



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 20, Issue 4

May 2019

Recognizing outstanding volunteers



The Royal Kingston Curling Club recognized more than a dozen outstanding volunteers on Championship Night. The 14 inductees to the Wall of Recognition helped in particular in the process of building our new club on Days Road, establishing a strategic plan to guide the club forward, preparing and submitting grant applications, carpentry work, helping in the kitchen, coaching, convening bonspiels and serving on committees. From left are: Reg Gore, Wayne Smith, Judy Russell, Gene Miller (accepting the Emeritus Employee award for the late Rod Leeder), Jim Lesley, Steve Quinn, Jan Ray, Jamie Duffe, accepting on behalf of his father, the late Bill Duffe, Jim Barton, Emil Lindt, Diane Labrie, Joanne Miller, Member at Large and chair of the nominations committee, accepting on behalf of Denis Faubert and Vic Matthews, and April Welsh, who was herself inducted to the Wall of Recognition and who also accepted on behalf of her late husband, Brian Collingwood.

“RKCC is blessed to have outstanding volunteers, essential to the running of our club,” said Joanne.

“These are just some of the ways our members give generously of their time and energy.”

199th year ends on positive note

The 199th year of the Royal Kingston Curling Club drew to a close on an upbeat note at the Annual General Meeting, held April 14. Both Adam Young, CPA, CA with the auditing firm of Secker Ross & Perry LLP, and Edward Gibson, chair of the RKCC Board of Directors, noted that the club was in a good financial position and on a steady course to maintain and indeed improve that position in the long-term.

KSSC

In his address to those gathered in the lounge, Edward noted that the club had finally signed a contract with the Kingston Sport & Social Club (KSSC) for use of the beach volleyball courts and was looking forward to a long and successful partnership. He admitted that there had been some challenges in the construction of the courts and that there were still improvements to be made, adding that a dedicated committee continues to explore different revenue options, including a licensed patio and other forms of sponsorship. He noted too that members of the KSSC have made RKCC its home for curling leagues on Sunday nights.

Brier 2020

Edward reminded the membership that RKCC members John Ryce and Linda Lott are two of the three vic-chairs of the Kingston Brier committee and that the Brier will require “tons of involvement”. He noted that, although RKCC has always been a great supporter of curling events, Kingston is not doing as well as hoped in converting the \$50 pledges of support to full ticket packages. RKCC members Jan Ray and Deb Wilkin will be assisting Tourism Kingston by making follow-up telephone calls.

Visit the Brier website at curling.ca/2020brier to purchase tickets or register as a volunteer. To register as a volunteer, you must upload a photo and make an online payment of the \$100 Volunteer Reward Fee.

200th Anniversary

There are still tickets available for the Gala Dinner on September 27, 2019, featuring guest speakers Russ Howard and Cheryl Bernard. There are only a handful of spots left for the on-ice clinic featuring the two on the following day, but spaces left for the off-ice strategy session. Register online on the RKCC website. Another highlight of the bicentennial will be a return to a three-day Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel, to which members of the only Canadian club older than RKCC, the Royal Montreal, will be invited.

Initiatives Old and New

Edward noted that the food service offered by Ruthie Cummings had not been as successful in its second year of operation. The Membership Committee will be emailing a survey to all members about their preferences for a food service. “We have to look for new opportunities and we will do so,” Edward said. New initiatives at RKCC that continue to do well include pickleball, which is facing a demand for extended hours, and the mixed doubles league, which is “going reasonably well”. And longstanding bonspiels continued to draw widespread interest this past season, including the 61st Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel, the 68th Fisherman’s Bonspiel and the 86th annual Whig Bonspiel.

“This is such a great club!” summed up Edward. “We can always improve it, but don’t stop appreciating it.”

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Manager's Report

Steve Hulton reported that great progress had been made on making the website more user friendly and he credited members John Pratt and Keith Mitchell to helping to achieve this, particularly in the area of scheduling. Steve wants to encourage greater use of the website by club members and will offer training sessions for convenors in the fall.

He had particular praise for head ice technician Terry Barker, "who spent more time here this year than anyone I've seen". Terry was assisted by part-time ice makers Kevan Welch and Gene Miller and trained new assistant Paul Moorby. "Terry did a marvelous job," Steve said. "Next season when our rocks are back (from being reconditioned by Canada Curling Stone), this place will be crazy good."

There are just over a dozen spots left for the annual golf tournament on June 20. Register online.

There will be a sale in the Pro Shop in July, on in-stock items only.

Staff also encourage members to use the new entrance at the east end of the club "to keep the dirt down there", from footwear and away from the main entrance to the ice surface.

Curling Committee

Outgoing chair David Townsend, having served three years in the role, thanked all those who had provided support and helped to create new curling opportunities that have helped grow our RKCC membership once again.

"I would like to thank all those who took on leadership roles on our Curling Committee, from Betty Bush and Dave Sansom as Chairs before me, to all of our Section Chairs. I would name you all," he said, "but I would also likely forget someone. Just know that all of you are the ones who really made the difference and enabled new things to happen in our Club. I need to thank our G.M., Steve Hulton for wanting to make a difference in registration and league management. Thank you all.

"I also want to thank those who served on our Curling Task Force – Linda Lott, Phil Tomsett, Deb Wilkin, Mario Fabbro and Martha Tanner. Our work and results may not be perfect but they did ensure that everyone who is a member at RKCC has at least two opportunities each week in which to curl. As many of you will know, there really are many more opportunities for those who can't get enough of this great and social sport!

"I could go on and on – rule changes, time changes for games, schedule changes, new leagues and we even tried a few novel concepts like an Industrial League. I can only hope that you will all support Linda Lott as our incoming Curling Committee Chair and the new ideas that she brings to our Club.

I look forward to coming to RKCC next year and in future years to continue to curl and socialize and marvel at our members who are all keen on helping keep this club afloat and growing."

