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In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER



Volume 124 **November, 2024**

November 1-2	Ray Cameron Memorial Opening Spiel
Sunday, November 3	League Play Begins
Monday, November 11th	Remembrance Day- Club Closed
December 14-16	Turkey Spiel
Saturday, December 16th	Turkey Spiel Dance
December 21 - January 4	Holiday Break
January 10-11	Mixed Doubles Spiel
Saturday, January 25th	Stick Curling Clinic
Saturday, January 25th	Fun Night
February 7-8	Sweetheart Women's Spiel
February 14-16	Schooner Cash Spiel
Saturday, February 15	Cash Spiel Dance
Saturday, February 22	Fun Night
March 7-8	Jackie Pearson Memorial Doubles Spiel
Saturday, March 15th	Fun Night
April 4-6	Team Entry Finals
April 10-12	John Bonaparte Memorial Closing Spiel
Saturday, April 12	Closing Dance
Saturday, May 3th	Awards Banquet and Dance
<small>NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the club website or bulletin board for changes and additions.</small>	

Remembrance Day Saturday, November 11 - Lest we forget

Welcome Back

We had a wonderful summer with some great weather but now, as the leaves change color and the air turns cool, we are set to get back to curling season. We would like to welcome all new members and welcome back all returning members to the Schooner Club for what we expect to be another great year. There will be lots of league play, spiels, special events, parties and fun. Keep an eye on the Schooner Website, Facebook page and the monthly newsletter for schedules, info on upcoming events, wrap-ups of past events and news from the local curling community. Have a great season everyone and *Good Curling!*

President's Message



It is a great pleasure for me to be returning again this year as Schooner President. The support I was given by the Schooner executive and membership in my first year in the role was overwhelming and a big reason why I chose to return. I am very happy to once again be joined by so many wonderful people on the executive and the committees and I am looking forward working with everyone to make this another fantastic season at the club. I would like to welcome all members, both returning and those who are joining us for the first time. Thank you for being part of the club and I look forward to working with and for you all to make this the best experience for everyone.

The club has a great new look this year thanks to a new roof and siding in the exterior. The club executive and its membership worked hard to raise money for the roof, took advantage of money from two major curling events in the CBRM, obtained a government grant and were lucky enough to have our landlord, New Dawn, help get us over the last hump to finance the roof by providing an interest free loan that we will pay off over the next few years. New Dawn also contributed by fully funding the siding replacement. A big thank you to them. Thank you also to Kathy and Vince Gale for painting the club's entrance doors to give them a fresh, new look, to Gary Landry who helped out with technical issues on the roof project, to Richard Lorway who helped obtaining the grant and to everyone else who helped in any way. There's still lots of work to do and we'll be busy this season raising more money and working hard to make the club even better.

And we have already been very busy this year. Brian and his ice crew have worked so hard and have had to overcome so many issues but, as always, have provided us with two wonderful sheets of curling ice again this season. Thank you to all the volunteers who showed up to help with ice making and to all those who brought treats and snacks to keep everyone fed and energized during all the hard work. I personally participated in ice making this year a bit and it gave me a whole new appreciation for all the work that is involved.

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers on the housekeeping committee for making the club look shiny and new for another season. Thanks to Draw Master Richard Lorway who is hard at work making teams and schedules, to the spiel committee for your work on the Ray Cameron Memorial spiel, to Lynn Kelly for your work on membership and to everyone else who helped out in any way to get the club ready for the season, there are too many to list. Without the hard work of our volunteers the club could not exist. I encourage everyone who has some free time, and has not done so already, to consider volunteering some time and help the club flourish.

We have another great year planned for the Schooner club. There will be lots of events, starting with the Ray Cameron Memorial Opening Spiel, lots of curling in league play that gets underway very soon and lots of good times and parties. We have mixed things up a bit this season with

our league structure and I am especially happy about the creation of a bi-weekly lady's league. I hope it is well received and will be a recurring item on the Schooner calendar.

