



# *The Sweep*

Royal Kingston Curling Club  
*Celebrating '10 Years on Days'*

Volume 18, Issue 4

February 2017

## Team Mulville competes at Provincials

By Martha Tanner  
Chair, Communications Committee

It wasn't the result they were hoping for, but it was a good experience overall.

The team of Denise Mulville, Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk and Liz Brown represented RKCC at the Senior Women's Provincial Championship in Lindsay February 15 - 19, finishing with an 0-7 record that doesn't tell the whole story of how well the team played.

"We would have liked to have a win or two," said Denise, "but we had fun."

Denise formed the team to play at the provincial qualifier in Napanee in January, where they won the B-side. Monica and Liz play on Denise's evening flight team, and Suzanne was recruited from her flight team, skipped by her mom, Pauline Herron.

At their first provincials, they found themselves up against much more experienced teams, many of which had competed multiple times at the provincials before. They had some close games in the round robin, but unfortunately gave up a few big ends to their top opponents, including overall winner Jo-Ann Rizzo of Brantford, who has played in over a



**Team Mulville, from left skip Denise Mulville, third Suzanne Herron, second Monica Kirk and lead Liz Brown, competed for the first time in the Senior Women's Provincial Championship in Lindsay, Ontario, February 15 – 19.**

Photo provided

dozen Scotties and is currently third on Sherri Middaugh's team. Denise and her team praised the venue and the volunteers who made the experience such a good one, and thanked the many supporters from RKCC who turned out to cheer them on. They have learned from the experience and are eager to try to requalify next year and improve their record.

The team was given a rousing send-off before they left, with cake, best wishes and a donation to help defray expenses.

Win or lose, this newly-formed seniors team – the first in many years to represent RKCC at the provincials – has made us all proud!

# A Word from your President

It is hard to believe that our season is about 75 per cent of the way through and before you know it we will be putting away the brooms and getting the clubs out. Let's not rush things too much, as it has been a great season so far.

First and foremost, I will give a brief update on the work that the Personnel Committee has been doing on filling the General Manager (GM) role. We had more than 20 resumes to choose from and many of them were of very high quality. We cut that list to seven candidates to interview and, at the time of writing this report, we have it narrowed down to our final two. The good news is that we really can't lose, as I feel that all of our final candidates would make an excellent GM. Stay tuned for the announcement of our new GM very soon. I really need to thank Mike Schneider and Edward Gibson who have done a tremendous job throughout the whole hiring process. I also need to thank Steve Hulton for the wonderful job he has done as interim GM.

I couldn't be more pleased with the food service that is now being offered by Ruthie Cummings. RKCC has become my new favourite place to eat. The food is all home-cooked and it makes for a cheap date night. Be sure to stay for a bite after your game, or come early and fill up before you go out on the ice.

Please put in your calendar Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, as that is when our Annual General Meeting will be held. It is important that you take an interest in what is going on at your club and we really need your input as we discuss any changes to our by-laws and elect a new Board.

Good curling for the remainder of the season.

**John Ryce, President**

## Time to pass on the stick, er, baton

**By Ian Duncan**

The season seems to be progressing well, with no major glitches to this point.

We really appreciate the Pat Simms team of Virginia Flynn, Claire duBac Rayner, and Marie-Ann Carey joining us to give us six teams, thus eliminating the bothersome bye. Hopefully, these six teams will be augmented by at least two more for next season; and maybe even more. The Stick League is one which has pretty much maintained its membership from year to year. Whether this means it's more of us are getting older, it's all good.

There is one major item that needs attention. While I've enjoyed being the chairperson for the past three years, this spring will end my term and it's time for someone else to take the reins. Please let me know which one, or more, of our many highly qualified stick curlers will take on the position.

*The Sweep* is edited by Martha Tanner, chair of the Communications Committee. Also on the committee are: Carole Rivington, who looks after printing *The Sweep*, publishing the roster and updating the website; April Welsh, bonspiels coordinator; and Donna Smith, archivist. Please send submissions for *The Sweep* to [communications@royalkingston.com](mailto:communications@royalkingston.com) or [thetanners@xplornet.com](mailto:thetanners@xplornet.com). To post items on the website, contact Carole at [carolenr62@cogeco.ca](mailto:carolenr62@cogeco.ca).

