



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 25, Issue 3

December 2023

Team Herron makes RKCC, Ontario proud



From left, skip Noel Herron, Steve Lodge, Jason Boyce, Chris Barkley. Missing from photo is fifth Jarryd Herron.

Photo courtesy: Curling Canada/Connie Laliberte

KINGSTON – It was a wild ride for a team only a month into the season: first, a nail-biting extra-end win at the provincial men’s club championship on October 29, then three weeks later, a live-streamed game on the national stage in Draw 1 of the Everest Canadian Curling Club Championships in Winnipeg. The team, skipped by Noel Herron, with vice Steve Lodge, second Jason Boyce, lead Chris Barkley and fifth Jarryd Herron (Noel’s son), played strong in the round robin with four one-sided wins and two close losses, their first to eventual gold medalist Team Sherrard from Alberta and the second to Nova Scotia, which eventually lost the bronze medal game to Manitoba.

In the championship round, the team lost their first semi-final to Team Anderson from Manitoba and moved to the B-event semi-final where they battled to a 5-6 extra end loss to Team Maheux from Quebec. You can watch game replays at plus.curling.ca.

Fourteen of the country’s best men’s and women’s teams competed in the Everest for the right to be Canadian champions and to compete at the 2024 PointsBet Invitational. The Canadian Curling Club Championships was created in 2009 for true club-based teams and to support the development of grassroots curling across Canada.

Competing at such a high level was a bit of a throwback for Noel who won the 1990 Canadian junior men’s championship, and a silver medal a year later at the World Junior Championships.

The winner of this year’s Everest Canadian Men’s Curling Championship, Dan Sherrard, made history by becoming the only three-time winner of the event, having won in 2012 and 2013 along with his vice Brandon Klassen.



From left: runners-up Haley Selbie and Richard Moulton, champions Joe Waller and Mike Boomhour, and third-place winners Corey St-Laurent and Melissa Wong.

Open Doubles Bonspiel

By Peter Coughlin, Doubles Convenor

The Third Open Doubles Bonspiel, held Saturday, November 25, was a great success. Set up as a points spiel, we welcomed 16 teams, with curlers from RKCC and Cataraqui, and a special shout-out for our four Junior curlers, Alexandra Wowk, Medha Charan, Grace Berry and Leah DaCosta, who jumped into the competition and played very well.

Each team played two six-end games and the top scoring eight teams competed in the final match. First-place team was Mike Boomhour and Joe Waller, second place was won by Richard Moulton and Haley Selbie, and third place was nailed down by Melissa Wong and Corey St-Laurent. The curlers all enjoyed the awards celebration, cash prizes and trophies.

The kitchen crew of Bev and David Townsend and Barry and Laura Niles put together a wonderful chili lunch with all of the trimmings.

Mark your calendars for November 2024 – guaranteed to be another fun event.



Kitchen crew, from left, Laura and Barry Niles, Bev and David Townsend.

36th annual Limestone Senior Men's Bonspiel on the rebound

By Dave Leeson and John Whitaker

Last year, due to a bit of a COVID hangover, the Limestone was a single draw event with 12 teams. This year, on October 28, we went to two draws with 20 teams participating. There was a new entry from the Ottawa Curling Club, which was great to see. And most satisfying was seeing how many teams were "hybrid", that is, having players from more than one club. In a few cases RKCC lent a spare to an outside team that was short a player, but there were five teams that were hybrid "by choice". Love it! The winner this year was a true hybrid team, with the back end consisting of Terry Zarichny and Sean Meleshchuk from Cataraqui, and the front end consisting of Tyler Rider and Frank Pinder from RKCC. They had won the early draw. Larry Waller's team from RKCC won the late draw and finished just a point behind Terry's team.

Second-place finishes came from Garth Mitchell and Tony Bush, both from RKCC, and finishing in third-place in the two draws were Ron Edgeley of Brockville and Dan Lemieux from RKCC.

Due to the impact of inflation on their budget, our long-time sponsor Conservatory Pond Retirement Residence was not able to play as large a role as in the past. They were able to provide us with a couple of gift baskets that we raffled off in our 50/50 draw and graciously provided dessert for lunch, which were greatly appreciated. And they are hoping to return to a larger sponsoring role next year.

Thanks so much to our volunteers – especially to the lunch crew who did such a great job quartering chickens and serving and cleaning up.

