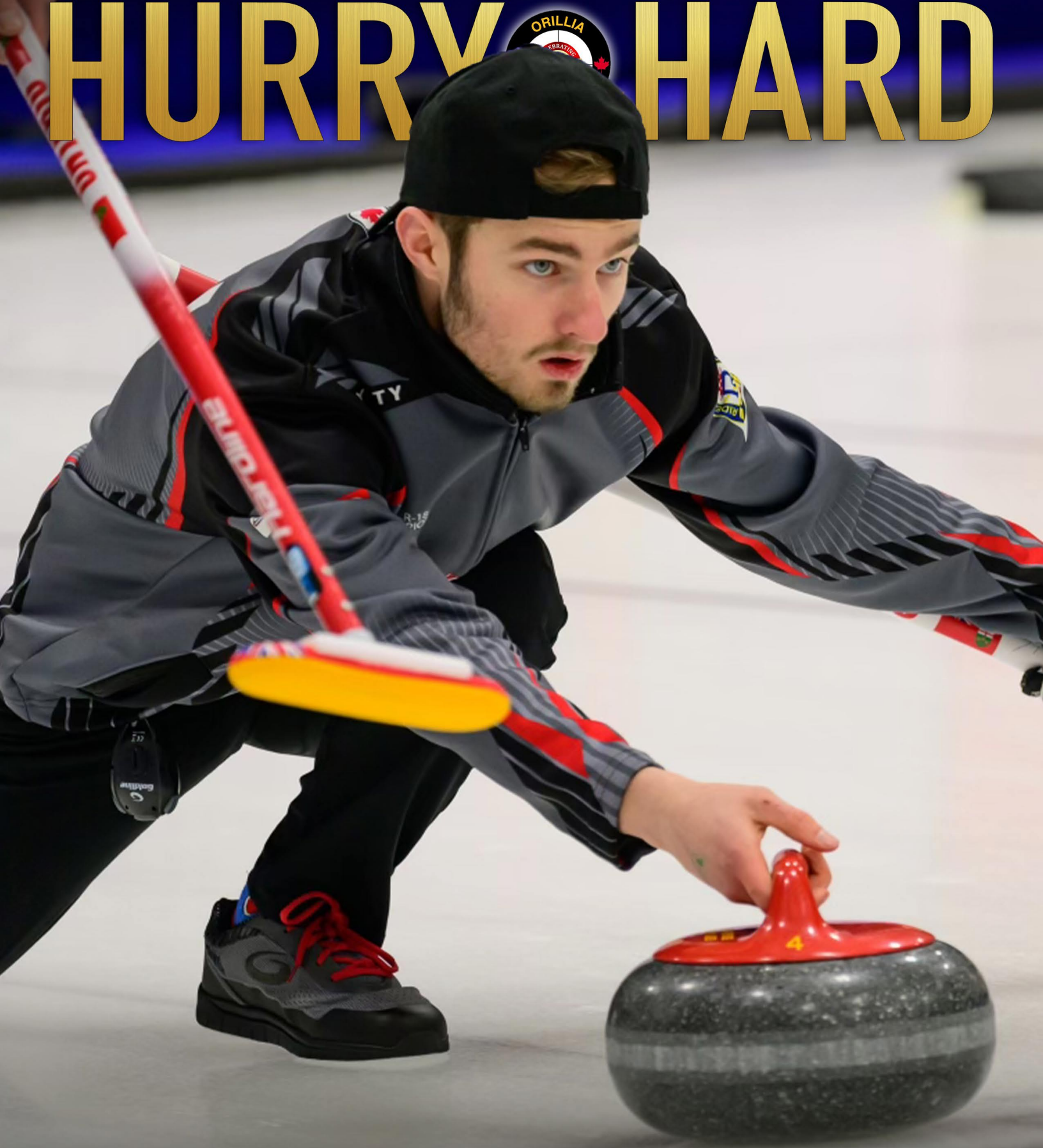


THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ORILLIA CURLING CLUB

# HURRY UP HARD





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**Orillia Curling Club**  
Est. 1873

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Cover Photo: Kole O'Connor throwing a curling rock | Image Supplied  
Back Cover Photo: Kole O'Connor | Image Supplied

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Website: orilliacurlingclub.ca



# Kole O'Connor

Earlier on this month, one of our very own OCC members, headed off to Ottawa to take part in the U-18 National Curling Championships.