# Volunteer to be part of the 2017 Travelers Curling Club Championship

**By Brian Ward, Vice Chair, Facilities**

## **2017 Travelers Curling Club Championship**

*The following article was emailed to the membership recently. We had a very good response and we thank those who have volunteered. More volunteers are needed, so please help out if you can.*

The 2017 Travelers Curling Club Championship is coming to Kingston this fall. It is being held at Catarauqui Golf & Country Club November 20 - 25. And we need volunteers to help.

The Travelers is a prestigious Canadian championship and it is another opportunity for the Kingston curling community to come together and show the city and the larger community what a great activity curling is.

As you know, in order to present a top-quality event we need volunteers. For the Travelers, we will need about 120 volunteers in many areas, including Hosting, Ceremonies, Transportation, Timing and Scoring.

Ken Thompson from Catarauqui is the Chair of the event, Dianne Wylie from Catarauqui is the Vice-chair for Hosting and I am the Vice chair of Facilities. Jan Ray and Deb Wilkin have offered to help coordinate volunteers from RKCC. We would like to show strong support from RKCC and are looking for 50 to 60 volunteers from our club.

November may seem quite a way off, but in order to get committees organized and working over the summer, we need to sign volunteers up right now.

When we get back to curling after the summer, we will have only a few weeks before the Travelers competitors come to town.

So whether you are curling for the rest of the season, or are heading south for some of the next few months or are already "snow birding" I urge you to join our 2017 Travelers Volunteer Team. Please help make the 2017 Travelers another wonderful Curling Canada championship event for Kingston!

Many of you helped make the 2013 Scotties a great success - and if we can do the same for the 2017 Travelers, we will be well-placed to successfully bid for other major Curling Canada events.

We are looking to make a strong pitch for a major event in 2020 (i.e., The Brier) as part of the RKCC 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To sign up for The 2017 Travelers Volunteer Team please contact me at [brian.ward1@sympatico.ca](mailto:brian.ward1@sympatico.ca) or Jan Ray at [janice.ray7@gmail.com](mailto:janice.ray7@gmail.com) or Deb Wilkin at [dwilkin2@cogeco.ca](mailto:dwilkin2@cogeco.ca).

Please identify your first and second choice, or simply volunteer and we will assign where the greatest need is. The choices at this time are:

**HOSTING: Team Ambassadors** - ideally we will have 14 couples (or partners) to become "ex officio" members of the 14 women's and 14 men's teams from every province and territory in Canada and will be their team's mentor, guide and head cheerleader.

N.B.: First come, first choice of team! Ambassadors will also staff the Information Table at the club during the event.

**Transportation/Drivers** - We need 20 Shuttle Drivers for the week of the event.

**FACILITIES: Officials** - including Timers and Score Board personnel. For the round-robin portion of the competition there will be four draws every day, six games per draw. We may also do Game Shooting Statistics for the Playoff Games. We need lots of Officials.

**Communications** - one game per draw will be webcast and for every game we require two commentators. Here is your chance to be Vic, or Russ or Cheryl --- or Mike or Kevin or Joan.

There are other volunteer opportunities, which we will define in the near future. Thank you.



### **RKCC team wins Senior Crystal Heart Curling Classic**

From left, Joanne Miller, Nancy Roantree, Karen Peters and Joanne Gizzi accept the plaque for the Senior Division of the Crystal Heart Curling Classic from Joan Semeniuk, chair of the Organizing Committee. The bonspiel, held February 2-5 in Ottawa, is Ontario's largest women's bonspiel and a fundraiser for the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Photo provided

## **Equipment purchased to enhance curling experience**

**By Denis Faubert,  
Chair, Curling Skills Development Committee**

In the last few weeks, we have made some inroads with regards to making more curling equipment available to both members and non-members entering our facility.

A shoe rack (adjacent to the storage cabinet) alongside sheet 6 has been installed and a variety of grippers, slip-on-sliders, traditional sliders (with elastic band) as well as step-on sliders ranging in size are now available. These are intended primarily for Learn to Curl participants, as well as some sanctioned third-party rentals.

