

HURRY HARD





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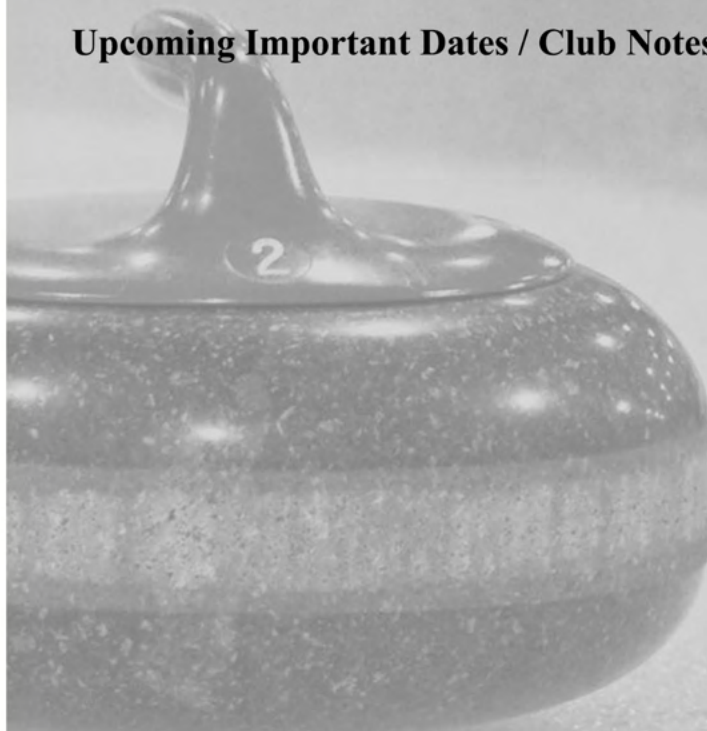
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**Orillia Curling Club
Connor Earl**

in this EDITION

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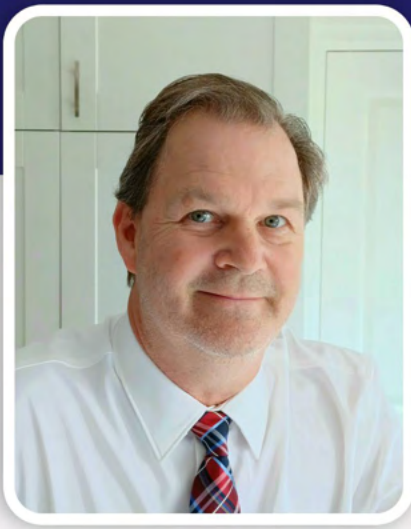
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Est. 1873

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Don's Monthly Message



Hi everyone, Happy New Year!

I hope all of you had a wonderful bit of time off with family and friends.

Debris - We have seen quite a bit of debris on the ice. Please be sure to wear proper footwear and that you use the boot cleaners and sticky mats. Some debris may also be coming from the carpeted areas so be mindful of that.

Practicing prior to games - It has long been asked for a definitive rule on which sheet you should practice on prior to a game. Each club has their own policy on which sheet you can use prior to your game. There are pros and cons to both. I have referred to the World Curling Federation rule book and it states under "Rules of Competition", section C4:

(a) Prior to the start of every game at WCF competitions, each team is allowed a pre-game practice on the sheet on which it will be playing. The club will adopt this going forward.

Doubles Spiel - On February 3rd we will be hosting our third annual Doubles Bonspiel.

2 Draws, 9:00 & 11:00 Start Times

2 - 8 End Games beginning with a Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, Games and Prizes.

\$100/Team Mixed or Same Gender Teams Welcome!

For More Information contact Jonathan Woolhouse @ jcwoolhouse@rogers.com

Click here to register!

55+ Ontario Senior Winter Games - As you may know, we are hosting these games on Wednesday, February 7th, and Thursday February 8th. These games are expected to go on all day so there will be **NO CURLING** on those 2 days.

We are excited and cheering on our 2 Orillia teams consisting of:

Team-1: Cam Devine, Rhonda Thanasse, Dave Douse, Charlene Ley

Team-2: Noella Robert-Kappel, Mike Kappel, Jan Jeffrey, Lorne Jessop

Good Luck!

Family Day Bonspiel - Just posted is our annual Family Day Bonspiel on February 17th.

Open to all Members, their families and friends to come out and enjoy a fun-filled day on the curling rink.

Don's Monthly Message



The Day will start at 9:00am with Coffee Tea and Sweets.
2x 4 end games followed by lunch. Then a 6 end game using rotating positions! Ending with prizes.
Enter as a "Family up to 4", or individually and be put with a "Family"!
Cost is \$50 per person. Head on over to the OCC website to registrar.

That's it for now!

Thanks
Don Kinzinger



OCC 150th Anniversary Story #2

Orillia Curling Club (OCC) 150 yrs & Ontario Curling Association (OCA) 149 yrs.