Kole O'Connor is a very prevalent member of our club, and this year he ended up joining a team to try and test his luck in competitive curling.

After a lot of games played, Kole and his team, known as Team Nicholls, deserved the right to represent our province as Team Ontario 2.

On February 4th. Team Nicholls played their first national game against Northern Ontario 9-3.

Team Ontario 2 was looking hot out of the gate but was then humbled later that afternoon with an unexpected 9-8 extra end loss to PEI.

The team shook it off and prepared for their game the following morning. At the end of pool play, Team Ontario 2 ended with a 3-3 record securing them a spot in the playoffs. After an amazing performance by both teams, Team Ontario 2 lost to Alberta in their first playoff game eliminating their shot at a medal.

In the end, the boys played amazing finishing as the 10th best U-18 team in Canada. Kole would like to thank all the members of the OCC for being a supportive part of his curling journey and can't wait for more adventures to come next season.



# OCC 150th Anniversary Story #3

## School Curling at the Orillia Curling Club

High School Curling has a robust history in the Orillia Curling Club and Marcel Rousseau has been instrumental in posting information regarding this topic on the FaceBook Group “Orillia Past and Present”.

From these articles and School Yearbook information, it appears that Highschool curling has been alive and well since 1958. In some years there were up to 40 students participating.

ODCVI and Twin Lakes were quite active on the Curling Scene for many years. At ODCVI, Mr. Don Farlinger, Mr. Jefferies and later Mr. Bill Wilson coordinated the curling program from 1958 until at least 1982. Twin Lakes came on the scene in 1973 and continue to this day to offer a curling program. Dave Lankin was instrumental in coordinating this program for many years, from 1973 to 1986.

In 1976-77 there were 15 high school teams playing in an intramural league from October to March from the 3 high schools. Although there are only pictures from 1965-66 from Park Street, one can assume that Park Street may have been involved for multiple years, in addition to 1965-66.

It appears that Patrick Fogarty began their curling program in 2003-04, according to these sources. Orillia Secondary School has not as yet fielded any competitive curling teams. There has been success along the way with the Orillia high school programs. In 1975-76 the team of Paul Harvey (Sk), Bob French (V), Ted Harvey (2nd) and Dave Gill (L), representing O.D.C.V.I. qualified to go to the provincials, placing 5th overall.

In 2011 the girls' team of Amy Heitzner/Holly Donaldson (SK), Taylor Ley (V), Samm Goldsmith (2nd), Emily Heirons (L) from Patrick Fogarty captured the Gore Mutual Provincial Title. And in 2012, the girls' team of Amy Heitzner (SK), Taylor Ley (V), Kendra Griffiths (2nd) and Samm Goldsmith (L), again captured the Gore Provincial Title representing Patrick Fogarty. That is quite the accomplishment!

This year high school curling continues, with Twin Lakes fielding a boys' team and girls' team coordinated by Elaine Armstrong, and Patrick Fogarty fielding one girls' team coordinated by Cheryl Devine. The Orillia Curling Club continues to support the schools by providing ice time at no cost, along with coaching support. Tom Ormsby has been involved for a few years with the Twin Lakes Program, and Brian Peterson and Charlene Ley have been lending a hand to help the high school curling Coordinators build skills in their athletes. In addition, we are hoping that by offering curling Field trip opportunities to grade 7 & 8 classes, participants might join high school curling programs, which often develops into a lifelong activity.

Take a look at the pictures and names of the athletes. Odds are you may know quite a few of them.

