



In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER



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Schooner Curling Club

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Ice Maintenance

Brian and the ice crew were busy over the Holiday break and refreshed our ice with a flood and shave. This maintenance is necessary to maintain the quality of our playing surface which, I'm sure most will agree, is very good. Curlers in the mixed league are reminded to take note of schedule changes in January due to ice maintenance taking place on a couple of Thursday nights to get ready for spiels. Check the website for a full schedule.

Coors Fun Nights



Start the year off right 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, January 7. 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.

Turkey Spiel Results



The annual Schooner Christmas tradition, the Turkey Spiel, was held from December 5th through the 10th. As always, the spiel was well supported with a total of 16 teams competing in the week-long event. There was lots of good curling and fun but in the end it was the Russell Fitzgerald Rink that took first place when Russell made his final shot of the spiel to win his game against Mike Gillis and take enough points to solidify the victory. Sharing the victory with Russell was Mate Reid MacInnis, second Linda MacNeil and lead Kathy Gale. Congratulations to you all. Second place was taken by Bill Farr, George Plumridge and Rick Windsor. This team of three curlers was helped through the week by spares John Donovan, Leo Fraser and Russell Fitzgerald. Third place was the Richard Lorway rink with Bryant Cormier, Lynn Kelly and Trevor Currie and rounding out the turkey winners was Kevin Bates, Cheryl MacKinnon, Steve Jurcina and Ann Bates. Fifth to eighth place winners received hams and were the John Bonaparte rink, the Mike Gillis rink, the John Donovan rink and the Gary Landry Rink. Thank you to all who participated and especially those who helped in any way to organize and run the spiel. Thanks also to Thomas Drover and his Co-workers from Nash and Associates who joined us for the spiel. Visit the club website for full results.

Club Calendar

Monday, January 2 nd	Curling Resumes
Saturday, January 7 th	Coors Fun Night
January 13-14 th	JDRF Spiel
January 20 th - 22 th	Open Cash Spiel
January 27 th - 29 th	Ship Hector, New Glasgow
February 10 th - 11 th	Sweetheart Spiel
March 15 th - 16 th	Coors 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

All Schooner members are reminded that the first payment of \$100 toward your 2011-12 membership was due on November 15th. Those that have not paid are **PAST DUE** and you are asked to pay as soon as possible. Second payments are due January 31st. Anyone joining after the Christmas break can pay \$125 (HST included) for the remainder of the season, also due on January 31st. Overdue membership fees can result in your membership being revoked.

Bras D'or Lakes Cup

The Bras D'Or Lakes Cup Stick Curling Spiel will be held on Saturday, January 7th at the Baddeck Curling Club. Four Schooner members will be competing on two teams. Reid MacInnis and Tommy Youden make up one team while George Plumridge and Steve Jurcina are the other. Stick curling rules follow most general curling rules and etiquette but differ in some ways. There are only two players on each team, each player manning on end of the ice and not permitted to cross the center line at any time during the game. Each team delivers six rocks per end with a curling stick, all delivered by the same player that is manning that end while the other player on the team skips at the other end. The first three rocks of an end in play anywhere from the hog line to the back line cannot be removed before the fourth rock is thrown. Sweeping is only permitted by the delivering team from the hog line to the backline and by the opposing team from the T line to the backline. There is no sweeping allowed between the hog lines. Normal games are six ends with scoring being the same as in standard curling. Stick curling is a game that is accessible to any age group and people of any physical ability and has been growing in popularity for the last few years. For more information on the game of stick curling you can visit the Stick Curling Canada website at:

www.stickcurling.ca

For more info on the Bras D'Or Lakes cup go to:
www.baddeckcurlingclub.com

JDRF Fundraiser



dedicated to finding a cure

The annual fundraising spiel in support of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will be held at the club on January 13th and 14th. This spiel, originally started by Lena Chiasson, now a junior member at the Schooner, daughter of club members Albert and Lynnette Chiasson and granddaughter to lifetime member and bar officer Frank Kokocki, has grown in popularity and success over the few years it has been in existence. Each year the spiel has been run it has raised more money than the previous year and this year the spiel has been expanded from 24 teams to 28 teams to accommodate even more interested curlers. The success of the spiel is also do in part to the support of many local businesses who sponsor teams and make donations of money, prizes and food for the curlers to enjoy. Entry fee is \$100 per team and each team plays two four-end games. To keep everything enjoyable for all, curlers are split up into experienced and not experienced divisions. The spiel is pretty much filled up but you may still have one chance left to get it. There is a sponsored team that is being auctioned off in silent auction style. The bid sheet is on the bulletin board at the club. If you want to place a bit there may still be time but act fast. Best of luck to Lena and her family and friends who work so hard at this worthwhile cause. We wish you great success and hope this is the best JDRF fundraiser ever.



The annual Schooner Open Cash Spiel will be held from January 20-22 at the club. The spiel is open to the first sixteen teams and teams can be comprised of any combination of male and female curlers. Entry fee is \$180 per team with all proceeds being returned as prize money. Each team is guaranteed a minimum of three games (includes byes if necessary).

The spiel is run using a traditional draw format. Dinner is served for curlers on Saturday night and light snacks are provided throughout weekend.

Why not get your team ready to go for the Annual Cash and curl for a chance at the money. It's the biggest weekend of the season at the club so even if you don't participate why not drop by and take in some of the action and the fun.

League Wrap-up

League play took a couple of weeks off over the Holiday season but things are poised to get rolling again when the Men's league takes the ice on January 2nd with all other leagues resuming that same week. There have been some great games in all leagues this season and things are pretty tight in the standings across the board.

At the break there were still two undefeated teams in the Sunday Team Entry League, the Ray Cameron rink and the Greg Ferguson rink. They are tied for first place with 12 points. The Brian Laughlin rink has dropped one game and is in third with one loss and 10 points but they play Cameron on the first week back and have the chance to hand them their first loss and stay near the top of the standings. Closely behind Laughlin are the Ray Arseneau rink and the Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink, both at 4-2 and tied for fourth with 8 points. Bonnell's squad had a bit of a slow start but has come on lately to earn some hard fought victories to stay near the top.

The names at the top of the Mixed League are much the same as the Team Entry. Greg Ferguson's rink leads the way with 9 points followed closely by Brian Laughlin's rink with 8 points. Laughlin and Ferguson will face off in the first night back after the Christmas break in a battle for first place where either Ferguson could extend his lead or Laughlin could overtake him for top spot, barring a tie of course. Third place is currently being shared by the Wayne Bonnell and Kevin Bates rinks with 7 points respectively. Bull Bonnell appears to be having a pretty good rookie campaign at the skip position, showing well in both leagues he competes in. All participants in the mixed league are reminded to pay close attention to their schedules this month as there are some changes due to ice maintenance for spiels. Some teams do have 9pm draws in the mixed league this month.

The Men's League saw the Omar Roach Rink and the Cal Thistle Rink sharing top spot at the Holiday break, each having accumulated 8 points. The Brian Laughlin Rink is close behind in third place with six and the Ray Cameron rink is right behind him with 5 points.

So here we go with the second half. Lots of curling remains and there are still lots of teams in the running for top spot in all leagues. Check the [Leagues section](#) of the website for updated standing and schedules anytime. Good Curling!!

