



The Sweep

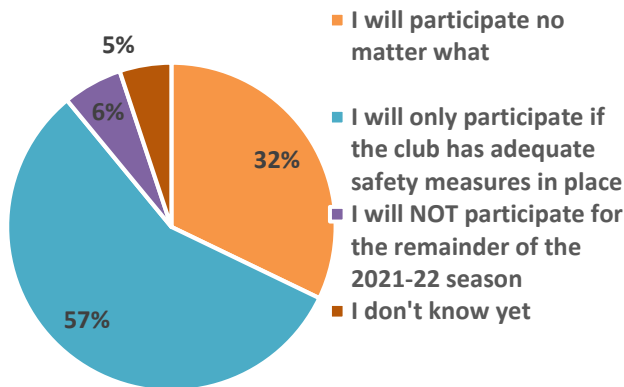
Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 23, Issue 4

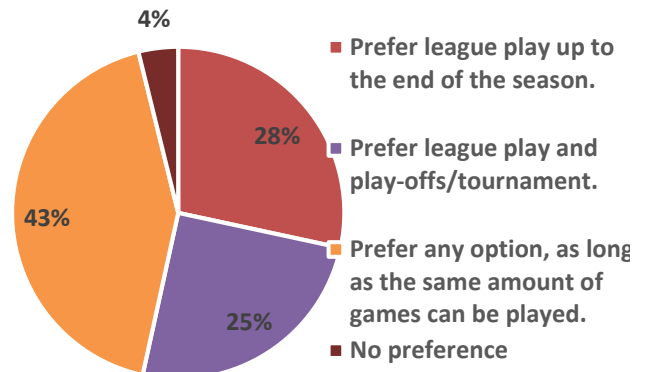
February 2022

Survey says . . . !

At this time, what best describes how you are currently feeling about returning in Winter 2022 ?



If planning on returning to curling and given a shortened 2nd half of the regular 2020-2021 season, what is your preference league play vs. play-offs.



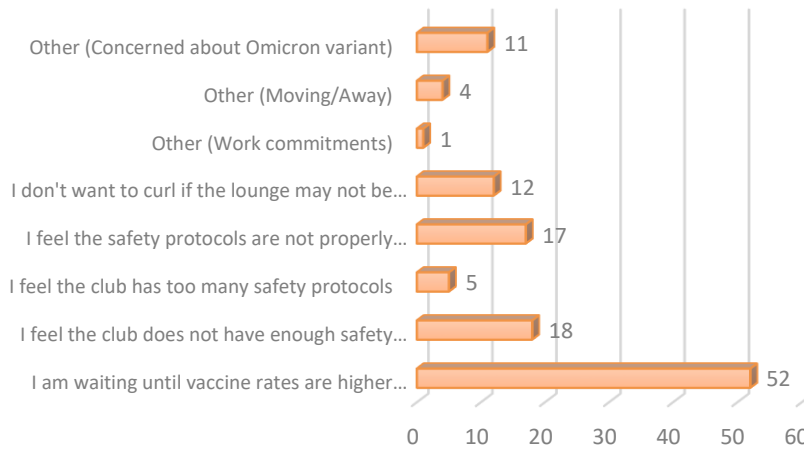
Thanks to everyone who participated in our most recent pulse survey. The survey was designed by Michael Flowers, chair of the Membership Committee, and was intended to gauge members' interest and intent re a return to curling on January 31, when the Ontario government updated certain public health measures. Over 70 per cent of members from all leagues responded to the survey, and over 100 of you provided comments. All of these responses were invaluable in helping the Board and members of the Curling and Membership committees to plan for a safe re-opening, keeping your concerns in mind. Around 20 members indicated that they would not be returning to play this season, for reasons mostly related to current COVID-19 case counts or area vaccine rates. Interestingly, 99 per cent of respondents felt that they were abiding by the protocols put in place by the club, but felt that only 87 per cent of their peers were. The biggest failure to comply was felt to be in physical distancing, followed by mask wearing and sanitizing. Some people felt that the club had too many safety protocols in place, while others felt that there were not enough.

Continued on page 2.

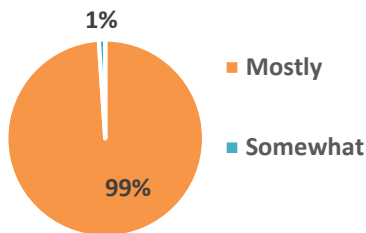
Survey, continued from page 1.

