



GRANITE GRIPPER



Chatham Granite Club
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No. 1

September 2009

Message From The President

Another season is about to begin and we hope to make it a very interesting year. Our board has been working diligently preparing for the upcoming curling season and improving the facility to make it more pleasant for everyone. The board has approved an in ice temperature probe to keep the ice temperature more constant, also we are returning to jet ice, performing proper rock maintenance and looking at heaters all of which will improve conditions on the ice and make it much more comfortable.

Through the summer we have encouraged club supporters to advertise by placing their business logo's in the ice and all spots have been taken. As a result of these fundraising initiatives we have not increased fees or refreshment prices. We are also starting up the equipment earlier in order that we have ice for our **Open House on the 14th of October**, two curling clinics on the 16th, 17th and league play will start the week of the 19th of October. The ladies Fashion Show will be held in the club house on October 7th so get your tickets early. There will be three Sunday Brunches this year on Sunday, November 29, 2009, February 14, 2009 (Valentines Day) and March 28, 2009. All the events are listed on our web site so please do not hesitate to use it and let us know if there is anything you would like to see on the web. This is an easy method of finding out what is happening at your club.

So let's all get out and ask your friends and neighbours to come out and join us in having some fun this season.

John Fantin

Important Reminders

- **Ladies Fashion Show – October 7, 2009**
- **Granite Club Open House – October 14, 2009 (7:00 – 10:00PM)**
- **Curling Clinic for all Skill Levels – October 16, 2009 (7:00 – 10:00PM)
OR October 17, 2009 (9:00 – 12:00PM)**
- **Coaching Clinics Available**
- **Brunch at the Granite Club – November 29, 2009**

OPEN HOUSE

The Granite Club Open House and Registration Night is on October 14, 2009. Come sign up for curling and enjoy visiting with new and old friends. Information for all leagues will be available at the event. Stay tuned to CKSY between 6:00AM – 10:00AM on October 14th for information related to the open house.

ANNUAL FASHION SHOW – Tickets Now Available

The annual Chatham Granite Club Ladies League Fashion Show is on Wednesday, October 7th at The Granite Club. Doors open at 6:30PM and the Fashion Show starts at 7:00PM. Come for a night of fun, friendship and tempting, tantalizing desserts.

Tickets are \$8.00 and are selling quickly. To reserve a table for you and your friends contact Lynda Faulkner at 519-352-2079 or boblyndaf@sympatico.ca.

LEAGUES

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 6:30PM and 8:45PM. 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 19th and this will be a fun warm-up evening with league play to start Monday, October 26th.

If you are interested in playing on Monday night, plan on attending the Open House or please contact Wayne Sass (519-436-0663) wsass@mnsi.net, Reg Johnson (519-354-1603) rjohnson37@cogeco.ca or John Young Jr. at the Club office (519-352-4324) granite@ciaccess.com.

Wayne Sass & Reg Johnson

Tuesday Morning Ladies

If you are looking for a morning of fun, exercise, and fellowship, come and join the TUESDAY MORNING LADIES LEAGUE from 9:00AM until 11:00AM. No experience is necessary.

We will begin the season with a fun game on Tuesday, October 20th at 9:00AM. The sign-up sheet for draw one 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 27th at 9:00AM. Our format will be three draws, with sign-ups for each draw. Contact Mary Thompson at thompson.rml@sympatico.ca or 519-351-2098 for more information. We look forward to seeing you.

Mary Thompson and Marg Reed



Tuesday Afternoon Men

This two hour time slot is open to full members and day members and operates on a jitney basis each week starting at 1:00PM. Those who attend and put their name on the board prior to 1:00PM will have a place to play. Historically, it has been an active group. We are still in need of a volunteer to head up our Senior Men's Committee – please let John Dumoulin (519-351-3861) know if you are willing to fill this position for 2009-2010. We will have our toonie draw, snacks, and button shots for a bottle of wine. Looking forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday afternoons.

Ladies Curling

We hope you all had a great summer although it feels like it is just getting started. With the weather so warm still, it is hard to think of getting back on the ice – a true sign that summer is coming to an end. Jennifer and I are very excited about the coming season with the Ladies League (Games begin at 7:30PM each Wednesday). If anyone has friends that want to play bring them out. New members are always welcome.

Christine Elloitt & Jenn Lyons

Daytime Senior Mixed Curling

All club members are welcome to join us on Thursday afternoons from 1:00PM – 3:00PM. This is a jitney format. Please be at the club by 12:45PM so the teams can be drawn up. Teams change weekly. It is a great opportunity for you to meet club members, sharpen your curling skills, exercise and socialize. Plan on staying after for a drink and snack. Curlers pay \$1 each week for snacks. We have draws for bottles of wine for button shots. For more information contact Brenda Hoyles 519-676-8925 or Bob Telfer 519-351-4378. We looking forward to seeing you on Thursday afternoons.

