



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

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March 2010

A word from your President...

Dear Members,

We are well into our curling season and the implementation of RKCC's Strategic Business Plan. We are very pleased with the progress that the Club and Board have made during this year and we look forward to reporting and updating our membership at the 198th Annual General Meeting on **Sunday, April 11th at 3:00 p.m.** I encourage all members to attend this very important meeting and invite you to bring your constructive comments and questions to the meeting.

The 2010 Tankard was held in Napanee in February and RKCC participated, thanks to Bruce Jeffery and the Marketing Committee, who worked hard to put together a display booth for RKCC including a banner, a retractable sign, photo monitor and brochure. We are now well prepared to put on a great presentation at any upcoming show, thanks to the Marketing Committee's efforts. Well done!

We are well into our curling season, and we look forward to hosting many more bonspiels and events at our Club. I would like to take this opportunity to again thank Rod and Terry for the great ice this year. Thanks also to our Manager and bar staff for providing such great and friendly service.

Good Curling!
Wayne Gilmour

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MARCH 6 - 14, 2010



198th Annual General Meeting

**Sunday, April 11
@ 3:00 PM**

Volunteer Appreciation Wine & Cheese



*following the
Meeting*

Committee Reports

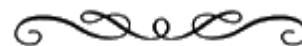
Social Committee

Linda Lott, Chair

March, the month that celebrates St. Patrick's day and the first day of spring! On the first day of spring (March 20th) please join us for the ***Spring Fling Closing Bonspiel***. This spiel is open to all members. We are looking for 36 teams...you may join as a team or as a friendly curler looking for a team or as a couple of friends, who want to celebrate the first day of spring in style. It will be a fun day of curling with lunch, dinner and prizes.

The sign up poster will be up in the lobby and check the flyers (on the tables) for further details.

Finally, please make sure that you are available to attend *Championship Night* on April 16th. If you aren't playing on a team, join us to cheer on the finalists.



Human Resources and Communications Committee

Dave Bracken, Chair

The Spring Annual General Meeting is coming up on **Sunday, April 11th at 3:00 PM**. We encourage everyone to put this date in your calendars now and try your best to attend and participate. The Nominating Committee is busy selecting candidates to fill the various positions on the Board. If you are interested in getting on the Board, or working with one or more of the various Committees, speak to any Board member, or the Club Manager for assistance. Visit the RKCC website for information regarding your Board, the various committees, minutes of meetings, the RKCC Business Plan, and other useful information. There is a wealth of information available from the website.

Do you like the new website? Do you visit it regularly? Do you read the Sweep? Do you submit articles? Do you like the improvements you see around the club ... the new banner cases, more food availability, more rental income, more bar sales, continuing great ice, low fees? This is the result of the work of everyone, including the Board, the committees, but mostly the members. A very important vote is coming up at this AGM to accept the changes to the By-laws that were proposed at last years AGM. Please come out and show your support for what you have seen accomplished. It won't be approved unless the members support it at the AGM.

Ever wonder why your fees are so low? Our club volunteers do a tremendous amount of work. These people work endless hours. Their only reward is the self-satisfaction of helping others, and the friendships that develop from this. There will be a buffet of snacks and refreshments after the AGM. All club volunteers are encouraged to come to this and be recognized for your efforts to help the club. All members are invited to join the celebration and enjoy the buffet and refreshments. We welcome all. This is your club and you should be proud of it. Please make it a point to come out and show your support.

Operations/Resources Committee

Vic Matthews, Chair



There have been concerns expressed about the cleanliness of the playing ice surface and I would like to address these concerns.

Keeping the ice free of foreign materials such as dirt, grit etc. is a difficult task even under ideal conditions. There are established practices which when followed can greatly improve the condition of the ice from a cleanliness point of view.

Members should ask themselves the following questions:

1. Do I always use the boot cleaner immediately upon entering the ice area? This is especially important when you wait in the lobby for your game to commence as its floors are covered in sand etc. tracked in from the parking lot. We estimate about 25% of the curlers use the boot cleaner.
2. Do I on a weekly basis clean out the inside of the gripper? If you look inside your gripper it is not unusual to see contamination resulting from foreign material attracted by the static on the plastic slider. This contamination can come off whenever you remove your gripper during the game.
3. Is my gripper old and starting to disintegrate? White gripper material especially is a problem as it cannot be seen. Am I replacing the gripper?
4. Do I wait until the numbers are removed from the scoreboard on the sheet I am scheduled to play on? If you proceed to the sheet and start milling around on the ice while the ice technician is still working on your sheet you only increase the limited time available to get the sheet ready. I have seen people sliding towards the ice technician who is pushing the ice cleaner towards them.
5. Do my games end before the next game on your sheet is due to start? Once again this only increases the limited time available to get the sheet ready. The only reason your

game should end late is if you play an extra end. It is unfair to encroach upon the next game's start time because they may get buzzed and have to prematurely end their game. It is unsportsmanlike.

