



Wolfville Curling Club

NEWSLETTER

March 17, 2011

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In case you haven't noticed, as the curling season starts to wind down, the activity levels start to ramp up. Perhaps it's the realization that in only a matter of weeks, many will be making the switch from ice to golf greens – or other more seasonal activity. Last month as we went to press, it seemed as if the entire club was in preparation for the Provincial Senior Men's Championship. It was thoroughly well-planned and executed by our Seniors Executive, led by **Alden Profitt**. And even before that, we sent two teams to the Stick Curling Championships in Truro. Both did quite well, in fact, the team of **Howie Johnson and Bob Richardson** played their way superbly to the close final match, losing out to the Yarmouth twosome. A magnificent showing! *[For more about Stick Curling, see below].*

Then, we also sent a team [**Matt Gowland, Mike Ferguson, Stan Mitchell and Peter Kennie**] to the Men's Dominion Club championship which was held in Chester in late February – their record of two wins and two losses deserves our applause. Congratulations, guys!



On the lighter side, last weekend we combined curling with Jenga and lobster in the **Brier Bash** playdown for the legendary Silver Broom. Nothin' serious. Great fun, thanks to **Brian**

Boutilier's quirky organizational genius.



Next, we followed that up with a super reception/fundraiser for **Audrey Dorey** and her teammates. Besides duplicating their NS win by taking the Maritime Women's Masters too, they have earned their right to a spot in the National Masters in Winnipeg at the end of the month. Also this Saturday, the 2011 edition of **Curl for Cancer** will be unfurled as 16 teams of curlers, would-be curlers or absolute novices will join in raising money to help defeat cancer. To say nothing of last Friday's Senior's Breakfast, when we inducted two new Super Seniors – **Stewart Bishop and Peter Mosher** – both 75 and still curling.



It's my guess that this flurry of activity will continue over the next couple of weeks. The idea seems to be - let's cram in as much curling now, while we still can! 'Cause the word from Tony is, "it looks like **April 3rd will be the last day for ice**". It's a Sunday and the thought is that everyone [including family and friends] would come out **for a skate**. What a great way to start putting the finishing touches on our 75th Anniversary Year.

STICK CURLING

First off, I'm not just talking about curling with a stick – which many of our senior curlers do because it's kinder to their knees and back, and without question extends their curling life. I'm talking about a game that everybody can play. Indeed, there's no reason that I am aware of for Stick Curling to be reserved for Seniors. And while basically following the general idea of curling, Stick Curling [some call it Sturling] differs. 2-person teams, each located at either end of the ice – one throws, one skips. Next end the situation is reversed. Sweeping not allowed except from the far hog line to back line. Free guard zone applies in the house as well as outside. 6 rocks are thrown, alternating red/blue; 6 ends to a game. Plus a few other refinements.

These minor changes make for a different set of skills, and different strategy to be employed. And it all provides a faster paced challenge – a contest decided in 45 minutes. Who wouldn't want to try it out? Maybe next year.



Letter to the Club

Your kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness will always be remembered and appreciated for the fundraiser you held on March 11, 2011. We had a wonderful time and we truly enjoyed the hospitality you displayed.

We would like to send a thank you to the club, club members, the people who made donations for the auction, to all those who attended, for the food, drinks and the hard work and efforts by so many people.

You have a great club and one of which you should be so proud. A club is only as good as its members and all the volunteer hours that make it such.

Your help and support means a great deal to us and it really does warm our hearts.

Thank you so much,

Sue, Audrey, Norma and Karen.

Editor's note: **The Row Our Dorey to Winnipeg Fundraiser** provided us as club members the rare opportunity to do something to support one of our own – in an important National Championship. The entire team – Sue Green, Norma Reid and Karen Romkey attended, along with Audrey and a good number of club members. Players at the Masters level get little in the way of tangible encouragement – often needing to bear the costs from their own resources. All the more important for us as a club to get behind our premier players – at whatever level. At last count the club has raised \$2016 to assist Audrey and the team. Thanks to **Ellen Kennie and those who organized the event** – providing items for auction and preparing refreshments - and all who participated in any way. We are honoured to have helped out.

