

The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

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August 2009

A word from your president...

Hello Fellow Curlers

I hope you've all had a great summer and that everybody did everything that they wanted to do. Now it's time to think about another fun and successful curling season.

The different curling committees have spent many hours getting the upcoming schedules and agendas completed for the upcoming curling season. I want to thank them for all their great work.

One of the most noticeable changes you'll see is the postponement of the Saturday night mixed curling. This change was not done without great thought and discussion by the curling committee. It's no secret that many games were postponed or rescheduled to play at a later time, thus leaving a lot of empty sheets and a smaller than expected turnout.

Graham has in the past turned down a profitable rental that could make the club some much needed revenue. A rental can bring the club anywhere from 500 to 1000 dollars in profit. We are committed to trying to keep our membership fees as low as possible and this will certainly help. We all know how costly our new club is to run.

Many of our sponsors have returned to advertise on our ice surface. Please support them and thank them for their help.

I would also like to thank Don Cameron for his gift to the club. His pin collection can be seen above the water cooler in the hall.

The board and committee members want to hear from the membership with any concerns you may have. Not all decisions are written in stone and can be changed if needed. We're all here to try and do

the best things for the Royal Kingston Curling Club. Remember you always have a say! It'll be listened to and taken seriously.

I'm looking forward to seeing each and everyone of you soon.

The best to you all.

Good Curling Wayne Gilmour



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Championship Night 2009

Congratulations to all participants!

Bantams:

Dylan Welch, Jonathan Pap, Mackenzie Schroeder, Lindsay Meyers defeated Shannon Maxwell, Robbie Meyers, Nicholas Zelizniak, Natasha Landriault

Juniors:

Peter Andersen, Nick Couckuyt, Zack Hawley, Carter Garrah over

Ryan Schenk, Matt Walsh, Steven Bailey, Brendan Coughlin

Mixed:

Jim Irving, Tracy Mitchell for Gail Irving, Dave Bradshaw, Pat Bradshaw defeated Chris Barkley, Debbie Gillespie, Gord Gillespie, Susan Johnston

Men's Flight:

Joe Waller, John MacMillan, Mario Fabbro, Wade Tousignant over

Alex Tosh, Randy Neal, Paul Wood, Dan Boers for Chris Barkley

Evening Ladies' Flight:

Carole Rivington, Teresa Gibson, Christy Gilmour for April Welsh, Gail Irving defeated Colleen Bennett, Celia Russell, Sharon Windsor, Jody Allum

Carrie Cole – Women's Club:

April Welsh, Lynda Knowles-Therien, Zak Sieben for Marion Evans, Valerie Jones over Betty Bush, Marjorie Crawford, Karen Hannah, Jan Bryant

Men's Club:

Rob Campbell, Paul Cridland, Bruce Bodley, Kevan Welch for Ray Pothier defeated Bill Cannon, Donal Macartney, Ross Steele, Jerry Merkley for Ray Pothier

Sr. Men's Flight:

Tom Mercer, Rich Waller, Ken Hutchings, Bob Mitchell

Stick League: Art and Shirley Russell

Life Memberships were presented to Marilyn Bellringer, Betty Bush, Don Cameron, Linda Lott, Joanne Manion, Tom Mercer, April Welsh The **Ontario Masters Banner** was presented to the team of Betty Bush, Joanne Miller, Joanne Manion, Lil Rynbend

City Championship Winners: Day Ladies' Flight: Betty Bush, Joanne Miller, Joanne Manion, Lil Rynbend

Committee Reports

Governance Committee

by Roy Vasey

The Governance Committee met on June 4th to review the Governance Committee mandate, the Financial Committee mandate, and the Curling Committee mandate. Working on creating a common format for all mandates. Once this is done, these mandates will be submitted to the Board for approval.

Also working on succession plan and some thought is being given to reverting back to a one-year term now that construction of the new club is complete.

At the June Board meeting, the role and responsibilities of the Member-at-Large was circulated to the Board and approved by the Board.

The next meeting of the Governance Committee will be held in August once the committee members return from vacation.

Financial Committee

by Roy Vasey

The Financial Committee met on June 15th and discussed various issues surrounding the preparation of this coming year's budget. Since that meeting a draft budget with assumptions and recommendations has been prepared and presented to the Board.

The Financial Committee is still waiting for other committee estimates which are expected at the July 16th Board meeting. Once those are in, the draft budget will be finalized and presented to the Board for approval at the August Board meeting.

The Club Manager and staff have been asked to find ways to reduce costs as much as feasible in the coming season.

