



# GRANITE GRIPPER



Chatham Granite Club  
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No. 1

September 2011

## 'Message From The President'

Welcome to the upcoming curling season. The summer went by quickly. There are many great events and some new initiatives aimed at improving the club for members and the surrounding community.

Planned events for the upcoming season include the Open House, Ladies Fashion Show, Gala Auction, Sunday Brunches and OCA events to name a few. In addition to these events, capital improvements have been made to the club and additional training has been planned for staff to better serve members.

One of the main goals of the board this season is to attract new members to the club. We have a few ideas we are planning on pursuing over the next season. We are however always open to fresh ideas. If you have any ideas with regards to attracting people to club, I encourage you speak to any board member.

As many of you are aware the 2012 season marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club. We are looking forward to building momentum into this special occasion.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the next season. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

*Shawn Winter - President*

### Important Reminders – Mark your Calendars!!!

- Ladies Fashion Show – October 5, 2011
- Granite Club Open House – October 12, 2011 (7:00 – 10:00PM)
- Sunday Brunch at the Granite Club – November 13, 2011
- 2011 Gala Auction – Saturday November 26, 2011

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## 2011 Gala Auction

The Granite Club Gala Auction will be held **Saturday, November 26, 2011**. It has been nearly five years since our last Gala Auction. These events have been a lot of fun in the past and have proven to be great fundraisers for the Club.

In the near future, the Club will need to replace our ice condenser. This will be a huge expense – costing over \$30,000. The proceeds from the Gala Auction will be a great jumpstart on our fundraising efforts.



Tickets are available at the club or from any of the Committee members below. They will also be available at the Open House. Tickets are \$20 each and include complementary wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres throughout the evening. Bring some friends – this will be a great opportunity to get an early start on your Christmas shopping. Space is limited so be sure to get your tickets early!

A Donation Card has been included with this edition of *The Gripper*. Please take some time and think of what you would like to donate towards the Gala Auction. Any Donation is welcomed and appreciated!

**Your donations and support are what will make this fundraising event a success!**

Your committee can be contacted by email at [chathamgraniteclub\\_auction@hotmail.com](mailto:chathamgraniteclub_auction@hotmail.com) or by calling Rachel at 519-436-0009. See you there!

Your Gala Auction Committee is:

Rachel Faust (*Chair*)  
Melanie DeSchutter  
Greg Payne  
Chad MacGregor

Ben & Julie Curtis  
Betsy Buchanan  
Bev Dekoning  
Grace Patterson

## Open House / Registration Night

The Chatham Granite Club Open House and Registration Night is being held on **October 12, 2010 (7:00pm – 10:00pm)**. Information for all leagues will be available at the event, as well as donation cards for the Gala Auction. Come out and sign up for any of the curling leagues and enjoy visiting with new and old friends. The ice surface will be ready for the open house. There will be a demonstration game played; as well there will be supervised ice time available for those new curlers who would like to try it for the first time! All they need are clean shoes, warm clothes, and an open mind.

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## Member Recruit Program

To encourage new curlers and manage current members rates the Granite Curling Club is offering a New Recruitment Program. Members who have encouraged new curlers to join leagues at the club are entitled to a \$25.00 reimbursement for each new curler. There is no limit to the number of new curlers a member may recruit. To qualify, new members can not have been a member at the Chatham Granite Club in the previous 2 years and are required to pay the new member rate. Reimbursement will be credited after curling memberships are collected.

## On-Ice/Board Sponsorship

The ice and board sponsorship has been successful again this season. I would encourage all who have contact with these companies to express thanks for their contribution. A special thanks to Greg Payne and Rachel Faust for their time and enthusiasm with this program. They have managed to secure most of the current advertisers and as well, have added many new ones! Increased revenue from this advertising has allowed us to control membership rates and make improvements to the club and programs.

## Annual Fashion Show – *Tickets Now Available*

The Granite Club Fashion Show is on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 7:00 pm. For Tickets call Lynda Faulkner @ 519-352-2079.

## Spares for leagues

Any curler who needs a spare for league play is encouraged to look to the spare list posted at the club. Curlers may source spares from outside the club at a cost of \$15.00 per game payable by the skip to John Young. Spares sourced from outside the club may curl a *maximum of 3 games only*.

## OCA Bonspiel Events

We have a few new OCA events being hosted at our club this year.

Colts Zones – February 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>  
Mixed & Senior Mixed Regions – March 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>  
Junior & Bantam Mixed Regions – February 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>.



We are currently in the process of applying for either the 2014 or 2015 Colts Provincial Championships. This is a major undertaking and we will require full support of the club as well we will need many volunteers.

As well, we'd like to wish the best of luck to the Dominion Representative Teams playing in Ingersoll from October 21<sup>st</sup> to October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We hope both teams have a great showing!

