
GERALDTON CURLING CLUB NEWS



OCTOBER 2015

Well so far none of that white stuff has graced us (not like last year at this time) so hopefully Fall will continue for a few more weeks. The ice installation has started and so far we have had no major hiccups – painting is done, houses installed, and if all goes according to plan we hope to have curling start the week of OCT. 19th!

THANK YOU to everyone who has helped and continues to help out with our ice installation!

We wish Kurt Pristanski best of luck in his retirement from the Hospital, as he has moved his family to Cavers Cove (on the shore of Lake Superior). Jamie Armstrong will also be heading for Cochrane in the near future, so we wish him and his family all the best. Thank you both for the years of service you gave to our club!

CONGRATULATIONS to DAVE BARKER who was awarded a LIFE MEMBERSHIP from our club for all of his years of service, at the Annual Meeting held on October 1st. Dave first joined the club in 1974 and played on a team with Terry Leach, Bob Hendry and Matti Koski. His first position on the Executive was in 1978-79 doing Ice & Draw with Mick Groulx. Dave has also held positions of Vice-President, President, Mixed Chair, Ice & Draw, Men's Club Chair, and has been the Ice Chair for the past twelve seasons. In addition Dave skipped the club team of Brian Aaltonen, Ron Melhuish and Kurt Pristanski to the 2014 Northern Ontario Traveler's Championship and went on to compete at the national event last Fall! A well deserved honor!



This year we look forward to following another local team at the National Traveler's Championship which is being held in November in Ottawa. **GOOD LUCK** to Mike Assad, Mitch Shallow, Andrew Hackner and Dwayne Sutherland!



(see end of newsletter for fundraising information that could help our club out!)

EXECUTIVE:

WE NEED SOME HELP!! The turnout at the General meeting last week was again very disappointing as only one prospective member showed up in addition to the members of the Executive (thanks Tim!).

Here is a list of the current Executive:

President: Karen Saarimaki
Vice-President (Bar): Dan Flynn (and Bookings)
Secretary: Janet Flynn (and Fundraising)
Treasurer: Sylvie Fortier
Ice: Dave Barker
Men's League: Dwayne Sutherland
Ladies' League: Pina Luomala
Mixed League: Steve & Beth Anderson
Afternoon League: Heather Liscomb
Junior League: Serena Davis
Bookings: Dan Flynn

We are still in need of people to step up and fill the following positions:

First Vice-President (oversees Bonspiels – does NOT have to organize them)

Property

NOCA Club Rep

If you think you might be interested in the job or would like information as to what the position involves please contact Karen S.

We are also always looking for members who are willing to volunteer some time to help us out in many different capacities throughout the season so if you have some skills and can offer us some time, just let an Executive member know!

EMPLOYEES:

Bruce Lamb once again is returning as our icemaker along with Jacques Lafrance and Nick Marino. The Bartender position still has to be finalized.

FINANCES & FEES:

The Club is doing all right financially however we have depleted our reserves a substantial amount in the past couple of years as we installed a new rug, new floor in the lounge and in the hallway, as well as purchased new chairs and tables. We still hope to make some improvements to the locker rooms and washrooms as long as finances permit. We have increased some fees slightly as well as some bar prices (which have not increased in four years).

2015-16 FEES: (HST included)

Men's or Ladies One Night - \$230

Men's or Ladies Two Nights - \$270

Mixed League - \$510

(split fees maximum six ways – any person playing in Ladies or Men's league does not pay extra for Mixed)

Junior (in adult league) - \$120

Wednesday afternoon Juniors - \$40 for 8 week session (starting Nov. 4th)

Afternoon League - \$5/week to maximum of \$40 (starting Nov. 3rd)

Spare - \$5/game to maximum of \$50

REGISTRATION:

*We held our first **REGISTRATION/FEE PAYMENT** night on **THURSDAY, OCT. 8th** but didn't have a great turnout. **There will be a second and FINAL REGISTRATION/FEE PAYMENT night on FRIDAY, Oct. 16th from 7-9 p.m. at the club.** **ANYONE WHO HAS NOT PAID or REGISTERED THEIR TEAM** are asked to come out on that Friday to **REGISTER and PAY FEES** so that we don't have to spend so much time chasing people for money after the leagues begin. The BAR will be open!!*

We are again offering **FOUR \$50 TEAM KITTY AWARDS** – one to a team from each of our Leagues! In order to be eligible, players from teams **MUST** register and **PAY** fees on one of the Registration Nights! The more team members that come out to register and pay, the more chances your team has to win one of the **KITTY PRIZES!**

You may still pay in two installments using postdated cheques.

LEAGUES:

Tuesday – OPEN League – Men's, Ladies' or Mixed teams
Tuesday – Afternoon League -
Wednesday – Ladies League
Wednesday – Junior League
Thursday – Men's League
Friday – Mixed League

Sponsors for these leagues are still being finalized – we welcome back Dominion Motors, Stedmans V&S, Gay Muree Ladies Wear, MacIver's Auto, Eileen Pile (Herb Pile Memorial), and RBC – THANK YOU for continuing to support our club!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

We will continue to communicate with members through email. As in the past we won't share your address with anyone else; it is only for the club's use. Feel free to pass this newsletter on to anyone you think that might be interested in becoming a curling club member this year! We are also looking for new ideas as to how we can attract more people between the ages of 20 and 40 into the club.

