

ROCK TALK

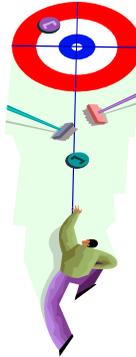
Newsletter of the London Curling Club

January 2012

28TH ANNUAL HARRY SIFTON CLASSIC BONSPIEL



2010 Winning Team



Committee 2011

The 28TH Annual Harry Sifton Classic Bonspiel was held at the LCC on December 6TH and 7TH with twenty four teams participating. We had 15 teams from South Western Ontario including Brant , Kingsville , Sarnia , Forest, Glencoe, St.Marys ,Ilderton, London Highland & St. Thomas along with 9 teams from the LCC playing in 4 draws. The first day was followed by a happy hour and three course dinner at the Mocha Shrine.

The evening concluded with the presentation of the Harry Sifton Trophy to last year's winners by our club president, followed by the presentation of individual awards . This year Connie Weir even managed to include some curling jokes in her remarks to the delight of all. The 2010 winning team consisted of Jim Fitzpatrick ,Harry Steele. Ken Walmsley and Randy Southern.

Two draws the next morning concluded the event with the team from Brant walking away with top honours. The members of the winning team were Jack McLean, Marty Bruines, Earl Sowers and Wayne Allen .Congratulations to the winners.

We would like to thank our long term sponsors, Sifton Properties, Executive Travel & New Era Grafix for their continuing support. Without them it would be difficult to continue this event.

Also many thanks go to the Bonspiel committee of Larry Round, Colin Shipley, Nick Sauter ,Doug Hammather, Tom Pinches and our Master of Ceremonies Don McKay. Looks like a large group but they sure divided up the tasks and made everything happen.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT---



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all had a healthy happy holiday season and are enjoying being back at the curling club.

FUTURE PROJECTS LIST: As noted in my last report, the board has put together a list of future projects for the maintenance as well as the improvement of our club. As I write this report, the first of these, new carpeting for the main lounge and office, is being installed. Thanks to Don Agnew and Richard Rogers for helping Doug move the furniture out of the office. Don also volunteered to paint the office before the new carpeting was put down. Once the remaining items have been approved and prioritized by the Board, the "Wish List" will be shared with members.

LEARN TO CURL: As indicated last month, LTC numbers are down, so the Board has decided to offer "Drop-In" curling during the months of January and February. As a special promotion, we are inviting anyone interested in trying the sport, to pre-register through the office to attend one of our Tuesday LTC evenings at no cost. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this, ask them to call the club for more information.

SPARING MEMBERSHIP: After some considerable discussion, the Board has agreed to offer, as a pilot project, a half year sparing membership that will run from January to March 2012. Since there were a number of important issues to consider, the Board asked the Member Services Committee to draw up a list of recommendations to outline how such a membership would work. The purpose of this pilot project is to see if we can generate some new memberships by reaching out to those who may be unable to commit to playing in a regular league because of variable work schedules. The success of this initiative will determine whether the Board decides to offer it again next season.

CROKINOLE NIGHT: The London Crokinole Club, which meets monthly, the second Thursday of each month, from 7 to 10 PM, has offered to hold a Crokinole Night at the club. The night selected for this event is Thursday, February 9th. Greg Matthison, local sports marketing coach and editor of *SportsXpress* magazine, is a member of the Crokinole Club and will be here along with about 20 other members to explain the rules/strategy and partner up with any interested LCC members for an evening of crokinole. It may be years since many of us have played, but it sounds like a lot of fun to me. Watch for further details and a sign up sheet in the main lounge.

Connie Weir, President



OCA

December 18, 2011 saw 16 avid LCC curlers competing in a Closest to the Button contest at the club. This event was aimed at boosting awareness for the upcoming Dominion Tankard Ontario Playdowns which will be held in the Stratford Rotary Complex February 6 - 12, 2012.

Congratulations goes to Russ Chadwick who drew 18.3 cm or 7.20 inches from the button. Excellent performance considering no sweepers and the pressure of everyone watching. Russ's draw now goes up against that from other curling clubs in the area for an eventual winner.