The Orillia Curling Club (OCC) was established in 1873 and has been a member of the OCA since the OCA's inception. Besides Elmvale (formed in 1870), OCC is the oldest in our region and has been a member of the OCA the longest.

Following is an overview of an article entitled "How the OCA Nearly Never Was (A Footnote to History by Lachlan MacTavish)" in the Ontario Curling Association's 1975 Annual Report.

Back in the 1800s, Central Canada, from a curling perspective, was divided into two parts. One was the Ottawa Valley, Montreal and the City of Quebec where the game was played with "irons". The other part where the game was played with granite or some substitute, was the portion of Ontario with Windsor on the West, Cornwall on the East, and Parry Sound on the North.

The use of irons originated in the City of Quebec at the time of its capture by the British, with many of the troops from Scottish regiments wanting to participate in a game they were accustomed to in the Old Country. At the time, importation of granites was impossible, and someone conceived the idea of melting down cannon balls.

From the start of the massive immigration into Upper Canada following the American Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars, particularly the Scots preferred to curl with stones, that they or their fathers had been familiar with. Southern Ontario contained an abundance of stones worn round by glacier and water action and thus a plentiful supply of material from which to make curling stones lay ready at hand.

Both iron and granite curlers were adamant and devoted to their own type of game. The situation worsened through the 1840s, 50s and 60s. It was generally conceded that in the best interest of the game of curling, one of the factions would have to give in, but neither side capitulated.

If it weren't for this unresolved conflict, the Ontario Curling Association would not have come into existence. To explain let's go back in curling history and glance at the administrative arrangements of the early days in Scotland and later in Canada.

The Royal Caledonian Curling Club (RCCC) was established in Edinburgh Scotland, in 1838 and quickly extended its influence in jurisdiction over the whole of Scotland and continues to exercise a strong maternal hand everywhere in the curling world, including international competitions.

About 1841 a branch of the RCCC known as the Canadian branch of the RCCC was organized in Canada with headquarters in Montreal. By 1873 the Canadian Branch had a membership of 39 clubs, 6 were iron-playing clubs in Quebec and the Ottawa Valley while the other 33 were stone-playing clubs in Ontario.

...continued on the next page

OCC 150th Anniversary Story #2

The distances and difficulties of travel in those early days made it next to impossible to arrange bonspiels or inter-area competitions among its member clubs. A few events were nevertheless arranged with quite unsatisfactory results mainly because of the differences in the curling instruments used in play.

Another important issue was that the headquarters of the Canadian Branch was in Montreal which made it difficult, if not impossible for representatives of Ontario clubs to attend meetings; thus, they had no active voice in the policies and management of the Branch. This left the control of its affairs in the hands of the half-dozen iron-playing clubs of the Quebec region, although the stone-playing clubs in Ontario formed no less than 5/6 of its total membership.

This situation could not be tolerated indefinitely and so on 9 March 1874 an all-important step took place at the Toronto Curling Club, where a resolution was passed to petition the RCCC to establish a branch for the province of Ontario, with its headquarters in Toronto.

Within a month, petitions from 37 clubs in Ontario and other pertinent documents were submitted to and the petition granted by the Royal Club at its annual meeting on July 25.

The clubs that had signed the initiating petitions (Orillia included) met in Toronto on 22 December of that same year, 1874 to organize an association with rules and regulations for its guidance, subject, to the rules and regulations of the Royal Caledonia Curling Club, and that the said branch of the Province of Ontario, shall report its proceedings to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for approval.

In 1892, the Ontario Branch cut the one remaining tie it had with the Royal Club by changing its name to the Ontario Curling Association. The OCA remains to this day in proud affiliation with the RCCC and supports its work and traditions.

These were the circumstances that brought the OCA into being over a century ago and which the Orillia Curling Club was part of.

Charlene Ley

BOCCE Curling Night!

BOCCE Curling Night was a hit with the Wednesday Night Ladies on December 13, 2023!

22 ladies took part in Bocce on ice where scoring closest to the pallino/jack was the goal and our favourite Christmas sweaters also made an appearance. It was a fun filled night of pairs curling and socializing with food and prizes.

1st place - Lenore Creighton & Charlene Ley

2nd place - Cathy Miske & Jill Rettinger

Team making the most friends - Kristen & Abby Keown

Bringing home the Bacon - Abby Keown & Lydia Courtney

We thank Charlene for organizing the fun format and everyone who came out and participated in this wonderful event and hope to see all of you again in 2024!

