

ROCK TALK

Newsletter of the London Curling Club

March 2011

SHEILA BETKUS 2 DAY BONSPIEL

The Women's Daytime Section held their annual Sheila Betkus Two-Day bonspiel on Feb.28th and Mar.1st. The theme "Mexican Getaway" was evident throughout the club thanks to the wonderful decorating done by Sheila Novlan, Pat Bell, and Karen Lowry.

Ninety six curlers from the Aylmer, Chatham, Elmvale, Highland, Ilderton, Ingersoll, London, Peterborough, and Sarnia Curling Clubs participated in the bonspiel.

On Monday morning before each draw the teams were lead in a warm up by the Club trainer "Lousia" aka Margaret Fliss. After the two games on Monday the teams were entertained by fellow curlers resulting in a lot of laughter. A "Mexican Theme" dinner catered by Linda Arthur of Village Catering followed.

On Tuesday based on the points received as a result of Mondays curling the teams were placed in one of the six trophy events. The winners of the bonspiel and the Scotiabank trophy were Linda McKnight, Lynn Baker, Linda Clark and Allison Muirhead Ilderton. C.C.

Other trophy winners were:

Jackson-Triggs

London Honda

Krown Rust Control

Can-Am RV Centre

Mykonos

Lisa Kannakko, Peterborough C.C.

Dallyce Southern Ilderton C.C.

Diane Kenney Elmvale C.C.

Dot MacRae Highland C.C.

Miolyka Steele L.C.C.

A special thank you to all our sponsors for their continued support. The help provided by the LCC staff and the many volunteers is greatly appreciated. To Fay Weiler for acting as draw master, Sherry Chambers as secretary and my team members – Marg Fliss, Sharon Sivak, and Karen Shearer who filled in all the gaps THANK YOU!!!

Joan Dickie



Louisa!!

FAMILY DAY AT LCC

An excellent turn-out for the Family (and Friends) morning at the club to celebrate Family Day. More than 80 curlers of all ages came out to experience and/or re-experience the game of curling. On sheet 1, Don Agnew and Steve Hobbs oversaw the children while on other sheets there were games with family members playing against each other and/or the ladies versus the men. Following the curling, the participants enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate, tea or coffee with some tasty homemade cookies baked by Wendy Foster.

In the afternoon there was a skills development clinic led by Jack Nichol, Dan McInnes, Tim Lindsay and Jim Russell. Although there were fewer participants at this clinic than at the previous ones held at the club, they benefited from 1:1 instruction.

Thanks to the volunteer instructors, members of the Member Services Committee and office staff for their support and assistance with this event.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT---



By the time most of you are reading this, THE BRIER will be set to begin. After months of planning, I'm sure the organizing committees with their army of 500 volunteers are more than ready to see the results of all their hard work. The rest of us, I hope, are ready to head on down to the JLC to cheer on our favourite team(s) and support the game we love (and this club, which will benefit from any profits made).

While it looked for a while like the provincial licence was not going to be secured in time to be able to run the 50/50 DRAWS, we received word at the 11th hour, Feb. 28th to be exact, that the licence had been approved. This is certainly very good news, since the money raised will provide some vital financial support for the junior curling program in this region. Hopefully, junior/bantam convenor, Jennifer Cuddie, will be able to assemble enough volunteers to ensure the success of these draws.

On a much happier note, I want to thank Peter Askey and all the members of the Membership Services Committee for their efforts in organizing the FAMILY DAY activities at the club on Feb. 21st. I understand that we hosted over 80 people during the morning session. Congratulations to all involved!

- Planning has already begun for next season and there are some items being worked on that we think are both progressive and exciting.
- WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT – New software has been purchased to allow our webmaster, Eric Duggan, to make some important improvements. The goal is to make the website not only be more up-to-date and user friendly, but more informative, not only for existing members, but also for potential members, advertisers and sponsors. A big thank you to Eric, as well as to Board treasurer, Larry Round, who offered to act as Eric's assistant during this redevelopment process.
 - ON-LINE BANKING – On-line banking has finally come to LCC! See the item "Next Year's Registration" for further details.
 - BOARD STRUCTURE CHANGES - You are already familiar with the proposed changes outlined by Don Agnew in the February *Rock Talk*. While these changes need to be officially approved at the AGM on June 7th, so far the feedback we have received from members has been very positive.