Some said they would not return if they had to wear masks on the ice, while others said they would like to see more people wearing masks on the ice, and especially N95 or triple-layer masks as opposed to cloth masks. The Return to Play Committee and the Board are grateful for the many supportive comments, such as this one: "Thank you for all the work you do to keep us safe and curling!"

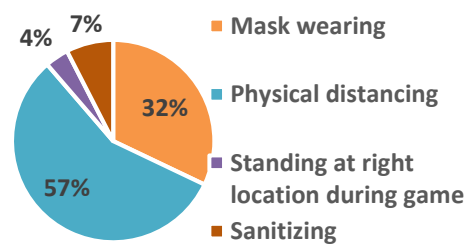
If you are not returning to curling in Winter 2022 or are unsure please identify the reasons?



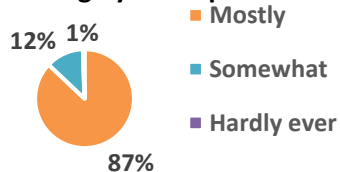
Do you feel you are abiding by the protocols put in place?



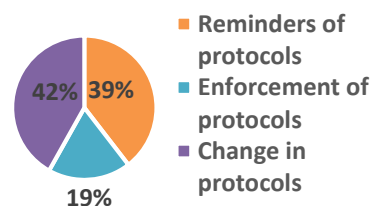
If not abiding, which part of the protocols are not being observed?



Do you feel your teammates and other league members are also abiding by these protocols?



If not abiding, how can we help you/them accomplish this goal?



Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel returns

We are excited to announce the Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel is back this year on Saturday, February 26th. Please join us for a great day, which includes two 8-end games, hot catered lunch, prizes, a 50/50 draw, and a silent auction benefiting Pathways to Education.

Due to COVID protocols, we are limiting the "In House with the Hobbit" bonspiel to 12 in-house RKCC teams. Please register online at royalkingston.com/events/eventregistration early to secure your spot. This bonspiel is a prequel to our spectacular "Draw for the Rings" bonspiel planned for 2023.



63RD EMPIRE LIFE MIXED BONSPIEL

In House with the Hobbit

Saturday February 26th 2022

TWO 8-END GAMES, 12 TEAMS, POINT SPIEL FORMAT



9:30 Game 1
12:00 Hot Catered Lunch
2:00 Game 2
4:00 Dessert and Prizes

Team entry \$140 includes HST

Register online at royalkingston.com/events/eventregistration
E-transfer payment to rkcc.payments@gmail.com or pay at the bar

Charity auction to support

Pathways
to Education



All Return to Play Protocols in place: proof of full vaccination required,
COVID health screening, physical distancing, mask wearing inside the club.



Team Hookey represented RKCC at the U18 qualifying event in Brockville last December. From left are: Andrew DaCosta, Luke De Groote, Ryan Kreick and Ryan Hookey. The team, in its first year on the U18 circuit, played well but did not qualify for the provincials.

RKCC to host U18 provincials

RKCC is pleased to host the Under-18 Men's and Women's Provincial Championships March 30 – April 3, 2022. The winners will represent Ontario at the national championship May 2-7 at the Oakville Curling Club.

The event will feature the top eight men's and women's U-18 teams in Ontario. Six men's and six women's teams have already qualified through three open qualifiers and two more men's and women's teams will advance from a challenge round being held February 25-27 at the London Curling Club. This is also a great opportunity for us to showcase our excellent facilities and wonderful members.

Volunteers will be needed to help out with this event, so if you are interested in helping, please contact Club President Deb Wilkin at dwilkin2@cogeco.ca. We will need 15 timers, and 4-5 additional people per day for general volunteering at the club (specific duties to be defined later). Training for the timers will be done by CurlION and held at the club Tuesday evening, March 29th during the Evening Men's Flight games.

The opening ceremony will take place on Wednesday, March 30 at 6 p.m., when the teams will be piped onto the ice by RKCC member Kevin Tanner. The games will be opened by Town Crier Chris Whyman, with official words of welcome by Kingston Mayor Bryan Paterson. A CurlION Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 2, followed by any tiebreaker games at 8 p.m. Semi-final and final games will be played on Sunday, April 3.

Two teams per gender advance to the national championships. More details about this event will follow.

