



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 20, Issue 2

November/December 2018

A word from the President

By Edward Gibson

I would like to take this opportunity to provide a few comments about curling at RKCC and in general. I will start with the big news announced by George Cooke of Curling Canada on November 1. "I am truly thrilled to announce that the Leon's Centre in Kingston will be host to the 2020 Tim Horton's Brier." This is great news for Kingston and great news for curling because, as we showed with the 2013 Scotties Tournament of Hearts, Kingston knows how to host a successful curling event.

Congratulations to all of the members of the Kingston 2020 bid, ably led by Ken Thompson, of the Catarauqui curling club. Ken will be joined by RKCC members Linda Lott and John Ryce, as vice-chairs of the 2020 Brier event. As far as I know, there isn't a chair of this event, so these three people will be running the event from start to finish. I know they will do a great job, but of course they can't do it alone, so I would encourage each and every one of you to help out in some way to make the event as fun and successful as possible.

I am sure that RKCC will be strongly represented at the Brier, not only because of the ongoing strength and commitment of our members, but also because of the additional excitement in our club arising as we celebrate our 200th anniversary. Murray Cotton is ably leading our committee as we work our way through countless activities and events. Once again, I would encourage everyone to participate and/or help out in these fun and exciting activities.

2020 will clearly be an exciting year for curling in Kingston and at RKCC, but what about 2018 and 2019? Well, as David Townsend announced in the September issue of the *Sweep*, we have all the leagues returning from last year, plus a few new opportunities for curlers to get out on the ice. I have heard that RKCC has one of the highest rates of ice utilization in the country, and it looks like that won't be changing soon. Thanks to the great organizers behind our pickleball leagues, we are even using the "ice" surface well during the summer months. In addition, the beach volleyball courts were well used in the summer.

The other committees in the club continue to forge ahead with various initiatives, and it is amazing to see all of the activity that goes on behind the scenes at a curling club. I have always been impressed by the number and quality of the volunteers at RKCC, and now that I am a bit closer to the action, I can say that my respect for these hard-working volunteers has risen.

I would ask everyone of you to join me in thanking our volunteers whenever you have the opportunity. Our club is extremely lucky to have them, and frankly, we would shut down pretty quickly if we didn't have them.

I hope that everyone has a great season this year, and I will close by wishing you all "good curling".

Bringing home the Brier



George Cooke, far left, from Curling Canada's Board of Governors, announces Kingston's successful Brier Bid at the Leon's Centre on November 1. Applauding the announcement are, from left, Steve Chenier of the Ontario Curling Association, Hugh Mackenzie of Tourism Kingston, and Ken Thompson, chair of the Kingston 2020 Brier Bid.

By Martha Tanner, Communications

It was at Royal Kingston that the first rock in the play for the Brier was first thrown. In the summer of 2016, members gathered at the club to brainstorm ideas for the club's 200th anniversary. Of the dozens of ideas generated, one of the top five was to host a major event – like the Brier.

The idea gathered speed. Greater Kingston Curling (GKC) jumped on it and, with the support of the City of Kingston, Tourism Kingston, and other corporate sponsors the idea was hammered home.

On November 1, 2018 Curling Canada announced that the Leon's Centre in Kingston will host the 2020 Tim Horton's Brier to coincide with the 200th anniversary of RKCC.

On hand for the announcement were several members of RKCC, including president Edward Gibson, past president John Ryce, manager Steve Hulton, GKC chair Linda Lott, and Murray Cotton, chair of the 200th Anniversary Committee.

Ken Thompson, chair of the 2020 Kingston Brier Bid, said it will be a great honour to host the storied Canadian men's curling championship.

"Kingston's motto is 'Where history and innovation thrive', and our bid was indeed innovative and historic," he said. "Hosting the 2020 Brier will be a fitting tribute to the Royal Kingston Curling Club and its celebration of 200 years of curling in Canada.