This brings me to the final important item to be discussed: LCC's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The meeting this year will take place on June 7th, starting at 7 PM at the club. As usual, all members will receive official notification, along with proxy information, by e-mail or regular post. Of course, the hope is that as many members as possible will attend the meeting, but it will be possible, once again, to e-mail your proxy to the club prior to the day of the meeting. These proxies are essential to reach the number of votes necessary for a quorum, so please make sure you send yours if you cannot make the meeting.

FINAL REMINDER: We are a volunteer run organization and we depend on members to step up and fill Board and Committee positions, to allow our Club to run smoothly for the majority of members. Getting involved is a worthwhile experience for those who enjoy curling. If you are interested, please give your name to the office or one of the current Board members.

There's just one last thing I want to say in my final RT message of the season: I hope you've all had a good year and enjoy the last few weeks of league curling and closing parties.

Cheers! Connie Weir



TIM HORTON'S BRIER VOLUNTEER PARTY

Marnie Dickout , a Brier Volunteer Co-ordinator and Rose Geraghty representing Tim Horton's with the Brier ! Both are LCC members.



 <p>LONDON CURLING CLUB 377 Lyle Street London, Ontario N5W 3R5 Telephone (519) 432-3882 E-mail londoncurling@execulink.com Website www.londoncurling.ca</p>	<p>BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President Connie Weir Past President Don Agnew Treasurer Larry Round Secretary Pat Bell</p> <p>BOARD MEMBERS Peter Askey, Gwen Crossman, Mary Cole, John Fraser, Al McLachlan, Roger Moyer, Paul Pergau,</p>	<p>CLUB STAFF Club Manager Doug Petch Office Manager Barb Colbourn Head Ice Technician Kevin Breivik Ice Assistants Ed Jermyn Matt Mueller Mark Phillips Chris Becker Sarah Westman Jason Laroque David Easter Les Sonier Natalie Blake Janice Henry</p> <p>Ice Helper Bar Coordinator Bar Staff Housekeeper</p>	<p>WEBSITE Eric Duggan www.londoncurling.ca webmaster@londoncurling.ca</p> <p>ROCK TALK Karen Lowry 519-472-1625 rocktalk@londoncurling.ca Issue Deadlines: September 17 October 22 November 19 December 31 January 28 February 25</p>
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THANK YOU, Interim Managers

With this last issue of Rock Talk for the 2010-11 season, I want to formally thank each of the Interim Managers, who devoted a week of their time to tend to office duties this season. Their diligence and performance was very much appreciated!

Besides being in the club from 8:30 – 4:00 each day, they performed a myriad of duties, including (but not limited to) answering the phone; responding to e-mails, talking to ice rental prospects, selling from the pro shop, answering questions of members, doing some paper work, and welcoming our members as they came in to curl.

Though none of these are tedious tasks, each is important in and of itself, and allows the club to retain a 'part-time' manager.

Once again, I.M.'s, a big THANK YOU!

If any members would like to gain some experience in the operation of the club, this is a good place to start. Interested? Let's talk soon for next season.

Doug Petch
Club Manager

More Thank You's

We can't close off without thanking a few more people who do a great job for our club.

- PAM HARRISON- who assembles and looks after the printing of our club Directory.
- KEN WALMSLEY – who looks after maintenance items in the club, with a willing crew of workers.
- ERIC DUGGAN – our webmaster, and office computer technician and guru. And lastly,
- KAREN LOWRY, who does a terrific job as publisher of Rock Talk.

SPIRIT OF CURLING AWARD

It is that time of year again to nominate deserving candidates for the Spirit of Curling Award. Annually, a Spirit of Curling Award is presented to one man and one woman for "good sportsmanship, honorable conduct, and one who contributes to members' enjoyment of the sport."

All active members of London Curling Club, with the exception of the Board of Directors, are eligible for this award. The nominations must be received by March 27, 2011. A person may be recognized with this award once only.

The awards have been given annually since 1981. Recent recipients of the award have been Don Agnew, Pam Harrison, Bruce Cooper, Jean Walmsley, Rick Battson, Pat Bell, Dave Shaw, Maureen Cloghesy, Mark Flynn, Lil Richardson, Dan McInnes, and Joyce Hetherington.

Club members are encouraged to nominate individuals who they believe meet the criteria and who add to the enjoyment of the sport at the London Curling Club.

Nomination forms may be found in the Main Lounge or be obtained at the office. We have a significant number of people at the club who, week in and week out, really make this a great place. We urge you to talk over possible nominees with your curling colleagues and to submit a nomination by the March 27 deadline.