Reports from the Board of Directors

Reports from members of the Board of Directors and Section heads were read at the AGM. Some of these are available in this issue of the Sweep. The new slate of directors for the 2019-2020 season is: President Edward Gibson; Vice-President and Governance Committee Chair Deb Wilkin; Past President John Ryce; Finance Committee Chair Paul Cridland; Social Committee Chair Kathleen Poole; Member at Large Sylvia Myers; Curling Committee Chair Linda Lott; Operations/Resources Chair Cam Gruer; Marketing Committee Chair Bruce Jeffery; Membership Committee Chair Michael Flowers and Secretary Joanne Miller. The position of Communications Committee Chair is vacant.

Championship Weekend



The Junior A game on April 13 was what Championship weekend was all about. A raucous crowd of family and friends cheering both teams on, and friends and competitors playing a closely-matched exciting game. The champions were, from left, Andrew Dacosta, Luke Degroote, Tim Vankoughnett and skip Nils Lintner.

Photo by Kimberly Barker

By Martha Tanner, Communications

Championship Weekend is always bittersweet. It's – finally! – the end of the long curling season, but it's also 'so long' to the people we've shared the ice with, matched skills with and hoisted a few drinks with since last September. It's a big happy gang behind the ice, cheering on the teams, second-guessing the skips' calls, and applauding the winners. It's pre-game nerves and post-game pride – or disappointment. It's sharing a meal together, sipping from the trophy cup, and celebrating the accomplishments of our fellow members and appreciating that behind all this is a steadfast group of volunteers making sure that everything runs smoothly.

Kudos to the Social Committee, consisting of Linda Lott, Pennie Robert, Sylvia Myers, Deb Kennedy and Janet Fowlow, which oversaw the organization of Championship Weekend and organized the Saturday night dinner. Sharing the workload was a Championship Weekend Committee chaired by Linda Lott, representing the Curling Committee, as well as section chairs John Pratt, Pat Simms, Kathy Jackson, Keith Mitchell, April Welsh, Mario Fabbro and Social Committee chair Kathleen Poole.

"As well as curling, meals, awards and presentations, we enlisted the assistance of many volunteers, without whom we could not have accomplished so much," noted Kathleen. Mixed Curling League convenor Keith Mitchell hosted the celebratory dinner and awards for the Friday curlers. Kathy Jackson, Day Ladies convenor, organized the Saturday morning breakfast snacks and John Pratt of Day Men's took care of the Saturday lunch.

After the awards and presentation of certificates to Wall of Recognition nominees, those with a bit of energy left danced to the tunes of live band Aylesworth, Pyke and Jones.

We are the champions. . .

Women's Championships

On Saturday Carole Rivington's Evening Ladies (EL) flight team of Teresa Gibson (sparing for the injured Gail Irving), April Welsh and Debbie King successfully defended its title against the Day Ladies (DL) flight champions skipped by Donna Jeffery, with Joanne Manion, Susan Hara and Sheila McHenry (fifth Martha Tanner), to take the overall women's trophy.

The Carrie Cole club championship, which pits the DL champs against the EL champs, was won by Denise Mulville's evening team of Karen Matheson, Gay Chamberlain and Martie Bernard.

The DL B Flight champions were Brenda Charette (sparing for skip Mary Stevenson), Maria McGibbon, Cathy Hamilton and Claudia Stevenson.

The EL B Flight winners were Linda Lott, Gwen Mitchell, Karen Matheson and Rene Marchen.

Winners of the EL C Flight were Judy Russell, Sharon Windsor, Elizabeth Borges, and Michelle Penney.

Men's Championships

Garth Mitchell's team of Ken McMillan, Dave Bracken and Mark McQuillan won both the Day Men's (DM) and Evening Men's (EM) A Flight championship games.

The DM B Flight champs were Phil Tomsett, Tim Higgins, Dave Kerr and Calvin Wilson.

The DM C Flight champions were Brian Heatherington, Ken Brant, Rob Campbell and Jim Reynolds, while the team of Howard Herron, Bill Racz, Bob Heintz and Steven Manders took the D Flight championship.

The EM B Flight champions were Todd Johnson, Pierre Vanderhout, Michael Berry and Anthony Hale.

Winners of the EM Club trophy were Ryan Hanes, Ken Brant, John Leinweber and Kevin Pereira.

Mixed

The overall mixed A champions were Scott Eaton, Courtney Barnhill, Steve Orme and Katie Jeziorski. They defeated Joe Murphy, Cyndy Jones, and Keith and Vicky Mitchell.

Erwin Batalla's team of Shirley Kwakkenbos, Hugh Pollitt-Smith and Alexandra Simmons won the B Flight. In Recreational play, Leslie Higginson skipped the winning team of Valerie and Barry Malmsten and Susan Chamberlain.

Juniors

The junior A championship was won by Nils Lintner with vice Tim Vankoughnett, second Luke Degroote and lead Andrew Dacosta. Winners of the Junior B Championship were Ryan Hookey, Logan Bedard, Spencer Smith and Michael O'Donnell.

U2 League

Skip Stephan Leclerc, Martie Bernard, Dan Marshall and Lindsay Bowthorpe.

Stick Leagues

Bob Mitchell's team of Gwen Mitchell, Ian Duncan, and Eden Jefferies won the 4-Person Stick League final. In the 2-Person Stick League final, Bill Worthy and Mike Charette (sparing for Barry Elvidge) edged out last year's runners-up Brian and Teresa Wilson.

Doubles

In Doubles, Denise Mulville and Anthony Hale defended their title against Benny Gordon and Kimberly Barker.

For photos, please visit the RKCC website.

