

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ORILLIA CURLING CLUB

HURRY HARD



in this EDITION



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Est. 1873

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Cover Photo: Orillia Sunshine Rockers | Barb Horne
Back Cover Photo: Curling Rocks at the Orillia Curling Club | Connor Earl

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Nuts & Bolts Bonspiel

Article by: Rob Town

Another year and another great event with 48 curlers enjoying a day of fun on the ice.

It was our 8th year hosting the event and Andrea and I seem to have finally found the formula to win our own event. Joking aside, it was with great irony that Andrea chose the nut for my bolt and together with vice Cathy Dowd and second Randy Ley, we happened to just outscore Tim Kent for the grand prize of our names on the trophy.

Close behind were teams headed by Andrew Elias and Steve Donald. Euchre scores were added to complicate the already complicated scoring system that produced the unusual result of Doug Langman's (1-3 record) finishing fifth ahead of Ray Little (3-1) in sixth.

Top Euchre team was Dave Thanasse and Julie Allison who scored an amazing 20 points in one 8 hand section. They scored 32 points overall in 24 hands, which can be played in about 45 minutes surprisingly.

Again thanks this year to Andrea who procured prizes from local restaurants so that every player went home with a gift card of \$15. Please use these vouchers and support and thank the restaurants for helping us out.

Ildi Conner donated some prizes as did Elie from the bar. Of particular note, Ildi donated an official Swedish Yellow Jersey signed by Wayne Middaugh and this was auctioned off for \$130 at the end of the night.

Things wrapped up at 5:30 and we were happy for another successful year and some funds raised for the club.

>Photos on the next page<



Sunshine Rockers Rock at Area Tournament

Article by: Barb Horne

One Special Olympics Orillia Sunshine Rockers team competed at Tankard Playdowns in Midland December 14. The team played well, were placed in A division (against some pretty good teams), and even though they did not advance to SW Ontario, it was a great experience for this newly formed team. Congratulations Team Chamberlain: skip Dennis Chamberlain, vice Evan Pittam, second Carolyn Miller, and lead David Pratt.

On January 11, two teams went to Gravenhurst to compete in their annual SO fun bonspiel, with Team Chamberlain placing first and Team Druer placing 8th. Team Chamberlain: skip Dennis Chamberlain, vice Evan Pittam, second Carolyn Miller, and lead Thomas Parr. Team Druer: skip Albert Druer, vice David Pratt, and second/lead Branson Mahler.

Orillia Curling team at Tankard Playdowns in Midland this past weekend. The team played well, were placed in A division (against some pretty good teams), and even though they did not advance to the next level what a great experience for them! Congratulations to Dennis, Evan, Dave and Carolyn 🙌



Rising Stars on the Ice

Article by: Charlene Ley

Young Curlers Shine in Focused Practice Session

On February 2nd, Jett Klumper and Oliver Winch took advantage of the Pay to Play session to sharpen their curling skills. As the two youngest curlers in the club, they were eager to learn and improve under the guidance of their coaches, Ann and John Willemse.

Joining them on the ice were Ley Winch, along with Riley and Grace Winch, who brought their experience and expertise to the session. With great focus and determination, Jett and Oliver demonstrated impressive progress in their curling abilities.

Their hard work is paying off, and we look forward to seeing their continued growth in the sport.

Good Curling!



Monsignor Lee students take on the ice!

Article by: Charlene Ley

On January 16th, Brandon Piitz brought 17 students from his class at Monsignor Lee Catholic School for their second session of the School Learn to Curl Program. The students have been eagerly taking to the ice, learning the fundamentals of this unique and challenging sport.

As part of their experience, the students wrote about their impressions of curling. Here are some of their thoughts:

"I wasn't sure what to expect from curling, but it was so much fun! The sliding and sweeping part was harder than I thought."

"Curling is definitely a challenging sport! At first, I was worried I was going to fall all over the ice, but by the second class, I started getting the hang of it. Sweeping was tougher than I thought, but it's cool how it affects the stone."

"I'm really enjoying curling, even though I'm still figuring out how to make the stone curl properly. It was a lot of trial and error, but it's fun! I was so sore the next day!"

The students were guided by a fantastic team of instructors, including Connor Earl, Charlene Ley, Tom Ormsby, Brian Peterson, Don Ruggles, and Paul and Pauline Stewart. Their dedication and expertise have been instrumental in introducing these young athletes to the sport and helping them improve their skills.

It has been a joy to witness the students' enthusiasm and determination as they continue to develop their curling techniques. Their willingness to listen, learn, and adapt to the sport has made the experience even more rewarding for both the participants and the instructors. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow and enjoy the sport in future sessions!



