



2025 Welcome the World Seniors Curling October 27 to November 3, 2025 Hosted by the Midland Curling Club Midland, Michigan, USA

Welcome the World History:

Welcome the World was started in 2011 by Sherry and Bob Armstrong and the Senior Curling League at the Stroud Curling Club in Ontario. The goal is to give Senior Curlers (50+) the opportunity to travel, socialize and curl with like-minded individuals around the world. It is not a competition. Participants enter as individuals or couples. Event hosts offer a week of curling intermixed with activities and tours that showcase the local community. All for the joy of curling.

After hosting by Stroud for several start-up years, WTW has now been held in host clubs around the world, including Scotland, Ohio, Saskatchewan, Denmark, and New Zealand. The Midland Curling Club hosted in March 2017, and we are excited to host again. To accommodate the growth of the WTW Community, we are offering entry in two complementary formats, the "WTW Classic" and the "WTW Combo." Separate entry forms are attached. Both formats will provide a quality curling experience, the opportunity to make new friends, and the renewal of old friendships.

Notably, this will be the first event since Sherry and Bob turned over the reins to new Welcome the World coordinators Kent and Jennifer Cheesman. The joy continues.

The Midland Curling Club:

The Midland Curling Club was formed in 1962. In 2007, we built a new 4-sheet Curling Center on the campus of our parent organization, the Greater Midland Community Center. We have great ice maintained by an outstanding all-volunteer ice crew. We have successfully hosted regional, national, and international curling events. In March 2025, Midland will host the US National College Championships.

As indicated on our logo above, Midland is located in the middle of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. About a 5-hour drive from Chicago or Cleveland; 3.5 hours from Sault Ste. Marie; 2 hours from Sarnia and the Blue Water Bridge. For participants flying to Michigan, Midland-Bay-Saginaw Airport (MBS) is 15 minutes away; Flint Bishop (FNT), 45 minutes. For those flying, club brooms, stabilizers and curling sticks are available. In deference to our ice crew, street shoes are removed at the entrance; pack your slippers. Our Curling Center is handicap accessible.

"WTW Classic"

- Dates are October 27 to November 3. Enter individually or as a couple. Limited to 24 participants.
- Registration opens February 15 and closes April 15.
- \$480 US entry fee per person includes most meals, tours and activities. Traditional beverages will be provided with meals at the Curling Center. When we are out on the town, buy your own drinks.
- Choice of home-hosting with Midland CC members (as available) or lodging in a local hotel.
- Highlight activities include the 10/28 Opening Banquet at the Midland Country Club, the 10/29 excursion to the new 5-sheet Traverse City Curling Club, a visit to the Whiting Forest Canopy Walk (<u>www.dowgardens.org</u>), and the 11/1 seasonopening performance of the Midland Symphony Orchestra.

"WTW Combo"

- Dates are October 25 to October 29. Come early and enter a team in the Midland Open Bonspiel, then enjoy the front end of WTW "Classic" activities.
- Bonspiel is 16 teams, and 4 games are guaranteed. First draws are Friday evening, 10/25; Finals are on Sunday.
- "WTW Combo" fee is \$440 US per person.
- On Monday, 10/27, we can arrange daytime curling and/or community tours.
 Monday evening, there will be dinner at Dow Diamond with the arriving WTW "Classic" participants.
- Tuesday 10/28 curling and community tours. Banquet at the Midland Country Club.
- Wednesday 10/29 excursion to the new 5-sheet Traverse City Curling Club (<u>www.tccurling.org</u>). Also, handicapped accessible.
- Departures Thursday, 10/30.

Any questions contact John Zimmerman; (989) 708-7058; johnzimm2@yahoo.com. Or Brian Labby; (989) 415-1268; bjlabby@yahoo.com