"We started curling in Kingston in 1820. The Kingston Penitentiary opened in 1835 and they started building the Rideau canal seven years later."

Thompson thanked the City of Kingston, Kingston Transit for sporting signs on all its buses to support the bid (now reading "Your 2020 Brier host"), Sherri Agnew of J.E. Agnew Food Services Limited, Kingston Tim Hortons franchisee, and Alphabet Creative, which put the Brier Bid package together, as well as the five member clubs of Greater Kingston Curling, which supported the bid financially.

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Brier, continued from page 2.

“What do we do now?” he asked. “We have three vice-chairs: John Ryce is vice-chair of special events, the amazing Linda Lott is in charge of hospitality, and I am vice-chair of facilities.”

Thompson said that recruitment of volunteers and sales of ticket packages will begin in earnest in about five months, shortly before the 2019 Brier in Brandon, Manitoba. “Between now and then it is important to build on the Brier buzz to make it a great success and for the betterment of sport in Kingston and area.



Ken Thompson, chair of the Kingston 2020 Brier Bid, speaks at the Bid announcement on November 1.

“With a successful Brier we will build not only our curling legacy, but the sports legacy of the city of Kingston and it won’t be another 63 years before Kingston gets another Brier.

“So let’s show Canada that Kingston rocks!”

The Tim Hortons Brier is expected to generate from \$11M to \$15M in economic benefits for its host city and 70 hours of television coverage enjoyed nation-wide and around the world.

Hugh Mackenzie, chair of Tourism Kingston, noted that in 1957, the last time the Brier was in Kingston, Alberta’s Matt Baldwin won with a perfect 10-and-0 record.

“Kingston is an iconic, authentic Canadian city rooted in the very traditions of our country, and what is more Canadian than curling?”

“Thank you for bringing the Brier back to Kingston. We too are looking forward to another perfect 10. This is going to be an awesome event!”

Brooke Lenser, manager of Sport Tourism Business Development Manager for Tourism Kingston, said that, at the time of the press conference, the location of the Brier Patch had not been settled. “The concept is to do an outdoor tent,” she explained, and Curling Canada is working through the concept. We have proposed three different locations in the city, and they are going to choose one.”

Those who participated in the Save Your Seat campaign with a \$50 deposit are expected to receive an email within the next few weeks confirming the purchase of their ticket package.

“Canada’s greatest winter party”, the Brier will be held on February 29 to March 8, 2020.



Please support our 200th anniversary

The 200th Anniversary Committee is hard at work planning for our bicentennial in 2020. The goal of the committee is to fund special events, such as the gala dinner and curling clinics with Russ Howard and Cheryl Bernard, through the sale of buttons and pins (available at the bar for \$5 and \$10 respectively) and through sponsorships. Please pin one on.

From the Ice

By Terry Barker, Head Ice Technician

Well, we have completed our first month of curling. During that time, we witnessed a number of great games; close games and games played in less than ideal circumstances. Our eight days of indoor rain provided us with a number of obstacles to which we were not accustomed. We have had dripping occur for short periods, but never long enough to change the ice surface dramatically. We apologize if any games were delayed by our need to hand-scrape between matches, but we were attempting to provide conditions better suited to curling, while at the same time trying to protect the ice from extensive damage. It became an exercise in frustration for both the curlers and the ice makers, but we got through it. Some residual issues remain, but we attend to these as best we can before our scheduled flood mid-November.

We continue to witness a number of individuals kneeling on the ice surface. Curlers have complained to us of players affecting the ice during a game; but we cannot police games. We will remind curlers about contact with the ice if we witness it, but only if it's the first time we see the infraction. We have no wish to embarrass a curler with repeated warnings - that task falls back to the curlers. Sometimes a gentle reminder that a knee pad can greatly reduce the amount of pebble melted is all that is needed.

With the coming holiday season, I would ask that decorative clothing (seasonal sweaters and such) not be worn onto the ice surface. We have had two separate issues in which clear glass adornments have caught rocks. This leaves deep scratches in the ice surface and could affect the running surface of the rock. If it's lovely and shiny, maybe leaving it on display in the lounge is more prudent.

