

Curling Australia Announces High Performance Coaching Appointments for 2026/27 Season

Released 18 October 2026 – Curling Australia is pleased to announce key appointments to its high performance program for the 2026–27 international season, reinforcing the organisation's commitment to providing world-class coaching and athlete support as Australia continues its pursuit of success on the international stage.

Leading the program is **Perry Marshall**, who has been appointed **High Performance Manager and National Head Coach**. Having worked with Curling Australia's Mixed Doubles program since December 2023, Perry brings established knowledge of the national program to this expanded role. He will oversee the strategic direction and delivery of Curling Australia's high performance program across all national teams, working closely with athletes, coaches and performance support personnel to implement the organisation's long-term performance strategy.

To strengthen the Mixed Doubles program, **Shannon Kleibrink** has been appointed **Mixed Doubles Head Coach** for the 2026–27 season, while also providing coaching support to the national Women's team through their World Curling Qualification Event campaign. A Canadian Olympic bronze medallist and internationally respected high performance coach, Shannon brings extensive experience coaching mixed doubles, women's and men's teams at World Curling Tour events, national championships and Olympic qualification competitions. Most recently, she co-coached the Netherlands Mixed Doubles Team at the 2026 Olympic Qualification Event and coached the 2026 Alberta Under-20 Mixed Doubles Champions.

Working alongside the coaching team, **Nancy Martin** has been appointed in a high performance support coaching role for the 2026–27 season, providing additional expertise across the Mixed Doubles and Women's programs. Nancy brings more than four decades of elite curling experience as an athlete, alongside more recent coaching experience, including at the 2026 USA Curling Nationals. She has also made multiple appearances at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts and eleven Canadian Mixed Doubles Championships. Her extensive competitive background and athlete-centred coaching approach will provide valuable support to Australia's athletes this season.

Supporting the Mixed Doubles program alongside the coaching team, **Georgia Ens** has joined as Mental Performance Consultant. Georgia is a sport psychology PhD Candidate at the University of Calgary and holds a Master of Science in Sport Psychology. She is also part of the mental performance team at the Canadian Sport Institute Alberta and brings experience supporting athletes and teams across provincial, national and international levels.

Together, these appointments strengthen Curling Australia's high performance coaching and performance support capability for the 2026–27 season.

Perry Marshall said the appointments represent an important step in the continued evolution of Australia's high performance program.

"We are continuing to strengthen the coaching and performance support available across our high performance program. Shannon and Nancy each bring exceptional international experience and complementary strengths, while Georgia adds dedicated mental performance expertise to the Mixed Doubles program. Together, this gives our athletes stronger support around their preparation and performance."

Curling Australia Chair **Hamish Lorrain-Smith** welcomed the appointments.

"These appointments reinforce our commitment to delivering a high performance system that gives Australian athletes access to outstanding coaching and international expertise. Perry, Shannon and Nancy each bring unique strengths and experience that will help create a collaborative, high-performing environment as we continue to strengthen Australia's presence in international curling."

The coaching appointments follow Curling Australia's recent Expressions of Interest process, with the coaching and performance support team now working across their respective agreed program commitments. Curling Australia acknowledges the high performance funding support of the Australian Sports Commission and its ongoing collaboration with the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia.

For more information, visit www.curling.org.au or contact: secretary@curling.org.au

About Curling Australia:

Curling Australia is the governing body that leads, develops, and promotes the sport of Curling in Australia. We aid and support the individual Member States and their grassroots endeavours to advance Curling whilst providing a pathway for curlers to compete at National and International events, including the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Curling Australia is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within our organisation and is a child safe organisation and has a zero-tolerance policy to child abuse and neglect in any form. We encourage individuals of all backgrounds and experiences to be involved with Curling in Australia.