



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

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A Word from the President

Setting our sights on the 2020 Brier

By John Ryce, RKCC President

I hope that everyone is enjoying their curling season thus far. As you know, this is a winter Olympic year, which means that the sport of curling will receive more attention than other years. This creates an opportunity to introduce a friend, family member or colleague to our great sport. Come see Steve or myself to get some free “learn to curl” passes, as I believe that this is one of the best ways to grow our membership.

We need to have “2020 Vision” in order to bring the Brier to Kingston in 2020. That is Ken Thompson’s new saying and I couldn’t agree with him more. I represent RKCC on the Brier Bid Committee, headed by Ken, that is vying for this very prestigious event to come back to Kingston (held here in 1957). How nice will it be to have the Brier here during our 200th anniversary? I strongly believe that we have an excellent chance to be the successful bidder, but we need your help. Our bid has to be submitted by June 30, 2018 and we will find out where the 2020 Brier will be held in the fall of 2018.

One major indicator for Curling Canada is the number of pre-sale week-long passes that we have people committed to. All it takes is a \$50 deposit for a full event package that will probably cost between \$500 - \$575. I encourage you to make your commitment early. If you don’t plan to go to all of the draws, then let’s get creative. Split a package with someone else, buy a package and share them with family, friends or employees. We need a strong showing to strengthen our bid chances. Visit the website www.kingstonbrier2020.ca for more information and to purchase ticket.

I want to take this time to publicly thank the icemakers who have all pitched in to fill the huge void created by Rod’s absence. I know that you all join me in wishing Rod best of luck and our prayers as he fights this terrible disease. I look forward to Rod’s improved health and his return to the club.

Happy Holidays and all the best in 2018.

2020 KINGSTON BRIER™ BID

Our sights are set on hosting the 2020 Brier and our Vision is 2020!!!

Greetings, fellow curlers, and fellow fans of fantastic Canadian sports championships. Hopefully you have heard that we recently announced that Greater Kingston Curling and the City of Kingston are preparing to bid on hosting the most famous and prestigious annual curling championship in the world - the Brier.

Kingston's bid to host the 2020 Brier will be submitted to Curling Canada by June 30, 2018. Revenue generation" is a very important part of the bid. Pre-sale ticket drive is an important part of this revenue generation because it indicates to Curling Canada how much committed "ticket buying" support the bid has received.

The Deposit to Buy campaign is our pre-sale ticket drive. Our bid will be greatly strengthened and have a better chance of winning with a high number - 2020 is a great target!

You can visit the Rogers K Rock Centre Box Office to make your deposits in person or call 1-855-985-5000 or go to www.ticketmaster.ca. We are also planning to have 2020 Kingston Brier Bid forms at the five area clubs to make it as easy as possible for you to make your deposit(s).

Every \$50 you deposit is a down payment on a Full Event Ticket Package which we expect will cost about \$500. When we win the Brier bid, the \$50 will be deducted from the cost of your Full Event Ticket Package(s). If we do not win the bid (heaven forbid!) your \$50 will be refunded. If we win the bid and for some reason you choose to not purchase a Full Event Ticket Package you will forfeit your \$50 deposit.

We need your support, your commitment, your 2020 VISION!

Please help us bring the Brier to Kingston in 2020!

Thank you – Ken Thompson, 2020 Kingston Brier Bid Chair



Winners of the second annual Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel, from left, lead Callie Warwick, second Christine Sweetnam, vice Monica Kirk and skip: Kaitlyn Welch, accept the trophy from Tony Bush.

Photo provided

2nd annual Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel all about remembering

By Linda Lott, Lil Rynbend, Joanne Gizzi, Joanne Miller

The 2nd annual Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel was held on Saturday, November 11. The theme was 'Party on Top, Business on Bottom' and, by all appearances, the "Party" aspect was taken to heart. Everyone had a great time. We recruited two new members from our Learn-To-Curl program and - look out, ladies - we have a couple of promising new curlers.

In honour of Remembrance Day, a ceremony was held at 11 a.m. Joanne Miller read "In Flanders Field", followed by a moving and heartfelt rendition of the "Last Post", performed by Regiopolis-Notre Dame music student Zachary Betts. A moment of silence was observed, after which Zach played Reveille. Thanks to Zach for his amazing contribution to our service.





