

# ROCKtalk

The newsletter of the  
London Curling Club

January 2022



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All you need to know about  
Curling Day in Canada

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Two LCC teams compete  
for Malahide medal

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Team Stratton ready for  
busy few weeks

## Our two senior members in the London Sports Hall of Fame

There's no doubt our club has had some great athletes pass through its doors. But did you know we currently have two senior members who are part of the London Sports Hall of Fame?

### **KEN BUCHAN – INDUCTED IN 2012**

To have participated in 22 Ontario Provincial curling championships is quite an achievement. To have won six championships and been runner-up six other times is truly remarkable. Ken Buchan (shown top centre), has done that.

Ken was born in Harriston. In his last two years at university, 1963 and 1964, Ken won the Ontario Men's Curling Championship and was a Brier participant.

In September 1964, Ken moved to London and joined the staff at Clarke Road Secondary School. He spent the next 32 years teaching and coaching at Clarke Road.

During that time Ken found time to continue his curling career. In 1969 he won his third Ontario Men's Championship. In 1972 he won the Ontario Silver Tankard title. In 1981



Ken won the Ontario Mixed Curling championship and followed that in 1993 by winning the Ontario Seniors Championship.

Ken was a member of a team of Ontario curlers who wrote and developed a provincial teaching system for curlers, a system that is still the model for teaching curling in Canada and other countries.

### **WILLIE WEILER - INDUCTED IN 2013**

Willie Weiler (shown bottom centre) was born in Germany where he began practicing gymnastics in 1950 and within six years was the German junior gymnastics champion. He emigrated to Toronto in 1957 and became a Canadian citizen in 1962.

Six weeks after arriving in Canada, Weiler was crowned the all-around Canadian men's senior gymnastic champion. Willie won that title five more times between 1958 and 1966. He won the Norton H. Crow Memorial Award three years in a row in 1961, 1962, and 1963 becoming the first athlete to accomplish that feat.



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Willie was the first North American athlete to perform the Yamashita Vault in competition. He was the first athlete to perform a piked back somersault dismount off the horizontal bars. He was the first Canadian to competitively perform a double back somersault from the still rings. And, of course, the dismount which carries his name, a piked front somersault dismount over the horizontal bar from a reverse giant circle, known around the world as “the Weiler Kip.”

Willie amassed many medals and honours over his competitive years including a spot in the Guinness World Book of Records for his 1963 Pan American Games accomplishment of gold in all-around, floor, and vault, silver in parallel bars, pommel horse, horizontal bar, and with the team, and bronze in rings, a total of eight medals.

He appeared in four consecutive Olympics: in Tokyo in 1964 as a competitor, in Mexico City in 1968 as a coach, in Munich in 1972 as a judge, and in Montreal in 1976 as a judges’ official.

Willie and his wife Fay (who is the current secretary on our board of directors) moved to London in 1981 where he was the physical education instructor at Wolseley Barracks until he retired in 1991.

He is a member of the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame (1967), the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada Hall of Fame (1968), the Canadian Forces Hall of Fame (1971), and a member of the Order of Canada (1973).

London Curling Club is proud to count these two Hall of Famers as part of our membership.




Curling Day in Canada happens this year on Saturday, Feb. 5. Even with the pandemic, the Canada-wide curling community is finding ways to remain engaged and connected, and support each other, both on and off the ice.

Visit [curlingdayincanada.ca](http://curlingdayincanada.ca) to:

- To discover ways you can get involved
- Read great curling tales from across the country as told by curlers like you
- Enter a contest
- Join the conversation on social media at #CurlingDayinCanada

## Got a story for Rock Talk?

Please send any story ideas or club happenings for the next issue to Brian Arnold ([barnold439@gmail.com](mailto:barnold439@gmail.com)). Deadline for the February 2022 issue is February 15.



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# St. Thomas Curling Club wins Malahide medal

On Saturday Dec. 11, two teams from London Curling Club competed for the coveted Malahide medal in a bonspiel against two teams from each of Aylmer, St. Thomas and Highland curling clubs.

The tournament has been contested for more than 150 years and is cumulative point bonspiel. The designated team number one from each club plays the other clubs' team number ones from each site as do the team number twos. All points are added together for each club.

St. Thomas Curling Club hosted the 2021 bonspiel which was postponed from March 2021 due to the pandemic.

St. Thomas won the event with 43 points. Highland Curling Club finished in second place with 40 points. London Curling Club came in third with 33 points and Aylmer finished fourth with 21 points.

London Curling Club is scheduled to host the 2022 Malahide event on Saturday, March 19.

The two teams representing London Curling Club were (top, left to right) Brian Arnold, skip Stan Smith, John Crosby and Michael Leisinger, and (bottom, left to right), Gord Lammers, Bruce Thom, Marcus Macrae, and skip Ken Teasdale.



Buy your tickets every month at [curl-on.ca](http://curl-on.ca)



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# Somes wins and losses for Team Stratton

London Curling Club junior team, Team Stratton hit their first seasonal bump in the road being unsuccessful at the CURLON U18 Provincial Qualifier. Congratulations to Team MacTavish and Team Del Conte for winning the event held at the Palmerston Curling Club, Dec 17-19, 2021.

Team Stratton won the U21 “B” Event Championship at the Junior Slam Series (JSS) Imperial Slam, Dundas Golf and Curling Club, Nov. 26-28, 2021. They had the top shootout score after two games and are competing in U21 competitions to compete against older teams and become stronger. Their game results were:

- Game 1 vs. Team Mulima – won 8-1
- Game 2 vs. Team Inglis – won 6-5
- Game 3 vs. Team Casper – lost 4-8
- Game 4 vs. Team Dobson – lost 5-8
- B Event semi-final vs. Team Inglis – won 8-0
- B Event Championship vs. Team Mulima – won 9-7

Currently they are addressing opportunities for improvement such as mental toughness, physical conditioning, strategy and defined game planning.

Team Stratton’s upcoming competitions are:

- CURLON Men’s Tankard Open provincial qualifer at Welland Curling Club, Jan. 28 to 30, 2022
- CURLON 2022 U21 Challenge Round at St. Thomas Curling Club, Feb. 18 to 20, 2022
- CURLON U18 Challenge Round at London Curling Club, Feb. 25 to 27, 2022
- OCC Ontario Winter Games – date to come



Team Stratton games can be watched either on Facebook (search “Team Stratton Curls”), YouTube (Junior Slam Series) or CURLON TV. You can also follow Team Stratton and the rest of your London Curling Club competitive teams during Junior Slam Series competitions on <https://juniorslamseries.com/live-scores/>

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