A Message from Youth Curling 2019

By Kimberly Barker

As being the person on the warm side of the glass on Championship weekend, I cannot say enough about the capacity of the A and B junior teams to honour the skills they acquired throughout the year. While the B finalists were mostly new to RKCC this year, the commendation should be accepted by the many hours the coaches dedicated to our program. This was reflected by the B Division teams playing into an extra end. As for the A finalists, it was a matter of strategy with both teams tied going into the eighth end. The skip's last shot was called to counteract the opposition's rocks behind guards with a tick off their stone lying in the 12-foot zone. It takes insight and advanced thinking in order to realize that this shot could actually win the team the game for them. It also shows that the skip has shown maturity in game calling and is effective in gaining the confidence and loyalty of the team with its on ice performance for an audience of parents and coaches.

Congratulations to Team Hookey, B Division finalists, which consisted of Ryan Hookey as Skip, Logan Bedard as Vice, Spencer Smith as Second and Michael O'Donnell as Lead over team Nate Degroote, which consisted of Nate Degroote as Skip, Vania Baldwin-Salazar as Vice, Nicole Baldwin-Salazar as Second and Adele O'Donnell as Lead.

Also congratulations to Team Lintner, A Division finalists, with Nils Lintner as Skip, Tim Vankougnett as Vice, Luke Degroote as Second and Andrew DaCosta as Lead over Team Hoover, with Emma Hoover as Skip, Luca Menard as Vice for Alex Splinter, Abigail Vander Plas as Second and Lead was Kaleigh Scott.



Team Hookey, consisting of, from left, lead to skip, Logan Bedard, Spencer Smith, Michael O'Donnell and Ryan Hookey, was the B division winner.

Thanks to our coaches Michael Berry, Joel and Nate Degroote, Benny Gordon, Paul Moorby, Al McLaughlin, Dale and Sam Marecak and Christy Gimour for all the hours and tools that have been provided to inspire the youth; they have made a difference in our club. People are now asking to sign up at the wrap-up party for the fall session. In my five years of club coaching, I have never had that type of response.

I would also like to extend this thanks to Kari Fraser for being our Parent Volunteer who facilitated parent concerns, organized snacks with a parents' roster, and communicated throughout the year all events in which the youth curlers were to attend at what clubs and at what times to arrive. She also was a means to achieving a competition between the parents and children for an event which had a positive feedback for the community of RKCC and its facility.

Ending this message of thanks is my personal gratitude and appreciation for the honesty and dedication that Kevan Welch has given to our youth program. We wish him every bit of success in Nova Scotia - I know we will miss him.

Governance Committee recognizes past members, welcomes new member at large

By Deb Wilkin, Chair
Governance Committee

On behalf of all our members, I would like to sincerely thank both Bob Helliar and Joanne Miller for their service on this committee. Bob has served steadfastly for the past 10 years, and has always provided invaluable input to any issues we were considering.

Joanne has served on the committee for the past three years in the capacity of Member-at-Large. She is now leaving that position and has taken on the role of Secretary for the Board. Again, Jo has been a great resource for us all. Sylvia Myers will be joining Governance as the new Member-at-Large.

All the best for future, successful seasons at RKCC.

Famous Fisherman's Bonspiel

By Grant Paterson

The 66th Famous Fisherman's Bonspiel was held from April 4 to 6. RKCC hosted a full compliment of 48 teams. Teams participating came from many areas including London, Gravenhurst, Ottawa, Toronto, five teams from the U.S., and Kingston area.

Thanks to a hard-working volunteer committee who prepared delicious seafood, such as oysters, shrimp, clam chowder, fish and beans, and regular fare, all enjoyed by everyone.

At the traditional Fisherman's Banquet held at Four Points Sheraton, Ken Hutchings gave a great speech to introduce the "Fisherman of the Year, Ted Paradis". This is Ted's 38th year in the Fisherman's Bonspiel. Ted's father Charlie Paradis had been made Fisherman of the Year in 1992. This is the first time a father and son have been named Fisherman of the Year. This is also the first time the Fisherman of the Year has won the bonspiel in that same year.

Winner of the 1st event was Ted Paradis from Tam Heather, and his team of Gary Taugher, Allan McLaughlin, and Ken Hutchings. Runner up was John Dunbar from Cataraqui, with Garth Mitchell, Ken McMillan, and Mark McQuillan.

Winner of 2nd event was Patrick Casey, Montreal . Runner up, Team Mike Schneider, R.K.C.C.

Winner of 3rd event was Team Ron Barker, Manotick. Runner up, Team Roger Moore, Prescott.

Winner of 4th event was Team Ken Thompson, Cataraqui. Runner up, Team Vic Matthews, R.K.C.C.

Winner of 5th event was Team Darryl Herron, Cataraqui. Runner up, Team Dan Machold, Schenectady, N.Y.

Winner of 6th event was Team Marek Rzonca, Schenectady, N.Y. Runner up, Team Keith Sinclair, Ottawa.

Semi-finalists of 1st event were Team Tim Aldridge, R.K.C.C., and Team Jonathan Sugarman, Cataraqui.

Fisherman's Committee – Mike Schneider, Bob Moore, Grant Paterson

Whig Standard Bonspielers compete for \$6,000 in prizes

By Phil Tomsett, Bonspiel Chair

The 86th annual Whig Standard Men's Bonspiel was held January 24 to 26, 2019 with most games at the Royal Kingston Curling Club. Again the bonspiel started earlier on Thursday afternoon to ensure more games at the host club and avoid teams having to play three games on Friday and three games on Saturday.

This year, there were 48 teams competing for \$6,000 in prizes. We had numerous teams playing in their first Whig, which was great to see. We made further changes to the draw which gave more time to prepare the ice and we managed to finish the bonspiel on time.

In the main event final David Staples from Cataraqui defeated Kyle Thompson from Cataraqui. The semi-finalists in the main event were Kirk Lawson from Cataraqui and the Queens Alumni team (led by Jeff Whelan).

