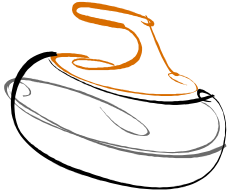
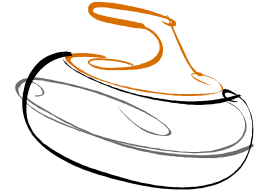


Brant Curling Club



Sheet 6



January, 2012

President's Memo

Here we are just about half way through the curling season and I hope everyone is having much curling success. There are several new members and sponsors around the club this season. I encourage you to welcome new members and encourage them to participate in events outside league play such as bonspiels and special events. Company sponsorship around the club has contributed greatly to the overall success of our club. Please take time to thank these companies when you visit their facilities or use their services.

I am sure you have all noticed the construction of the front lawn and walk way. After a lot of investigation we determined that the sewage plumbing from the Men's locker room to the sanitary sewers at the road had to be replaced. Once the excavation started it revealed a much larger problem and we had to replace all the plumbing from both the Men's and Women's sides of the building. The job has been completed and as soon as possible in the spring we will have the sod completed and looking great once again. This was a great example of some of the infrastructure issues facing our club. As we all know we have an ageing building and more and more repairs will be needed in the future. Fortunately for us we also have a very knowledgeable and dedicated building and grounds

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CURL FOR STROKE – CHARITY BONSPIEL

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2012

INVESTOR'S GROUP MASTERS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2012

BELL CITY STICK SPIEL

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2012

SENIOR MEN'S SPRING THAW

MARCH 2, 2012

FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED SPIEL

FRIDAY MARCH 9, SATURDAY MARCH 10, 2012

LADIES SWING INTO SPRING SPIEL

MARCH 19, 2012

STRODE'S SCOTCH DOUBLES

APRIL 5 – 7, 2012

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SPECIAL EDITION – SEE LAST 2 PAGES FOR THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE BRANT CURLING CLUB – YOUR CLUB!!

crew who do their absolute best to stay on top of all these issues.

The foundation has been laid for a successful second half of the season. On behalf of the board of directors at the Brant Curling Club I hope you all have a fantastic second half.

Sincerely,
Sean Bryant
President, Brant Curling Club.

Vice President's Report

We are now over half way through the 2011/2012 season and, to date it has been a good one. The Sun Life and the Nissan Classics were quite productive, thanks in large part, to the support of volunteers. Comments from the entrants in both events were very positive with respect to our ice conditions and our hospitality.

I have been approached by a few members suggesting a need to upgrade certain elements within our facilities and it is refreshing to know how many people are interested in the future of our club. Since the Brant Curling Club is a "members' owned" organization, it follows that the bulk of operating and maintenance costs must be borne by the membership. We do receive some financial support from our sponsors, however, this is primarily used to offset escalating operating costs thus minimizing annual membership fee increases. In order to satisfy some of the requests your board receives we must either spread the total cost of labour and materials for such upgrades to the membership in the form of fee increases or enlist the support of volunteers to provide the labour, which is usually the greater part of the costs of any project.

We have a need, during the off season, for volunteers to assist in one or more of the numerous planned projects. Our members are encouraged to contact Wayne Allen to advise when they could be available to contribute their time in the effort to affect these upgrades at a minimal cost.

I consider the definition of an "active member" of any organization to be a member who is "supportive of its needs."

We trust you will have an enjoyable and productive second half of this 2011/2012 season.

Don Allen

Marketing and Membership

Member, Owner, Volunteer

As you read this we have now entered into the second half of the curling season. Here we are curling at one of the best curling clubs in Ontario. Some of us may also be members of other clubs such as a fitness club. Our curling membership is special and different. By becoming a member of the Brant Curling Club essentially you are also an owner. This is a member owned club. With your membership/ ownership comes a responsibility also.

Our club has a tremendous heritage of over 67 years. We survive year after year based on the strength of our volunteers. All of our leagues, events, bonspiels and coaching are performed by volunteers. This is what allows curling to be such an affordable sport for us all. If these volunteers had to be replaced by paid staff our membership prices would rise tremendously. To help as a volunteer requires no special skills, just a desire to want our club to thrive and be better.

