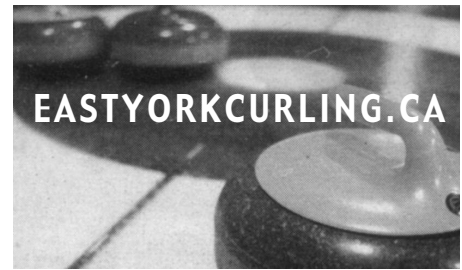


Rock Talk

DECEMBER 2008

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST YORK CURLING CLUB



The Prez Sez...

Welcome back for another season of curling at East York. Most of our leagues are completely full, though there are a few teams looking for an additional curler.

Resignation

As some are already aware, Michele Misura has resigned from the Board of Directors at East York due to work reasons. The Board has regretfully accepted her resignation, and wished her well. Her energy and experience will be missed. Hopefully Michele will return to East York both as a curler and volunteer when her schedule permits.

Rocks

Also, over the summer, we had the striking surface of the club's rocks redone. This should help extend the life of the rocks.

OCA/TCA events

As in past years, sign up sheets to various OCA/TCA events will be posted on the main bulletin board near the viewing area for sheet one. The club encourages members to sign and represent the club.

Kitchen

I'd also like to welcome back Constantine, who's returning to the Kitchen at East York, and running his own Catering business. The food has been very good, and if you haven't tried it yet, I suggest you take a look at the menu.

Questions?

If you have any questions about club issues, please feel free to ask myself or any of the other board members. We're also always looking for new people to help out around the club at either the club or league level.

Smoking Area

As a helpful reminder, the City of Toronto has a bylaw against people smoking at the entranceway of buildings. To this end, Carolyn has posted signs and created a smoking area around the corner of the club entrance. Please, while smoking, use this area and keep the doorway clear.

Thanks and good curling.

Scott Murray
President

The Ice Makers Say

Please Don't Track Salt Around the Club

We put out our best effort to keep the upper lounge floor clean and salt-free. However, on busy days when it's snowing outside, salt will be tracked around the upper lounge. On those days, we ask that members refrain from wearing curling shoes upstairs, and we ask that you please don't wear curling shoes outside to smoke.

Help Keep Your Ice Nice

Always remember to use the boot boy before you step on the ice! You can help keep the ice clean and in top shape.

While curling, please keep your hands and knees off the ice surface, as it melts the ice and affects the play.

Please Wait For Us

Curlers should wait for the ice staff to clear the sheet before entering the rink. You'll know we're finished when you see the scores come down.

A last friendly reminder: SLOW PLAY CAUSES DELAY. Please be conscious of your playing time. ♦

Breakfast Television is coming to the club on Tuesday, January 13!

Available members please come out for this CityTV broadcast. They would like a good cross-section of ages – you don't need to stay for the entire 3 hours (6 AM – 9 AM). You can get some practice in or play a couple of ends. Stick around and watch the action if you like.

Members of the TCA Energizer Masters / Men's Bonspiel Committee will be on hand to promote the Energizer events. The Masters Energizer competition starts at 10 AM that day.

Let Us Know...

Coffee and donuts are on the house. Come out and help us promote the club. * Please let the office know if you plan to come out so we have an idea of numbers! ♦

Looking for Practice Time?

Each week, there are openings for practice or make-up games
BY RESERVATION ONLY!

MON: 3:45pm - 4:45pm, 1 sheet
1:00pm - 3:00pm, 2 sheets

TUES: 12:00pm - 4:00pm, 6 sheets
6:45pm or 9:00pm (rotates every other week), 1 sheet

WED: 1:30pm - 3:30pm, 4 sheets
9:00 pm, 3 sheets

THURS: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, 6 sheets

FRI: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, 6 sheets

SUN: 12:00 pm, 2 sheets

*Practice time is NOT first-come, first-served. You must book practice time through the office. ♦

Bantam/Junior Section

We are well on our way to having a great curling season! Great players and coaches, fantastic ice and a great club. What more could you ask for?

I'd like to start this season by introducing myself, Donna Bantis. I am the new Bantam/Junior Coordinator. I am a fifth year curler and my daughter Tiana is a new Bantam this year but has been curling for five years in Little Rocks at EYCC.

I am excited to be able to volunteer and take on this role. My goal is to build a successful Program that both the players and club can be proud of. I would like to see our coaches assist our players in meeting their personal goals and level of curling that they desire.

I am eager to create and implement a solid Bantam/Junior Program at East York CC. Of course, all of this can't happen alone! So I would like to officially send a "Big Thank You!" to the wonderful people who are committed to coaching this program with me every week; Heather, Erin, Chris, Michael, Krista, and Glenn.

Bantam/Junior Bonspiel

Saturday December 6, 2008. We need volunteers to help that day. If you can help out, even for half a day, contact me at 416.750.1879 or send an e-mail to spinergy@sympatico.ca

Rock Talk To You Soon!

Donna Bantis,
Bantam/Junior Coordinator

Golden Age Men

It finally happened for one team from the Golden Age Men's League. During regular league play, which means a random tag draw, four lucky guys pulled it all together and scored an 8-ender, on Thursday November 6th. Congratulations to Lead Terry Doran; Second Gord Lee; Vice Fred Sandford; and Skip Doug Ross.

Check the 8-ender WALL OF FAME display behind the glass of sheet 5 / 6 for other EYCC winners. There's a space just waiting for you. If they can do it, so can you!

EYCC is considering a new Family and Friends Fun-Spiel to celebrate the great game of curling, our club and the newly designated holiday Monday, February 16th. (Holiday for some, not for others; schools are closed that day.) Limited space is available throughout the day for interested people. Talk it up with your friends and your league representative. Visit the Family & Friends display and share your comments and suggestions. Join the fun and help make it happen. We welcome your support and suggestions.

