



In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER



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Schooner Curling Club

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The 5th Annual JDRF Fun Spiel was held in January and was another huge success. This Year's event grew from 24 to 28 teams and raised in excess of \$3700. The success of the spiel is due mainly to the efforts of Lena Chiasson and her family. Lena originally started the spiel and has been a driving force through its existence. We owe a huge thank you to all who took part and to all local businesses that supported the spiel by entering teams or providing food, prizes or other donations to benefit the cause. We hope to see you all back next year to help make the JDRF Curl for a Cure even more successful in 2013.

Coors Fun Nights



Shake off the winter blues with a night out for fun and exercise at the Schooner Curling Club. Join us for the Next Coors Fun Night of the season being held on Saturday, February 18th. The fun gets going at around 7:00 and is only \$5.00 for the public and \$2.00 for Schooner Members for curling, pizza and prizes. Please bring clean, dry footwear for the ice area.

Coors Open Fun Spiel



Mark the weekend of March 16th and 17th on your calendar and plan to take part in the Schooner Club's annual Coors Open Fun Spiel. This spiel will be single entry and open to both members for a \$20 entry fee and to the general public for a \$30 entry. Teams will be guaranteed three games with overall winners being decided by a point system and all prizes are donated by the Coors Light Brewing Company.

But the fun doesn't end on the ice for this spiel!!

Join us Saturday night, March 17th for a St. Paddy's Day blowout. When the curling is over the dancing begins with music provided by DJ Jimmy M all night long. The dance is open to everyone so plan to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Schooner and Get Your Irish On!



Club Calendar

February 10 th – 11 th	Sweetheart Spiel
Saturday, February 18 th	Coors Fun Night
March 16 th – 17 th	Coors Spiel
Saturday, March 17	Coors Spiel Dance
Saturday, March 24 th	Coors Fun Night
April 9-14	Closing Spiel
Wednesday, April 18 th	General Meeting
Saturday, April 28 th	Closing Banquet
NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the club website or bulletin board for changes and additions.	

Membership Dues

Any unpaid membership fees are now PAST DUE. Please pay ASAP.

Schooner Members Hit the Road

A group of Schooner members travelled to the Baddeck Curling Club on Saturday, January 28th for a day of exhibition play against Baddeck curlers, thanks to the efforts of coordinator John Donovan. Everyone played two games and the curlers were treated to lunch. Our club plans to reciprocate and have invited the Baddeck curlers for games scheduled for later this month.

Ship Hector Bonspiel

Two Schooner teams competed in the 40th annual Ship Hector Bonspiel Jan. 27-29. The Abbie Boudreau rink with Dennis Crosby, Wally MacDonald and Dave Boudreau and the Brian Laughlin rink with Gordie Cormier, Kelley Laughlin and Billy Farr. This spiel is held in four curling clubs in the New Glasgow area and attracts teams from all over the Atlantic Provinces. Abbie and his squad had a successful spiel and made it to Sunday playoffs with a win on Saturday evening and then made it two in a row with another victory Sunday morning, putting them in the County Division championship game. The Boudreau squad lost a close game in the afternoon and took the runners up spot. The Laughlin rink ended Saturday play with a 1-3 record and didn't qualify to play Sunday. Thanks to both rinks for proudly representing the Schooner Club.

Closing Banquet



Make plans to attend the closing banquet on Saturday, April 28th. Things get rolling at 6pm with a cocktail hour and then dinner starting at 7:00. After the award presentations are made the party gets started with live music provided by husband and wife duo "Savanna" who are currently very hot on the local club scene. So join us and party the night away at the last big event of the season at the Schooner Club.



A slightly smaller compliment of ten teams took part in the annual Schooner Open Cash Spiel held at the club from January 20-22. This in no way diminished the entertainment value of the curling as the weekend saw a lot of very close games, many coming down to the last rock to decide the winner and a few even requiring an extra end, including the final game to decide the "B" division champ.

The play got underway early on Friday with the 5pm draw seeing Schooner Skip Abbie Boudreau and his rink take on Schooner rival John Donovan with Donovan coming out on top. The early draw also saw Schooner's Ray Cameron rink prevail over Sydney's Kenny Keough and his squad. The middle draw at 7pm saw Schooner's Brian Laughlin taking on an always tough rink in Kris Tynski from the Sydney Club. It was a tightly played, low scoring game that was broken open when Laughlin stole three in the later ends and held on for the win. Another close game was played in the middle draw with two Sydney clubs, Garth Nathenson and Kurt Roach, battling to the last stone before Nathenson's rink emerged with the win. The evening's final draw pitted Schooner's rookie skip Wayne Bull Bonnell against a very tough rink skipped by women's provincial championship hopeful Coralie Duchemin. Bonnell and his squad held their own through the game and took the play to Duchemin at times but ended up falling to the much more experienced rink after the final stones were thrown.

Play got underway early Saturday with the first draw at 9am. Friday winners John Donovan and Ray Cameron squared off in the "A" division to see who would play the Laughlin rink in game to decide one of the two "A" division finalists.