The Finance Committee is also recommending to the Board that both the Cards of Intent and Bonspiel fee forms should separate the GST out from those fees going forward in preparation for next year when the HST comes into effect.

Curling Committee

by Gord Rogers

I am delighted to report that the Curling Committee continues to work together effectively, and that the members have tackled the expanded role for this Committee that the Strategic Business Plan has directed. Our current members are:

Chair and Evening Men's: Gord Rogers

Juniors: Teresa Gibson

Vice Chair and Day Ladies: Lin Jenkins

Clinics: Kevan Welch

Secretary and Landings Stick: Phil Neatby

Mixed: Erwin Batalla

Day Men's: Dave Sansom OCA Rep: Joanne Miller

Evening Ladies: Linda Lott

Originally, this committee of section representatives was formed to relieve the Board of the tedious job of working out the next year's curling schedule.

The Committee quickly became a forum for the views and suggestions on Club operation raised by members to their section organizers, and from this, a focus for coordination between the curlers and all sections.

The Strategic Business Plan expanded and formalized this central role for the Committee. We are now expected to do more than mere "coordination" in creating a positive experience for Club curlers. We are expected to foster innovation and discipline in Club curling, be more active in communicating, and to focus more attention on 'new member' action, skill development, and support for other Club activities.

We have finished the 2009/10 curling schedule, revised and up-dated the Cards of Intent, the Application Form and Opening Bonspiel Application. We are looking at concrete ways to improve our introduction of new members, use of clinics, coordination with OCA, our place in the new Club management system.

We should thank the Mixed curlers section for

agreeing to shift Saturday night curling back to Friday nights with an additional option to play on Sunday evenings as well, a concession that has opened up important new sources of revenue from the use of the lounge and bar, and new opportunities to expose the Club to a wider public.

We intend to address a continuing source of friction - the use of time. Two hours are allotted for regular games, but this allotment is too often exceeded. This always creates problems for later games and for ice maintenance. Use of the 'buzzer' is never popular, but has proven necessary, as teams continue to over-step the two hours.

Standard rule of thumb:

- the skip should never have to be waiting for the thrower to get ready to shoot.
- the thrower should be ready in the hack when the skip calls the shot.
- this action alone will take minutes off the time of the game.

We are always open to comments and suggestions from members. Your section rep will be happy to raise these at our regular meetings.

Curling at the Royal Kingston has always been fun – we intend to work at keeping it that way.

Marketing Committee

by Bruce Jeffrey

As Chairman of your 2009-10 Sponsorship / Advertising Committee I want to take this opportunity to introduce my Committee members. Garry Dupuis, Dan O'Neill and Brad Finch have remained on the Committee and we have been joined by Deanne Clark and Roger Taylor. I want to thank all of them for volunteering their time to help ensure the success of RKCC.

Since May, we have been working hard to get thank you letters and invoices mailed out to all our existing sponsors. In addition, all sponsors were personally phoned to thank them for their past support and encourage them to continue advertising with us.

Although we are struggling through a recession, we are please to say that, to date, only two sponsors have left us, and we were able to bring on four new sponsors. At this time, we have 49 Wall Sponsors and 5 In-ice sponsors. We have several leads to work on, and our goal is to get 53 Wall sponsors and fill the last In-ice sponsorship.

Our Committee has been working with Club Manager, Graham Weatherby, to assist him with

rental ideas for various parts of the RKCC facility. As the facility gets better known in the community, Graham is finding it easier to get various types of rentals.

We would like to bring to your attention that we still have about 6 curling rocks that can be sponsored for \$500 each. Please contact myself or Graham if you would like to purchase the naming rights to a rock. This is a great way to honour a past curler or contributor to RKCC.

Ongoing projects for the Committee include making a brochure that can be used to advertise the various attributes of RKCC, and making a video "virtual tour" of the club that can be put on-line for prospective renters to review.

We are looking forward to a great year of curling and if you have any constructive comments / ideas with respect to advertising / sponsorship, please contact any member of our Committee as we'd love to hear about them.

Respectively submitted Bruce Jeffery, Chairman

Social Committee

by Linda Lott

The Social Committee is part of the new Business plan for the club. The mandate of this committee is to plan activities that encourage our curlers to make full use of our lovely facility all year long, create lasting memories, and build a reputation as a community of curling friends.

If you are interested in helping, have great ideas but no time ... or no ideas but lots of time, we welcome your input. Watch the bulletin boards and website www.royalkingston.com for upcoming events.

Such as, the first ever *RKCC Swing & Sweep* event, featuring golf at the Landings and curling at the club, on September 26th. Look for the entry form with the Card of Intent or online.

