

Rock Talk

NOVEMBER 2007

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST YORK CURLING CLUB

www.eastyorkcurling.ca



Club Manager's News

Welcome New and Returning Members! It is exciting to see new Members in the Club. Returning Members, please help new people by providing information about the Club and making them feel welcomed. Don't hesitate to contact any Member of the Executive or the staff should you require information or assistance.

STAFF MEMBERS NEW & RETURNING:

Bar Staff:

Diane Trotter, Bar Manager,
Bartender Monday to Thursday &
some Saturdays

Chuck Cox, Bartender,
Friday & Saturday Evenings

Marc Gosselin, Bartender,
Sunday Mornings

Brittany Shulist, Bartender,
Sunday Evenings

Ice Techs/

Maintenance: Dennis Elgie, Head Ice
Tech/Maintenance

Sean McKay, Assistant Head Ice Tech/
Maintenance

Marc Gosselin, Assistant Head Ice Tech/
Maintenance

Jim Best, Assistant Head Ice Tech/
Maintenance

BULLETIN BOARDS have been set up for each Section for their flyers, advertisements, etc. A new board has been created for standings in order to keep the main board open for events and sign ups. Thank you to the Golden Age Men for your assistance.

A new coffee machine has been added to the Club. It provides Members with a variety of options which I hope you will enjoy.

Thank you for co-operating and remaining out of the ice shed until your sheets are ready. Thank you to Yuval Grinspun for the donation of the TV downstairs to provide entertainment while you wait.

MAKE-UP GAMES /PRACTICE ICE

Please let the office know beforehand when you are not playing, so we can accommodate requests from Members for make-up games and /or practice ice. Daytime ice is available for practice unless rented out. Contact the office if you want practice time or to book make-up games.

CHILDREN please ensure that children are not left unattended. Staff cannot be responsible for their care so have an adult with your children at all times.

LOCKERS the assignment of lockers improved from last year but still needs adjustments. Do not put locks on lockers unless they are assigned to you by staff. Next year, I am shooting for a smooth & efficient way of dealing with this procedure. Suggestions are always welcomed.

I want to thank all the instructors who assisted in the Adult Learn To Curl Program and Novice Clinic. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

INSTRUCTORS from time to time, I need instructors for corporate groups and rentals. They are usually daytime events and some Sundays at 12 pm. I collect the sum of \$30 for one hour of instruction which I pass on to the instructor. If you are interested in being on a list of possible instructors, please contact me with your name, number and the hours you could be available for instructing.

I wish everyone a great curling season and Hurry Hard! ♦

Ice Tech's Report

The City has installed a building automation system to help save energy and improve Member comfort in the Club. It has worked well so far, eliminating the overheating problem in the upper lounge and the under heating of the lower lounges. You may also notice that the lights are not as bright at times, as they dim to 60% of maximum output when games are not on. The Club has also purchased a new floor machine which has not only improved the cleanliness of the floor, it has eliminated a large amount of dirt and lint from going to the ice. ♦

NEW SMOKING LOCATION

In accordance with regulations, there is to be no smoking within 10 meters of the entrance of the building. We have created an area away from the entrance door and will keep it cleared out during the winter. We are looking for volunteers who can build a barrier for the area. Thank you for your co-operation.

TORONTO 2009

Reserve your tickets NOW for the international curling event to be held at The Air Canada Centre Oct. 21-25, 2009. Nine international Olympic teams and the top four Canadian teams will compete in a round robin tournament. Tickets purchased through the Club prior to Jan. 12, 2008 are \$150, a saving of \$100 off the regular price. These will be prime seats in The East York Curling Club section at the Air Canada Centre.

As well \$25 from each ticket will be given to our Club. Ticket purchasing information is posted on the bulletin board in the lounge.

Exciting Season Ahead for Men's Section

We are currently experiencing growth in membership as well as increased interest in our annual cashspiel, the Bulldog, which is also a qualifying event for the Melitta Bonspiel of Champions.

By the time you read this, the 2007 Bulldog will be a thing of the past. At press time there were 18 teams registered, a substantial increase over last year. We are optimistic that this year's spiel will be a minor financial success and that the Bulldog has been reborn and will grow in future years.

LATE DRAW WEDNESDAYS

Most encouraging is our expanded membership. In addition to a full draw on Monday nights and two full draws on Thursdays, we have a new group which occupies two sheets for the late draw on Wednesdays for some apparently highly-entertaining informal curling. We encourage Monday and Thursday teams to come out one Wednesday throughout the season to meet these new members and have a couple of hours of fun.

KING'S FEAST

March 1st is the annual King's Feast Bonspiel. We are seeking sponsorships in an effort to make this the fun-filled mini-mancation that it is supposed to be. A poster will come out soon with the details, but the individual-entry format remains – it's a great way to introduce curious friends to the joys of curling and the camaraderie that can be found at

the EYCC. So mark your calendars, and bring a friend.

Overall, we expect a solid year of healthy competition and good times in the Men's Section. So far, the ice has been great (thanks Dennis and crew), the club and section are running smoothly despite timing changes and an overflow of new Members (thanks Carolyn and crew), and the Men's Committee has a healthy mix of more experienced and newer Members. We expect that this will lead to great ideas and a general improvement of our events and financial situation.

