



Elmira & District Curling Club

## December 2014 NEWSLETTER

### Upcoming events

#### 2015

January 10 - Chocolate Lovers Ladies Bonspiel

January 31 - Men's Striploin Classic

February 7 - Little Rock/Junior

February 28 - Ribs 'n Tails

March 7 - Men's Texas BBQ

March 14 - Broom Sticks & Glow Sticks Bonspiel

March 16 - Teacher's Bonspiel

March 28 - Maple Syrup Bonspiel

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



### Message from the President

Christmas is just around the corner and with that comes a short break from our curling season. We're back on the ice on January 4, 2015.

Thanks to Lorne MacKinnon who has joined the Board as Vice President beginning in January. Welcome aboard!

A lot has been happening at our Club and this newsletter is filled with the details. Read about member accomplishments and updates to our programs like the successful Curling 101 and a report from Dianne Sherwood in Treasurer's Two Cents.

January sees the exciting continuation of bonspiels at our Club and also when our members start curling in provincial competitions around the area. Good luck to everyone.

We're looking for your ideas for the 2015/2016 season as the Board will be reviewing our membership fees and draws early in the New Year. Contact Colleen Coghlin with your ideas.

On behalf of the Board, have a safe and happy holiday season. See you in the New Year.

Thank you.

**Bill Barr**

President, Elmira & District Curling Club





## Ladies' Intercity League

The Ladies' Intercity League is a 6-week league that takes place from late October to early December. Clubs participating included Acton, Chinguacousy (Brampton), Elora, Fergus, Guelph, Milton, North Halton, Orangeville and Elmira. There were 22 teams this year including three teams from Elmira and games are played Friday mornings at various clubs. The league finished on December 5<sup>th</sup> with a "banquet" luncheon hosted by Acton Curling Club.

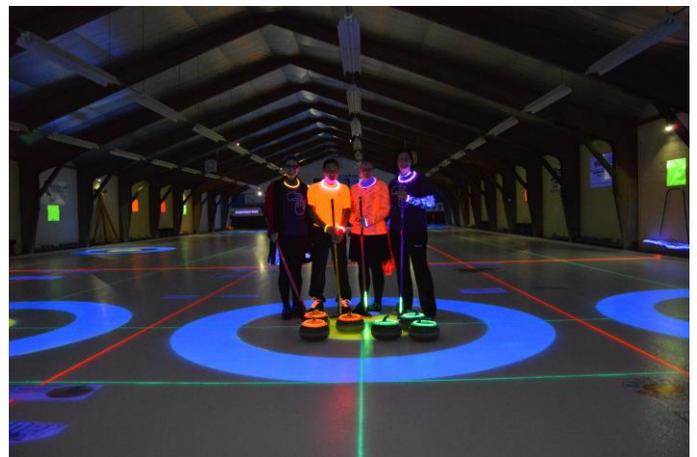
Congratulations to the Elmira team of Susan Martin, Colleen Coghlin, Gail McLeod, Virginia Henry, Mary George and Bonnie Murdoch who went undefeated and will bring the trophy back to Elmira!

If any lady curler thinks she might be interested in joining this league, either as a regular or as a spare, indicate on your membership registration next year.



## Glow-in-the-dark bonspiel

The first Glow-in-the-dark bonspiel was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and it was a great success. Half of the teams were new to a bonspiel at our Club with teams coming from as far as Detroit and Leamington. This bonspiel is a very fun and relaxed social bonspiel (because really how competitive can you get curling under black lights!). It is something different and unique that draws a lot of interest to our Club. The overall winner of the day was the Jenny Levy team from Detroit! Our second glow-in-the-dark bonspiel will be held on March 14, 2015. Registration is currently open to the returning teams, but email [glowbonspiel@hotmail.com](mailto:glowbonspiel@hotmail.com) if you want to be added to the waiting list.



## Ice Committee

Thanks to Ryan Marshall, Rob Shaw, Twyla Gilbert and Allan Dickson who are available to discuss any ice conditions and would welcome any comments.