Section Reports

Day Ladies

by Lin Jenkins

Hello Day Ladies' Hope your summer has been fun with lots of golf, family and friends and

delicious B.B.Q's.

It's time to fill out your "Card of Intent" and mark off your calendar to come down to the club for a practice. Please give some thought to Flight curling this season. Interest in our A Flight has been waning in the past year. Our starting time will be a more attractive 9 a.m., so get your friends together and come out and play, Wednesday mornings. This league consists of 2 Round Robins, a total of 15 games, so you can still go South without missing a game. Of course, our B Flight will remain popular as usual, with a less competitive theme.

Our lady curlers, 40 or more, attended a late June golf tournament at the Landings. A wonderful lunch was provided and the coveted Corine Schavo Trophy was won by *Darlene Boucher, Teresa Wilson, Betty Bryant* and *Nancy Morrow*. Congratulations girls.

Our Mixed Card Group is still planning on a successful season to continue on Monday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. It is open to all who are interested in playing a relaxed game of bridge or euchre in our lounge. Contact *Diane Labrie* for info. Your games committee of *Sue McConnell* and *Marilyn Bellringer* are eagerly looking forward to providing a full schedule of club curling.

Your Special Events committee of Sandy Duncan and Zak Sieben are mixing in some exciting mini spiels, along with our Closing dinner. Our Opening Potluck is hosted by the Evening Ladies on October 1st and is shaping up to be a memorable event.

So ladies, dust off those old curling shoes and wash your curling slacks and be ready to come out and slip and slide with your old buddies the last week of September. If you have any questions, please contact myself or your Games Captain Sue with any concerns, you may have.

Evening & Day Ladies Opening Pot Luck Dinner

Hosted by the Evening Ladies Section

Thursday, October 1st

Cocktails 5:30 PM Dinner 6 PM

Returning members bring a dish and new members- their appetite!

Evening Ladies

by Linda Lott

It is hard to think about curling when one is sitting in the sun with a tall, cool drink. I hope that everyone has had a chance to rest, relax and rejuvenate. As we move into our fourth season at our new club and start to implement the Club's Business plan, I thought it would be prudent for our section to formally articulate our goals for the next couple of seasons. This is just a draft of some goals that we can work towards: 24+ teams for club curling, 16+ teams for flight curling, more teams entering OCA events and attending Bonspiels at other clubs and last but not least timely play for all games!

Dates to remember.

Curling clinic, for new and returning members on <u>Sept. 22, 23 & 24th from 7-9pm.</u> This is a great opportunity to use all those muscles you didn't use gardening. Please encourage friends, family and coworkers to join you for this learn to curl experience.

EL Club curling starts on *Wednesday, September 30,* with curling instruction at 5:30, draws at 6 and 8pm. Your skip will call you with your game time.

EL Flight curling begins on *Monday, October 5th at 7:10*. Skips will receive a call from Lillian Rynbend to let you know when your first game will be. Flight curling has ice on Monday nights alternating weeks at 5:10 and 7:15 and two sheets on Thursday nights at 5:10.

Reminders:

Cards of intent need to be completed and handed in a.s.a.p..This allows the club and flight convener to place people on teams. There is a spot to indicate whether you would like to volunteer, please consider this-it is a great way to meet people outside our section.

Please start games on time and finish on time. Encourage your team and opposition to speed up when necessary.

Check bulletin boards and the website www.royalkingston.com for upcoming events.

Congratulations to the following teams for their appearance on Championship night:

<u>Flight</u>: Carole Rivington, Teresa Gibson, April Welsh and Gail Irving

Colleen Bennett, Celia Russell, Sharon Windsor and Jody Allum

<u>Carrie Cole</u>: Betty Bush, Marj Crawford, Karen Hannah and Jan Bryant.

Pam Davision and Lynn Witheridge for winning the

field of 17 golfers at the Evening Ladies Golf Tournament at Westbrook. Many thanks to Linda Shanks and Kim Kot for organizing this fun event.

Your Evening Ladies Executive is looking forward to the upcoming season and we encourage you to express opinions, solutions and volunteer for section events. There are still a couple of spots to fill on the Executive so please consider this opportunity to involve yourself with the Executive.