The unusually mild and humid weather posed significant challenges to the ice crew due to condensation - but they did an amazing job. Not only was the ice playable, but despite ice conditions being less than what we are used to at RKCC, we received several comments from out-of-town teams to the effect that even with the condensation issues our ice was so much better than the ice at their own clubs ever is.

Thanks, Jeff and Gene!

Curling is full of traditions, and we try to keep them going wherever possible. One of the traditions of the Limestone is the "cork draw", where a significant cash prize goes to a team whose numbered cork is randomly drawn from the trophy. This year it was won by Vic Matthew's team from RKCC. Drinks are on Vic!

Many out-of-town teams have truly enjoyed renewing their friendship with Julie, who bartended this year as she has done for so many Limestones. We are saddened that this will be her last year helping us out. Good luck, Julie, and thanks ever so much for the huge contribution you've made to the club over the years!

Photo right: RKCC Manager Rhonda Jarvis and president Murray Matheson with Julie Cox.





The Grandmasters qualifiers, from left, skip Mike Schneider, vice/alternate Tom Bryant, second John Latimer and lead Barry Malmsten. Missing from photo is vice Lorne Carmichael.

Photo by Murray Matheson

Another team off to Provincials!

Congratulations to the Grandmaster team from RKCC which qualified December 8 for the 2024 Grandmaster Provincial Championship, to be held March 14-16, 2024 at the Thornhill Curling Club. Only two teams competed in the qualifier at RKCC, one of eight open qualifiers across the province. But that made it no less exciting. In the best two-out-of-three competition held December 1, the RKCC team of skip Mike Schneider, vice/fifth player Tom Bryant, second John Latimer and lead Barry Malmsten took on the Trenton team of Benny Brock, Jake Ridder, Ardith Paquette and Anne Farrell. Team Schneider won the morning game and Team Brock the afternoon game, leading to the showdown one week later. With Lorne Carmichael at third this time, having returned from vacation in time for Game 3, Team Schneider made no mistake, scoring a decisive victory and a berth in the provincials. The Grandmaster is open to men aged 70 and over and women aged 65 and over.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK Dec. 17

The Social Committee invites all RKCC members to celebrate a great season of curling and to sample some tasty dishes made by your fellow curlers. All members are welcome to the Christmas Potluck following Sunday Mixed Curling on December 17th. We encourage participants to bring a dish according to their last name. For surnames A-G bring desserts, H-P appetizers and Q-Z mains.

Admission to the dinner is to bring some Christmas cheer. Please bring your own dishes and cutlery. Let's have a great turnout to celebrate the season.

Brought to you by your Social Committee based upon the 2023 needs assessment survey.





Thinking outside the box, Team De Groote recently teamed up with Janet Pressacco for a pizza fundraiser to help pay for costs associated with competition. From left: Koen Blasko, Reid Giffin, Logan Bedard, Luke De Groote and Emerson Hare.

Team swaps curling gloves for oven mitts in pizza fundraiser

Team De Groote is a U18 men's team curling out of RKCC consisting of Luke De Groote, Logan Bedard, Koen Blasko, Reid Giffin and Emerson Hare and coached by Dave Fanset. The team has participated in various U18 events this fall and has gained valuable experience and exposure to competitive curling at the U18 level.

Team De Groote held a pizza fundraiser at RKCC on the evening of November 23. With the amazing support and guidance of Janet Pressacco Fowlow, the team made delicious pizza that was enjoyed by RKCC members, friends and family. Team De Groote would like to thank the RKCC members for their generous support and donations during this event. Funds raised from the pizza fundraiser will go towards event fees and travel costs associated with competitive events. The team is looking forward to getting on the ice in the new year and continuing to practice and compete in order to further their development as curlers.



Jr. Challenge Cup Winners

On November 19 three teams of junior curlers represented RKCC at the first annual Kingston Junior Curling Challenge Cup. Cataraqui hosted the event, with RKCC providing the trophy. RKCC won two of the three games to win the first awarding of the Cup. Congrats to all the curlers and to Cataraqui for being such great hosts. We look forward to next year when RKCC will host our friendly local rivals and hope to retain the trophy. The winning RKCC junior curlers with the Challenge Cup trophy.