Doug Ross
Golden Age Men's Rep

Men's League

The Men's league is going strong, with a full compliment of teams on Thursday nights, and an overflow of teams on Monday. Monday's overflow was originally envisioned as playing on Wednesday night, but that ended up being unworkable so teams are playing with byes. Each night has a team or two which is looking for a fourth player, but otherwise all teams are complete.

Bull Dog

The Bull Dog bonspiel was held on Saturday, November 15, with 16 outside teams playing against just 2 club teams. Congratulations goes to team Ritchie for their win.

King's Feast Cometh

We'll also be running our popular King's Feast Bonspiel (mens) on March 7th, 2009. The spiel has often filled up fast, so mark the date on your calendars for next year.

Good Curling!

Scott Murray
Men's League President

Manager's Notes

Why Volunteer? Because One Person can Make a Great Difference.

In today's economic climate, we're all working a little harder to make ends meet. At the EYCC, we understand that your lives are busy, and how precious your time is to you. But we also know that you value your community, and the community that you've found here with us. While we continue to do whatever we can to enhance your curling experience, the truth is that we are often left short-handed.

So we're asking you, our members, could you spare an hour and volunteer? Our volunteers are our most valued assets. You are the people that keep us running so that you can enjoy our services. Whether it's two hours per week or one hour per month, anything helps. We are especially in need right now, so if you value your time here and our service to the community, think about becoming a volunteer. Contact your Section Head. "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

EYCC Hosts Various Events During the Season.

Sign up and join in the fun because these events make the club successful. Sign-up sheets for events will be posted on the large bulletin board by Sheet 1. Also on the board are Spares lists. (Spares lists will also be printed in the ROSTER, which will be available soon.)

Members Who Smoke,

Please refrain from smoking by the entrance. Use the area created to the left of the entrance doors. This will make it more pleasant for people entering the club. Thank you. ♦

Club Trophies

Gord Sheppard has been working on the history of the club trophies. They are being displayed in the cabinet inside the front door where the curling magazines are kept. Take a look. ♦

Striking Band Re-Profiling

As a club we raise money in various ways for curling related items that are not facility related. Our most notable money raisers are THE TOONIE DRAW (or 50-50) and THE SUMMER SPIEL.

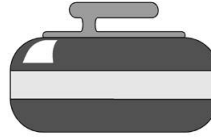
You may or may not have noticed a difference in our curling rocks this year. In the off season some of the funds we raised were spent to have the striking band of our rocks re-profiled. Below is a short description of why you re-profile the striking band of rocks.

We have Trefor shells with Blue Hone and Ailsa Craig.

When you think of the most important areas of a curling stone, the running surface is what comes to mind first. The running surface does affect directly how the stone will perform, but what many overlook is the striking band.

The striking band of a curling stone also plays an important role in the performance of the stone. A properly shaped striking band will allow for a true weight

transfer and hit when a curler is performing hard hits and even delicate tap backs and raises.



More importantly, the striking band is key in determining the life of a curling stone. Blue hone and ailsa craig common green granite will chip in half moon shapes throughout the middle of the striking bands. Once this has begun, these stones cannot be re-profiled as too much material needs to be removed to get below the chip, and most often this chipping process will just repeat itself. In the trefor granites the striking bands over time will begin to wear flat.

Once the stones lose their convex shape, the striking bands wear too flat and chipping begins above and below the striking bands. It is important to keep that convex shape in your trefor stones, as this type of granite is the best quality for striking bands. ♦



KITCHEN

Constantine Hamarakis and Hammerhead Catering are happy to take suggestions from members for food services for league nights or events. Contact him for your events at the club.



50/50 DRAW

Need extra spending money this holiday season? EYCC holds a 50/50 draw each Friday evening. Just place \$2 in the slot in the bar anytime during the week, then check off your name in the book under the appropriate week. After the late mixed draw on Friday night, one name is pulled. If your name is selected and you've paid for that week, (indicated by the check mark beside your name) then you win the pot! If your name is pulled and you haven't paid, then the pot carries over to the next week. CONGRATULATIONS to Kadri Prummel who won \$765 in the 50/50!

Money raised is used to enhance club facilities. The last draw is Dec. 19th, and the first draw of the New Year will be Jan. 2nd, 2009. To be in on that draw, put in your Toonie by Dec. 22nd.

Tips for Speedy Play

We no longer promote setting up your opponents' rocks as it slows down play AND you may be setting up the WRONG ROCK if the opposition is playing their rocks out of order.

THE LEAD on the scoring team is not required to clear rocks and should get set in the hack to throw.

After the other team has thrown their rock (and it's past the near hog line), get your rock and get ready in the hack.

After you have finished sweeping your teammate's rock, walk back along the edges of the sheet so your opposition does not need to wait for you to clear their view of the house.



Safety Tips Be Considerate of Other Sheets

Sweepers, an important part of your job is to stop any stones that are going off the edge of the sheet. For peels, coordinate with the other skip who is catching the rock so you can protect other sheets, other curlers and our hacks from flying rocks. Safe and considerate play helps keep the game enjoyable for all! ♦

Oct. 25th Jitney

The first Jitney of the year saw 48 people enjoying a day of cards, curling, dinner and dance. Thanks, Constantine for a great dinner that was enjoyed by all.

EYCC E-NEWS To subscribe, submit an article or a joke, e-mail sandra.gabriel@rogers.com or eastyorkcurling@rogers.com or place it in my mail box at the Club. Looking forward to hearing from you.
- Sandra Gabriel, Editor