In addition, for the benefit of novice curlers and the convenience of club members wishing to explore alternative delivery styles, three stabilizers and two curling sticks are now located near the storage bin. Furthermore, there are now six curling sticks supported by magnetic hooks beside each scoreboard, as well as three stabilizers available for curlers at the far-end of the ice hut.

Hopefully these changes will enhance the curling experience for everyone curling at RKCC.

# EL executive has openings

Well it's that time of year again when we seek out the best, brightest, and most enthusiastic members to fill positions on the executive.

The following positions are open for your consideration:

- Chair
- Vice-chair
- Social Co-convenors (2 members)
- Flight Convenor
- Club Convenor
- Secretary

If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please see the EL webpage early in March for a new draft set of bylaws. We will be presenting these to the membership for a vote at the EL annual general meeting Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. A description of each position will be in this draft. Please let any of the current executive know of your interest so that we may put your name on the nomination list, if you so wish. We will be posting the proposed slate of officers 14 days prior to the meeting.

All the best,  
Evening Ladies Section Executive:  
Deb Wilkin – Chair  
Heather McMillian – Past Chair  
Mary Buchanan – Secretary  
Denise Mulville – Flight Convenor  
Liz Baer and Monica Kirk – Club Convenors





Top left: Abigail Vander Plas, Kimberly Barker, Andrew DaCosta and Jaydon Irish. Above, George Lowdon, with coach Christy Gilmour. Left Logan Bedard, Christy Gilmour and Leah DaCosta.

Photos provided

## HDT Competition a hit with Little Rockers

**By Kimberly C.A. Barker**

The Little Rock Program at RKCC hosted the OCA Hit, Draw and Tap (HDT) Competition this year and we are very proud to announce the top scorers. There were two levels of competition, the first using the half sheet of ice and the second using the full sheet. Each participant had five chances to score, out of a possible five points per shot, with a hit on a shot rock placed just behind the button, a draw to the button, and a tap-up on a rock in front of the house, keeping the shooter rock to score.

The Little Rock members aged six to eight used the short version, throwing from the hack to the near house, while those aged nine to 10 were required to compete using the full sheet of ice.

The winners of the half-sheet competition were Logan Bedard in first, followed by Leah DaCosta in second and Alex Splinter in third. Alex has moved on to practising the long version of the competition and we wish her good luck and good curling for next year's competition.

The top scorer for the full-sheet competition was Abigail Vander Plas. Tied for second were Andrew DaCosta and Jaydon Irish. In third place was George Lowdon, who just started curling this season. An honourable mention goes to Dominic Cote, who earned a one-day high score in the competition. Good work, everyone.

On February 12, we invited John Epping, to visit our club February 12 to meet with our Little Rock members. John provided some top instruction for etiquette and competition next year at RKCC.



**The winners of the Lefty McDonald Senior Major League trophy are, from left, John Futtit (fifth, skipping for Garth Mitchell), Murray Lynch (lead), Brian Ward (second) and Ken McMillan (vice).**

## Team Mitchell scores Major win

**By Dave Allen**

The Lefty McDonald Seniors' Major League playoffs wrapped up on February 14, with the Garth Mitchell team of Royal Kingston capturing the 2016-17 championship. The RKCC team, skipped by John Futtit for Garth Mitchell in the final game, defeated the Ivan Suddergaard team of Cataraqui, skipped by Gary Allen, in a close, well-curling match that went down to last rock.

The Mitchell team advanced to the final with a victory over clubmate Tim Aldridge in the 1 vs 2 Page game, while the Suddergaard team had beat the Andy Palmer team of Napanee in the 3 vs 4 game and then the Tim Aldridge team in the semi-final.

The 'B' event saw the Mike Schneider team of Royal Kingston defeat the Larry Waller team, also from Royal Kingston. The Schneider team had advanced with a victory over the Ian Munro team of Napanee, while the Waller team defeated the Robert Paul team of Napanee before winning over the Munro team.

Thanks to all the fans that showed up for the final games and for your support throughout the year. Also thanks to the Cataraqui ice staff and bar staff for another good year.

## It's time to think golf!

**By Greg Ruse and Dave Fraser,  
Co-Convenors**

March is at our door. Thank goodness!

