



# The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club  
Celebrating '10 Years on Days'

Volume 18, Issue 1

September 2016

## A word from your President...



John Ryce, President

I need to first of all express how honoured I am to be the President of RKCC for the next two years. As a relative newcomer to the sport of curling, I think that I may bring a different perspective to the Board as we all work together to make sure that our club and the sport of curling thrive in Kingston.

I have made a lot of new friends and met many of you during my six years at the club, but if we haven't met, please come up and introduce yourself to me and let me know if you have any ideas on how we can make our club even better.

I come with an open mind and I know that change isn't always easy, but it is sometimes necessary in order to keep up.

Speaking of change, the season will start one week later this year in order to save some money in start-up costs, as we seem to be experiencing hotter than normal weather in the fall and the hydro rates keep going up. It will also give the golfers another week before they have to put their golf clubs away and bring out the curling gear.

We have a lot to be thankful for at RKCC but we can't just sit back and enjoy what generations of curlers have done for us in the past to keep us a viable organization. We need to be proactive and fiscally responsible in order to keep up with the times and ensure that our club is around for another 200 years.

We should be very proud of the fact that we are the second oldest curling club in Canada and will be celebrating our 200th anniversary in 2020. With this in mind, we will be forming a subcommittee to help us get ready for 2020, so stay tuned and please consider helping out.

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## Swing 'n Sweep

September marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RKCC's move to a brand new facility on Days Road and the start of a new curling season.

To celebrate, the Social Committee is hosting a Swing 'n Sweep on Saturday, October 1.

There will be 9 holes of golf at The Landings, followed by lunch at RKCC, 8 ends of curling and a fish fry dinner – all for just \$45. You can pick and choose if you only want to participate in one or two activities. Tee-off time is 10 a.m.; curling starts at 1:30 p.m., and cocktails begin at 4 p.m., with dinner set for 6 p.m.

Tickets are available at the club or by contacting Janet Fowlow at 613-449-3229.

*Continued from the front*

## **A word from your President...**

We will also be celebrating 10 years at our beautiful facility on Days Road. I know that we have one of the nicest clubs in Canada and we are looking at ways to utilize our club year-round. It is a shame for it to be sitting empty for most of the off-season. Again, any ideas big or small would be welcome.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the staff and the countless number of volunteers who make our club the success that it is. Without them we wouldn't survive. Don't be afraid to express your gratitude to those who help make your experience at the club a positive one.

I look forward to another successful season. Good Curling!



## **New 'team' heads up Mixed Curling Section**

Lorne Carmichael is your new mixed coordinator. A big thanks goes out to Dave Townsend for all his work over the last two years.

Friday mixed curling starts on October 7 and Sunday recreational mixed on October 16. There is room for 22 games in each division, not counting playoffs. We will maintain the same flight structure as last year.

The very popular mixed club events will continue. The firm dates are December 10, before the mixed Christmas dinner, and March 18, before the St. Patrick's Day Dance.

Another opportunity for mixed curlers to compete is the annual Empire Life Bonspiel on February 11. This is a competitive mixed curling event, open to teams from RKCC and other clubs as well.

Susan Hara will be handling the email duties this year. You will all notice some improvements! The new email address for mixed curling is:

**rkccmixedcurling@gmail.com.**

## **12<sup>th</sup> annual Golf Tourney raises \$3,889 for club**

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual RKCC golf tournament fundraiser was held at the Glen Lawrence Golf Course on June 16. The weather was fabulous and the event was attended by 143 golfers.

Dave Fraser handled all golf-related activities, including an 18-hole scramble golf game, closest-to-the-hole and closest-to-the-rope challenges.

A post-golf dinner, organized by Jim Lesley and his crew, was held at RKCC and featured BBQ steaks, smoked salmon, baked potatoes, salad and homemade apple crisp.

A very successful raffle table, organized by Garry Dupuis, raised \$1,225. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and members, individual prizes were given to all attending. The total raised for the club was \$3,889.

