



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 23, Issue 3

November 2021

Game strategy for a COVID recovery – ideas welcome!

By Rob Campbell, Chair, Finance Committee

Our audited financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2021 have been completed and we wanted to share with the membership some of the information from our year of COVID curling.

During the spring and early summer of 2020 we looked at a number of scenarios for opening the club for the 2020/2021 season. With all the safety protocols that would have to be implemented, would we get enough members that, when combined with the various government programs that may be available to us, would allow us to operate and be fiscally responsible? We had an idea as to how much it would cost if we didn't open and it only made sense to proceed if we could be better than that.

It turns out that we were the perfect business for the government funding to assist. Our membership revenues were down from 2020, as was bar revenue, ice, volleyball and pickleball rentals. There were no bonspiels.

However, we were eligible to receive wage subsidies and provincial and federal support grants of approximately \$115,000.

The end result was that, even though we experienced two different shutdowns due to government mandates, we were able to break even. The new year has started and we hope there will be no interruptions. Membership numbers are excellent and the prospect of having some bonspiel events during the year is encouraging. However, we are not likely to be getting any more government support, so we must continue to support the club in any way possible. We welcome any idea for additional revenue generation or cost cutting that will add to the wellbeing of the club.

For example, club member Donna Poirier organized two fundraising online auctions this year, raising a total of \$7817.69 for the club! Another auction is in the works for the spring, so please hold on to those sellable household items and other treasures.



Rich Waller spares for Tony Bush in the 2-person stick championship game.

Stick Leagues

By Pat Simms, Convenor

The 2021 season started out without Teresa and Brian Wilson, who were a great help to me in the past. I thank them very much. The two- and four-person stick leagues are running smoothly and have both grown this year.

Championship Day was very successful. See results on the following pages.

Congratulations to all the teams; you put on a good show. It was entertaining to watch!

Championship Day

By Martha Tanner, Sweep Editor

The annual RKCC Championship is always a celebration. It's a celebration of the end of another successful season, of the best curlers among us, and of the friendships we have formed throughout the season or seasons that got us there.

This year, it was all that and more.

This year it was a celebration of having come through a pandemic together. Although the club was shutdown intermittently due to government regulations, we were able to have a curling season. But we were unable to have our end-of-season Championship celebrations in April 2020 and 2021. No piper piping the teams out onto the ice. No spectators calling the game from behind the glass.

All that changed on Saturday, November 6 when the winning teams from the 2020 season met up on the ice to determine whose names would finally be inscribed on the championship trophies. Organized by Linda Lott, chair of the Curling Committee, with the help of Pat Simms and April Welsh, along with Kathleen Poole, Championship Day was a welcome return to tradition and was greatly appreciated by all who attended. Club President Deb Wilkin thanked everyone for attending and curlers thanked the ice makers for the excellent ice.



Left: piper Kevin Tanner and head bartender Gerry Buist make the traditional toast, 'Sláinte'!
Above: the afternoon teams are piped out.



Far left, skip Teresa Gibson signals, "Good shot!"
Left: David Burke and Peter Coughlin mug for the camera.

Championship photos
by Martha Tanner



RKCC's junior curlers played their Championship games on October 24, with teams determined by head instructor Kimberly Barker. Bantam winners, from left: Leah DaCosta (2nd), Logan Bedard (vice), Alex Splinter (skip) and Noah Bedard (lead).



**Jr. Winners, left, L_R: Ryan Kreick (second), Luke De Groote (vice), Tim Vankoughnett (skip) and Andrew DaCosta (lead).
Bottom left, Jr. Runners-up, L-R: Jack Wellbanks (second), Cassandra Hill (lead), Emma Hoover (vice) and Devlon Benton (skip)
Below right, Bantam runners-up: Abigail van der Plas (skip), Michael O'Donnell (vice), Reid Griffin (second) and Liam McGarvey (lead).**





Sr. Men's A Flight Champs, from left: vice Ken McMillan, skip Garth Mitchell, second David Barr and lead David Bracken.

Championship Saturday Results

On Championship Saturday, the morning draw was reserved for Senior Men's match-ups, Ladies Flight, Evening Men's B Flight and Two-Person Stick.