Enough of winter already. It's time to think GOLF. The 13th annual RKCC golf tournament will be held at the Glen Lawrence Golf Club on Thursday, June 15th at 1:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars for this important summer social gathering which is a major fundraiser for the club. We will have our famous BBQ steak and salmon dinner at RKCC following golf, along with a generous prize table. We will again play a scramble format, as it promotes faster play. The price will be \$75 and includes a cart, (\$35 for RKCC members who are also GLGC members). We are looking to fill this event, so please make early plans and invite family members and friends as well. Last year we adjusted the supper and prize distribution to facilitate an earlier conclusion to a long day and this was successful in speeding up the process.

And please don't forget to start saving prizes for the prize table. Value in the order of \$15 - \$20 is appropriate, as is "re-gifting". The preliminary sign-up sheet is posted in the RKCC lobby.





Edward Gibson, far right, presents the Empire Life trophy to the winning team of, from left, Joan Doucet (second), Kevin Latimer (lead), Keith Langley (vice) and Jennifer Langley (skip).



Linda Lott, left, and Dave Bracken consider their next move.

## The Empire strikes back

The Empire Life Competitive Mixed Bonspiel was another unqualified success, thanks to the hard work and perseverance of organizers Kimberly Barker and April Welsh. Janet Fowlow arranged for the dinner and servers. The one-day spiel, held February 11, attracted 24 teams, with a waiting list to play. The theme was “perfect in plaid”, the dinner was fabulous, and the prizes were cash. Topping it all off was guest speaker John Epping, fresh off competing in the provincial championship.



Gay Chamberlain, left, and Liz Baer sweep skip Deb Wilkins’ rock.



The team of, from left, Marty Chilton, Marilyn Chilton, Steve Sellers and Pennie Robert.

*Photos by  
Martha  
Tanner*



Mary Kelly delivers in style.

# 'Cooker Girl' caters to curling crowd

Submitted by Ruthie Cummings

Ruthie Cummings was born in Canada and brought up in a German household. Her mother was born in Germany and moved to Canada in the 1950s. She showed her homesickness for her motherland through food, culture and festivities. In Canada, Ruthie's family lived a simple life and utilized nature. Ruthie's mother taught her to forage for mushrooms, cook



from scratch, butcher meat, make sausages and preserves, and all of the German family's cooking recipes. Making bread and pastries were always foremost in a family addicted to sweets and yeast. As a young adult, Ruthie learned early on that the service industry was her calling. She tried to follow in her mother's footsteps by studying ceramics and sculpture, which ultimately benefited her in cooking creation. While working in the food service industry, she studied commerce, with the intention of someday opening up her own restaurant. Ruthie also has her Sommelier accreditation, is a certified Mushroom Expert, and has worked with such 'greats' in the food/wine world as Andre St. Jacques, Guinness World Record Holder for most sabered Champagne bottles in a minute, and 'Spice Meister' Greg Couillard. She apprenticed under European chef Roger Wils and studied bread-making and pastries with Rainer Schwadtke, named Germany's Best Baker six years in a row.

Ruthie did eventually open her own restaurant, but sold it a year ago to return to beautiful Kingston to assist her parents and to build a future in her childhood city.

Says Ruthie, "I would personally like to thank everyone at the Royal Kingston Curling Club for the opportunity to feed you. It is my wish to make you amazing from-scratch food right from your very large and beautiful kitchen. As each week goes by, I will fine tune more and more in order to make it a perfect curling and food experience. You have all been so wonderful, and I look forward to making lasting friendships. Please feel free to request anything or give constructive criticism. I want to hear your opinions. Thank you again for this opportunity."



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# Curling season's almost over, but the party's just beginning

By Kathleen Poole, Chair, Social Committee

## Christmas Craft, Dessert and Tea Sale – December 3, 2016

We are pleased to report that our profit for the club from this event was \$822.45. Many people contributed to its success! We had 25 happy crafters/vendors who said that they enjoyed our venue, the attendance, their profits, and our attention.

Appreciation is also extended to all those club members who took time to bake for us, so that the Tea and Dessert sale was also a success! Desserts were enjoyed by all, and lots of terrific quality checks were required to ensure everything was okay to serve to the public!

