



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

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A word from your President... Mike Schneider

Change!

John F. Kennedy once said "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are sure to miss the future."

None of us really like to change. It's just human nature to like routine.

At RKCC we have charged the board with strategic planning for our collective future. As most of you know, one of the changes the board had put forward for the 2016-2017 season is a change to the traditional evening schedule. The change would involve moving Evening Ladies Fight to Wednesday and reserving Monday and Thursday evenings for club curling.

Why?

There are several reasons. While we have healthy participation in our Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Flight leagues filling 3, 2 and 3 draws respectively, participation in our traditional club leagues (men's and ladies') is waning. Gone are the days when Monday, Wednesday and Thursday club curling leagues had 20 or more teams. Currently we have several leagues where there are only 12 club teams. As a result, we have some evenings where we have complete draws available. Unfortunately unless this anticipated at the start of the season, it is impossible to advertise other leagues which could fill these voids.

Our capacity on most evenings is three draws, the exception being Wednesday where we are limited to two draws due to the late afternoon high school league. Given current participation levels, the best numerical fit for Wednesday evenings is the Evening Ladies' Flight league. This would then open up Monday and Thursday (two nights where we have a 36 team capacity) to various club leagues (the traditional men's

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AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, April 10th

and ladies' leagues plus new opportunities such as mixed, novice, mixed doubles or open leagues, leagues which in turn would help us attract new members).

Unfortunately the communication of the desired change had several gaps. Those of you that attended the Semi Annual General Meeting in October are aware of the resultant reaction this created. A survey was subsequently conducted by the Evening Ladies executive in order to further assess the reaction of the present ladies section members. Although the survey questions created a slight bias, the survey did identify some flaws/difficulties in implementing the change.

As a result, the curling committee recommended to the board that the evening schedule remain "as is" for the 2016/2017 season and also that an ad hoc committee (comprised primarily of members of the curling committee but including representatives of the membership and marketing committees) be struck to develop a plan for the 2017/2018 season which would address these issues and identify which new leagues to introduce and how to better implement the resulting changes. The board unanimously endorsed these recommendations at its March meeting.

While I had hoped we could have implemented these changes earlier, I believe this is a better more prudent approach which will benefit RKCC in the long run. It also provides an opportunity to better understand the preferences of not only all existing members but also potential future members, so that collectively we don't miss the future.

I would encourage anyone who has thoughts on this subject, or who would like to participate on the committee, to contact either myself or their section head.

Lefty's Legacy

by Ron Brown

The exploits Of Harvey Eugene (Lefty) McDonald at the Royal Kingston Curling Club will never be forgotten.

From provincial championships, club championships, bonspiel championships, and chairman of probably every



bonspiel in the storied history of Canada's second oldest curling club, his efforts are forever etched in granite history.

However, what I want to convey to our members today about the man who lost a long, long battle with cancer (and never once complained) on December 23rd, 2015, is what he did behind the scenes at RKCC.

For starters, when he received his life membership in 1990, which is granted after 30 consecutive years of participation, it meant a free ride for the left-hander for as long as he wanted to curl or take part in any activities at the club. So what did Lefty do? He continued to pay his yearly membership dues with directions that they were to go directly to the club's junior curling program to foster the growth of the roaring game among the younger set so the game would continue to prosper at the club that was founded in 1820.

A few years later, after he received his life membership, he discovered there was a discrepancy in the members who were honored and some that were missed. So he took it upon himself to collect every club roster he could find and painstakingly poured over every single one. He then prepared a spread sheet to document the number of years that every registered member had played at the club. He continued with that task right up until he passed away and informed the club that he found some other errors, such as members who join only at the mid-point of the season are not included in the club roster, which is printed before Christmas, and therefore are sometimes overlooked. To date there are 90 members who have received life memberships.

For years bonspiels at the Kingston club were always filled to capacity from the 106-rink Empire Life Mixed, which ran for an entire week, to the 64-rink Tri-Club (Kingston, Cataraqui and Garrison) events to the 48-rink Whig-Standard and Famous Fisherman's, preparing the draw was never really a problem. However, as some 'spiels dropped in numbers and others expanded complications arose if, at the last minute, organizers were faced with an uneven number of teams. Not a problem. Call Lefty. He had the uncanny ability to organize any draw, with appropriate byes along the way so you always had two undefeated teams playing off for the main event championship.