Chair: Linda Lott

Vice-Chair: OPEN

Past-Chair Betty Bush

Club Convenor: Karen Peters

Flight Convenor: Lillian Rynbend

Special Events: Pam Davison &

Lynn Witheridge

Bonspiel **OPEN**

Secretary: Gwen Mitchell OCA Rep: Joanne Miller

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Day Men

by Ďave Sansom

We hope all curlers are looking forward to the 2009/10 season. The Day Men's Section has maintained most of our curling schedule at previously defined times and sheet availability, however, we have also with support from the Curling Committee and input from curlers made significant changes to Senior Flight times.

Our Tuesday / Thursday Pickup Format play will continue with six sheets available for an 8:30 AM start and three sheets available for 10:45 AM starts. Brian Hetherington will lead the organizing of the pickup teams. This availability will permit Don Pringle to organize the Bi-Club schedule on alternate Tuesdays at 1045 AM.

We have scheduled two In-House Bonspiels for Friday, November 20th and March 19th for which the team of Brian Hetherington, Dan O'Neill, and Lorne Lloyd will provide the organization.

When we finished the Senior Flight season last year we had some discussion of options for the coming season. There were two main ideas on the table. One was to consolidate our three draws of six sheets each to all Monday timing, from the mix of Monday at 8:30 and 10:45 AM, and Friday at 8:30 AM. The

second was to change to a 9:00 AM start time for Monday.

On the basis of some initial indications that these options were possible, we sent out a questionnaire to all Day Men that have provided email addresses asking for their opinions for the Senior Flight timing and the interest in Monday lunches on a more regular basis, given that the 9:00 AM start might provide more incentive to the early draw to stay for lunch. Of the 123 recipients (of a total of approximately 170 Day Men members), 38 responded. A majority indicated a 9:00 AM start would be preferred, but the majority was not overwhelming and most would be happy either way. A significant interest was indicated in the availability of lunch.

With the agreement of the Curling Committee, we have changed the Senior Flight schedule to all Monday draws, with start times of 9:00 AM, 11:15 AM, and 1:30 PM. We will attempt to increase the number of lunches available, and with room for 36 teams to challenge our scheduler Brian Collingwood, we hope that a number of new teams and all the old teams will appear from the Cards of Intent. We hope this change will encourage new teams and as we proceed through the season your feedback on the changes will be appreciated.

Great Curling to all! Dave

Evening Men

by Gord Rogers

Welcome to all returning and a special welcome to all potential new curlers. Last year was a very successful year and we all hope this year will be even better.

Club curling was again extremely busy last year, with no draw having less than 18 teams, and many draws having 24 teams. This year, we should be able to accommodate 24 teams on Monday nights and the same on Thursday nights. Monday early times will alternate with evening ladies flight once again and schedules have been done up accordingly. Thursday night curling will be at 5:10 and 7:15 and possibly some games at 9:15, depending on the size of the draw.

In an effort to satisfy all existing members, we will ask that each of you send in your applications and cards of intent by Sept 11th latest to ensure your spot for this year. Please fill in your cards of intent indicating club (Monday and/or Thursday) and/or flight. We will hold all the spots from existing flight teams until Sept 11th. After that it will be opened up

to any new flight teams that wish to sign up on a first come, first served basis. As for club, the spots will be assigned again on a first come first served basis so we encourage you to get your cards in early, as we are still limited by how many teams we can put on the ice for these nights.

Club teams will be formed on Sat, Sept 26th with play starting on Monday, Sept 28th and Thursday club starting Oct 8th. Flight will start Tuesday, Sept 29th and each skip will be advised of their start time on Saturday the 26th.

We are hoping to have all the team information posted on the website by Sunday, Sept 27th.

Our main method of communication last year was via email and I encourage all members to provide their email address if they have one so that we can keep you updated.

Registration this year will be available by downloading the application and card of intent from the RKCC website.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer and I look forward to seeing everybody again this fall.



The Landings Stick League by Phil Neatby

The Landings Stick League will be starting our 4th year of play this Autumn. The first games will be played on Wednesday, 30 September. All scheduled games will be played on Wednesdays.

We encourage any members who want to improve their skill with the stick, or want to take it up to join this League. We have seen a marked improvement in this skill by those in the League. Games in this League only take an hour, and the social atmosphere in this mixed curling has been comfortable, and welcoming to newcomers.

If you want to join us, but don't have a partner, don't hold back. We will find a compatible partner for you.

Mixed Curling

by Erwin Batalla

I hope you have had an excellent summer.

I would like to begin by thanking Tony Bush for all

his work as convenor of mixed curling over the past two years. Tony initiated the use of the website to post schedule, standings and information for our section. He reinstated the mixed awards dinner. He juggled the schedule with play over two different nights and divisions with different numbers of teams and finally navigated through playoffs that lasted several weeks. I hope that our committee will be able to maintain his high standards.