Other event winners were:

2nd event Ed Warren from Carleton Heights over Andrew Silver from Cataraqui;

3rd event Steve Bright from City View over Dan Acton from Navy;

4th event Rob Campbell from RKCC over Ted Paradis from Tam Heather;

5th event Malcolm James from Deep River over Decebal Michaud from Cataraqui,

6th event Alex Scott from RKCC over Lorne Carmichael from RKCC.

7th event winners were Anthony Hale from RKCC and Chris Scott from RKCC,

8th event winner was Patrick Ross from RKCC.

Special thanks to our sponsors: the Whig Standard newspaper, Bob the Butcher, Amey's Taxi and Riverhead Brewery.

To have a successful large bonspiel, it requires the efforts of many volunteers and once again I was so impressed by the dedication and enthusiasm of many RKCC members. I must signal out the various committee heads: Dave Kerr (Scoring), Mario Fabbro (Communication and 50/50 draws), Linda Lott (Thursday night dinner), John Berry (Friday lunch and Saturday night dinner), Murray Cotton (Friday dinner), Wayne Gilmour (Saturday breakfast), Garry Dupuis (Saturday Lunch). Special thanks to Dave Kerr and Gord Abson for their much appreciated help with the draw. There was excellent work done by our manager Steve Hulton, and Gerry Buist and his bartending staff. Again the bar was very busy this year and the food was exceptional. The Whig is a very large bonspiel with many draws which require extensive ice preparation and maintenance. Many thanks to Terry Barker and his crew including Kevan Welch, Gene Miller and Paul Moorby for their work in this year's Whig.



Greater Kingston Curling Association Youth Wrap-up

Story and photos by Kimberly Barker

On March 3 our RKCC Youth teams participated in the Greater Kingston Curling Association's wrap-up meet with six teams altogether vying for a GKC Badge of Honour. In the round robin, the team of Skip Nils Lintner (top left) took his team of vice Tim Vankougnett, second Luke Degroote, and lead Caleb Adams into the "A" event final against the Greater Napanee Curling District, while Ryan Hookey (above) skipped his team of Logan Bedard, Spencer Smith and Noah Bedard in the "B" Event final against Cataraqui Golf & CC. Skip Emma Hoover, with vice Alex Splinter, second Abigail VanderPlas, and leads Kaleigh Scott and Adele O'Donnel, (photo top right) played in the "C" Event final, earning this year's GKC Badges against Garrison Golf & CC.

Royal Kingston Curling Club would like to extend a very appreciative thank you to Margaret Parkes and Peter Bacon for their support of recreational curling on behalf of the growing numbers of youth curlers in our membership. The food was amazing!

We hope everyone has a great summer and look forward to meeting again next year.

From the Ice

By Terry Barker, Head Ice Technician

Another curling season comes to a close. Hopefully everyone considers their year a success, even if only for the exercise and fellowship that curling provides.

The ice team managed to survive a trying year with significant change. It was a learning year for all of the ice technicians as new standards were implemented and procedures updated to current, the results of which, while not visible, provided the club with significant savings and a better idea going forward on how to keep the facilities working efficiently.

We worked tirelessly to try and keep the equipment in working condition and were most proud of the work undertaken to keep the rocks in the best condition possible. Nothing like a group of elderly gentlemen, some sand paper and a little knowledge, attacking a four-billion-year-old rock. The Board of Directors has agreed to bring our rocks back to peak playing condition and the staff at Canada Curling Stones will clean up both the bottom and the top of the stones, allowing us to flip the rocks on a timely basis and extend their useful life significantly. The problems of this year should not resurface for quite some time.

This was the last year for Kevan Welch to belong to our team. Kevan is moving to New Brunswick and claims that the commute is untenable. I'm sure if he wanted to, he could work something out, but I didn't want to push him. We are sad to see him go and wish nothing but the best for Kevan and his family and hope they enjoy their new life.

We also added a part-time technician in the person of Paul Moorby. For those who have not met Paul; he is a curler at the club and has helped out with quite a few of the morning draws. He also decided that he could help out on the bar and has assumed those part-time duties as well. We are pleased to have Paul and hope he can handle an expanded role next season.

Help Wanted

We urgently require additional help on the ice and would ask each of you to mention the opportunity to anyone who indicates they are looking for work. All efforts fell short during the past season. Although we did have interest, it quickly waned once some of the requirements were laid out. It seems the 4:00 a.m. mornings and the 9:00 p.m. nights didn't hold the appeal we thought it would. Please have anyone interested contact the club for additional information.

We move into next season with the knowledge that what was implemented this year will greatly enhance next year's product. It will be the club's 200th anniversary and the ice team will need to put its best foot forward. It's a chance to promote our club unlike any we have had before and I hope that each of you share the anticipation for next year. We look forward to seeing all of you back in the fall. Enjoy the summer.

Open Doubles curling – get ready for the 2019-20 season

Doubles curling is the fastest growing part of our sport. Canada's Mixed Doubles team had great success, winning the Silver medal at the World Mixed Doubles in Stavanger, Norway. This follows on Canada's gold medal success in the Mixed Doubles Olympic debut. If you missed any of the recent Mixed Doubles competition, look up the Curling Canada YouTube channel, which has several World championship games and various other highlights.

At our club, a vote of thanks to Phil Tomsett who steered things along in 2018-19. We now have a new convener for the Open Doubles league, Peter Coughlin, who is working with a committed and hopefully growing committee of John Leinweber and Mike Flowers. We are working on plans for a successful Open Doubles 2019-2020 season.

The Curling Committee has confirmed ice time on Wednesday evenings, from 7:30 pm to 11 pm, with all six sheets available for Doubles. We will be scheduling two games of up to six ends per game. Game one will start at 7:30 pm. and game two at 8:55 pm. This will mean some changes in the pace of play, but we think this can work and will provide for up to 24 registered Open Doubles teams. Please keep an eye on the club website and, if you are interested in this league, register on line early, as there will be a limit to the number of teams able to play doubles. Games are fast-paced, as each team only throws five rocks per end. If you are new to Doubles, it is good to know that in the early part of each end, the focus is generally on draws and taps. There is a modified free guard zone rule and two rocks are positioned in the scoring end prior to the start of each end. Then there is the power play. Please see the Curling Canada rules, posted at: www.curling.ca/about-the-sport-of-curling/getting-started-in-curling/rules-of-curling-for-general-play/. (Start at page 22 for the Mixed Doubles rules and additional information.) One difference from the Curling Canada format, is that RKCC is going with an Open format, rather than Mixed, so you are good to go with any female-male combination.