As competitive curling continued to grow throughout the province and in our area, Lefty was the first to realize that the Senior curlers, the ones he was playing with and against, were suddenly being shunted aside as the eager youngsters were monopolizing the cash bonspiels that were cropping up everywhere. Lefty wasn't against this, but rather decided to set up a Senior Major League at Cataraqui, where he was also a member. He wrote the rule book, arranged for qualifying competitions, and was front and centre for every game played. He organized it in such a way that the 12-team league always had teams from Napanee, Gananoque, Garrison, Kingston and Cataraqui. These clubs held competitions amongst themselves to gain an allotted spot. And it wasn't just for men. If there was a competitive women's or mixed team in the area they too could try for a spot.

From its inception in 1999 this league was always called the Kingston and District Senior Major League. That changed in November when Cataraqui, as Lefty's health deteriorated, changed the name to the Lefty McDonald Senior Major League.

Lefty's passing leaves a huge void in curling throughout the province and especially in Eastern Ontario and Kingston. His untiring efforts to foster the game, particularly at OUR CLUB, will never be duplicated. Rest in peace my friend.



Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Martin Sherris, Chair

It hard to believe that another season of curling is coming to a close, where did the time go?



With this, the Finance Committee is now planning our budget for the 2016/17 season with a mandate to reduce overhead where we can and provide the best balance of cost and value to our membership.

It is also the time of when we report to you, our members the financial results of this year at our AGM in April. Our reports are almost finalized and I can tell you now that our financial position is sound. I welcome you all to come out to our AGM, celebrate our successes and bring your questions. We want your input as a valued member of the RKCC, after all that is why we are here as volunteers of the Finance Committee.

Feel free to contact me or any member of the Finance Committee if you have any questions or concerns.

The committee is comprised of:

Karen Matheson, Rob Campbell,
Brian Ward, Paul Cridland,
Donna Poirier, Graham Weatherby
and myself



Governance Committee

John Ryce, Chair

Hello everyone. It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another successful season of curling.

Our main focus now is putting a full slate of names forward for the various positions on the Board. The 12 Board positions are; President, Past President, Vice President (Governance Chair), Finance Committee Chair, Social Committee Chair, Member at Large, Curling Committee Chair, Operations/Resources Chair, Marketing Chair, Membership Chair, Secretary and we currently have a Human Resources/Communications Chair. The Board has approved the elimination of the Human Resources component of the HR & Communications Committee but the members will have to give their approval at the AGM. Please make an effort to attend the AGM on Sunday April 10th at 1 pm. We

value your participation and input.

I also want to thank my committee of Jim Barton, Mike Schneider, Henry Treier, Joanne Miller, Martha Tanner, Bob Helliard and Edward Gibson.



Section Reports



Operations Committee

Reg Gore, Chair

The Operations Committee has been preparing their budget for 2016-17. Some of the items that are being considered for presentation to the Finance Committee are: a new scraper blade; an ice pad for the ice scraper (scraper blade should be kept cool at all times for maximum performance); a thermo scanner to monitor ice temperature & repairs to the building & carpet in the ice shed. We are meeting with the Finance Committee to review the budget items and assign priorities.

The Operations Committee, in its efforts to continue to reduce Hydro consumption is investigating a change to LED lighting in the building and ice shed. Once the details are worked out we will be presenting the facts to the Finance Committee and the Board.

Once the budgets are approved the Operations

Committee will be actively organizing the work for the summer months.

The basic Risk Management form has been completed and distributed to all Board members for their information and input. The purpose of this is for planning purposes and to assist the Club in planning major equipment replacement including the kitchen.

Day Ladies

by Donna Jeffery

We are nearing the end of another curling season. Last draws are underway and the new playoff format will be tested soon. I think we are going to have an exciting finish with more involvement by more members. Let's all participate by playing or cheering.