We will also be doing more fundraising this season and have already had a very successful event with our recent Apple Pie Sale. The pies were delicious and sold better than expected, raising lots of much needed money for the club. A big thank you to Carrie Cress for organizing and running the event, to everyone who donated ingredients, to all who purchased the pies and all the generous pie makers who gave their time to make them. Very well done. We will be looking to start a 649 in November. Thank you to Lynn Kelly for organizing and running that which is no small amount of work for sure. We also ran a Hockey Pool this year that was very well supported. Fund raising has become a very important part of the club's budget these days given that we try to keep membership costs down even while the costs of running the club and repairs go up. Thank you to everyone who helps out and participates.

And so it begins, another great season of curling and fun at the Schooner Club. I am so looking forward to it and I hope you all are as well. If, throughout the year, any of you have any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to bring them to my attention. Have a wonderful year everyone and good curling.

Julia

League Roundup



League play is scheduled to get underway on Sunday, November 3rd when the Team Entry League will take the ice and deliver the first stones of league play for the 2024-25 season. Other leagues will begin that week on their respective nights. Keep an eye on the Schooner website for team rosters and schedules for all leagues as they become available. There have been a couple of changes to the league structure at the club this season. Mixed League will still play on Monday and Tuesday nights but they are now separate leagues where, previously, the two nights were one league. Members can choose to play in one or both. Wednesday night Doubles makes a return this season but has been changed to a bi-weekly league. The alternate weeks will be taken up by a new Lady's League that makes its debut this season. Thursday nights are still reserved for Men's League and Sunday afternoons will see Team Entry action. Matinee Curling, open to all Schooner members, will once again be held on Friday afternoons. Another change to some Schooner leagues will see the allowance of team entry where they were typically only single entry before. The Men's League, both Monday and Tuesday Mixed Leagues and the new Lady's League will all allow for members to enter as a team as opposed to just single entry. Single entry is still an option for all leagues and teams will be constructed by the Draw Master from all curlers who enter individually.

Draw Master's Musings

Final results for league play last season weren't fully reported in the final edition of the newsletter so here is a summary of results from all leagues. The Mixed League second half was won by the Julia Cormier rink with skip Julia, Robbie Biron, Chris MacAulay and Mille D'Etcheverry. Skip Cormier also won the first leg of Mixed, this time joining her and Robbie were front end players Douglas Fewer and Ashley Foster. Julia Cormier took the doubles league title as well, rounding out quite a successful season for her.

In the Men's League, the Brian Laughlin rink won the regular schedule honors and the Gordie Cormier rink took home the playoff title. Skip Brian Laughlin was joined by Bill Farr, Justin Humphrey and Benito Delorenzo. Skip Cormier had Walter Nichols, Paul 'Delio' Delasandro and Paul MacDonald. In Team Entry it was the Kevin Gouthro rink taking both regular season and playoff titles. Skip Gouthro had Walter Nichols, Anthony Boudreau and Robbie Biron aiding him in claiming the double title.

It was a great season of league curling in 2023-24 and we look forward to a great season again this year and hope the league format changes make it even better for all curlers.

Welcome to the start of a new season at the Schooner Curling Club! I hope everyone has a fun year and makes lots of great memories.

League play starts with team entry on Sunday, November 3rd. I urge everyone to submit their membership forms asap so I am not trying to create schedules with incomplete information.

Something new this year is that the league score sheets will be kept in a binder on the bar. When a game is finished, the winning mate will report the results while ordering drinks. This way we hope to avoid folks forgetting to fill in results.

I would also like to remind everyone about recent rule changes re: spares, postponing games, and league tiebreakers.

As in the past, teams are still allowed a maximum of two spares per game. The rule change is that only one original team member is required to play the game. I.e. If only one original member can make the draw, a team can still play with three curlers and the game will count.

If a team can't make a scheduled game, the offending skip shall contact the opposing skip to see if he/she is open to rescheduling. It is the other skip's option to say yes or no. If no, the game is forfeit.

NOTE: If less than 24 hours notice is given, then the game is automatically forfeit with no exceptions.

