



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 5. 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.

Turkey Spiel Results



The Schooner Turkey Spiel of 2012 was a great success with lots of good curling and good fun. A total of 14 teams took part, a full complement of 8 teams on Mon/Wed/Fri and 6 teams on the Tues/Thurs/Sat side. After a week of curling, points were tallied up and overall winners were crowned. Keep in mind that point totals and final standings were for the overall spiel and it didn't matter what division you were curling in. Overall winners were the Cal Thistle rink finishing with 30 points. Joining Skip Thistle was mate Barb Thistle, second Ian Henderson and lead Georgette Sparkes. Thistle was followed closely by the Gordie Cormier rink in second place with 29 points. Gordie was joined by mate Bryant Cormier, second Bricky Brophy and lead Raylene Cormier. Rounding out the top four was the Tom Drover rink with Tom, Peter MacIntyre, Mary Foley and Randy MacAluso with 26 points and the Keith MacEachern rink with Keith, Bill Farr, Brian Bernier and Rick Billard who totaled 25.5 points. The top four finishers all won Turkeys. Teams 5-8, the Daryl MacAulay rink, Russell Fitzgerald rink, Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink and the Ray Cameron rink, all won hams and the remaining teams won a box of chocolates. Final standings are on the website.

Thank you to all who took part in the Schooner Club Christmas tradition and a huge thank you to everyone who helped out in any way to make the spiel another success.

Club Calendar

Saturday, January 5 th	Coors Fun Night
Sunday, January 6 th	League Play Resumes
January 11 th -12 th	JDRF Spiel
January 18 th -20 th	Open Cash Spiel
January 23 rd -27 th	Grand Slam National in Port Hawksbury
January 25 th -27 th	Ship Hector Spiel in New Glasgow
February 8 th - 9 th	Sweetheart Spiel
March 1st - 2nd	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 membership dues must be paid in full on or before January 31, 2013. Failure to pay by the deadline may result in your membership being revoked.

Curling Events Outside of our Club

The Bras D'Or Lakes Cup Stick Curling Spiel will be held on Saturday, January 12th at the Baddeck Curling Club. Last year, four Schooner members competed on two teams. Reid MacInnis and Tommy Youden made up one team while George Plumridge and Steve Jurcina were the other. Tommy Youden said they were hoping to return this year to compete but, since Steve Jurcina is not curling this season, they were trying to find a replacement. The Ship Hector Spiel will be held in four New Glasgow area clubs from January 25th - 27th. Four Schooner teams will make the trip this year, the Brian Laughlin rink, the Abbie Boudreau rink, the Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink and the Cal Thistle rink. Best of luck to all competing.

And for those who prefer to watch rather than curl, the Grand Slam National event is on at the Port Hawksbury Civic Center from January 23rd - 27th.

Lady's Sweetheart Spiel



All lady curlers are reminded to mark their calendars on February 8th and 9th for Schooner's annual Valentine tradition, the Sweetheart Spiel. This spiel, sponsored again this year by Compu Clone Computer Solutions, is one of the highlights of the season at the club. Open to all ladies, entry fee is \$20 which gives you three games, wine and cheese on Friday and dinner on Saturday. Watch for more info soon and plan to sign up.

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 11th and 12th. 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 last year the spiel had expanded from 24 teams to 28 teams to accommodate even more interested curlers. Let's hope that tradition of success and growth continues this year. The success of the spiel is also due 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 fills up quickly but you may still have a chance left to get it. See the club bulletin board or talk with Lynnette Chaisson to get more information. 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 18th – 20th 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 Team Entry league takes the ice on January 6th 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 it was Omar Roach and his squad that sat alone in first place in the Sunday Team Entry League with only one loss against five wins for ten points. After that there are four teams tied for second place with eight points each. Brian Laughlin, John Donovan, Ray Cameron and Daryl MacAulay all have their rinks positioned with four wins. MacAulay is playing his first season at the Schooner Club but is a veteran curler having played many years in other clubs so his success is of no surprise. Greg Ferguson sits with six points after coming off back to back wins against top team Omar Roach and another front runner Ray Cameron to finish the first part of the season on a high note. Troubles continue on Sunday for Wayne "Bull" Bonnell as he has only been able to muster one victory in the first part of the season as health issues continue to plague the sophomore skip and apparently hamper his performance.

In the Mixed League we see John Bonaparte alone in first place with an undefeated record of 5-0 and ten points. Second belongs to Martin Campbell who remains close with seven points after opening with three wins, one loss and a tie. Rookie Skip Lynnette Chaisson is the early surprise in the mixed sitting in a tie for third with John Donovan with six points.

Chaisson and her squad have mustered three wins so far and are a tough team in the mixed. Another rookie skip, Wally MacDonald, got off to a fast start and was looking to be a force in the mixed but has since dropped his last three games to sit in a log jam of six teams with two wins and four points. Also in this group is Wayne "Bull" Bonnell whose struggles aren't limited to Sunday play. Perhaps the biggest surprise in the Mixed League is veteran skip and usual front-runner Cal Thistle sitting alone in last place with only one victory. There's still lots of time left for teams to turn things around and if anyone can come back with a strong finish, it's Thistle. This is made more evident by his much stronger performance in the Men's league where he sports a 3-2-1 record and sits in second place with seven points, just behind front runner Brian Laughlin with nine points and a 4-1-1 record. The Men's league is close with four of the remaining six teams sitting just behind Thistle's second place rink with six points. With lots of curling to go this league is up for grabs.

Standings aside, there has been a lot of great curling and good fun had by all in league play and we look forward to lot's more over the coming months. Good Curling Everyone!

