

CBRM CURLING ASSOCIATION

Newsletter #2

Hello again to all curlers in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. This is our second newsletter. We hope that it will keep you up-to-date with what's going on in our curling community. Our association has had two meetings so far – with another scheduled for July 9th. There's lots happening already and I think it's important for you to be aware of our activities.

First, as you'll know from our emails and postings on our respective websites, planning is well underway for our first fund raising event as a joint association. The event will be a summer beach party consisting of a barbeque, silent auction and dance. We are hoping to raise funds through this silent auction to begin developing a strong junior program. This, in turn, will help strengthen our memberships and increase the exposure of the sport within the CBRM. Tickets are \$15.00 each, 2 for \$25.00, or 4 or more at \$10.00 each. Tickets can be purchased at the Sydney Curling Club, or by contacting Amy MacPherson at 567-1632 or 304-6522, or Lynnette Chiasson at 564-9474. Please come out and support this event!

A second focus of our work as a committee kind of came at us by surprise. Our Executive Committee was asked to meet with Mayor Cecil Clarke and the owners of Jim Sampson Motors. In that meeting, we were asked if we would consider the Bicentennial Arena as a new home for the CBRM Curling Association.

I'm sure you agree with us that this is an interesting idea, but one that is contentious for all of us. The notion of having the CBRM Curling Club move to the Bicentennial had been a rumour in this community for some time. However, this was the first time that something close to a concrete proposal had come forward. We were further asked if we would agree to continue to discuss this idea with the CBRM. Without committing to anything beyond that, it seemed prudent to agree to continue these discussions with the Mayor and his staff – and we agreed to do so.

As a follow up, Thomas Drover, Travis Stone, Gary Landry and Bill Turner (of the Sydney Curling Club) did a walk through of the Bicentennial with Paul MacDonald – Facilities Manager for the CBRM. That gave everyone a chance to look at the property and to begin to consider what it might take to transform it into a viable curling facility.

That's where it stands right now. Once again, we have NOT committed to anything beyond more talk. However, while the CBRM is in the process of reviewing their findings, we need to consider what we – as a joint curling club – might want a self-sustaining curling facility in the Bicentennial building to look like.

So, we are turning to you – the members – to help us. What do you think? What needs to be added? What needs to be removed? What should the layout look like? We would appreciate your input into this discussion. Send us an email at cbrmcurler@gmail.com. Let us know what you think.

Our hope would be to hold a meeting of our joint memberships once we have a clearer understanding of the Municipality's commitment to this venture. This will allow all curlers in the CBRM to participate in design of our joint curling club. We look forward to hearing from all the members at that time.

Thanks for reading all this. We certainly will keep you posted on all the activities of the CBRM Curling Association. Once again, I hope you are having a happy summer. And, come October, GOOD CURLING TO YOU ALL!

Garth Nathanson

CBRMCA Chair