These are the results of Draw 3 Tuesday Club:

- 1st Division Winner: April Welsh, Martha Forkes, Pat Bradshaw, Kat Banko
- 2nd Division Winner: Marilyn Bellringer, Nancy Gray, Lois McKeown, Claudia Stevenson
- 3rd Division Winner: Diane Labrie, Fran Cooney, Jan Bryant, Deb Emerton

Results for the Thursday Club Draw 3:

- 1st Division Winner: Linda O'Sullivan, Nancy Page, Lois MacArthur, Claudia Stevenson
- 2nd Division Winner: Mary Skeggs, Helen Noble, Francine Korczynski, Deb Kennedy
- 3rd Division Winner: Marg McDonald, Bernie Kay, Val Gore, Virginia Flynn

The Day Ladies Flight league has three games left. When the dust settles the top 4 teams in A and the top 4 teams in B will participate in a page playoff to determine the winner of each division.

Wednesday, March 16 is Bring a Friend Night. If there is anyone you know who would like to try our wonderful sport please bring them to the club around 6:30 so they can get prepared to 'hit' the ice at 7:15. Maybe we will get some new members for next season.

As you all know the chairpersons for Day Ladies, Nancy Gray, and Evening Ladies, Heather McMillan, have asked for suggestions on how we could pay tribute to Betty Bush. It has been decided that next fall we will honour Betty by organizing the 'Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel'. It will be an in-rated spiel because Betty was instrumental in encouraging all members to participate in and enjoy the atmosphere of a bonspiel. To that end we need to ask for donations to cover the cost of a trophy and some engraving. If each member would be willing to donate two dollars it would be very much appreciated. Nancy and Heather are hoping to have the funds collected by March 18 so please see them about your donation and thank you in advance.



Evening Ladies

by Heather McMillan

Congratulations to the winners of our second and third draws in Evening Ladies Club Curling. First Event of the second draw went to **Heather McMillan's team of Jenny Brown, Marianne Farrell, and Martha McCallum**. Runners up were Denise Mulville, Jennifer Cook, Danielle Arsenaault, and Rachel St-Jean. The winners of the Second Event were Mary Buchanan's team of Liz Baer, Gillian Turnbull and Carol Fitzpatrick and our Third Event winners were Sharon Windsor's team of Sheila Campbell, Louise St. John and Kathleen Young. The First Event winners of the Third Club Draw were **Nancy Roantree's team of Marge Craig, Carol Fitzpatrick and Beth Giberson**. Runners up were Denise Mulville's team of Tanya Ledford, Sue Chamberlain and Gay Chamberlain. Winners of the Second Event were Heather McMillan, Pam Power, Danielle Arsenaault and Kathleen Young, and the Third Event winners were Georgia O'Shaughnessy, Debby King, Debbie Mansell and Christina Dinsmore. Evening Ladies' Carrie Cole Playoffs will begin in April to determine which of the four draw winners will play against the Day Ladies Club

winner on Championship Day at 6:30pm.

The third round robin of Evening Ladies Flight Curling will come to a close at the end of March, and playoffs for the A, B and C flight divisions will begin in April. The A, B, and C flight finals will all be held on Championship Day. This year our Evening Ladies A Flight winners will play against the Day Ladies Flight winners on Championship Day at 6:30pm.

The Evening Ladies will host the annual **Bring a Friend Night on Wednesday, March 16th**. All ladies are welcome to come and try curling! Ask your friends, families, coworkers, and anyone else you can think of to join us for a fun night. See Kathleen Poole with any questions.

The **Evening Ladies Semi-Annual Meeting** will be held on Monday, April 4th at 7:30pm, following the 5:10pm games. Please see the website for an agenda prior to the meeting.



**Empire
Life**

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

8 Ender

Congratulations to the team of Christy Gilmour, Liz Baer, Joanne Gizzi and Sally Stewart on getting an 8 ender at their Wednesday Club Game. On Christy's final shot, she was left needing a double take-out to clear the opponent's rocks to lie sitting with 8. With a wobbly slide, I'm sure nerves had a factor, Christy recovered to complete the take-out with her shooter lying to rest with the other 7 rocks and a loud cheer from her teammates.





Day Men

by Brian Hetherington

My 2 years as Chair has flown by , but thanks to a lot of support from Vice Ken Burns and Roger Chown, scheduling, they made it easy. I am stepping down as Day Men's Chair and have been more than adequately replaced by Co Chairs John Pratt and David Leeson, elected at our March meeting. Thankfully Ken and Roger are staying on in their rolls and were re-elected.

There was a rule change tabled at this meeting and was agreed to by members attending the March meeting.