Charlene Ley

# OCC 150th Anniversary Story Photos



Curling  
Executive

L-R: Mr. Allison, Bari Behan, Baxter Stephenson, Carol Tytler, Dave Broadway.  
47 1961-62 Pge. 47



CURLING

Barb Girard, Pres.; Pam Dickey, Vice-Pres.; Lynn Heron, Sec. and Treas.  
1968-69 Pge. 138 ODCVI

The club consisted of about forty members and many of them travelled to other places for bonspiels. A team skipped by Barb Girard, Pam Dickey, vice, Mary Beth Sanders, second, and Bev Girard holding the lead position, entered the Jr. Ladies' Tankard Meet in Cookstown. Although they did not win they put up a good fight.



1973-74 ODCVI Oricolle

## CURLING

High school curling serves a dual purpose. It is a recreational league for boys from the 3 Orillia secondary schools, but it also trains boys to enter provincial competitions. Since we lost a number of boys from last year who went on to university, this has been a successful rebuilding year with quite a few new grade 9's involved.

The boys curl on Mondays and Thursdays. Our team of Bill Dickey, Bruce Casselman, Roger Ledlow, Paul Harvey entered Ontario School Playdowns and were finalists for Division 10B. The team of John MacDonald, Bob French, Brent Burgin and Don MacDonald won the consolation event at G.B.S.S.A.. A total of 26 boys from O.D. curled this year, coached by Mr. W.B. Wilson.

A team of Bill Dickey, Paul Harvey, John MacDonald and a Park Street student represented Division 10 in the Ontario Provincial Junior Tankard finals at East York. Although the team did not win, congratulations are extended to the boys for being among the 16 top teams in the province.

Pictured at left are club members. FRONT ROW: Stewart Showers, Rick Clark, Stephen Hutchings, Brent Burgin, Paul Harvey. BACK ROW: Dave Gill, Mr. Wilson, Don MacDonald, Eric Thomas, John MacDonald, Bob French, Bill Boismier.

# OCC 150th Anniversary Story Photos



This Saturday January 18 these youngsters of the O.D. C.Y.L. curling club will take on curling rinks from Midland  
 Bracebridge, Parry Sound and Gravenhurst, at the local rink. Three draws are scheduled. The winner of this event will go to Lindsay for the Ontario playoffs. Rink on left consists of Skip Gord Hopkins, vice, Herb Young, second Doug Botchett and lead Dave Reynolds. The other one of Skip John Dick, vice Ed Ansdell, second Don Evans and lead Dave Lanika.

## 1985-86 Twin Lakes Page 69

What staff member was in charge of Teen Talk?

### BOYS CURLING CLUB

Back:  
 Chris Townes, Gord Tupling, Don Ball, Rob Wrigley, Reg Ricci

Front:  
 Ted Burrows, Phil Welsh, Scott Black, Lonnie Burgin, Rick Green

Absent:  
 Greg Grimshaw, Steve Davidson



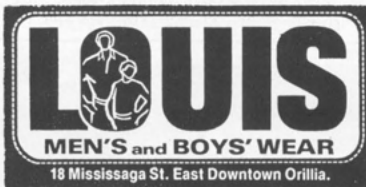
### SENIOR BOYS TEAM

Back:  
 Don Ball

Front:  
 Phil Welsh, Scott Black, Lonnie Burgin

### JUNIOR BOYS TEAM (below)

Chris Townes, Gord Tupling, Rick Green, Reg Ricci



### GIRLS CURLING

T. Parr, J. Gowanlock, D. Farrell, N. Dunlop, L. Welsh,



## CURLING

1977-78 Twin Lakes



### BOYS CURLING

Our Boys Curling Team was composed of Terry McCrea skip, Paul Godward vice, Dave Knox second, and Al Scott lead. They won division 10 of the Ontario School Boys Competition and competed in the Ontario Junior Tankard and Georgian Bay playdowns.

