



Mixed Wheelchair Curling Recap

In a thrilling finish at the Milano Cortina 2026 Paralympic Winter Games, Canada edged out China 4–3 in the mixed wheelchair curling gold medal game, with Mark Ideson delivering the decisive final stone. After challenging semi-final match against South Korea, the gold medal game only brought more excitement.

The match was a tactical showdown from the start, with neither side willing to give up more than a single point. China applied early pressure with precise draws and well-placed guards, forcing Canada into difficult angles and limiting scoring opportunities. Through the middle ends, the teams exchanged singles, keeping the score tight and the tension high.

Heading into the final end tied, the game came down to execution under pressure. China built a challenging house with multiple stones in play, leaving Canada with a narrow path to victory. With everything on the line, Ideson calmly wheeled up and delivered a perfect

curler—threading through traffic to remove China’s shot stone and sit for one. The arena erupted as Canada claimed gold in dramatic fashion.

Ideson’s impact extended far beyond the final shot. Throughout the tournament, he set the tone as skip—calling aggressive yet calculated strategies, trusting his teammates in high-risk situations, and consistently making clutch shots in late ends. His composure and leadership were especially evident in tight games leading up to the final, where Canada repeatedly found ways to grind out wins. In the gold medal match, that same poise under pressure defined the outcome, cementing Ideson’s role as the driving force behind Canada’s championship run.

Mark Ideson featured second from the left.

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