



Elmira & District Curling Club

March 2014 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming events

2014

March 29 – Glow in the Dark
Bonspiel

April 5 - Maple Syrup Bonspiel

April 9 – Ladies Banquet

April 12 – Year-end potluck

**Please visit the website for
more details on upcoming
events!**

Did you know?

We're on Facebook! Check out the "Elmira & District Curling Club" group.



Message from the President

Canada wins double curling gold at the 2014 Olympics and curling gold at the 2014 Paralympics! Great performances and world recognition for our sport!

Back here at home, we've had another busy month at the Club! Thanks to bonspiel organizers and other volunteers, we hosted several more successful bonspiels. You can read more about them in this newsletter.

The Hot Shots final and Brier party was a success and congratulations to Lavern Brubacher who scored an impressive 19 out of a possible 20 points during the competition!

As you know our rocks were textured in February. We have hired Damien Villard to match our stones on April 7.

On February 21, we held an Olympic Open house to invite the public to come and find out what curling is all about. We had a good turnout with both young people and adults interested in the sport attending.

A few days ago, I sent you a link to a general member survey as the Board is looking for your feedback on a number of items. If you haven't already completed it, I encourage you to do so by April 7. Paper copies are also available at the bar. We've already received more than 50 responses! Don't forget, there is a draw for a \$50 pro-shop prize just for completing a survey.

Check out the rest of this newsletter for other important Club information.

Good curling.

Thank you.

Bill Barr, President, Elmira & District Curling Club



Junior Curling update

Our Junior program has continued to be very busy through February and March with our athletes participating in a number of events over the past six weeks.

Elmira Junior bonspiel

Our annual Junior bonspiel was held on Saturday, February 8. The bantam draw, which competed for the Ted Starling trophy, included participating teams from Elmira, K-W Granite, Oakville, Milton, London and Fergus. The Little Rock draw, which competed for the Norm Clement trophy, included teams from Elmira, Milton, Fergus, K-W Granite and Palmerston.

The bantam winners were the Bauman rink from K-W Granite, with skip Caleb Bauman, third Sam Delattre, second Jed Currie and lead Wesley Costen. The winning Little Rock rink was our own Ronson rink from Elmira, with Olivia Ronson at skip, Riley Domaratzki at third, Matthew Kraemer at second, and Adrianna Molenaar at lead.

Many thanks to bonspiel assistants Deb Wells and Julie Jones; icemaker Rob Shaw; photographer Kevin Garrett of PKG Photography for the team photographs; Noreen Michels who created a fabulous home-made lasagna lunch for all of the participants; and to kitchen staff Peter Michels and Edwin and Jeanette Kling.

OCA Bantam mixed zone playdowns

February 22-23 saw three teams from Elmira compete in the OCA Bantam Mixed zone 12 playdowns at the Fergus Curling Club. The three teams were:



Team Bean (coached by Marc Bernard)

From left to right: Third Thomas Kraemer; Lead Kyle Henry; Second Veronica Bernard. Missing: Skip Natalie Bean



Team McKenzie (coached by Julie Poluck)

From left to right: Skip Emma McKenzie; Third Andrew Paulley; Lead Ryan Paulley; Second Erica Poluck



Team Poluck (coached by Glenn Paulley)

From left to right: Skip Alison Poluck; Lead Quentin Mayer; Third Sam Domaratzki; Second Morgan Hanley

All three teams put in their best efforts and we are very proud of all of their performances in what was a competitive draw with 8 rinks competing for two spots at Regionals. Teams Bean and Poluck were eliminated from the double-knockout competition by the end of Saturday's play, but Team McKenzie, who lost a very close game to Matthew Hall of Westmount in the opening draw, continued on the B-side through to Sunday, eventually conceding to Team Ribau of Galt in the B-side semi-final.

Congratulations to all three teams!

Rob Shepherd Lite Rock bonspiel - Westmount G&CC

Two Little Rock teams from Elmira competed at the annual Rob Shepherd bonspiel at the Westmount Golf and Country Club the first weekend of March. The teams, skipped by 11-yr-old Olivia Ronson and 12-yr-old Connor Stone and coached by Marc Bernard, had a terrific day of curling with Olivia executing perhaps the shot of the year, a surgical tap-back through a port for three in the final end of her first game to salvage a tie.

