



Welcome Back Curlers to Another Rocking Year!

OCTOBER 2025

Registration for the 2025/26 Curling Season is officially open!

Register **online** through our website.

Look for the “**Click Here**” banner at the top of the page. It only takes 10 minutes!

In-Person Registration at the Club

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 7 pm to 9 p.m.

Register for One or All of the Sessions

Session 1: Oct 27 to Dec 12 / Session 2: Dec 15 to Feb 13 / Session 3: Feb 16 to April 4

President's Opening Message

Welcome to the 2025 / 2026 curling season here in Chester! On behalf of your Board, I'd like to welcome returning and new members to our club.

Your Board has been busy these last couple of months setting the stage for a fun and successful curling season. We are all volunteers working together to create a club community that is welcoming, inclusive and progressive. Our initial focus has been on *creating the best possible ice conditions* for play, the *future viability of the Chester Curling Club* and supporting a culture of *fun, fellowship and fitness*, regardless of your curling skill level.

I have a lot of information to share with you as we start the season.

Roof Update

The monitoring system is still in place and readings are regularly being taken and watched for abnormalities under the same conditions as in the

Ice Conditions

Our first goal as a new Board was securing a qualified ice technician. We are very fortunate that Ice Technician, Level 2, Brittni Fernandes, has joined our team. She has been working tirelessly over the last two weeks, often late into the night or early morning, to get the ice prepared for us. Brittni has been getting to know our facility and has already made some technical changes to create the best possible ice. We are fortunate to have Brittni with us so please welcome her to our curling family.

Did You Know?

The *spare fee* of \$20 allows you to drop-in and try out any league!

past.

Ice Chair Position

Dan Sutherland has stepped into the role of *Ice Chair*. Dan will focus on helping Brittini with ice operations and maintenance and act as the primary contact for her. If you have a question or concern related to the ice, please talk to Dan. This will free up Brittini to focus on ice maintenance and conditions. We've posted the Ice Chair position description on our website under the "Club Policies" menu.



We altered our hot water system for improved water quality and clarity.

Chester Ice Technician Volunteers

As part of our efforts to create optimum ice conditions, on November 22 and 23 Brittini will be conducting in-house training for the volunteers that help prepare ice for our daily leagues. Starting at 7:00 pm, she will show the techniques, equipment and safety procedures to follow in support of the ice conditions she is striving to obtain. If you are part of this team, please plan on attending one of these sessions.

Scheduled Practice Ice

Sometimes there are individuals or teams that wish to practice. To facilitate optimum ice conditions with consistent preparation and safety for all curlers, we have implemented four blocks in the schedule where Brittini will prepare the ice and be on-hand to monitor and adjust conditions. All members have access to these practice blocks of times through the on-line booking process on a first-come-first-serve basis. Four times weekly (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday), Brittini will prepare and be present for two-hour blocks of practice ice time. Soon, the *Practice Ice Guidelines* and *Ice Booking and Club Rental Policy* will be posted on our website under the "Club Policies" tab.

League Fees / Financial Update

As you likely know, our club revenue relies primarily on membership dues. This is presenting a challenge with increasing operational costs in almost all areas. Last year, we were able to balance the books overall, but we are experiencing several new budget pressures for this year that require increased membership fees as well as some other revenue generation initiatives. Our rent has increased by 10% and we have increased the hourly pay rate and the number of hours for our ice technician to attract the best possible candidate and to ensure quality ice for the entire season. If we were to make up the anticipated deficit solely through membership fee increases, then we would have to increase fees by an estimated 22%, or at least double what the increase is this season. The Board feels that such an increase would be detrimental to retaining current members and attracting new ones, so we have decided that a 10% increase is warranted and that new measures will be made to increase revenue of other types to address the potential deficit at the end of the year.



Brittini printed and honed our stones for better play.