EL Club wraps up first draw

Congratulations to the winners and finalists of the Evening Ladies' Club Curling, Draw 1. Pictured above, from left, are **Event 1 Champions:** Tensia Cannon (Vice), Christy Gilmour (Skip), Pam Power (2nd) and Michelle Penney (Lead).

Event 1 Runners-Up: Lynn Witheridge (Skip), Liz Baer, sparing for Jen Cook (Vice), Gay Chamberlain (2nd) and Margie Plumadore (Lead)

Event 2 Winners: Celia Russell (Skip), Sharon Windsor (Vice), Christine Sweetnam (2nd) and Jen Wilson (Lead)

Event 3 Winners: Nancy Roantree (Skip), Gillian Turnbull (Vice), Lisa Thorburn (2nd) and Mary Graham (Lead)

Wanted: Used Shoes

New curling shoes on your Christmas list? Don't throw out your old ones! They can be used by the High School Curling League. Please drop off your old curling shoes to Steve Hulton at the office.

Upcoming bonspiels a chance to play or volunteer

By April Welsh, Bonspiels Convenor

RKCC is a hub of activity for in-house spiels this fall.

The Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel, the Day Men's spiel and the Day Ladies' Christmas spiel were all well attended. The upcoming Stick League Christmas mini spiel is set to go in December.

Many thanks to the convenors and participants for their support of these functions.

On the invitational front, the Limestone Senior Men's bonspiel was a huge success once again this year. The 85th Whig Standard and the 60th Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel flyers are out. Registration can be made on-line. Please note that payment cannot be made on-line. Please send a cheque with the necessary paperwork to the office.

Phil Tomsett and Roy Vasey are convening the Whig January 25 - 27, and the Erwin Batalla mixed team, along with Dale Marecak, are running the Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel on Saturday, February 10. Just a reminder that the Empire Life bonspiel is open to all area curlers. Sign up with some neighbours, friends, family if you don't have a foursome already.

As always, bonspiels are looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen, keep score etc. Helping out is a fun way to spend a few hours and meet other members of the club!



Hugh McCarrel's team from St. George's Golf and Country Club won the Limestone Senior Men's Spiel for the first time. From left are Hugh McCarrel, Greg King, Bill Russell and Keith Robertson.

New year, new winner at Limestone Sr. Men's spiel

By Dave Leeson

Once again, Chartwell Conservatory Pond Retirement Residence provided an amazing prime rib dinner at the Limestone Senior Men's Bonspiel on Saturday, October 28. And the curling was pretty good, too, with teams from Garrison, Brockville, Cataraqui, Prescott, Napanee, Campbellford, Land O'Lakes, St. George's and of course, RKCC. For the first time in a few years, there ended up being a wait list, so this bodes well for the future of this popular annual Eastern Ontario curling event. And yet again, the volunteers at RKCC stepped up, with Garry Dupuis and his crew providing the traditional sausages and beans lunch, and Jim Lesley and his crew serving and cleaning up after breakfast and dinner.

Coming into this year's event, six different clubs have won in the last six years. And the streak has now stretched to seven, with Hugh McCarrel's team from St. George's Golf and Country Club winning this event for the first time. Hugh was backed up by Greg King, Bill Russell and Keith Robertson.

Ian Munroe's team from Napanee took second place, followed by Nigel Retchless, then Vic Matthews from RKCC. Frank Dunham from Napanee finished fifth and John Postma from Cataraqui came in sixth.

The gauntlet has been thrown down to Hugh's team. Only one team has ever won this event in consecutive years: S. Matheson's team from RKCC in 1993 and 1994. We'll be back next year to see if Hugh can defend his title.

As always, the ice was great, the beer was cold and nobody left hungry.



Stick League enjoys spirit of Christmas at December Fun Day

By Pat Simms and Virginia Flynn

The two- person/four- person stick league had a Fun Day on Friday, December 8.

We arrived at RKCC for coffee and muffins, and enjoyed curling and a lunch.

Prizes were given out and draws were made in the Christmas spirit.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their donations and help during the event.

We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and all the best in 2018.



