



GRANITE GRIPPER



Chatham Granite Club
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Issue 11 No. 5

April 2009

Message From The President

Once again we are coming to the end of an excellent curling season. It has been quite a winter with plenty of snow and cold weather, but has been great for the curling season. We hope that all have enjoyed the curling and certainly look forward to the nice spring and summer warm weather as a break, and now we can soon start into golf or if you enjoyed curling you can join lawn bowling (curling on grass).

On behalf of the board I would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped make this season a huge success. Thanks to John Dumoulin, and Gord Welles (especially Amy Dumoulin-Jeromel and Pat Fraser for filling in when we were short instructors.) who have done a wonderful job of promoting and helping with the elementary school program "Learn to Curl, which netted the club \$ 8,800.00 and is very important to the club to ensure our future curlers. To Ken Poole and his crew for taking on the Sunday Juniors responsibilities. Also to Bob Allen and his assistants for the wonderful brunches that have been very successful this season. To Don Geddes and Rob Whyte for the general maintenance of the club house and building. To Greg Payne and D. J. Skipper Jr. for the good ice during the season. To Reg Johnson, Ron Robertson and Jim Brackett and all who helped put on the clinics. To Bob O'Neil, Wayne Sass and Paul Bowman and committees who took care of the men's and mixed leagues. To Mary Thompson, Jennifer Lyons, Christine Elliott, Frank and Brenda Hoyles handling the ladies morning and day time mixed as well as the business leagues. To Bill Park and Brad Blonde for membership and publicity, putting out the news letter which is a task in itself. To Jack Pearson and John Young for taking care of the finances. A special thanks to Kyla Hayward for preparing the board minutes with great precision and speed making the board's job extremely easy. Many thanks to all of the board members who have made my job very easy for the entire year and anyone else who I may have missed, we thank you.

We would like to remind you that our **Annual General Meeting is on May 27, 2009** with cocktails at 6:00 PM, Roast Beef Dinner at 6:30 PM and the meeting to follow at 7:30 PM. Cost is just \$ 15.00 so bring out the better half and join us for an evening out. If you need tickets you can get them from John Young at the office or contact any of the board members. Hope to see you there.

John Fantin

School Curling Program

Another successful year has gone by. This year, the “**Learn to Curl**” has had 734 elementary grade 7 & 8 students from 11 different schools participate in the program. The year was completed with the 2nd Annual Elementary School Bonspiel held on March 07. 18 teams participated and the overall winner was Monsignor Uyen School who will have the trophy for the next year. The generous sponsorship of the O’Neill Development Group and Burger King made it possible for all participants to go home with a prize. Perry Smyth of Nestle Food supplied us with bottle water and Monsignor Uyen Parent Advisory Committee made a cash donation. Keith Chandler took team pictures.

A special thank you to all the instructors and volunteers who spent countless cold hours at the club during the year to make this program work:

Gord Wells, Bill Reaume, Reg Johnson, Keith Chandler, Ron Robertson, Lou Cuccia
Don Braddon, Sam Matsuo, Earl Brinkman, Pat & Sandy Frasier,
Amy Dumoulin-Jeromel and John Dumoulin

Daytime Mixed Curling

Our members have been actively bonspieling these past two months. The team of Mike Gallant, Brenda Taylor, Bob Telfer and Edwinna Rawlings who represented Chatham-Kent at the Ontario Senior Games in Brockville, February 11 - 13, won three of their five games. We are proud of them. February 28th two teams from the Granite Club curled in Blenheim at the Senior Mixed Bonspiel. Mike & Janet Gallant and Bob & Mary Thompson won both their games and finished second in their draw. Jack Pearson, Nora Snelgrove, Larry Wood and Helen Campbell also competed.

As I write this, we have only two weeks of curling left. Our members are already talking about golf. We are an active group. March 26th will be our closing party. Most of us will be curling on Tuesday, March 31 in the senior mixed bonspiel at the club. If you did not curl with our group on Thursday this year, please give us a try next fall. We curl from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and then socialize. Hope to see you next fall!

Brenda Hoyles & Bob Telfer
Games Captains

Membership and Publicity

Thanks to all Club members for their support this past season. We encourage you to promote the Club over the summer and invite your fellow golfers, boaters, co-workers, cottagers, and summer sports fans to try curling this coming fall. We have a powerpoint presentation available which we can share with any interested group explaining the fundamentals of curling and showcasing our Club. Contact Brad to set this up.