*“If it’s lovely and shiny,
maybe leaving it on display
in the lounge is more prudent.”*

We would also ask players who come out to throw a few practice rocks to mind their weight while doing so. The hacks continue to take a severe beating from rocks flying through the house to make direct contact, or bouncing off the boards to collide. This loosens the hack pins and makes the hack less stable for push off. Rocks are also bouncing onto other sheets where games are in process. If you have no one to tend to the target end, please throw with caution.

Now that the whining is out of the way, we thank the curlers for their kind comments thus far into the season. It helps to know that the extra effort put forth this year is reflected in the games we have witnessed. We also thank those that bring issues to our attention so that we can address them. The ice is nothing without the curler.

Thank you for your attention and good curling.

Mixed Bag

By Keith Mitchell, Mixed Curling Convener

Well, the 2018 – 2019 season is off to a flying start with a good mix of the new and the old. A big welcome to all the new teams that have joined this year. Your participation has meant that we have a full flight schedule along with six mixed “club” teams on Friday and a full mixed recreational draw on Sunday.

We did have a number of participants who were confused over the classifications of the various divisions, so I thought this would be a good time to define things so that we are all clear:

Flight – In leagues labelled “flight” participants enter as four-person teams and the teams stay together for the year.

Club – Mixed club participants can enter as individuals or couples and teams are formed by the conveners. Teams stay together for a draw and then are re-shuffled for the next draw. This is mainly a fun league that plays six-end games and a great way to get to know other people in the club.

Recreational – as in “flight” you enter as a four-person team and stay together throughout the year. Recreational is a “less-competitive” league where the emphasis is on meeting and enjoying an afternoon or evening with fellow members of the club.

Draw – a round robin session. For Friday (eight teams) a draw is seven weeks. For Sunday teams the draw is 13 weeks.

In other news we have a couple of upcoming events to mark on your calendars. First we have a return of the **Turkey Spiel** scheduled for December 15. This is a one-day, “club” style (see above) bonspiel with two six-end games with lunch provided. Sign-up sheets will be posted in November with space for 48 players, or you can register online. There will be turkeys for the winners, and turkeys for the corner to corner draw for both men and women. Be sure to sign up early, as this is a popular event open to all the members of the club.

Also the **Empire Life Mixed Bonspiel**, which is scheduled for February. Be sure to put on your schedules.

Finally, we have formed a mixed committee consisting of

Keith Mitchell – Convener

Linda Lott – Club Convener

Benny Gordon – Friday Flight rep

Dave Lollar – Friday Recreational rep

Richard Robichaud – Sunday Recreational rep

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns, please bring them to your rep so that we can get your voice heard. Thanks to the reps for volunteering.

Keep your brooms on the ice!

Nominations being accepted for new Wall of Recognition

By Joanne Miller, Member at Large:

Your Board of Directors has asked me to form a Wall of Recognition Committee. I have outlined the process below with a list of the criteria and the members of this Committee. The Board feels it important to recognize significant contributions of our members and so asks you to submit the name of anyone you feel is deserving of this recognition to the representative of your section. The deadline for submissions to your representative is January 15, 2019. The Committee will then review these submissions and make recommendations to the Board, who would then have final approval. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Committee.

WALL OF RECOGNITION Recognizing significant contributions by member of RKCC

COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE:

Day Ladies/Stick	Jan Ray
Day Men	John Koronyi
Evening Ladies	Gwen Mitchell
Evening Men	Bob Helliard
Mixed	Erwin Batalla
Chair (Member-at-Large)	Joanne Miller

CRITERIA FOR PLAQUES OF RECOGNITION:

- Made contributions to curling in the community (e.g. Brier, Scotties, etc)
- Assisted the club in dealing with a crisis or emergency
- Created or donated some physical assets that enhanced the use of club facilities
- Facilitated the development of a curling program or event that contributed to the enjoyment of members.
- Facilitated, directed or participated in a major way to significant activities of the club (e.g. move to new club facilities.
- Extensive involvement in club-sanctioned committees over an extended period.