Please support our sponsors – and our Sponsorship Committee

**By Bruce Jeffery, Chair
RKCC Sponsorship Committee**

Your Sponsorship Committee is made up of the following members: Bruce Jeffery (Chair), Garry Dupuis (Vice-chair), Roger Taylor, Tom Bryant, Linda Lott, Dean Clark, Dave Bracken, Colleen Emmerson and Murray Matheson. The committee has worked hard again this year to raise money for RKCC through Wall signs and Ice Sheet sponsorships.

Again this season, due to COVID, we offered our sponsors a 25% discount as we know many of the businesses are struggling. Although we're sure this discount has helped, we have lost a few sponsors. We currently have a total of 43 Wall sponsors and six Ice Sheet sponsors.

We would like to thank Colleen Emmerson with Royal LePage ProAlliance Realty who stepped up and replaced World Financial Group as the sponsor of Ice Sheet #5. In addition, we would like to acknowledge and thank the following new Wall sponsors: David Batsford Landscaping, Martin's Fireplaces, Otter Creek Catering & Food Truck, and Momentum Pilates.

We still have room for 10 additional Wall sponsors so if any of our members know of a business that you think might wish to be a sponsor at RKCC, please don't hesitate to contact one of our committee members and we will approach them. As our Club struggles to raise revenue to help keep RKCC financially viable, the funds brought in through our sponsorships are a key component of this effort.

In closing, we'd like to remind all of you to try to utilize our various sponsors whenever you are looking for any goods or services. See the complete list on pages 10 and 11 of this *Sweep*.

EL flight, club play resumes

By April Welsh

Welcome back, everyone! Your convenors have been reworking club and flight schedules to fit in as many games as possible for you before the end of the season. The rest of the flight round robin will be completed by March 28, leaving three weeks for playoffs.

The third club draw started February 2. The draw 2 first event final is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 12, at a time to be announced. The teams of Teresa Gibson, Doreen St. John, Taylor Dziver and Melissa Dopking will be playing Denise Mulville (sparing for skip Colleen Bennett), Sylvia Myers, Taylor Dyon and Monica Parry for the Draw 2 entry into the Carrie Cole playoffs. Good curling, ladies!

Adult Learn to Curl Program welcomes new curlers

By Denis Faubert
ALTC Coordinator & Lead Instructor

The Adult Learn To Curl (ALTC) program consisted of seven instructors (Judy Russell, Martha Tanner, John Giles, Peter Waugh, Richard Dickson, Peter Coughlin and Denis Faubert) and 24 participants. Aside from two curlers with limited experience and one experienced club member, the remainder had no previous on-ice curling involvement. Judy Russell was instrumental in providing Stick Curling instruction to five of the novice curlers.

The success of the program was due primarily to knowledgeable, friendly and enthusiastic instructors, as well as a very high instructor/participant ratio i.e. 1: 4. The original intent was to limit numbers to 12, however, we were able to accommodate 24 with the provision of additional instructors mentioned above.

As part of the registration fee, all participants were provided with two new grippers as well as a slip-on slider and the use of the club stabilizers throughout the entirety of the program. This provided the curlers with greater balance and control, which in turn led to a safer and more accelerated progression throughout the program.

The first unofficial session in early November consisted of a 'Meet & Greet' to introduce the instructors, provide a brief summary of what the course entailed, as well as an opportunity to showcase our wonderful curling facility.

Although the majority of the time was spent with curling instruction, some brief informative sessions were discussed at the far end of the lounge prior to stepping on the ice.

The program was well received by the participants and from the first tentative slides on the ice to the more deliberate attempts to 'make a shot', it was clear that they were enjoying themselves.

Introducing new individuals/couples to the club thru the ALTC portal has proven very successful in the past and RKCC was pleased to offer this program once again.

The intent at this point is to provide the graduates of this program the opportunity to continue curling as members through various club opportunities as well as the U2 league tailored to novice curlers.

Craft & Dessert Fair a sweet success

By Kathleen Poole, Social Committee Chair

The Social Committee held its successful **Craft and Dessert Fair** on December 4, 2021 from 9 am – 1 pm. We had nine people who rented 11 tables for this event. In the past we have had up to 26 tables, but we kept the numbers “COVID spacing” low this year.

We were overwhelmingly appreciative of members for being vendors, and baking donations for the Dessert Fair: they donated baking, pies, cookies, squares and preserves. Members that set up a table included: Bill Hay, Claire Dominick’s grandson, Kathy Jackson, (and former member Joanne Gizzi and her mom).

Net Profit of event including table rentals and baking table sales was \$711.89

Through social media advertising, advertising on the road sign, and notification of members, we had a steady group of people who attended the event – all who had to sign in and show COVID Vaccine certificates, including time in and time out of the building.

