



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 25, Issue 7

May 2024



Fran Cooney, left, presents a Life Membership to Linda Miller.

Photo by Jim Rayner



Vic Matthews, left, accepts his Life Member certificate from Reg Gore.

Photo by Jim Rayner

RKCC recognizes Life Members

RKCC welcomed seven new Life Members in the 2023-24 season. Erwin Batalla, Ivan Brandsma, Bob Helliar, Vic Matthews, Linda Miller, Jan Ray and Greg Ruse have been members of Royal Kingston for 30 years. But they haven't just put in a quantity of time, they have put in quality time, becoming part of the very fabric of the club through their volunteerism, generosity, sportsmanship, and teammanship. They inspire others by their example, and they help create stories and build memories that become part of the history of the club. They're the people that we look up to, that we aspire to be like, and that we like to sit down with after a game, win or lose!

See Life Member profiles on pages 9 and 10.

Don't forget to register for the Spring AGM on Tuesday, May 28 starting at 6 p.m. at the club. Register online at royalkingston.com.

RKCC Championship Saturday

By Linda Lott, Skills Development Chair

The 2023-2024 Curling season ended on April 20, with 22 teams playing for the honour of being the “A” winner for their section.

The following teams played at 12:30:

Winners highlighted in red.

<i>Sheet 2</i>		
4 Person stick final	Mary Skeggs (Skip) Gwen Mitchell Judy Sly Brenda Fabbro	Vic Matthews (Skip) Reg Gore, Joanne Miller * Mike Schneider Tom Miller
<i>Sheet 3</i>		
Day Women A flight final	Donna Jeffery (Skip) Joanne Manion Susan Hara Sheila McHenry	Mary Paterson (Skip) Brenda Charette Martha Tanner Debbie Mansell Pat Simms
<i>Sheet 4</i>		
Evening Women A flight final	Laura Brown (Skip) Kaitlyn Welch Vanessa Cooper Erica Simpson	Lisa Freeman (Skip) Debbie Hynes Alisha Scott Anna Voskamp
<i>Sheet 5</i>		
Juniors A final	Logan Bedard (Skip) Grace Berry Megan DaCosta Jesse Hookey	Tim Van Koughnett (Skip) Mehda Charan Noah Bedard Jonah Winsor
<i>Sheet 6</i>		
Juniors B final	Alex Splinter (Skip) Reid Giffin Copelynn Henderson-Boileau Colin Gibson	Leah DaCosta (Skip) Lexi Wowk Ewan Jones Hannah Perez
Doubles ** Played on April 19th	Denise Mulville & Anthony Hale	Briane Dubue & Corey St. Laurent

The teams were piped on the ice at 12:30 by Denis Faubert and introduced by RKCC President Murray Matheson.

Championship Saturday, continued from page 2.

The trophy presentation was hosted by Murray Matheson with assistance from the following convenors- Kathy Jackson (4-person stick), Sylvia Myers (Day Women's Chair), Karen Matheson (Evening women's Flight Convenor) and Michael Berry (Junior Convenor).

Seven people received their life membership certificates, acknowledging their 30-year as a RKCC member. Congratulations to **Erwin Batalla, Ivan Brandsma, Robert Helliard, Vic Matthews, Linda Miller, Jan Ray and Greg Ruse.**

The second draw of Championship Saturday started at 7:00 with the teams being piped on by Denis Faubert and introduced by RKCC President Murray Matheson.

Winning teams highlighted in red.

<i>Sheet 1</i>		
Mixed A final	Michael Berry (Skip) Denise Mulville Anthony Hale Andrea Berry	Mario Fabbro (Skip) Samantha Tomsett Ross Fabbro Megan Wheeler
<i>Sheet 2</i>		
Women's Flight (EL vs. DL)	Laura Brown (Skip) Kaitlyn Welch Vanessa Cooper Erica Simpson	Mary Paterson (Skip) Brenda Charette Martha Tanner Debbie Mansell Pat Simms
<i>Sheet 3</i>	<i>Day Women</i>	<i>Evening Women</i>
Carrie Cole Final	Mel McEwen (Skip) Deb Kennedy Trish Beckett *Lisa DaCosta Brenda Merkle	Denise Mulville (Skip) Cyndy Murphy Carol Wallace Natasha Muller
<i>Sheet 4</i>		
Evening Men's Club final	Joe Waller (Skip) Denny Williams Dave Leeson * Peter Waller Paul Gillespie *Mark Siemons	Ross Fabbro (Skip) Jeremy Heil Ross Carter Andrew Oosterman
<i>Sheet 5</i>		
Evening Men's A Flight final	Noel Herron (Skip) Steve Lodge Jason Boyce Chris Barkley	Joe Waller (Skip) Mario Fabbro John MacMillan Phil Tomsett * Jaryd Herron
<i>Sheet 6</i>		
Day Men's A Flight final	John Whitaker (Skip) Dave Leeson Bernie Leroux Paul Gillespie	Tony Bush (Skip) Chris Scott Richard Thorburn Richard Flindall

