



In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Remembrance Day November 11th – Lest We Forget



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Schooner Curling Club

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President's Message

After enjoying such a wonderful Cape Breton summer some may find it hard to face the colder weather, the shortened days and the coming snow. But with the winter season also comes the curling season and all indications are that this will be another enjoyable and successful one at the Schooner Curling Club. Ice making went well again this year and Brian and the crew have given us two fantastic sheets of ice to curl on. We have put another successful Opening Spiel in the books with many returning and also many new faces taking part and enjoying the sport. As President of the club I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of myself and the Schooner Executive to welcome all returning and new members and to wish you a year filled with success and fun. Thank you to Russell and

Kelley and to everyone else who helped out with organizing and running the Opening. I would also like to thank all the volunteers who make our club function. I encourage all members to try and find some time to give back to the club in some way. We have been able to keep our membership rates very reasonable and the hard work of volunteers is the main reason we can function, not only inexpensively, but at all. Success or failure is based on teamwork. A special thank you goes out to Frank Kokocki for cleaning and waxing the floors at the club and giving them a mirror finish. They look great Frank.

So now, with the Opening Spiel behind us we look forward to the 2012-13 curling season. Draw master Cal Thistle has been working hard to create teams and make schedules and league play will begin early in November. Along with that we have a busy year planned at the club with spiels, fun nights and other events to keep us all busy and entertained. I hope to see as many members as possible taking part in all the events and making them as successful as they have been in the past.

To all Schooner Club members and supporters I wish you a healthy and enjoyable season and a hearty "Good Curling" to all.

Ray Cameron

Coors Fun Nights



The first Coors Fun Night of the season will be held on Saturday, November 17. 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. Abbie and Robina Boudreau are back to host the fun nights and the Coors Light Brewing company is back again this year as sponsors. The fun nights are a great way to introduce new people to the sport of curling and we reap the benefits with new members so gather up friends, family, co-workers, whoever and attend the first Coors Fun Night. See ya there!

Club Calendar

Sunday, November 4	League Play Begins
Sunday, November 11	Remembrance Day – No Curling
Saturday, November 17	Coors Fun Night
December 7-9	Turkey Spiel
Saturday December 15	Coors Fun Night
December 18	Christmas Break Begins
Saturday, January 5 th	Coors Fun Night
Sunday, January 6 th	League Play Resumes
NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the club website or bulletin board for changes and additions.	

Opening Spiel Results

If the success of the opening spiel is an indication, and it usually is, the 2012-13 curling season will be a great one. There were a total of sixteen teams competing in the first event of the year and I'm sure everyone will agree that it was a great success and loads of fun. Following the success of last year's "Super Curling Sunday" the spiel was again scheduled so that all teams from two divisions would be brought together to compete head to head so that one overall winner could be crowned. When all points were tallied, the John Bonaparte rink was that overall winner. Joining skip Bonaparte was Mike McGrath, George Plumridge and John Morrison. Finishing in second spot was the Martin Campbell rink with Skip Campbell, mate Dave Boudreau, second Everett Dickson and lead Stephen Leslie. See the club website for more results.

"Super Curling Sunday" was not only highlighted by some enjoyable curling and close games, there was also some great food to be had. Our own Frank Kokocki was kind enough to make a pot of his delicious turkey soup that was enjoyed by all curlers and guests. The club executive also supplied pizza from club sponsor Kenny's Pizza for curlers to enjoy and get some much needed energy to compete. This year's opening spiel also marked a club first, curlers from our junior program were invited to take part and one did compete. This is certainly a testament to the progress the juniors are making in our program. Of notable absence this year was skip Wayne "Bull" Bonnell who was sidelined for health reasons. Bonnell is entering his sophomore season as skip and hopes to equal or better the success he enjoyed in his rookie campaign. So as we complete another successful opening spiel and look forward to the season we need to thank all of those who volunteered their time and efforts to make the spiel a success. Thanks to Brian and the ice crew for making great curling ice again this year, thanks again to Frank for his soup and also for managing the bar. Thank you to the bonspiel committee who put in many hard hours making teams and schedules and making sure things ran smoothly and thank you to anyone who was part of this successful spiel. Now, onto the season.

League Play

League play will get underway Sunday, Nov. 4th with Team Entry. The men's league will be held Monday nights starting November 5th and the mixed league will play 7pm draws on Tues., Wed. and Thurs. night starting Nov. 6th depending on the number of teams involved. If teams exceed twelve, a 9pm draw will be added.