See www.stratfordtankard2012.com for further details on the Tankard Playdowns and for who wins the Closest to the Button contest.

 <p>LONDON CURLING CLUB</p> <p>377 Lyle Street London, Ontario N5W 3R5 Telephone (519) 432-3882 E-mail londoncurling@execulink.com Website www.londoncurling.ca</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President- Connie Weir Vice President- Gord Sellery Past President- Don Agnew Treasurer- Larry Round Secretary- Pat Bell Executive Director- Sharon Drenth</p> <p>PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS Advertising- Al McLacian, Leagues & OCA- Paul Pergau Member Services- Roger Moyer Skills & Development- Joyce Hetherington Pro Shoppe- Bob Davis Volunteers- Fay Weiler</p>	<p>CLUB STAFF Club Manager Doug Petch info@londoncurling.ca Office Manager Barb Colbourn Head Ice Technician Kevin Breivik Ice Assistants Mark Phillips Derek Shadlock Scott Breivik Jason Laroque David Easter Les Sonier Bar Staff Hali Blake Elizabeth Halloran Jurjeitte Chako Housekeeper</p>	<p>WEBSITE Eric Duggan www.londoncurling.ca webmaster@londoncurling.ca</p> <p>ROCK TALK Karen Lowry 519-472-1625 rocktalk@londoncurling.ca</p> <p>Issue Deadlines: September 23 October 21 November 25 December 30 January 27 February 24</p>
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AROUND THE HOUSE: RESOLVE TO DO MORE AT YOUR CURLING CLUB—

It's the season of giving gifts, socializing with family and friends, and looking back – and forward. Yes, it's resolution time.

Curling clubs are more than just bricks and mortar, pipes and ice plant, bar and club room. Clubs are people. So here are a few resolutions to ponder while looking forward to the rest of a season of good curling at your club.

Thank your icemaker

Yes, it's the icemaker's job to ensure those sheets are gleaming, scraped, pebbled and ready for you to play on. But it doesn't happen by magic. It takes hours of effort and whole lot of know-how to create the playing surface you depend on every week. And don't think he or she isn't aware of that run on Ice 4, or that wonky drift on the outside sheet. Icemakers wrestle with those problems all season long, ensuring that all that frozen water works for you. Resolve to say "thanks" next time you're at the club.

And while we're on the subject, here's something you [can do to make the icemaker's job easier \(read on\)](#).

Clean your curling shoes and upgrade your grippers

As Calgary Winter Club curling pro Kim Perkins noted in her recent "House Call" column, new grippers make a great Christmas present. If they didn't appear under your tree this year, consider a quick trip to the pro shop. Flaking grippers and curling ice do not mesh. For that matter, neither do ice and dirty curling shoes. Resolve to use the boot cleaner every time you step on the ice, and put your shoes on away from the outdoor grit and dirt that is tough to avoid during the winter season.

Bring a friend.

Resolve to bring a friend and help your curling club grow.

Learn the rules

A contentious one, this. Did anyone actually sit you down and make you read the rule book when you started curling? Probably not, and many of us would be very surprised if we had to take a test on the real rules of play – and the rules of etiquette – that the sport requires. Just because you're playing in a friendly, recreational, social league doesn't mean the rules can be ignored. No, Miss Lead, you are not supposed to be in the house when the score is being determined. No Mr. Vice, you shouldn't be sliding down the ice when the other team is throwing. You just burned a rock as it crossed the hogline? Resolve to learn the rules, and make everyone happy and safe on the ice.

Do more

Do you volunteer? Do you donate to causes such as capital expense funds or prizes for the Little Rock bonspiel? Do you encourage the new curlers and cheer on the old? Many of the clubs featured in Around the House this season so far tell stories about curlers going above and beyond – [getting new clubs off the ground](#), [rebuilding after devastating fire](#), or [pulling together a year-long centennial celebration](#), and these are just a small sample. It so often seems that the same people can be found taking on volunteer tasks, sitting on club executives and committees, or bringing the donations for the bonspiel auction. Make 2012 your turn to contribute. Resolve to do more, to help out more, to carry more of the volunteer load, because that's how clubs thrive.

