
GERALDTON CURLING CLUB NEWS

DECEMBER 2015



**TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY
FA LA LA LA LA!**

**MIXED NITE – FRIDAY, DEC. 18TH
A, J & J**

(Andre, Jim and John)



*Invite some friends out for an evening
of music and cheer!*

Mother Nature seems to have forgotten that we live in Northern Ontario and are supposed to have a WHITE Christmas! Oh well, she still has 18 more days to make that happen!

CURLING FEES:

THANK YOU to everyone for paying their fees promptly this fall – all fees were collected by mid November which is a record! A reminder to Skips that if you have someone spare for your team that is not a club member, they must pay \$5/game at the bar. **THANK YOU** also to Kirsti Davis & Haley Garvie for helping Karen S. in getting some new members started on Mixed Curling Nights!

CURLING WEEK - DRAW TO THE BUTTON CONTEST:

THANK YOU to Beth Anderson, Darlene Leupen, Steve Anderson, Dave Barker and Brian Aaltonen (and anyone else who helped) in looking after this even and to all of you who participated! Congratulations to AL LUOMALA whose rock covered the pin, and won \$91.50 for first place in our local contest. Runners up were Jeff Birch, (one of our new members 9.2 cm - \$54.90) and Mike Davis (12.5 cm - \$36.60 – hmmm must run in the family as Kirsti was 3rd last year)! This year there were THIRTEEN participants (age 18+) who covered the pin in the Northern Ontario competition so three names were drawn for the prizes with Twila Smitsnuk of Atikokan winning the tickets to the opening week of the Brier, Nick Little (Cobalt-Haileybury) and Darlene Yakimoski (Port Arthur) winning gift cards from Goldline. In the age 12-17 group our local winner was Kiara Gosselin – 78.7 cm! All of the winners can be found on the NOCA website – www.curlno.ca

NOCA (Northern Ontario Curling Association) will be holding another online contest available to members for prizes – details still being finalized – you may need your NOCA membership card # to enter!

A reminder to all members to take advantage of the discounts available to NOCA members from AVIS, BUDGET and BEST WESTERN HOTELS – contact information is on the back of your membership card!

BONSPIELS UPDATE:

Rock Around the Clock – Holiday MIXED SPIEL - Sat. Dec. 26th and Sun. Dec. 27th This is an opportunity to get off the couch and get some exercise during the holidays, as well as visit with friends and family! SIGN UP sheet is on the main club bulletin board! Deadline to enter is Dec. 18th.

Senior Spiel – Saturday, Feb. 27th – poster and sign up sheet on the bulleting board at the club

Ladies Spiel – Mar. 4 – 6 Theme – TV Families

Men's Spiel – Mar. 11 – 13 Dwayne Sutherland will be looking to recruit some volunteers to help organize the 75th anniversary of the Men's Spiel – without help it won't happen!!

Anyone interested in helping out with any of the spiels is asked to contact the chairperson.

JUNIOR CURLING:

THANK YOU to Kirsti Davis and Bev Sivic for helping with our junior program on Wednesdays. Anyone that might be able to lend a hand after Christmas please contact Serena Davis at 854-0693. Registration for the Second Session will take place on Wed. Dec. 16 and/or Wed. Jan. 6.

50/50 DRAW:

A reminder about the weekly 50/50 draw. All members of the club (18+ years old) are eligible to take part in our weekly 50-50 draw. Sign up at the bar – it's only a toonie! Time to buy a lottery ticket or two - Bill Arnott! He has already won TWICE this season!!

NOCA COMPETITIONS:

The Northern Ontario Competition season is now well underway. (See end of newsletter for report from the Assad Team at the National Traveler's Curling Club Championship).

Upcoming deadlines:

December 18 – Bantams

December 22 – Men's West Qualifier

December 30 – Masters Men & Women (age 60+)

January 6 – Scotties

January 8 – Senior Men & Women (age 50+) (Geraldton is scheduled to host the Region 3 Senior event)

January 12 – Men's East Qualifier

January 22 – Traveler's Club Championship (deadline for clubs to declare they will have a rep)

January 29 – Mixed Doubles

February 22 – Mixed

Information on all NOCA competitions – locations, deadline dates etc. has been posted on the Region 3 bulletin board and is available on the NOCA website www.curlno.ca. If you have any questions, contact Karen Saarimaki.

FUNDRAISING:

Looking for an extra **STOCKING STUFFER for Xmas?** **TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE** for an IPAD and a TV to be drawn at our annual windup in May. Tickets are only \$5 and will be available at the bar, from Executive members and at locations around town. Why not pick up a couple?

CURLING EQUIPMENT:

A reminder that Norm Kristjanson has curling equipment for sale through the club – this could make a great Christmas present for someone, at great prices!

OTHER CLUB NEWS:

We purchased twelve more black chairs this Fall for our lounge so now all of our chairs match. We also had RDR Renovations install the last piece of rug on the stairway between the club and the arena, as well as strengthen the railing as per the Town's request. A piece of the lounge floor was also repaired at no cost to us. Bad news this past week – our three door reach-in cooler has died so we are going to purchase a new two door cooler as well as a regular small fridge as a replacement which will cost around \$4000 – this was not something we had planned on!