We have divided the season into two draws: the first will run from September 30 to December 18, 2019, for a total of 12 games. This will be a round robin format, with teams rotating through the league and alternating between 7:30 and 8:55 start times. At the end of the first draw, teams will be divided into A and B groups, based on total points scored. The second draw will be from Wednesday, January 8, to March 31, 2020, with a total of 11 games. Teams will play in either Group A or Group B for the second draw and will alternate between game one and game two start times. We are planning a three-week, knockout format for the playoffs, which will be from April 1 – 15, 2020, with the finals on Championship weekend, April 17 – 18..

The Committee will have the schedule posted both on line and on the bulletin board. Game results will be tracked with points for wins/loss/ties. We are planning for teams to be able to readily post the game results on the schedule/results section on the club website. It may help to know that teams will be registered with two identified team members, however, a spares list will be generated. As a Doubles curler, it will be important to have access to the RKCC website and to be comfortable moving about the menus, as we are hoping to maximize the benefits of the site for the Open Doubles league. The committee is ready to help you out if you are not familiar with the website or the RKCC app for your phone. We know that there may also be some curlers who would like to try Open Doubles, but may not have a team member ready to go. We would encourage curlers to first try out the Free Agent Listing, under the new Open Doubles category (will be available in Fall 2019). This is on the club website, under Members services. The committee will also lend a hand to match up interested Doubles curlers, as best we can. We will have an early pre-season meeting for orientation, review of the above changes and a chance to sort out any questions as well as review the Curling Canada rules and help all of us get off to a great season. Finally, there are initial plans for an Open Doubles bonspiel, so watch for more updates in the fall. Have a great summer and mark your calendars for early on line sign up in September 2019.

Day Ladies: a look back on the 'year that was'

By Kathy Jackson, 2018-2019 Day Ladies Chair

As another curling season comes to an end, we should take a few minutes to reflect back on the 'year that was'. It wasn't the smoothest one for the Day Ladies section but hopefully we all learned some things and will emerge all the stronger because of it.

After a pilot year of running two divisions in Club Curling, the members voted at the Spring General Meeting to return to a single division in 2019-2020. However, the message that came through loud and clear was the need to bring the fun, sportsmanship and respect back into Club Curling. To help us achieve this, we introduced an Ad Hoc position of Ombudsman, who will join our Executive Committee to help us improve the atmosphere on and off the ice.

I'd like to express my thanks to the strong core of dedicated volunteers who help with the governance of our section and the planning and delivery of the many events that comprise our Day Ladies curling season. Without these many and varied contributions, we would not be able to offer the programs and opportunities that our Day Ladies members continue to enjoy. Thanks so much to each and every one of you.

As I vacate the Chair's position and hand the gavel over to our incoming Chair, Joan Doucet, I sincerely hope next year will be a much smoother one. Joan will be supported by a strong and cognizant Executive who understand that the Day Ladies section needs to be a vibrant and welcoming one if it wants to continue to attract and retain a healthy membership base.

Club Curling Results for 2018-2019

Roantree Trophy (Draw 1): Skip, Tish LaVallee; Vice, Judy Sly; Second, Deb Kennedy; Lead, Kat Banko.

Fanset Trophy (Draw 2): Skip, Marilyn Bellringer; Vice, Mary Smith; Second, Martha Forkes; Lead, Margo McLaren

Triheat Trophy (Draw 3): Skip, Jane Kelly (with spare Brenda Charette); Vice, Renee LeClair; Second, Jennifer Robertson; Lead, Brenda Merkle

J.L Edwards Trophy (Draw 4): Skip, Mary Skeggs; Vice, Nancy Page; Second, Carol Fitzpatrick; Lead, Darlene Naugler

Carrie Cole Day Ladies Representative for Championship Weekend: Mary Skeggs; Vice, Nancy Page; Second, Carol Fitzpatrick; Lead, Darlene Naugler

Carrie Cole Champion (DL vs EL): the Evening Ladies team skipped by Denise Mulville

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Day Ladies 'year that was', continued from page 12

Day Ladies Flight had a very successful year that saw an increase in teams from 14 to 15 and boasted 69 curlers. After a full round robin that took us into late January, the teams were divided into two divisions for divisional round robin play. A single elimination playoff structure then allowed all teams to continue curling for at least an additional week. When the dust settled, Donna Jeffery's team emerged as the winner of the 'A' Flight division and represented the Day Ladies against the Evening Ladies on Championship weekend. After an exciting game that almost ended up in an eight-ender in the sixth end for Donna's team, the Day Ladies came up just a bit short.



DL 'A' Flight Champions

From left, Lead, Sheila McHenry; fifth, Martha Tanner; Second, Susan Hara; Vice, Joanne Manion and Skip, Donna Jeffery.



DL 'A' Flight Runners-Up:

From left: Second, Bonnie Bird; Skip, Linda O'Sullivan, Vice, Pauline Herron and lead, Jennifer Robertson.

More Day Ladies on page 14



'B' Winners

From left: Lead, Claudia Stevenson; Second, Cathy Hamilton, Vice, Maria McGibbon; Skip, Brenda Charette, sparing for Mary Stevenson.

Day Ladies, continued from page 12

In 'B' Flight, the Skeggs team and the Stevenson team advanced to the 'B' final which was played on Friday April 12 during Championship weekend. The Stevenson team, skipped by Brenda Charette in Mary's absence, defeated the Mary Skeggs' team in a closely contested game. Congratulations to both teams for the terrific showing.

