



September 2016 Newsletter

President's Welcome from Carla Stevens

Welcome Curlers!

As we get ready to start our 47th season at the Chester Curling Club, we are faced with changes, unknowns, and new opportunities in the curling world. Exciting? Yes it is! And we have a great Executive lined up who are ready to hurry hard to give you a wonderful season ahead.

We slide into Open House week in mid-October, as indicated in the Calendar below. Come out to the club and meet our champion curlers on Saturday October 22. 2015/16 was a memorable and successful season for our CCC members, from provincials, to nationals, and all the way to the top of the world with our own Mary Fay, who skipped the Nova Scotia team to the Youth Olympic Gold Medal and the Junior World Championship. We have these and many other reasons to celebrate our little, but mighty club.

Depending on the level of interest, there are a number of new opportunities for members this season – doubles, stick curling, and clinics – to help you become a champion too! There is something for everyone, any age!

You can make dreams come true, create unforgettable memories and make lifelong friends at the CCC. You never know where you might go, so... take a look at us now!

Carla Stevens, President

CCC, Bringing families and friends together since 1969!

What is missing in: "c_ _ling?"

2016-17	Curling Calendar
Oct 19	Training to shave and pebble ice... 7 to 8 pm
Oct 20-21	Open House 7 to 9 pm... registration, practice curling, and open bar
Oct 22	Club opening and celebration of gold medal teams
Oct 24-28	League play starts
Oct 28	Stick Curling for Beginners starts
Oct 30	Learn to Curl starts
Nov 7	Curling Clinics
Nov 11-13	Oak Island Junior Spiel
Nov 19	Ladies Gingerbread Spiel
Nov 25-28	U21 Provincial Women's Qualifiers
Dec 2-4	Teazer Light Junior Spiel
Dec 10	Men's Day Spiel
Jan 14-15	Travellers Playdown
Jan 15	Semi-AGM
Jan 28	Jolly Bowl Funspiel – 47 th Annual
Feb 2-5	Provincial Firefighters
Feb 10-11	Snowball
Feb 17-19	Provincial Stick Curling
Mar 10-12	Provincial U11 Light Rocks
TBD	Junior/Senior
TBD	Club Closing

Membership Fees – 2016-17 Season

The regular adult membership fee is \$295 including HST. As in previous years, we are offering a reduced fee of \$290 for the second adult in a household. Payment options are indicated on the registration form on our website.

**** Chance for 50% Fee Reduction ****

All members who register online before October 15 and whose fees are received by the Club before October 21 will have their names entered into a draw. One lucky member will have their membership fee reduced by 50%.

Snowbird and Latebird Memberships

For those adults wishing to curl from October to the end of December only, membership fees are \$180 including HST. For those wishing to curl from January to the end of the season, the fees are \$220. Either of these arrangements allows you to curl in any of the adult leagues during the chosen time period.

Social Memberships

Anyone interested in curling on a more social basis (3 times within the season) and having full bar privileges can opt for a social membership of \$50.

Registration

We prefer that you register online and send a cheque in the mail for your fees, or do an e-transfer. However, registration and payment may also be done at the Open House at the Curling Club on October 20 and 21, between 630 and 830 pm, or even at a later time if necessary.

However, 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... Need a locker to keep your curling equipment in during the season? Sign up on the membership form for one at \$25 including HST. Save \$\$ by sharing with friends or teammates; we have more members than lockers!

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. A maximum of 4 tickets can be purchased. **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!

Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!

Chester Curling Club has no paid staff of any sort. The entire operation is run by volunteers. And in order to continue to be such a successful club, we need your help. Not the person next to you. Not your husband or wife (unless with you). Not your neighbour or the people you know at your workplace. **We need YOU!**

Volunteering is satisfying stuff. It is fun. It provides the opportunity to meet new people, or to get to know people better. It need not be a time-consuming responsibility. No specific skills are required. Just your interest in helping out in any number of different ways to help us get things done or done better. Please consider volunteering. Call us at 902-275-4965. Email us at info@chestercurlingclub.ca. Or contact one of the Executive or the League Chairs listed at the end of this Newsletter.

As a reward to some of our more active volunteers, we have developed a Volunteer Incentive Program. Last year, for each shift worked by a volunteer working the bar, a credit was given on their membership dues. This year, we intend to extend this program to our Ice Helpers also. We need 8 to 10 Ice Helpers this season. Please come to the training session on October 19. More info is provided in the calendar above.