See you this Fall!

Brad Blonde
Bill Park



Monday Night Mixed League

The first round winners were the Jerry Ferster rink winning the "A" Pool and the Wayne Sass rink winning the "B" Pool both with perfect 7-0 records. Second round winners of the "A" Pool were the Bob O'Neill rink with a 6-0-1 record and Chad McGregor winning the "B" Pool with a 6-1 record. Winners of the third round were Rick Roelandt in the "A" Pool 4-0-1, Reg Johnson in the "B" Pool 4-1 and Kent Byrnes in the "C" Pool 4-1. Playoff winners were Rick Roelandt in "A" Pool, Wayne Sass in "B" Pool, Kent Brynes in "C" Pool and Allan Klinck in the "D" Pool.

A BIG thank-you to all the Monday night mixed curlers for their generous food and money donation to "Outreach for Hunger" food bank at the Christmas party. They donated 5 large boxes of non-perishable food items plus a cash donation of \$151.50. Also, thanks to Bill Park and Nancy Simon and their helpers for the wonderful variety of goodies that was enjoyed by everyone at the Christmas party.

Hope everyone enjoyed their season and looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Wayne Sass/Reg Johnson

Tuesday Day Ladies

Tuesday Day Ladies had a very successful second draw with eleven teams participating. The prizes for this draw were given out at the Potluck Luncheon on February 17th. The Brenda Taylor team won the Maxine Dekoning Trophy. Helen Semmler played vice, Glynda Slade second, and Mary Lou Wood lead.

On March 24th, we held our final curling event, luncheon, and meeting. The prizes for the third draw were given out at this time. The Doris North Trophy was won by the Brenda Taylor team. Elaine Blain was vice, Janet Millard second, and Jean Breault lead.

Thank you to all the people who helped make our season a success.
Hope to see you at the golf event on September 11th.

Mary Thompson

Junior Curling

The Junior Curling Program has had great success this year with over 46 enthusiastic participants. We held our season-ending Family Bonspiel March 29th which included curling with your family & friends, pop & pizza & a trip to the prize table. We would like to thank our coaches, parent & student volunteers & our prize table contributors: Wheels Inn, O'Neill Insurance, BDo Dunwoody, Staples, Canadian Tire, Chatham-Kent Energy & Hydro, Tournament Sports, Boston Pizza, Chatham Cougars Football, Burger King, Dairy Queen & McDonalds Restuarants. We would also like to thank DJ Skipper, John Young Jr., and the Board of Directors for their help & support. We have had a lot of fun & learned alot this past season & look forward to next fall when we can return to the ice!!

Thank you, Junior Curlers,
Ken Poole



Flight Curling

The final results for this last draw are as follows.

A flight winner-----Bob Stafford
B flight winner-----Bob O'Neill
C flight winner-----Wayne Sass
D flight winner-----Allan Klink

Bob Stafford and his team(Ben Curtis,Ed Deshutter,Mark Patterson) will represent the Chatham Granite Club in the Dominion of Canada Championship after beating Jim Brackett's team in a playoff game 10-4.

I want to thank Paul Bowman for all of his help this year. We'll see all of you flight curlers next year. If you have any suggestions as to any changes to the format, rules etc. then get in touch with me at bob@oneillinsurance.ca
Have a good summer.

Bob O'Neill

Senior Men's Curling

Another successful Senior Men's curling season is over. At this time ,I would like to say THANK YOU to the following people who volunteered their time during the season: George Armstrong and Bob Telfer for the button draw and making the wine, Sandy Fraser for organizing the turkey shoot, Reg Johnson for chairing the DeKoning Senior Mixed Bonspiel, Dan Sinasac and Mike Hastings for running the Tier 55 & 60 Bonspiels , Larry Wood for running our finances and Jack Pearson with Bob & Mary Thompson for organizing the closing jitney. Most of the above mentioned members will be resigning their positions from the committee after having volunteered their time for the last couple years to chair the different bonspiels and functions. I am also resigning the position of chairman. For next year, there will be no committee to organize these functions unless someone comes forward and volunteers their time to fill these positions so we can all have another successful year.

I wish all of you a good summer and hope to see you all return next year. Invite your friends to join our group as we still have room to grow.

