

The CURLING CONNECTION

February 2010

www.curlbc.ca

Message from the President

Jim Mann

Another BC men's curling championship is over and congratulations to Jeff Richard, Tom Shypitka, Tyler Orme and Chris Anderson from the Kelowna Curling Club. In gritty and superb performances, Jeff's team beat the 2008 champion and then the 2009 defending champion to put purple hearts on their BC jackets to represent our province at the Brier in Halifax in March. This promises to be a star-packed field with teams like Kevin Koe (Alberta), Jeff Stoughton (Manitoba), Glenn Howard (Ontario) and Brad Gushue (Newfoundland), all Olympic Roar of the Rings teams, vying for the Canadian championship. Good luck guys - it has been far too long since Greg McAulay brought the last men's Canadian title back to British Columbia.

A very special thank you to the Vernon host committee for an excellent championship. Curling volunteers are the best in the world and their hard work is so appreciated at all of the championships around the province. Thank you so much to Canadian Direct Insurance, our title sponsor, and the other sponsors whose support for our sport is critical. Trisha Tyrrell from Canadian Direct attended the whole event and is a pleasure to work with. This is a friendly reminder to all curlers in the province to support our great sponsors - in this case it will also save you money on your home or auto insurance.

Of course this month it is not possible to write a message without

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The Curling Connection

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Website Headlines

Stay even more up to date on the latest Curl BC headlines. By signing up for the "Updates Via Email" list (found on the top of the Curl BC home page) you will receive the latest Curl BC announcements right to your inbox. New website headlines will be sent to you in a single email each night when there are new stories added to our site. If no new stories are added, you will not receive an email.

mentioning the Olympics. While many would argue that "ice hockey" (I still have trouble having to include the word ice in front of hockey) is the sport where Canadians most expect gold medals, I would argue that the highest expectations are on Kevin Martin and Cheryl Bernard's teams. Canadian men and women are ranked number one by the World Curling Federation and they are certainly ranked number one by Canadian curling fans and enthusiasts. Both teams won very tough first games with draws to the button on their last rocks. What a great start to a very tough week! The curling Olympians spend more time competing than any other athletes at the games. They must maintain their focus throughout the round robin and then through a "no second chance" playoff format different than what we are used to with the Canadian page playoffs. Good luck - curlers are proud of our champions.

This is also an excellent time to promote curling in your communities. Curling will receive more television coverage than any other Olympic sport. The Google search page on the Internet featured curling on Tuesday and, of course, millions of people watched Marge and Homer Simpson represent the US. Clearly Marge had taken advantage of the secret research done by the Canadian Own the Podium grant into the dynamics of sweeping. As part of promoting curling in your club, please remember to get your entries into your regional BC Club Challenge championships - the BC winners will be off to Prince Edward Island in November.

GO CANADA GO!

Child fitness tax receipts

With the thought of future Olympians in mind, a reminder to clubs that your junior curler parents can claim up to \$500 per year for eligible fitness expenses paid for each child who is 16 and under in 2009. Any curling league or program that is a minimum of eight consecutive weeks long would meet the Canada Revenue guidelines. Full Guidelines can be found at the Canada Revenue Agency website, but curling meets the physical activity tests of muscular strength, endurance, flexibility and balance! The receipt is for fees paid in 2009 and cannot include fees for uniforms or non-activity portions.

The club receipt should include:

- * the curling centre's name and address.
- * the name of the program
- * the amount received/paid
- * the full name of the payer
- * the full name of the child
- * the child's year of birth

Questions? Visit www.cra.gc.ca and use the search function for Child Fitness Tax Credit.

Richard steals his way to the Brier

Kelowna's Jeff Richard, Tom Shypitka, Tyler Orme and Chris Anderson captured the 2010 Canadian Direct Insurance BC Men's Curling Championship presented by Kal-Tire crown this month at the Vernon Curling Club.



Richard started the week slowly at the bottom of the pack with a 1-3 record after day two, but reeled off eight consecutive wins to take top spot and a trip to the Brier held in Halifax, March 6-14, 2010.