### CURLING

Beck D. Knox, A. Scott, R. Dack, G. Till, J. Calder, S. Smith,  
 Middle A. Binns, N. Clute, L. O'Connell, K. McFarlan, F. Godward, N. Farr, R. Fike,  
 D. Lemkin,  
 Front D. Breckles, E. Naw, S. Kehoe, P. Burke, N. Bruce,

# OCC 150th Anniversary Story Photos

1981-82 Oricolle page 82

## curling

### "A" Team Rebuilds; Ingram/Graham Rink Wins House League.

The Varsity team members skipped by Ken Price were Shane Agnew, Dave Ingram and Jamie Cook. This was a building year for this team which showed well in most events.

They competed in the Ontario Junior men's playdowns, the Ontario School Boy GBSSA playdowns for Zones 1-3, where they defeated the highly rated Innisdale team before being eliminated in the semifinals. This team practised on Wednesdays and competed in the men's competitive section at the curling club.

The intramural league competed on Mondays and Thursdays after school from October to March. The champion of this league was the team of Jeff Graham, Dave Ingram, Mike Ianni, and Dale Eden. Rookie of the year for the league was Tom Burns.



"A" Team: Left to Right: Jamie Cook, Ken Price, Mr. Wilson (Coach), Shane Agnew, Dave Ingram.



Sitting: Left to Right: Mike Ianni, Ken Price, Jamie Cook, Shane Agnew, Keith Thompson. Standing: Tom Burns, Bill Goffen, Dale Eden, Tony Ianni, Jeff Graham, Craig Stephens, Mr. Wilson (Coach).

1976-77 Oricolle O.D.C.V.I. Centennial

### Boys' Curling

This year, curling activity consisted of fifteen teams from the three high schools who competed from October to March. Bob French claimed the City Championship for the second straight year. Curling with French were John McIntyre and Don Peacock. The runners up were Ray Billett and his team of Bob Goddard, Craig Maltby and Mike Showers.

The interschool team had a large success this year but this was not without hard work. The team of Skip - Paul Harvey, Vice - Bob French, Second - Ted Harvey, and Lead - Dave Gill, in the Winter Games, won its division and was defeated in interdivision play in an extra end by last year's Provincial School Boy Champion. In the Imperial Life Junior Tankard, OD was second in the province. The hard work of the coach, Mr. Wilson, was greatly appreciated by all.



ABOVE FRONT: Cathy Walsh, Leslie Caldwell, Michele Luterbach, Sharon Harvey. BACK: Gail Stephen, Rosa Provansano, Mary Lynn Hagon, Sherry Ralston, Melissa Shaw, Shannon Hurl. RIGHT: O.D.'s girls' curling team, 1976-77.

FRONT: Ted Hewett, Bruce Archer, John Pratt, Craig Maltby, Arnold Hellman, Mark Wensley, Bill Calverly, Phil Cole. 2nd ROW: David Gill, Ted Harvey, Laurence Stephen, Bob Ingram, Craig Stephen, Don Peacock, Bob French. BACK: Clive Spurgeon, Bob Goddard, Brian Windram, Vern Leilow, John Cash, Darcy Luterbach, Mike Brandt, John McIntyre, Mr. Wilson, Coach. BELOW: Ted Harvey, Dave Gill, Paul Harvey, Bob French.



### Girls' Curling

The coaches for the team were Mrs. Barb Udell and Mrs. Sharon Johnston, Orillia Curling Club members. The team consisted of Melissa Shaw - skip, Shannon Hurl - vice, Sharon Harvey - second, and Michele Luterbach - lead. They played well all year and it is hoped that more girls will become involved in curling next year.

1975-76 ODCVI Oricolle



Above Front: Dave Gill, Ted Harvey. Back: Paul Harvey, Mr. Wilson Coach; Bob French. Right Front: Vaughn Barnes, Jeff Burnie, Mike Dodd, Darcy Luterbach, John Pratt. Back: Ted Harvey, Dave Gill, Ray Billett, Paul Harvey, Bob French, Mr. Wilson.



