

St. John's Curling Association

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2007

From the President...

Paul Currie
President

Welcome to this year's first edition of the St. John's Curling Association's newsletter. In just a few short weeks we will be throwing rocks again to start the 2007-08 curling season. Much has happened since the end of last season.

I am pleased to advise the membership that starting August 27 we will be starting with the installation of a new lighting system, with improved fixtures and energy efficient bulbs. The cost of this project is approximately \$25,000.00, and we have contracted Eelco do this for us. The anticipated energy savings will be \$7000.00 annually, and will give the ice shed, lounge, and upstairs lounge area improved lighting to hopefully help us increase our rental revenues. It will only take four years to pay for this project in full, and then the Association will realize annual savings of the figure above. This project will be completed prior to Targa arriving in the ice shed on September 7 and will be a most welcomed change to the Centre.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank past presidents Roy Hodder, Bob Osborne, Gary Tiller and Mike Morrissey for their contribution in laying a solid foundation on which we can continue to build and improve the Centre to meet the needs of its

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Membership

Vanessa Pennell Mercer
Membership Director

Hi Everyone, and welcome back! Attached with the newsletter you will find the SJCA Membership Form for 2007-2008. The membership review last year resulted in some changes to the membership form, including the simplification of the membership categories, and the adjustment of discount rates to be on par with those of similar clubs around the country. As the form has changed, and new categories are now in place (described on the second page), we would appreciate it if everyone could fill out and submit their form as early as possible. You will also find on option on this year's form to have your telephone contact information posted in a password protected environment on the SJCA website. This will assist members in contacting each other in the event of changes in schedule or requirement for spares. Please ensure that you select the option box when you fill out your form.

The deadline for the full payment of membership fees is October 31st and a minimum of one third of fees must be paid prior to playing any game. These policies will be enforced. Completed forms and fees may be submitted to Mike Morrissey at the Club. In addition, the early bird draw will be September 20th. Members who have paid their fees prior to that date will be eligible for the draw.

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Calling All Volunteers

Andrew Mercer
2nd Vice-president

If you attended the St. John's Curling Association's Annual General Meeting on June 28th, you heard several references to the need for volunteers. If you thought this might be for you but didn't know the details, here is some information that might be helpful.

The Club often needs help with events (especially in the summer) and with improvements that can easily be done by volunteers. This often helps us reduce costs and in turn allows us to do more with less.

Here are some of the things you can do:

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members. Their solid management these past few years have seen us improve financially, and their hard work has allowed us to start some of the many projects we had delayed for fiscal reasons. An upgrade and renovation to the men's washroom has been completed; we have cleaned up and replaced the flooring in the main entrance; a new coat of paint has been added to much of the lounge areas; and we are in the process of finalizing quotes to install 3 new championship display cases. We will unveil these cases at a special dinner in the fall to honour the Mark Nichols Canadian Mixed Team, Brad Gushue's Olympic Gold Medal Team, and Stacie Devereaux's Canadian Championship and World Silver Medallist team. These are but a few of the improvements occurring at the club, and we will work throughout the season to address other issues such as accessibility ramps and door entrances, and repairs to the a/c unit.

Please take a look at the listings further down in this newsletter for the Executive and Advisory Board. Many of them are serving on the board for the first time, and on behalf of the Association we wish them well in their new positions. If you would like to know about a certain area or to volunteer, please contact the appropriate Director with your comments and suggestions.

The success of any club is dependent upon its members. We ask that you support your club by participating in the various fundraising activities throughout the year and assisting in a volunteer capacity. Our new manager, Mike Morrissey, has been working hard over the summer to better the club, and has been a tremendous asset to us. He has been actively using volunteers, and I thank all those that have given of their time, whose support is invaluable to our success.

We will have a new ice maker this season. Frank Tobin is new to the curling scene, and has been undergoing training to get ready for the upcoming season. He just returned from Moncton, where he assisted with the installation of the ice at the Beausejour Curling Club. We will work throughout the season to give him as much training as possible. Tony Angel has been contracted to install the ice for us this season, as well as do the burns every five weeks. Frank and a team of seasoned volunteer ice makers will complement him, and I ask all of you for your support and patience as Frank learns the trade of making curling ice. Frank comes to us after spending seven years with Twin Rinks, and is a qualified refrigeration technician that has been in the industry for the past 20 years.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and clean up your shoes and brooms, we are less than a month away from starting up the plant again for another successful curling season.

Yours in curling,
Paul Currie
President

MARKETING

Nick Lane - Marketing Director

Welcome all curlers to the 2007/2008 curling season at the Re/Max Centre. This year promises to be another exciting one.

You, our members, are our biggest asset for recruitment, so we are looking you to help increase our membership numbers, particularly in morning curling. Spread the word about what you love about the sport and in-turn (pardon the pun) help the club grow. Tell friends, family, colleagues, and anyone else about membership opportunities, and remember; we have programs to suit all skills, schedules and ages. New memberships bring great benefits to the club and all of the members.

If you have any questions, comments, or are just looking for someone to scream at, you can call me, Nick Lane at 685-3170 or e-mail me at nick.lane@ignitepartners.ca.

Upcoming Events*...

@ the Re/Max Centre

Aug 25	Hey Rosetta – Volunteers needed
Sep 06	Mainstream Wrestling
Sep 08 & 09	TARGA
Sep 20	First Membership Draw & Early Bird Draw
Oct 1	Ice scheduled to be ready to curl
Oct 2, 3, & 4	Free Learn to Curl Lessons for family and friends
First week in Oct	Deadline for League Sign-up
Mid to late Oct	New Members Night
Oct /Nov	Opening Fun Spiel
Oct 31	Deadline for membership dues

* All events are tentative at time of Newsletter printing. Please see website and/ or events board for more accurate dates.