Championship Saturday, continued from page 3.

RKCC President Murray Matheson brought greetings from the Board and hosted the trophy presentations with help from the following convenors: Peter & Janet Waugh (mixed), Karen Matheson (Evening Women's Flight), Liz Baer (Carrie Cole), Sylvia Myers (Day Women's Chair). Anthony Hale (Evening Men's Club convenor), Shawn Kelly (Day Men's Chair).

RKCC enjoyed an excellent year competing in CurlON and Curling Canada competitions and the Board acknowledged the members of those 10 teams:

Club Championship Everest,

Team of Denise Mulville, Monica Kirk, Susan Hara and Melissa Wong

Team of Noel Herron, Steve Lodge, Jason Boyce, and Chris Barkley. (Won and advanced to the Nationals in Winnipeg.)

Rob Campbell presented the Herron rink with the Provincial Banner for representing Ontario at the National event in Winnipeg.

Master Women: Team of Linda Lott, Nancy Roantree, Karen Matheson and Karen Peters (Donna Jeffery)

Senior Women: Team of Suzanne Herron, Monica Kirk, Karen Peters and Jennifer Robertson

Mixed Doubles: Teams of Melissa Wong and Cory St. Laurent along with Denise Mulville and Anthony Hale.

Grandmasters: Team of Mike Schneider, Lorne Carmichael, Barry Malmsten, John Latimer and Tom Bryant

Two person stick provincials: Team of Tony Bush and Jim Rayner

OFSAA: Team of Luke DeGroot, Alex Bulch, Ryan Kreick, and Andrew DaCosta. Won gold!

Senior Mixed: Team of Alex Tosh, Suzanne Herron, Bob Pritchett and Denise Mulville

Curlers for the two draws were served charcuterie trays prepared by the following awesome volunteers: Sylvia Myers, Linda Shanks, Francine Korczynski, Deb Emerton, Cathy Grant, Odette Haas, Janet McCreath, Kathleen Poole, Rene Marchen and Peter Flavelle and Kathy Jackson.

Decorations for the event were from the amazing decorating team of Nancy Roantree and Karen Peters.

Michael Flowers used his nifty-nifty superpowers to ensure that every attendee had the opportunity to support the club.

Jim Rayner was the official photographer for the day, assisting Martha Tanner who was curling.

A huge "thank you" to April Welsh for organizing the trophies both before the event and then after, for engraving!

Thank you to Jeff Gray and his ice team for the wonderful ice for the event!

(Editor's note: Last, but not least, thanks to Linda Lott who orchestrated this whole unforgettable day, always the highlight of the season and a huge success due to her experience, creativeness and generosity.)

Women's Flight Champions



Women's Flight Champions (Evening Flight and Overall)
From left: Vanessa Cooper (second), Laura Brown (skip),
Kaitlyn Welch (vice), and Erica Simpson (lead).

Photos this page by Jim Rayner.



Day Women's Flight Champions

From left, skip Mary Paterson, vice Brenda
Charette, second Martha Tanner and lead Andrea
Berry.

Stick Champions



'A' Division Champions –
Doug Pfeiffer & Bob Moore



'B' Division Champions – Vic
Matthews & Ernie Carter



4-person stick runners-up, from left: Mike
Schneider (for Joanne Miller), Tom Miller,
Reg Gore, skip Vic Matthews.

Photo by Jim Rayner.



Men's Club Champions, from left, Dave Leeson, Joe Waller, Denny Williams, Paul Gillespie.



Evening Men's Flight Champions, from left: skip Noel Herron, Steve Lodge, Jason Boyce, Chris Barkley.



Carrie Cole Champions, from left: Brenda Merkle, Trish Beckett, Lisa DaCosta (spare for Trish), Deb Kennedy and skip Melanie McEwen.