The rule is: The last rock in the 6th end must have come to a complete stop before the buzzer to allow you to complete 8 ends. The old rule was that the first rock in the 7th must have been thrown before the buzzer to allow you to complete 8 ends.

The annual Day Men's Skins Spiel was successful, \$ 400 plus returned to the club. Run with the help of many volunteers lead by last years winners Glen Owen, John Pratt, Ken Brant and David Leeson. This is a fun spiel which is open to all men curlers and is always very popular. Jim Lesley and his kitchen crew serve up a more than filling Chinese meal.

Winners are...

Corner to Corner Competition:

1st Keith Forrest 4 3/4 inches, 2nd Glen Owen 6 inches, 3rd John Pratt 8 1/2 inches; who all helped in this event, see it pays to organize the corner to corner shoot out.

Bob Moore won \$157 in the 50/50 draw

Curling:

1st Rangers - 33 pts - Brian Hetherington, Keith Forrest, Dave Lollar, Mike White
 2nd Canadians - 32 pts - Bill Worthy, Marty Chilton, John Pratt
 3rd Oilers - 27 pts - Vic Matthews, Ed Grice, Eric McLean
 4th Senators - 26 pts - Brian Wilson, Larry Paradis, Eden Jefferies, Chris Potter

See some Canadian hockey teams can win!!!!



The Stick Leagues of RKCC

by Ian Duncan



As the season inexorably wends its way to the end, it's time to think about the semi-annual general meeting and the closing luncheon. They will happen on 30 March, and there will be a notice and sign up sheet put on the notice board.

We're looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen with lunch.

If anyone has an issue or issues that should be considered for the agenda for the meeting, please let Ken Burns or Ian Duncan know.

I think the season has been reasonably successful. We've had more curling days than previous years, and hopefully we will be able to schedule more for next year. We'll know when the 2016/2017 calendar is composed.



New Novice League

by Martha Tanner

The Novice League started its fourth and final draw on March 9. The four-team league plays on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. The new league is for players with four years' or less instruction and was supplemented this year by some more experienced players who provided instruction and encouragement. Players rotated positions every three weeks. From left: Jill Mooney, Mike Cooke (instructor/player), Bill Hay, Neal Maher, Steve Orme, KC Bell, Richard Robichaud, Mary Graham, Barry Malmsten (instructor/player), Jean Vannest,

Joanne Bilodeau, Paul Moorby, Stéphane Bilodeau, Jim Ellerton, Leslie Higginson (instructor/spare). Missing from photo are league members Mike Murphy, Judy Hay, and John Emerton, spares Andrew Van Overbeke and Amy Didrikson, and instructors Denis Faubert and Martha Tanner.

Photo by Martha Tanner



Bonspiel Reports



For a very long time in Canadian Dictionary Publishing, there was no account for the word Bonspiel. Even now in Dictionnaires Le Robert, the word has not become print.

"The story of the Scots is an old story. It is a story of colour, but not too much of it; imagination but under control; detail but not overpowering." A quote from **The Times** in praise for the author John Prebble.

Research showed that John spent his boyhood in Saskatchewan, Canada. He joined the Royal Artillery where his research proved the significance to a 13th February 1692. For me, as an artist, it was my responsibility to take control of these ruthless cultural stories on behalf of the name William to the folklore of strange occurrences in secret intelligences, such as the Battle of Glencoe. This Bonspiel was also a test of my own peacekeeping abilities with respect to the relevance of Canadian Super Heroes in modern GIS securities. In a city which connotes the conscription of first names with the Motto "Where History and Innovation Thrive", a Super Hero theme was my proof of our

peacekeeping for the protection of a compass card in Battery Park along Lake Ontario. Moreover, it was the least I could do to protect the Scottish icons of Canada's first Government contradictions with this National Flag of Canada Day ON 15th February 2016.

I would like to thank every member of Royal Kingston Curling Club for the use of the logo in the communication of peace for the 13th day of February 2016 with the 58th Annual Empire Life's narration at work. As a Certified Manager, it was my obligation to be affirmative, not arrogant, in the Administration of Canadian Justice applications. We, as in William Barker and I thank you and salute you for that encounter.