HELP US IDENTIFY AND HONOUR THESE DESERVING MEMBERS!



DAYTIME MEN

The Daytime Men hosted the Highland team February 1 for the return match of their home-and-home Highland Friendly bonspiel. Unfortunately, we were too kind as hosts, and the visitors doubled their overall winning margin to 20 points for the total series. So Highland retains the trophy, of which no one seems to know the proper name! Bright spots for the LCC came from teams skipped by Jim Lone, Chuck Townsend and a spectacular 10-2 win by Ken Novlan's foursome. As the Highland's convener Bill Carter put it, "at least next November starts with a clean slate". Right, but not exactly consoling.

Chuck Townsend continued his winning ways on the bonspiel circuit taking top spot at the Forest Tier-65 event on February 8. With him were Ron McLennan, Laurie McKenna and Gord Browne. Jim Lone came second in Kitchener, assisted by Cam Russell, Doug Wilson and again Gord Browne. It seems to pay to have Browne as a rink member.

The season's Wind-Up event will be held on Tuesday, March 22 with curling matches starting at 10:00, and lunch and a brief annual business meeting afterwards. As always, our alumni will be welcomed. Although we will be able to contact most of the alums, we remind all active members to encourage the ones they know to come. Cost will be \$10.



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MEET OUR CONVENORS!!!



David Beckett – Friday Evening Mixed

David is a first year convenor with the Friday Evening Mixed League. Previously, he convened the Wednesday Night President's League.

He explained their mixed league consists of teams comprised of two men and two women who alternate throwing positions. There is one team which has three men and one woman; they joined a bit later to create a balance of twenty-four teams to eliminate the need for byes. Curlers range in skill level from beginner to those with experience. Games rotate through the set weekly start times and teams move up or down depending on the outcome of their results after round robin play.

David shared the Friday night "Potlucks" are the highlight social event for their league. Teams enjoy the opportunity to join in food and conversation after curling; there is a chance to eat fantastic food and relax amidst stimulating conversation with fellow curlers.

Something new this season will be a revival of the Mixed Closing Party and the "Chauvinist's Cup" curling event. This event will allow curlers to have fun before their curling season winds up.

Key elements of David's role as convenor include organizing teams for start up, setting draws and the schedule, as well as at the end of round robin play. Social duties involve organizing the closing party, and maintenance of thorough league records for the benefit of next year's league convenor.

David expressed that everyone in the league should "step up" to take their turn at convening, organizing or just helping out where they can, to gain a real sense of accomplishment!

Thanks David for your time and commitment in convening the Friday Evening Mixed League!

Mark Flynn and Julie Lorenzin- Learn to Curl

Mark has convened LTC for 2 years and Julie (a former LTC curler) is convening her first year. Mark and Julie are also league coaches, as are longtime coach Dan McInnes; new this year are Tony Francolini and Jim Russell. At the start of their season Ken Walmsley and Wil Francolini helped coach. League coaches have been a vital part of this year's success. With weekly instruction league members have made excellent progress in skill and game play. LTC has had a full league of curlers and a waiting list of those wanting to join.

The majority of Learn To Curl members are new to curling, most have never stepped on curling ice before. Others include a smaller group of returning curlers (second and third year members) continuing to develop their skill level as they work towards joining regular leagues. The first 6 weeks focus on basic skill development with new curlers. Seasoned LTC coach Dan McInnes works with returning curlers on advanced skills. Each Tuesday night starts with a drill to practice a particular skill (draw weight, take-outs, line of delivery) and then a 6 end game. Teams are changed each week so everyone gets to play with each other. As the season progresses, curlers take turns playing all positions with coaches provide feedback on game strategy and skill development. A sheet is always available for one-on-one instruction to allow curlers to focus specific aspects of their game they would like to improve. This year, members of LTC entered 3 teams in the Spring Thaw Bonspeil. While the competition was tough, both teams played well and coaches were very proud of their accomplishments.

The LTC league holds a Christmas Party in December with teams playing in the 'Mystery Christmas Bonspeil' and the curling season ends with the LTC Skins Game and Year End Party and Dinner.

As convenors, Mark and Julie organize weekly instruction, drills and team play, as well as two yearly parties. In their roles as convenors and coaches they find it is very satisfying to see curlers develop skills throughout the season and advance to join leagues as regular members. Mark and Julie emphasized their gratification in witnessing everyone have fun, enjoy the game and socialize.

