

DEAR CURLERS

In June It was my honour to be elected as President of the SJCC for the 2017-2018 season. It was also my honour to welcome the Board of Directors for this year as follows:

Executive

President – John Sheppard
1st Vice President – Gary Ryan
2nd Vice President – Pam Osbonre
Treasurer – Carolyn Walters
Secretary & Media – Carrie Vautour

Directors

Curling – Bob Osbonre
Junior Curling – Laura Phillips
Social – Vanessa Pennell Mercer
Special Events – John Barron
Morning Curling – Reg Reid

Well everyone, another curling season is just around the corner. And while this past year certainly was an exciting one, hosting the Brier in St. John's, we're looking forward to another year with just as much excitement!

When you return in October you will see some changes to the club. Over the summer there has been nearly \$400,000 spent in upgrades. There is a new ramp and canopy installed on the front of the building, as well as accessibility upgrades on the interior. The biggest project has been the replacement of the ice plant. Work has been ongoing throughout the summer, and the new plant should be ready to start up this Wednesday! Last year part of the plant failed, and with such an important season, we didn't want to take the chance of a total breakdown. The new plant is a tremendous investment in the future of the club. The design also calls for a heating recovery system that we hope will be installed in the coming years.

For the first time, we have offered junior curling registration online. The interest has far exceeded expectations, but we still have room to grow. So please spread the word to as many people as possible. Note that we have a new league called Youth Learn to Curl on Saturdays from 12-1pm.

We will be using a new registration system this year called Curling I/O. It will make league management much easier, with schedules and results being posted the same way you would see for Curling Canada events. With this new system, all curlers participating in leagues will need to be registered and paid online by **October 11th at 7:00pm.**



John Sheppard

President

St. John's Curling Association

sjccpresident@gmail.com

The calendar of events for the whole year is available on the main page of the website, so be sure to check out what events are scheduled for this season.

This year we want to take full advantage of the exposure gained from the Brier, and to do that we need **YOUR** help! Whenever you see a social media post from the RE/MAX Centre, please take a moment to share with your friends! The more we're able to get the word out, the better. We also need some help with upcoming open houses. We had over 200 people come through the doors after the Brier, and we are expecting big numbers again. So, if you could spare some time on Saturday, October 14th, please let me know.

We also need volunteers on Saturday evenings to help provide instruction to the Saturday Social League. This league is very important, as many people transfer from Saturday Social to become full members. Again, if you are available to help out on Saturday evenings, please let us know.

There is a great sense of community at the St. John's Curling Club, and I am hoping we can showcase our strong community, along with the wonderful sport of curling to as many new people as possible. If you haven't volunteered at the club before, this is the time to start! If everyone contributed a small amount of time, it would make a big difference to the future of the RE/MAX Centre.

During the open house on Saturday, October 14th, we would like to invite everyone to attend a welcome back party. This is a great opportunity for new curlers to meet regular curlers, and get familiar with the St. John's Curling Club.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the board for the past 6 years, and I'm looking forward to another great year! If you ever have any questions, comments, or suggestions about the running of the club, please feel free to send me an email at any time!

Kind regards,

John Sheppard