In the **Senior Men's A Flight**, perennial favourites Garth Mitchell (skip), Ken McMillan (vice), David Barr (second) and David Bracken (lead) took on Greg Ruse's team, with Michael Braun sparing for skip Ruse, along with Tom Bryant (vice), John Latimer (second) and Tom Miller (lead). Team Mitchell once again won the game and the men's trophy.

In the **Senior Men's B Flight** game, skip Keith Mitchell, with vice Joe Murphy, second Rod Pearson (sparing for Murray Matheson) and lead Murray McDowall faced off against the Tony Bush team with Brian Ward sparing for vice Rick Thornton, Larry Langdon at second and Steve Quinn throwing lead rocks. Team Mitchell was the victor.

In the **Senior Men's C Flight**, Bob Helliar's team of Bill Vince (third, sparing for Martin Secker), Vic Matthews and lead William Spencer, played the Erwin Batalla team with Rick Pim at vice, Bruce Jeffery, second, and Steve Mansell, lead. Team Batalla won the game.

In the **Evening Ladies vs Day Ladies Flight** competition, Laura Brown's three-women EL team with Kaitlyn Welch and Katie Jeziorski (missing Courtney Barnhill and Erica Simpson who played in the 20/21 season) defeated Lin Jenkins' DL team, with Tish LaVallee vicing, Pam Power playing second and Trish Beckett, lead.

In the **Two-person Stick** championship, Mike Charette and Rich Waller (sparing for Tony Bush) took on Ron Cameron and Reg Gore (sparing for Bob Helliar), with Team Charette pulling off the win.

And in the final game of the morning draw, the **Men's B Flight** team of Bill Cannon, Benny Gordon, Sean Kerry and John Thorburn defeated the team of Denis Faubert, Peter Waugh and Leslie Higginson.

Continued on page 5.



Mixed A Flight champions, from left: vice Kelly Johnson, skip Todd Johnson, lead Colleen Cross and second Ken Cross.



Mario Fabbro, centre, and his team of John McMillan, left, sparing for Richard Dickson, and John Thorburn, sparing for Bill Ball, won the Men's Club trophy.

Championship Saturday, continued from page 4.

After a short break, teams were piped on for the afternoon draw, with several players taking to the ice for the second time that day.

New this year was a competition for the **Mixed B Flight** trophy, which saw Carole Rivington's team of Pierre Vanderhout, Nancy Roantree and Kevin Pereira take on Bill Cannon's team of Kimberly Barker, and Benny Gordon. Lead Tensia Cannon was absent. Team Rivington won the game and the inaugural trophy.

In the **Four-person Stick** game, Vic Matthews' team of Reg Gore, Joanne Miller and Mike Charette (sparing for Tom Miller) defeated skip Tony Bush and his team of Rich Waller, Jim Rayner (sparing for Richard Thorburn) and Larry Langdon. Skip Matthews was unable to savour the victory, however, as he was skipping a team on the adjoining sheet in the men's club championship. Ron Cameron spared for Matthews in the stick game.

In the **Men's Club** game, Vic Matthews' luck ran out, as he and his team of Brian Nolan, David Burke and Peter Coughlin lost an extra-end, down-to-the-last-rock game to Mario Fabbro with John McMillan sparing for third Richard Dickson and John Thorburn sparing for Bill Ball.

In the **Carrie Cole championship** game, pitting the Day Ladies Club winners against the Evening Ladies Club winners, Lin Jenkins and her team of Linda Robb, Lisa DaCosta and Anna Voskamp defeated the evening ladies' team of Teresa Gibson, Marilyn Wilson, Lisa Thorburn and Jane Ward.

And in the **Mixed A** championship, Todd Johnson, Kelly Johnson, Ken Cross and Colleen Cross defeated Joe Murphy, Cyndy Murphy, Keith Mitchell and Vicki Mitchell.

The **Men's A Flight** Championship game was played earlier, in order to determine which team would advance to the Everest Club Championship in Peterborough. That honour went to the team of Scott Eaton, with third Ross Fabbro, second Dylan Welch and lead Steve Orme.

More photos on page 6.



Winners of the four-person stick championship, from left, Reg Gore (vice), Vic Matthews (skip), Joanne Miller (second) and Tom Miller (lead).