If a postponement is agreed to, the game must be played within 2 weeks of the originally scheduled date. Otherwise, the game shall be forfeited by the offending skip.

Teams can also choose to play a game before the scheduled date, if both skips agree.

The Drawmaster must be notified of re-scheduled games to ensure there is ice available.

The final rule change is to the 3rd tiebreaker for league play which applies to both regular season play and the playoffs. The first 2 tiebreakers stay the same, as follows:

- Tiebreaker 1: Most wins (vs. total points).
- Tiebreaker 2: Wins between tied teams involved.
- *Tiebreaker 3: Draw to the button. **

** On a regular league night TBD, teams will participate in a draw to the button. Two rocks will be thrown by two separate players on each team. Sweepers are permitted on your own rock, but not your opponent's rock. The cumulative total will be recorded by the Drawmaster and used in the event that the 3rd tiebreaker is required.*

Links to the complete Rules of Play can be found on the Schooner website at the bottom of every league page.

Good curling everyone, and we'll see you on the ice!

Richard

Ray Cameron Memorial Opening Spiel

The Ray Cameron Memorial Spiel is set to kick off the 2024-25 curling season on November 1st and 2nd. A total of twelve teams are slated to take part, playing one four end game on Friday and one on Saturday, along with one six end game on Saturday as well. Everyone will be treated to lunch on Saturday. Good luck to everyone taking part and a big welcome to all the new curlers who are joining us for the first time.

Turkey Spiel



Plan to join us for a weekend of fun and Holiday joy at the Schooner Club's long standing Christmas tradition, the Turkey Spiel. The spiel is slated to go from December 12-14 and is open to everyone, Schooner members and non-members alike. You don't even need to have any curling experience. We provide the equipment you need and instruction if required. It's all about the fun. And speaking of fun, plan to stick around after curling on Saturday night, December 14, to party the night away at our Christmas dance with music by DJ Jimmy. Everyone is welcome and there's no cover.

So plan to join us. Registration has already started and you can sign up at the club, send us email or leave a note on Facebook.

Doubles Spiel

Pencil into your calendar the Schooner Mixed Doubles Spiel that will be held on January 10 and 11. It will be shortly after the return from our Holiday break so we want everyone to be aware of it now. This spiel is slated to be team entry. Enter as a team of two, one male and one female curler. If you do not have a partner you can sign up and one will be provided if available, no guarantees. Doubles is always lots of fun. It will be played with the hybrid 2 on 2 rules we use at the Schooner Club. Plan to take part.

John Bonaparte Memorial Spiel

The John Bonaparte Memorial Closing Spiel, the final curling event for the 2023-24 curling season, was held from April 18-20 with a total of ten teams competing in two divisions. After a lot of great curling, the Gordie Cormier rink with skip Gordie, Brittni Delorenzo, Andy Pyke and Bernadette Cormier took home top honors. The foursome of Thomas Drover, Nolan Drover, Marnie MacDonald and Georgette Sparkes took home second place and Carrie Cress, Shane Langille and Adam Vassallo rounded out the top three teams. On Saturday, curlers and guests were treated to a very popular build-your-own hotdog bar. Thanks to Jenn and Kat for supplying air fryers to cook the dogs, to Meranda for making chili to top them off and to Bernadette for making some great sweets for dessert. A dance that was scheduled for Saturday night was cancelled but many curlers stayed around to socialize anyway. Overall, a great end to a great season.

Bling in the Rings Lady's Spiel – Sydney CC

All female curlers are welcome to join the Sydney Curling Club on George Street for Bling in the Rings goes Country presented by Island Folk Cider House. The event will be held November 15-16. Entry fees are \$200 per team and that gets you a 3 game minimum, dinner and snacks are also included. Costume Party Saturday, November 16th. Registration is open now. Sign up at <https://sydney.curling.io/en/events/21044-bling-in-the-rings-presented-by-island-folk-cider-house>. or contact the Sydney Curling Club.