Kilt Curling at the Orillia Curling Club

Article by: Charlene Ley

This past Sunday, February 9th, the Orillia Curling Club hosted a unique and lively event following the Scottish Festival's "Kilt Skate" portion. Participants swapped their skates for sliders and took to the ice for the "Kilt Curl" session from 2-4 pm, blending the rich traditions of both Scotland and curling.

Curlers were given a grand entrance, being piped and drummed onto the ice before learning the art of delivering granite stones down the sheet. With curling's deep roots in Scotland, it was a fitting way to honor the sport's heritage while bringing new faces to the game.

Orillia Curling Club, one of Canada's oldest curling clubs established in 1873, continues to welcome newcomers to the sport. With only five more Sunday Pay-to-Play Learn to Curl sessions left in the season, now is the perfect time to introduce friends and family to this fantastic winter pastime. Spread the word and join us on the ice!



Scotties Tournament of Hearts

Article by: Connor Earl

As February is upon us, a reminder that the world-famous ‘Scotties Tournament of Hearts’ will take centre stage in Thunder Bay, Ontario beginning February 14, 2025, with the championship game being played on February 23, 2025.

18 teams will take to the ice for some epic throws and stunning shots that only we at the Orillia Curling Club could dream of.

And speaking of the Orillia Curling Club, our very own honorable member Vic Rauter whose voice we all know will once again be hosting the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

We wish him, all the hosts, and all the teams and players the best of luck in Thunder Bay.

For those who want to schedule viewing parties, the game and time schedule has been posted below, thanks to ‘TSN/Scotties Tournament of Hearts’.



DATE	TIME (MT)	A	B	C	D
Fri., Feb. 14	7 p.m.	SK vs. NO	CA vs. PE	AB-SK vs. NB	BC vs. AB-ST
Saturday, Feb. 15	2 p.m.	QC vs. MB-L	MB-C vs. NT	NL vs. MB-E	ON vs. NS
	7 p.m.	AB-ST vs. NU	AB-SK vs. BC	CA vs. NO	PE vs. SK
Sunday, Feb. 16	9 a.m.	NS vs. YT	NL vs. ON	MB-C vs. MB-L	NT vs. QC
	2 p.m.	CA vs. AB-SK	NO vs. AB-ST	BC vs. SK	NB vs. NU
	7 p.m.	MB-C vs. NL	MB-L vs. NS	ON vs. QC	MB-E vs. YT
Monday, Feb. 17	9 a.m.	NO vs. BC	SK vs. NB	NU vs. PE	AB-ST vs. AB-SK
	2 p.m.	MB-L vs. ON	QC vs. MB-E	YT vs. NL	NS vs. NL
	7 p.m.	PE vs. NB	BC vs. NU	NO vs. AB-SK	SK vs. CA
Tuesday, Feb. 18	9 a.m.	NT vs. MB-E	ON vs. YT	MB-L vs. NL	QC vs. MB-C
	2 p.m.	AB-SK vs. SK	NB vs. CA	PE vs. AB-ST	NU vs. NO
	7 p.m.	NL vs. QC	MB-E vs. MB-C	NT vs. NS	YT vs. MB-L
Wednesday, Feb. 19	9 a.m.	NB vs. AB-ST	PE vs. NO	SK vs. NU	CA vs. BC
	2 p.m.	MB-E vs. NS	NT vs. MB-L	QC vs. YT	MB-C vs. ON
	7 p.m.	NU vs. CA	AB-ST vs. SK	NB vs. BC	AB-SK vs. PE
Thursday, Feb. 20	9 a.m.	YT vs. MB-C	NS vs. QC	MB-E vs. ON	NL vs. NT
	2 p.m.	BC vs. PE	NU vs. AB-SK	AB-ST vs. CA	NO vs. NB
	7 p.m.	ON vs. NT	YT vs. NL	NS vs. MB-C	MB-L vs. MB-E
Friday, Feb. 21	1 p.m.	Page 1v2 qualifier		Page 1v2 qualifier	
	7 p.m.	Page 3v4 qualifier		Page 3v4 qualifier	
Saturday, Feb. 22	1 p.m.	Page 3v4			
	7 p.m.	Page 1v2			
Sunday, Feb. 23	1 p.m.	Semifinal			
	7 p.m.	Final			

Upcoming Important Dates

February

February 15, 2025

Family Day Bonspiel

Orillia Curling Club | 9:00am - 5:00pm

February 22, 2025

OCC Euchre Night

Orillia Curling Club | 6:00pm - 9:00pm

March

March 1, 2025

Doubles Bonspiel

Orillia Curling Club | 9:00am - 4:00pm

March 6, 2025

Simcoe Ladies Interclub Bonspiel

Orillia Curling Club | 9:00am - 4:00pm

- Open to all OCC Women curlers over 50

- Barrie, Stroud, Bradford and Alliston Curling Clubs invited

March 22, 2025

Day of Champions

Orillia Curling Club | 8:00am - 5:00pm



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