## Junior Curling update

It has been a busy season thus far with the Elmira Junior program; we have nearly 60 children in the program, many of whom are participating in the sport for the first time.

On the weekend of November 28-30 Elmira hosted the second annual OJCT bantam cash bonspiel, with participating teams from across southern Ontario including communities such as Niagara Falls, Toronto, Whitby, Penetanguishene, and Hamilton. We sincerely appreciate the financial support of our sponsors: Frey Building Contractors of Hawkesville, Century Group Financial of Kitchener, Adventure Guide of Kitchener, Rudow's CARSTAR Autobody in Elmira, Martin Mills of Elmira, the Kiwanis Club of Elmira, and Programmed Insurance Brokers of Elmira. With that support we were able to raise the first-place prize money to \$500, a sizable prize for a bantam boys or girls team and we anticipate holding this event again in 2015. Winners of the 2014 edition were team Jaime Mitchell of Burlington in the boys' draw, and Emma Clendenan of Glendale in the girls' draw. Congratulations to all of the participants for a fine weekend of curling, including Team Anika Molenaar of Elmira and Team Veronica Bernard of Richmond Hill.



The following weekend (November 23) saw the junior curlers take to the ice to enjoy Glow-in-the-Dark curling, following the Glow-in-the-Dark bonspiel held the previous day. Many thanks to Melody Bridgen, Colleen Coghlin and the rest of the coaching staff for orchestrating and supervising all the young curlers as they got to experience glow-in-the-dark curling for the first time.

December 13 and 14 saw a number of Elmira teams participate in various events. Team Andrew Paulley, with Sam Domaratzki at third, Ryan Paulley at second, and Nate Wells at lead participated in a one-day open event at the London Curling Club in London and came away earning top honours overall. In Milton, who were hosting their annual Little Rock bonspiel, the team from Elmira skipped by William Henry with Larissa Musselman at third, Quinn Caplice at second, and 8-year-old Leia Wrigglesworth at lead went 1-1, earning a 6-2 win in the opening draw but losing their second game 6-5 to finish in third place overall. Finally, the K-W Granite Club hosted their bantam cash spiel on December 13-14 with youth from Elmira on three rinks: Team Molenaar, skipped by Anika Molenaar with third Emma McKenzie, second Kate Martin, and lead Alison Poluck in the girls' event; Team Veronica Bernard, skipped by Veronica and representing the Richmond Hill curling club; and finally Team Andrew Bauman from Listowel with Thomas Kraemer of Elmira throwing third stones. While none of the young teams above qualified for the playoffs, they each learned a variety of lessons and gained some valuable experience which will be exceedingly helpful with bantam zones beginning in mid-January.

January and February will be exceedingly busy months with the Junior program. In addition to a variety of Little Rock bonspiels (Brampton, K-W Westmount, Elmira) coming up, there are also bantam interclub events with our next installment this coming weekend (Dec. 20) in Orangeville. In addition, bantam zones and regionals run in mid-January, with Teams Bernard and Paulley entering Zone 12 representing Elmira, Teams Molenaar and Bauman also entering zones from their respective clubs.



**Curling 101 update by Paul Fusari**

Our 101 program continues to gain in popularity and we have a great group of new curlers this fall who are learning the ropes and having fun Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Many of these fine curlers-in-training have decided to stay with us for the Rookie League that starts in January! Registrations are also coming in for the Winter 101 session that begins January 29<sup>th</sup>. A BIG thank you to all the members who have volunteered to help and to our VERY dedicated instructors. Need a spare? Need a fill-in player? These curlers are ready for the jump to the big leagues!



**Rookie League - Fridays beginning in January**

Initially designed as a place where our Curling 101 graduates could move to, the new Rookie League is attracting the attention of past 101 graduates and novice curlers alike. This mini-league will run for 8 weeks beginning Jan. 23 to March 13 on Fridays at 8:30 p.m. (6-end games). It is open to members and non-members and we are allowing one experienced curler per team. It is expected this league will be full with 8 teams - all competing for novice supremacy and the top prize - Rookie Cookies!

