



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 22, Issue 2

February 2021

New honorees to Wall of Recognition

By Sylvia Myers, Member –at- Large

The Wall of Recognition Committee met on March 9, 2020 and we are very proud to announce the following candidates, who have 10 years or more in our club and have been outstanding volunteers.

Joanne Miller

Murray Cotton

Grant Paterson

Carole Rivington

Kimberly Barker

Erwin Batalla

Kathleen Poole

Brian Ward

Gord Greer

Fran Cooney

Bob Moore

I would like to thank all the RKCC members who took the time to fill out the nomination forms. As a volunteer we give freely our time and labour to our Club, we say "Yes" without hesitation.

Unfortunately, the club had to close prematurely because of COVID-19, so celebrating our nominees on Championship Weekend had to be postponed. Hopefully we will be able to hold our celebration in April 2021 on Championship Weekend.

We also received four other nominations who did not qualify and we want to thank you as well for doing outstanding work for our club: Candace McConomy, Deb Emerton, Francine Korczynski and John Pratt.

Hopefully we will have a full season of curling, enjoying the social aspect of our club and having fun on the ice.

Stay safe

3rd annual Turkey Spiel fills hampers for SFCS Food Bank



Curlers from RKCC collected 492 pounds of groceries for the Community Food Bank operated by Southern Frontenac Community Services, which provides hampers to clients in South Frontenac and rural Kingston.

By Keith Mitchell

The 3rd Annual Turkey Spiel was held December 12, 2020 and was full with 48 curlers vying for the turkey prizes. Teams were made up at random and the theme this year was 'favorite Christmas carols'. Our winners this year were the Frosties – Curtis Freisen, Kimberly Barker, John Thorburn, and Karen Francis.

Winning the corner-to-corner draw for the men was Alan McLaughlin and there were two winners among the women - Tamara Van Grunsven and Susan Hara, both of whom were within 20 inches of the pin.

The real winner for the day was the Community Food Bank operated by Southern Frontenac Community Services. In a year when many in our community are struggling, our curlers, not only from the Turkey Spiel but from the whole club, showed incredible generosity and thoughtfulness and not only filled the bin but buried the bin in donated food and staples. Thanks so much to everyone! I think next year I might need a bigger bin!!

Big thanks are due to Sylvia Myers and Kathleen Poole – my co-convenors and to April Welsh who helped as well. Fantastic sandwiches were provided by Skippers (Janet Pressacco) – thanks very much. And finally a big thanks to our sponsor David and Sons Fine Condiments. It was a real treat to get to taste some of their fantastic mustards and BBQ sauces.

Notes from the Board

Monthly Zoom meetings have become a regular activity for the Board of Directors, as they have for most committees of the Board. At its latest meeting, held February 24, the Board set the date for the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Assuming that Kingston is still in the Green-Prevent Zone of the Ontario public health measures, the AGM will be held in the lounge of the RKCC on Sunday, April 18 at 1 p.m. The Board is also offering a Zoom option for those who would like to attend the meeting, but are unable to do so in person. We hope you will attend in person as we can accommodate 50 people. Recruitment efforts continue to find a candidate for the position of vice-president, which is currently vacant.

From the Finance Committee

Managing the club's finances has never been more critical than in this roller coaster period that has been the 2020-21 season. Our finance committee has been working diligently to project many possibilities and to ensure that the club remains viable throughout – and beyond – the pandemic. We are so fortunate to have Rob Campbell chairing the Finance Committee with the strong support of members Brian Ward, Greg Ruse, Shirley Kwakkenbos and Karen Matheson. The club's accountant, Donna Poirier, and club manager Steve Hulton also contribute to the committee. At the February Board meeting, Rob presented a Financial Snapshot of the club, which will be available soon to RKCC members in the Members' section of the website. Should you have questions for the Finance Committee there will be an opportunity to submit these directly to the members.

The Finance Committee, with the help of all Board committees and the members in general, will be drafting a COVID financial recovery plan and welcomes input. Please see the Financial Snapshot on the website as a starting point.

The Board also reminded all committee chairs that minutes of meetings should be made available on the website in a timely fashion.

Championship Weekend

The Curling Committee is finalizing the 2021-22 season calendar with a start date to be determined. Tentative plans for Championship weekend are to have two nights of curling with time also available on Saturday afternoon if needed. The possibility of live-streaming some games was discussed.

Consider joining a committee

With a new season on the horizon, now is the perfect time to think about becoming involved in the club as a committee member. There are lots of opportunities, depending on your interests.

Committees include the curling committee, which proposes the season's calendar to the Board and oversees all league play, marketing, membership, social, communications, finance, governance and operations. You will get to know other members, contribute to the well-being of the club and initiate new ideas, learn about what it takes to run a curling club, and gain a deeper sense of ownership. Please approach the chairs of any of these committees if you are interested in joining. At present, volunteers are still needed for the Evening Ladies Committee and the position of Bonspiel Convenor is vacant.