A complete list of the curling results for this past season can be found on the DL section of the website.

2019-2020 Incoming Day Ladies Executive

Chair: Joan Doucet

Past-Chair: Kathy Jackson

Vice-Chair: Pat Thompson

Secretary: Renee LeClair

Social Convenor: Francine Korczynski

Assistant Social Convenor: Judy Hay

Club Games Convenor: Joan Stevenson

Assistant Club Games Convenor: Jen Robertson

Flight Games Convenor: Lin Jenkins

Assistant Flight Games Convenor: Kathy Jackson

Ad Hoc position of Ombudsman: Jen Robertson



B Flight Runners Up –

(L to R) Lead, Pat Simms, sparing for Kat Banko; Skip, Marilyn Bellringer, Second, Philippa Fugler; Vice, Claire Dominik Mallette



Draw 4 Winners and Carrie Cole Championship Runners-Up:

From left: Lead, Darlene Naugler, Second, Carol Fitzpatrick, Vice, Nancy Page, Skip, Mary Skeggs.



Team Mitchell won both the Day Men's and Evening Men's A Flight Championships. From left are Skip, Garth Mitchell, Vice, Ken McMillan, Second, Dave Bracken, and Lead, Mark McQuillan.

Day Men's section prospers

By John Pratt, Chair, and David Leeson, Vice-Chair

Day Men's has had a highly successful year. We had a full roster of 32 teams for Day Men's Senior Flight. This has had a positive impact on our Monday lunch profits (which go to the club), and no doubt bar revenue.

By having 24 Mondays available for flight, we were able to continue our playoff format from first-loss-and-you're-out to a four-team round robin format. This format was extremely well received by the membership and greatly increased the interest in participating in playoffs. From the club's perspective, it created two extra Mondays where everyone was curling. Under the old system, with the exception of the first event, many – if not most – games were cancelled due to lack of interest.

In the end, Monday lunches brought in a total profit to the club of over \$3,100, compared to last year's profit of \$2,600.

Day Men's Club Curling on Tuesday and Thursday morning also had a good year with 85 curlers participating during the year. The average was around 35 curlers each day, utilizing five or six sheets each day.

The two-day men's in-house bonspiels were very successful. We had full participation of 48 curlers for both events. These two bonspiels brought in a profit of \$1,200 to the club.

Finally, the Limestone Sr. Men's Bonspiel held in October was very successful and posted a profit to the club of \$2,100.



Team Rivington won the overall Ladies Flight Championship and will represent RKCC in the Travelers Women's Club Championship. From left are lead Debby King, second April Welsh, vice Gail Irving, spare Teresa Gibson and skip Carole Rivington.

Evening Ladies crowns a winner

By Deb Wilkin, Evening Ladies Flight Convenor

Evening Ladies' Flight capped off another successful season with its three divisional play-off games during our Championship Weekend. The Division A final game was a match between the Carole Rivington team and the Denise Mulville team. Carole's team won that game and went on to represent our league in the Evening Ladies' Flight versus Day Ladies' Flight play-off, which was represented this year by Donna Jeffery's team. Carole Rivington's team won this contest as well, and her team is now eligible to represent our club at the Travelers Women's Club Championship being held in the fall of 2019. Our Division B final game saw Linda Lott's team win over Donna Jeffery's team. Our Division C final between Judy Russell and Kelly Johnson was won by Judy Russell's team.

The club's Championship Weekend was a huge success with great engagement both on the ice, and behind the glass. My compliments to all the volunteers involved in the two-day event; your efforts were noteworthy.

Pin one on



RKCC celebrates its 200th anniversary in 2020. Commemorative pins (far left) and buttons are available for \$10 and \$5 respectively. Proceeds will support special events in the 2019-2020 season.



The team of, from left, skip Denise Mulville, vice Karen Matheson, second Gay Chamberlain and lead Martie Bernard won the EL club championship and the overall ladies club championship.

Photo by Liz Baer

Busy, rewarding year for Evening Ladies

By April Welsh, Chair, Evening Ladies Section

Our Annual Bring-a-friend night during March break was not held this year due to the shortened number of Wednesdays we had this year. We hope to hold a session in the fall to introduce friends to the “Roaring Game”. The Evening Ladies hosted the Annual Ladies’ Dinner, “Spring Fling” on April 10. We had a great turnout with 114 ladies enjoying an evening of good food and comradery.

The playoffs to determine our Club winners for the Carrie Cole championship were exciting to watch with the eventual winners being the team of Denise Mulville, Karen Matheson, Gay Chamberlain and Martie Bernard. Denise’s team went on to win the Carrie Cole competition over the Day Ladies’ team skipped by Mary Skeggs. Flight playoffs determined the players in the A, B and C divisions on Championship weekend. Congratulations to all who played on the weekend. Our “A” winners, Carole Rivington, Teresa Gibson (sparing for Gail Irving), April Welsh and Debby King defeated the Day Ladies’ team skipped by Donna Jeffery to win the RKCC Ladies’ flight title. Our Spring Annual Meeting was held March 18. It was voted that we would go back to playing an initial round robin divided into A and B sections, with seeding determined by the standings at the end of the current season. We have moved the date of our Invitational bonspiel up a week to Nov. 9 and “Save the date” notices will be sent out to our out-of-club friends in the next few weeks. Please forward the info to anyone you think might be interested.

Our Executive for 2019-20 was ratified at the meeting:

Chair – Gail Irving

Vice-Chair – Vacant

Past Chair – April Welsh

Club – Liz Baer and Carol Fitzpatrick

Flight – Deb Wilkin

Social – Laura Brown

Ladies’ OCA – Karen Peters

Secretary – Mary Buchanan

We are still in need of a vice-chair, a Flight co-chair, and a Social co-chair.

