



GRANITE GRIPPER



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No. 3

March 2010

Message From The President

Once again we are nearing the end of another curling season. It has been a rather eventful year in that our curlers were successful in bringing home the Provincial and Canadian Dominion Cup Championship. We are awaiting the banners to honour our championship team and we hope everyone will come out to show their support. Watch the web site for a date once we receive the banners.

I would like to thank all the volunteers throughout the club who give tirelessly to the club. We have had two very good brunches and I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make each one a huge success. Volunteers make our club stronger and help to maintain reasonable membership rates. Volunteers take care of Mens, Ladies, Mixed, Senior Leagues, Junior Curling and School Programs, Brunches, Ice and Building Maintenance, Bonspiels and OCA events. A great deal of appreciation also goes to the Board of Directors for their hard work and support making my job much easier.

Our heater and fans have been installed and appear to be working very well in making the area more comfortable and ice conditions improved. There remain a few items which must be dealt with in the near future to ensure the proper maintenance of the facility.

We would like to remind you that our Annual General Meeting is on May 26, 2010. Cocktails start at 6:00p.m. followed with a Roast Beef Dinner at 6:30p.m. and the meeting at 7:30p.m. 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

Important Club Reminders

Nominations for board members are underway for the 2010/11 season. If you are interested or know someone interested in participating on the board please bring these names forward.

- Elementary School Bonspiels – March 6, 2010
- Tier 55 Bonspiel – March 12, 2010
- Granite Gripper Funspiel – March 20, 2010
- Sunday Brunch (Chatham Granite Club) – March 28, 2010
- Senior Mixed Bonspiel – March 30, 2010
- Annual General Meeting – May 26, 2010

LEAGUES

League Spare Reminder

It is suggested, that if you need a spare try to get a member of the club who is looking for a game. If that is not possible, and you need to bring in a non member, you may do so but that person may only do this three times a year and there is a \$10.00 charge payable to the club each time.

Monday Night Mixed League

Winners of the second round were the Jerry Ferster team winning "A" flight, Tom McNaughton winning "B" flight and Gary Stronghill winning "C" flight. Winners of the third round were the Rick Roelandt team winning "A" flight, Bob O'Neill winning "B" flight and Rand McIntosh winning "C" flight.

The final round has now started and there will be no league play on Monday March 15. We plan to have a sign-up sheet and make up teams to have a fun night of curling. The evening will also be available for any teams that may have to make up a game.

Good luck to all in the next round....

Wayne Sass & Reg Johnson

Tuesday Morning Ladies

Tuesday Day Ladies had an excellent turnout for the first draw with 11 teams. The prizes for this draw were given out at the Christmas Luncheon on December 15 with many former curlers in attendance. The winner of the Eva Grainger Trophy was the Brenda Taylor team. Marg Reed played vice, Lynda Bowers second, and Penny Koning lead. Thank you to Carolyn Waddick for organizing the luncheon.

We hosted the annual Holly and Mistletoe Bonspiel on December 7. The Sharon Philpott team from the Sarnia Curling Club won the first draw and the Deb Richardson team from the Wallaceburg Curling Club won the second draw. Thank you to Elaine Blain and her committee for an excellent day. Thank you also to Theresa Dorion and her decorating committee for making the club so festive.

On February 16, we held the last of our potluck luncheons for the year and gave out the prizes for Draw 2. Maureen Coleman's team won the Maxine Dekoning Trophy. Lorraine Watson played vice, Jane Ward second, and Mary Anne Espie lead.

Mary Thompson



Holly & Mistletoe Bonspiel

The Chatham Granite Club Ladies' Division hosted 20 teams at their annual Holly & Mistletoe bonspiel on Monday, December 7, 2009. We appreciate Stan's Flower Market once again being our sponsor. Teams from Sarnia, Blenheim, Leamington, Ilderton, Wallaceburg, Windsor and Chatham participated. The overall winner of the event was the Sharon Philpott team out of the Sarnia Golf & Curling Club. Many thanks are extended to an outstanding organizing committee of Faye Geddes, Nora Snelgrove, Lois Wood and MaryLou Wood for all their combined efforts, unique ideas and unselfish work. Thank you to our drawmasters Jon Wood and Larry Wood. We would like to recognize and thank volunteers Lorraine Watson, Pat Fraser, Helen Semmler, Glynda Slade and all of the members who donated items to the Penny Sale table. It was an enjoyable day for everyone involved.

Committee Chair – Elaine Blain

Tuesday Afternoon Men

Good curling continues under the able direction of co-chairs Paul Johnston and Jim Steele. Attendance has picked up with all five ices generally filled.

On January 19 and February 16 pot luck lunches provided by the ladies were enjoyed by all.

On February 5, Gary Eagleson organized our annual Skins Game with a \$100 donation to the Salvation Army for Haiti Relief instead of cash prizes for the teams.

Ron Robertson is busy organizing the Tier 55 Bonspiel scheduled for March 12, 2010.

We are making the most of the last few chances to play the roaring game this season.

Paul McDonell, Publicity

Thursday Daytime Senior Mixed

All are welcome to join us for the last four weeks of curling!

March 25 will be our final day of curling with a pizza party following the game.

March 30 is the Senior Mixed Bonspiel. There will be a sign-up sheet posted at the club.

Last week, we had four full ices despite the Olympics and the Snowbirds. Lets keep Thursday afternoon curling in mind for next year!

Brenda Hoyles & Bob Telfer



Men's Flight Curling

The third draw is complete and congratulations to the following winners ...

