**From:** <u>TOM FITZGERALD</u>

To: members@curlingseattle.org;

CC:

**Subject:** [Seattle Granite Curling Club] Seattle"s Beighton rink wins twiceto advance to gold medal

game at 2010 Junior National CurlingChampionships in Bemidji, MN

**Date:** Friday, January 29, 2010 8:36:46 PM

**Attachments:** GCC Color.jpg

ma.gif hammer.gif wa.gif mn.gif

ATT00178.txt

## **Press Release**

Seattle's Sean Beighton team defeats MA(5-3) and MN1 (5-4 in 11 ends) to reach Saturday's finals at 2010 Junior National Curling Championships in Bemidji, MN.

Team Washington one victory away from Junior National Championship and trip to Worlds in Flims, Switzerland. Finals set for Saturday afternoon at 1:30 PM (CT) vs. Aaron Wald's MN2 team.



1/29/10 For Immediate Release

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www.curlingseattle.org www.2010juniornationals.com

It was a long and grueling day for Team Washington's junior men on Friday, but in the end, Team Washington could breathe a big sigh of relief. Sean Beighton's curling team (*Sean Beighton, Derrick McLean, Sam Galey, Joe Purvis, coach Murray Beighton*) representing Seattle's Granite Curling Club (<a href="www.curlingseattle.org">www.curlingseattle.org</a>), defeated Stephen Dropkin's Team Massachusetts 5-4 in the 2PM(CT) page playoff game, then came back at 7PM and needed an extra end to defeat Bemidji's Minnesota 1 team, 5-4 in 11 ends, in front of a partisan hometown crowd at the 2010 Junior National Curling Championships. By beating Minnesota 1, Washington advances to the championship game on Saturday, where they'll face off against another Minnesota team--- Aaron Wald's (Chisolm, MN) Minnesota 2 squad.

Scores, photos and a live webcast of Saturday's men's finals can be found at: ( <a href="www.2010juniornationals.com">www.2010juniornationals.com</a>)
The winner of the U.S. Junior Nationals moves on to represent the United States at the 2010 World Junior Curling

Championships in Flims, Switzerland, March 5-14, 2010. The men's gold medal game is set to begin at 1:30PM CT. Minnesota 1 finished in 3rd place for the bronze medal, while Dropkin's Massachusetts team took fourth place.

Beighton (Edmonds, WA) and teammates Derrick McLean (Bothell, WA) Sam Galey (Seattle, WA) Joe Purvis (Kenmore, WA) are looking to become the 36th team from Seattle's Granite Curling Club to win a national championship since the club opened in North Seattle in 1961. They would be the first junior team from Washington to win Junior Nationals since Travis Way's team won in Schenectady, NY in 1996.

Getting to the championship game was not easy, as Washington played a defensive game to squeak out a win vs. Massachusetts. The semifinal game at 7PM was also low scoring, and Beighton came up heavy on a tough draw to the button on his final shot in the 10th end vs. Trevor Andrews' Minnesota 1 team. That allowed Minnesota to steal a point and send it to an extra end, tied at 4. In the extra end, Minnesota piled a bunch of rock on the centerline, all in a row, but Beighton had shot rock on the back of the button, with the hammer, or last rock advantage. After contemplating a difficult quad runback takeout on his last shot for a possible point, Andrews decided to try using Beighton's guard rock on the left side for a runback takeout, but he wasn't able to make it, and Team Washington got the point they needed to advance to the championship final on Saturday.

## Friday's page playoff linescore:

| Team |                                     | HMR | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Score |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-------|
| •    | Stephen Dropkin<br>Southborough, MA | 7   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 3     |
| (3)  | Sean Beighton<br>Edmonds, WA        |     | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 5     |

## Friday's semifinal linescore:

Draw SF: Fri, Jan 29 -- 7:00pm -- Times shown as Central Time (CT).

| Team       |                              | HMR | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | EE | Score |
|------------|------------------------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|-------|
| <b>②</b>   | Trevor Andrews Bemidji, MN   |     | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0  | 4     |
| <b>(9)</b> | Sean Beighton ** Edmonds, WA | 7   | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1  | 5     |

<sup>\*\*</sup> Beighton advances to championship final. Will play Aaron Wald's MN 2 team at 1:30PM (CT) on Saturday. Winner gets gold medal, loser gets silver.

The Granite Curling Club is the only dedicated curling facility on the west coast of the U.S., and has been operating in its present facility since 1961. The Granite Curling Club has been the home to more national championship teams (35) than any other U.S. curling club. The most recent champions are the Sharon Vukich-Mike Calcagno rink, the 2010 Mixed Doubles National champions and the Sharon Vukich rink, the 2010 U.S. Senior Women's National champions.

For more information on the Olympic sport of curling, please visit <u>www.curlingseattle.org</u> or <u>www.</u> <u>usacurl.org</u>. For questions concerning this release, or for specific interview or footage requests, please

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