Notes from [Club President] Tony Stirling

- Hopeful of us putting on a Grand Finale to this 75th Anniversary Year. But need to get some flesh on the bones of this idea. Not likely until late April. Stay tuned.
- Spent 3 days in Digby helping to install the ice for the Canadian Seniors there. They put in 5 sheets in the arena and will be also be using 3 in the Curling Club.
- Audrey Dorey, Robbie Harrison, Colleen Swail and Tony Stirling – off to Amherst this weekend [Mar 18] to curl in the Senior Mixed.
- Verne Meister and team just returned from Halifax where they competed in the Club Mixed.

This shot of Tony at work was taken during the Senior Men's Championship - between games while other teams were relaxing. At the same time, Team Stirling was competing strongly. Our club appreciates not only the quality of Tony's play, but also everything he does for others.



CLUB HISTORY

Those who want to maintain that sense of where we've been, since the beginning, will want to get a copy of the History of the Wolfville Curling Club. These books are available at the bar - \$18.00 a copy

Also, along with the standard items of curling gear, the bar has a number of hats and shirts – decorated with the Anniversary logo - available for purchase. You can still get yours!

NEED BAR STAFF

For this Saturday, March 19. The Club is hosting two events. The very popular **Curl for Cancer** is a morning/afternoon event. Then in the evening there will be a **Ceilidh** in the Banquet Hall. Our Bar Chair Ken Ochitwa is looking for 3 or 4 people who could take a shift during the times of 10am to 10pm. If you can be available for part of that time, please leave your name at the bar OR contact Ken at kenicko@eastlink.ca
Many thanks!

CURL FOR CANCER

By now, those who are participating as one of the 16 teams, already know when to show. But this is a fun event for watching and socializing, too. Each team is going to play 3 four-end games. There will be prizes for the top three teams, as well as the last place teams, and draws for the remaining prizes. 50-50 and great silent auction items as well. So whether you're playing or just going to drop-in – you're sure to have a fun time.

SENIOR CURLING

- We started a **Stick Curling Competition** [for bragging rights within the club]. After 4 games we called it quits [temporarily] with four teams tied at 3 wins – 1 loss. There seemed to be agreement that the elimination would carry on after curling on Monday the 21st.
- As usual we'll close the year with our **Potluck Luncheon and Ham shoot** Wednesday Mar 30th. That's curl 7 ends, then shoot back for a chance at a delicious Ham.
- But of course, as Yogi Berra and many others have said, "it ain't over till it's over." So then, Friday, April 1st at the usual start of 9:30am – **April Fools and Curlers Fun Day**. Four ends of Curling, various skills competitions and games.

NS SENIOR MEN'S PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Aside from the outcomes of play on the ice - which saw **Scott Saunder's** team almost predictably victorious [they didn't lose a match] - this event stands out as a triumph of organization for our club. The Senior Executive group, which initially may have hesitated to take on an event like a Provincial Championship, need not have been overly concerned. A full week before the event it was apparent they had **everything** in near readiness. And as things played out, all went without a hitch. Everything, from great ice by Tony and a classy brochure, to timers and scorers, and bar and hospitality/kitchen staff, and floating volunteers. In all, about 40 people were involved and came out to do their part. Upstairs, controlling the timers, a central role was played by **Jane Harrington**, who kept in radio contact with the umpire pretty well all-the-time. And **Alden**, did he ever go home? This is a "dream organizing committee" that any Club would be proud of. Congratulations to all – to everyone who played a part, big or small - on a task well done!!!

CLUB PLAY

Leaders

Monday night: Sandy Dyke 8 wins 2 losses; Matt Gowland, 7 and 3

Wednesday: Matt Gowland 3 and 0

Thursday: Three teams at 3 wins – 0 losses; Ian Stewart, Sandy Dyke, Verne Meister.



75TH ANNIVERSARY PHOTO

On Wednesday, March 9th, about half of our membership was present to smile for the camera.

Now online, it remains to wonder whether there might be sufficient interest in preparing a photoprint in larger format, at minimum cost.

If you are interested drop an email to the club: wolfcurl@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER is published monthly during Curling Season and on other occasions. News items and pictures of interest to club members are accepted.

Deadline: 15th of each month.

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