The 60th Annual Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel

“In SPACE, No One Can Hear Your Skip”



Saturday, February 10, 2018

Contact Erwin Batalla: 613-542-2048 or alerwin@xplornet.ca

- Team Entry Fee: \$220 (HST incl.)
- 2 Games Points Spiel with OCA rules
- Draw A: 8:30am and 1:00pm
- Draw B: 10:45am and 3:15pm

- Cash prizes – Minimum 20% of entry fees based on 24 teams
- Prize for best “Space” costume
- Meals include Continental Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks, Dinner (for gluten/food allergies, please contact Erwin Batalla)



Register on the RKCC website (<http://royalkingston.com/> under “Events”), or complete the form below and mail entry to:
 Royal Kingston Curling Club
 130 Days Road
 Kingston, ON K7M 9G4

← * Please enclose cheque for \$220 payable to R.K.C.C.

Skip name: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Email: _____
 Vice Name: _____
 Second Name: _____
 Lead Name: _____
 Home Club: _____

Indicate Draw Preference:

Draw A:
 Draw B:



Off kilt-er

The team of, from left, Skip Joe McMurphy, Vice Cyndy McJones, and Vicki and Keith McMitchell, decided to dazzle their opponents one recent Friday evening, by wearing traditional Canadian tartan kilts. The play worked and Team McMurphy bought the first round. However, according to Mr McMurphy, "that's enough of that".





From left, Joan Roantree presents the trophy to Skip Jan Ray, Third Nancy Gray, Second Tensia Cannon (playing for Trish Bennett), and Lead Claudia Stevenson.

Day Ladies crown first-event winners

By Marilyn Wilson and Helen Noble

It came down to the last end in the play-off game for Draw 1 on November 13 between the Tuesday first-event winners and the Thursday first-event winners. The Joan Roantree Trophy was presented to the team of Jan Ray, Nancy Gray, Tensia Cannon (playing for Trish Beckett) and Claudia Stevenson. The runners-up were Tish LaVallee, Val Malmsten (playing for Barb Tureski), Lynn Plumb, and Nancy Brennan. Congratulations to all for a well-played game.

The winners of the 2nd Annual Betty Bush Memorial Bonspiel were Kaitlyn Welch, Monica Kirk, Christine Sweetnam and Callie Warwick. If you were unable to attend the bonspiel this year, be sure to mark it down for next year. Betty always encouraged new players to enter a bonspiel and develop more experience. She also valued the time we spent together fostering new friendships. Our Christmas Mini-spiel was held on December. Thanks to all who joined us for some holiday cheer!

Remembering Alice

In October we lost Alice Simpson, who had joined the RKCC when we were still on Clergy Street. A member for 20 years, she played mostly with the Day Ladies, then later in the two-person and four-person stick leagues with her partner Bill Worthy. Last curling season she scored a perfect six-ender in the two-person stick. We will miss her laughter and collegiality.

RKCC teams vie for top spot in Lefty McDonald Seniors Major League

By David Allan

The Cataraqi Golf and Country Club is hosting (for the 19th season), the **Lefty McDonald Seniors' Major League** during the 2017 – 2018 curling season. In 2015-2016 the league was renamed to honor Lefty McDonald who convened the league for many years. The Seniors' Major League was conceived as a venue for senior curlers of the Kingston to play against other competitive senior curlers. The league is comprised of 12 teams representing clubs in the Kingston area:- four each from Royal Kingston and Cataraqi and four from a combination of Garrison, Napanee and Gananoque curling clubs

For the fourth year in a row the Vic Matthews RKCC team grabbed the final entry into the League with a 9-8 victory over the John Futtit team on October 31. Vic, a longtime member of the League has made a habit of being the last team to win a spot in the round robin play. The Matthews' team joins fellow RKCC teams: Garth Mitchell (2016-17 Champions), Tim Aldridge and Mike Schneider.

A complete 11 game round robin commenced November 7th and continues to be played on Tuesday mornings at 9:30am at the Cataraqi Golf & C.C.; finishing January 23. Playoffs commence January 30 and finish on February 13. Spectators are welcome to watch these games and support your club mates.

Standings through November 28

Team	Club	Wins	Ties	Losses
Suddergaard	CAT.G&CC	4	0	0
Mitchell	RKCC	3	0	1
McDonald	CAT.G&CC	3	0	1
Munro	Napanee C.C.	3	0	1
Schneider	RKCC	2	2	0
Aldridge	RKCC	2	1	1
Palmer	Napanee C.C.	1	2	1
Allan	CAT.G&CC	1	1	2
Paul	Napanee C.C.	1	0	3
Lutz	Garrison C.C.	1	0	3
Matthews	RKCC	0	0	4
Young	CAT.G&CC	0	0	4

All I want for Christmas

... is RKCC gear from Specialty Trophies of Kingston. Visit the website at specialtytrophies.ca/rkcc or see Steve Hulton in the manager's office.



