 and 4 after starting 3 and 0. Vancouver Curling Club clinched second place with a 6 and 1 record. Vernon won their last 4 games to finish 5 and 2.

Both women’s pools avoided tie-breakers with three teams clear of the rest of the pack. In the B.C. pool, Campbell River finished 7 and 0 and earned a bye to Sunday’s B.C. final. They’ll play the winner of Sunday morning’s B.C. semi-final between Cloverdale and Royal City (New Westminster), who both finished at 5 and 2.

The International women’s semi-final will be played tonight at 8 pm, with Illinois (6-1) facing California (5-2). The winner earns the right to take on first place Washington State (6-1) in Sunday’s International final.

The overall PIC championship finals are on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 PDT.

The PIC features club curling championship teams from all over British Columbia, along with teams from the Yukon, eight U.S. states, Australia, New Zealand, and Brazil. It is one of the premier curling events in the world for the development of the sport at the grass-roots level.

At stake for the British Columbia men’s and women’s club champions is a chance to represent the province at the 2015 Travelers Canadian Curling Club Championship in Ottawa this November.

The PIC also raises money for the event’s official charity: Spinal Cord Injury BC, thanks to the generosity of the participating curlers who have contributed prizes to a silent auction.