Brenda Hoyles & Bob Telfer

Men's Flight Curling

Thursday night curling will be run on the same format as last year beginning October 22. It is a skip entry format so if you are interested in submitting a team this year, either call or email me at 519-351-6340 or oneillin@ciaccess.com. We will try to work the draw around the number of teams entered and will try to place everyone on a team if you submit your name individually. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Bob O'Neill

Friday Night Curling

Friday night curling is jitney style. The first night is tentatively scheduled for October 23 at 7:00PM. This league is guaranteed to be fun for all and a great place for people to try out the sport. The fee for non members is \$10.00 and snacks are provided for \$2.00.



JUNIOR CURLING PROGRAM

We will again be running Junior curling Sunday afternoons from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. Draw format is to be jitney. Age segregation will be encouraged this year (grade school, high school). We intend to introduce Curl Ontario's "Skill Awards" badge program. Details yet to be finalized regarding how it will be incorporated into the program. Juniors are encouraged to arrive prior to 1:00PM for warm up before on-ice time. Clean shoes and a positive attitude is all that is required. Start date and fee to be determined.

Craig Weldon, Wayne Sass, Ken Poole

BONSPIELS

The following are the club sponsored bonspiels for the 2009-2010 season. It is hoped that those members asked to assist the conveners will respond favourably. We are still looking for conveners for the two-day mixed bonspiel. Invitations for that bonspiel should go out in early November and it is thought that there should be several members of the club capable of taking on that project.

Date	Event	Conveners
November 4	Senior Mens Tier 60	Mike Hastings
December 7	Ladies Holly & Mistletoe	Elaine Blain
January 9, 10	Mixed Two-Day	?
January 16	Senior Mixed Dekoning Memorial	Reg Johnson
March 12	Senior Mens Tier 55	Ron Robertson
March	Elementary Schools	John Dumoulin

Ron Robertson

CURLING CLINICS

Are you interested in learning how to curl or how to improve your curling?? We will be covering warm-up routine, equipment/clothing, safety, game procedures, etiquette, scoring, basic rules, delivery and brushing. For the more experienced curlers we will be practicing delivery analysis and correction.

Why not come out to our clinic on **Friday, October 16 from 7:00PM – 10 PM** or **Saturday, October 17 from 9:00AM – 12:00PM** and learn more about curling. New curlers and experienced curlers are welcome. All instructors have at least their Level 1 instructor's course. Cost is only \$20.00 per person.

For more information, please come to our Open House on October 14th from 7:00PM – 10:00PM or contact John Young Jr. at the Club office (519-352-4324) granite@ciaccess.com.



COACHING CLINICS

The Chatham Granite received a 2-year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation in 2008 to increase the exposure of curling to Grade 7 and 8 students within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and to increase the number of certified coaches/instructors. If anyone is interested in taking their “Club Coach Youth”, “Club Coach (formerly Level 1) Certification” or “Competition – Introduction (formerly Level 2) Certification”, we have money to pay for these courses plus some traveling expenses.

Club Coach Youth is designed for coaches who do not require certification but become involved on a voluntary basis. Participants tend to work with curlers of all ages who are new to the sport such as Little Rock Curlers and our Sunday Junior curlers.

Club Coach (formerly Level 1) Certification is a program designed to enhance the skill set of the coach or instructor who function primarily at the club level but whose teams are starting their competitive experience. Coaches who take this two-day workshop will become a **trained** “Club Coach”.

Competition –Introduction (formerly Level 2) Certification is designed to train an individual to coach a medium to advanced performance team.

For more information, contact Reg Johnson 519-354-1603 or John Young Jr. 519-352-4324 or go to the OCA website at www.ontcurl.com. for dates of upcoming clinics.

FUNDRAISING

Welcome – your fundraising committee for this year consists of Reg Johnson and Craig Weldon but we always need other club members to help us in our fundraising initiatives.

We are planning **3 Brunches** this season, Sunday, November 29th, Sunday, February 14th and Sunday, March 28th. 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.

For the first time ever, we are selling **advertising spots on the ice** and are very pleased to announce that we have sold out all spots with 48 new advertisers coming on board bring in added revenue of \$14,000. A BIG thanks goes to Greg Payne, Jim Brackett and their committee for taking this project on and doing such a great job for the club.

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.

We made an application to the **Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RinC) Program** but were unsuccessful in our request.

Reg Johnson and Craig Weldon

HOUSE AND PROPERTY REPORT

Staffing

We are very pleased to announce that we have all of our staff back from last year: John Young Jr. as our Office Administrator, D.J. Skipper as our ice technician, Cheryl & Bruce McInery from the Chilled Cork as our caterers, Brenda Morris and Sandy Wass as our bartenders and Barb Capeling as our bookkeeper. They keep our Club running smoothly which all members and guests appreciate.

Drennan Electrical from London will inspect our compressor and will be present for the start-up on September 25th allowing us to have ice ready for the Open House on Wednesday, October 14th.

Repairs / Maintenance / Purchases

Summer and fall have been a very busy time for repairs, maintenance and purchase of new equipment. These include:

- drainage around the outside of the club was inspected by Heyink Construction and the hookups for the eve trough have been changed.
- we will be using jet ice this year
- new purchases include a scrapper blade for the Ice King, blade for nipper, hack rubbers, 2 biter measurers, a new dial measurer and a programmable thermostat for the ice which should save hydro this winter.

Greg Payne



Curling

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