Doubles opens new daytime drop-in league

By Peter Coughlin

The first Draw in Open Doubles wrapped up on December 9th 2020 and the leader boards for both Division A and B included the following fine curlers.

Division A

Division A leaders Denise Mulville and Anthony Hale posted a strong 8-1 win/loss record followed by the teams of Carole Rivington and Pierre Vanderhout, and Laura Brown and Steve Orme.

Division B

The Doubles team of Susan Hara and Lorne Carmichael lead Division B, with Sue Chamberlain and Les Higginson in second spot and three additional teams tied for third place.

We are planning now for the second draw, and if all goes well, the league will be ready for playoffs in early April. We are excited to celebrate the first time presentation of the Riverhead Doubles Championship trophy in the spring of 2021.

December Social

We held a fun and safe social evening of curling and seasonal visiting from a distance - on Wednesday December 16. Our scheduling guru John Leinweber pulled together a rotation for each Doubles team to play two different three-end games in a Continental Cup-style, with total cumulative points for red or blue teams. It came down to some final draw shots, but the red team posted the victory for the evening. Prizes for the winning red teams included a choice from gift certificates from our continuing sponsor Riverhead Brewery, small festive plants from Pam's Flowers and the RKCC Christmas ornaments.

New Daytime Drop-in Doubles

We are also excited to be planning for the "Daytime Doubles" curling league to hopefully get rolling by the end of January 2021. Curlers interested in trying out Doubles, or those already playing Doubles are welcome to sign up on line, under the registration format, for the Monday afternoon event. Curling starts at 2:30 pm and games are six ends, and off the ice by 3:45 pm. Curlers must pre-register each week to ensure that we do not exceed the maximum 24 curlers each Monday and to provide for the safety protocols, including potential contact tracing. It is helpful to note that this is a drop-in format so that a member might be able to curl one Monday afternoon, but not another - no problem, just sign up in advance for the week when you are going to be there. You might also register as a Doubles team or as a single, and get matched up for the game. There are no standings or published results, just 75 minutes of awesome fun. If you would like to come out, it can also be helpful to read over the Doubles rules, posted on the league info page. Some in person review of the rules can also be provided and for sure Doubles curlers are the friendliest curlers in the club.

Evening Ladies Reports

By Gail Irving , Evening Ladies Chair

The Evening Ladies Section has had a good start, despite COVID-19! Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to implement our new play guidelines and to all the Evening Ladies who have returned to play! Thank you also for abiding by our new rules of play.

Thank you to the current EL Executive: April Welsh (Past Chair), Carol Fitzpatrick and Karen Matheson (EL Flight), Liz Baer and Andrea Berry (EL Club)

WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: Vice Chair, Secretary, and Social Committee (Chair + 2). The EL Curling Sub-Committee is responsible for the leadership and governance of the EL Section as well as the operational guidance provided in the Curler's Handbook. The EL Executive positions are held for two years. The duties of each executive position are outlined in the RKCC EL Section By-Laws (on our website). Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. We need you! Please consider volunteering!

EL Flight Report, Carol Fitzpatrick and Karen Matheson, Co-convenors

Happy New Year!! We hope that you all had a good holiday despite the fact that I'm sure it was very different from your usual celebrations. We are also hoping that you all have managed to stay safe amidst rising numbers across Ontario. Here are the standings following our first round robin:

A) The teams moving from A Division to B Division are: Donna Jeffery, Carole Rivington, and Janet Waugh.

B) The teams moving from B Division to A Division are: Pauline Herron and Linda Lott.

It was a great first round and we are all set to go for our next round robin. The rules governing this year were circulated. This document is posted on the website as well.

EL Club, Liz Baer and Andrea Berry, Co-convenors

We were pleased to have eight teams again for Draw 2 of Evening Ladies Club, and were excited to include a spot for a junior on Team Fowlow this draw.

Our members have completed Draw 2 and the winning teams are:

First Event Champions: Teresa Gibson, Skip; Marilyn Wilson, Vice; Christine Sweetnam, Second; and Jane Ward, Lead.