John Dumoulin



Bonspiels

The two-day mixed bonspiel was held on January 3 and 4 with 16 rinks attending. Home entertainment was at the homes of Ken and Bonnie Chittim and Phil and Lori Snider. The first event winner was a rink composed of Jim Brackett and Gina Ferster of the Chatham club together with Rob and Tamara Fick from the Kingsville club. The second event was won by the Allan Klinck rink, the third event by the Dave Chinnick team and the fourth event by the Ken Chittim foursome. Thanks were extended to our sponsors Pioneer Hi-Bred Ltd., SacWal Flooring Centre, Burger King, Maisex Inc., Rick Roelandt and Heuvelmans Chevrolet. The committee consisted of Shawn and Andrea Winter and Ron and Mary Robertson with drawmaster John Dumoulin and drivers Terry Wall, Don Braddon and Don Geddes.

The Senior Mixed Dekoning Memorial bonspiel took place on January 11 with 18 rinks attending. The first draw winner and trophy recipient was the Blenheim team of Frank Hoyles, Brenda Hoyles, Mike Gallant and Janet Gallant. The second draw winner was a Roseland team composed of Richard Lawrence, Marg Reed, Henry Lister and Delores O'Sullivan. Sponsors were the DeKoning family and M&M Meats. The committee was composed of Reg Johnson, Faye and Don Geddes, Keith Chandler, John Dumoulin and Edwinna Rawlings.

The Senior Men's Tier 55 bonspiel was held March 6 with 20 teams attending. The first draw was won by the Blenheim rink of Frank Hoyles and the second draw by the Sarnia rink of Bill Smith. The sponsor was Hugh's Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning. The committee consisted of Mike Hastings, George Armstrong, Sam Matsuo and Aubrey Butler.

The Elementary School's Bonspiel was held on March 7 with 18 teams from 8 schools. The first draw was won by Monsignor Uyen School, also overall winner, and the second draw by St. Ursula School. Sponsors were Nestles (Perry Smyth), Burger King (Mike Eddington), O'Neill Development Group (Dan O'Neill), Monsignor Uyen Parent Advisory Council, Ontario Trillium Fund and Quo Vadis Pizza. The committee was composed of John Dumoulin, Reg Johnson and Keith Chandler with assistance on the ice from several members of the club.

Thanks are extended to all members who contributed their assistance in making these bonspiels successful.

A recent meeting was held at the club to discuss long-range planning for the two-day mixed bonspiel. The meeting was productive and several people advised that they would serve on next season's committee but none would commit to organizing the personnel. We also have no commitments yet from people to organize the Senior Men's Tier 55 and Tier 60 bonspiels for next season.

Ron Robertson



OCA Junior Report

Twelve of our curlers participated in OCA competitions this year.

Brett Dekoning played in two Provincial Championships and the team consisting of Adam Hueniken, Wes Hunt, Bobby McDiarmid and Luke Hueniken played in the Schoolboys Provincial Championship.

In Junior Boys, Brett played vice on a team skipped by Simon Barrick. that represented the Granite Club. They won the A side at the Zones and B side at the Regions to advance to the Provincial Championship. Iain Burnett (now attending university) played vice on a team from Glanford CC and made it to Regionals by winning the A side Zone 13 Final. Ian Romansky played lead on a team from Brampton. In Junior Girls, Alyssa Burnett (attending St. Clair College) played second on a team from Brampton and advanced to Regionals by winning the B side at Zones.

In Bantam Boys, Adam Heuniken advanced to the Regionals by winning the B side Zone Final. He skipped the team and played out of the Granite Club. In Bantam Girls, Sarah Jane Sass also advanced to the Regionals by winning A side Zone Final. She skipped a team out of Toronto.

In Junior Mixed, Brett teamed up with Travis Fansett from St. Thomas. They advanced to the Provincial Championship by winning the B side Regional Final.

In Bantam Mixed, there were two teams who represented Chatham. Sarah Jane Sass and Adam Hueniken teamed up to play together. Scott Charbonneau, Emily Campbell, Luke Hueniken and Megan White formed the second team.

In the Gore Schoolboys competition, the team from CKSS won the A side Regional to advance to the Provincials.

Congratulations to all of these curlers who have competed in OCA playdowns this year.

Wayne Sass



Curling

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