BONSPIELS:

The dates for our bonspiels have been decided so mark them on your calendar now!

BUT we still need people to chair the Men's and Ladies events as well as people to sit on committees for all of the bonspiels – we have a few people who have already said they would help. If no one steps forward then these bonspiels will NOT happen!

Ladies – March 4 - 6

*Mens – March 11 – 13 **IT IS THE 75TH ANNUAL MEN'S SPIEL so we are looking for ideas on how we can make this a memorable event!***

Mixed - December 26th & 27th (starting the afternoon of Boxing Day)

Senior – Saturday, February 27th – Last year was our first Senior spiel and was a resounding success!

If you are interested in perhaps participating in a spiel at one of the other Region 3 clubs a LIST of Area Bonspiels is updated regularly and posted on the bulletin board.

NORTHERN ONTARIO CURLING ASSOCIATION:

Be sure to check out the NOCA website www.curlno.ca for up-to-date information on what's happening on the curling scene in Northern Ontario!

Many of you probably are not aware of this - we pay affiliation fees to the Northern Ontario Curling Association in the amount of \$15 for every regular league curler age 13 and up. This has been included in the price of your membership fee. Every member then receives a NOCA membership card – on the back of it is information from AVIS, BUDGET and BEST WESTERN Hotels who offer discounts to anyone who is a member of a NOCA club. **So don't forget to take advantage of these offers, if you need a rental car or are planning to stay at a Best Western Hotel!**

Curling Week is scheduled for November 21 – 29. The purpose of this week long event is to celebrate the great sport of curling across Northern Ontario – to raise awareness of the benefits of curling, to create interest for participation in the sport, and to learn/review curling's proud history in our province! There will again be a Closest to the Pin contest with prizes for THREE age categories – under 12, 12 to 17, 18+. All finalists for the adult category will have their name entered into a Grand Prize draw of two tickets anywhere Bearskin Airlines flies.

PLAYDOWNS:

We are scheduled to host the Northern Ontario MASTERS Provincial Championship Jan. 21 – 24, 2016. (age 60+)
Last season there was no provincial competition held and the men's and women's teams advanced directly to the Nationals in Whitehorse. Hopefully this year there will be an actual playdown with some local members perhaps competing! We also will be hosting the Region 3 Senior Men's competition Jan. 29 – 31.

The following competitions are scheduled for other clubs in Region 3:

Juniors – Longlac Nov. 27 – 29

Bantams – Nipigon Jan. 8 – 10

Bantam West Qualifier – Nipigon Feb. 5 – 7

Travelers – Terrace Bay Feb. 19-21

CLUB HOURS:

The club is open for regular league play Tuesday to Fridays starting at 6:30, as well as Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 for the afternoon drop in league. On Monday evenings the club will be open for practice or makeup games (THANK YOU to Julie D. again for looking after this). **There may also be open sheets available on other evenings for practice or makeup games – please sign up on the board located in the hallway in order that our ice crew can make sure the ice is ready.**

CURLING EQUIPMENT:

Norm Kristjanson has agreed to continue looking after bringing in curling equipment for our members! THANK YOU NORM! Old outdated, antiquated equipment can limit your skills and actually HARM ice conditions. Brushes with lighter handles made of carbon fibre or fiberglass, are available for as little as \$80 and make brushing less taxing for a whole game, and can help you become a more effective sweeper.

*Check out the brush you are using – **heads do wear out** - once they get shiny, dirty, no longer feel rough to the touch and fail to provide friction on the ice they need to be changed! They aren't that expensive! Another thing that wears out and needs to be replaced is the anti-slider or gripper. Constant use and subjecting the gripper to constant extremes of hot and cold like stepping off and on the ice, hastens the deterioration of the rubber particles that make up the gripper, which causes them to break off onto the ice. These can create havoc to curling rocks as most of us have experienced on a few occasions!*

If you are looking for new equipment, such as pants, shoes, brushes, grippers - for yourself, or as a gift for someone, be sure to talk to Norm Kristjanson as he may be able to help you out. Check out the equipment display in the club showcase!

We are looking forward to offering everyone a great time curling during our long winter! Bring along some friends to try it out! We hope to offer some instruction to both new and returning curlers sometime in the near future.



SEE YOU ON THE ICE – October 19th!

MESSAGE from the MIKE ASSAD TEAM

We are on our way to the 2015 Travelers Curling Club Championship in Ottawa. We are so thrilled to represent our club and province at this championship. But in addition to battling it out on the ice, we are also battling it out for a good cause!

Each year, The Travelers Curling Club Championship holds a fundraising contest in support of a great cause. In 2015, we are raising money to help get more kids curling through the Curling Canada Foundation. Funds raised through the For The Love Of Curling Fundraising Contest will be used to bring the Curling Canada Rocks & Rings program to schools across the country so that more children can discover the joy of curling.

But there is something great for our club as well! The top fundraising club will receive a cash grant for improvements to their club. There will also be 4 additional draws for cash prizes for club improvements. Our club sure could use the boost!

Will you help us support the next generation of champions and to help get much needed funds to help our club! Please make a donation today in support of our club and to get kids curling!

Thank you for your support!

TEAM ASSAD – Northern Ontario - Geraldton Curling Club

Fundraising Site: <http://curlingca.donorpages.com/TravelersCC/GeraldtonCurlingClubTeamAssad/>