If you have questions or concerns about the section, please contact one of the following:

Maurice DeWolf, President & Thursday Rep 416-424-1309

modewolf@sympatico.ca

Marc Despatie, Vice-President and King's Feast Organizer
marcdespatie@hotmail.com

Dave Needham, Treasurer

Aidan Ritchie, Drawmaster, Bulldog Organizer and Factotum
canadian_curler@hotmail.com

Scott Murray, Monday Representative

Ryan Gillen, Bonspiel Controller

Norm Apt

Jason Chang

Scott Dolomont

Ladies! Would You Like to Curl on Monday Afternoons?

The Day Ladies League could use a few more curlers either as regulars or spares. This is a fun league of women curlers of all ages. If you have young children, babysitting is available.

If you would like to try curling on Mondays at 1 pm, please email Liz Fletcher efletcher@netscape.ca or call her at 416-759-2505 and get on the list either as a regular or a spare. ♦

OTHER NEWS

NAME TAGS

There is an order being placed for name tags on December 5, 2007. Please see the main bulletin board for the order form. Payment must be received in advance of the order.



CLUB 50-50 DRAW

pay your \$2 and put a ✓ beside your name for that week – in the book on the right side of the Bar. Each Friday night a name is drawn. If your name is selected and you paid that week, 50% of the proceeds are all yours!

SUMMERSPIEL 2007 – a Taste of New Orleans

Once again we had a very successful summer Bonspiel last June. The theme was "MARDI GRAS", and the lounge was transformed into a New Orleans street. As usual the costumes worn by the curlers were outstanding and a great weekend of fun and good curling was had by all.

A huge thanks to Tana Martin and Sandra Gabriel who helped me with the idea and decorations and the transformation of the lounge. We had as much fun preparing it as the curlers had enjoying it.

Get involved next year and see how much fun it can be. Thanks to Bing and Greg for the traditional oyster bar. Thanks to all the volunteers who showed up to carry equipment to the arena. A huge thanks to Seth who came from Gravenhurst to do the ice and to Dennis, Alex and Sean as well. A special thanks to the bartenders for volunteering their time, and to Dave Needham who spent the entire weekend at the arena doing stats. Finally, a big thanks to Carolyn. Without her support it could not be possible. The biggest thanks

goes to all the teams from various clubs who support this event on a constant basis. Try getting your name on the list; you will have a fabulous time.

For 2008 we are looking for support throughout the season to prepare. The theme is "MEDIEVAL MADNESS". If you have any ideas or talents please come forward. We want to transform the lounge into a castle-like setting. (Donations of old, heavy curtains would be appreciated.) THANKS AGAIN.

Vicki Marianchuk

Back to the Future

Curling is known to be a game of tradition and etiquette, honour and sportsmanship, and good friendly competition. In that vein, the Women's League is pleased to announce that we are returning to our roots and will be hosting The Shades Bonspiel this year on Saturday January 19th, 2008.

The Shades of Elegance, as it was originally known, was started by the Business Girls in the '70s which included 2 draws of curling, a dinner/dance and a fashion show for entertainment. As time went by, The Shades of Elegance changed as well, dropping the fashion show for a variety of entertaining themes, great parties and even producing the infamous "Den Daddies".

Over the last few years it was decided to shake things up a bit so the Shades of Elegance was renamed the Spa Spiel, and through the efforts of many hard working volunteers, have had much success.

Last year the Women's section was approached to move from our usual February time slot to January. Embracing the change, building on the Spa Spiel's strong foundation, and drawing from our rich history we decided to revisit our past and take it into the future with our new name The Shades.

The Shades will be held on Saturday January 19th, starting at 10 am with 1 draw, 2 eight-end games, lunch included. This event is a (Sunshine) Melitta Bonspiel of Champions qualifier. The chips are down with our theme this year being Retro Vegas Lounge. And to round it all out, we also have retro pricing of \$120 per team. For more info on this and any other Shades questions please contact Fran Barton at rbarton@rogers.com or 416-364-0463. Sign up sheets for the Shades are now up in the Club.

So ladies, all bets are off, round up some friends and join us for a great day. And remember, what happens at the Shades, stays at the Shades!

Donna Rutz, Women's Representative

The Prez Sez...

Directors and league executives have been working to ensure that everyone is back into the "swing of things" and with a few leagues changing start times, it appears that everyone is on track for another exciting year of curling.

There are some great bonspiels coming up – see our bulletin boards. Also, eycc.ca or eastycurling.ca is the perfect way to check on events, schedules and standings.

A big thank you to the Ice Maintenance team for getting the ice into great shape!

Anyone who has not made arrangements with Carolyn regarding their membership, please see her immediately to avoid loss of playing time.

CLUB ROSTERS will be ready shortly.

In the next few weeks you'll be hearing about:

KITCHEN FACILITIES On The Rocks catering company provides us with weekly kitchen service as well as being the dedicated caterers for our bonspiels. The Board will be asking each Member a non-binding referendum-like question regarding Member support for our kitchen service. Please take a minute to complete a short questionnaire. The results will help us make the best decision for our Members.