Special thanks to our main sponsors for their generous contributions:

*Peter C. Schenk/Edward Jones Investments;  
Henry Treier/Assante Wealth Management;  
Scott Douglas /BMW Kingston;  
Charlie Moore /D&D Auto Service;  
Ryan Hanes/Touchstone Property  
Management;  
Kelly Hale/JAKK Tuesday's;  
Bill Mulville/The Loyal Oarsman;  
Chris Barber/The Landings Golf Course;  
Blair Shaw/Upper Canada Insurance Group;  
Blake Bonham/Manulife Investments.*

This event would not have been a success without the untiring efforts of numerous volunteers. A hearty thank-you to all who participated, donated and volunteered.

**Dave Fraser, Garry Dupuis, Jim Lesley and  
Greg Ruse, Event Coordinators**

## Member at Large accepting Wall of Fame nominations

### By Joanne Miller, Member-at-Large

As Member at Large, I will be the membership spokesperson at the Board table and would like everyone to feel free to contact me by e-mail, phone or in person at the curling club.

As one of my tasks I have set up a Wall of Fame Committee selected from five sections. All are either Life Members or have been members of the club for at least 20 years. They are:

- Erwin Batalla, Mixed Section
- Bill Cannon, Evening Men's Section
- Ella Brisson, Day Ladies and Stick League
- Tom Mercer, Day Men's Section
- Rene Marchen, Evening Ladies' Section

If you have any questions, we would be pleased to help. Parameters for the Wall of Fame are available on the website in the Policy and Resources Manual. Nominees may be from the active membership, curlers who are no longer at the club but who have made significant contributions, or deceased curlers. Please fill out the nomination form available at the bar or at the office and you may either give it to me directly or leave it with Graham. It is an honour to be nominated, so please think carefully and submit your candidate. Thank you.

## Many Thanks

After eight years (!) of putting out *The Sweep*, Carole Rivington is taking a well-deserved break. Carole was also largely responsible for the new website, registration and membership data and will thankfully remain on as a resource person.

Thanks too to Mike Charette who steps down after serving as Volunteer Coordinator for several years.

## Bonspiels contribute to club's success

### By April Welsh, Bonspiel Chair

Welcome to the 2016-17 curling season! Last year RKCC successfully ran 10 in-house and seven invitational spiels. Let's keep up the good work!

As Bonspiel Chair, I will serve as a resource person for our convenors with regards to financial guidelines, kitchen duties, advertising, etc. I will be touching base with all convenors and/or section heads in the near future.

Organizing a bonspiel involves work but with committees taking care of the various duties, many hands make light work. It should be a fun and rewarding experience. Thank you in advance to all convenors and committee members for volunteering – bonspiels help make RKCC such a success, both financially and socially.

If you would like to help with a spiel, be it as coordinator, kitchen help, decorator, etc., please contact me.

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## Membership incentives

### By Linda Lott, Membership Chair

Dust off your curling shoes and get ready for another great year at RKCC. The club is participating in the Kingston Gets Active campaign, which means we will be open to the public on September 25, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., for people to try curling. Clinics begin on Monday, September 26. This gives all members a number of opportunities to get a friend, co-worker or neighbour out to try curling. If each of our 600 adult members convinced one person to join, we would have maximum utilization of our great facility.

A new incentive introduced by the Membership Committee is an Under 30 Membership Category. Members aged 22 – 30 will now benefit from a reduced fee, the same as the once-a-week Mixed Curlers. This is to encourage young adults to join – and stay at – RKCC.

## Marketing Committee seeks advertising sponsors

By Dave Fraser

The Marketing Committee is responsible for advertising in the club. This includes wall sponsors, ice sponsors, bar sponsors and any other ways we can help raise money, for the club through the sale of advertising.

We are currently looking for additional wall sponsors and ice sponsors. If you know anyone who might be interested, or if *you* are interested, please contact the Marketing Committee and we will be happy to review the options available to you.