Fall General Meeting

The Schooner curling club held its fall general meeting on Wednesday, October 16 with a very good crowd in attendance. Club president, Julia Cormier, called the meeting to order at 7pm and we got underway. Due to a technical issue, minutes from the previous general meeting were not available to attendees and could not be approved. The meeting proceeded regardless.

President Cormier was the first to give her report and started by thanking everyone who was there and for the support she received from all members in her first year as president the previous season. She went on to say that there has been lots of work going on at the club to get it ready for the upcoming season and that the ice crew had been working hard and dealing with issues that were getting resolved and ice making was progressing. She thanked Gary Landry for his help on the roof project and Kathy and Vince Gale for painting the doors. She finalized her report by wishing everyone a good season.

Next up was the treasurer's report from Lynn Kelly. Lynn provided some financial reports for people to look through and reported that things were pretty tight financially for the club due to unexpectedly high power bills in August and October. She said the corporate account was doing OK but we still had final expenses from the roof project to pay from that. Advertising revenue from the shed signs was starting to come in and membership fees had also started to be paid by some early applicants. Lynn felt that fundraising and bar sales would also play a big part in our financial health this season and that we would need to spend very carefully to stay viable. She reported that the hockey pool fundraiser that was done early in October should net the club roughly \$860 on total sales of \$1720.

The next report was from the ice maker but was given by Julia Cormier as Brian Laughlin was unable to attend. She said that ice making had gone well even though there were a few issues that had to be dealt with. There was one leak in the cooling pipes that had to be dealt with and the anti-freeze filling the pipes had to be replaced. A more concerning issue was a leak in a valve in the ice machine that allowed the coolant to leak out. Luckily, there was a local rink that had just changed their cooling system equipment and had some of the coolant from the old system, the same coolant we needed, left over and offered it to us at no charge. This was very lucky as the coolant is quite expensive and would have seriously impacted the club's finances, not to mention the delay it would have caused in ice making while we waited for new coolant to arrive. Julia also mentioned work on the dehumidifier and that ice making was ahead of schedule and could be ready ahead of when we originally expected it. Lynn Kelly was on deck again, this time presenting the membership report. She said that, as of the meeting date, 32 online applications had been received and that 13 members had paid in full. She expected more membership applications following the meeting as a paper version of the form was available at the club that night.

Carrie Cress presented the bar report and said that they were starting to restock for the season and that prices would remain the same as the previous season. She did add that, due to increasing costs, prices would likely have to be re-examined for next season and would likely have to rise. Carrie went on to talk about bar tabs and said that they would need to crack down on people who were letting them run too long. She said bar tabs should be paid at the end of the night that you are there and not left on the books for a long period. Lastly, Carrie encouraged people to volunteer to work at the bar if they had some time to give.

Housekeeping was next on the agenda and Georgette Sparkes spoke for that committee. She said that they were hoping to get a small group in to clean the walls and do a few more of the bigger jobs before the season began. She said that they could use some help with weekly cleaning that is done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and sometimes on Sunday. Frances Ford asked a question from the floor regarding the paper towels in the washrooms and wondered if we could go back to using the wall dispensers as opposed to having the rolls sitting on the countertops. Georgette said that was done as a cost cutting measure but it was agreed that we would revisit the pricing of the rolls designed for the dispensers to

see if costs had come down and what the difference in cost was now in those compared to standard rolls of paper towels.

The next report on the agenda was from Fundraising. It was reported that fundraising was going to be a very important part of the club's finances this season and we learned about two events already in the works, the Hockey Pool that began at the start of the NHL season and an Apple Pie Sale where sales had already gotten underway. We learned that the NHL Pool had 86 entries at \$20 per entry and that the club would keep half of those proceeds while the other half would be given out as prizes. Carrie Cress spoke on the Pie Sale and said that orders needed to be in by October 25 and that pies would be made on the evening of the 25th and all day the 26th. They would be ready for pickup on the 27th. She encouraged people to sell the pies, asked for people to volunteer to help out making them and also asked people for donations of ingredients like flour, sugar and shortening. It was also reported that we would be doing a 649 sale early in the season and that other ideas for fundraising like the sale of tickets for a Carrie Galusha autographed team jersey were also in the works. The Snowball will also be running again this season and there were other things we are looking at doing over the course of the year.