Bel-Con Men's Open 'C' Winners

On November 25 & 26 Team Berry played in the Quinte Curling Club's Bel-Con Men's Open Spiel. The team went 3-1 winning the "C" event final. Thanks to Q.C.C. for putting on such a great event. Left to right: Anthony Hale (lead), Kyle Horbay (second), Tom MacLean (vice), Michael Berry (skip).



Welcome to the 8-ender club!

John Futtit's Thursday night men's club team scored an eight-ender in just the second end on November 23. From left are Murray Matheson (sparing at lead), John Futtit (skip), Keith Mitchell (vice) and Ray Pothier (2nd). Unfortunately, we'll have to take their word for it, as they did not take a photo of the rocks.



From left, sponsor Joan Roantree presents the Roantree Trophy to this year's winners: Brenda Merkle (lead), Trish Beckett (second), Melanie McEwen (skip), and Deb Kennedy (vice).

DL Club Update:

Draw 3 starts in January

By Mary Kelly, Day Ladies Club Convenor

Day Ladies Club is off to a great start for the 2023-2024 season, with eight teams playing in Draws 1 and 2 on Wednesdays, and 10 teams on Thursday in Draw 1. Draw 2 saw 11 teams on Thursday, thanks to several new members joining the league. Congratulations to the Draw 1 winners! Wednesday: Renee LeClair (Skip), Claire duBac Rayner (Vice), Diane Carty (Second), Cathy Fobert (Lead), and Thursday: Melanie McEwen (Skip), Deb Kennedy (Vice), Trish Beckett (Second), Brenda Merkle (Lead).

At the end of Draw 1, Team McEwen defeated Team LeClair in the Wednesday versus Thursday playoff for the Roantree Trophy, presented by sponsor Joan Roantree November 27.

Draw 3 starts January 3. We have room for new league members: please register by December 15 to be placed on a team. Previously registered league members will be placed on teams unless they notify the convenor that they **do not** want to play in Draw 3.

WANTED

Volunteers for 2024 Senior Provincials

Are you looking for an opportunity to get out and meet people, have some fun and support your club?

Well, we have a great opportunity for you do all that, as well as see some terrific curling at the same time. We're just four months away from hosting the 2024 Senior Women's and Men's Provincial Championships. Specifically, the Championship is from March 13-17, 2024 and curlers from across the province will be vying for the right to represent Ontario at the Canadian Senior Championships.

We will be providing a complete list of all the different volunteers we need to make this a terrific event for the curlers in the near future.

The countdown is on, so keep the week of March 13-17 open on your calendar for a terrific week of fun, networking and curling.

Shop the Pro Shop for Christmas

Have you been in the Pro-Shop lately? You will find a large selection of helmets, baseball caps, and toques. For stocking stuffers, we have stopwatches, rockwatches, designer curling socks, retractable stopwatch reels, and RKCC Christmas ornaments – we even have curling stone ice buckets to go under the tree! I have a small amount of Canadian flag lapel pins in the shape of a curling stone, and they are available with the flags of Canada, USA, and Scotland (to order). Along with our shoes and delivery devices, I have also brought in new equipment such as the Saber 2-in-1 stick and broom. Name tags are in (except for the most recent requests). If we don't have what you are looking for, I can order from Hardline or Goldline – my last order from Goldline is for delivery on December 15, but unfortunately I won't be able to guarantee the item being available. Thanks for your patience and understanding as I learn about the position of Club Manager!

Rhonda Jarvis, Club Manager



Timers



Stabilizer



Masks



Caps



Rhonda's picks for Christmas include the Saber 2-in-1 delivery stick/broom. Gift certificates also available. Drop by the Pro Shop in the office for more gift ideas.



Helmet



Gloves



Ice Bucket

Social: Game night & more

The first pizza and game night was hosted by the Social Committee on Saturday, October 14. Thanks to all who came out for an evening of fun and an opportunity to get to know other members. With over 40 participants, euchre was organized to maximize playing with different people and all enjoyed the format. Dominos were also played and Mama Mia pizza was ordered. Of course, the bar was open. Stay tuned for more game nights as feedback was positive and members were asking for more fun evenings. Saturdays are busy at the club so another night of the week might be tried in 2024. Keep watching the RKCC website for more activities brought to you by the Social Committee.

RKCC Book Club



Our next meeting!

Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 5:00 in the lounge.

New members welcome!

Join us for lively discussion and a festive dinner
supplied by Jacky.