If members do not follow the guidelines above then concerns about cleanliness are unjustified. There is insufficient time to perform a thorough cleaning of all the sheets between games by one ice technician. In order to have two technicians available all the time our costs would increase greatly. It is imperative that the club allow rentals of our facilities in order to keep membership costs reasonable. Unfortunately the down side of rentals is that contamination of the ice surface always increases during these rentals. The technicians do their best to try and keep up with cleaning up the debris. The areas from the two doors to the boot cleaners are vacuumed daily and the rest of the carpet is done weekly. The down side of vacuuming the carpet so frequently is that it is wearing and this can cause more ice contamination as threads etc. find their way to the ice surface.

My approach to problems at RKCC has always been to change one thing at a time and observe the effect before proceeding with another solution. In this case the first change is to have members follow the above guidelines which will not involve spending any money.

My opinion is that unless members follow the five guidelines above we will not alter present practices as the solution to the problem involves all of us.

If everyone helps out and there is still an unacceptable contamination issue we will revisit the problem.

The following is a copy of the sheets Graham placed on the glass next to the entrances to the ice area in case you have not read one.

Your co-operation would be appreciated!

Thank you

BEFORE YOU GO ON THE ICE FOR YOUR GAME, PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- **UNTIL THE NUMBERS ARE OFF THE SCOREBOARD FOR YOUR SHEET, YOUR ICEMAKERS ARE STILL WORKING – PLEASE ENTER THE ICE SHED ONLY WHEN YOUR SHEET IS COMPLETED AND READY FOR USE – IT'S ALL ABOUT SAFETY.**

- TO HELP INSURE EXCELLENT ICE CONDITIONS FOR ALL CURLERS, PLEASE TRY TO LIMIT THE TIME YOUR HANDS AND BODY ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE ICE – PEBBLE BREAKS DOWN VERY QUICKLY AND FLAT ICE WILL DRASTICALLY AFFECT ICE CONDITIONS.
- THE BUZZER IS SOUNDED AT THE 1 ½ HOUR MARK OF YOUR GAME. YOU FINISH THE END YOU ARE IN, PLUS ONE MORE. TO INSURE THAT YOUR GAME IS IN THE SEVENTH END WHEN THE BUZZER SOUNDS, PLEASE PLAY *READY CURLING* – HAVE THE NEXT ROCK TO BE DELIVERED, IN THE HACKS, READY TO GO. IF EACH CURLER HELPS IN THIS MANNER, THERE WILL BE MORE THAN SUFFICIENT TIME FOR ALL GAMES TO FINISH.

ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL ENJOYMENT OF EVERY CURLER ... PLEASE HELP BY INSURING THAT YOU, AND YOUR TEAMMATES, CURL AWARE.

GOOD CURLING!

Section Reports

Evening Ladies

by Linda Lott

Well Ladies...March is going to be a very busy month! We have our regular club and flight games plus..."*Bring a Friend Night*" on **March 17th** and the in house "*Evening Ladies Bonspiel*" on the 27th of March. Bring a friend night is a great opportunity for you to introduce a friend(s) to curling and the bonspiel is a great way to experience a bonspiel with home ice advantage.

There are two dates in April that you should also make note of-Ladies Closing Dinner on **April 14th** and Championship night on **April 16th**.

Evening Ladies flight has completed their first round robin and the winner was Colleen Bennett's team.

Second round robin is now in play and points will be

added to the first round robin standings to determine position for playoffs. Playoffs will start on March 29th for the B division (last eight teams) and April 5th for the A Division (top eight teams).

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you" to Judy Russell, for all the hours she spends on the ice helping people improve their curling game.

Lastly, please consider joining the Executive for next year-no experience necessary!