A big thank you to Mark Flynn and Julie Lorenzin for convening and coaching the Learn to Curl League!

Correction to February 2011 Rock Talk

Correction: Beginning with the 2011-12 season, participation in the 50/50 draw must be submitted with your membership application. Only those who prepay will be assigned a number and will be eligible to win. This would mean - a winner every week!

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OCA---

January 29, 2011 was the OCA Women's Tankard (double team entry) Zone 16 Playdowns held in Detroit. Representing the London Curling Club was Team Rochefort (Skip Eileen Rochefort, Third Wendy Foster, Second Rhonda Persichilli and Lead Dayna Dann) and Team Lawrence (Skip Susan Lawrence, Third Linda McFadyen, Second Deanna Dougan and Lead Roxanna Petten). The Playdowns were won by the Highland Country Club.

February 5 & 6, 2011 was the Best Western Intermediate Women's and Men's Zone 16 Playdowns held at the Highland Country Club. Representing the London Curling Club was Team Lawrence (Skip Susan Lawrence, Third Linda McFadyen, Second Deanna Dougan and Lead Rhonda Persichilli) and Team Mann (Skip Dave Mann, Third Bob Mckinley, Second Kirk Massey and Lead Bob Bourdeau). The Women's playdown was won by the Sun Parlor Club and the Men's by the Ilderton and Highland clubs.

Our women's team of Rhonda Persichilli, Deanna Dougan, Lisa Flesher, and Sue Lawrence (skip) successfully advanced to the Regional Playdowns for the Tim Horton Trophy. This next level of Playdowns will be held March 5 & 6 at the Stratford Country Club. Please have a read of Sue's note below just to see how exciting and gratifying participating in OCA events can be. Thank you Sue and congratulations to you, Lisa, Deanna and Rhonda! Good curling.

Our Juniors continue to represent our club very well. Both Junior Mixed Teams won Zone 16 and will compete next at Beach Grove on March 12th and 13th. The A side was won by Eric LeDreff Kerwin (skip), Hayley Hopkins, Rynn Vink and Lindsay Ross. The B side was won by Grant Davies (skip), Victoria Rode, Matthew Arcese and Rebecca Lane. Blake Nichols and Wil Francolini were on the winning Gore Provincial Schoolboys team representing Central SS. Curtis Easter is on a team out of Navan (Ottawa) competing for the Bantam Boys Provincial title and also for the Bantam Mixed Regional Competition. David Easter with Richard Krell from St Thomas came in third in the Junior Men's Provincial Finals.

You can check out the results of these and all other Playdowns through the OCA Web Site www.ontcurl.com. The Illusive Zone Badge is Captured

Our competitive curling team of Rhonda Persichilli, Deanna Dougan, Lisa Flesher, and Sue Lawrence successfully advanced to the regional playdowns for the Tim Horton Trophy. This is our second full season of competing for a regional birth from the Best Western Challenge, Women's Tankard, Intermediate Zones and the Tim Horton Trophy. With Lisa added in at vice position, we finally earned our ticket to the next level of competition.

The journey has not been easy as many competitors can attest to. To build a team, curlers need to leave their league teams to curl together at least one night a week. The teams left behind without a curler are disappointed and the competitors know that. The desire to curl in competition then needs to manifest itself on the ice. This means team practice, individual practice, attention to fitness levels, clinics, camps, and coaching. After all of that, you hope to see good results. When you don't achieve the desired outcomes you go back to the team and reassess. This takes an emotional toll on everyone as the team rebuilds to find the chemistry it needs to succeed. Then, there are the competitions themselves which can be mentally and physically exhausting. Generally, 10 end games with a possibility of 3 games in 1 day. Add travel to the mix and it becomes a very exhausting adventure UNTIL YOU WIN. The energy you get from that first win makes it all worthwhile. I can guarantee that this first zone badge will not end up in anyone's sock drawer.

To get to this stage of our competition journey we have been encouraged and motivated by all the support we have received along the way. Curlers at our club who recognized us at practice and made mention of that fact. Best wishes from so many curlers as the competition dates approached. Compliments on our improvements. Kevin watching from behind the glass and helping every chance he could. Warren volunteering his time and energy again this season.

It all makes the journey worth it.

Thanks to everyone at our club and beyond.
Sincerely, Sue Lawrence

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NEXT SEASON'S REGISTRATION

Again in mid-August, we will be e-mailing registration forms for next season's curling.