Revenue Generation and Innovation

To diversify our income, we've established a new committee chair, the *Revenue Generation and Innovation Chair*. New club member, Shane Langille, has stepped up to lead this critical initiative. The longevity of our Club and curling in Chester depends on a strong revenue generation effort because membership dues currently do not cover expenses. Besides securing current and new sponsorship (the signs in the ice shed), Shane will be identifying sources of grants, other potential revenue streams, innovative approaches for growth, social activities and ways to attract and retain members.

See you on the ice!!

Scott Milner



<https://chestercurlingclub.ca/>



League Support Required

Morning Day League (assist Shirley)
Monday Junior Program (assist Tammy)
Wednesday Open League (vacant chair)
Friday Open League (assist Gary)

Club Growth Initiatives

If you are interested in helping with long term club growth, we are establishing a **Member and Volunteer Appreciation** team. This team will work to better member experience, look at volunteer incentives, and recruitment and retention strategies. This work is important in the long run to ensure our club exists in the coming years.

Please contact info@chestercurlingclub.ca if you have a few hours to spare to help with league play or want to get involved in long term club growth.

Learn to Curl

Begins Sunday, November 2

Only \$90 for 5 weeks

\$75 for additional household member

Fees are credited towards a membership if you join afterwards!

DETAILS on our website

Open House & Fun Spiel

You are invited to our open house and fun spiel on the afternoon of November 8.

Details are still developing, but we expect to start about 2:30 pm with a short fun-spiel.

We will have prizes and recognize member awards and teams that earned banners last season.

Junior Curling Program

Our Junior Instruction Program starts Monday, October 27 (4:00 – 5:00 p.m.), with additional Saturday sessions for games and drills.

The Junior League also begins October 27 at 7:00 p.m, alternating between Mixed Doubles and Conventional 4-Person Play.

Contact: Tammy Rent (902) 483-9086 or Laura Bowles (902) 523-1636

email: juniors@chestercurlingclub.ca

Junior Website Info

The Junior Division offers 2 free instruction sessions for all students

Grade 3 and up, starting October 27th.

Mondays (4:00–5:00 p.m.): Beginner & Novice — All ages (dates to be confirmed)

Saturdays (10:00–11:00 a.m.)

Ages 8–11: Instruction & Games

Ages 12+: Advanced Team Practice / Specialized Training

Beginners can register for the full season for \$100

Dates and times may change depending on participation or other club events.

Yearly Calendar of Events

October 20 to 24	Leagues Open & Organize Club
October 21 to 24	In-Person Registration
October 22 and 23	CCC Assistant Ice Technician Training (7:00 pm)
October 23	League Chair meeting (7:00 pm)
October 27	League Play Starts
November 2	Learn to Curl #1 (3:00 to 4:30)
November 8	Regional Development Camp (9:00 to 1:00 pm)
November 8	Opening Event / Fun Spiel (2:30 pm)
November 9	Learn to Curl #2
November 14 to 16	Teazer U15 Spiel
November 22	NSCA Ice Technician Clinic
November 23	Learn to Curl #3
November 30	Learn to Curl #4
December 6	Curling Day in Nova Scotia
December 7	Learn to Curl #5
December 12 to 14	Teazer U13 Spiel
December 25 to 27	Closed
December 28	Ice Flood
February 13 & 14	Snowball Spiel
March 14	Jolly Bowl Spiel
March 16 to 20	Spring Break
March 27 to 29	Youth / Mixed Fun Spiel
April 4	Ice Plant Off and Clean-Up



Weekly League Schedule

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
8:00	9:00								
9:00	10:00	Day Curling	Day Curling		Day Curling	Stick Curling		Special Olympics	
10:00	11:00								
11:00	12:00								
12:00	1:00							Maintenance	
1:00	2:00	Stick Curling		Stick Curling				Practice	
2:00	3:00		Maintenance		Maintenance				
3:00	4:00								
4:00	5:00	JR (DBLS / CON)	Practice	Maintenance &	Practice			Learn To Curl (5 weeks)	
5:00	6:00			Practice					
6:00	7:00	Maintenance							
7:00	8:00	Juniors (League)	Social League		Thursday Open League	Friday Open League		Maintenance	
8:00	9:00			Wednesday Open League					
9:00	10:00								