Club Curling

by Karen Peters

With the last of the four round robin draws under way the Evening Club curling season is rounding its final corner. We are two weeks into the fourth draw and the teams of Sharon Windsor, Nancy Suenaga, Teresa Gibson and Betty Bush are still undefeated. There are three weeks left before playoffs so the winner is still up in the air. Good luck to everyone.

Draw three playoffs were held February 10th with the team of Donna Smith, Heather McMillan, Pat Bradshaw and Michele O'Reilly winning the first Division title. They were declared the winners with a 6-2 score over Judy Russell's team which was forced to retire because of injury. The Second Division title went to Linda Lott (Teresa Gibson sparing), Johanne Touchette, Carol Roach and Rachael St. Jean. Third Division was won by Mary-Stewart Ross, Cathy Lyman, Jane Cooper and Leanne Baker. Donna's team will advance to the Carrie Cole Playoffs along with the first draw winning team of Judy Russell, Joanne Manion, Jane Cooper and Kathleen Poole and the second draw winners, Ana Sutherland, Elisabeth Dillman, Dora Milton and Carol St. George. The playoffs will be held April 1st, 6th and 7th with Championship Night being April 16th. If you have qualified make sure you are available for those dates.

Don't forget the Bring a Friend Night on March 17th. Dress up in your St. Patrick's Day greenery and bring your friends out for a night of curling and fun. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. You have probably also noticed Linda Lott running around with the sign up sheets for the Evening Ladies Rated Bonspiel being held on Saturday March 27th. This is always a good time so let her know if you are interested.



Day Ladies

by Claire Dominik

Wow where has the season gone? We are now into our 4th and last draw for the 2009-2010 season. Tuesday's draw is run with 16 teams while Thursday has only 10. Those snow birds!

The Joan Roantree Trophy Draw, which just finished was won by the team, skipped by Judy Sly, with Denise Mullville, Anne Berry and Penny Steele. Judy was the Thursday winner therefore she played off the Tuesday winner Lin Jenkins, Betty Bryant, Wendy Curtis and Wendy Dutton. Good luck on the next round.

The Grandmother's and Great Aunt's Bonspiel to be held on Wednesday March 24th. Is well into the planning stages, with teams already signed up from Richmond, Brockville, Picton, Carleton Place, Prescott, Napanee, Perth, Gananaque and Cataraqi. Our own Royal Kingston Curling Club will round out the field.

The flight teams will be hosting Cataraqi teams on March 3rd for a friendship morning of curling followed by lunch. Marilyn Bellringer has been working hard on planning the games and meal. With the exchange falling in March instead of December where we hosted them for years, the St. Patrick's Day theme seemed perfect. I'm sure everyone involved will have a great time.

Our Fun Day Ladies Sandy Duncan and Zak Sieben are planning their final Spring Mini Spiel on March 31st. They suggested that I wear my white gloves and hat. Sounds like a Tea Party instead of a Bonspiel, but what the heck. I'll bet that fun and good food for everyone is in store.

We still send out our best wishes for a speedy recovery to both Arla Currie and Gloria Morrill. These long time curlers who are experiencing bad health at the moment are constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

RKCC has lost another former curler Faith Avis. Faith playing lead with a team skipped by Shirley Keeley won the Senior Ladies Ontario Championship in 1976-77. You will find their picture on our walls.



Mixed Curling

by Erwin Batalla

We are nearing the end of the Mixed curling season. Playoffs have begun in the A and B division. All teams will play at least three games in the playoffs.

The playoff schedule will be posted on the board. The updated draw will be emailed to the skips periodically. Because of these times constraints, it is especially crucial to play the games as scheduled and to find spares if you are unable to

The round-robin continues in the C and D divisions. Teams are now playing against teams they have already faced earlier but all games will count equally towards the final standings. The A and B finalists as well as the winners of the round-robin in all the divisions will be recognized at the end of the year dinner.

A survey of the individual preference of Mixed curlers has been conducted in February. Over 90% of the members responded. Overall, half the curlers wanted to play only on Fridays while the other half wanted to play more games. Based on these results, we are now asking the current Mixed teams to indicate their tentative choices of divisions. With this information, we will make plans for next season's format. Thank you to all the Mixed members for their patience and cooperation.

The mixed Awards dinner will take place on Sunday March 28th. Tickets for this event, which includes a catered dinner, will be \$15 per person and can be purchased at the bar or from Erwin Batalla or Terry Barker. Please help us make this the high point of the curling season.



