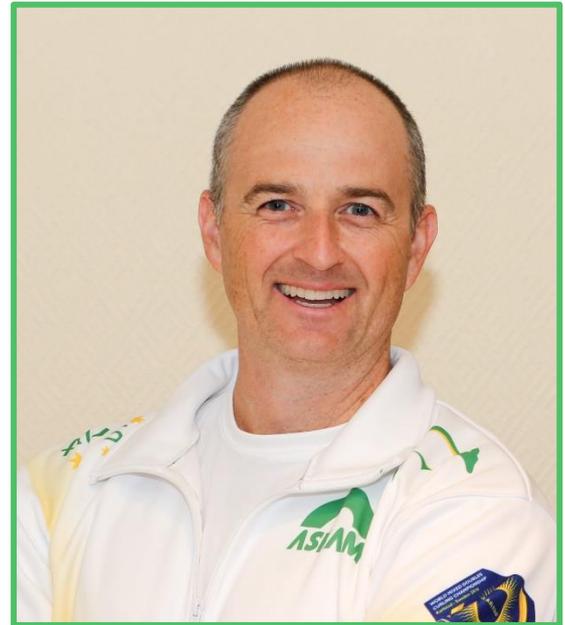


Ian Palangio (1972-2020)

The Australian Curling family is mourning the loss of Ian Palangio, a long-time National Athlete and Executive member for the Australian Curling Federation. Ian wore 'lucky number' 13 for the Rock Wallabies, the Men's National team, and began representing Australia at the Pacific Curling Championships in 2001. Nicknamed "Ice Nut", Ian logged a total of 153 Pacific-Asia Championship Curling games over 16 years, winning 2 Gold medals along the way. Ian went on to represent Australia at the World Men's Curling Championships (WMCC) 4 times narrowly missing out on Olympic qualification in 2010. When writing a World Curling Championships bio he once stated the 2005 WMCC was his most memorable sporting achievement.

In more recent years Ian added two Curling disciplines to his already full list of Curling accomplishments competing in Mixed Doubles and Mixed Curling. With his family cheering him on in the stands, Ian was the flag bearer at the 2014 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships (WMDCC) leading Australian teams out for the opening ceremony in Dumfries, Scotland. He competed in Mixed Doubles for 5 years representing Australia again at the 2016 WMDCC.



Always keen to Curl, Ian competed in the first ever World Mixed Curling Championships (2015). In another 'first', Ian found himself competing with his Men's team in the first World Qualification Event held in Naseby, New Zealand – familiar 'local' southern hemisphere territory. With an impressive 224 international championship games under his belt Ian was a true competitor and gentleman of the game – always known for acknowledging good shots from opponents and teammates – embodying the *Spirit of Curling* in its truest form.

Ian often threw last stones always rising to the challenge of the pressure of these shots with his quiet focus and nerves of steel. He was appreciated for his humour and quick wit. He exuded confidence and positivity lifting up teammates and competitors alike.

At a state and national level, Ian was involved in the NSW State Representative role (2003-7, 2010-2015, Vice-President of Australian Curling Federation (2016-2020) , and Australian Pacific-Asia Representative. He actively served on committees giving up vast amounts of personal time to create, launch and maintain the Australian Curling Federation (ACF) website and Facebook page. The ACF relied on Ian's technical abilities to set up regular Executive meetings and organise AGM 'cloud' meetings and he also served on different committees, in particular the Nationals Committee and the Development Assistance Programme Committee for Australia.

Originally hailing from Orangeville, Canada, Ian first began Curling in 1986 and often spoke about his university coach helping set the stage for competitive Curling. Curling has been a part of Ian's life ever since bringing him to Australia where he made his final home.

He was a dedicated husband, father, son, brother, and son-in-law. Our thoughts go out to Ian's wife Lisa, their daughters Jamie and Sarah and their extended family in Canada. If you have a special memory and photo of Ian please share and these will be compiled for his family to remember him.