Upcoming events

We continue to be busy through to the end of curling season. March 22 sees three bantam teams competing at Bantam Interclub in Elora against teams from Shelburne, Elora and Orangeville. The annual Monkey Bonspiel at the K-W Granite Club runs on Saturday, April 12 with two Elmira little rock teams participating. Our Sunday practice on March 23 will include a clinic run by the Wilfrid

Laurier University Junior Varsity women's curling team for both the Little Rock and Bantam teams. Our last practice of the 2013-2014 curling season will be on Sunday, March 30; only the bantams will practice that day as the curling club is booked for a bonspiel through 3 p.m. Finally, our closing pot-luck dinner and award presentation will be held on Saturday, April 12 (following the conclusion of the Monkey Bonspiel at the Granite) starting at 4:30 p.m.

Glenn Paulley
Junior Curling

2014/2015 membership packages

Membership packages for the 2014-2015 curling season have been finalized. There is a package for everyone or every family/couple located in the lounge. Changes* include:

- the refundable duty fee has been increased to \$100
- the capital charge has been increased to \$20
- the Tuesday 6:30 p.m. draw has been changed to an "Open" draw from strictly men's

Please take this opportunity to talk with your current team about whether you are staying together and/or other members about forming new teams for the upcoming season. It is a lot easier to discuss now than to track people down before season starts in the fall. Paul Fusari is skipping a team of Curling 101 graduates on Sunday night next season and we would love to have another member step up and skip an additional team of Curling 101 graduates! If you are looking for a new player for your team, consider one of our Curling 101 participants as there are some great curlers in the group!

If you have any questions about membership or would like to curl another night or find a team but aren't sure who to talk to, please contact Colleen at membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca or 519-669-9208

* We conducted a fee comparison of comparable clubs in our area and our fees are less than or comparable to those clubs plus we have more membership levels and payment options. For the 4th year in a row there has been no increase in the base membership fees.



Name tags

The name tags have finally been received and are located on the bar. If you haven't picked yours up please take it next time you are at the club. We apologize for the long delay in getting the name tags. There was a lot of confusion at the company who produces the name tags this season!



Curling 101

We will be wrapping up another very successful Curling 101 session on April 3. Through Curling 101 the participants learn the basics of technique for delivery and sweeping, etiquette, game play and strategy. They all have a very strong foundation to now move into the other leagues at the club and will be great additions to our membership going forward. I want to give a heartfelt thank-you to Paul Fusari, Chen Hui and Glenn Paulley who were out at the club each week instructing for this session. They graciously offer their time and commitment and without these volunteers we would not be able to run this program! Paul Fusari will be taking over organizing this program in the fall, so if you are interested in helping out instructing or facilitating games, please let him know (or me and I'll pass the message along) and we can add you to our helper list for the fall.

Colleen Coghlin

Elmira Hot Shots Final and Brier Party

Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate the Brier Final on Sunday, March 9. We enjoyed a chili dinner, with apple crisp for dessert, kindly provided by Doug and Sandra Fickling. Paul Fusari created the 50/50 squares board that was displayed the prior week. Leslie Cornwell was the winner after the fifth end and received \$20. The big winner for the final score of the game, 10-5, was Twyla Gilbert winning \$68.50.

We kicked the party off with our Hot Shot Finalists from throughout the curling season. The participants were: Al Jorgenson, Bob Johnson, Cheryl Leis, Paul Fusari, Lavern Brubacher, Colleen Coghlin, and Dave Nelson.

Each participant completed the following four hot shots: Hit and Stay, Draw to the button, Raise, and lastly the Hit and Roll.

The big winner of the evening was Lavern Brubacher who received 19 out of a possible 20 points for his shots. Lavern received a \$20 Tim Horton's gift card, a Ford Hot Wheel vehicle, and his name will be placed on our new Ford Truck Trophy that was kindly donated by Colleen Coghlin and will be displayed in our club.

The second and third place winners each received a \$10 Tim Horton's gift card. Congratulations to Colleen Coghlin (11 points), and Dave Nelson (10 points).

Thank you for a great season!

Melody Martin

Club and Special Events Coordinator



Elmira bonspiels continue to be successful thanks to the efforts of our volunteers

Mens Striploin Classic – Brian Morris

The February 4 Striploin Classic bonspiel was again a popular event. All but one team returned, and that team (Rick Martin's) has already indicated they want back in next year. The teams that took to the ice in the first draw were from our general area: KW Granite, Guelph, Elora/Westmount, Palmerston, and one from Elmira (Bob Johnson), but the late draw included teams from as far away as Niagara Falls, Brampton, and Toronto (Leaside CC). There were 10 disappointed teams on the wait list.