Two-person stick champs Mike Charette, left, and Tony Bush.



Carrie Cole champions, from left: Anna Voskamp, lead, Lisa DaCosta, second, Linda Robb, vice, and skip Lin Jenkins.



Winners of the inaugural Mixed B Flight trophy, from left: Kevin Pereira, lead, Nancy Roantree, second, Pierre Vanderhout, vice and skip Carole Rivington.

More Championship photos on page 7.



Senior Men's C Flight champs, from left, skip Erwin Batalla, second Bruce Jeffery, vice Rick Pim, lead Steve Mansell and John McCready, fifth.



EL Club champs, from left, skip Teresa Gibson, vice Marilyn Wilson, second Lisa Thorburn and lead Jane Ward.



Men's B Flight winners, from left, second Sean Kerry, skip Bill Cannon, vice Benny Gordon and lead John Thorburn.



Senior Men's B Flight champs, from left, vice Joe Murphy, skip Keith Mitchell, Rod Pearson (sparing for Murray Matheson) and lead Murray McDowall.



Laura Brown's EL team with Kaitlyn Welch and Katie Jeziorski (missing Courtney Barnhill and Erica Simpson who played in the 20/21 season) were the EL flight champions and overall women's flight champions for the 2020-21 season. Top left, L-R: skip Laura Brown, vice Kaitlyn Welch, second Erica Simpson and lead Katie Jeziorski. Top right: Kaitlyn puts it all into her sweeping during the Championship game November 6.

EL off to encouraging start, on the ice and behind the scenes

By April Welsh, Chair, Evening Ladies Section

The Evening Ladies section welcomes 17 new members to its club and flight leagues! What a great way to start the new season. Welcome, all!

Our season ended abruptly last March with no final championship games being played. These games were played Saturday, November 6 and a good time was had by all. Please see the report and photos elsewhere in *The Sweep*.

Our "Club" league plays on Wednesdays at 5:30 and it is a great place for new curlers to learn the game and meet new people. It has just finished its first draw, with eight teams participating. The winners of the first event were Judy Russell and her team of Nancy Evans, Taylor Dziver and Cathy Kirby. The runners-up were Denise Mulville, Marilyn Wilson, Andrea Berry (sparing for Tamara Van Grunsven) and Monica Parry. The second event was won by Liz Baer, Karen Matheson (sparing for Lisa Mulville), Wendy McCullough and Melissa Dopking. The third event was won by Teresa Gibson, Bev Townsend, Taylor Dyon and Carolyn Bernes.

Just a reminder that if you want to curl in a club draw you must register on the RKCC website under "event registration" for each draw. The registration for draw #2 has closed and those games began on November 15. If you are not in a certain draw you can still spare, so please sign up under the "spare" tag on the members' page/league info.

EL continued on page 9

EL Flight, continued from page 8.

I thank our club convenors, Andrea Berry and Liz Baer, for getting the league up and running and for welcoming so many new members. If you have questions about “club” curling they are the ladies to ask.

Our “Flight” league plays on Mondays, either 5:15 or 7:30. This league is made up of self-chosen teams that play together all year. We have 17 teams again this year. The season will start with a 17-week round robin, after which teams will be broken into divisions leading up to year-end playoffs. Again, you can spare in flight by signing up under the spares section. Thanks to your flight convenors Karen Matheson and Carol Fitzpatrick for organizing the league. You are reminded to please enter your scores after each game into the tablet at the club or email/text Carol with your results so she can keep the stats up to date.

We had our fall EL meeting on November 8. The meeting started with a “Provincial Send Off” for Denise Mulville and her team of Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk and Karen Peters who will be competing in the CurlION Senior Ladies’ Provincials in Midland, Nov. 17-21. Good curling, ladies! Thanks to Linda Lott, our CurlION rep, for organizing the send-off, cake and all!

There were good discussions during the meeting, one of which was the need for flight curlers to curl club if possible. We have a wealth of experience and skill in the flight league that new club curlers could really benefit from. It is also very rewarding for experienced curlers to mentor a new curler. A brief discussion involved how we determine our representative for the CurlION “Everest” competition. Do we continue to send the winner of the EL vs DL flight game or do we run a playoff specifically to determine our rep? To be continued....