### Curling

At O.D. a dual curling program is run. All the curlers are divided into balanced teams within the school and these play in a league with the other two Secondary Schools in Orillia. The City Championship went to an O.D. rink skipped by Bob French and including Vaughn Barnes, Brian Windrem, and Stewart Showers. Another O.D. rink of Paul Harvey, Eric Thomas, Ray Billett and Mike Dodd won the Consolation event.

In addition a competitive section is also set up for inter-school competition. The team was made up of skip - Paul Harvey, vice - Bob French, second - Ted Harvey and lead - Dave Gill. In the Ontario School Boy Competition, O.D. went undefeated to qualify for the Provincial Finals in Kitchener. They stood a respectable fifth in the classic event in which 175 teams start out.

# Monsignor Lee Hits the Ice!

In January, two classes of Grade 7 & 8 from Monsignor Lee came out twice to experience curling. Each class had approximately 32 students and on the first week, the instructors taught the basics of the game. A couple of weeks later each class returned and after a refresher on the turns and some practice, students participated in a few very enthusiastic ends of play.

We could not run this program without the help of members. For these sessions with Monsignor Lee we acknowledge the following: Nancy Bowers, Bev Brennan, Derek Cox, Chery Duncan, Jerene Edghill, Connor Earl, Cathy Gould, Greg Irvine, Charlene Ley, Randy Ley, Brian Peterson, Paul & Pauline Stewart.

To date the Orillia Curling Club has introduced curling to 137 students. We are hoping to build interest in curling so that when the students graduate and move on to high school, they might consider joining the high school curling programs. Seeing the high school programs grown to what they were in the past would be fantastic.

Here is a picture of one of the Monsignor Lee classes.

Charlene Ley





# Ontario 55+ Winter Games

The recent Ontario Winter Games (55+) provided opportunities to participate in, and watch many exciting sporting events. Of course, curling was the most anticipated of these, and provided spectacular entertainment (I may be biased). The competition was comprised of 16 teams from across the province, competing over the two-day event. Each team curled 3 six end games on the first day, and were then seeded for playoffs the following day, leading to the bronze medal game and championship finale.

The Orillia Curling Club was represented by the team of Skip Cam Devine, Vice Rhonda Thanasse, Second Dave Douse, and Lead Charlene Ley. The first day of competition resulted in 3 wins for the local side, giving them first place in their pool. No one was surprised at this, aside from the four team members (3 games in one day, at this age!?!). This left the team in the running for medals. Unfortunately, the first game of the playoff round resulted in a tough, closely contested loss. The team then rebounded for a strong win, giving them a 5th place finish in the competition.

The local side attracted many spectators from the area to cheer them on. There were also some former members of the club as well as those from out of town who made the trek to see and cheer on old friends. Encouraging comments on social media such as “This team curled like days of old” and “You guys played so well! A joy to watch and cheer on” were well received by the team. It was nice to see all of the spectators cheering on the Orillia side, enjoying curling (and the occasional libation).

Aside from the strong play of the foursome, it must be highlighted how much competitiveness, sportsmanship and dedication to the sport that they displayed. They came to play, they competed hard, showed respect at all times, and they had fun! And that is what these games should be about. All in all, they certainly did the Orillia Curling Club proud!

Randy Ley



# Ladies Invitational Bonspiel

The 2024 Orillia Ladies Invitational Bonspiel was held on Saturday February 10th with teams from Baysville, Elmvale, Bradford, Collingwood, 3 teams from Coldwater and 3 teams from Orillia.

The theme this year was “Forever Plaid” and the ladies brought out the plaid with their unique and hilarious costumes! Best costume went to Coldwater Team – “Lumber Jacks” – Linda Robinson, Jane Langman, Barb Brady and Mary Wilson.