Outside the house

Curlers embody what 'sharing' is all about

By Martha Tanner

For many of us, December is the season for giving, but for a small group of RKCC curlers, the giving season extends year-round. Sandy Fairbairn, Cathy Faubert, Trish Beckett, and Marianne Farrell are all volunteers at the Neighbourhood Sharing Centre, a charitable thrift shop within a stone's throw of the curling club.

Located next to Centre 70 Arena, the Neighbourhood Sharing Centre is run entirely by volunteers. The seed for the Sharing Centre was planted over 50 years ago when members of St. Andrews-by-the-Lake United Church began to collect and distribute donated goods for families in need. Since then, the Centre has undergone several incarnations and was installed in its home at 670 Days Road, in 1976.

Sandy is the president of the volunteer board that runs the Sharing Centre, and has been a volunteer there for about 10 years, since retiring. Cathy serves as the board's secretary, and has been a volunteer for about six years, as has Trish. Together they've recruited other friends to volunteer, including Marianne.

"I like the idea of a 'sharing centre'," says Trish. "I like what it stands for."



From left, RKCC members Cathy Faubert, Sandy Fairbairn, Trish Beckett and Marianne Farrell all volunteer their time at the Neighbourhood Sharing Centre beside Centre 70.

As a young mother, Sandy bought much of her children's clothing there. "I knew that the money went back into the community."

It still does. Over the years, the Centre has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to local organizations. This year alone it has raised nearly \$50,000, which is distributed throughout the year to over 20 organizations including Martha's Table, the Partners in Mission Food Bank, Kingston Community Health Centres for support such as utilities arrears and the Kingston Dental Coalition, Humane Society, St. Vincent de Paul, Almost Home, Camp Trillium, Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre and local schools.

The Centre accepts small household wares, clothing, footwear, toys, books, seasonal decorations – everything except large furniture, for which it has no room. Donations may be dropped off from Monday to Friday, between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Centre is closed for the holidays from December 18 to January 8, and closes for the month of August as well.

Sandy describes the Centre's over 30 volunteers as a wide range of people from all walks of life, who enjoy doing their part to give back and the camaraderie of working together for a great cause. "It's a fun place to work," says Sandy. "There are a lot of nice people volunteering there. But, more importantly, she adds, "All of the proceeds go right back into the community."



Members of the U4 League from left to right are: Lynne MacInnes, Kimberly Leach, John Emerton, Janet McCreath, Dan Marshall, Nancy Marshall, Laura Niles, Barry Niles, Judy Hay, Gary Osborne, Kathy Moore, Bill Hay, Margo Currie and Craig Currie. The winning team, Purple, in front from left to right are Amy VanOverBeke, Andrew VanOverBeke, Steve Fox and Shelley Sterling.

Team Purple wins first U4 League trophy

By Kimberly Barker

The new U4 League and Novice Curling trophy made its appearance after the first round robin of play at RKCC on November 6. Four colour parties competed, with team Purple emerging the colour to aspire to during the next five weeks of level two rounds, which will deadline on December 18 when the club finishes for the holiday season.

The U4 League currently has 20 members utilizing six colours representing a direct relationship to Canadian strengths in sport curriculum and opportunities to compete in club competitions: Teams Purple, Green, Red, Blue, Yellow and Orange all depict the development of the U4 League. Their development is inspired by the Town Crier Trophy (spelling is correct for the trophy purpose) and the group of curlers themselves who are learning things like control zones, communication, ice-reading, timing stones, sweeping and the delivery of a balanced slide with all of its 11 points of cadence to purposefully direct a 44-lb granite rock accurately down a sheet of ice 140 to 152 feet to out-compete an opponent for a win-one game at a time.

It does sound like a great deal to accomplish, yet the coaching is always about athletic development. At the end of the day, having made new friends in partnership with Canadian curlers and organizational programs is what the U4 League is designed for. We at Royal Kingston are working with participants to set goals and to promote success in the development of their community.

As a club coach I would like to extend my curtain call posting statement in this article to appreciate the experience of working with such an enthusiastic group of curlers. Rock on in the next round robin, U4!