Evening Ladies Executive

Chair	April Welsh
Vice Chair	Liz Baer
Secretary	Nancy Roantree
Club	Andrea Berry, Liz Baer
Flight	Karen Matheson, Carol Fitzpatrick
CurlION	Linda Lott
Social	Vacant
RKCC Social	Kathleen Poole

I am very, very pleased to announce that Liz Baer has agreed to become Vice Chair. Thank you, Liz!!! We are still looking for a committee to run our social events, which include the Opening Potluck or the Closing Dinner. We share these events with the Day ladies, each section doing one each year. “Social” also runs, or finds a convenor to run, our bonspiel in November. Please contact me if you have any questions about doing “Social”. A flight team would be ideal but not necessary.



On a sad note, the last few months saw a few of our RKCC friends pass away. Janine Dunk, Shirley Russell, Cathy Warwick and Rhonda Cross all curled Evening Ladies at one time. Ed Bauder, Les Forkes, John Pratt, and Nick Sears will also be missed.



Members of the Queen's University PhD-Community Initiative team, front row from left: Desiree Bender, Maame Addai, and mentor Connie Taylor. Back row, from left, are Mohammad Akbari Varnousfaderani, Liayana Jondy, and Madison Danford.

Curling Club Revitalization Project

RKCC partners with Queen's University PhD-Community Initiative program

By Deb Wilkin, Club President

In June of this year, RKCC was accepted as one of the partners in this program for the 2021-2022 academic year. We have a team of five PhD students, from multiple disciplines, conducting research and analysis to assist us with our Strategic Business Plan. The Queen's team is assisted by a mentor, and will also be offering recommendations and strategies, for the club's consideration, to best support the revitalization of our club, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic. Their research and planning have already begun.

The Queen's team is Connie Taylor, mentor; Madison Danford, Desiree Bender, Liayana Jondy, Maame Addai, and Mohammad Akbari Varnousfaderani, PhD candidates. The RKCC committee working with the Queen's team is Deb Wilkin, John Giles, Michael Flowers, Jim Barton, John Ryce, and Shirley Kwakkenbos.

Stay tuned for further updates as the project works its way to a conclusion next spring.

Canada eh!

By Judy Hay, DL Social Convenor

The Day Ladies Canada Eh! Funspiel, held November 9, was a wonderful day for all 48 curlers. Twelve teams took to the ice to play two four-end games. Lin Jenkins did an amazing job as our score keeper. Many creative costumes added to the festive atmosphere. Pictured right, Deb Emerton (second), April Welsh (skip) Gillian Turnbull (vice) and Kathy Chabot (lead) were first-place winners.

Sylvia Myers, Deb Kennedy, Jane Ward, and Debbie Hynes were second place winners. Brenda Charette won the prize for best shot. Joan Doucet won the Oops prize. Best costume went to Mary Andrews. Deb Emerton created a challenging quiz. Sheila McHenry, Andrea Clark, Bonnie Arlt and Marlene Joslin won the quiz prize.

A delicious lunch was served between the first and second games. Many thanks to our volunteers who contributed to making this a great mini Bonspiel.



Member at Large Report

By Sylvia Myers, Member at Large

We were very fortunate that our Club stayed open last year during the COVID crisis, closed 52 days and open for 180 days. While the Club was closed to members, work was still being done. Through Zoom calls, all the committees were able to communicate and keep the needs of the Club on track.

We were also grateful that the decision was made to refund our members. A big thank-you goes out to those members who donated their refund back to the Club.

Hopefully you have read the request for the Volunteer Coordinator. Our Club wouldn't be as successful as it is without your help as a Volunteer. If you read the last edition of *The Sweep*, it reminds you how important volunteering is. Volunteers are the engine of our Club and without you there would be no Club.

If you haven't volunteered yet, be a volunteer and bring your ideas to support this wonderful club. You can find information on our website in Member Information under My Volunteer Availability, or just come and ask any one of us: "What can I do to help or where can I volunteer?"

Day Ladies welcome 11 new members, encourage more mentors

By Sylvia Myers, Co-Chair Day Ladies Section

The 2020-2021 Playoffs were played on October 27, 2021 for the Fall and Winter draws. The winners were team Lin Jenkins (Skip), Linda Robb (Vice), Lisa DaCosta (second), and Anna Voskamp (lead) from the winter draw. On November 6, Lin Jenkins' winter team won the Carrie Cole championship. Congratulations to our winners.