Flight A	Flight B	Flight C	Flight D
1 st Jerry Ferster	1 st Jim Brackett	1 st Aaron Clogg	1 st Wayne Sass
2 nd Bob Stafford	2 nd Reg Johnson	2 nd John Sullivan	2 nd Tom McNaughton
3 rd Dan O'Neill	3 rd Wally Romansky	3 rd Bill Whittington	3 rd Jeff Falkiner 3 rd Paul Johnston

Best of luck to everyone in the fourth draw! We have one more to go!!

The rules for the Dominion Challenge have been posted. Thank you to Bob Stafford and his team for their help. Good luck to the qualifying teams. We hope to be able to hold Dominion Challenge play downs for men on March 25. March 25 will also be our closing night together.

A reminder about spares, it is suggested, that if you need a spare try to get a member of the club who is looking for a game. If that is not possible, and you need to bring in a non member, you may do so but that person may only do this three times a year and there is a \$10.00 charge payable to the club each time.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob O'Neill

Friday Night Curling

The Friday Night Year End Bonspiel is on March 26. The cost is \$10.00 per person which includes 2 four end games, pizza and wings plus a trip to the prize table. The first draw starts at 6p.m. and the second draw at 7p.m. A sign up sheet is posted at the Granite Club.

JUNIOR CURLING PROGRAM

The Annual Year End Family Bonspiel will be held on Sunday, March 28 from 1-4 pm. Parent(s) and/or guardian(s) are encouraged to join their child(ren) out on the ice for a friendly round-robin bonspiel to conclude our season. Pizza and prizes follow curling. Plan to sign up on March 7th. If you are able to sponsor or know of a company that would be interested in sponsoring a prize, please let us know.

Craig Weldon

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CURLING PROGRAM

The Elementary School Curling Program had a slow year compared to last year. This season, we introduced 447 grade 7/8 students to curling compared to 758 students in 2008/09. The program will end on March 6th with a bonspiel to



determine the winning school. There will be 10 teams on one draw, competing for the school trophy. Last year, 18 teams were competing for the honour of winning for their school.

I would like to say "THANK YOU" to the following members who have donated their time to make this program work. They are: Gord Wells, Bill Reaume, Reg Johnson, Ron Robertson, Don Braddon, Sam Matsuo, Keith Chandler, Pat & Sandy Fraser and Paul Johnston. Hope to see them all back next year helping grade 7/8 elementary school students learn the basics of the wonderful game of curling.

John Dumoulin

BONSPIELS

The two-day mixed bonspiel was held on January 9 and 10 with 16 rinks attending. Home entertainment was at the homes of Dave and Kim Chinnick and Phil and Lori Snider. The first event winner was a rink composed of Will Patkau, Linda Patkau, Wayne Quinn and Carol Quinn from the Sun Parlour Curling Club. The second event was won by the Gary Houghton rink from Guelph, the third event by the Rick Roelandt team from Chatham and the fourth event by the Jerry Ferster foursome from Chatham. Thanks were extended to our sponsors Mallory Industries Inc., Pioneer Hi-Bred Ltd., SacWal Flooring Centre, Burger King, MicroAge Computer Centres and Interferst Transportation Inc.. The committee consisted of Andrea Winter, Ron and Mary Robertson, Maureen Coleman, Allan Klinck, Kent and Diane Byrnes and Jerry and Gina Ferster.

The Senior Mixed DeKoning Memorial bonspiel took place on January 16 with 18 rinks attending. The first draw winner and trophy recipient was the Chatham team of Allan Klinck, Brenda Taylor, Dave Coleman and Charlotte Sparks. The second draw winner was a Windsor team skipped by Chuck Beedle. Sponsors were the DeKoning family and M&M Meats. The committee was composed of Reg Johnson, Faye and Don Geddes, Keith Chandler, Tom Mountain, Helen Campbell and John Dumoulin.

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

Upcoming bonspiels include the Senior Men's Tier 55 on March 12 chaired by Ron Robertson, the Elementary Schools Bonspiel March 6 chaired by John Dumoulin and the Granite Gripper Funspiel on Saturday, March 20 sponsored by Maizex Seeds and Ricks Farm Fresh Vegetables and organized by Shawn Winter and Rick Roelandt.

Ron Robertson

FUNDRAISING/SPECIAL EVENTS

On Sunday February 14, we held our second **brunch** of the year and again it was very well attended and we made approximately \$900. Thanks to Bob Allen and his hard working crew for a job well done. Next brunch will be Sunday March 28, 2010.

The **toonie draw** continues each Thursday evening at approx. 9 p.m. with the winning name being posted on the bulletin board at the bar. The toonie jar and list of names are kept at the bar so please support this fundraiser



The **curling clinic** on Sunday February 7 had 12 participants and would like to thank Brett and Peter DeKoning, Ron Robertson and Reg Johnson for helping to put this information clinic on.

The WFCU Centre in Windsor will be hosting the **Grey Power World Cup of Curling** on November 3-7th 2010. You can purchase tickets (which includes all 12 draws) for \$165 until March 31 or for \$185 after March 31. If you purchase tickets on their website at www.wfcu-centre.com/password the Granite Club will receive \$15 for every ticket sold by entering the Chatham Granite Club password code of CURL19.

A BIG thank-you to Bob Rankin for donating his **bond** and becoming a Lifetime Social Member.

Reg Johnson and Craig Weldon

HOUSE AND PROPERTY REPORT

Continuous improvements to the club are being made. There will soon be a new digital clock posted on the ice surface and an ice machine purchased for the bar. Thank you for your support.

Know Someone Interested in Curling?

The curling club is offering one free Friday night game to anyone wishing to try curling. The aim of this promotion is to promote curling to new players. There are a limited number of passes available from the club office. This offer could be exercised this season or the beginning of next.