A special thank you goes out to this year’s bonspiel sponsors - Wes Brennan Construction and Lake Country Office Solutions for their generous support. Two 8-end games were played with a delicious lunch and dessert provided by the Bayshore Restaurant. Between games, the ladies had fun with a game of Welly Wanging, Corn Hole and Table Top Curling with prizes going to the winners of each game.

First place winning team with a score of 35 was from Orillia – Sue Crawford, Lenore Creighton, Merrylynn Fleming and Nancy Amos. Second place team with a score of 34.75 from Elmvale – Diane Kenney, Mary Lynn VanderWielen, Joanne Downey and Sue Henry. Third Place team with a score of 31.25 from Baysville – Elaine Rowlands, Lili Davis-Buchart, Liz Ross and Karen Semple and Fourth Place team with a score of 27 from Collingwood – Sandra Schmidt, Claire Gingrich, Debra Moore and Libby Faggiani. Congratulations to all the winning teams!

The Orillia Curling Club raised \$400 on the sale of 50/50 tickets with two names drawn for \$100 each were Karma Hepburn and Leslie Ellins. A shout out to our bonspiel committee for this year’s theme, decorating and running of the games on Saturday go to Janet Orser-Madigan, Vivian Nicholson and Karen Strain.



# Ladies Invitational Bonspiel



# Valentines Day Spiel

The club was awash in red on Valentine's day as the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Mixed Tag leagues took to the ice for a fun-filled mini-spiel.

The day featured two 4-end games with some mystery scoring and position rotations to mix things up a bit. Teams were made up by tag draw and switched for game 2. A great time was had by all with lots of laughter and almost everyone went home with a prize.

Top score was 31 points and three ladies shared the First Place honours: Sharlene Martin, Sharon Balkwill and Jan Boss.

Second place, with 30 points, went to Ted Fleming. Liz Rosa took the consolation prize for the low score, and Jan Boss also walked away with the honour of earning 6 Hearts for hogged rocks and through-the-house draws.

Congratulations everyone, and we look forward to our 3rd annual Valentine's Spiel next year!!



# Kingsborough Mixed Bonspiel

Kingsborough Mixed Bonspiel in Coldwater-Feb 24.

The Martin team representing the Orillia Curling Club with Sharlene and Wayne at back end while Bill and Cathy Miller managed the front end.

The Orillia team had victories over a team from Hamilton and a local Coldwater team to capture the overall championship at the recent Bonspiel in Coldwater.

There were 16 teams competing for the coveted Kingsborough Trophy.



# Family Day Bonspiel

On February 17th the club hosted our annual Family Day Spiel.

2x 4 end games, lunch and then a 6 end game with rotating positions. This has become a huge hit, especially with newer curlers who would never otherwise be exposed to Skip and Vice positions. Needless to say, everyone had fun and if scores did mean anything, Kevin Bennett and his team 3 Bolts and 1 Nut took home first place.

The card toss event was a great way to even up the scores with the “sharp shooters. Everyone had a playing card, and while standing on the carpet would toss it (hockey card style) towards the rings. Top 3 cards closest to the button received points.

The Spiel was attended by curlers of all ages and experiences. We say this because it was wonderful to watch 11 year old Spencer Johnson , one of our junior curlers, take to the ice from 9am to 4pm, with the patience and skill that put many of us to shame! Its great to see the younger generation coming through the club.

We look forward to next year and thank everyone who participated in this fun event.



# Family Day Bonspiel cont'd

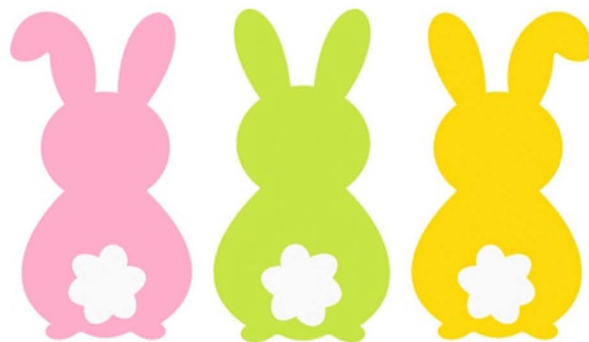


# Senior Ladies Interclub Bonspiel

The Day Ladies will be hosting an all-day bonspiel on Thursday, March 21st.