A few points to keep in mind:

- Fill in form online and the math is done automatically for you.
- If you want to be in the 50/50 draw, you must indicate on the form, as there will be no weekly paying.
- Save the completed form to your desktop and return to the club as an e-mail attachment or print and send with payment to the club.
- You can pay your fees online if you have Electronic Banking, by transferring money with an Electronic E-Mail Money Transfer.

AN IMPORTANT DATE

Club members are asked to mark **September 8th** on their calendars. This will be the deadline for registration and payment for the 2011-12 season. We need every club member's help in meeting the registration deadline so we can get the information to convenors to make up the draws for the start of the season.

We are a growing club with over 700 members and we expect several leagues will start the season full. Payment after the due date may not get you into the league you want to play in.

TEASDALE LEAGUE

The regular schedule of the Teasdale League (men' competitive) which plays on Thursday afternoons is now over. The playoffs began on Thursday Feb. 24th. Six teams are in the Championship flight and are skipped by Ron McLennan, Jim Lone, Don Agnew, Chuck Townsend, Mike Bancroft and Jim Fitzpatrick.

The other seven teams will complete the curling season in Recreational flight. One team decided to discontinue play so there only 13 teams.

The winner of the Championship flight will be awarded the Teasdale Plaque on the last day (March 31st). The high point of the final curling extravaganza will be a vintage wine draw for all participants.

Gord Sellery Convenor

ROLLING STONES



Well, the London Rolling Stones emerged victorious from the notorious Tri-City Bonspiel held February 19th at the Dixie Curling Club in Toronto. The Burns Rink of Kirk George, Frank Hubbs, Steve Eimer and Sean Burns brought home bragging rights and got first crack at the impressive prize table. Congratulations gents!

The Burns Rink is also in contention for the coveted Jim Finn trophy this year, only a half a point behind the formidable Bentley Rink. With only four nights left to claim the ultimate prize, both teams are expected to bring their "A" game each week now. Kemp Charman, still fresh off of last year's victory, is eyeing for his chance to blow right past the current top contenders from his current third place position.

Best wishes and good curling to all teams!

Ken Symms - Rolling Stones Communications

A PROVINCIAL TITLE FOR LCC MEMBERS

Will Francolini and Blake Nichols, LCC junior members, went to The Gore Mutual Schoolboy Competition at the Huntley Curling Club, February 17, 18 and 19th. Along with Aaron Chapman and Richard Krell, Will and Blake represented London Central High School in this Provincial competition after winning their zone and region in the previous weeks.

Good curling from Will (lead), Blake (second), Aaron (vice) and Richard (skip) for the three days of competition in Carp, Ontario (west of Ottawa) lead to victory! The boys are the 2011 Gore Mutual Schoolboy Provincial Champions. Will and Blake curled very well and were named lead and second to an All-Star Team based on the stats after the first three games.

Congratulations Will and Blake!



l-r, Coach Fritz Krell, Aaron Chapman, Richard Krell (seated), Blake Nichols, Emmerson Hill, and Will Francolini

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WOMEN'S DAYTIME SECTION NEWS—

SKINS AND STONE SOUP –February 3rd, 2011 (Pat Bell, Convenor & Marj Dudley, Co-convenor)

Eight teams took to the ice to show their finesse at playing a skins game. Then entry fee was \$5, plus a cup of vegetables for the stone soup. The skins were worth \$40 per ice; except for one ice, that had 6 players due to last minute cancellation. That skin was \$30. Teams were drawn from a hat just before stepping onto the ice. The most successful skins team skipped by Judy Ralston, won the total skins for her ice of \$40. Soup steeped on the stove during the games, and donated dessert squares ended the event on a sweet note!

Many thanks to Fay Weiler and Linda Karl for keeping the scores.

CURL FOR A CAUSE (Jean Cameron/Fay Weiler)

This year the Salvation Army Adult Day Program was chosen as our cause. Guest speaker for the day, Nancy Johnston, provided an overview of services offered and responded to questions from the members. Nancy expressed gratitude for the support of the Women's Daytime Section of LCC.

The day consisted of two games and lunch. Money for the cause was raised through a raffle, auction and personal donations.

Unfortunately, our sponsors were unable to be present. Kay Carr's daughter Barbara presented the plaque to the winning team of Penny Brown, Marilyn Wearing and Linda Bailey. The ongoing sponsorship of this event by Kay and Ron Carr is much appreciated. Special thanks to those working in the kitchen.

