



In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER



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Schooner Curling Club

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The Schooner Club's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser will be held on Friday, March 15. Dinners are \$7 each and are being made by Tommy Young of the Sydney Curling Club. Pickup is available at the Sydney Club or delivery will be provided for orders of five or more. Volunteers are needed for Thursday evening, March 14th, for prepping the dinners and also on Friday morning for packing and delivery.

Volunteer sign-up sheets are at the bar.

This is the only major fundraiser held by the club each year and is very important to our financial well being.

Money raised helps to pay monthly bills and to keep membership rates as low as possible. All members are encouraged to try and sell as many dinners as possible. Order sheets are available at the club or on the Schooner website.

Coors Fun Nights



Join us for the final Coors Fun Night of the 2012-2013 season Saturday, March 9th. Lots of fun, food and prizes to be had for the low price of \$5 for non-members and \$2 for Schooner members. The last fun night was very well attended and we hope to see a repeat of that to end the year off right.

Moosehead Mixed Spiel



The Annual Moosehead Mixed Spiel at the Sydney curling club is being held a little earlier than usual this year and will go on the weekend of March 22nd – 24th. This popular event consists of teams made up of two men and two women curlers and has an entry fee of \$160 per team. You are guaranteed three games and dinner is served on Saturday evening with other snacks and refreshments available throughout the weekend. If you plan to compete in this spiel you should sign up as soon as possible because this event always fills up quickly. Even if you're not curling, drop by the Sydney club throughout the weekend and cheer on our Schooner teams.

Club Calendar

March 1st – 2nd	Coors Spiel
Saturday, March 2 nd	Coors Spiel Dance 9-1
Saturday, March 9 th	Coors Fun Night
Friday, March 15 th	Spaghetti Dinner
March 16 th and 17 th	Blarney Stone Lady's Spiel - Baddeck CC
March 22 nd – 24 th	Moosehead Mixed Spiel – Sydney Curling Club
Wednesday, April 17 th	General Meeting
Saturday, April 27 th	Closing Banquet
NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the club website or bulletin board for changes and additions.	

Club Elections

Its election time at the Schooner Club. All executive and committee head positions are up for grabs regardless if the current position holder reoffers. Any position being contested for by two or more members will be voted on at the closing general meeting on April 17th. A sign-up sheet is now located in the club for anyone interested in offering for a position so throw your name on the ballot and give something back to our club.

Closing Banquet



Make plans to attend the closing banquet on Saturday, April 27th. Things get rolling at 6pm with a cocktail hour and then dinner starting at 7:00. This year the banquet will be held at the Sydney Pensioner's Club. This venue provides us with more room and allows all members to enjoy the event without having to worry about decorations, setup or cleaning up afterwards. While this means we will forgo bar sales for the event, club president Ray Cameron says that any profit we made on the bar in past years has only gone to cover other out of pocket expenses and generally, we ended up even anyway. The Pensioner's Club bar prices are \$3 for beer or spirits. After dinner there will be prize presentations and then there will be a dance with a DJ until 1 am. The banquet is free for members and \$10 for guests at dinner. All members must pay a \$10 deposit that will be refunded at the banquet. If you plan to attend the banquet, please sign up and pay your deposit with Frank Kokocki at the bar.