Despite the snowstorm, all teams showed up and we started on time. Foodland again provided lunch meats and buns. Joe Blake and Doug Fickling slaved over the BBQ (thanks to Les Sulpher and the Woodburner for the equipment) and produced nicely-done Striploin steaks for dinner, only lightly dusted with fresh snow. Dianne Crossley's kitchen crew came on strong, as well.

The early draw was won by Paul Huether's Guelph CC team, over Tim Taylor's KW Granite team (skipped by Steve Krupicz). The late draw was won by Bob Whittacker's Brampton team (skipped by Bruce Tune) over Gord Connon's KW Granite team. Enjoy those steak prizes guys, and share the donated Wellington beer prize packs with your buddies.

There have some gripes about the spiel running late in previous years, so we tried something

different this year. The spiel still consists of 8-end games (most of the time), in a win-loss format, but only undefeated teams are guaranteed 8-end games. They get assigned the ices that become available soonest (if some games run late) so they never have to wait for a late game to end on "their" ice. The teams no longer in contention for 1st place are assigned ices as they become available. These non-championship games can (if necessary) be shortened to 7 or 6 ends (never shorter) if the ices they are assigned are running very late. Teams are told how many ends to play before they go onto the ice. Ties were broken by a half end (4 rocks/team), then a draw to the button if necessary.

The system isn't perfect. If a game runs late, the slow players aren't the ones who have their games shortened, and one of the skips was vehemently opposed to the idea of breaking a tie with anything less than a full 9th end, but the spiel did end on time this year for the first time that I can remember, and the post-game survey indicated that only two of the teams preferred the old format, versus six that preferred the new format (with 3 non-preferences, 4 non-replies, and 1 new team). I think we will do this again at least one more year, but I will go onto the ice to try to encourage slow players to hurry up.

Brian



Ribs and Tails Bonspiel – Dianne Crossley

Throughout the Ribs and Tails Bonspiel on Saturday, March 1, 2014 each curling team participated in the 2014 Elmira Winter Olympics. Events included the crokinole curling challenge, Dutch shuffleboard challenge, physical team relay challenges and an Olympic Brain Teaser. After many laughs and tears watching the "push ups", the crowd cheering and shouting for Canada curling teams, we presented gold, silver and bronze Reid Chocolate Medals to our winners. After a drug scandal our drug tester, Dr. Lester Sulpher determined we had cheaters on each draw so we sadly had to strip medals from teams resulting with curlers leaving the podium with heads hanging low, ashamed. Sadly the team of Icemaker Rob Shaw, Colleen Coghlin and Melody Martin from Elmira left the podium in disgrace. Watch those guys in future spiels!

Tons of Fun had by all!!

Dianne



Silver medal winners Crossley team



Bob Skura team, Westmount Curling Club, gold medal late draw.



Silver medals, Funston team, Tara Curling Club late draw



Bronze medals to McKinnon team late draw, Tara Curling Club



Texas BBQ Bonspiel – John Hrabi

The 2014 Men's Texas BBQ bonspiel saw 12 returning teams and 4 new ones. The clubs represented were Ayr (4), KW Granite (4), Galt Country (3), Galt (2), Guelph Curling (1), Maitland (1) and Elmira (1).

Marc Joyce's squad from K-W Granite successfully defended their title in the 9 a.m. draw and Daryl Tyrwhitt and his team from Galt Country took the 11 a.m. draw.

Everyone enjoyed themselves – especially The New World Curlers from Guelph. They were particularly pleased with their summer sausage winnings. The lads from Ayr, known for their strong financial support of the bar, didn't disappoint.

Our event sponsors play a big part in ensuring a successful bonspiel. Participating again this year were Foodland (deli meats and kaisers), Good's Automotive (cash), Woodburner (BBQ and propane) and Wellington Breweries (six packs for the winners). A very special thanks to these local companies who continually support us. I hope that most of us can find an opportunity to support them.

And, as is well known, the success of events like the Texas BBQ bonspiel depends on our club members who volunteer. The crew who worked the kitchen, the bar and the BBQ made a big difference – and the visiting teams really appreciated it. Thank you for your contribution. Based on previous feedback, we kept the three 8-end format for the bonspiel. Rob, our ice maker, did a great job of preparing sheets as they became available. And, with cooperation from the curlers and a bit of luck, we managed to keep the bonspiel on schedule.

From the comments I received from many of the curlers, we can expect many returning teams for the 2015 Men's Texas BBQ bonspiel.