Winners of the trophy were Trevor Kirby – team Incredibles with Vice Kaitlyn Welch, Second Ray Hibbert and Lead Pat Bradshaw

2nd 2-game high: Bill Cannon, Teresa Gibson, Edward Gibson, Gail Irving

3rd 2-game high: Dave Londry, Michelle Paquin, Eric McLean, Margie Plumadore

4th 2-game high: Bruce Jeffery, Nancy Gray, Garry Dupuis, Mary Dupuis

5th prize – 1 game high: Mike Olive, Judy Sly, Alexandru Sonoc, Bonnie Arlt

6th prize – 0 game high: Fran Cooney, Ken Burns, Jane Leduc-Potter, Gene Miller
Congratulations!

Kimberly C.A. Barker
58th Annual Empire Bonspiel Host

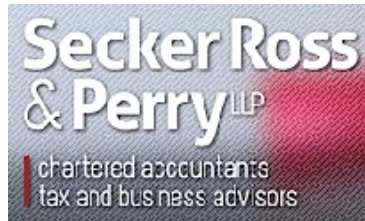
A Note of Thanks

Thank you to Kimberly Barker for volunteering to convene the Empire Life Bonspiel this year.

Kimberly and her group of volunteers put on a great event that was very much appreciated by the 16 teams that participated.

This group was fantastic to work with: Gord and Mary Smith, Sandy and Ian Duncan, Pat Butler, Dwight Farrell, Dave Parkhill, Kathy Brown, Sandy Edwards, Kathleen Poole, William Barker, Kathy Jackson, Don Wood, Gillian Turnbull.

April Welsh, Chair of Bonspiels



Upcoming Events



Calendar of Events March 2016

Date	Event
Wed, Mar 23	Grandmothers & Great Aunts Bonspiel
Mon, Mar 28	EL Spring Meeting
Wed, Mar 30	Stick League Meeting & Lunch
Thu, Mar 31 to Sat, Apr 2	Famous Fisherman's Bonspiel
April 2016	
Mon, Apr 4	EL Spring Meeting
Wed, Apr 6	DL Lunch & Spring Meeting
Sun, Apr 10 @ 1:30 PM	Annual General Meeting
Mon, Apr 11 thru Sat Apr 16	Championship Week
Wed, Apr 13	Ladies Closing Dinner
Thu, Apr 14	Men's Closing Dinner & Spring Meeting
Fri, Apr 15	Mixed Closing Dinner & Spring Meeting



PARKER BRADLEY
— CONSTRUCTION —



ROYAL KINGSTON CURLING CLUB
44TH GRANDMOTHERS AND GREAT AUNTS BONSPIEL 2016

Easter Parade



Wednesday, March 23, 2016
Entry Fee: \$150.00

Cash prizes for each draw.
(25% of entry fees based on 24 teams.)
Trophy for overall winner.

9:00am Draw:
Light Breakfast at 8:30am, on ice at 9:00 for 8-end Game,
Lunch, 6-end Game, Desserts and Cash Prizes.

~ or ~
11:00am Draw:
Light Breakfast at 10:30am, on ice at 11:00 for 8-end game,
lunch, 6-end game, desserts and Cash Prizes.

For more information, contact:
Alice Pignal at pignal@queensu.ca
Hm: 613-389-8810 or Cell: 613-453-2685 (text)

Please send your entry form and cheque payable to RKCC by March 1, 2016
Mail to: Royal Kingston Curling Club, 130 Days Road, Kingston, ON K7M 9G4
(Preferred draw times awarded as per date received.)

ROYAL KINGSTON CURLING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, April 10th, 2016
1:30 P.M.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Royal Kingston Curling Club
Ladies Closing Dinner



Date: Wednesday, April 13th, 2016

Time: Cocktails 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Roast Beef Dinner catered by Joe DeSousa

Cost: \$30.00



TICKETS: Pat Bradshaw/Brenda Charette
353-1116/548-1007

Tickets must be purchased by April 5th!



Royal Kingston Curling Club

**RKCC Club Closing
Dinner and Dance**

All are welcome!

Friday April 15, 2016

Drinks: 5:30 on

Dinner: 7:30 pm

Chef: Joe da Sousa

Band: Tim Aylesworth, Jones and Pike

Cheer the A Flight quarter finals and B Flight semi finals

Playing at 5:10

Tickets: \$30 per person or \$55 for a twosome!

Available at the bar until April 12, 2016

Contact Mixed Committee members for questions

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