Julia Cormier added that without fundraising, the club would be financially strapped and costs to members would have to go up considerably. The Bonspiel Committee was next and the report was given by Julia Cormier. She said the Ray Cameron Memorial was the first spiel of the season and that registration was already open. They are going to try to promote spiels much earlier this season and that the registration for the Turkey Spiel in December was also ready to open up. She said that they would like to expand the committee and was asking for volunteers. Julia also continued on with the Fun Night Committee report and said that we need people for running and promoting the Fun Nights. There are three scheduled, one each in January, February and March. They are hoping for sponsorships for each and encourage members to attend and bring family and friends. Costs are being raised from \$7 to \$10 per person for non-members.

The final committee to report was the Website and Newsletter. Bill Farr gave the report and said that, even though he hadn't reoffered at the spring general meeting to take on the newsletter that he had since agreed to do it. The first newsletter would be November. He also said that he agreed to take the website back on temporarily since Jenn Haigh, who had taken over online duties, had taken a new job and moved to Halifax. He said they the website would continue to run as it is and that we have paid the fees for hosting and registration for the coming year.

With committee reports done, we moved on to other business. The first topic up for discussion was the new Pallet Village that was located across the street from the club. After many delays in the schedule, the first residents were slated to move in on October 21. The meeting was told that there was an open house on Sunday, October 20th, prior to residents moving in, but was only open to community members of Pine Tree Park as well as other stakeholders, our members being included in that category. We also learned that there would be a lighting and security audit done and that there was a 'Good Neighbors' committee that met once a month to discuss concerns we were part of and Richard Lorway was

representing us on that committee. Julia Cormier said that the club benefited from the new village in that we were able to get our roof done earlier, get our siding done for free, all because New Dawn wanted our building looking good and not run down, and we also got additional exterior lighting. Richard also said that new Dawn was willing to help with other potential projects that we feel necessary in order to make sure stakeholders are not out of pocket for additional required costs. Some attendees at the meeting expressed concerns about security and safety at the club and for members who are arriving and leaving in the dark. Richard Lorway proposed that we create a Safety Committee and made a motion to do so. The motion was passed and the committee formed. They will be tasked with identifying areas of concern and making sure those concerns are dealt with in a timely manner.

Final topics that were discussed at the meeting were pertaining to the outstanding prizes that were not claimed for the 50/50 at the Women's World Curling Championship and the fact that the Sydney Curling Club had started an initiative to build a new, modern curling club and had already purchased land in the Open Hearth Park area in the industrial park section. They are also raising money for the building. Time frame is unknown.

After all the discussion and questions, the meeting was adjourned. Thanks to everyone who attended and to all those who gave reports and contributed to the discussion.

Closing Banquet, Awards, General Meeting and Dance

The Schooner Club's Closing Awards dinner and spring general meeting was held at the club on Saturday, May 4, 2024. The evening opened with a general meeting that included reports by executive members and committee heads as well as discussion on other topics such changes to the Schooner Leagues, the Women's World Curling Championships held in Sydney and the 50/50 draw that we saw benefit from and potential fundraising projects that we may be able to take advantage of to raise money. An election of officers for the club for the 2024-25 season was also held. Following that, members in attendance enjoyed a delicious dinner of Chinese food and desert. Awards were then presented for the 2023-24 winners and after that was a dance with DJ Jimmy. Thanks to everyone who attended and congratulations to all the winners.

Fundraising

Fundraising will play a much more important role in the club's financial wellbeing this season even more so than in the past. With costs rising quickly and the club keeping membership rates and bar prices at last year's levels, we will rely on members to help out and take part in the fundraising efforts we put forth. Already this season we have undertaken a hockey pool and a pie sale. The hockey pool saw 86 entries at \$20 each. The club will keep half of the \$1720 entry fees and give the other half away. Participants picked their teams in sections, choosing one player from a group offered in each section. Forwards, defense and goalies were all taken and points will be awarded on a pre-determined

formula. The winner, the entry with the most accumulated points, gets 30% of total sales and second place gets 20%.