Much appreciation is acknowledged for the Friday setup crew, for Saturday afternoon's cleanup crew, and to the kitchen crew who provided great customer service: Gwen Mitchell, Trish Beckett, April Welsh, Pennie Robert, Joanne Gizzi, and Linda Lott!

Thanks again - team work makes it all work, and the club profited from our efforts!

**St Paddy's Day Dance on Saturday, March 18, 2017 from 8 p.m.- 12 p.m.** is our next event, with Steve Cheesman and the



Royal Kingston Curling Club

## St Paddy's Day Themed Fun-spiel

All are welcome - Wear something **GREEN!**



Saturday March 18, 2017

Games at: 12:00 and 3:00 pm



Tickets: \$15 per person - at bar

**LUNCH INCLUDED, THEMED PRIZES**

The mixed committee will use club rating for teams!

Please indicate *food sensitivities*.

Contact: Kathleen Poole for questions:

[kathleen.poole@sympatico.ca](mailto:kathleen.poole@sympatico.ca)

Heeters. Over half of the tickets have already been sold for this popular band. Come and join us for some fun! Ruthie will be cooking up some snacks in the kitchen for purchase.

**Championship Night Dinner & Dance – Saturday April 22.** The Social Committee is in the final stage of negotiating with a band, and is pleased to be hosting this celebration with a dinner and dance after the Championship Day games. More details will be forthcoming, but we look forward to everyone getting together for the conclusion of our curling year!

# Day Ladies enjoy active season

By Donna Jeffery

On behalf of the Day Ladies League, I would like to congratulate two teams that have done us proud. First is the team of Denise Mulville, Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk and Liz Brown. They competed in Napanee and won the right to go to the Senior Provincial Championships in Lindsay February 15 - 19. The other team was skipped by Joanne Miller with Nancy Roantree, Karen Peters and Joanne Gizzi in supporting roles. They competed in the Crystal Heart in Ottawa and won the Senior Division. Ask to see their bracelets. Well done, ladies.

On Friday, February 3 quite a few Day Ladies took part in a Mixed Skins Spiel that the Day Men organized. It was great fun. We don't often have a chance to play the skins format, so it was a bit of a learning curve (or should I say learning curl). It was also very nice to meet other members of our curling family. We played three four-end games and had a delicious lunch. Monica Kirk and Ella Brisson were on the winning team. Thank you to John Pratt for inviting us.

On Monday, February 13 two teams faced off to determine another entry for the Carrie Cole playoff. The participating teams were the Tuesday Draw 3 event winner, Linda O'Sullivan, Joanne Manion, Tensia Cannon and Joan Stevenson, against the Thursday winner of Jan Ray, Philippa Fugler, Barbara Robertson and Claudia Stevenson. Team O'Sullivan emerged the winner.

Last but not least, the Day Ladies In-House Rated Spiel took place on Friday, February 17. Whether you were curling or helping out, the Beach Party was fun for all.



Royal Kingston Curling Club (RKCC)

## Annual Ladies *Bring a Friend* Night

Wednesday March 15, 2017 @ 6:15 pm

Bring your friends and colleagues, and share with them *WHY* you enjoy curling so much:



Remind the ladies to **arrive by 5:45 or 6:00**; to dress warmly in layers, wool socks, warm gloves, & clean running shoes.



Members, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share with friends after the game!

We will provide, with a *St Paddy's Day* theme:

- ✓ Broom, tape and elastics for their shoes
- ✓ Instruction and practice
- ✓ Play a short game.



For questions and signup – see the Ladies Evening Board

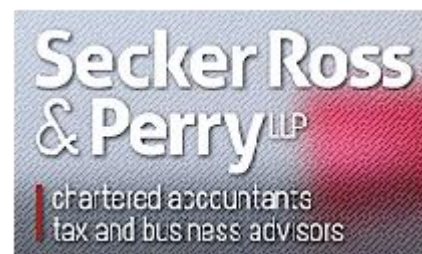
Contact: Kathleen Poole – [poolek@providencecare.ca](mailto:poolek@providencecare.ca)

### Our own podium

Thanks to Scott Bradshaw (son of Dave) and family, who donated a brand new podium to RKCC. The podium is in the board room, awaiting a momentous occasion.



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# Curling rocks at Feb Fest



*Photos by  
Andrew  
Van  
Overbeke*