During the summer, the curling committee, made up of a representative from each section (Day Men, Day Ladies, etc) decided to change the time allocated to mixed curling from Saturday at 6 pm and 8 pm to Sunday at 5 pm. In response to this change, the mixed committee (Dean and Deanne Clark, Pam and Roger Taylor, Terry Barker, George and Diane Gratton, Hugh Pollitt-Smith and Shirley Kwakkenbos, Alexandra Simmons and I) decided to have a Friday-only mixed league and a Sunday-only mixed league. Skips may elect to curl on Friday only, Sunday only or on both nights. The composition of the teams need not be the same on both nights.

The Friday mixed league will be limited to 48 teams in 4 divisions (A, B, C and D) of 12 teams each. Priority will be given to returning teams and teams will be placed in these divisions based on the standings at the end of last season. Playing times will progress from 5:10 to 7:15 to 9:15 in a regular fashion and teams will be idle on the fourth week. Teams in the A and B divisions will play a full roundrobin within their division followed by a four-week playoff. Teams in the C and D divisions, who were in the recreational division last year, will also play a full round-robin, and will continue to play until the end of the season. All divisions will play the same number of games.

The Sunday mixed league will be limited to 24 teams. Priority will be given to teams with mixed-only members on that night. Depending on the registration, we hope to have a full round robin over the 19 Sundays available during the curling season.

This format is substantially different from the way mixed curling has operated since we moved to the new club. Recognizing this change, the executive of the club has decided to freeze the mixed-only fee for this year. The opportunity exists for mixed-only members to curl more games than last year if they choose to curl on Friday and Sunday and I hope many will choose to do so.

Round-robin play will begin the first week of October.

The mixed curling committee reviewed the rules from last year and decided to leave them mostly unchanged. Teams should make every effort to play their games at the assigned time and to use the spare list whenever possible. Postponed games must be played within three weeks or the team that originally caused the postponement will be awarded a default loss. Spares of similar skill level should be used and proper curling etiquette should be observed.

There will be a recreational bonspiel open to teams from the B and C and D divisions on Saturday, November 14 (a week earlier than last year). Up to 24 teams may enter this event and we look forward to a full house this year.

We hope that all mixed members will return to curl on one or two nights and that new members will join us to enjoy the convivial and relaxed atmosphere of mixed curling.



Junior Curling by Teresa Gibson

Many thanks to *Renee LeClaire* for putting so much time and effort into the junior curling program over the last two years. Rene has offered to continue to help which is very much appreciated.

Junior curling will continue with a focus on league play for the older group while developing skills for all ages. Cards of intent will be sent out in mid-August and Juniors can register by mail. Registration can also be done in person on Sept. 28th 2009 from 1:00 – 3:00 at RKCC. Curling will commence on Sunday, Oct. 4th.

Meetings are currently underway for planning a couple of inter club curling afternoons with Cataraqui Curling Club. The date for the RKCC Junior/Bantam Bonspiel is set for February 6th 2010. This will be a one day bonspiel and parents are encouraged to volunteer.

Congratulations to the Juniors who participated in Championship Night in April:

Junior Winners: Peter Andersen (skip), Zack Hawley, Nick Couckuyt, Carter Garrah Junior Finalists: Ryan Schenk (skip), Matt Walsh, Steven Bailey, Brendan Coughlin.

Bantam Winners: Dylan Welch (skip), Jonathan Pap, Mackenzie Schroeder, Lindsay Meyers Bantam Finalists: Shannon Maxwell (skip), Robbie Meyers, Nicholas Zelizniak, Natasha Landriault



OCA Reportby Joanne Miller

Your OCA representatives are: Ron Cameron - Men's club rep Kevan Welch - Junior club rep Joanne Miller - Ladies club rep

Please feel free to contact any of the above should you have any questions or concerns.

Napanee and District Curling Club will be hosting the 2010 Ontario Men's Curling Championship - February 1 to 7, 2010. If you wish to volunteer or just want information, check out the web site at www.ndca.ca.

Bonspiel information can be posted on the OCA website - Just go to www.ontcurl.com and link to bonspiels. It's a great resource and a great way of advertising our bonspiels.

There is a new competition called the Dominion Men's and Women's Club championship - Oct 31st - Nov 2. This is a new competition and there may be some growing pains in the first year. More details will be available later or you can check this out at the ontcurl.com website.

Have a great curling season! Joanne



Please email your submissions for the November Sweep to Carole Rivington at carolenr62@cogeco.ca no later than October 26, 2009!

Thank you!



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