***Men's Representatives*** – Steve VanHest, Justin Bezaire, DJ Skipper, Kevin Clogg

***Women's Representatives*** – Melanie DeSchutter, Andrea Winter, Brandey Smythe, Rachel Faust.

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## The Chatham Granite Cashspiel

After a modest but successful turnout last year, 'The Chatham Granite Cashspiel' will be back again for it's second consecutive year. It is scheduled to run November 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. This year the cashspiel will be expanding to accommodate a ladies field. Come out and support the club and watch some of the best curlers in Ontario compete!!!

If you are interested in entering a team, or would like to volunteer, contact *Ben Curtis*.

(519-796-8946) or [bjamindi@cogeco.ca](mailto:bjamindi@cogeco.ca)



## ***Chatham Granite Club – League Information***

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### Monday Night Mixed League

We are again looking forward to the great competition, friendship and exercise that Monday nights bring. We plan to have 2 draws starting at 6:30P.M. and 8:45P.M.. You can sign up as a team or as an individual and the committee will help place you with a team. The first night for mixed curling will be Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested in playing on Monday night, plan on attending the Open House or please contact John Young Jr. at the Club office (519-352-4324) [granite@ciaccess.com](mailto:granite@ciaccess.com).

### Tuesday Morning Ladies

Are you looking for a morning of fun, exercise and fellowship? Please come and join the Tuesday Morning Ladies League. It runs from 9:00A.M. to 11:00 A.M. (No experience is necessary)

The season will begin with a fun game on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00A.M. The sign-up sheet for the first draw will be available. Please invite prospective curlers to join us on that day. Instruction will be provided for any new curlers. League play will begin Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M.

Our format for the season will be three draws, with sign-ups for each draw. Please contact Maureen Coleman at [mcoleman@ciaccess.com](mailto:mcoleman@ciaccess.com) or 519-352-6525 for more information. I look forward to seeing you! Good Curling!

*Maureen Coleman*

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## Tuesday Afternoon Men

The Chatham Granite Club offers men club members the opportunity to enjoy organized curling throughout the entire curling season. The Day Men's League is one of those opportunities to choose a set time during the week, organized on Tuesday afternoons, and runs all season long.

The Tuesday Day Men's League is open to all men club members. We play a jitney style. Just show up and put your name on the active board and you will be assigned to a team.

Most Tuesday Day men curlers play regularly every week, but some take time away for travel holidays. Some of our members are retired and others take time away from work, change into their curling duds, curl a game, and enjoy some hospitality. Some even return to work for the rest of the afternoon. Our league is affiliated with other curling clubs from Windsor to London and you can bonspiel just about every week if you like. Road trips are a lot of fun!

We invite you to join us on a regular basis, or join us whenever you can.

## Ladies Curling

Come out and join us for an evening of curling, fun and camaraderie every Wednesday night at 7:30pm. This league is open to all women – '**No prior curling experience is necessary**'. For more information, phone Brenda Taylor at 519-354-1212.

*Brenda Taylor*

## Thursday Afternoon Mixed Curling

Welcome to the 2011-2012 curling season. This is an invitation to join us on Thursday afternoons for some fun, exercise and entertainment. Never curled before? No problem. We have lots of knowledgeable people who will be willing to assist you in learning the fundamentals of the game. Got bad knees? No problem. We have stick curling as well! Curling starts at 1:00 p.m. Come out early and put your name in so we can make up teams. We hope to see lots of participation this season! Please contact the curling club for more information.

*Delbert Lorenz*

## Men's Flight Curling

I Hope everybody enjoyed their summer. Curling season is just around the corner. The first night of Thursday Night Flight will be October 20<sup>th</sup>.

This year, we have a new committee for Thursday Night Flight. I will be the Director and my committee will consist of Ben Curtis, Tom McIlmoyle and Paul Bowman. I will also be looking after the Men's and Women's Dominion.

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The new committee is planning to implement a few changes this year. We are going to try a few different things to shake things up a bit. We are hoping to add some more excitement to these leagues this year! As we come up with new ideas throughout the year, we will put them out to league for feedback.

A Couple of comments on the league:

- *The Format is still **"Pick Your Own Rink"**.*
- *To wrap up the season, we are hoping to play on the final Saturday with a season-ending BBQ.*
- *We are hoping to find a couple more teams to eliminate byes. If anyone knows of any new curlers or curlers looking to return to the sport, please let me know.*

See you at the Open House!

*Greg Payne*  
[pppowerwash@live.com](mailto:pppowerwash@live.com)



## Friday Night Curling

This is a unique league, in that it allows both members and non members the opportunity curl. It is a jitney format where the teams are made up prior to going on the ice for our 7 p.m. start. Fees for this league are included in the full membership. For the non members you can **"Pay-as-you-Play"**, \$10 for each Friday night that you play. Pay as you play cards are also available to non members. This entitles the individual to 6 plays for \$50.

This league is the perfect place to start if you are looking to be introduced to the game of curling in a relaxed, easy going atmosphere. It is also a great opportunity for the experienced curler that is looking to share their love of the game with those who are just starting out.

Two important dates to keep in mind:

- 1) **Friday October, 28th** – Tentatively scheduled as the 1<sup>st</sup> night of Friday Night Curling.
- 2) **Friday March, 30<sup>th</sup>** – The Closing Bonspiel for Friday Night Curling.

