Media Advisory

Seattle's Granite Curling Club to host U.S. Mixed Doubles National Championship December, 3-6.

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For Immediate Release
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Many of the top curlers in the United States will be coming to Seattle next month to compete in the 2010 U.S. Mixed Doubles National Championship, which will be hosted by Seattle's Granite Curling Club from December 3rd- 6th. The winner of the championship will move on the represent the United States at the World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, April 15th-24th, 2010 in Chelyabinsk, Russia.

Twenty teams will compete at the Granite Curling Club, (www.curlingseattle.org) which is located at 1440 North 128th Street in North Seattle. This is the largest pool of teams since the event began in 2007, with half of the competing field hailing from the host club.

All matches are open to the public at no cost, with plenty of free parking at the site. Mixed Doubles is a variation on the traditional sport of curling, with teams consisting of one male and one female player throwing 5 rocks per team in each end with one rock per team already placed, instead of the customary 8 rocks per team in each end. With the 2010 Olympic Games approaching in nearby Vancouver, this is an excellent opportunity for locals to watch an olympic sport in-person, and see some of the nation's top curlers compete at a high level.

Games begin on Thursday, December 3rd at 11:30AM and will be played through the weekend, with the championship game scheduled for Sunday, December 6th. A complete schedule and list of competing teams can be found below, and can also be found at www.curlingseattle.org by clicking on the "championships" link.

Among the competing teams is defending champion Cristin Clark (Lynnwood, Wash.), who won the title with husband Brady Clark last season and went on to finish 18th at the World Mixed Doubles in Italy. Clark is teaming up this year with Sean Beighton (Edmonds, Wash.), who has competed at the national junior level previously. Clark also is a six-time U.S. mixed national champion.

Also in the mix are 2008 finalists Derek Surka and Charrissa Lin (both of New Haven, Conn.) and 2009 semifinalist Steve Lundeen (Seattle), who is competing this year with

new partner Elizabeth Coffin (Mountlake Terrace, Wash.).

Family ties are the overwhelming theme at the 2010 U.S. Mixed Doubles. Of the competing Seattle-area teams, sisters Jaynie Pleasants, Cindy Kozai and Sharon Vukich all have teams. Vukich s daughter, Emily Good, and son, Jake Vukich, have formed a team meaning they ll also compete against their uncle Jim Pleasants, husband of Jaynie. The Pleasants are one of three competing married couples. They join Surka and Lin and Bart and Abigail Read (Appleton, Maine).

The five-sheet Granite Curling Club most recently hosted the 2007 U.S. Junior National Championship.

Here s a look at the team rosters for 2010 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship: (local teams in red)

Team Clark: Cristin Clark (Lynnwood, Wash.) and Sean Beighton (Edmonds, Wash.)
Team Coleman: Gabrielle Coleman (Mountain View, Calif.) and Barry Ivy (Livermore, Calif.)
Team Cornfield: David Cornfield (Seattle) and Leslie Frosch (Shoreline, Wash.)
Team Doherty: Timothy Doherty and Connie Kupferschmidt (both of St. Paul, Minn.)
Team Gemmell: Dean Gemmell (Short Hills, N.J.) and Janice Langanke (Middletown, N.J.)
Team Good: Emily Good and Jake Vukich (both of Seattle)
Team Iwanick: Arnie Iwanick (La Center, Wash.) and Katie Kauffman (Lynnwood, Wash.)
Team Levy: Ben Levy (Ypsilanti, Mich.) and Emily Juocys (Rochester Hills, Mich.)
Team Lopac: Senja Lopac (Minneapolis) and Matt Zyblut (Danville, Va.)
Team Lundeen: Steve Lundeen (Seattle) and Elizabeth Coffin (Mountlake Terrace, Wash.)
Team Mazzotta: Gary Mazzotta (Minneapolis, Minn.) and Michelle Summer (Maple Grove, Minn.)
Team McLean: Derrick McLean (Bothell, Wash.) and Lysa Hambley (Lynnwood, Wash.)
Team Meechai: Joyance Meechai (New York, N.Y.) and Jason Nawyn (Chelsea, Mass.)
Team Pleasants: James Pleasants and Jaynie Pleasants (both of Seattle)
Team Read: Bart Read and Abigail Read (both of Appleton, Maine)
Team Schultz: Eric Schultz (Burnsville, Minn.) and Julie Smith (St. Paul, Minn.)
Team Surka: Derek Surka and Charrissa Lin (both of New Haven, Conn.)
Team VanWieringen: Barry VanWieringen (Kenmore, Wash.) and Cynthia Kozai (Seattle)
Team Vukich: Sharon Vukich (Seattle) and Mike Calcagno (Kirkland, Wash.)
Team Westhagen: Jennifer Westhagen and Jon Chartrand (both of Seattle)

USA Curling is sponsored by AIT Worldwide Logistics, bitRail and Nike and is partnered with CurlingZone.com.