Learn to Curl, Stick Curling and Doubles Curling

Our Learn to Curl Program provides beginners and those wishing to brush up on their curling skills with the basic rules and techniques in a fun and safe atmosphere. The sessions will be on Sunday evenings 700 to 830 pm, from October 30 to December 11. Stick Curling for Beginners will be on Friday mornings from 900 am to noon, from October 28 to December 9.

Both of these programs are provided through the Recreation Department of the Municipality. Program details and registration information can be found at www.chester.ca. Click on the "Explore" tab, and then click on "Register for a Recreation Program".

If you know of anyone who might be keen to learn to curl and/or stick curl, please let them know about the training programs provided through the Municipality and about the Open House (info below).

Depending upon interest within the Club, we may also set up a doubles league this season. Doubles is a recent adaptation of the traditional curling game. Each team comprises two players and a game can be completed in less than an hour and a half. If you want to know more, just Google "doubles curling".

Open House - October 20 and 21

Kick off the curling season from 700 to 900 pm on each or both of these evenings. Everyone is invited to stop by the Club, throw a few rocks, and/or enjoy a drink and rekindle friendships in our lounge. We will have volunteers on hand starting at 630 pm to take fees and forms for registrations. Bring along friends as this is a wonderful chance to introduce them to curling, stick curling and doubles curling. New members are always welcome!

Check out our Chester Curling Club Clothing Lines!

We are pleased to again offer clothing which is crested with our Club logo. The clothing lines are provided through Rofihe's in Bridgewater, and include jackets, fleeces, hoodies, dry-fit T-shirts, and hats, for men, women and young curlers. Prices range from \$15 for the hats to \$80 for the jackets. An order will be placed in early November with items to be received in time for Christmas.

Images of the clothing, the order form, and related info are available on our website, and will be posted at the Club at the start of the season. Orders may be submitted at the bar or to Cathy Rafuse at 902-527-4259 cell or at cathyarafuse@gmail.com.

Sweeping Moratorium – Curling Canada

Curling Canada recently issued a "Sweeping Moratorium on Brush Head Technology" which came into effect on September 12. Your Executive is in the process of reviewing this document and will be providing guidance to members soon as to how the moratorium may affect play within the Club, and in bonspiels at other clubs.

Our Junior Program... a Message from the Chair, Beth Atherton

I am very excited for the 2016/17 junior curling season. Like always we will be hosting multiple Junior Spiels this year. Up first is the 23rd annual Oak Island Spiel, which sees the best junior curling teams in the Atlantic region come to Chester, followed by the 9th annual Teazer Light Spiel for Under 13 and Under 15 athletes. We will also be hosting two Nova Scotia Curling Association events – the Under 21 Women's open qualifier and for the first time we will be hosting an Under 11 Jamboree.

This year we continue to offer two days for young curlers to start to learn this great sport: Mondays at 200 pm and/or Saturdays at 930 am. These sessions are aimed at pre-juniors, and offer kids a chance to learn the basics of the game, generally starting with little rocks and possibly moving up to regular rocks as the season unfolds. New this year, we have a little rocks league. This will give the kids an opportunity to play games and further develop their skills and love for the game.

We also continue to offer a junior league on Wednesdays after school, along with practice time on Tuesdays after school. Please check with me for more information. As always, we are in need of volunteer coaches to help run our programs and coach our younger curlers as they form teams. No coaching experience is required. The program will help you along the way with tips and access to certification programs.

Beth Atherton, Junior Curling Chair (beth-atherton@hotmail.com)

Your 2016-17 League Chairs

Your 2016-17 Executive

President	Carla Stevens	275-8064
1st Vice	Allan King	476-4465
2nd Vice	Heather Swinimer	279-0330
Treasurer	Danette Gray	531-2402
Secretary	John Sheppard	488-0142
Past President	Jim Mason	483-7440

Day Curling	Mary Raine	273-2085
	Doug Ross	275-4762
Tuesday Cash	Terry Atherton	275-3885
Wednesday Ladies	Tamara Rent	483-9086
	Cathy Rafuse	527-4259
Thursday Men	Darrin Hatt	277-0493
Friday Mixed	TBD	

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