Current committee members are:

Tom Bryant, Linda Lott, Garry Dupuis, Bruce Jeffery, Roger Taylor and Dave Fraser.

If you have any ideas for us, or are interested in joining our committee, please contact me directly at [db\\_fraser@hotmail.com](mailto:db_fraser@hotmail.com) or through the office.

Have a great year curling. See you on the ice.

## Ladies, mark your calendars

The Evening Ladies Section is looking forward to another great year of curling. We hope to welcome new members to both the flight and club leagues.

Please mark your calendars for the following events:

- Our first general meeting on Monday, October 3 at 7:30 p.m.;
- Ladies Opening Dinner on Tuesday, October 4 at 5:30 p.m.;
- the inaugural Betty Bush Memorial In-club Rated Bonspiel on Saturday, November 5;
- the Evening Ladies Invitational Bonspiel on Saturday, November 19. While I have a few members already volunteering for the bonspiel on November 19, I hope many more will help make it another successful event.

### Vice Chair Needed

Our executive is in search of a Vice Chair, so if you're interested in filling this position, please don't hesitate to contact me. All the best and good curling this season!

*Deb Wilkin, Evening Ladies Chair*

## Help Wanted

The Communications Committee needs help with the website, newsletter and keeping an active profile on social media. If you like to write, take photos, tweet, post on Facebook or have experience with newsletters or websites, please contact Martha Tanner at [thetanners@xplornet.com](mailto:thetanners@xplornet.com).

## More Help Wanted

We are also seeking a Volunteer Coordinator to match people looking to help with positions to be filled. Please contact Martha Tanner for more information.

## *Curling Skills Development:*

# Opportunities abound to learn or improve your curling skills

**By Denis Faubert, Chair,  
Curling Skills Development Committee (CSDC)**

### **Adult Novice Program (Convenor – Martha Tanner)**

Building on the last two successful seasons, RKCC will once again be offering an eight-week program of mostly on-ice instruction for novice curlers who are looking to transition to recreational or competitive curling. Experienced instructors will assist you as you endeavour to become the next “Scotties” or “Brier” champion. The \$150 fee (free to members) includes a full slider as well as two grippers and the use of club brooms or alternative delivery devices (curling sticks or stabilizers).

The curriculum is based on the Curling Canada’s “Getting Started for Adults” program, which begins with skill development and progresses to game play, where each participant will have the opportunity to play every position under the watchful gaze of qualified instructors.

There will be an information session on Sunday, October 2 for interested participants. The program begins on Sunday, October 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### **Member Clinic (Convenor – Denis Faubert)**

RKCC is providing a member-only clinic on Sunday, October 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

This clinic will build on last year’s successful “team-oriented” approach, including actual game play with helpful guidance from experienced, “proven” curling club champions. As enrolment is limited, pre-registration is required, either as an individual or as a team entry .

### **Sunday Evening Learn to Curl (Convenor – Kimberly Barker)**

Whether you’ve never curled before or are have been away from the sport, the Sunday Evening “Learn to Curl” team will help you improve your skills.

This drop-in program is offered each Sunday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. throughout the curling season and is free to all RKCC members and open to the general public for a nominal fee (\$15). This program is primarily intended to provide novice players with basic curling instruction (game etiquette and rudimentary skills), followed by an informal game with other participants. The program also provides targeted instruction for more experienced curlers looking to improve their technique or understanding of the game.

For those considering joining or simply playing occasionally, this may be the ideal opportunity to experience our state-of-the-art curling facility and club amenities.

A team of experienced curlers will be on hand to welcome you and assist you regardless of your level of experience ... just bring your enthusiasm and let us help you with the rest. Participants are encouraged to wear clean, soft-soled running shoes and loose-fitting pants. No additional equipment is required. Should you decide to join at some point in time, your accumulated LTC payments will be credited towards your membership fee. The Sunday evening Learn to Curl program begins October 16.