For more information on the Olympic sport of curling: Terry Kolesar, USA Curling, terry.kolesar@usacurl.org, 715-344-1199, Ext. 202, or 608-338-9900 (cell).
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Draw Times for Mixed Doubles Championship:

Game Sheet		Teams Winner appears in **bold face**	
		Thursday 11:30 am	
A1-1	1	VanWieringen	Clark
A1-2	2	Levy	McLean
A1-3	3	Good	Mazzotta
B1-1	4	Meechai	Surka
B1-2	5	Gemmell	Doherty
		Thursday 2:00 pm	
B1-3	1	Cornfield	Coleman
C1-1	2	Lundeen	Westhagen
C1-2	3	Lopac	Pleasants
C1-3	5	Vukich	Schultz
		Thursday 5:30 pm	
B2-1	1	Read	Surka
A2-1	2	Clark	Iwanick
B2-2	3	Gemmell	Meechai
A2-2	4	Levy	Good
A2-3	5	VanWieringen	McLean
		Thursday 8:00 pm	
C2-1	2	Lopac	Vukich
C2-2	3	Schultz	Lundeen
B2-3	4	Doherty	Coleman
C2-3	5	Westhagen	Pleasants
		Friday 8:00 am	
A3-1	1	McLean	Iwanick
A3-2	2	Mazzotta	VanWieringen
A3-3	3	Clark	Levy
B3-1	4	Gemmell	Read
B3-2	5	Meechai	Cornfield
		Friday 10:30 am	
C3-1	1	Lopac	Schultz

B3-3	2	Doherty	Surka
C3-2	3	Vukich	Westhagen
C3-3	4	Pleasants	Lundeen

Friday 2:00 pm

A4-1	1	Levy	VanWieringen
B4-1	2	Cornfield	Gemmell
B4-2	3	Coleman	Read
A4-2	4	McLean	Mazzotta
A4-3	5	Good	Iwanick

Friday 4:30 pm

B4-3	1	Meechai	Doherty
C4-1	2	Vukich	Pleasants
C4-2	4	Schultz	Westhagen
C4-3	5	Lundeen	Lopac

Friday 8:00 pm

B5-1	1	Surka	Cornfield
A5-1	2	Iwanick	Levy
A5-2	3	McLean	Good
B5-2	4	Coleman	Gemmell
A5-3	5	Mazzotta	Clark

Saturday 8:00 am

B5-3	3	Doherty	Read
B6-1	5	Surka	Coleman

Saturday 10:30 am

A6-1	1	Mazzotta	Levy
C5-1	2	Westhagen	Lopac
A6-2	3	Iwanick	VanWieringen
A6-3	4	Good	Clark

Saturday 2:00 pm

B6-2	1	Coleman	Meechai
B6-3	2	Read	Cornfield
B7-1	3	Surka	Gemmell
C5-2	4	Lundeen	Vukich
C5-3	5	Pleasants	Schultz

Saturday 4:30 pm

A7-1	1	Clark	McLean
A7-2	2	VanWieringen	Good
B7-2	3	Cornfield	Doherty

B7-3	4	Read	Meechai
A7-3	5	Iwanick	Mazzotta

Saturday 8:00 pm

TB1

TB2

Sunday 9:00 am

QF1

QF2

Sunday 12:00 pm

S1

S2

Sunday 3:00 pm

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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 (33) than any other U.S. curling club. The most recent champions are the Brady Clark rink, the 2009 Mixed Doubles National champions and the Sharon Vukich rink, the 2009 U.S. Senior Women's National Champions.

For more information on the Olympic sport of curling, please visit www.curlingseattle.org or www.usacurl.org. For questions concerning this release, or for specific interview or footage requests, please contact Tom FitzGerald at 206-550-2080, or tomfitzgerald@verizon.net.