Junior Curling News

by Teresa Gibson

Juniors

I am pleased to report that this year's Junior-Bantam Bonspiel 'The Olympians' was well attended with teams from Cataraqi, the Quinte/Trenton region and from as far away as Leaside Curling Club in Toronto travelling to join us. Our day included breakfast, a lavish Greek lunch, Medusa's Challenge and, of course, some great curling.

This was my first time as a bonspiel convenor and I couldn't have done it without my tireless assistants who worked hard to make this day a success. Special thanks go to April Welsh, Edward Gibson, Cathy Meyers and Kim Kot for all of their help throughout the day. I also want to thank Caitlin Gibson for her decorating efforts, Kevin Gibson for his graphic designs, Brian Collingwood for producing the draw schedule and Celia Russell for designing the poster. The curling brush donated by John Giles was a great addition to our prize table. Finally, I'd like to give a big thank you to Empire Life for sponsoring the breakfast and to Coca Cola for their support.

Congratulations to the Junior Gold Medalists from

RKCC: Peter Andersen (skip), Matthew Walsh (third), Brendan Coughlin (second), Zachary Hawley (lead).

Little Rocks

Little Rock Curlers enjoyed an Olympics day where they were put on teams and worked through curling skills challenges on the ice. Thank you to Heike Eckert for sharing her experience as a Torch Bearer with our Little Rock Curlers and to parents who volunteered to be 'Olympic Coaches' for the day. Congratulations to all the teams for completing their Olympic challenges.

We will be hosting the Cataraqui Little Rock Curlers at our club on Mar. 7 and look forward to a fun day of curling! ☺

Bonspiel Reports



The "Whig-Standard" Bonspiel

Steve Vermeer, Convenor

The 77th Annual Whig-Standard Bonspiel was another rousing success this year. The winning rink skipped by Kevin Pickell along with Derek Pickell, Rob Fawcett and Dave Hancock curls out of the City View Curling Club in Ottawa.

The other event winners were:

- 2nd Event – Chris Barkley, RKCC
- 3rd Event – Mike Schneider, RKCC
- 4th Event – Ralph Shlacter, RCN Navy CC
- 5th Event – Bob Tester, RKCC
- 6th Event – Gord Rogers, RKCC
- 7th Event – J. Cochrane, Russell CC
- 8th Event – Paul Adams, RCMP CC

I'd like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers and staff that helped to make this one of the most enjoyable Whig bonspiels in recent memory. Thank you for a fantastic job well done, our bonspiels couldn't work without you! You deserve a huge amount of credit. Thanks a ton people!

Thursday Dinner: Doug Huddle (Lead), Kathy Brown, Sandy Edwards, Duncan MacArthur, Linda O'Sullivan and Lee Thompson.

Friday Lunch: Bill Duffe (Lead), Bob Armstrong, Brian Collingwood, Lefty McDonald and Art Slack.

Friday Dinner: George Gratton (Lead), Bruce Bodley, Ivan Brandsma, Norma Burns, Kathy Brown, Ron Brown, Ernie Carter, Sandy Edwards, Doug Huddle, Ken Hutchings, Emil Lindt, Steve Lockridge, Linda O'Sullivan, Mike Olive, Glen Owen, Bill Racz, Jim Rines, Chuck White and Sylvia Wright

Saturday Breakfast: Wayne Gilmour

Saturday Lunch: Gary Dupuis (Lead), Dave Burke, Murray Cotton, Henry Peel, Doug Swain, Mike Tureski and Mieka Vermeer.

Saturday Dinner: Bill Duffe (Lead), Ed Bauder, Sandy Duncan, Bill Racz, Joan Roantree, and Mieka Vermeer.

Score Keepers: Roger Taylor (Scheduler), Ernie Carter, Ian Duncan, Brian Hetherington, Al Jarmin, Eden Jefferies, Lorne Lloyd, Phil Neatby, Henry Peel, Dave Sansom, Don Simpson, Ed Tibbutt, Brian Wilson and Don Wood.

Draw Sheet: Vic Matthews

Staff: Graham Weatherby (Manager),

Ice: Rod Leeder and Terry Barker

Bar: Gerry Buist, Julie Cox, Greg Ruse, Shani Doucet and Cindy Link.

Co-Convenor's : Gordon Abson and Tim Prue



The "Empire Life" Bonspiel

George Gratton, Convenor

The 52nd Annual Empire Life Bonspiel, was, as ever, a great success. The combination of good curling, good food, good costumes, and for those with the stamina to take in the dancing, an excellent disc-jockey, is hard to beat.