## **Daytime Learn To Curl (Convenor – Tom Bryant)**

### **Curling I**

Getting started. Learn the basics of delivery, sweeping, strategy, sportsmanship, and rules of the game, with an emphasis on safety and etiquette. Suitable for both regular and stick curlers and those with no or limited curling experience or returning curlers. A clean pair of running shoes required and warm clothing suggested. Led by RKCC instructors  
Thursdays, 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.  
Session 1: Oct. 13 to Dec. 1 (eight classes)  
\$95/session (free to RKCC members)

### **Curling II**

Game on. Receive instruction to 'better hit the broom', understand options for shot selection, and become more knowledgeable about curling strategy and rules. Refine delivery and sweeping. Suitable for both regular and stick curlers. Led by RKCC instructors.  
Prerequisite: Curling I or permission of instructor.  
Thursdays: 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.  
Session 1: Oct. 13 to Dec. 1 (eight classes)  
\$95/session (free to RKCC members)

## **NEW! U4 Novice Curling League (Convenor – Denis Faubert)**

RKCC is introducing a Novice Curling League for curlers with four years' or less experience. Teams may be composed of all males, all females or mixed team members. Although not obligatory, rotating team players through each position on a weekly basis is encouraged and highly recommended in order to allow each participant to experience the skillset required of each position. A qualified instructor will be available for each draw should you or your teammates require assistance. League play begins on Wednesday, October 5, with games scheduled every Wednesday evening from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. As ice availability is limited, we will only be accepting eight teams this season.

## **Clean sweepers**

Thanks to all the ladies who helped do the ladies locker room purge and cleanup in May. And thank you to the volunteers who helped with the end-of-season kitchen cleanup:  
Claire Dominik, Brenda Charette, Alice Pignal, Donna Poirier, Sheila McHenry, Joanne Gizzi.

## **Operations has bright ideas to lower hydro costs**

### ***By Wayne Smith***

As many members are aware, hydro costs are substantial in RKCC's operation. The Operations Committee is continually looking at ways to lower power consumption. Our latest initiative was to install LED lighting in the ice shed and parking lot. With the assistance of Dalco Electric, we successfully applied for a grant from Hydro. After the season ended in April, we replaced a total of 610 four-foot fluorescent bulbs with four-foot LED lamps. The wall pack lighting on the exterior of the building, as well as the pole-mounted fixtures, were also replaced.

A typical fixture in the ice shed contained six 32-watt lamps for a total of 192 watts. A typical fixture in the ice shed with the new LED lamps contains six 12-watt lamps for a total of 72 watts.

At the current Hydro rates, the payback on the project will be less than three years. Lower monthly hydro bills should result, as will maintenance on our fixtures, as the existing were at the limit of their life (10 years). The new lamps have a life of 20 - 30 years, as well as a small carbon footprint.

Many thanks to Roger Chown, Chuck White and a special thanks to Reg Gore who saw this project to completion.

# Curling Committee introduces new (and improved) calendar

**By David Townsend, Curling Committee Chair**

The Curling Committee has been hard at work, almost since the last season ended!

The calendar for events and games is now complete and has been posted on the RKCC website. This year, the season gets underway one week later than in previous years. The RKCC Open House Clinics take place on Monday, September 26 through to Wednesday, September 28, all from 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Come and take part and bring a friend with you. Practice time for returning members is available those same nights, once the Open Houses are finished at 9 p.m.

The Men's Flight season begins on Thursday, September 29 and the full schedule of curling gets underway on Monday, October 3.

Last year RKCC tried a first ever Championship Week. As much as favourable comments on the concept were heard, this year will see championship games on the Friday night and Saturday, with a closing club dinner and dance on Saturday, April 22.

The Curling Committee has addressed the buzzer rules. In a nutshell, the rules now read that an end has come to a finish when the last rock has come to a stop or crossed the back line. This change will help ensure player safety by not having to rush the first rock of the next end just to get an extra end in play. Rules will be posted on the website as well as outside the locker rooms.