We have a big turnout in our Tuesday club league, but our Thursday club is falling behind. For the Ladies who play flight on Wednesday, please come back and join us on Tuesday and Thursday. I am afraid if our numbers dwindle on Thursday, we might lose that time slot altogether. As you know, ice time is almost impossible to schedule. We need more experienced curlers to join us to mentor our new curlers, whether coming from another club or just starting out. We all began in club, so let's try and keep it as our starting point.

Locker assignment was busy; we have a total of 96 rented. I labeled each member's name on the lockers, and have had feedback that it was a good idea. Thank you for emailing me and letting me know that you requested a locker.

We held our Fall AGM in October; we had a good turnout to the meeting. We also welcomed 11 new members who had the opportunity to meet the Day Ladies community.

We did not hold an opening dinner this fall, as restrictions were still in place. We are hoping the closing dinner will take place in April. Fingers crossed.

Stay safe on and off the ice



Day Ladies Flight Winners for 2020-2021, from left: Trish Beckett (lead), Shelly Davis (second), Tish LaVallee (vice) and Lin Jenkins (skip). Absent from photo is Pam Power (fifth).



Runners-Up, from left: Susan Hara (second), Joanne Manion (vice) and Donna Jeffery (skip). Missing from photo is lead Vicki Mitchell.

Day Ladies Flight

By Kathy Jackson, 2021-2022 Day Ladies Flight Convenor

Wrapping up the 2020-2021 Season

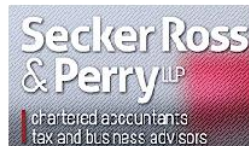
On Sunday, October 17, the top two teams in Day Ladies Flight from the 2020-2021 season played a championship game to determine who would win the Day Ladies Flight trophy for last year. COVID-19 had once again played havoc with our end-of-season curling, so no play-offs were completed last April. The game pitted the undefeated Fall flight winners skipped by Donna Jeffery against the undefeated Winter flight winners skipped by Lin Jenkins. After a back-and-forth game, the Jenkins team emerged victorious. The winning team was comprised of Lin Jenkins as skip, Tish LaVallee as vice, Shelly Davis as second and Trish Beckett as lead. Pam Power, the team's fifth, supported them from the sidelines. The runners-up were Donna Jeffery as skip, Joanne Manion playing vice, Susan Hara throwing second rocks and Vicki Mitchell playing lead. Congratulations to both teams for a stellar curling season.

On Championship Day, held on Saturday November 6, the Jenkins team represented the Day Ladies section in the flight game against Laura Brown's team from the Evening Ladies section for RKCC Ladies Flight bragging rights. In a game that saw one team dominate in the first half and then the other team rebound in the second half, Laura's team emerged victorious. Congratulations to Lin's team for their fine showing.

The Current Season

Day Ladies Flight is off to a great start with 13 teams and 60 curlers. To date, we have completed six weeks of our 13-week schedule. Following the full round robin, which will wrap up in early January, the league will be divided into an 'A' and a 'B' division for a divisional round robin. The top five teams in the standings at this point are: Kathy Brown, Donna Jeffery, Joanne Miller, Pat Thompson, and Karen Matheson.

Please support our sponsors!



Michael
Braun



We our sponsors!



RKCC Turkey Spiel

Sponsored by *David & Sons Fine Condiments*



Saturday December 11, 2021

Two 6-End Games - first game 12:30 PM

Turkeys to the winners, a turkey raffle, and corner to corner draw for more turkeys!

Light Lunch Provided between games

Giveaways and tastings of David's delicious, locally made condiments .
Visit www.DFCBBQ.com to learn more!!

Open to ALL RKCC members.

48 curler limit – sign up as individuals.

Teams to be determined – skin spiel format - **Covid protocols apply**

Food donations will be collected for South Frontenac Community Services

Cost \$25/person

For info contact: [pj_waugh@hotmail](mailto:pj_waugh@hotmail.com)

Register on RKCC Web site under EVENTS – preferred payment by e-transfer to RKCC or alternatively pay at the bar