Best wishes for a healthy, happy, thriving 2012 for you – and for your curling club, too.



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8 Questions for Jennifer Jones



Four times a Scotties Tournament of Hearts Champion and World Champion in 2008, Jennifer Jones made one of the most exciting in-off shots in the history of curling to win the 2005 Tournament of Hearts.

How did you learn the game?

My dad taught me how to play, how to slide, and to get lined up. I always wanted to throw harder so we figured out a way for me to do that early on and it really paid off. Dad was a great mentor. He'd hold the broom and help me fix the little things.

Did you invent games as a youngster?

People don't believe this but I'm not very competitive. Sure when you're on the ice you're out there to win but not when it comes to everything else in life so for me to invent a game in practice was not something I was interested in doing. To this day our team doesn't play any two on twos.

How much does your team influence your decisions?

Well the skip has to be the one who makes the decision but on our team we all have an equal vote. Then we all stand behind whatever we agree to.

Why did you become a Skip?

I love the strategy. I'm quite shy and when you skip you have time to yourself. You're a little bit on your own and yet part of a team. I think that suits my personality.

Do you visualize events in advance?

No. I don't ever want a moment in life to pass me by. The same goes for curling so I don't think ahead and stress about things I can't control. I just go out there and enjoy every shot as it comes –big or little. I want to enjoy what they're all about.

What's your approach to competing?

I want to play a team that's playing their best. I want the opposition to make every shot and hope that we can match them. I want to put on a great display for the fans especially if we're on TV so the Canadian public knows how exciting curling can be. That's important to us - to play in a way that generates enthusiasm for the game.

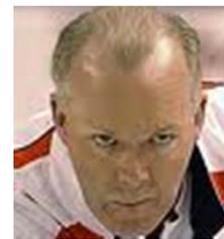
What contribution should a coach make to a team?

A good coach will adapt to a team's needs. Janet Arnett has taught us how to compete. Cal Botterill teaches us how to deal with pressure and how to bring out the best in our teammates.

What does curling mean to you?

Curling is joy to me. The feeling comes from competing and being around teammates who believe in you without doubt and stand behind you. And to be part of that in a highly competitive environment that brings in athleticism and strategy is special. The rink is the one place in the world I feel stress free.

8 Questions for Glenn Howard



Glenn Howard, from [Penetanguishene](#) Ontario, has won three Briers, three World Championships and most recently six straight Ontario Provincial titles.

How did you get your start in curling?

I watched my older brother Russ and loved it. I love the touch, the feel, the finesse of curling. It's a lot like golf that way.

Who instructed you? My dad. He'd say "Get the delivery down and you'll never have to worry about it in pressure situations."

So Russ and I would practice our delivery for hours and hours. He'd hold the broom for me and I'd hold it for him.

What were your early goals?

I never had any goals. All I ever wanted was to play and win.

My first big taste of competition was the provincial juniors. We came second three times and then I joined up with Russ and came second at the Brier. Finally we came back and won the Brier and won the Worlds.

What's your basic approach to curling?

Have fun. Over the years we figured out as a team that when we have fun we do much better.

How would you rate your decision- making?

It might sound funny coming from a skip but I don't make decisions quickly. I have to analyze things for a while. Quite often my teammates will help me. They'll give me input and I might say, "Yeah that sounds good," as long as I've had a chance to think it through.

Before a competition do you visualize how you want the game to turn out?

Very little. Because if I do and it doesn't go down the path I think it should I feel like I've sort of wasted my time so I do a lot of visualization in the moment. I just stay within myself and try to control the two shots I throw. I can't control the shots of my teammates or the opposition.

What advice do you have for club curlers who say they can't distinguish running characteristics between one rock and another?

Trust yourself. Throw it and watch it. Throw out-turns with each rock and then in-turns. Watch what happens.

What's the key to being a good competitor?