It is the Simcoe Senior Ladies Interclub Bonspiel. It is open to all of our women curlers (over the age of 50!)

**HOP TO IT!**



**ORILLIA SENIOR LADIES INTERCLUB BONSPIEL**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**TAG DRAW - TWO 6-END GAMES WITH LUNCH**

**SIGN IN BY 9:30 - FIRST GAME AT 10:00**

**\$30 Cash at Registration Desk**

**Signup Sheet in Women's Locker Room**



# Youth Curling

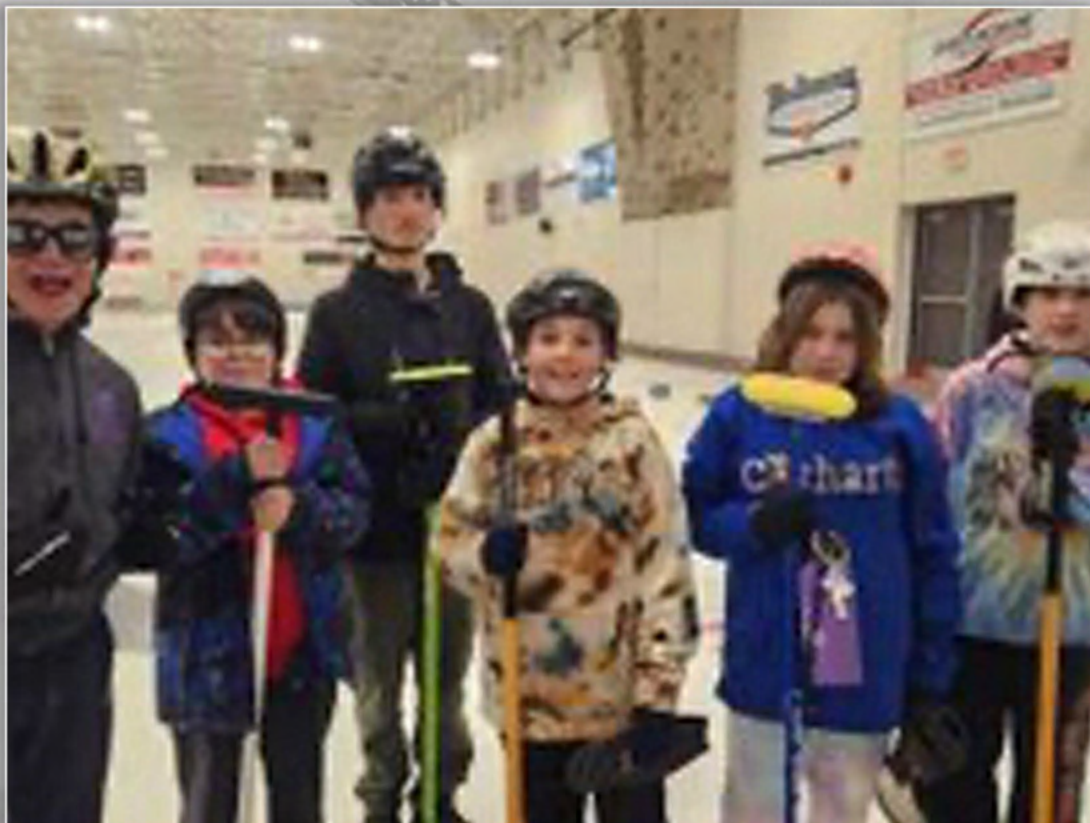
Youth Curling at Orillia Curling Club has had a fantastic year!

Twelve youth curlers enjoyed learning the game. Each week we warmed up with curling drills to improve balance and delivery techniques and finished each session with a short game. Drinking a cup of hot chocolate afterwards was also a favourite way to end each lesson.