All of our lives are busy in 2012 with pressures of work and family. A little help can go a long ways to lightening the load. In 2012 why not try offering to lend a hand to make our club better. To paraphrase the great John F. Kennedy "***Ask not what your Curling Club can do for you, but what you can do for your Curling Club.***"

Good Curling
Greg Grummett

Marketing & Membership

Special Events

Coming for next Fall

We are planning on having a Gala Auction in the fall of next season. This promises to be a fun event. We hope that everyone will try and attend. There will be more information coming out later in the season.

Bill Urquhart,
Special Events.

Friday Night Mixed

Hi Everyone,

Now that the curling season has hit the half-way mark, there are a few things that we would like to make sure you are aware of:

1. The Sign-Up Sheets for the next draw are up. Please do not forget to sign them if you wish to curl in the last draw. If there is someone you would like to be teamed up with, please indicate that on the sign-up sheet, and we will do our best to accommodate you.
2. The Annual Mixed Bonspiel sponsored by Richard and Sonja Selmes will be taking place on the 9th and 10th of March. Not only is this fun, but it is an excellent opportunity for new curlers to get the hang of a real bonspiel. Please get a team together and sign up. (Remember that this is a fun spiel – don't get a stacked team!)
3. Our Closing Dance and Party is scheduled for March 30. This always proves to be a fun time. Please mark this on your calendar. Details will follow.
4. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. Unfortunately we have received the resignation of both Barb and Cliff Hobson from the committee, so we will need someone to fill their shoes next year. Please contact anyone on the committee (Judy Alford, Betty Gordon, George Wheatley or Sylvia Chupka) if you are interested. Remember that the Sections are all run by volunteers, so if we have no volunteers, we don't have a Section to play in....
5. **SPARES:** It is **YOUR** responsibility to get spares if you cannot curl. The spare list is posted on the bulletin board and on the web site. The web site DOES NOT HAVE PHONE NUMBERS for privacy reasons. Pick up a Club Directory at the Bar and all of the information you require will be in there! **If you cannot get a spare – please call your Skip, not a committee member....**

Well that's it for now... Please enjoy the rest of the season!

A Message from our Ice Maker

I am enjoying my first year at the Brant club, but I need your help. Some of the equipment being used at the club is making it very difficult to keep the ice clean.

Please do your part in keeping equipment from leaving debris on the ice and in the hacks. The hacks are a warmer area as a person stands there in one spot longer than anywhere else so the gripper debris is left behind in that warm area. **The inside of the gripper should be washed every 10 games and replaced at least every year.** The material is not designed to last 10 years as some of those grippers I have seen out there are. This also applies to shoes, gripper shoes can be resoled or put a new removable gripper on them.

There has been good communication from members to those members who are kneeling too long on the ice. Keep up this help as the imprint left impacts that day's games.

Good curling.

Lou Anne Pauhl

Ice Technician

Little Rocks

Our Little Rocks program is now in full swing. We regularly have between 35 to 40 children on the ice. Thanks to Sean Bryant and his group of volunteers the program is running smoothly. Our family day is on March 4th. This is where we invite family members to join their children on the ice for some curling fun. Our season wraps up on Sunday, April 1st.

CONGRATULATIONS!

On Saturday, January 7th, 2012, the team of ***Carter Bryant, Jacob Jones, Ben Jones and Kris Taylor*** placed first in the Jim & Lee Lawson 14th Annual Memorial Little Rock Bonspiel at Glendale Golf and Country Club in Hamilton, ON.

Good work boys and good luck in your next bonspiel in March.

Sun Life Classic

This year's Sun Life Classic proved to be one of the best attended and best shot making spiels we have seen at the Brant Curling Club in a while! If you were there to witness Mike McEwan's last end against Kevin Koe on Saturday night, you can attest to the skill and general "WOW" factor these curlers have.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who made the venue at the Brant Curling Club a success. Some of you put in some pretty long days, and it was very much appreciated! The curlers had nothing but good things to say about our club and volunteers and I personally appreciate it!

The event will be back again in November, so make sure you keep the weekend of 17 – 19 open. You don't want to miss this year's event, especially since it is close to Olympic qualifying time, and the points really matter! Where else can you see curling of this caliber for under \$10.00??