**Good luck to members curling in upcoming competitions**

Ladies Best Western, Jan. 2 to 4, Arthur	Colleen Coghlin Cheryl Leis Melody Martin Jackie Gidge
Tim Hortons Master Womens Provincials, Jan. 7 to 11, Stirling Curling Club	Susan Martin (Team Cathy Shaw, Galt Curling Club)
Ladies Intermediates Zones, Jan. 9 to 11, Fergus	Twyla Gilbert Colleen Coghlin Linda Dickson Jennifer Bernard
Bantam Zones, Jan. 17 to 19, Elora	Veronica Bernard Claire Randell Morgan Blair Laura Blachier  Andrew Paulley Sam Domaratzki Ryan Paulley Tony Domzella
Mixed Zones, Jan. 30 to Feb. 1	Shawn Hamelin Colleen Coghlin David Miller Melody Martin
Grand Masters Mens Provincials, March 19 to 21, Thornhill Golf &Country Club	Lorne MacKinnon Stan Sitts Larry Hammond Dan Donaldson

*Our apologies if anyone was missed.*

**Ladies Chocolate Lovers Bonspiel – looking for draw table prizes**

If you have anything to donate, please contact Sheila Smith-Jones at jamjack@rogers.com.





## Have ideas for the 2015/2016 season?

Early in the New Year the Board will be reviewing our membership fees and draws in order to set the membership package for the 2015/2016 curling season which is distributed before the end of March 2015. If you have specific comments or ideas for the 2015/2016 season, please email [membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca](mailto:membership@elmiracurlingclub.ca) or contact Colleen Coghlin.

## Treasurer's Two Cents by Dianne Sherwood

Please email questions or topics for future articles to [treasurer@elmiracurlingclub.ca](mailto:treasurer@elmiracurlingclub.ca).

Well, we are off to a good financial start this season. Membership is up, mainly due to the efforts of the leaders of Curling 101. We had several “graduates” from last year join leagues this year. Many new people are trying out the sport in this year’s fall session of Curling 101. We also have more participants in the social draws. So even though we did not raise the membership rates this year, we have more revenue to cover operating expenses. We did increase the capital charge portion of the fees to cover some of the more costly repairs needed to keep our club running, like ice-making equipment maintenance (RO system) and the building repairs (eaves trough and sewer drainage). We also had to buy a new freezer for the kitchen. In the past 2 years of collecting money in the capital charge fund, we did not cover the cost of these repairs. However, we now have some money left in the capital charge fund to cover whatever crops up for the rest of

this season. There are always some unexpected costs to maintain our curling club, especially considering the age of the building.

## Sandy Shantz, mayor of Woolwich Township, hosted her election party at our Club on October 27



Patrick Merlihan, Councillor Ward 1 and Sandy Shantz



Jennifer Lipp, Club Manager, Bill Barr, Club President, Dianne Crossley, Board Member, and bartender Greg attend the event



### Pro-Shop

We carry 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 or Brian Henry.

The Elmira Curling Club Pro Shop now has some samples in stock and more can be ordered. See Virginia Henry or Linda Dickson for these items or any others which may interest you. Presently we have a limited supply of curling pants on sale. Check them out. We can also obtain stock from Goldline as well as Balance Plus and Tournament Sports. Check the catalogues in the pro shop or look online.

### TV raffle

Elmira & District Curling Club is conducting a TV raffle 50" Panasonic TV with 2 year extended warranty. Second place prize in the amount of \$200. Tickets are available from Linda Dickson, board members 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 8, 2015 at 8 p.m. at the Elmira & District Curling Club, 40 Eldale Rd, Elmira.



### 2014 Home Hardware Bonspiel

Elmira had eight teams entered in the Home Hardware. Five teams made it to Friday and three to Saturday. The team of Dean Martin, Susan Martin, Brian Henry and Virginia earned their way to Saturday evening. Congratulations!