Never look at the outcome. Where's your concentration if you're thinking, "This shot means I'm going to win the Brier." You just have to think about making the shot you're playing. And when things go the right way you have a feeling that it just doesn't get any better than this. It's a wonderful feeling.

by Bob Skura <http://www.howgreatgolferstink.com>

Bob Lauckner
Broker

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FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED CURLING LEAGUE:

The first half of the Friday Night Mixed Curling League season is now complete.

Congratulations goes to the Dave Beckett team, (with Sue Beckett, Tom Zavitz, and Sandy Bradford-Zavitz) as they finished first in Flight 1 at the Christmas break.

Congratulations also goes to the Mike Ramsay team, in Flight 2, as they went through undefeated and will move up to Flight 1 for the 2nd half of the season. Also moving up to Flight 1 are teams: Larry Lawson, Don Lowry and Ken Smith.

The second half of the Friday Mixed League season will resume on Friday Jan 6th.

The Friday Night Mixed League is looking for additional SPARES! You can sign up as couples or as a single spare. If you are interested please let us know.

Friday Night Mixed League Convenors. Dave Beckett/Tom Zavitz

LEARNING TO CURL--



Twenty-three students from the grade 8 class at Blessed Sacrament school were introduced to the sport of curling in a two-hour clinic on the afternoon of December 9th. Here, Doug Wilson, is explaining terminology and scoring. The team of seven LCC Instructors and 23 students had an enjoyable afternoon."

Bring A Friend To Curling Night—

Dear LCC Member,

The Membership Services Committee is hosting a "bring a friend to curling night" on Saturday, January 7, 2012 from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

This is a free evening and the Club will provide munchies and the bar will be open. There will be a friendly instructional clinic for all non curlers at 7 p.m. followed by an opportunity to have a friendly game.

The clinic is optional, so if you have a gang that you'd like to bring you may sign up for a sheet of ice on the flyer posted on the easel in the main floor lounge (first come, first serve)

This is a great opportunity to grow our membership and give your family and friends a taste of our sport.

Cheers, Roger Moyer, Chair, Membership Services Committee

President's League—

Welcome back President's League curlers. The first draw is over and I have reseeded the teams for the second draw. The top four teams in Flight 2 have moved up to Flight 1 - lead by David Easter's rink who went 11-0 in the first draw. The other three rinks moving up to Flight 1 are the Ken Harper rink, the Sue Lawrence rink and the Miolyka Steele rink - congratulations to those four teams.

The four teams finishing with the lowest record in Flight 1 have been moved down to Flight 2 - the Moyer, Hodge, Kristiansen and Usprich rinks.

All the second draw information is posted on the Club's website. Please note that the Flight 1 January 25th game starts at 5:30 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. because of a daytime bonspiel. This will be a six end game.

As always, if you have any comments or suggestions on how we might improve the league, please let me know.

Roger Moyer, Convenor

Toasting Moments

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NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S DAYTIME SECTION—

Young & Co Event: This Thursday morning 7 week event had 40 curlers vying for the trophy. On the final day a variety of sandwiches were contributed by the curlers towards the tasty lunch. We were pleased to have the sponsor, Bill Young, present to share lunch and to present the trophy and prizes. The winning team was Shirley Vaile, Linda Round, Sandra Fox, Cheryl Adams.
 Convenor: Fay Weiler, Co-convenor Guiti Massoumi

Skins Games: On Thursday Dec. 1 a group of 27 WDS curlers participated in the first of two scheduled Skins Games for this year. The curlers seemed to enjoy the challenge of the skins format and strategy. Cost was \$5. per curler, with all monies paid back to the curlers. Top money winners were Janet Stenson, skip, Mardi McLachlan, vice, Sherry Chambers, second, and Marnie Sherritt, lead. A big "thank you" to the scorers, Linda Karl and Fay Weiler. After 8 ends, we enjoyed coffee and "stone soup". Thanks to Mary Reeder for her great help in the kitchen.