Richard faced the 2009 champion, Sean Geall from the Royal City Curling Club in Sunday's championship match. Geall earned his spot in the final by winning the page playoff 1 vs. 2 game over Kelowna's Bob Ursel. Richard took the longer road by first winning the quarter-final by beating Bert Gretzinger 5-3 and then stole 2 points in Saturday's semi-final extra-end match against Ursel. Richard continued his stealing ways against Geall in a nail-biter final.

Although Richard controlled the play during the first half of the game, he trailed 5-3 at the 5th end break. Geall gained momentum in the second half with many predicting a repeat win. The New Westminster squad narrowly missed a double-takeout for the win in the last end which was followed by a double-takeout from Richard to force an extra-end. The returning champs kept the end open leaving Richard a draw to the top eight-foot to sit two counters. The Richard stone picked up debris at the top of the house, but managed to still sit second shot and leaving Geall an open draw to half of the eight for a trip to Halifax. The final rock looked on course with the sweepers lightly cleaning it, but it continued to slide as it entered the house. Strong sweeping behind the tee-line from Richard third, Tom Skypitka, carried the rock just inches too far leaving Richard shot stone and crowning him the new BC champion. The final score was 9-8.

This was the fourth year in a row that the BC Men's final was decided in an extra-end.

Meanwhile, Jeff Richard's sister (Jeanna Schraeder) lost out at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Ontario. Schraeder and skip Kelly Scott lost 6-4 in the quarter-final against Ontario's Krista McCarville. Returning champion, Jennifer Jones went on to defeat PEI's Kathy O'Rourke in an extra-end to win her third consecutive national title.



*Congratulations to
Kelly Scott for
winning the Marj
Mitchell
Sportsmanship
Award at the 2010
Scotties Tournament
of Hearts*

***Congratulations to the
2010 BC High School Champions***

*Boy's Champions: Chetwynd
Girl's Champions: South Kamloops*

Sportmanship Awards:

*Boys: South Delta
Girls: Reynolds*

Canadian Direct Insurance Contest Winners!

Canadian Direct Insurance and Curl BC would like to congratulate Anna from the Langley Curling Club who won a 46" SONY XBR LCD HDTV valued at approximately \$3,500.00.

Anna was entered into the contest after she obtained a no-obligation quote on her home and auto insurance from Canadian Direct Insurance. Curl BC members are still encouraged to get their quotes in order to qualify for a maximum combined discount of 60%.

Congratulations Anna and hope you enjoy watching the 2010 Olympic curling on your new TV!

Curl BC members can check back next season for more contests from Canadian Direct Insurance.



Trisha Tyrrell from Canadian Direct Insurance presents Anna with her prize

As an added bonus, Canadian Direct Insurance also provided incentives for clubs for their future bonspiels. Three prizes were awarded to the clubs with the highest participation rates throughout the contest period. The participation rates were calculated based on the number of entrants per club compared against their club membership numbers. The top three winning clubs were:



1st highest participation rate: \$1,000.00 CDN

Houston & District Curling Club

2nd highest participation rate: \$500.00 CDN

Langley Curling Club

3rd highest participation rate: \$250.00 CDN

Gold River Curling Club



Click here to learn how you can save with Canadian Direct Insurance – Say "Yes" to savings!

Team Sanders selected as finalists for Sport BC Team of the Year

Congratulations to Team Sanders (Pat Sanders, Cheryl Noble, Roselyn Craig and Christine Jurgenson) for being selected as finalists for Sport BC's Team of the Year. Team Sanders won the 2009 World Senior Women's Curling Championship last spring. The winner will be announced on March 31st at the 44th Annual Sport BC Athlete of the Year Awards.

Kamloops curler celebrates 100th birthday

On February 17, 2010, Kamloops curler Steve Gittus turned 100 years old. The amazing part of this story is not that Steve has reached the century mark in his life, but what he has done in life so far and more importantly, what he is still doing.

You see, Steve is a curler, an active curler. He picked up the game at age 45 after being posted in Quebec with the Army upon his return from Korea. He decided to join the sport with hopes of meeting some new friends. He was successful in his quest for new friends and stuck with the sport that he grew to love.

After six years in Quebec and winning the 1958 Army Championship as a skip, Steve retired from the Army and moved to Calgary in 1959. There he founded and worked as the Executive Director of the Heart Society. He spent six years in that position and then headed west to Shuswap. There he curled at the Salmon Arm Curling Club and recalls many trips to and from the club on hazardous winter roads.