Day men's flight champions, from left: skip John Whitaker, Dave Leeson, Bernie Leroux, Paul Gillespie.



Mixed champions, from left: Sarah Young (spared for Denise Mulville), Denise Mulville, Anthony Hale, Michael Berry, Andrea Berry.

Photos this page by Martha Tanner.



Junior champs

Junior A champions, from left: lead Jesse Hookey, second Megan DaCosta, vice Grace Berry, skip Logan Bedard.



Junior champions, from left: skip Alex Splinter, third Reid Giffin, second Copelynn Henderson-Boileau, Colin Gibson.



Above: Junior A runners-up, from left: lead Jonah Winsor, vice Medha Charan, second Noah Bedard. Missing from photo is skip Tim Van Koughnett.



Photo left: Junior B runners-up, from left, lead Hannah Perez, skip Leah DaCosta, vice Lexi Wowk. Missing from photo is second Ewan Jones. (Inadvertently 'photobombing' in the background is coach Michael Berry.)

Photos this page by Jim Rayner



April Welsh polishes trophies in preparation for Championship Day.



Club president Murray Matheson toasts piper Denis Faubert.

Photo by Liz Baer.



Head ice technician Jeff Gray turns off the plant for the last time.

Photo by Gisele Cyr.

Farewell to Jeff & Gisele

After nearly 40 years of ice-making, Jeff is hanging up his pebbling can for good.

Jeff Gray, head ice technician at RKCC since 2020, has announced that he is stepping away from his duties at RKCC and retiring from the profession. Jeff and his wife Gisele Cyr, who is also an ice maker, curler and RKCC bartender, are moving to the Ottawa area to be closer to family and to enjoy some well- deserved time off.

Jeff and his crew have treated us to some of the best curling ice we have ever had and his expertise will be sorely missed at RKCC. Jeff put in countless hours preparing the ice and his attention to detail and dedication to his profession were above and beyond anything we could have asked.

Please join the Board of Directors in wishing Jeff the very best in his future endeavors and thanking him and Gisele for their dedication to the club.



Martin Secker, left, presents a Life Membership certificate to Bob Helliar.

Photo by Jim Rayner.



Ivan Brandsma, left, accepts his certificate from Michael Braun.

Photo by Jim Rayner.

Life Members 2024, continued from the front.

Bob Helliar

Martin Secker has curled with Bob since the mid-90s, at RKCC and at many bonspiels. In presenting the Life Member certificate to his friend and teammate, Martin described Bob as a “true curling fan”, “a very good curler and competitor, a great team-mate and a real gentleman”.

Ivan Brandsma

If you don’t recognize Ivan by his friendly smile, his easy-going nature and his joy in playing the game, then you would surely recognize him by his famous three-sock hat. Longtime teammate Michael Braun had the honour of presenting Ivan with his Life Member certificate and spoke about how Ivan got hooked on curling after winning a bonspiel with his father and siblings in Lindsay a year before joining the old Kingston Curling Club on Clergy Street. He even learned to make ice from the master, Shorty Jenkins, when Kingston hosted the Ontario Labatt Tankard in 1995 at the Jock Harty Arena. He played in his first Famous Fisherman’s in 1995 and still has the fishing reel he picked out as a prize. Over the years he has had his share of wins, and has enjoyed being a student of the game, but what he really treasures are the friends he has made along the way.

Greg Ruse

Greg has been a member of RKCC since 1993, but actually started curling in 1970. He was presented with his Life Membership certificate by Tom Bryant, who plays third on Greg’s Senior Men’s Flight team. Tom noted that Greg has been a board member and bartender at the club, has played with many well-known skips over the years and now skips teams in senior flight and men’s club, winning championships in both. “I think Greg is one of the best senior shooters in the club,” said Tom. “His easy-going nature, curling prowess and friendliness make him a great teammate.”

Continued on page 10.

Life Members, continued from page 9.

Vic Matthews

There aren't many Life Members more active than Vic Matthews, who plays in four leagues at RKCC, the Lefty McDonald Senior Major League at Cataraqui and 18 bonspiels a year throughout eastern Ontario! He was key player in the development of the new club on Days Road, and served eight years as chair of the Operations Committee. Reg Gore, who presented the certificate to Vic, described him as a great ambassador for the club, adding that, regardless of all his accomplishments, "the one thing that Vic treasures most about the game of curling is not the game itself, but the fellowship he has developed with fellow curlers."