Looking forward to November!
Sylvia Chupka



Ladies' Section

Hello Ladies!

I have taken over the Women's Portfolio for the Board of Directors. Thank you to Sonja Selmes for her time on the Board; she has put forth her resignation to focus on the family business at this time.

At this time, I would like to bring to your attention the need for volunteers in both of our Womens' sections – Day Ladies and Business Women. Both of these sections require some volunteers to run the sections throughout the season and for the last several years, volunteers have left and none have stepped forward to replace them. It is now getting to a critical point that these sections are run by people that have put more than their fair share of time into these volunteer sections; some for over ten years! Many of us feel we cannot step down for fear that there will be no one to run the programs we all enjoy. If you would like to contribute to your section, please speak to myself and I will direct you to the ladies that need your help.

The Business Women's Section has purchased new table linens to be used by its club members and sections for functions within the club. These new linens are black polyester and are available in Round (14) and Rectangle (6). There will not be a rental fee charged for the use of the linens. It will be required that should you use the linens that they are washed (no special requirements – regular laundry rules apply) by the member or section that uses them and then returned to storage. Should you wish to use the linens, please contact the office for access to the locked storage.

The Business Women's Choose Your Own League Standings as of January 13, 2012:

Dianne Dykstra	33
Debbie Brown	33
Kathy Wilson	30
Shelah Pickett	28
Sylvia Chupka	25
Denise Pritchard	25
Judy Wong-Page	24
Vicki Advent	23
Liz Armstrong	21
Sue Laurin	19
Cindy Hiscock	14
Ann Cox	13

Regular season play will continue until March 1 and playoffs will begin March 8.

Good luck and good curling ladies with the rest of your season!

Janice Baldwin

OCA News

Here are some of the teams from the Brant Curling Club that have represented us at Ontario Curling Association events this season:

Junior Men	Zone 15B winner	Steven Collyer
Master Men	Zone 15A winner	Allan Sawatzky

Best Western Women	Zone 15A winner - Liz Armstrong
Ontario Scotties	Zone 15B winner - Diane Dykstra
Dominion Tankard	Zone 15B winner - Travis Fanset
Bantam Girls	Zone 15A winner - Monica Pierce
Bantam Boys	Zone 15A winner - Logan James
Gore Mutual Schoolgirl	Zone 15A winner - Jillian Page

Regionals to take place at the Brantford Golf and Country Club on February 3 & 4, 2012.

Senior Women	Zone 15A winner - Sue Laurin
	Zone 15B winner - Debbie Brown

Regionals to be played at Woodstock Curling Club on January 28 & 29, 2012.

Intermediate Women Zone 15B winner - Debbie Brown

Honorable mention should go to Jo-Anne Rizzo who will be playing with Sherry Middaugh at the Ontario Scotties Provincials beginning January 23, 2012.

Other Competitions to take note of: Brant County High School curling will be represented by both the girls and boys teams from North Park Collegiate. The majority of these teams are members of our own Bantam & Junior Program and we wish to send Congratulations to both teams and good curling at the CWOSSA Championships to be held in Cambridge February 21 and 22, 2012

Girls – Jillian Page, Jennifer Page, Mackenzie Madison, Shae Schmidt and Emelia James

Boys – Evan Taylor, Sean McAndrew, Logan James, Cameron Forget

CONGRATULATIONS FROM EVERYONE AT THE BRANT CURLING CLUB!



VOLUNTEERS

What is a volunteer?

Well, if you look it up in a dictionary, a volunteer is an individual who assists in endeavours on his/her own free will. Jokingly, a volunteer has also been described as an “unpaid intern” or a “glutton for punishment”. Either way, volunteers are the backbone of our curling club.

And if you feel like delving deeper into the subject, of the 375 – 400 members we currently have, approximately 10% of them currently are volunteers. They volunteer for the Board, for the Sections, Special Events like the Hospitality Spiel, the Sun Life Spiel and the Nissan Classic. They volunteer when asked, or if they see a need. But sadly, most of these volunteers are the same ones who volunteer for the Board, the Sections and Special Events. Why is that? That’s a great question. People have been overheard saying “I just want to come to curl”, or “I’m busy”.