Steve now throws with a stick, but don't let that fool you about his ability to partake in the rest of the game. At 100 years of age, Steve still sweeps with the best of them and enjoys the exercise. He enjoys it so much that he plays second on his team in Kamloops, ensuring he gets to sweep the maximum number of rocks that a curler can.

This former skier and CFL player has proved that curling truly is a life-long sport. So next time you think of packing your curling shoes away because your knee is too sore or your back is too strained, think of Steve and his drive to continue on playing the game. Pass on his story to non-curling family and friends and share with them, what curling has to offer.

Happy birthday Steve, from all of us at Curl BC. Here's to many more years of active curling!



Membership reports past due

The Government of BC Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport requires accurate reporting of membership numbers from every Provincial Sport Organization including Curl BC. We also need your membership numbers in order to calculate next year's affiliation fees.

Each curling club must supply to Curl BC a list of your membership including: First initial of both First and Last names, Date of Birth, Postal Code, and Gender. A sample reporting template is available on our website [click here](#).

If birthdates are not available, or an individual does not want to provide a date of birth, you must report which age range they fall under: 0-5 years, 6-12 years, 13-17 years, 18-54 years, 55+ years.

A big thank you to all of the clubs who have submitted their lists on time. We ask those clubs that have yet to do so, to please submit them ASAP. These lists are now past due as the deadline was February 15th.

If you need any help in putting together your membership list, please do not hesitate to contact Penny Bartel at pbartel@curlbc.ca or 604-333-3620.

BC wheelchair team off to nationals

The 2010 BC Wheelchair Curling Championship was held during the end of January at the Juan de Fuca Curling Club. The event hosted three teams vying for two spots at the 2010 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship to be held at the Kelowna Curling Club, March 16-21st, 2010.

Despite the absence of the Jim Armstrong team (who could not compete due to conflicts with the 2010 Paralympic Games) the provincial championship continued to showcase the strong high performance wheelchair curling that BC has become accustomed to.

The Whitney Warren rink of Frank LaBounty, Gerry Austgarden and Alison Duddy were victorious in capturing the BC title with a convincing 7-1 win over the Gary Cormack rink. The final started out with three blanked ends followed by a single Cormack point scored in the 4th and two points scored by Warren in the 5th. Warren then continued to build his lead by stealing one in the 6th and another four points in the 7th end. The Cormack team of Rich Green, Vincent Miele and Corinne Jensen earned the second berth into the national championship with their second place finish. BC was awarded an extra berth into the nationals this year as the host province.

The Cyril Kinakin team of Ron Vaselenak, Jim Miller and Samantha Siu finished third in the championship after losing close battles to Warren and Cormack earlier in the weekend.

Island teams dominate Senior Championship

Vancouver Island will be well represented this year at the 2010 Canadian Senior Men's & Women's Curling Championships.

The Christine Jurgenson rink of Cheryl Noble, Pat Sanders and Roselyn Craig from the Juan de Fuca Curling Club defeated Salmon Arm's Wendy Cseke 7-4 in the final game of the BC Championship at the Nanaimo Curling Club. Cseke went undefeated through round-robin play but was unable to finish off the perfect week. Jurgenson came out strong in the first half of the game stealing a total of 7 points to lead 7-0. Cseke responded with one in the 6th and then stole single points in ends 7, 8 & 9, but ran out of rocks in the final end. The Jurgenson rink won the 2008 Canadian Senior and 2009 World Senior Championships with now second, Pat Sanders, skipping the squad and Jurgenson playing lead. Sanders requested a change in position this season to spread the media spotlight across the rest of her team.

On the senior men's side, Wes Craig (husband of Roselyn Craig) was playing in his first BC senior men's final representing the Victoria Curling Club. Craig was up against former world champion, Rick Folk, of Kelowna. This hard fought battle resulted in a tie score after 9 ends of play and Folk in control with the final stone in the 10th end. Folk needed a piece of the button for the win but came up an inch short leaving the Craig stone counting for the victory. Craig finished the round-robin at 4-3 and survived both tie-breaker and semi-final games.