John

Teacher's Bonspiel – Brian Rainville

The 13th annual Teachers' Bonspiel was a success. Both draws were filled. We had teams travelling from Collingwood, Brampton, Stratford, Guelph, K-W, and a good representation from Elmira as well. The furthest traveller was Elmira member Brian Henry, who returned from Mexico just for this bonspiel!

Our club received many compliments for our hospitality, meals and a fun day. The newly re-textured rocks made the games exciting and helped even out the competition.

The Draw 1 winning team was the Roy Wuertle Team from Westmount C.C. Lead Roy Wuertle , Skip Bob Toogood, Vice Keith McKenzie, and Second Gerry Dolff.)





The Draw 2 winning team was the Juli Roslin Team from Chingaucousy C.C. Lead Leslie Moyer, Second Cathy Kovacs, Vice Paul Roslin, and Skip Juli Roslin.



A big thank you for support of this spiel goes to Dianne Crossley for setting up the meals and prizes, Dan Donaldson for setting up the bar and running a few errands for us, our ice maker, Robert Shaw, for maintaining great ice over six 6-end games plus scraping the ice for the our evening Men's leagues and the great volunteer team that served the meals. Our volunteers showed true Elmira hospitality to our guests. As draw master I could not have run a successful spiel without the support of these people and the Club's Board.

Brian

Year-end party

Everyone is welcome to attend a year-end Potluck dinner on Saturday, April 12. We will have family friendly games starting at 4:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. Following dinner we will be presenting our Junior Curling awards.

TV Raffle – get your tickets soon!

Elmira & District Curling Club is conducting a TV raffle 50" Plasma TV with 2 year extended warranty, retail value \$1,300. Second and third place prizes in the amount of \$250 and \$100. Tickets are available from Linda Dickson and Dan Donaldson or at the bar. 500 tickets will be sold at a cost of 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20. Draw to be made Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at the Elmira & District Curling Club, 40 Eldale Rd, Elmira.

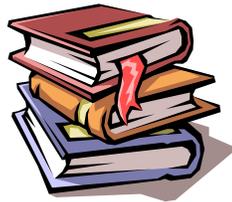
50/50 draw

Our 50/50 weekly draw is going strong with proceeds going to ongoing improvements around the Club. There is a binder and payment jar located at the bar.



Used books

Thanks to everyone who buys and donates books. Please continue to bring in your used books and leave them on the bookshelf for your fellow Club members to purchase and enjoy. Sales have been used to purchase an icemaker for the bar.



Used cell phones



Have you ever wondered what to do with your old cell phones? Do you have them stashed in a drawer just collecting dust? The Waterloo County Shrine Club would like to help you out with that! Partnering with a high tech recycling firm, the Shriner's are turning your old phones into valuable funds that help support the many good causes of the philanthropy, such as our 22 Children's Hospitals, or patient transportation to them. Please consider bringing these old phones out to the Club and drop them into the green and white recycling box that has been placed beside the used book store. Thanks, from Shriner Doug Fickling.

Pro-Shop

Our Pro Shop carries an extensive range of curling supplies from Goldline, Balance Plus and Tournament Sports. If you don't see what you want, check out our suppliers' websites. We can order from any of them. We have clothing, jewelry and novelty items for that special person on your list. All profits from the shop go to support our curling programs here at the club.

For purchases see Virginia Henry, Linda Dickson, Brian Henry or Scott Foerster.

Your 2013-2014 Board of Directors

President	Bill Barr
Past President	Brian Henry
Vice-President	vacant
Secretary	Marc Bernard
Treasurer	Dianne Sherwood
Membership Manager	Colleen Coghlin
Food Services	Dianne Crossley
House Facilities	Lavern Brubacher
Club & Special Events	Melody Martin
Junior Curling	Glenn Paulley
Communications	Pat Johnson

The Board meets the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to attend these meetings or they are welcome to review the minutes located in the lounge. If you have any comments or suggestions about anything at the club, please feel free to contact a board member to discuss. We are still looking for someone for the Vice-President position. If you're interested in filling this position or if you are interested in becoming a board member for the 2014-2015 season, please contact Bill Barr.

Attention All Elmira Curling Ladies

Join the fun this year at the Ladies Year End Banquet!

April 9th at 6:30

Ticket: \$20.00

This Year's Theme "For the Birds"



[dinner, prizes, games, special drinks, draws, etc.]

Tickets can be purchased at the bar or from Cam Mickinnon,

Wendy Anderson or Mary George