Please don’t misunderstand....we are all busy. Some of us have young children, full time jobs, aging parents and the list goes on and on. Some of us have already “put in our time” and you know what, that’s very much appreciated! Thank you. But what about the rest of you? Most of this Sheet 6 in one way or another has mentioned the need for volunteers, or has sincerely Thanked the volunteers. Why do you suppose that is?

Perhaps it’s because we need you. We need individuals who care. We need individuals who want to be a part of the future of the Brant Curling Club. Sometimes it’s not easy. Sometimes it’s so frustrating, you go home and wonder “Why should I bother? – Why should I care? - No one else seems to care?” We are busting our butts trying to keep the club strong and vibrant. Some of us are getting tired! But we keep doing it. Why?

BECAUSE WE TRULY CARE!

No one is going to “guilt” you into volunteering. You should want to. But, when things are not happening like you want, or your section isn’t going to be running next year, don’t go running to the Board to ask why this is happening – ask those who show up week after week who “just want to curl”.

Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting
January 24, 2012

Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm with Sean Bryant, Sylvia Chupka, Janice Baldwin, Greg Grummett, Dave Thomas, Wayne Allen, John Alford, Bill Urquhart, Wayne Millward and Don Allen in attendance.

The meeting began with Wayne Millward distributing a list of 21 projects relating to Buildings and Grounds which need to be assessed and, in many cases, acted upon over the next few years. They have not all been listed below but will be reviewed periodically as resources become available.

The Board identified the following as projects, specific to the facility, requiring attention in the near future:

- ❖ Boiler Replacement including zone controls for locker rooms and lounge and removal of existing unit.
 - Wayne M. has some quotes and will obtain updated ones including zone controls with Bill who will assist with regard to available Provincial and Federal Energy Grants.
- ❖ Roof Repairs to lower section over the lounge area.
 - Wayne M. will obtain updated quotations on the repairs to the flat roof versus installing a low sloped roof over the existing flat roof.
- ❖ Cosmetic Upgrades such as, but not limited to:
 - Improved lighting in entrance way to lounge.
 - Replacement of carpeting
 - Clean up of men`s locker room floor, removing & repainting lockers.
 - Repainting of lounge area and ice area walls.
- ❖ Installation of Motion Activated lighting controls for areas such as washrooms and possibly locker rooms.
- ❖ Organize a Decoration Day event on a Saturday in late Spring identifying specific projects to be accomplished by volunteers, who would be canvassed by email and provided with food and refreshments by the Club.

Additional projects such as repaving the parking lot (\$100,000 est), replacing tables and chairs in the lounge (\$30,000 est), purchase of new rocks (\$50,000 est) plus structural modifications such as insulation and metal clad exterior of ice area walls, although of some importance were not deemed to be within reach, financially, at this time. They will, however, be reviewed regularly with respect to their need and accessibility.

The following projects were discussed as they relate more specifically to how we handle our day to day operations:

- ❖ Communication Tools to be upgraded as follows:
 - Web Site to be utilized more effectively – All Board Members
 - A News category to be added to our Web Site and updated as events occur.

- Membership Email List to be assembled, possibly by section, used to update members on club events and specific needs for volunteers. – Sean contacted our web site creator who feels we could compose and sent emails from that site using his server.
 - Dry Erase Blackboard for installation in/behind bar, to highlight upcoming events and specials. – Sean
 - Greater emphasis and distribution of postings of projects requiring volunteers.
- ❖ Possibility of registration by members online, possibly through our web site, to be investigated. – Sean & Greg
 - ❖ Janice will contact Lou Anne Pahl with regard to her assisting in the ice-making and maintenance in order to provide back-up.
 - ❖ Descriptions of Directors Responsibilities to be reviewed and updated. Bill offered to obtain some from other clubs for comparison purposes.
 - ❖ Consideration is being given to holding a Silent Auction as has been successful in another club. Bill will obtain more detailed information on this event.
 - ❖ Consideration was given to combining the Manager`s and Accounting functions at such time as the current incumbents retire.

All Board Members agreed that our single greatest need was volunteers and to that end we will solicit by email, by posting of projects/events requiring member involvement throughout the club facility, and by personal contact. It is your club and the alternative to volunteering is increased fees.