We also recently did an apple pie sale that was very successful and raised over \$2000 for the club. We got 200 orders for pies, double the expected sale of only 100. Carrie Cress was the main organizer of the event and obtained the apples for us from the Annapolis Valley. Carrie also called on members to donate the other ingredients and got most of what we needed for free, minimizing our costs considerably. Pie orders were due by noon on Friday, October 25 and then our volunteer pie makers got to work, making dough, peeling and slicing apples, rolling our crusts and assembling pies. They worked Friday night and most of the day on Saturday to get ready for Sunday's delivery time. Pies were delivered fresh, unfrozen and unbaked. I can speak from direct experience that the pies were very delicious. A big thank you to Carrie and all the Schooner faithful that donated ingredients, the use of equipment and time to the fundraiser. It was a huge success and we are very grateful.

The club will be having a 649 draw starting now that will see an entry deadline November 17 and draws starting on November 20. Entry forms are available at the club. Those taking part will pick six numbers from 1-49. Numbers drawn on the weekly 649 draws will be used to check off numbers chosen and the first entrant to check off all numbers will win 50% of the total sales. If there are more than one winner, the jackpot will be split evenly among all winners. One set of six numbers cost \$5 while you can get three sets for \$10. The bonus number drawn in each draw will not count towards checking off your number. Members are encouraged to take part and sell as many entries as they can as well. Someone will win a nice cash prize leading into the Holiday season.

The club will also be taking part in the Sport Nova Scotia raffle that we were part of last season. This is a no risk, all reward fundraiser as Sport NS handles all the details. We simply sell the provided tickets and get a good part of the sale price for us to keep. Other ideas for fundraisers are block draws, a spaghetti dinner sale and an auction or draw for a signed Carrie Galusha team jersey that was donated to the club by team Galusha. If anyone has any other ideas, please let any member of the executive know. And please take part in the fundraisers this season. It's very important to the club and helps keep prices down for everyone.

New Roof and Siding

Most everyone has already noticed that the club has a fresh new look on the outside thanks to a new metal roof and siding on our building. We have been fundraising for the roof for a while and were fortunate enough to be approved for a grant this year that paid a large part of the cost. Originally we had gotten a quote on the roof that was \$83,000. The contractor that gave us that quote said that they could not do the work until the spring of 2025. With the Pallet Village being moved to the Pine Tree Park, almost directly across from the club, New Dawn intervened and said they would help out with the roof and get us over the funding hurdle by supplying us with an interest free loan that we could pay back over a number of years. They also said that their contractor, Aucoin

Sydney Pallet Village

Renovations, would give us a price on the roof that turned out to be \$10,000 less than the previous quote and they could have it done prior to the 2024-25 curling season. There was a catch that Garry Landry brought to the attention of the club. It was that Aucoin was using a different way to attach the roof than the original contractor and that method may not be as reliable for the long term. Gary agreed to work with the contractor on our behalf. After speaking with them and getting more information, Gary agreed that we could go ahead with the new quote given that Aucoins were willing to offer a warranty on the materials and work that was similar to the original contractors. With Gary's ok and the money in place, work could proceed. As an added bonus, the owner of our building and landlord, New Dawn, agreed to replace all of the siding for us for free. They paid the full cost of that. We suppose that they didn't want a rundown looking building across from the Pallet Village given all the press that they expected when it opened. Regardless, we are very appreciative of the help New Dawn provided. Thank you also to Gary Landry for offering his technical expertise for us in the decision on who to get to do the roof, to Richard Lorway who worked hard on the grant proposal that helped pay the cost and to everyone else who participated in any way. The club hasn't looked so good in a long time.