Our rating committee is also looking for members. Please call Liz if you are interested. You must have played (as skip) in several club draws this year.

We had a very busy and rewarding year. Enjoy the summer everyone!

Report from the OCA

By Karen Peters, Ontario Curling Association (OCA) representative

The 2018/19 curling season at RKCC, while preparing the bid for the Brier, included no OCA-sanctioned events. The big news of the year was the awarding of the 2020 Brier to Kingston. This will mean we will not be bidding on any other sanctioned events for the upcoming 2019/20 season. All our efforts will be spent on our 200th Anniversary and the hosting of the Brier.

The only other OCA news to affect the club level was the new 5-rock free guard zone rule. Although not implemented here at RKCC until next season, it was used for all sanctioned competitions and many fun spiels in the area this year.

Competitions:

Women's Tankard

Congratulations to Denise Mulville, Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk, and Liz Brown who teamed up with Laura Brown, Kaitlyn Welch, Courtney Barnhill, and Erica Simpson to capture the Silver Medal at the Provincial Championships on April 7 in Toronto.

We had numerous other teams compete this year in provincial playdowns and although not successful in their bid for Provincial recognition, they were competitive in their divisions.

Scotties Tournament of Hearts

The team of Laura Brown, Kaitlyn Welch, Courtney Barnhill and Erica Simpson

Travelers Women's Club Championship

The team of Carole Rivington, Gail Irving, April Welsh and Debby King

Master Women

The team of Linda Lott, Donna Smith, Karen Peters and Janet Waugh

Senior Women

The team of Denise Mulville, Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk and Liz Brown

OCA Adult Clinic:

Although this year's curling season is over you might want to think ahead to 2019/20. You can get a jump on next season with the OCA Trillium Adult Curling camp that will be held again September 27-29 in Scarborough.

Whether you are a new curler, an elite curler, or somewhere in between, you'll be put into teams of similar skilled curlers for the most positive learning experience.

It is like summer camp and a bonspiel – all wrapped up in one great weekend! You can find more information on the CURLON website <https://ontcurl.com/>

Successful year for bonspiels at RKCC

By April Welsh, Bonspiel Chair

RKCC held 12 very successful bonspiels this year - six invitational and six in-house. I would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to all the convenors and their committees!

Invitational spiels:

Limestone (Sr. Men's) - David Leeson, 24 teams.

The Whig Standard – Phil Tomsett, 48 teams.

Empire Life Mixed – Dale Marecak, 24 teams

Grandmothers and Great Aunts – Jennifer Robertson, 24 teams.

Super Seniors – Steve Quinn, 24 teams.

Famous Fisherman's – Grant Paterson, Bob Moore, 48 teams.

In-House:

Betty Bush Memorial – Linda Lott, Joanne Miller, Lil Rynbend

Day Men's In-House (x2) – John Pratt, David Leeson and their many helpers

Day Ladies' Christmas – Deb Emerton and Francine Korczynski

Day Ladies' Rated – Deb Emerton and Francine

Mixed Turkey – Keith Mitchell

As part of next year's 200th Anniversary celebrations, the Empire Life spiel will be expanded back to its original three-day format (Feb. 6-8). Watch for details.

I am pleased to report that the position of Bonspiel Chair is now under the umbrella of the Curling Committee.

Bonspiels can't be run without the scores of volunteers who invest their time and energy. Again, many thanks to all who made this such a successful year!

If you've left it, you've lost it

Now that another successful curling season has finished its time for cleaning out all of our belongings from our lockers and the cloakroom. (located behind the trophy cabinets) Please keep in mind all items left in the cloakroom after April 30 will be donated or thrown away. Wishing you all a safe and happy summer.

Your Lounge Committee



Pickleball is now in play!

By Deb Wilkin

On Wednesday, May 1 RKCC was host to a four-hour novice Pickleball clinic, and by the survey responses, it was a huge success. Denis Faubert was the initiator and organizer of the event, which saw many of Kingston's best instructors come out to help everyone with their game.

In photo at left are Tim Salmon, Anna Salmon, Glen King, Denis Faubert.

Please go to the club's website to see the times available to everyone for a drop-in game. Two hours of play for \$6 and it runs all spring and summer. Don't miss out on learning and playing the game; and spending time with friends – new and old.

Don't miss out: register now for Russ Howard & Cheryl Bernard Skills Clinic & Strategy Session

On September 28, 2019 at 1 pm RKCC will host a phenomenal On-Ice Skills Clinic with world renowned curlers, strategists and broadcasters Cheryl Bernard and Russ Howard. Forty-eight very fortunate curlers will have the opportunity to spend two hours on the ice with this pair and suffice to say it will be interesting, informative and just plain fun. After the On Ice session there will be a two-hour strategy session in the lounge and the folks from the On Ice session will have front row preferred seating. Cost is \$60.

Those who feel that the physical part of their game is impeccable are invited to watch the On Ice Session from the comfort of the lounge (the bar will be open) and then stay for the Strategy Session as presented by Cheryl and Russ. Cost for this event is \$30.

These two sessions are intended for RKCC curlers only and as such they are designated Private events in our system. Please log on to your account on the RKCC and go to Events - Event Registration on the top menu bar.

No matter which session you choose it promises to be a fantastic time, especially if you have attended the Gala Dinner the evening before. Tickets are almost sold out for that event so if you don't already have a ticket and are thinking of going, please register soon.

GKC proud to support developing curlers



Bilal Islam and Kayla Gray are U21 curlers from Cataraqi Golf and Country Club, who just completed their second season of playing mixed doubles together. Bilal and Kayla were one of six teams to qualify for the Ontario Winter Games in March 2018. Both have curled competitively for seven seasons. Bilal achieved successes in boys, mixed and high school play, while Kayla and her team represented Ontario at the U18 National Championships in 2017.