COMING EVENTS:

Sat. Dec. 12 – Municipality Christmas Party

Wed. Dec. 16 – Ladies League Christmas Social

Thurs. Dec. 17 – Men's League Holiday Pot Luck

Fri. Dec. 18 – Mixed League - Christmas Social – Music by Andre, John, and Jim

Sat. Dec. 19 – Cloutier Contracting Christmas Party

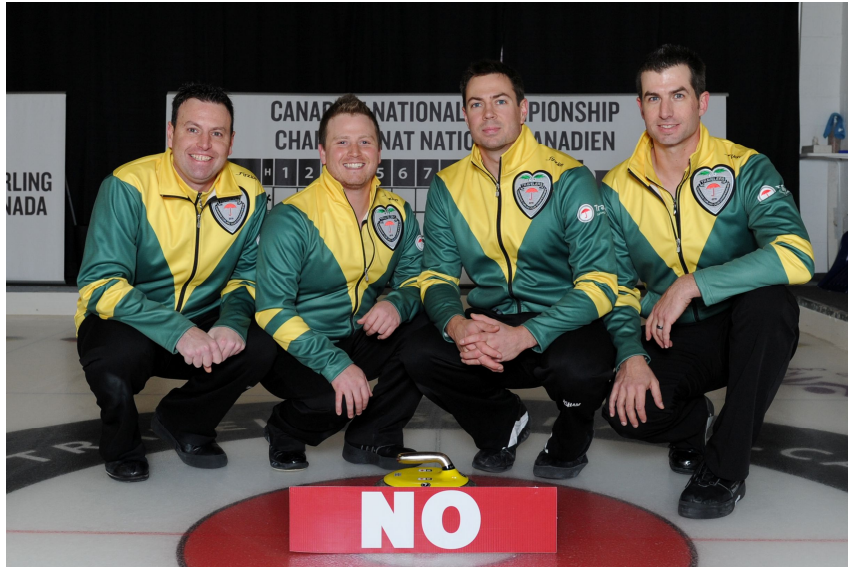
Fri. Dec. 25 – Family Rental

Sat. Dec. 26 & Sun. Dec. 27 – **ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK HOLIDAY MIXED BONSPIEL**

Regular League games will continue until Fri. Dec. 18th then the club will reopen on Monday, Jan. 4th in the NEW YEAR! Don't forget to come out on that last night to hear some great music from A, J & J, and have some Christmas Cheer! And SIGN UP for the Mixed Bonspiel!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!





Traveler's Canadian Curling Championships 2015

The Traveler's Canadian Curling Championships in Ottawa was a first class event right from the start. The club was the nicest we have ever set foot in and the drivers were on hand to take us wherever we needed to be from the second we arrived at the airport to the day that we left. It took many volunteers to put this on and we can't say enough about how smooth the operation was. Not to mention the fantastic luncheons that we were able to enjoy as part of the event.

This was the first year the CCA has run the event as part of the Season of Champions as they have recognized how important club curling is to the grass roots of the game and it felt exactly like any other National curling event has felt in the past. For one week we were able to carry the honor of representing Northern Ontario in the beautiful green and gold and try our best to bring home the title.

We started out 2-0 edging the Northwest Territories and then defeated New Brunswick on our one and only featured streamed game. It was a tough next 2 games as we lost to Manitoba and then to the Yukon on a nail biting game that came down to a nearly made last shot. At 2-2, we knew our backs were against the wall and that we would have to defeat Alberta and B.C. the next day to make the playoffs.

We came out with a strong day and completed the task which left us tied for 2nd in our pool and setup a playoff game against Nova Scotia. We were in control of that game for the first half but gave up a steal of one in the 6th to go down 1 and were heavy on a draw against 3 in the 7th which ended our run at the title.

Northern Ontario was the ONLY province/territory to have two teams make the playoffs after the round robin. The Northern Ontario Women's team skipped by Kathie Jackson from Fort Frances finished the round robin at 5-1, won their quarter final game against Saskatchewan, but came up a little short in the semis against Alberta. Sportsmanship awards were given to one person at each position for both Men and Women – Kathie was the winner at the Skip position for the womens and our own Mitch Shallow was the recipient of the award for Thirds! Congratulations Mitch!!

It was a fantastic week on and off the ice and a great experience for our team as three of us had never been to a National event. This will give us some big game experience that will help us as a team going forward as we make our first run for the Ottawa Brier in March of 2016. We would like to thank the Geraldton Curling Club for all of their support with our fundraising efforts for the Curl for Kids program and for the support for our team at the Provincials and Nationals as well. We raised a grand total of \$3641 and our club was drawn to receive a \$1000 grant from Curling Canada! Congratulations to Cory Nephin who was the winner of the Draw to the Button Contest (\$188) and to Philip Wilson who won the 50/50 draw (\$226)! We would also like to thank our fans that came to support us including our high school friends that reside in Ottawa, Dorothy Sutherland and our youngest fan Dylan Sutherland, and last but not least the Pumpkin Patch and the Hack Pack. Thank you all so much for all your support, it was great having you there!

Mike, Mitch, Andrew & Dwayne - Team Northern Ontario