Many thanks to EVERYONE who made this event a success.



Remembering Tommy

Long-time members will remember Thomas “Tommy” Martin, who passed away on February 1 at the age of 90. Tommy was a mechanic at Dupont and described as a “character”, known for his sense of fun, his laughter and his pride in his Scottish roots.



Many RKCC members will recognize Kibo Mulima in the new video by Curling Canada, intended to encourage diversity, equity and inclusivity in curling. If you missed the video during the Scotties broadcast, you can see it on Curling Canada’s Youtube page (<https://youtu.be/C0xoiBRtRBk>). Kibo started curling at RKCC as a youngster, but now skips a U20 competitive men’s team based in Ottawa and is attending Wilfred Laurier University.



The winner of the Turkey Spiel was the Mulled Winers team of, from left, Gail McNabb, Gisele Cyr, Edward Gibson and Sharen McDowall.



Bev Townsend, above left, accepts her prize turkey from mixed co-convenor Janet Waugh.

Turkey Spiel

This season's Turkey Spiel was held on Saturday, December 11, and, as usual, was loaded with fun and friendship. Twelve teams competed for turkeys and bragging rights. Thanks for all the donations to the Food Bank.

The winners included the South Frontenac Community Food Bank and the **Mulled Winers** team of Edward Gibson, Gisele Cyr, Sharen McDowall and Gail McNabb. Turkeys also went to Edward Gibson and Bev Townsend (pictured left with mixed co-convenor Janet Waugh) for their precision shot making in the Corner-to-Corner draw. Best spirit prize went to Richard Robichaud for his Christmas-themed costume.

Volunteers (always) needed

RKCC is a non profit club, run largely by volunteers. We depend on volunteers to organize and run all of our leagues, clinics, bonspiels and special events. Volunteers are responsible for much of our club maintenance and finances, policies and procedures. Please get involved. The Social Committee, which organizes special (fun!) events, including Championship Weekend, and the Communications Committee, which is responsible for social media, the newsletter, website and volunteer coordination, have an immediate need for members. The Operations Committee could use many more sets of hands to help with maintenance around the club, now in its 17th year.

Royal Kingston Curling Club
130 Days Road, Kingston, Ontario

Club Manager Position

The Royal Kingston Curling Club (RKCC) may be 202 years old, but the building is a state of the art 16-year-old facility, with six sheets of ice, a full kitchen, bar, pro shop, banquet amenities and seasonal facilities for Beach Volleyball and Pickleball. The almost 600 members of the RKCC are also active volunteers in supporting the activities of the Club and the Club Manager.

The RKCC is looking for a full-time Club Manager to manage the business operations and facilities of the RKCC, with an operating budget of approximately \$650,000. During the curling season, September to April, there is an expectation of increased availability, including some evenings and weekends. The Manager will be expected to manage their own schedule as needs dictate, but will allow for flexible hours and some work from home opportunities.

Responsibilities

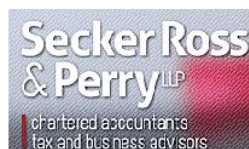
- provide excellent service to current members, while also attracting new members
- assist with budgeting and business planning (in conjunction with the Board)
- assist in marketing all aspects of the Club, including Curling, banquet, Pickleball and Volleyball
- raise the profile of the RKCC and curling in Kingston and area
- manage the RKCC website and assist with social media
- manage all service contracts for the Club
- assist in maintaining the financial viability of the Club through cost control and revenue generation: including sport rentals, bar sales, retail sales and memberships
- support the Board of Directors by providing relevant information to enable them to exercise proper due diligence and develop new directions
- ensure the Club maintains up-to-date procedures
- ensure that there is clear responsibility and accountability for all club activities

Required Experience / Skills

- 2 years experience in club/small business management, including supervision, marketing, human resources and financial management
- excellent communications and interpersonal skills, with a proven track record of customer service and sales
- competency in Excel, Word, website management and social media
- knowledge of applicable laws and regulations (e.g., Health and Safety) would be an asset
- knowledge of curling would be an asset

Please e-mail a PDF copy of your resume and cover letter to mcmcanuck@gmail.com with "Club Manager Position" in the subject line. The deadline to apply is Friday, February 18, 2022. All information submitted will be kept strictly confidential and those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Please support our sponsors!



Michael Braun





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"Making your fireplace dreams come true."