Together the WDS raised \$1171.52 for the cause.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE WOMEN'S SECTION

February 28th & March 1st Sheila Betkus 2 Day

CLOSING LUNCH AND MEETING – Tuesday, April 5, 2011) Linda Round, Convenor)

Bar will open at 12:00 noon. The lunch, catered by Linda Arthur, Village Catering will be served at 12:30pm. The meeting will begin at 1:30pm. Tickets at \$15.00 will be available from Executive Committee Members. Please plan to attend as we will review the events of the past year and plan for another great year of curling.

ONGOING EVENTS

Nash
Subway

LITTLE ROCKS!!!



On Sunday, February 13, our Little Rocks curlers went to the Highland club to participate in their annual bonspiel. Our four teams competed in two games.

For most of the kids from both clubs, it was their first ever spiel. The level of play was awesome, and they enjoyed the event thoroughly. It probably helped that the prizes were provided by The Toy Shoppe! We are looking forward to our own bonspiel on Saturday, March 26, when we hope to host several clubs. This will close out our very successful season.

If you have a children, grandchildren, or family friends who would like to try curling, please talk up our club. We want to continue continue to grow our youth programs--it is our sport's future!

Steve Hobbs Convenor, Little Rocks

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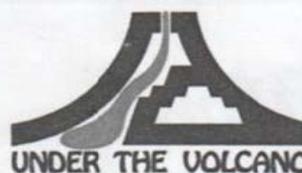


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PRO SHOPPE REPORT--

Watch for a "final" sale week coming in late March. Many of our clothing items will be on sale at drastically reduced prices. The remaining stock of G40 Goldline shoes will also be included. We will have a display table set up to exhibit these items. First come – first served!

YOUR CURLING CLUB THANKS YOU!

As this curling season rapidly approaches it's final weeks, many thanks go out to our members who have consistently supported the Pro Shoppe. We have exceeded any sales numbers attained over the past several years and it is only through the support of our members and other area curlers that this has been possible.

This, of course, would not have been achievable without the generous support of our volunteer Sales Associates, the Interim Managers, Mary Cole, and Barb Colbourn, our Office Manager. Many, many thanks for your support and loyalty. It is, as always, very much appreciated.

Bob Davis, Pro Shoppe mgr.

Great Tickets Still Available for the Brier... and Every One includes Admission to Keith's Patch!



When the Tim Hortons Brier takes to the ice March 5 – 13 at the John Labatt Centre, fans will have the opportunity to see some of the greatest curlers in the world... Glenn Howard will be here, Kevin Martin will be here, Jeff Stoughton will be here, Brad Gushue will be here, and many more great names!

Fans also have the chance to take part in Canada's biggest party at Keith's Patch. Anyone who hasn't experienced the social heartbeat of Season of Champions events is in for a big surprise! All day and night throughout the Brier, the Patch rocks to the sounds of an amazing lineup of live entertainment.

Keith's Patch will be located at the London Convention Centre, 300 York Street with all your entertainment options available in one venue. Admission is free with every same-day draw pass - and free shuttle service will be provided to transport fans between the John Labatt Centre and the Convention Centre.

The Patch is open daily until 1 am, featuring a friendly, high-energy atmosphere with a dynamic array of talent, including some of the top acts on the Canadian music circuit. It starts off with a long-anticipated return to the stage by Lighthouse, Saturday, March 5. The four-time Juno award winners will perform all their classic hits from the 70's.

Other acts appearing throughout the week include the Blind River Band, Coral Buffett Band, Brad James Band, Ronnie and the Jets (Elton John Tribute), Gerry Finn and Guest, Superfreak, Mudmen, Paul James Band and the Chevelles.

"We're just thrilled with the level of talent we've lined up," says Peter Inch, Host Committee Chair, "...all included with each draw pass. And what's a party without food and refreshments? Fans will find a great selection of both at Keith's Patch. All I can say is, you gotta be there!"

The party in the Patch is hosted by engaging emcees who lead the crowds in all kinds of fun contests and games. It's also the home of the Cool Curling tournament – the miniature tabletop version of the roaring game, with cash prizes on the line!

Plus, fans have the chance to meet the athletes - whether they're kicking back after the draw, or taking part in the Up Close and Personal interviews and the Team Autograph sessions.

Great seats are still available, starting at just \$14. Tickets can be purchased online at seasonofchampions.ca, by phone at 866.455.2849 or in person at the John Labatt Centre Box Office.

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