While we went right down to the wire to complete the draw again this year, we were able to register a full complement of 32 teams.

It seems to be more and more difficult to attract out-of-town and out-of-club teams. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Our theme, THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK, was catchy, though it taxed the imagination of our decorating committee. They were very creative in transforming our club to fit the theme. Who knew, that there were so many star-ships and space-stations stored in basements, closets and garages?

The dedication of our volunteers is unsurpassed, and, as is the case with every event at our club, we owe them our special thanks.

Our bonspiel and club received welcome praise from Joe Sherwood, skip of the winning team, who upon being presented the Empire Life Trophy, praised our hospitality, our ice conditions our facility and thanked us for a well run bonspiel.

Our organizing committee, Linda Lott, Don and Marg Hutchinson, Rene Marchen, Donna Poirier and Steve Vermeer thanks all involved for making this 52nd a memorable event.

52nd Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel Results:

1 st Event Winner	Joe Sherwood	Gananoque
1 st Event Runner-Up	David Spence	RKCC
Consolation	Tracey Mitchell	RKCC
Consolation Runner-Up	Andy Palmer	Napanee
2 nd Event Winner	Tony Bush	RKCC
2 nd Event Runner-Up	Doug Hogeboom	RKCC
3 rd Event Winner	Mike Schneider	RKCC
3 rd Event Runner-Up	Chris Barkley	RKCC
4 th Event Winner	Alex Tosh	RKCC
4 th Event Runner-Up	Todd Johnson	RKCC
5 th Event Winner	Marg Hutchinson	RKCC
5 th Event Runner-Up	George Gratton	RKCC

Grandma and Auntie Travel the World



Royal Kingston Curling Club

Grandmothers and Great Aunts Bonspiel 2010

Wednesday, March 24, 2010



Friday, March 26, 2010 - Royal Kingston Curling Club



The following was *David Letterman's* Top Ten list from Wed, Feb 17th. Not particularly favorable towards curling and not particularly funny but decided to include it anyways! Here goes...

Top Ten "Surprising Facts About Curling"

10. Every year it's watched by dozens of people.
9. Consistently ranked the world's No. 1 broom-related sport.
8. It's a lot like hockey, minus the speed and excitement.
7. No No. 7 -- writer fell asleep while researching curling facts.
6. Not to be confused with Norwegian sport "Carling" where you push a guy named Carl across the ice.
5. Longest match ever: unknown, because no one ever stays till the end.
4. No No. 4 -- writer still asleep. Damn, curling is boring.
3. Mickey Rourke making film about washed-up curling legend who comes back for one last big curl.
2. Thing they slide down the ice is called "thing they slide down the ice."
1. No one cares.



MARCH 2010 Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Wed, Mar 3 rd	Day Ladies Host Catarqui
Sat, Mar 6 th	Kidney Foundation Stick Spiel
Fri, Mar 19 th	Day Men's In-House Spiel
Sat, Mar 20 th	Annual Closing Mixed Bonspiel
Wed, Mar 24 th	Grandmother's & Great Aunts Spiel
Fri, Mar 26 th	Super Senior's Bonspiel
Sat, Mar 27 th	Evening Ladies Rated Bonspiel
Mon, Mar 29th	Submissions for April Sweep are due
Wed, Mar 31 st	Day Ladies Mini Spiel



Board of Directors 2010 Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date *	General Meetings
March 17, 2010	
Sunday, April 11, 2010 @ 3:00 pm	198th Annual General Meeting
April 21, 2010	
May 19, 2010	
June 16, 2010	
July 21, 2010	
August 18, 2010	
September 15, 2010	
October 20, 2010	
Sunday, October 24, 2010 @ 3:00 pm	199th Semi-Annual General Meeting
November 17, 2010	
December 15, 2010	

* Regular Monthly meetings begin @ 5 PM

Questions or concerns?

Contact: Gail Irving, Secretary – (613) 542-5938
irving_j@sympatico.ca or irvingg@queensu.ca

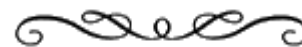


MARCH 20 - 28, 2010



Please email your
submissions for the
April Sweep
to Carole Rivington at
carolenr62@cogeco.ca
no later than
March 29, 2010!

Thank you!



Printing of this **Sweep**
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Empire Life®