Olivia Hope and Eilish Baker are part of Team Ramsay, a first year U18 girls' team with the other two members from Quinte Curling Club. As Team Ramsay, the girls participated in a number of bonspiels and Ontario Junior Curling Tour events this season. They have curled for three seasons at Garrison Golf & Curling Club. They have strived to improve their skills by attending a Talent Skills Development Camp as well as the Trillium Curling Camp. They also enjoy curling in the Garrison Ladies and Junior Leagues, as well as participating in GKC Junior Events.

Eilish also volunteers as a coach with the Special Olympics Curling Program and represented her school at KASSAA. Olivia represented her high school as Skip at the 2019 Gore Schoolgirls Regionals and is also participated in KASSAA in February.



Team Gazeley, consisting of Jett Gazeley, Kaamraan Islam, William Smith and Kibo Mulima, are U18 Curlers from Cataraqi Golf and Country Club. This is their third season playing together. Team Gazeley played in the open league at Cataraqi and the men's league at RKCC, as well as the Junior Slam Series and Ontario Junior Curling Tour events throughout the season. The team competed in the U18 provincials in March.

Joel and Nate De Groote are curlers from Royal Kingston Curling Club. They are also members at Cataraqi Golf and Country Club, where they play in the open league and practice with their high school teammates from LCVI. Joel has been a key member

of his high school team since 2016, with Nate joining the team in 2017. The boys were a dynamic duo at front end when their team qualified for the semifinals at Gore provincials in 2017. In 2018, Joel played vice and Nate played second to help their team finish in the top eight at OFSAA.

Bilal, Kayla, Jett, Kaamraan, William, Kibo, Joel, Nate, Olivia and Eilish are very grateful that Greater Kingston Curling is helping to support their curling pursuits this season, and express their thanks to GKC for its support and encouragement.



Best Costumes:
Front, from left:
 Claudia
 Stevenson, Sylvia
 Myers, Virginia
 Flynn, Judy Hay,
 Sharon Windsor.
Back Row: Val
 Malmsten,
 Candace
 McConomy, Sue
 Chamberlain, Bev
 Pitts.

The circus came to the RKCC on a wintery day in February. There were majestic lions along with two lion tamers, clowns, elephants, gypsies and lots of balloons. Circus treats were there for the taking including popcorn, peanuts, cotton candy and hotdogs. The ladies played two four-end games with a circus-themed lunch between the games. The costumes were spectacular as many participants opened their tickle trunks and combed bargain stores to create imaginative, colourful outfits. The funspiel winners and runners up were all awarded clown glasses and noses, the price of victory, plus bar bucks. The top team was Val Malmsten's team with vice, Maria McGibbon, second, Laurie Winters and lead, Claudia Stevenson. The runner-up team was Sharon Windsor with vice, Linda Robb, second, Val Gore and lead, Caroline Worthy. Christine Sweetman won the Best shot prize and Teresa Wilson the oops prize, fittingly a rubber chicken. A big round of thanks to all the circus crew who us deliver a fun-filled day.

DL Funspiel transforms RKCC into 'Cirque de Royale'



Funspiel Winners: Claudia Stevenson, Maria McGibbon, Laurie White and Val Malmsten



Photos, from top left: Early Draw Costume Winners, the Bellringer team from Royal Kingston. From left, Philippa Fugler, Claire Dominik Mallette, Kat Banko, Marilyn Bellringer. Top right, the championship team of, from left, Mary Smith, Joan Stevenson, Sue McConnell and Joan Doucet. Right, quilt winner Bev Pitts.

Legend lives on at Grandmothers & Great Aunts Spiel

By Kathy Jackson

On March 20, 2019 RKCC hosted the 47th annual Grandmothers and Great Aunts Bonspiel. We attracted 24 teams, filling both draws for the first time in several years. This included 13 teams from external clubs plus 11 teams from RKCC. Our theme of 'The King is Alive and Well at RKCC' resulted in delightful decorations, creative costumes, and some very competitive curling. Once again the Limestone Quilters Guild donated a beautiful quilt. This year's winner of the quilt was one of our RKCC peers, Bev Pitts.

The Winner of the Early Draw was the Doucet team from Royal Kingston with Joan Doucet at Skip, Mary Smith at Vice, Sue McConnell at Second and Joan Stevenson at Lead. Joan Doucet also took home the Championship trophy by the narrowest of margins.

Second place went to the Patti Staples team from Cataraqui with Patti at Skip, Tanis Chambers at Vice, Kathy Bally at Second and Peggy Browne at Lead. Third place went to the RKCC team skipped by Claire DuBac Rayner, with Vice, Marilyn Chilton, Second, Lois McArthur, and Lead, Candace McConomy.

The Winner of the Late Draw was the Suddergaard team from Cataraqui, with Sharon Suddergaard at Skip, Nancy Raven at Vice, Ann Allen at Second and Lynne Morrow at Lead. Second place went to the Bush team from Prescott with Sheila Bush at Skip, Janet Arcand at Vice, Maureen Urquhart at Second and Cathy McPherson at Lead. Third place went to the Judy Valberg team from Cataraqui, with Judy at Skip, Nancy Mills at Vice, Denise Hofmann at Second and Ruth O'Brien at Lead.

The tradition continues with the next annual Grandmothers and Great Aunts Bonspiel scheduled for late March 2020.



Royal
Kingston
Curling Club:
**Annual
Mixed Golf
Tournament**



Thurs June 20, 2019
Lunch
Shotgun Tee: 12:30pm
Amherstview Golf Club



TICKETS: \$85pp
**Purchase tickets at
the Bar by June 10!**

Includes:

- ⇒ Golf (18 holes & Cart)
- ⇒ Lunch (burger, fries & Caesar Salad)
- ⇒ Dinner (Roast beef and Salmon) at RKCC
- ⇒ Dinner only \$35
- ⇒ Prizes

(No Tickets Sales at Amherstview)

Limited spots left. Sign up now! Also accepting prize donations. Please contact John Ryce or Steve Hulton.