Icemakers report

As most curlers who were involved in the Opening Spiel will attest, the Schooner curling sheets are in pristine shape this season. At the general meeting held October 11th, Ice Committee head Brian Laughlin reported that, at that time, ice making was progressing well and the weather was cooperating. There was one leak in a cooling pipe that had to be repaired and it must have been leaking for a while as there was a lot of coolant that had drained out of the system, contaminating a fair amount of sand that needed to be removed and then replaced with clean stuff. Once the repair was completed things progressed smoothly. Painting, installation of lines, circles and advertisements and Keith's 2012 version of the Schooner logo took a couple of days. Once that was all sealed, a few more floods were applied and a final shave was done, everything was ready to go.

A huge thank you is extended to all who helped out with surface prep, sprays, floods, painting, shaving, cleaning and whatever else was needed. Without these volunteers giving many hours of time we would not have ice to play on.

Cell Phone Use During Games

The Schooner Curling Club would like to ask all members to show consideration to fellow members with regard to the use of cell phones during game play. While it is recognized that some members require they have their cell phones with them at all times to receive calls related to work or family emergencies, it is asked that, when playing a game, you turn the ringer of your phone off and set it to vibrate only. Also, if you need to take a call, please leave the ice area and take the call in the clubhouse area only. Keep the call short and return to play as soon as possible so as not to hold up the game. It is hoped that all members can follow this policy of common courtesy and you are thanked for your cooperation.

Etiquette for Curlers

Curling is a very social game. Curlers all try to get along and treat each other with respect and sportsmanship. There are certain rules of etiquette and common courtesies that we should all follow that will make the game move along quickly and smoothly and ensure good feelings between curlers, win or lose. These are just a few general rules that new curlers may not know and experienced curlers may have forgotten.

- Be on time. Always try to be a few minutes early for a game and be ready to play at the scheduled time. If you cannot make a game, notify your skip in plenty of time for them to get a replacement.
- Start the game with a handshake and a wish of good luck. The Mates will toss a coin for choice of hammer.
- Be ready to play. Always be ready to play when it is your turn to throw your stone or sweep a teammates stone. Avoid leaving the playing area unless absolutely necessary. **Don't hold up the game.**
- Keep the ice clean. Make sure you wear clothing and footwear that will not leave debris on the ice. Also, if you notice debris, always remove it for you and your fellow curlers.
- Never disturb a player when they are in the hack. Be quiet and avoid excessive movement when a fellow curler is delivering a rock. Never cross the ice just before a delivery and always try to be in position along the side as quickly as possible. **Never intentionally try to distract a curler.**
- Don't crowd into the house. Only the skip and the mate are permitted to be in the area of the house to discuss strategy or count up points at the completion of an end. **Leads and seconds should always stay between the hog lines** in the middle section of the sheet during play unless it is your turn to throw or sweep a stone.
- Don't be in the way. Stay as far to the sides of the ice as you can when walking back after sweeping a stone so you don't block the view of a player that is trying to see their skip and position of the skips broom to deliver their stone. Keep yourself and your equipment as far to the side of the ice as possible leaving the playing surface clear for the opposing team and never get in the way of opposing sweepers.
- If a game is taking place on an adjoining sheet, afford them the same courtesy you show any fellow curler. Don't allow stones from your sheet to enter their area of play.
- Always play by the rules. You are responsible to report when you have burned a rock, moved a stone in play or have broken any other rule of the game.
- Skips and mates who are in the area of the house while the opposing team is delivering a stone should avoid excessive movement and noise so as not to distract the opposing team.
- Mates are the only ones who decide scoring and perform measurements. All other players should stay away from the house until opposing mates have decided the scoring for an end and have completed any required measurements. NEVER move a rock until scoring has been decided or until you are told to do so by your mate.
- Skips are the leaders of their team and are responsible for making sure they and their players follow both the rules of play and the rules of good etiquette. Correction by the skip is warranted if a player breaks either.
- Always end a game with a handshake and congratulations. Winners always offer to buy the first round of drinks.

For more information on curling etiquette and courtesies, see these websites:

<http://www.curlnavy.com/members/etiquette.asp>

<http://www.curldc.org/about/courtesy.php>



First half of membership fees are due November 15