For large events in the ice shed:

- Set-up (and take-down) of chairs and tables.
- Bartending: this does not necessarily mean using the bar system. We usually set up smaller bars out in the shed that are easy to handle.
- Beer/Drink ticket sales: if the event is large enough, we have set up small tables to sell beer/drink tickets. This allows us to run the bars without worrying about cash which means patrons are served fast!
- Restocking the smaller bars.
- Gathering empty bottles and glasses.

Club Maintenance:

- Painting: most years, there are things that need painting so if you can use a paintbrush, you can help!
- Plastering: Normal wear and tear on the club means plastering is sometimes needed. If you have this skill ... you can help!
- Light carpentry: repair work and construction.

During the Curling Season:

- The Membership Desk: on Membership Draw nights, volunteers man this desk selling the tickets and compiling the list of who has purchased them.
- Phone Committee: some members do not have access to email. These are personally called with news throughout the season. The numbers to call are manageable and a team of people doing this makes it easy.
- Bartending: there are off-peak hours on Saturday's and Sunday's that could use a few volunteers. If you've never used the bar system before, training will be provided.

Social functions:

- Decorating.
- Preparing trays of sandwiches, veggies, etc.

If you can spare a little time to volunteer, please contact:

Andrew Mercer

2nd Vice-President

Email: andrewdmercerc@gmail.com .

Please include the things you are interested in as well as your contact information.

2007 2008 EXECUTIVE

President	Paul Currie
1st Vice-President	Bill Budgetell
2nd Vice-President	Andrew Mercer
Secretary	Susie Ennis
Treasurer	Janet Gillespie
Property	Mike Doucet
Membership	Vanessa Pennell Mercer
Marketing	Nick Lane
Special Projects	Joanne Smith
Social	Wendy Beckett
Junior Development	<i>vacant</i>
Curling	Harold Walters
Morning Curling	Steve Knight
Past President	Gary Tiller

2007-2008 Advisory Board

Bill Day	Wilf Parsons	Shirley Kelly
Bill Earle	Bob Osborne	Damian Ryan

WANTED

Creative, social, dedicated people to be a part of the **SJCC Social Committee**. As a member of this committee you would be helping with membership draws, as well as ongoing social event planning and implementation.

If you are interested please contact
Wendy Beckett at
wendy.beckett@aliant.ca

CURLING

Harold Walters – Curling Director

Hey guys it will soon be time to put away the clubs and dig out the broom and shoes as we start another curling season. The club has a very busy season ahead of us with most of the weekends being already booked. As for the nightly schedules I do not foresee any changes from last year as this seemed to have worked well but of course this will depend on the number of teams for each league. I will look forward to penciling you in, see you all soon and hope you enjoy the rest of your summer.

A copy of this newsletter and other Club items are posted to the Club website at www.stjohnscurlingclub.com

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

Mike Morrissey – Manager

Hello Everyone,

The dog days of summer are nearly past and we only three weeks away from the plant start up. Barring any mechanical difficulties or extremes in weather, we are just about five weeks to first rocks.

As most of you know I started as the manager of the Re/Max Centre in late May and I have greatly enjoyed my busy summer here at the club. I have had the very able assistance of Wilf Parsons and emir Roy Hodder in completing some long overdue projects at the club. I would especially like to thank Wilf, who gave so much of his time, as well as others who assisted in bartending at large events. Their help makes these events run smoothly.

Julie Devereaux has been a trooper and has attained an apprenticeship in painting. Julie was hired under the Student Work program. She may have contacted you while updating our member contact information.

We have a new icemaker this year. I look forward to working with Frank, Reg, Linda, Andrea in providing you our members with a wonderful year of curling, fellowship and fun.

We hope to have scheduling software in place soon which will help us communicate to all members what is available both on and off ice.

We have added some new events to our summer calendar and they plan on returning to our great facility next year. We still have some big events happening in the ice shed prior to start up, so if you'd like to help out give me a call. We can always use a helping hand.

The new membership forms are created. Please complete yours and drop it into the club. I can process your payments as you desire. **My current office hours are from 8:30am - 4:30pm.** I will adjust that as membership starts flowing in, but please respect that I will be doing accounting each day from about 10:00am – 11:30 am.

I look forward to seeing you all soon and please remember that we will again be offering Free Lessons that first week we have our ice so tell neighbours or friends to come by and give curling a try.

Free Curling Lessons:

With the curling season fast approaching, we'll be looking for volunteers to help with beginner lessons, both on and off the ice. Tentatively, lessons are scheduled for October 2, 3, and 4. Also, please spread the word that the beginner's sessions are available for anyone, and absolutely free. They provide a great chance for people to drop by the club and try out the game.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Vanessa Pennell Mercer, the membership director vpennell@rmri.ca

LOCKERS:

You may have noticed that locker rentals are not on the membership form this year. If you wish to rent a locker please complete the form attached to the locker and turn it in to the bar or the Manager.

\$20 Single Locker + HST

\$40 Double Locker + HST

BAR TABS:

All bar tabs must be set up again this year, as any past bar tabs have been cancelled. All members requiring a bar tab must see the manager, complete a form, and leave a credit card on file.

Early Bird Draw

on
September 20th

The deadline to qualify for the early bird draw is
Sept 19, 2007.

All fees must be paid to be eligible.

The prizes will be:

2 draws for \$100.00 bar tabs each.

CONTACT INFO:

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The Re/Max Centre
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St. John's NL A1A 5G6

Phone: (709) 722-3290

Email: manager@stjohnscurlingclub.com

Web: www.stjohnscurlingclub.com