



## ENNISMORE CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER SEPT 2015-08-29

I know. Snow isn't falling yet, the weather is still warm, and people are still playing golf. But curling season is fast upon us. The Ennismore Curling Club REGISTRATION NIGHT is only a few days away on Sept 11, and the ice will be ready for practice on 18 Oct and the first league match on 19 Oct. So, with professional curling on tv already by 10 Sept, it's time for the season's initial Newsletter from your rookie "communications" writer.

### OFF-SEASON HAPPENINGS

First, I'll catch you up on off-season happenings at the Club. WEDDINGS AND OTHER RENTALS, although somewhat down in number over recent years, helped the Club's financial line and again confirmed substantial interest and satisfaction in our renovated Club facilities for social events. July had a highly successful GARAGE SALE, headed up by Marilyn Smith and Diane Harris and staffed by many of our members. Combined with the BAKE SALE organized by Syrie Gardner and Cynthia Guerin, the event raised \$4800.00 for the Club, the most ever from the annual sale. A further fund-raising event, a CASINO NIGHT AND VINTAGE CAR SHOW in August, co-produced with the Lions Club, drew a small but appreciative gathering who had a lot of fun. The idea of events shared with other organizations will be followed up by your board as a future source of fund-raising and community cooperation.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your 2014/15 Board of Directors continued to meet regularly until 28 July when they handed over control to the newly elected slate. The Club owes a sizeable round of appreciation to that Board for all their hard work and especially to outgoing President Steve Guerin, Nancy Herr and Susan Plant who have served their terms. The new Board and their assignment areas are as follows:

#### 2015/16 BOARD

Robert Hayes: President

Steve Guerin: Past-President

Dick Plant: Vice President and Communications/Newsletter (new board member)

Dan Deschenes: Website Coordinator

Tom Antonopoulos: Ice Chair, Building Maintenance, Health and Safety; Pro Shop Liaison

Pat McClean: Volunteer Coordinator: Bar, Kitchen, Bonspiel, Ice (new board member)

Steve Thomson: Volunteer Coordinator: Bar, Kitchen, Bonspiel, Ice, Membership Recruitment, Club Marketing (new board member)

Peter Gardner: Membership Recruitment, Club Marketing (new board member)

Kim Ray: School Programs, League Convenors Coordinator  
Kathy Reid: Advertising

#### OTHER KEY MEMBERS

John Norton: Club Manager and Senior Ice Technician  
Wayne Stafford: Club Treasurer  
Sharon Stafford: Secretary  
Women's OCA Rep: Tara Welbourn  
Dave Hevenor: Men's OCA Rep

#### CLUB FACILITIES

The safety and functioning of our ice-making plant were improved with the installation in August of a NEW VENTILATION SYSTEM, a major project handled well by British Empire Fuels. It was expensive and while it may not be something you see because it hides in the back space, it makes the Club safer, function better and was mandated under current regulations.

Rest assured, there will be further improvements to our Club facilities over the next while. The fans in the downstairs washrooms will be repaired and metal guards will be installed on the steel roof over the side doors to prevent snow and ice from falling on people.

#### WEBSITE UPDATE AND EXPANSION

Have you checked the CLUB'S NEW WEBSITE? We have purchased "Curling Manager", a program that not only sets up websites but provides a range of facilities that will allow us to maintain an online calendar of Club events, maintain and print club rosters as well as league schedules, even carry out season registration, and show links to other curling organizations and related information. In fact, in future this Newsletter, which is also available in hardcopy at the Club, will be distributed as an email through a facility of "Curling Manager." We owe a debt of thanks not only to the wisdom of last year's board for purchasing the program, but especially to Dan Deschenes who is in charge of "Curling Manager." He has already spent many hours installing the program and doing the initial set up of the website. Once we have members registered, and more content, Dan can develop the Club's online information and applications. There will be more news available about the program and website in the next while. In the meantime, you can check out the progress of the site at [www.ennismorecurlingclub.com](http://www.ennismorecurlingclub.com).

#### NEW OPEN BONSPIEL

On Nov 7, the Club will host the inaugural WELCOME BACK BONSPIEL, an open spiel sponsored by Russelle Toyota. There will be two draws of two six-end games with lunch, dinner and prizes, all for \$35.00. Come and join the fun and tune up your game by getting the rust off your shots.

#### FOOD HANDLERS COURSE

The Club is hosting another FOOD HANDLERS COURSE on Sat 3 Oct from 9am until 3pm in the upstairs lounge. Matt Faris from the Peterborough Dept of Health will be running the session again, as he did last spring when everyone who attended said they found the course rewarding,

fun and informative (even for around their own kitchens). If you want to attend, contact Steve Thomson at [stephann770@gmail.com](mailto:stephann770@gmail.com).

#### CLUB FINANCES

Like all other curling clubs, Ennismore faces increasing costs. Hydro, heating, propane, insurance and expenses for operation of the ice plant all continue to rise significantly. Maintaining and improving our facilities are expensive. Bar supplies also increase – that bottle of rye that used to cost \$25.00 (can you remember that time?) now is in the \$40s. Various commodities, from toilet tissue to cleaning supplies, all increase. You know that from your own home expenses. When combined with decreases in membership, all curling clubs are looking for ways to increase the funds that are required to run their programs. Ennismore is no different, although the Club has been able, through hard work, wise decisions and the help of the municipality and various granting agencies, to keep on top of the financial situation. This year, after much careful consideration, your Board has voted for a small increase in various fees. Such decisions are not made easily nor taken lightly. Moreover, if you check throughout the area, you will find that our fee structure is on par or lower than other clubs. The reality is that it costs more to run a club now than it did a year ago, and the year before that, and so forth. This is our club, and we have to pay to run it.

#### REMINDERS:

This year our Club has a NEW CURLERS LEAGUE, with instruction tentatively set to begin on Oct 27 and end on 15 Dec – all for \$100.00. TARA WELBOURN will be working with this league. Spread the word. Bring in a new curler. In addition, instruction will also be available for existing curlers.

We also have the TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL LEAGUE for grades 6-8 on Tuesday afternoons: 3:45 to 5:30pm.

And TARA WELBOURN will also be working with our JUNIOR CURLERS.

**WE ARE GOING TO NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE YOUTH AND INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS. PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP.**

It is sad news that I have to end this Newsletter. ROBERT SIMPSON, a long time curler at ECC, passed away on 12 August. As most of us know, there was no one at our Club who enjoyed curling more than Robert did. We'll miss him.

