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March 2016 Newsletter

President's Message

Hi Folks,

I just wanted to provide everyone with a capsulized view of where the club stands as we finalize our 2015-16 season. We've had some really good successes this year including:

- Many members are now proudly sporting our CCC crested clothing jackets and hoodies...thank-you to Cathy Rafuse for helping us to look so good!
- Our Junior program continues to thrive and produce exceptional young curlers...thank-you to Beth Atherton and her band of merry helpers!
- Our Family Fun program introduces new people to our sport in a relaxed and fun atmosphere...thank-you to Amy Grapel and her group of volunteer instructors!
- New formats at the Snowball and Gingerbread bonspiels were greeted with enthusiastic acclaim...thank-you to Carla Rafuse and Danette Gray for the countless hours spent organizing these entertaining events!

The lease issue has been settled for this year and arrangements have been made to get next year's lease by the end of July 2016 to allow the Executive time to negotiate and make the necessary financial decisions.

We expect to report a small year-end loss. Much of this is due to a continuing decline in our membership. As a non-profit organization, Chester Curling Club relies on your membership fees as its primary source of revenue to fund its operations year over year. The majority of the annual operating budget is established based on projected registrations.

Many of the club activities that go into making CCC a financially successful entity are the result of a healthy and resourceful volunteer base. One of the ways to increase revenues is to host more events which would require a significant increase in the number of volunteers. Dependence on our shrinking volunteer group will not help the Club accomplish this goal. In many cases, we run the risk of burning out this group. Should the membership not get involved to a higher degree, the Executive may have to consider the introduction of a Volunteer Fee Program to cover any costs related to hosting events.

We also anticipate a change in the Executive next year which will see the Club needing to fill at least 3 positions. We have a great club and fantastic members, but its now time for those members who haven't volunteered before to step up.

We hold 2 general meetings per year to give the membership the opportunity to get involved with the management process and offer their input/comments on the direction of the Club. In the past, these meetings have been poorly attended. At the January 2016 SAGM, we had only 4 members and 5 Executive members attend. A quorum of 12 members is required to deal with any club business. Participation of the membership is necessary order to move the business of the Club forward. *Please get involved in YOUR club!*

Looking forward to an even better 2016-17 curling season!

Jim Mason



Congratulations to Team Canada on winning the World Junior Championships!

The Chester Curling Club is exceedingly proud of these young ladies and their coach, Andrew Atherton. All their hard work, talent and dedication has certainly paid off!

Closing social- April 3, 2016

It's sad to see the 2015-16 curling season coming to an end. We've scheduled one last afternoon Club Spiel on Sunday, April 3rd from 2-5pm consisting of two four end games. Come out & curl just for the fun of it...

Any donations of appetizers and/or snacks would be wonderful!



Help us clean out the Bar !!!

Starting March 21st, we'll be offering special prices on all beer, wine, liquor and snacks at the bar. It's a tough job, but we know that CCC members are up to it!

AGM- May 30, 2016



Our next Annual General Meeting will be held at the Chester Basin Legion on Monday, May 30th from 7:30-9pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

League closing socials

Regrettably, League play is winding down in the next few weeks. Each League will be responsible for holding their own potluck-style closing evening and presenting their trophies to the winners. Please speak to your League Chairs if you'd like to pitch in with food, \$\$ or prize donations.

Here's your chance to get involved with decision making at the CCC!

Amy Grapel has offered to head an Executive Nominating Committee (with Cathy Rafuse and Beth Atherton) that will be looking to fill the 3 vacant positions on our Executive Board- 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Secretary. Anyone who would feel that they have skills, ideas and time to contribute as a member of the Board, please contact Amy at info@chestercurlingclub.ca for more details on what each position entails.

A huge THANK-YOU to all members who helped out this year!

Whether you brought delicious baked goodies, prepped the ice week after week, set up tables at bonspiels, coached young and/or new curlers, took a bar shift, sold 50/50 tickets, or one of the many, many other jobs needed to keep our Club functioning, we applaud your dedicated volunteer spirit and want to say "Thank-you". While everyone has very busy lives these days, be it family or work commitments, the fact that you took the time to help out is greatly appreciated!

We couldn't have done it without you!