PROCESS:

To simplify this process, we suggest that names being put forward for recognition be submitted to the section representative with a short list of reasons for this nomination. These names would then be taken to the Committee and reviewed as a whole with recommendations being presented to the Board for approval. A plaque would then be placed on the Wall of Recognition. We suggest that this process occur every five years and the Wall reflect that period of time. This recognition can be made posthumously or for members who are no longer active.

RKCC Mixed Turkey Spiel



Saturday, December 15,
2018

Two 6-End Games - first
game 11 a.m.

Corner-to-corner draw to the button –
men's and women's

Turkeys for the winning team

Lunch Provided

Open to all RKCC members - 48 curler
limit – sign up as individuals

Teams to be determined

Cost \$15/person

Contact: keithmitchell1959@gmail.com



Marketing Committee seeks new sponsors, new members

By Dave Fraser, Marketing Chair

The Marketing Committee helps the club raise money through the sale of advertising in the club. We generate about \$25,000 through wall signs, ice sponsorships and other opportunities that are available to the committee.

As you look at the wall, you can see we have room for some new sponsors. If you know of any potential advertisers, please let us know. The more the better. With our 200th anniversary and the Brier coming to Kingston in 2020, this is a great opportunity to be seen by both curlers and the public

Our current committee is made up of Tom Bryant, Linda Lott, Bruce Jeffery, Roger Taylor, Garry Dupuis and myself, Dave Fraser. As with every committee, new blood is essential as new ideas and contacts help create new sponsors.

We are actively looking for new Committee members, and also for someone to take over as Chairperson (my three-year term is coming to an end.)

If you are interested, please contact me at db_fraser@hotmail.com or 613-389-2663.

Getting new sponsors and Committee members is essential to keeping the club vibrant and costs down.

Thank you.

RKCC ends Limestone drought



Proudly displaying their cash and cup, from left, the winning team of Vice Don Kerstens, Skip Dave Fraser, Lead Greg Ruse, and Second John Giles.

By Dave Leeson

After a nine-year drought, RKCC's name will finally be engraved once again on the Limestone Senior Men's Bonspiel trophy. At the 33rd annual bonspiel, held Friday, October 26, Skip Dave Fraser, Vice Don Kerstens, Second John Giles and Lead Greg Ruse took the trophy, with Garth Mitchell's team finishing a close second. Third place went to Walter Genereux (Napanea), fourth was Nigel Retchless (RKCC), fifth was Dwight Farrell (RKCC) and sixth was Sandy Staples (Catarauqui). The trophy has now been won by eight different clubs in the last eight years.

Teams were also entered from Brockville, Manotick, Land O'Lakes, Prescott and Garrison.

The food tradition continued with Garry Dupuis and his crew providing the sausages and beans lunch, and Jim Lesley and his crew serving and cleaning up after the prime rib dinner, which was provided for the fourth year in a row by Chef Bob Brey at Chartwell Conservatory Pond Retirement Residence. We are extremely grateful for The Pond's amazing sponsorship of this event.

Another Limestone tradition is the "cork draw", where one of 24 numbered corks is pulled out of the trophy and the corresponding team gets reimbursed their entry fee. We had to improvise a bit because the corks were nowhere to be found. But we have a whole year to drink 24 bottles of wine to replace the corks. Shouldn't be a problem.

In its 33 years, only one team has ever won this event in consecutive years. S. Matheson's team from RKCC won it in 1993 and 1994. We'll have to wait another year to see whether Dave Fraser can repeat that accomplishment.

As always, the ice was great, the beer was cold and nobody left hungry.



Above: Sampling the appetizers at the Ladies Opening Potluck.

Left, new members were extended a 'Royal Welcome'.