Karen Strain



Day Ladies

Day Ladies Tuesday and Thursday Fall Draw Winners

Tuesday Winners

First Place: Karma Hepburn, Kathy McIsaac,
Barb Murkar, Barb Bull

Second Place: Delaine Payton, Sue Crawford,
Dorothy Hills, Gail Smith

Third Place: Donna Force, Cathy Howes,
Karen Semple, Julie Roberts



Thursday Winners

First Place: Karma Hepburn, Irene Heinz, Debrah Rabbitts, Merry Lynn Flemming

Second Place TIED:

Gaby Hart, Janet Mitchell, Mary Wilson, Gail Smith

Delaine Payton, Anne Collins, Jerene Edghill, Rosie Hannon

Day Ladies 2023 Christmas Bonspiel

This year's Christmas Bonspiel was a great day of curling and games. All six sheets were full with lots of elves at play. The bonspiel consisted of two six-end games, and curlers also competed for prizes playing a variety of red solo cup challenges between games. Elie provided a wonderful lunch while tickets were sold for a 50/50 draw and a prize basket. Cathy Miller won the prize basket and Pam Goring was the lucky 50/50 draw winner. \$250 was raised for the club.

Thank you to our sponsors Wes Brennan Construction and Jim Wilson Chevrolet and thanks as well to all bonspiel organizers and volunteers – Bev Brennan, Gaby Hart, Mary Wilson, Jane Langman, Vera Smith, Liz Ross, and Mary Jo Robertson.

Day Ladies Fun Day

Our Fun Day was held on December 14 – a six-end game with CRAZY SCORING! All players contributed a toonie and the winning team took all. After the game we enjoyed some social time with Christmas crackers and chocolate Santas donated by Delaine Payton.



Day Ladies



Santa Spiel Winners



Ladies Invitational Bonspiel

Ladies Invitational Bonspiel - Saturday February 10, 2024.

Asking the female members to please register online if they would like to join our bonspiel for this date.

Registrar asap as spots do fill up!

Orillia Ladies Invitational Bonspiel

Saturday February 10, 2024

Hosted by The Orillia Curling Club

\$200 entry fee per team
Coffee and muffins in the morning
plus lunch and treats

Cash prizes! Two eight end games
Registration at 9:00 am
First game starts at 10:00 am

Theme

FOREVER PLAID!

Prize for the best
costume!

RSVP by | January 20, 2024 - Register online at
www.orilliacurlingclub.ca

For more info contact Janet Orser-Madigan
705-323-6262 curlincats@rogers.com

Steal the Turkey!

Steal the Turkey and Gift Basket – Compliments of Wes Stitt, Broker RE/MAX

A couple of Steal the Turkey and Gift Basket events were held at both the Tuesday night Men's league and the Thursday Night Mixed league.

Thank you to Wes Stitt, Broker RE/MAX Rouge River Realty Ltd. Brokerage – serving – Toronto, Durham, Orillia Areas 416-258-6461 who brought this fun activity and provided the gifts.

The Rules were easy! First person to get a double takeout moves the Turkey and Gift Basket to the top of their sheet. The next curler to get a double would steal the Turkey and Gift Basket in a sleeky Grinch style. It was lots of fun and a nice Christmas treat to the final thieves.

Congratulations to Richard Jones who won the prize on Tuesday and Mark Finnegan who won it on Thursday night.



Pay to Play!

Pay to Play Action December 3rd.

We had 19 participants at the Sunday Pay to Play on December 3rd from 2:00 to 4:00pm.

Lake Country Probus joined in the fun with a Learn to Curl with a Stick program delivered by Brian Peterson, Bill Baker with assistance from Greg Irvine and Sandy Furzecott. Everyone must have had a great time because I overheard the group planning on a follow up visit.

In the far corner we had John and Ann with their grandson joined by Ley and his son. The two boys were the youngest curlers on the ice and they did very well. Every time I looked over, they had huge grins on their faces. Future Youth League members for sure.

Spencer, one of our youth members, along with his dad joined the rest of the participants and fit in very well with his skill acquired from curling in the youth league. They had a well-played friendly game.

Pay to Play Sundays from 2:00 – 4:00 continue in the winter season with all the dates listed in the events section of the Website.

It's a perfect way for people to be introduced to curling with many returning to build on their skills. So please share this opportunity with folks when you can. Remember if you are bringing friends or family, make sure you have everyone register online including yourself so we know the number of participants beforehand.



50/50

Pete Speedie was all smiles after winning \$95 in the Monday CYO 50/50 draw on December 11th.



Upcoming Important Dates / Club Notes

January

January 27, 2024

Nuts and Bolts Bonspiel

Barnfield Point Recreation Center | 9:00am - 5:00pm

February

February 3, 2024

Doubles Bonspiel

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

Wednesday, February 7th, and Thursday February 8th.

NO CURLING due to the Ontario 55+ Winter Games

February 10, 2024

Ladies "Forever Plaid" Invitational Bonspiel

Barnfield Point Recreation Center | 9:00am - 5:00pm

February 14, 2024

Valentines Day

February 17, 2024

Family Day Bonspiel

Barnfield Point Recreation Center | 9:00am - 5:00pm

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

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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