2013 Lady's Sweetheart Spiel Hampered by the Weather

Old Man Winter played a big role in this year's Sweetheart Spiel, hitting us with the biggest storm of the winter and dumping over 40cm of snow on us over a two day period. The spiel got off to a good start with clear weather on Friday evening and all games going off without a hitch. The club was crowded with curlers and spectators there to support the ladies, all enjoying some good curling, complimentary wine and cheese and other snacks provided by the club or brought by members. Games were scheduled to get underway at 9:00 am on Saturday but a winter storm had kicked up overnight and was dumping snow which was driven by high winds, making it impossible for curlers to travel to the club and for play to take place. Games were rescheduled for Sunday morning and were shortened from six to four ends in order to get everything completed in the time we had. When Sunday morning arrived the storm had subsided a bit but the weather was still much less than ideal. Light snow and high winds continued making travelling on the roads tough with all the drifting that was taking place. Not to be outdone by the weather, about sixteen determined curlers and a handful of others made it to the club on Sunday morning and, after waiting for a path to be cleared to the parking lot, made their way into continue the spiel. A few games went off on Sunday before the spiel was officially called complete and everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch compliments of the Schooner men who all donated to make it possible. When the shortened schedule was complete it was the Kelley Laughlin rink with Kelley, Georgette Sparkes, Amie Sparkes and Julianna King that were crowned Champs. Congratulations to the winners. Thank you to all who took part, especially those who made it through the snow. Thank you also to everyone who came to the club to cheer the ladies on, to Russell Fitzgerald, Martin Campbell and all the Schooner men who were responsible for the wine and cheese on Friday and lunch on Sunday, to anyone else who provided snacks and refreshments, to our sponsor, Compu Clone Computer Solutions and to everyone who helped out in any way. And last but certainly not least, a big thank you to Lynn Kelly for all her work in organizing and running the spiel. Even though winter got in the way, the 2013 edition of the Lady's Sweetheart Spiel was still a success with good curling and good fun all weekend. We hope to see everyone next year. The only one not invited to come back is Old Man Winter.

League Wrap-up



Playoffs got underway in two of three leagues at the club in February. The Mixed League and the Team Entry playoffs are underway and the Men's League is set to begin in early March with only one week of makeup games remaining on the regular schedule.

The final games in the Men's League were supposed to be played on February 25th with games that had been cancelled earlier in the month not being played if they were not relevant to the final standings. Brian Laughlin's rink had lead the standings for most of the season and seemed to have first place in hand, needing only one win in their final two games to solidify the championship. Laughlin's team wasn't able to accomplish that, dropping the last two games of the season, one of those to the Gary Landry rink who were also able to win on the final night and gain a tie with Laughlin. Two other teams have also come within striking distance of first place with strong finishes. The Ray Cameron rink is one point behind the leaders and the Leo Fraser rink sits two points out of first. Given the logjam at the top of the standings, draw master Cal Thistle decided to play the cancelled games on March 4th and complete the schedule before starting playoffs which should begin on March 11th. The Mixed league finished up the regular schedule in February and saw the Gordie Cormier rink take top spot with 16 points after a late season surge past the Martin Campbell rink who had been in first for a good part of the season but ended up second to Cormier with 14 points. Congratulations to Gordie, Brian Bernier, Reid MacInnis and Linda MacNeil on their first place finish. Three teams finished just behind the front two with 13 points. After two weeks of playoffs in the mixed league, Cormier's rink has continued to be hot, winning their first two playoff games and leading all others. Cormier sits in top spot in division 1 where he is the only undefeated team. In division 2 it's the Lynette Chiasson rink in top spot with an undefeated record, one win and one tie. Martin Campbell and a few others sit at 1-1 in that division. There's still a long way to go and a lot of curling to be played before we decide a winner.

The Sunday Team entry league came down to the last day this year before a winner was crowned. In the end it was the Omar Roach rink defeating the Brian Laughlin rink to take first place overall and the regular season championship. A win by Laughlin would have given him the crown. Congratulations to Omar, Gary Landry, Elaine Arseneau and Mike Cormier. The final day loss dropped Laughlin into third place behind the John Donovan rink who finished second. After two weeks of playoff action we see our league champs tied atop division one with last year's regular season champs, the Ray Cameron rink with identical 2-0 records. The Laughlin rink sits at 1-1, winning their first game but dropping a match to Roach in week two. The Keith MacEachern rink also sits at 1-1 and is tied with Laughlin. In a very surprising turn of events in division two we see the Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink sitting in the top spot with two wins against no losses and the John Donovan rink, who finished second in the regular season, still searching for their first victory. Bonnell, who finished last in the standings during regular schedule play, seems to have turned what looked like a dismal season around.

The Greg Ferguson rink and the John Bonaparte rink each sit just behind Bonnell with 1-1 records.

There's still a lot of curling left in the season. Best of luck to all participants and *Good Curling Everyone!*