Ladies extend 'Royal Welcome' at opening potluck

By Kathy Jackson

The Ladies Opening Potluck dinner was held on Thursday October 4. The theme of the dinner was "Let us give you a Royal Welcome". Old friends were reunited and new ones were made. New members were extended a *Royal Welcome*, given tiaras and introduced to the members. There was lots of delicious food and plenty of laughter.

Club Curling Draw 1

In its trial format of two divisions for 2018-2019, Club curlers were almost evenly split between the Rec Club and Comp Club divisions. On Tuesday, we had eight teams in the Comp division and six in Rec. On Thursday, there were four teams in the Comp division while there were six teams in Rec. As we head into Draw 2, the distribution of curlers remains very similar across the two divisions, although there is one fewer team on each day.

Event Finals – Tuesday

- Event 2 Winners (six teams competing for Event 2): Skip Tish LaVallee; Vice Joanne Manion; Second Tensia Cannon and Lead Janet Waugh.
- Event 1 Runners-Up: Skip Linda O'Sullivan; Vice Philippa Fugler; Second Bonnie Arlt and Lead Virginia Flynn
- Event 1 Winners: The winning team was skipped by Joan Doucet, with Vice Sharon Windsor, Second Cathy Warwick and Lead, Lois McKeown. They will play in the Tuesday vs. Thursday Draw 1 Carrie Cole play-off on Monday, November 12 at 10 a.m.

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Day Ladies, continued from page 9

Event Finals - Thursday

- Event 2 Winners (two teams competing for Event 2): Skip Linda O’Sullivan; Vice Joan Doucet; Second Lois MacArthur; Lead Cathy Warwick.
- Event 1 Runners-Up: Skip Marilyn Bellringer; Vice Bonnie Bird; Second Sylvia Myers; Lead Mary Graham.
- Event 1 Winners: The winning team was skipped by Tish LaVallee, with Vice Judy Sly, Second Deb Kennedy, and Lead Kat Banko. They will play in the Tuesday vs. Thursday Draw 1 Carrie Cole play-off on Monday, November 12 at 10 a.m.

Draw 1 Play-off Game

Monday, November 12 at 10 a.m. between Joan Doucet and Tish LaVallee

Day Ladies Christmas Mini-Spiel

The annual Christmas mini-spiel is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4 during our regular club curling time slot. The theme, **Grinch**, invites members to “Join the fun in Who-ville”. The event will include two short games, lunch, prizes and lots of fun. Oh yeah, and trivia. There’s always trivia! 😊

Sign up is by individual via the Events tab on our RKCC website. The convenors will make up the teams. The deadline to register is November 23. Cost is \$20, which should be paid in advance to Deb Emerton or Francine Korczynski. For further information, contact Deb at debemerton5@gmail.com.

Come dressed in your favourite Who-ville costume and bring your best Grinch attitude!

Announcement:

Watch for the sign-up period for the third draw of Club Curling. The deadline to register will be before the holiday break.

Bonspiel Help Needed:

Co-convenor and committee members are needed for the annual **Grandmothers and Great Aunts Bonspiel** which is being held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019. If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Kathy Jackson.



Day Ladies Grinch Spiel

Tuesday, Dec. 4

2 short games, lunch & prizes,
starting at 11:15 am

Join the fun in Who-ville!

Cost \$20. Register online.

All members welcome!

Deadline Nov. 23



The winners of the first club draw playoffs are, from left, skip Donna Smith, Debby King, Beth Giberson and Karen Francis.

Evening ladies leagues in full swing

By April Welsh

The leagues are in full swing and I would like to thank Liz Baer/Carol Fitzpatrick and Deb Wilkin for their perseverance in getting everybody registered in the club and flight curling.

Flight curling has 17 teams this year and we are a few games into our round robin schedule.

We will be revisiting the round robin format at the Spring AGM.