For more information on this league, please contact Paul Bowman @ 351-6239 or [plbowman@netrover.com](mailto:plbowman@netrover.com)

*Paul Bowman*

## Junior Curling Program

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Junior Curling program. We're looking forward to an exciting and enjoyable season!!

Registration forms will be accepted during the Club Open House on Wednesday October 12, 2011 between 7:00-9:00 pm. Registration will be limited to the first fifty paid-up curlers after which a waiting list will be established. Junior Curling fees for this season will be \$60.00 per curler, and a family rate of \$110.00, which includes a name tag. Eligible ages are 8-17 years old. As of press time, the ice schedule has not been established; you will be notified of the start-up date.

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Our Junior Curling Program runs Sunday afternoons through the curling season. From time to time ice will not be available due to other events at the club. We will provide notice ahead of time for these days when Junior Curling will not be running. Doors open at 12:35 pm, curlers are expected to be changed, signed in and begin their warm-up by 12:45 pm, on ice activities start at 1:00 pm sharp. Curlers will enjoy a complimentary hot chocolate break midway through the session and will be off the ice at 3:00 pm. Doors will be locked at 3:15 pm, please ensure your transportation coincides with these times. Curlers arriving late are expected to sign in and undergo a proper warm-up prior to going on the ice.

#### What Do I Wear?

Please bring a separate pair of clean running shoes to be used on the ice only. Dress warmly in layers - gloves, mittens and hats are a good idea. Jeans are not suitable for curling.

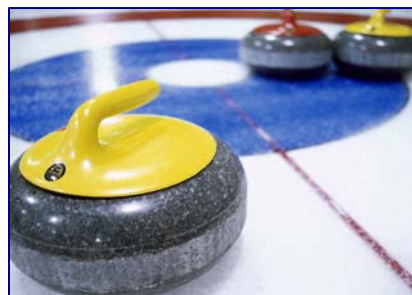
#### What Do I Need to Bring?

A positive attitude and willingness to learn is a great starting point. Until your child has demonstrated that they can move safely on the ice, a helmet is strongly recommended. (Bike or hockey). Basic curling equipment is provided. ie (Curling Brooms, Sliders, etc)

**\*\*\*All Curlers & Spectators Must Clean Their Shoes At the Front Entrance of the Club\*\*\***

Junior Coaching Staff:

Craig Weldon - (519) 436-1465  
Ken Campbell - (519) 358-7356  
Ken Poole - (519) 359-4963



## FUNDRAISING

Welcome everyone! Your fundraising chairperson for this year is Reg Johnson, but other club members are always welcome and encouraged to help in our fundraising initiatives.

Our major fundraiser for this year will be the **'2011 Gala Auction'** on Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> .....Make sure you circle this date on your calendar, it is shaping up to be a fantastic evening!

We are planning **'3 Brunches'** this season with Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> being the first one.....other dates to follow. Chef Bob will be back so we again look forward to his wonderful selections with eager anticipation. We will need many helpers for kitchen duty and donations of food to make these events a financial success.

We still have some spots left for **'Advertising signs'** on the end wall of the ice surface. These valuable spots are only \$150.00 for the year – what a great way to advertise your business to the curling community. Special thanks to Greg Payne! Nearly all of the advertising spots on the ice surface are sold.....great job.

The **'Toonie Draw'** will be back, and again we hope you will support it. You will have the option of pre-paying for all the draws. You can give John Young Jr. a cheque for \$40.00 and he will make sure you are entered in all 20 draws.

There are still spots left on the **'Brick Wall'** in the Club entrance and for only \$100 you can have your team, an 8-ender, an individual, a group, etc remembered forever.

You can donate your **'Bond'** to the Club in exchange for a Lifetime Social Membership and your name will be engraved on the plaque in the stairwell.

*Reg Johnson*

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## HOUSE AND PROPERTY REPORT

Welcome to the 2011/12 curling season. My name is Mark Patterson and I am the new elected director of House and Ice. I'm looking forward to making continuous improvements to the club and to help keep things running smoothly. If you have a question or concern about the club, ice, or property please feel free to talk to me about it.

Over the summer the club has looked into repairing the walkway near the back of the building, as well, some minor repairs have been made to the compressor.

*Mark Patterson*

## BONSPIELS

Below is a list of the club-sponsored bonspiels for the 2010-2011 season. The conveners are usually looking for some assistance if any members would like to volunteer or help out.



<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Tier 55	November 9 <sup>th</sup>
Chatham Cash	November 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>
Holly & Mistletoe	December 5 <sup>th</sup>
Continental Cup	December 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>
Mixed 2-Day	January 7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>
Dekoning Sr. Mixed	January 14 <sup>th</sup>
School Spiel	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Tier 55	March 9 <sup>th</sup>
Fun Spiel	March 17 <sup>th</sup>



*A sport for all ages, A sport for life !!!*

*“It Rocks!!!!”*