After some pretty heated debate about the original site designated for Sydney's Pallet Village that would have seen it located in a residential neighborhood in Whitney Pier, it was decided that the new site would be located at Pine Tree Park at the location of the former welding school, pretty much directly across the street from the Schooner Curling Club. There was some concern from the community members at Pine Tree Park so New Dawn organized a meeting open only to stakeholders that was held on April 15 at the Pine Tree Park Care Home across from the curling club. Schooner members were included in those who could attend and a number were at the meeting.

Erica Shea, New Dawn CEO, was the main speaker at the meeting and outlined the plan for the upcoming village. She said there would be 30-35 homes, there are actually 35 now, that would house an individual and had a bed, desk, heating and cooling. There would be shared washrooms onsite as well as a dining area, laundry facilities, a kitchen, clerical space and a common space to run programs and group activities. Outdoor space was planned to include picnic areas, raised beds for growing food and plants as well as parking. Shea promised that they would provide additional monitored security cameras as well as additional lighting and that a lighting assessment would be undertaken by CBRM Police to determine adequate amounts of lighting and optimal placement. She said residents would be under a one strike policy for eviction, meaning that if they broke rules or laws once they would be put out. She said they were allowed alcohol and legal drugs in the homes, had no set curfew and were allowed to come and go as they pleased. They were also not required to take any sort of mental health counselling or drug detox although it would be offered. There would be no safe injection site at the park. They would have to travel to a safe injection site such as the Ally Centre and that

travel assistance for buses and cabs would also be provided. And while they said that harder drugs were not permitted and all laws needed to be followed, they also said there would be routine sweeps of the park for needles and other drug paraphernalia on a regular basis and anything found would be cleaned up. There would also be two meals per day provided to all residents. While security and staff would be onsite 24/7, there would be no ongoing police presence at the village or in the park. Shea said that the plan for the Pallet Shelters was that they would provide temporary housing for individuals in need for approx. 3-6 months and once they were established they would transfer to a more traditional building where they would continue the journey to regular housing in a house or apartment. The next step after the Pallet Village was to be the new building constructed by New Dawn at their Holy Angels site in North End Sydney.

Fast forward to October and, after many delays and deadlines missed, the residents of CBRM Pallet Village are now onsite. All 35 units currently onsite are occupied as far as we know. While it has only been a short time with our new neighbors and while there has been some questionable behavior observed in the area by some members working at the club, there have been no major incidents to note. More lighting has been installed in the area. There have been some concerns raised about safety at the club, especially for females leaving later at night. It was suggested that no one leave the club alone, especially if you are the last ones there. We must also be much more diligent about our members and guests only policy to make sure only those who are allowed in the club are there. A safety committee has been formed that will look at some ideas to make things safer and more secure. Richard Lorway chairs that committee and is also representing the club at the 'Good Neighbor' meetings held once a month at the park. He is hopeful that New Dawn may help to pay for some of the ideas we want to implement to make the club safer for everyone. For now, we can only wait to see what happens, hope for the best and stay safe and alert.

Schooner Fun Nights


Schooner Fun Nights will be making their return to the club again this season. Fun nights are social nights at the club that are open to both members and the general public. They are designed to introduce more people to the sport of curling and all members are encouraged to attend and bring some friends. They get going at 7pm and curling takes place all evening. There's pizza for everyone and maybe even a few prizes to be given away. The cost for entry is rising from \$7 to \$10 for the public and to \$5 for Schooner members. There's still no better deal in town for a night of fun. Participants must be 19 years and older. We supply the equipment, you just need clean, dry shoes for the ice.

Schooner Fun Nights are a great way to get out of the house with family and friends and enjoy a night out for just a few bucks. Fun Nights are scheduled for January 27, February 24 and March 16. Plan to join us.

Curling Etiquette

Curling is a very social game. Curlers all try to get along and treat each other with respect and sportsmanship. Even in these much different times 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 early. Always try to be a ten to fifteen 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.
- While we can no longer start the game with a handshake, an elbow bump or simple nod and a wish of good luck or good curling is still encouraged.
- 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.

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- 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 congratulations to the winners. Winners always offer to buy the first round of drinks. Losers reciprocate.