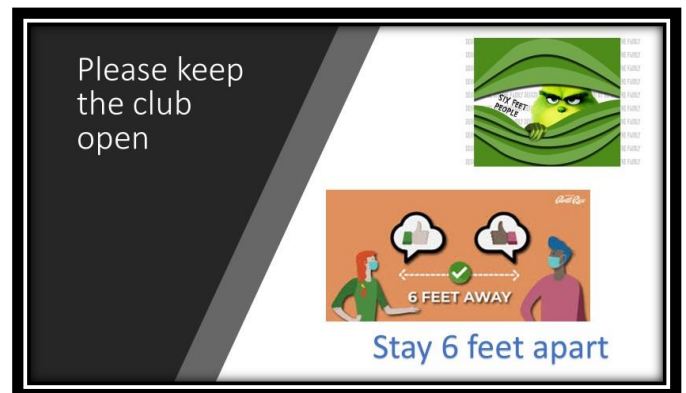
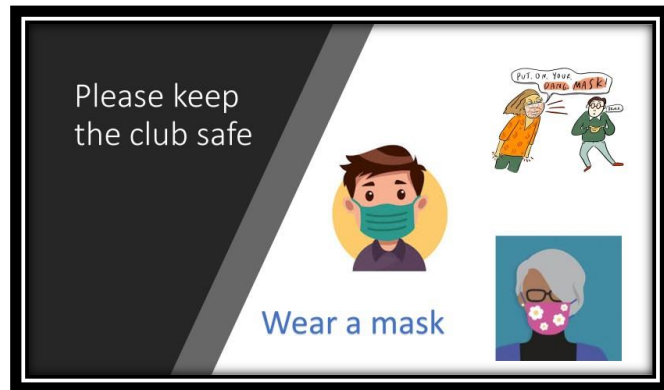
First Event Runners-Up: Denise Mulville, Skip; Lisa Mulville, Vice; Liz Borges, Second; and Carolyn Bernes, Lead.

Second Event Winners: Judy Russell, Skip; Sylvia Myers, Vice; Andrea Berry, Second; and Taylor Dyon, Lead.

Third Event Winners: Janet Pressacco, Skip; Gay Chamberlain, Vice; Patty Gollogly, Second; and a junior in Lead.

We did not have a Draw 1/2 playoff on December 23rd as was scheduled, as members of both teams had concerns over COVID so the game was postponed.

Remember . . .



Wanted: Bonspiels Convenor

By April Welsh, Chair

The remaining bonspiels and fun days have been cancelled for 2020-2021.

RKCC did have one terrific day of curling and Christmas festivities on Saturday, December 12. The RKCC Turkey Spiel was a great success, with 12 teams participating. Many thanks to Keith Mitchell and his committee for putting on a very enjoyable day. The curlers were very appreciative and really got into the spirit of the event. Keith's report can be found elsewhere in this *Sweep*.

I am still looking for someone to take over "Bonspiels". I'm more than happy to help out with the learning process. Acting as the liaison between the office and the convenors is the main focus, and helping with the calendar preparation every spring. The Bonspiel chair also sits on the Curling Committee, meeting once a month. Being on the Committee has greatly improved communication with the sections.

Letter to Santa

Dear Santa, I know I have not written to the North Pole in a very long time. However, 2020 has changed that silent night. This year I felt inspired to renew the tradition of writing a letter of thanks to you and your team. First, thank you for transposing our RKCC lounge into a warm and comforting environment for the season. Although there were much smaller numbers to observe its atmosphere, we at the Youth League enjoyed the dancing lights on the Christmas tree with the colourful presents under it. I know in my heart that the families of our league truly enjoyed this welcoming image. I also know that the children were thankful to our club's membership for working on the "Return to Play" protocol. I personally, as a coach, was thankful for operating at full capacity. COVID-19 did not stop our competitive spirit! Our children, even if only five years old, derived great satisfaction of hand delivering a rock the full length of the ice sheet. There was no need to do the math here. It was just the fun of setting a goal and the thrill of accomplishment to reach those goals. We, as a coaching team, see this excitement in our weekly assignments. In return, we look for as many opportunities to grow, providing positive team building scenarios built into the drills of athletic ability. Our club and our children need this, and we need the comfort of a Christmas Tree. Besides the Covid-19 crisis, 2020 was tough on our sense of national personality. Our families across the country felt an immense sense of loss with respect to the humanities. My wishes for the Province of Nova Scotia and the community of Kamloops, British Columbia is that you keep your special magic of the Christmas season going a little longer so that our country can grasp that knowledge of a hand delivery going forward into 2021. We believe you will never forget us! In the past, my Oath meant that there can be no misrepresentation and so this letter belongs to you specifically. You also in return from the past, delivered a message to the people of Canada about our freedom to believe. Merry Christmas, Santa.

From the RKCC Youth League, Volunteers, Family and Friends



Photo and text
submitted by
Kimberly Barker

Tuesday/Thursday Day Ladies compete for Fanset Trophy



By Sylvia Myers Vice Chair DL Section

Our Day Ladies second event competition for the Terry Fanset Trophy was held on December 18 featuring Tuesday vs Thursday.

Our Thursday team were the winners of the Trophy. In the top photo from left are skip Tish LaVallee, vice Rene LeClair, second Pat Butler and lead Shelia McKirdy.

Runners up were, in the bottom photo from left, second Shelly Davis, lead Joan Stevenson, vice Marilyn Wilson and skip April Welsh.

Congratulations to both teams.