



September 2018 Newsletter

President's Welcome from Jeff Lamb... Now that we are past Labour Day and the heat waves have finally subsided, it is time for our members to start preparing for the upcoming curling season. Your Executive started preparing for the 2018-19 season soon after the AGM at the end of May and we are pleased to announce some significant progress since then.

Signed Lease - After reviewing in detail financial information provided by Bill Church, the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Church Memorial Park, we have been satisfied that a 5% rent increase is justified for the upcoming season and the lease has been signed. This eliminates any uncertainty in our costs for the upcoming year and has allowed us to finalize our budget. We would like to thank Bill for his cooperation in this negotiation.

Advertising/Sponsorship Campaign - In order to offset rising operating costs in the budget, we have had to identify additional potential sources of revenue including advertising revenue, increased membership numbers and modest membership fee increases. An ad hoc advertising committee has been formed and we have been brainstorming more appealing opportunities for businesses to get their message out to club members and the wider curling community. Expect to see communications sent out to both existing and potential new advertisers shortly.

Member Recruitment - The club will also benefit from grants from the Municipality of Chester and from Sport Nova Scotia to enable us to run a member recruitment campaign this fall which will help us increase our dues-paying membership base. Holly Keillor and Elizabeth Baker are co-chairing this recruitment drive which will begin with an expanded scope of advertising for the recruitment events that are being held.

These events will start with a Day of Curling to be held on November 3rd. This will include raising the banner for Team Weagle's Canadian U18 Curling Championship, recognition of our new Life Members, Walter Webber and Paul Flinn, and a variety of familiarization and instructional activities for members of the public who are interested in finding out what the sport of curling is all about. We are then going to follow up on that event by running a Learn to Curl program, coordinated by Amy Grapel, which will provide instruction for six weeks to those newcomers that we have attracted through our expanded advertising and the Day of Curling. Please get the word out to your friends, neighbours and colleagues who might be interested in trying curling or getting back into it.

2018-19	Curling Calendar
Oct 9	Start Ice Plant
Oct 24	Ice Ready
Oct 25-26	Registration
Oct 29-Nov 2	First Week of League Play
Nov 3	Day of Curling
Nov 6	Start of Learn to Curl
Nov 9-11	Oak Island
Nov 17	Ladies Gingerbread Spiel
Nov 23-25	Teazer Light Junior Spiel – Part I
Dec 8-9	Teazer Light Junior Spiel – Part II
Jan TBD	Travelers Playdown
TBD	Jolly Bowl Funspiel – 49 th Annual
Feb 15-16	Snowball
Mar 1-3	Provincial Under13
TBD	Junior/Senior Spiel
Apr 1-5	Last Week of League Play
Apr 6 or 7	Club Closing

Membership Fees – Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find our fee schedule for the upcoming season. Although we are optimistic that our other two revenue generation efforts will help us deal with our increasing costs, we have decided that a modest increase in membership fees is also necessary to ensure that our budget structure is sustainable. You will therefore see some minor changes from last year's fees. Please note that there have also been some rebates added to our fee structure in order to encourage online membership registration and the recruitment of new members. Please take advantage of these rebates.

Ice Management – Outside of financial matters, we have also managed to stabilize our ice management situation. Terry Atherton has agreed to act as the Ice Maker for the upcoming season, which will involve primarily the technical aspects of running the ice plant and ensuring overall ice quality. We will still however, require a number of volunteers to assist Terry in putting in the ice and in providing support to individual league activities and to several of the club bonspiels over the year. We are in the process of recruiting an Ice Chair to coordinate the recruitment and scheduling of the ice-maker volunteers.

Anyone who is interested in helping us out in this or any other role within the club, or who has any questions about anything else that I have covered in this message, should contact me or any other member of the Executive, who are listed below.

I look forward to another successful Chester Curling Club season, especially as we move into our 50th anniversary year!

Sincerely,
 Jeff Lamb, President

Your 2018-19 Executive

President	Jeff Lamb	452-6315
1st Vice	Linda Townsend	273-2475
2nd Vice	Danette Gray	531-2402
Treasurer	Morven McLaughlin	204-9333
Secretary	John Sheppard	488-0142
Past President	Carla Stevens	275-8064

Your 2018-19 League Chairs

Day Curling	Mary Raine	273-2085
	Doug Ross	275-4762
Doubles Curling	TBD	
Stick Curling	Jim Mason	483-7440
Wednesday Ladies	Tamara Rent	483-9086
	Cathy Rafuse	527-4259
Thursday Men	Darrin Hatt	277-0493
Friday Mixed	David Murray	401-4969
Junior	Beth Atherton	275-2084

Category	Fee/Cost (\$)
Adult	320.00
Early Bird (Oct to Dec 31)	150.00
Late Bird (Jan to closing)	225.00
Stick League Only	235.00
Doubles Only (12 games)	160.00
FT Post-Secondary Student	170.00
Junior over 12 at Jun 30/18	130.00
Junior under 12 at Jun 30/18	90.00
Social Member (3 games)	50.00
Locker	25.00
200 Club Ticket	20.00

Membership Fees – 2018-19 Season... The membership fees and costs of lockers and Club 200 tickets are provided in the table to the left. The fees and costs include HST where applicable. Stick and Doubles Curlers are not permitted to play or spare in other adult leagues unless they pay the full fee. Fees for both Early Bird and Late Bird include for all adult leagues. Payment options are indicated on the registration form on our website under Curling>Membership>Types and Fees.