Our group celebrated their success with a pizza party! Each of these youth curlers have greatly improved their skills and knowledge of the game.

This league could not continue without our volunteers who give instruction and encouragement to the kids. A huge thank-you to Brian Peterson and Joey Szijarto!

Karen Szijarto  
Youth Curling Co-ordinator



# Starry Starry Nights!

The Orillia Day Ladies are planning their closing bonspiel on the last Tuesday of the season -- March 19th.

It will be one eight end game in the morning and a six end game in the afternoon followed by prizes.

There will be morning coffee/tea and snacks and lunch with dessert served after the second game. Our theme this year is "Starry Starry Nights" using the midnight blue and the silver stars of the night sky as our colour theme so Blue and Bling. This fun day is open to all Orillia lady curlers, so please spread the word!

LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT AND CHOOSE STARRY STARRY NIGHTS EVENT ON THE RIGHT

## STARRY STARRY NIGHTS

DAY LADIES YEAR END BONSPIEL TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH

**THEME:** DEEP BLUE AND SILVER BRING OUT THE GLITZ  
WE WILL ALSO BE RECOGNIZING THE CURLING STARS OF THE TUESDAY AND THURSDAY DRAWS

**TIME:** ON THE ICE BY 9:30AM  
COME EARLY TO SIGN IN, ENJOY REFRESHMENTS, AND SEEK OUT YOUR TEAM

**COST:** \$30.00 CASH PER PERSON

**INCLUDES:** MORNING REFRESHMENTS  
LUNCH  
8 END GAME IN THE MORNING  
6 END GAME AFTER LUNCH  
PRIZES

**50/50 DRAW:** BRING CASH IF YOU WISH TO PURCHASE TICKETS

# Upcoming Important Dates / Club Notes

## March

***March 19, 2024***

Starry Starry Night!

Barnfield Point Recreation Center | 9:00am - 4:00pm

***March 23, 2024***

DAY OF CHAMPIONS!

Barnfield Point Recreation Center | 9:00am - 4:00pm

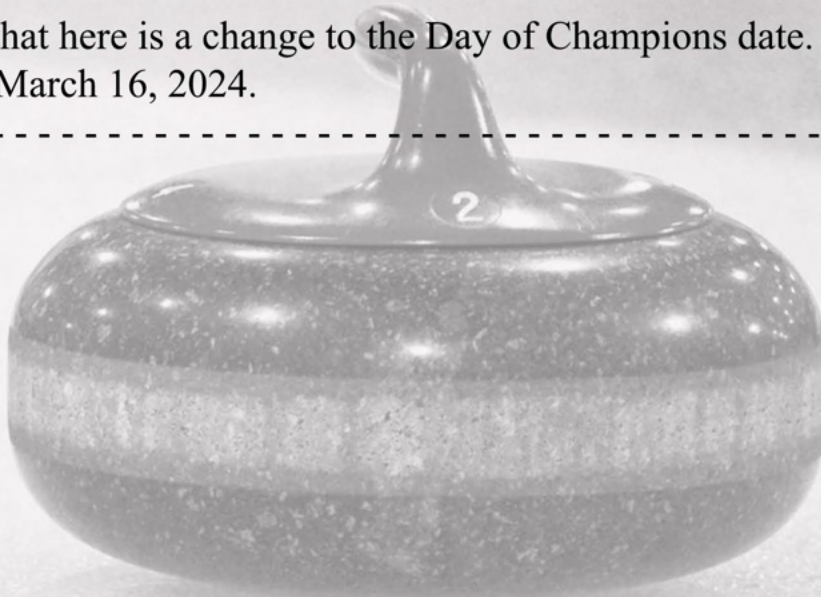
*Check the website under events for further information and to register.*

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### **NOTES**

- Please note that here is a change to the Day of Champions date. The new date is March 23, 2024 and not March 16, 2024.

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O'CONNOR

ON



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