

CURLING

Scott beats Mallett, earns Law rematch

By Okanagan Sunday Staff

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Kelowna's Kelly Scott earned a rematch with Kelley Law in what will be a battle of former world champions.

The two rinks will face off in today's final of the Scottie's B.C. women's curling championship at 2 p.m. at the Penticton Curling Club.

In last night's semifinal, the Kelowna skip beat defending champion Maria Mallett of New Westminster 6-5.

Holding hammer for the final end, Scott scored two in the eighth end to pull ahead 6-4 before surrendering one in the ninth in what was a close game all night.

"The game overall was great," said Scott.

"That sheet of ice was pretty whacky in spots, and we were battling with some mismatched rocks, so it took a few ends to figure out. With the slants and slopes, it tends to dictate strategy."

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In a bizarre occurrence, judges awarded a tie on a shot in the fourth end which took away what appeared to be a point in Mallett's favour. Scott said she and her opponent had never witnessed that in their many years of curling.

"My team played wonderful," said Scott. "No team can take the momentum away from the other when you're playing at this level."

Mallett reached the semi-final by beating Jen Fewster, a first-year team out of Prince George, 7-3 in a page play-off game held Saturday morning.

Scott's rink of Jacquie Armstrong (lead), Sasha Carter (second) and Jenna Schraeder (vice) represented the province in four straight national championships from 2005-2008, winning in 2007 and 2008 and also capturing the world title in 2007.

Scott won the round-robin portion of this year's provincial before falling 9-3 in eight ends to Law in Friday's 1-2 game. She's hoping for a better result today.

"We're expecting a good game. Hopefully we'll play well and be able to get out to a quicker start. They (Law) draw very well and their strength is their hitting game so we're expecting a good game."

Today's game will be broadcast live on Shaw Cable. The winner advances to the Scottie's Tournament of Hearts in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. on Jan. 30 to Feb 7.