As an extra safety measure, the Curling Committee is also recommending that curling stones at each end be placed in a single line. This will give more room coming off the boards and will also allow for rocks to be placed so curlers can easily find the numbered rock they are throwing. This change has yet to be approved by the folks that look after the ice and painting.

The Curling Committee meets the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in either the Lounge or the Board room. All meetings are open to members, and if you would like to join us and hear firsthand what your Committee is doing, please do come and find out.

# Welcome back, Day Ladies

**By Donna Jeffery**

Hello, ladies. I hope you have all enjoyed your hot summer, but I guess it started with a very cool golf event on June 29 at the Landings. Twenty-three curlers participated in a scramble format, with a very nice lunch afterwards. The winning team consisted of Claire Dominik, Teresa Wilson and Helen Noble. Congratulations, ladies. Next year's golf day will be Wednesday, June 28. Thank you, Diane Labrie, for organizing this fun day once again.

Now I would just like to mention a few dates to keep in mind. The last day for returning members to register and pay dues is Friday, September 23. If you have not already registered, please do so as soon as possible. This will give our Games Chair, Deb Wilkin, more time to get us organized. There will be opportunities to limber up the week of September 26.

Our Day Ladies Fall Meeting will be Thursday, September 29 at 1 p.m. The Swing 'n Sweep is October 1 and our Ladies Open Dinner (potluck) is Tuesday, October 4 at 5:30 p.m. Hope to see you all there.

Curling is starting a week later this season, so the first game for the Day Ladies League is Tuesday, October 4. Get your gear ready and "good curling".

# It's time to celebrate at RKCC!

By Martha Tanner, Communications Chair

On June 22 the Social and Communications Committees hosted a brainstorming session at RKCC to gather ideas for our tenth anniversary at our current location on Days Road (which opened in September 2006) and our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. Thirty people attended the session. The Social Committee provided refreshments and everyone dove in with enthusiasm, generating lots of great ideas and discussion, before voting on their favourite ideas.

Based on the response of members both old and new and with the enthusiastic support of the Social Committee, I feel certain that the 10th anniversary season will be a resounding success and that enthusiasm and volunteer support will only build for our upcoming bicentennial.



*Donna Smith created the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary slogan, "10 Years on Days", which conveys the fact that we are celebrating 10 years at our current location and not simply 10 years of existence. The Social Committee had a graphic designer create the logo at left. The off-centre design is intended to be eye-catching.*

## Top 6 for 200

The top five ideas for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary (5 and 6 are a tie):

1. Black tie/gala event
2. Old-fashioned, 1820s game, with costumes, possibly outdoors in Market Square or Confederation Park
3. Have the Mint strike a commemorative coin and the Post Office issue a stamp to mark the anniversary.
4. 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary wine, beer and/or scotch
5. Adopt "official" club colours and use for promotional materials, i.e., club jackets, T-shirts, etc.
6. Host a major competition, i.e., Brier, national mixed or mixed doubles, provincials.

We'll bring more ideas forward in a future edition . . . we've run out of room!

## Top 5 for the 10th

The top five ideas for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary were:

1. Commemorative pin
2. BBQ / Open House in September
3. Lobsterfest
4. 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary wine
5. 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary beer

Other ideas included:

- CKWS Radio and TV remote broadcast of morning show from the club
- Have members sign a timeline
- Funspiels (with silly contests like throwing a turkey or a crown, push out of the hack contest, kids versus adults)
- Focus on the number 10: 10 big events, 10 . . .
- Town crier and piper
- Engage social media
- Video of closing at Clergy Street location
- Games spiel (curling, but other types too, i.e., shuffleboard at Centre 70)
- Design a T-shirt contest and baseball caps

A full list is available online in the Communications Committee Report in the minutes of the July 17 Board meeting.