Cameron came out on top over Donovan and then went on to defeat Laughlin handily in an afternoon draw to ensure his team's place in the "A" final on Sunday. The early draw Saturday also saw "B" division action when Schooner's Team Bonnell took on Sydney's Kurt Roach with the winner then to take on Kris Tynski for a spot in the "B" finals. While Roach was victorious over Bonnell, he was unable to best Tynski, allowing Kris to move on to play in the "B" final on Sunday. Saturday's 11am draw saw a match to decide Tynski's opponent for the "B" championship when Schooner's Abbie Boudreau took on Sydney's Kenny Keough. Keough took the victory and ensured himself and his rink at least a second place finish in "B". The other draw at 11am saw more "A" division action between Sydney rivals and Friday night winners Coralie Duchemin and Garth Nathenson who were battling for a place in Sunday's "A" final against Cameron. A close game ended with Duchemin being victorious and earning a spot in the finals of the "A" division.

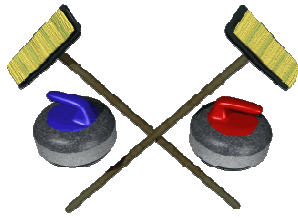
Other play on Saturday saw "C" division action with six teams trying for a chance in the division final and a chance at some prize money. Garth Nathenson's rink faced off against Abbie Boudreau, Wayne Bonnell and Brian Laughlin's rink faced off and John Donovan took on Kurt Roach. Nathenson prevailed over Boudreau and Bonnell got by Laughlin in an extra end to move on to meet each other in a Sunday morning matchup to see who would make it to the "C" Final. Kurt Roach was victorious over John Donovan to move directly to the final and play for the "C" division title. Sunday's head to head game against Bonnell and Nathenson saw the Schooner squad prevail, making them the final team to move on to a final and face Kurt Roach's rink for the "C" crown.

The "B" division final was played at an 11am draw on Sunday. Two Sydney rinks would square off for top spot in "B", the Kenny Keough rink and the Kris Tynski rink. A tightly played match saw the leader switch back and forth a few times before Tynski eventually came out on top in a game that wasn't decided until the final stones. The "C" final went at 1pm with Kurt Roach and Wayne "Bull" Bonnell. Bonnell gave up a big end early and could never recover with Roach taking the victory in a shortened four end match. The "A" division final also went off at 1pm on Sunday with Schooner's Ray Cameron taking on Sydney's Coralie Duchemin. After a first end blank Cameron got on the board first with a single in the second. Cameron then went on to steal a pair in the third when Duchemin knocked two of her own rocks off the button while trying to score a third point, leaving Cameron lying two. The next end saw another steal by Cameron when Duchemin's draw against two was heavy and spotted Cameron a five point lead. That was all Cameron's Schooner rink needed as, although Duchemin got three in the following end to make it closer, Cameron was able to hold her off and take the win and the "A" division top prize. Congratulations to Skip Ray Cameron, Mate Martin Campbell, second Russell Fitzgerald and lead Les Ferguson in their victory. And congratulations to all division winners and runners up and thank you to all curlers for taking part.

A spiel like this at the Schooner Club is not possible without the tireless help of many volunteer's. Thank you to everyone who took part in planning and running the spiel from the spiel coordinators for scheduling and organizing to the bartenders for keeping the refreshments coming to housekeeping for making and keeping the club looking great. A huge thank you to Darryl Crane who provided chili for the curlers to enjoy for Saturday's lunch and to all the Schooner Ladies who made and/or served the delicious food for dinner on Saturday and for lunch on Sunday. That really was the topper to a great weekend of curling. Your efforts certainly do not go unnoticed and are very much appreciated.

Hope to see you all next year at the 2013 Schooner Open Cash Spiel.

League Wrap-up



Regular league play is soon wrapping up in the Team Entry and Mixed leagues. Ray Cameron sits atop the Team Entry league and has solidified first place. Second place is up for grabs with four teams tied. The Laughlin, Bonaparte, Arseneau and Ferguson rinks are all locked up with Laughlin holding one makeup game in hand and playoffs scheduled to begin February 12th. The Mixed league is very tight with rookie skip Wayne “Bull” Bonnell clinging to a one point lead over three rinks, Drover, Bates and Ferguson, heading into the final week of play. Playoffs begin in the Mixed on February 7th. The Men’s league has begun play in round two and playoffs are scheduled for early March. Standing are very close in this league with three rinks, Cameron, Fitzgerald and Thistle, all tied for first place with Landry and Laughlin one point behind. Keep an eye on the league board next to the bar in the club or check the website for more league news and playoff schedules. Good Curling Everyone!

Lady’s Sweetheart Spiel



It’s not too late to sign up for one of the most anticipated spiels of the year, the Sweetheart Spiel, being held at the Schooner Club February 10th and 11th. This event has grown into one of the most fun and most popular events of the season over the last few years and this year promises to be every bit as good. The spiel is open to all ladies with an entry fee of \$20 for Schooner members and \$30 for non-members. Each curler is guaranteed three games with the overall winners taking home the coveted Sweetheart Sweatshirts. Everyone will be treated to Wine and Cheese on Friday evening with the wine being generously donated by Schooner member Martin Campbell and there will be dinner served on Saturday afternoon compliments of the Schooner men and thanks to Russell Fitzgerald who organizes the dinner and collects the donations from the guys to fund it every year. If you haven’t done so already, all Schooner men are asked to donate to the dinner and you can pay Russell whenever you can. The Sweetheart Spiel is sponsored again this year by Compu Clone Computer Solutions Inc.

So ladies, sign up now to take part in the Sweetheart spiel and get in on the fun. A signup sheet is posted at the club and is filling fast. You can check the check the website, email us or call the club for more information. We encourage all the guys to come out to cheer the ladies on. See you at the club.



**Happy
Valentines Day**