The book: *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama

Contact renee.leclair@bell.net for more information including information about dinner.

SAVE THE DATE(S)

RKCC is excited to announce that we will be hosting the U21 Men's and Women's provincial championships at the end of February/beginning of March in 2025. This eight-team round robin will advance two qualifiers to the Nationals!

Try stick curling for fun!

By Kathy Jackson & David Townsend, Bonspiel Convenors

The Stick Leagues are wrapping up the fall portion of the curling season with a Four-Person Stick Festive Funspiel on Wednesday, December 20. This is an invitation to all Club members to consider joining us for this fun-focused event. The catch ... you have to deliver your rocks with a stick!

The funspiel will feature two-four end games, lunch, dessert and a short mini-clinic prior to the first game to familiarize people with stick delivery. Registration is by individual, not by team. Teams will be formed by the convenors and comprised of experienced and less experienced stick users. Don't worry if you don't own a stick ... there will be some available on site for you to use.

If you have been thinking about switching to delivering your rocks with a stick, wondering if this is a change you'd consider, or are just plain curious ... we encourage you to come and join us. This is your chance to see how it's done and give it a try.

All the relevant registration details can be found on the RKCC website. The December 6th registration and payment deadline is fast approaching so sign up soon. We hope you will join us at this event and experience the 'joy of stick curling'.

Four-Person Stick *Festive* Funspiel

Join us for a fun, friendly afternoon of stick curling. All participants will use a stick to deliver their rocks. Teams to be comprised of experienced and less-experienced stick curlers. Two four-end games with lunch in between games. Dessert, beverages & fun prizes to finish.

Wednesday December 20, 2023 from 11:00 to 4:00pm

Red & Green Theme

Sign-in commencing at 10:45am.

Short mini-clinic to demonstrate and practice stick delivery at 11:15am.

Registration details:

- \$15.00 per person
- Register as an individual (teams to be formed by the convenor)
- Maximum 48 curlers
- Registration & payment deadline: Wednesday December 6, 2023
- Register online at RKCC Events
- Submit payment to the RKCC manager's office or by e-transfer. If paying by e-transfer, send email to rkcc.payments@gmail.com and include the name of the bonspiel in the notes.
- Event Refund Policy applies



Contact Person: Kathy Jackson

kj1@queensu.ca



INTERNATIONAL WINE & CHEESE TASTING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20,
7:00 - 9:00PM

A SELECTION OF
4 WINES AND 3 CHEESES
FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

CHEESES COME FROM
COOKE'S FINE FOODS IN KINGSTON.

THE TASTING IS HOSTED BY
IAN NICHOLLS, SOMMELIER WITH
COUNTY SIPS WINE ADVENTURES

COST \$42 PER PERSON



WWW.COUNTYSIPS.COM

Register for
this event on
the RKCC
website before
Jan. 17, 2024.

Participation is
limited to 40
persons.

Payment, by e-
transfer, is
required to
hold your
space.

Brought to
you by your
SOCIAL
COMMITTEE
based on the
2023 needs
assessment
survey.



Improve your Curling with Pilates!



For RKCC
Members Only

BRING YOUR OWN NON-SLIP YOGA MAT/BLANKET

Intro to Pilates for Curlers

Improve your flexibility, balance, and strength with exercises designed to enhance your curling performance.

Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 pm (at RKCC)

4-week session

January 9-30

\$88 + HST

Brought to you by your
SOCIAL COMMITTEE
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assessment survey.

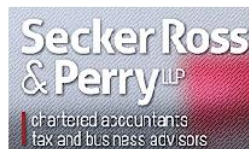
Register now at www.momentumpilates.ca (Workshops/Events page)

Masters of the curling game

Congratulations to the Masters team of Linda Lott, Nancy Roantree, Karen Peters and Karen Matheson who won both their games at the Open Provincial Qualifier November 25 in Napanee and will be moving on to the Ontario Masters Championships at the Quinte Curling Club in Belleville December 13 – 17, 2023. The winner of the Masters Championships will represent Ontario at the 2024 Canadian Masters Championships to be held April 7 - 13 in Saguenay, Quebec.

This event is open to male and female teams with all four athletes aged sixty (60) or over on December 31st the year prior to the Championship.

Please support our sponsors!



Michael
Braun





MOMENTUM
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