The national championships take place in Ottawa from March 20-28th.

Canadian Direct Insurance

would like to congratulate the

2010 Canadian Direct Insurance BC Men's Curling Champions

Jeff Richard, Tom Shypitka, Tyler Orme & Chris Anderson



www.canadiandirect.com

Share your Olympic & Paralympic moments

Curl BC would like to hear what you, your club or your friends did during the Olympic Games. We know there will be lots of great memories, stories and pictures to share, so fill us in. Your stories and pictures may be highlighted in future Curling Connections or posted on our website.

Send your stories to rgallaugh@curlbc.ca

WIN!

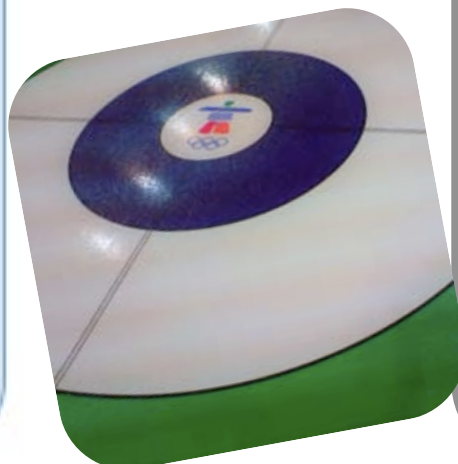
As a proud sponsor of the BC Mixed Curling Championship, **Williams Moving & Storage** is pleased to announce a contest to recognize the efforts of the many Mixed League curlers throughout BC.

All "Mixed League" winning teams will be entered into a draw for 1 of 3 prizes of:

1,000 REWARD AIRMILES

Draw will be held May 1st, 2010 at the Curl BC office.

For more information on how to involve your club, please contact Curl BC Participation Manager, Penny Bartel at pbartel@curlbc.ca or 604-333-3620



Curl BC is proud to have five of the six team members of Canada's Paralympic Team from British Columbia. Skip **Jim Armstrong** and third **Darryl Neighbour** from the Richmond Curling Club, second **Ina Forrest** from the Vernon Curling Club, lead **Sonja Gaudet** from the Vernon Curling Club and Coach **Joe Rea** of Prince George. The alternate is Bruno Yizek of Calgary.

These BC athletes will compete in the Vancouver Olympic/Paralympic Centre (beside the Vancouver Curling Club) from March 13-20, 2010. This centre has fond memories for our five BC competitors, as it was only last February when they captured gold at the 2009 World Wheelchair Curling Championships. Lead Sonja Gaudet also played on the 2006 Paralympic Curling Team skipped by now Manager of the Vancouver Curling Club, **Chris Daw**. Gaudet and Daw won the gold medal that year.

Best of luck to Jim, Darryl, Ina, Sonja, Joe and Bruno. We will be cheering for you!

The value of coaches and how they can benefit you and your club

Are you a coach or wanting to become one? Here's what you should know about our new coaching courses!

How becoming trained through these workshops helps the sport of curling:

- * Grows a resource base to attract and help beginner curlers of all ages
- * Helps clubs become more self sufficient with internal resources
- * Increases new curler safety and enjoyment of the sport
- * Provides proper instruction to allow more opportunities for success
- * Provides a path for volunteers to give back to the game in an instructing/coaching role
- * Encourages curling club members to become more involved within their clubs
- * Improves the retention rate of new curlers

Club Coach:

The Club Coach/ Instructor Program focuses on the needs of the club curler. This program is designed to enhance the skill set of the coach and instructor who function primarily at the club level. The Club Coach will be competent in training beginning curlers from youth to masters.

People who should take this workshop are:

- * Any club volunteer leading novice or intermediate clinics
- * Any parent or club volunteer helping with a junior program (but not coaching a team)
- * Any club volunteer who has not been updated on the latest CCA method of teaching curling to new curlers in the past 5 years
- * Any club volunteer who would like new teaching aids and ideas to use in novice clinics
- * Any person that wants to improve their skills no matter what their level of play is

Competition Coach:

The Competition Coach program prepares coaches to work with competitive and intermediate level athletes. The new program is now streamlined offering both technical and theory education sessions in one weekend by Curl BC Learning Facilitators. No prerequisite is required, but it is recommended that you have previous coaching experience or are former athletes of the sport.