Linda Miller

Fran Cooney had the honour of presenting the Life Membership certificate to Linda Miller who, for over 30 years, "has been a curler, consummate volunteer, crafty fundraiser, competitor and good friend to many and to me!"

Linda has served the club in many capacities, including as a Board member, volunteer at numerous functions, and fundraiser, working on many Trillium Foundation grants and turning her talent for quilting into a fundraiser for the club that raised over \$2,000. She also crafted the 200th Anniversary quilt for RKCC that has pride of place in the foyer. She is one of RKCC's biggest supporters and will be celebrating another life milestone in June: 62 years of marriage to icemaker Gene Miller. Congrats!

Jan Ray

Jan Ray is synonymous with volunteering at RKCC and beyond, and to say that she does it all with extraordinary grace and good humour is an understatement. "I am in awe of her energy, resilience, reliability, genuine kindness to others and the always smiling face that shows up for every meeting and event," said her friend Deb Wilkin, who has worked with Jan on the organizing committee of many successful events in recent years including RKCC's 200th Anniversary, the U18 provincial championship in 2022, the Two-person stick championship in 2023 and the Seniors Provincials in 2024. But that's just the tip of the iceberg: Jan has chaired the day women's and stick leagues, chaired the lounge committee, coached high school and stick curlers, served on several committee and volunteered for major curling events outside the club, including as co-convenor of the 2009 wheelchair provincials and 2010 Parasport Winter Games, special events chair for the 2013 Scotties, special events director for the 2020 Brier and member of the host committee for the national Travellers in 2017 and site supervisor for the OFSAA high school provincials in 2024. Oh, and she also finds time to curl!



Photo by Jim Rayner.



Evening Women's Club Champions, from left: vice Cyndy Murphy, skip Denise Mulville, lead Natasha Muller and second Carol Wallace.

Photo by Martha Tanner.

Evening Women's League Report

By Liz Baer, Evening Women's Chair

As we come to the end of another very successful season, I would like to acknowledge and thank our Evening Ladies Executive: Karen Matheson, Carol Fitzpatrick, Andrea Berry, Georgia O'Shaughnessy, Nancy Roantree, Karen Peters, Tanya Ledford and April Welsh, who worked hard to provide the best curling schedules and bonspiels for us. We also thank all those ladies who have volunteered and assisted throughout the year. Events and games only happen with the help of everyone! Thank you for all you do!

We are still seeking a Vice Chair and more women to join the Social Committee. If anyone, or team, is interested in these positions, please contact me or Karen Matheson.

Congratulations to all our teams both in Flight and Club. It is exciting to see more ladies joining Club curling from Learn to Curl and we welcome you to our league.

We are ready to embrace our new "Women's" change from "Ladies" and hope it will better reflect a sense of equality and respect between our men's and women's teams. I have very much enjoyed my two years as Chair and wish Karen Matheson the best as our new Chair. I wish everyone a wonderful time off this summer and look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Senior Men's Flight



Photo top left: B Flight winners: skip Tim Aldridge, vice Keith Forrest, lead Alan Cosford, second Brian Nolan (sparing for Kevin Pereira).

Middle left: D Flight. From left vice Rob Campbell, skip Brian Hetherington, second Edward Gibson, lead Donal Macartney.



Bottom left: Winner of the coveted Golden Brownie for best Monday Senior Men's lunch Team Peter Waugh.

Below, Senior men's C flight winners: from left Dave Poirier, Erwin Batalla, Rick Pim, John McCready, and Bruce Jeffrey.

Photos by Murray Matheson.





Above: A-flight champions and winners of the Riverhead trophy Anthony Hale and Denise Mulville.

Photos by Peter Coughlin



Above, from left: Sarah Young, Graham Berry, Aaron Buchner.



Photo left: B flight champions Michael Flowers and Kimberly Barker.

Exciting final end in Open Doubles Championship game

By Peter Coughlin, Doubles convenor

The final game for the Riverhead trophy brought defending champions Brianna Dubue and Corey St-Laurent (Melissa Wong) up against the always-competitive team of Anthony Hale and Denise Mulville. The A flight final game was held on Friday, April 19 so that both teams could participate. There was excellent curling, with both teams going to the Power Play to try and score needed points. The match was decided on a tough draw on the final rock of the game. Anthony and Denise are the 2023-24 Riverhead Doubles champions, which sets the stage for another season-long back and forth competition in the A flight grouping.