Referral Credit... Any member who refers a new member to the Club will receive a \$10 refund on their fees when the new member registers and pays.

Registration... The easiest and fastest way to register is online through our website with payments made via e-transfer. If you register online, you will receive a \$5 reduction on your fees. You may also register and pay in person on Thursday, Oct 25 and Friday, Oct 26, 7 to 9 pm, at the Curling Club. Bring completed forms, cheques or cash.

Please note that NO league play is permitted until a player is registered and fees are paid in full, or until arrangements are made for payment by installments.

Lockers... Annual cost is \$25. We have more members than lockers, so save \$\$ by sharing with friends or teammates.

Club 200... We ask for your support for the Club 200 fundraiser initiative. The price is \$20 per ticket; just add payment for your ticket (s) with your registration.

Please note: Club 200 tickets are available to anyone, not just to curlers. You can call the Club at 902-275-4965, or just come to the Club on any weeknight that curling is taking place, which is usually Tuesday to Friday, and sometimes on Monday. Club 200 tickets make great Christmas stocking stuffers!

Email Issues... It appears that emails from the Club are not always reaching all members, which we suspect may be related to your email security settings. If you think this may be happening to you, please check your spam folders and junk mail, and change your security settings accordingly.

Volunteer Status... We have had an excellent response to our requests for and recruiting of volunteers. Most notably, we have two new Executive members: Morven McLaughlin is the new Treasurer and Linda Townsend is the new First Vice President. Danette Gray has made a lateral move on Executive to the position of Second Vice President.

Other key positions filled by new volunteers: Jeff Lamb, David Murdoch and Amy Grapel comprise the re-named Grants Committee; David Murray is the new Chair of the Position Description Committee; Holly Keillor and Liz Baker are Co-Chairs of the new Member Recruitment Committee; and Amy Grapel will be coordinating our Learn to Curl program. Other members have volunteered for various duties as required. Thank you all very much for stepping up and helping make our Club vibrant and sustainable.

The one key unfilled position is that of Ice Chair. Also, ice installation begins at the Club on October 9. Volunteer help is required to assist with this. We can also use several more ice makers – on the job-training will be provided - and Dan Sutherland, our Events Chair, will be looking for folks to help out on various events though the season.

If you are interested, please contact us at 902-275-4965 or at info@chestercurlingclub.ca. Or contact one of the Executive or the League Chairs listed at the end of this Newsletter.

Daytime Curling... Daytime Curling is open to all adult members of the Curling Club. There is no commitment, just come when you can. We start at 9:30 am on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and are finished by noon. We curl eight ends with a break for refreshments after four ends. It's a great time to learn to curl or work on your curling skills ... and have fun.

Equipment... If you are looking to purchase new curling equipment including shoes, brooms, pants, mitts, bags, and stopwatches, please see Terry Atherton. Prices are very competitive, and all profits go to support the Junior Program.

Our Junior Program... a Message from the Chair, Beth Atherton... I am very excited for the 2018/19 junior curling season. We are very excited to begin the year by revealing Team Weagle's Canadian Under 18 Championship banners to our members. Also, in November, Team Fay 2016-17 will be inducted in the Lunenburg County Sports Hall of Fame. Exciting things are happening in the Chester Junior Program!!

As for the curling, we will continue to host multiple junior spiels this year. Up first is the 25th annual Oak Island Spiel, followed by the 11th annual Teazer Light Spiel for Under 13 and Under 15 athletes. We will also be hosting the NSCA Under 13 Championship.

This year we continue to offer two days for young curlers to start to learn this great sport: Mondays at 2:00 pm and/or Saturdays at 9:30 am. In addition, our pre junior league will continue to further develop their skills on Saturdays from 10:30-11:30. Returning this year will be a junior league on Monday nights from 6:30-8 and a junior practice on Tuesday from 3-4pm for our competitive curlers.

New to our club last year was the policy that made helmets mandatory for anyone under the age of 12 while on the ice at the Chester Curling Club. We will offer free storage for helmets to make this easier on families.

Beth Atherton, Junior Curling Chair (chesterjuniorcurling@hotmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you at the Chester Curling Club!!!