People who should take this workshop are:

- * Any club volunteer coaching a team that will be entering playdowns






Both of these workshops are two-day courses. If you are thinking of adding the competition piece in the future, consider doing it now as the commitment is the same.

Whether you are a current instructor or coach or thinking of becoming one, give some thought as to how taking this training can benefit you and your local curling community.

For more information on coaching, please contact Heather Beatty at hbeatty@curlbc.ca



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Rivers Inlet, BC

Permanent policy change permits minors in licensed areas of curling clubs

The purpose of this policy directive is to announce that the policy permitting the presence of minors in recreational facilities in LP licensed establishments, originally introduced as a pilot project, has been made permanent.

Background

In February of 2008, a pilot project was introduced permitting minors in the premises of LP and LP club establishments located in a curling facility until 10:00 p.m. with the approval of the general manager. In November of 2008, the pilot was expanded to include golf course facilities, recreation centres, and stadiums. Billiard halls and fraternal organizations such as legions were specifically excluded from participation in the pilot, as it was not thought appropriate for minors to access these types of facilities. The pilot project period was originally scheduled to end on December 31, 2009, but was subsequently extended pending further review until April 30, 2010.

LCLB has completed an evaluation of the pilot project. This policy directive replaces policy directive 08-09 and Section 2 of policy directive 08-02. The changes take effect immediately, and this exception will now be permitted on a permanent basis.

Statutory Authority and Policy Rationale

Section 9 of the Liquor Control and Licensing Act regulation generally prohibits minors from being in a liquor primary licensed establishment, but there are exceptions where they are entertainers, if it is in the public interest, or in certain types of establishments. Allowing minors in selected LP establishments where the focus is on sports and recreational activities is considered to be in the public interest as it will facilitate tourism and expand dining opportunities for families and minors participating in sports and recreational activities.

Eligibility Terms and Conditions

Only liquor primary lounges located in a facility whose primary purpose is one of sports or recreation (e.g. curling club, golf course facility, tennis facility, rowing facility, recreation centre or stadium), with the exception of billiard halls, qualify for the term and condition. The licensed lounge area that is eligible for this term and condition does not include multi-purpose rooms or banquet facilities.

The following conditions apply to LP licensed establishments that are eligible for this term and condition:

- Minors are permitted into the licensed area only when the facility is open and actively functioning for recreation purposes on a day to day basis (for example, in the case of a seasonal recreational facility, minors would not be permitted in the separate LP or LP club licensed area during the off season)
- Minors are not required to be accompanied by a parent or guardian
- Minors must leave the licensed premises no later than 10:00 p.m.
- Signage must be placed in a prominent location within the establishment that reads "Minors are permitted until 10:00 p.m."
- Adult entertainment, if offered, must not commence until after 10:00 p.m.

- Minors are not permitted in the LP or LP club licensed area when the facility is being used for an activity which is clearly adult or non-recreational in nature, such as pub nights, holiday parties and concerts
- Minors are not permitted if any gaming or gambling activity takes place, with the exception of ticket raffles licensed under the Gaming Control Act.

In determining whether to permit minors in the liquor primary establishment the general manager will consider the compliance history of the licensed establishment, and the local inspector will be asked to comment on the application. Local government/First Nations comment is not required.

Licensing Process

Liquor primary licensed establishments that have already been approved to permit minors into their licensed establishments during the pilot project are automatically granted permanent permission to allow minors. These establishments can continue to display their current licence until the annual renewal has been approved, at which time the licence will be updated to reflect a new permanent term and condition. New LP applications in progress may be eligible to apply. Applicants should contact the case manager to discuss this option.

All liquor-primary and liquor-primary club licensed establishments located in curling clubs, golf course facilities, recreation centres or stadiums who wish to have minors in their liquor-primary lounge area must complete the appropriate application form: LCLB 045 – Application for a Permanent Change to a Liquor Licence (Miscellaneous). Once completed the licensee submits the application form along with the appropriate fee to the LCLB Head Office in Victoria.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch website at www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/lclb. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch toll free in Canada at 1-866-209-2111 or 250-387-1254 if calling from the Victoria area.



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