VOLUNTEER Board Members will be asking you about volunteering at league or board level. We want to know what we can do to encourage participation in the Club. Opportunities to effect change, be part of the decision making, or socialize with people who have great stories of the club are all good reasons for joining the volunteers. We won't leave you on your own but will volunteer-share over the next season or so as you get comfortable. Any of us (myself, Gord Shepherd, Sandra Gabriel, Vicki Marianchuk or Robert Bunten); can tell you what we do and how much time is spent.

Or contact me – I'll return your call as quickly as possible. Michele Misura, President

Bring a Friend Day for Little Rocks

by Krista Halmos

The Little Rocks tore up the place on November 4th. With an all-time high of 25 kids enrolled in Little Rocks this season, I knew Bring a Friend Day was going to be a challenge. Why, I asked myself, did so many of the friends turn out to be six-year-old boys that liked to sword fight with their brooms?? I don't get it. We had to keep them interested, make it fun, keep them moving, challenge them – I know – GIVE THEM CANDY BARS! It's quite amazing how the ability to slide out of the hack improves when there is a CoffeeCrisp six feet away! The forty kids enjoyed an afternoon of getting into positions they had never tried before while staying upright on the ice – thank goodness for helmets. Afterwards, they were treated to a wonderful selection of Halloween themed treats baked by one of the Moms. Thank you to all who helped out on the ice that day. ♦

So You Think You Can Sing?

The mixed committee and Aidan Ritchie hosted a Karaoke Night at the club on Friday, November 16th and it was a great success. Keep your eyes out for the next night of singing (?) and general silliness. ♦

Get yourself on the E-NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION LIST. To subscribe, submit an article or a joke, e-mail sandra.gabriel@rogers.com OR eastycurling@rogers.com or place it in my mail box at the Club. Looking forward to hearing from you.
– Sandra Gabriel, Editor

It's Your Club – Why Not Have a Say in How it is Run?

All positions at Board level are open at the end of the season. Please give some thought to volunteering, either in your league or on the Executive Board.

Bonspeils

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE FUN EVENTS:

Mixed Kick Off	Saturday, November 24, 2007
Bantam/Jr Bonspiel	Saturday, December 8, 2007
OCA Regionals	Saturday, January 5, 2008 Sunday, January 6, 2008
Energizer Men	Tuesday, January 8, 2008 Thursday, January 10, 2008
Little Rocks Bonspiel	Saturday, January 12, 2008
The Shades Bonspiel	Saturday January 19th, 2008
Senior Men Bonspiel	Friday, January 25, 2008
Mixed Soap Spiel	Saturday, January 26, 2008
Energizer Mixed	Saturday, February 16, 2008
OCA Mixed	Saturday, February 23, 2008 Sunday, February 24, 2008
Kings Feast	Saturday, March 1, 2008
March Madness	Monday, March 3, 2008
St. Patrick's Bonspiel	Friday, March 14, 2008
Spring Thaw	Friday, March 15, 2008
Chandler Cup	Sat, April 12, 2008 Sun, April 20, 2008
Sunshine Spiel	Saturday, April 5, 2008
Tailender Bonspiel	Saturday, April 19, 2008

Proshop at EYCC

Distributor for Asham Curling Supplies:
Contact Corina Mark or Aidan Ritchie

WHAT IS THE EXECUTIVE BOARD & WHAT DO THEY DO?

Executive Board Members attend monthly board meetings during the season and executive and board meetings in the off-season. They may also attend specially called meetings to discuss specific issues that arise. Often suggested changes require some research on the part of a Board Member, who would then report to the Executive with the appropriate recommendation, upon which decisions are made. As for time commitments, this might be 1-2 hours a month, with more time required for research if the need arises.

Executive Board Members may sometimes sit on special committees, created to investigate various issues. For example recent committees looked at new equipment and club renovations. The Executive oversees a broad range of issues from fees, major dates to facility logistics. Anything that effects the entire club not just one section is generally overseen by the Executive Board.

Some jobs have specific responsibilities:

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

supports the President. This is often considered one of "duties as assigned". The Second VP's opinion is very valued at all meetings and is often someone who can take on a leadership role when required.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

supports the President mainly through suggestions from the Board and Executive meetings, often a considered "duties as assigned". The Second VP's opinion is very valued at all meetings and is often someone who can take on a leadership role when required.

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

The Social director usually runs the Tail Ender, coordinates the Rock Talk and helps promote activities around the club.

SECRETARY

Takes minutes at meetings and submits a final copy to the club manager for copying and distribution. At the end of the year the secretary prepares a flyer with information about the Annual General Meeting as well as takes and prepare the minutes of the AGM.

TREASURER

The Treasurer maintains a full and on-going record of all accounts and moneys payable or paid by or to The Club and completes a financial report and presents it to The Club at the Annual General Meeting

OCA/TCA REPRESENTATIVE

Attends and represents our club at 2-3 OCA and TCA meetings a year. Reports to the board on changes and discussions regarding rules and regulations of play. Overseas the OCA and TCA events run at the club either directly or indirectly.