The first club draw playoffs were held on Wednesday, November 7. Congratulations to Donna Smith and her team of Debby King, Beth Giberson and Karen Francis for winning the first event.

1st Event Finalists: Georgia O'Shaughnessy, Lisa Mulville, Mirelle Ringuette, Michelle Penney.

2nd Event Winners: Christy Gilmour, Pam Power, Andrea Berry, Nancy Marshall.

3rd Event Winners: Teresa Gibson, Kim Shames-Jung, Allison Braithwaite, Mary Graham.

The 3rd Annual Betty Bush Memorial Spiel was held on November 3. Many thanks to Linda Lott and her committee (Joanne Miller, Joanne Gizzi, Lil Rynbend, Gwen Mitchell, Lee Thompson) for hosting a very enjoyable event.

Laura Brown and her committee are convening the Evening Ladies' Invitational spiel on November 17. The theme is "Canadian, EH?" and the day promises to be a good time.

The Evening Ladies will be having a Christmas dinner on Thursday, December 6 for our club and flight curlers. Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are available at the bar for the low, low price of \$20. We are pleased to announce that Denise Mulville will once again be the chef in charge!



Russ and Cheryl will be kicking off the season for our 200th Anniversary Celebrations.

RUSS HOWARD, member of the Canadian World Curling Hall of Fame, 2006 Olympic Gold Medal winner, two-time World Champion, 14 Brier appearances, TSN Curling Commentator

CHERYL BERNARD, president/CEO of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, 2010 Olympic Silver Medal winner, 2018 Olympic alternate on Rachel Homan's team, TSN Curling Commentator

Presenting at our Gala Dinner, **Friday, September 27, 2019** at the Ambassador Hotel.

Coaching Curling Clinics and Strategy Sessions, **Saturday, September 28, 2019** at RKCC.

1820 - 2020



You do the math

The combined age of these three gents, who are all the same age, is 258 years. From left are Emil Lindt, Bill Worthy and Doug Swain. To borrow from Abe Lincoln, "In curling, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."



DANCE into the Holiday Season!

STEVE CHEESEMAN & THE HEATERS

DECEMBER 1ST, 2018

8pm

The RKCC Lounge

TICKETS: \$15:00

Available at the Royal Kingston Curling Club bar

OR from a Social Committee member

(Kathleen Poole, Sylvia Myers, Janet Fowlow,

Deb Kennedy, Pennie Robert & Linda Lott)

Royal Kingston Curling Clubs
Annual Craft Fair

December 1, 2018 from 9 am to 1 pm



Admission is free

Get some of your Christmas
shopping done!

Purchase some home baked goodies and a
hot beverage and take a break from the
hustle and bustle by the fireplace!

Royal Kingston Curling Club
130 Days Rd

Event Sponsored by RKCC Social Committee



Royal Kingston Curling Club Evening Ladies Christmas Party

Thursday, December 6, 2018

5:30 Gather for Season's Greetings with your friends
6:00 Dinner

Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings

Tickets: \$20 - available only at the bar
Deadline for purchasing tickets is Friday, November 30



Please join us as we celebrate the festive season!



61st Annual
Empire Life
Mixed Bonspiel



Saturday February 2nd, 2019



THREE 6-end knock-out games, \$200 plus HST (\$226 / team)

Draw A : 8:20am for relaxed spies with a passion for fun

Draw B : 10:00am for serious agents with a license to kill

Lunch, wine and cheese social, and catered dinner included

Prizes in each draw and for best costume

Contact Dale Marecak 613-542-8009 dmarecak@yahoo.com for any queries,
including extra meal tickets, food allergies, sparing and volunteering
Register online at royalkingston.com/events or complete the form below

Team name and home club :

Skip name, phone, e-mail :

Vice name :

Second name :

Lead name :

Draw preference : A for prizes and recreation

B for prizes and a shot at the cup trophy title

Enclose \$226 check payable to RKCC
Mail to: Royal Kingston Curling Club
130 Days Rd, Kingston, K7M 9G4