This is the most participants we've had for the skins game. Be sure to come out and try it again---or for the first time!---on Thurs. Feb. 9 at 9:00 am. Convenors: Marj Dudley, Fay Weiler

Christmas Party: This year 48 women, curlers and social members enjoyed the WDS Christmas party. A six-end game was played by forty- two curlers followed by a delicious meal catered by Marshall's Pasta. Shireylan English, a member of the Garden Club of London provided a demonstration of easy floral Christmas decorations to the delight of those present. As always the WDS ladies were very generous with their donations of goods for My Sisters Place. Many thanks to helpers Sylvia Leuszler, Fay Weiler, Marg Fliss and Mardi McLachlan for their assistance. (Linda Round ,Convenor and Dianne McKenna, Co-convenor)



Christmas Decorations

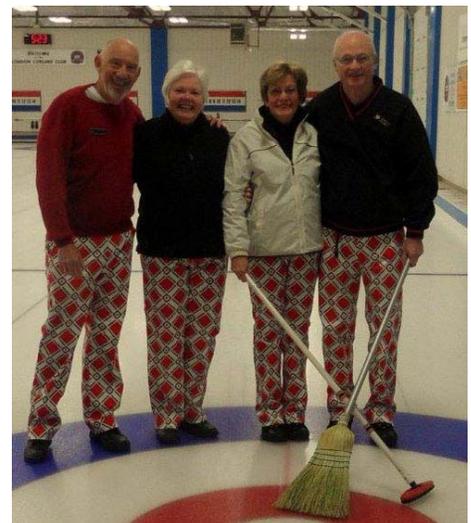


Shireylan English



- Up-coming Events
- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| January 11 | Grandmothers' Bonspiel |
| January 25 | Card Party |
| January 31 | Nash Event starts |
| February 2 | Skins Game Shireylan English, |
| February 15 | Curl for a Cause Mixed Bonspiel |
| February 16 | Subway Event starts |

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WDS FUNDRAISING PROJECT – LONDON KNIGHT OUT

The WDS will be embarking on its Annual Fundraising campaign on January 8, 2012.

First prize is 4 tickets to the Knights game on Saturday, February 4 plus \$75.



Second prize is 2 tickets for Friday, February 3 plus \$50,

Third prize is 2 tickets for Wednesday, January 25 and \$25.



The draw will take place on January 21st.
Tickets prices will be one for \$5 and 3 for \$10.

PRO SHOPPE REPORT

Great interest in the Pro Shoppe has been seen so far this curling season with excellent sales reported.

In excess of 100 grippers have been sold largely due to the trade-in program. Cleaner ice is one of the benefits of this program.

Over 50 brooms and 46 pairs of shoes have been sold to our members as they enjoy the very competitive pricing that our Pro Shoppe offers.

The value package of a pair of shoes, broom, gloves and gripper all for just \$135 will remain in effect throughout this curling season.

So take the time to check out your Pro Shoppe. If you don't see what you want, please ask.

And as always, pricing includes tax.

UPCOMING EVENTS—

JANUARY-

7	3M Bonspiel 2012
13	Men's Tier 55
14	UWO Student Mixed Bonspiel
21	LCC Spring Thaw Mixed Bonspiel
25	Grandmother's Bonspiel
28	Business Women's Bonspiel
31	Highland Friendly 2012

FEBRUARY-

4	UWO Staff Bonspiel
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Don't forget!

Our club is fragrance free!



NEW! WOMEN'S DAYTIME SECTION MIXED BONSPIEL

CURL FOR A CAUSE

Thanks to Kay Carr, our long-time sponsor!!

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Two 6-end games + lunch

Cost: \$10

The "Cause" again this year, is the Salvation Army London Village Adult Day Program – (for those with dementia)
The lunch-time speaker will be Nancy Johnston, Director

Fund-raising for the Cause is done through a raffle table, a silent auction and cash donations (Last year, WDS donated over \$1000 to our Cause.)

Watch for Sign-up sheets January 12, 2012
Plan on joining us for a fun and informative day of mixed curling!

Mark February 15 on your calendar now!

Convenor: Mary Lois Cooper
Co-Convenor: Joyce Hetherington

The Nemeth Group



Richard J. Nemeth
Vice President
Investment Advisor

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