The B flight champions were Kimberly Barker and Mike Flowers, who came up against a strong game by Jeremy DaCosta and Sean O'Donnell.

The C flight championship was won by Graham Berry and Al McLaughlin against the always enthusiastic and skilled team of Sarah Young and Aaron Buchner.

Open Doubles had a great season, with 22 teams registered, a successful November bonspiel and we were excited to welcome four young adult curlers, who readily transitioned from junior curling – Luke DeGroot, Andrew DaCosta, Laura Johnson and Logan Bedard.

Wondering about joining Doubles next year? Wednesday evenings, 7:45 and 9:15 pm games, six ends, fast-paced, great curling, awesome skill development on your draw weight and the friendliest curlers in the club. See you on the ice.

Stick Section

Highlights and Successes



Four-person Stick League Champions, from left: lead Brenda Fabbro, second Judy Sly, vice Gwen Mitchell and skip Mary Skeggs.

Photo by Jim Rayner

By Kathy Jackson, 2023-2024 Stick Section Chair

The popularity of the Stick Leagues is on the rise as curlers make the transition from traditional slide delivery to delivery with a stick. In 2023-2024, both the two-person and four-person stick leagues saw an increase in participation from the previous year. The two-person stick league had 61 curlers in 30 team pairings, an increase of three teams over last year. In the four-person stick league, the number of teams increased from nine to twelve. Overall, with fifth players included, there were 56 curlers registered for the four-person stick league, compared to 41 curlers in the 2022-2023 season. Early indications show further interest for next year with at least two new teams expressing an interest in joining the four-person league.

2023-2024 Results

Two-Person Stick League

'A' Division Champions – Doug Pfeiffer & Bob Moore Runners-up – Martin Secker & Bill Coulter

'B' Division Champions – Vic Matthews & Ernie Carter Runners-up – Ray Pothier & Dave Londry

Four-Person Stick League

Champions – Mary Skeggs (skip), Gwen Mitchell (vice), Judy Sly (second), Brenda Fabbro (lead), and Joanne Manion (fifth)

Runners-up – Vic Matthews (skip), Reg Gore (vice), Joanne Miller (second; spare Michael Schneider) and Tom Miller (lead)

We also hosted a highly successful Four-Person Stick Funspiel on December 20 which attracted 48 curlers, half of whom were new to stick delivery or trying it for the first time. There are already plans in place to host this event again next year.

On a final note, I would like to welcome committee members, David Townsend and Tom Sephton who will share the organizational responsibilities for the Stick section in the coming season.

By popular demand, and just in time for summer, here is:

Georgie's Frozen Strawberry Cheesecake

Georgie O'Shaughnessy made this for the women's year-end dinner.

This is for an 8" x 8" pan, adjust accordingly.

2 cups graham cracker crumbs

2 tbsp sugar

1/4 cup melted butter.

Mix thoroughly and pack it into the pan.

Refrigerate.

1 - 8 oz room temperature cream cheese, cubed

1 1/4 cups strawberries (I used frozen)

3/4 cup sugar

1 tsp vanilla

1 cup whipped cream (I used Dream Whip)

Mix cheese, strawberries, sugar and vanilla into a blender. (I started with the berries, then gradually added the rest of the ingredients). Start on a slow setting and increase until smooth.

Pour into a large bowl.

Prepare whipped cream. Fold half of the whipped cream into the strawberry mixture then add the other half.

Pour over graham crumbs.

Freeze for at least 4 hours.

Enjoy!!

Georgie



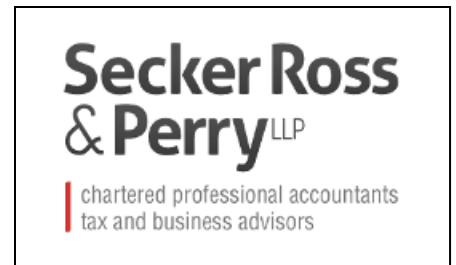
Skating out the ice

Donna and Bruce Jeffery 'skate out the ice' after Championship Day. The sweaters belonged to Bruce's mum and dad and were knit by Bruce's mum.

Photo by Gisele Cyr.



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Michael
Braun





MOMENTUM
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