### 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.



## Your 2014-2015 Board of Directors

President	Bill Barr
Past President	Brian Henry
Vice-President	Lorne MacKinnon (as of Jan. 1, 2015)
Secretary	Paul Fusari
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
Director at Large	Ryan Marshall

There is a new binder behind the bar with Club By-Laws and Board meeting minutes.

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. If you are interested in becoming a board member for the 2014-2015 season, please contact Bill Barr.

## Let's keep the game moving

We all need to recognize that there are things that we can all do, without rushing our games, to move things along better and leave room for those tough strategy calls, the measures, and other stuff that happens.

The only way to consistently get your games in within the allotted time is if every player, on every team, is committed to improving their pace of play. There are so many little things that will help both teams. Even if "It isn't me", there are things that we can each do.

We can all learn from the following tips from the Canadian Curling Association, persons who work with teams that play with game clocks, and observations and suggestions from average curlers about habits and practices at our club.

We can all find ourselves, or members of our teams, in here. Let's help each other get better.

### 1. **START ON TIME**

Be on time, on the ice five minutes early and ready to play. Don't wait for the straggler – start with three players. Start early if both teams are ready.

### 2. **THE HACK IS YOUR HOME**

Leads and Seconds: Be in the hack, cleaning your rock, setting up for your delivery while your opponents' rock is still in motion down the sheet. When your skip steps up to call the next shot, you should already have your rock clean and be ready to deliver. Help out your vice and skip by setting up their rocks before they get to the hack. Vices: Watch the front end rocks to learn about the ice. When your counterpart's rock is in motion, get in the hack and watch their shot from there. You need to be just as ready as your front end. For vice's who throw last rocks, don't hang around the house for the skip's last rock decisions. Get in the hack as your opponent's first rock is travelling down the ice, and stay at the hack end after your first shot is complete.

### 3. **LEADS DON'T DO HOUSEWORK**

If your team scored the point, find your first rock and get in the hack. Let the vice and second push the rocks into the corner.

### 4. **SORTING THE ROCKS**

Skips should be sorting the rocks that go out of play during each end. At the start of the next end, leave the

unsorted ones alone until the first rock is thrown. Sort your rocks as the opposition's first rock is going down the ice.

### 5. **MANAGE YOUR EQUIPMENT**

Do you throw your rocks using a stabilizer or a broom that you don't use for brushing? After your second shot, continue down the ice and leave the equipment at the other end, ready for the next end of play. If you are the vice and you use other equipment to throw, leave your sweeping brush at the far end after your second's shots. That way you don't have to return to the hack end after your second shot. Do the same thing with your gripper.

### 6. **IT'S NOT PARLIAMENT**

Input about strategy at every turn is very rarely appreciated or productive. The skip is in charge of skipping. If you're not pleased with your skip's strategy, on ice is not the place to discuss it. It undermines the skip's confidence and also slows down the game. The person skipping the team has to be empowered to call the shots whether the skip is new or not. Short signals or suggestions are fine, and some tough calls will warrant discussion. But not every shot. There's no need to get out of the hack and go down the ice to discuss a call unless you're invited. If you really feel overall strategy needs to be addressed, do it over a drink after the game or another time.

### 7. **PLANNING SKIPS**

Think ahead to the next shot while your opponent is playing his. Plan in advance: "if he makes this shot, what am I going to do? If his draw is short, or long, what am I going to do?" You should be able to step up and call your shot with only a few seconds of consideration at least half the time.

### 8. **EARLY ENDS VS LATE ENDS**

You should normally be able to play an 8 end game in two hours. Typically, the later ends take longer than the earlier ends, as the score gets close and the number of ends gets smaller. You need to anticipate that in how you play the early ends.

### 9. **PROVIDE AND ACCEPT FEEDBACK**

If you see things that other teams or individuals could change to speed things up, give them some polite feedback. But that feedback is best delivered after the game. Accept suggestions in the constructive manner in which they are intended, to make the game experience better for all of us

