



Whitby Curling Club Member Newsletter

Rock Talk

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President's Message

Welcome to the 2012-2013 Curling Season at the Whitby Curling Club!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the League Reps, Casey, Jamie and all of the staff here at the Whitby Curling Club, I would like to extend a warm *Welcome Back* to our returning members and a heartfelt *Hello and Welcome* to our new members!

It's hard to believe that the curling season is upon us once again. It seems like only yesterday we were at "Casino Royale", dancing the night away in our tuxes and gowns at the Mixed Closing. Where did the summer go?

Speaking of the summer, after last year's flood of the basement we managed to have a much quieter time this year, focussing on numerous smaller issues including health and safety and fire code issues, while still finding time to upgrade the ladies upstairs washroom. Thanks to Paul Slean and his team of volunteers for all of their good work over the summer.

That's not to say that we weren't taking advantage of the facility. Rentals remain an important part of our business plan, and this summer we again managed to increase the usage of the Club, culminating with a 4-day Ladies Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command event in September that attracted over 1,000 people and raised over \$6,500 in rental and bar revenue. Keep up the good work Casey.

As many of you know, and admittedly some of you were frustrated by, we implemented an electronic registration system this year. It was definitely a learning curve for all of us, but thanks to Casey and an army of volunteers we managed to keep ahead of the expected (and unexpected) challenges in rolling out a new computerized system. It did serve its main purpose, which was to provide the league reps with names and teams earlier in the process. Going forward it will also benefit us in terms of simplifying registration next year, tracking memberships, keeping better records, tracking trends, etc. As you know the membership is the lifeblood of the Club, and anything we can do to get a better understanding of what's going on is essential to our long-term health.

Turning to curling, in an e-mail blast in early October I introduced you to the 2012-2013 Board of Directors. At the time we noted that we did not have a full complement of Directors. I'm pleased to announce that Janice Brooks has stepped forward to assume the role of Director of Advertising and Marketing.

I would also like to introduce you to the numerous League Representatives who work with the Board and the membership to organize and run the numerous leagues that you all participate in. They include:

Peter Watson	Senior Men's
Anne Marie Fitzpatrick	Day Ladies
Terri Barton / Belinda Solly	Business Ladies
Jo-Ann Jordan/Janice Brooks	Sunday Evening Ladies
Francois Le Clerc/Gary McConnell	Mixed Curling
Lorraine Dixon	4:30 Mixed
Steve Crabbe	Men's Rated
Paul Slean	Men's Competitive
Malcolm Macaulay	Novice League
Sarah Gray	Youth Curling

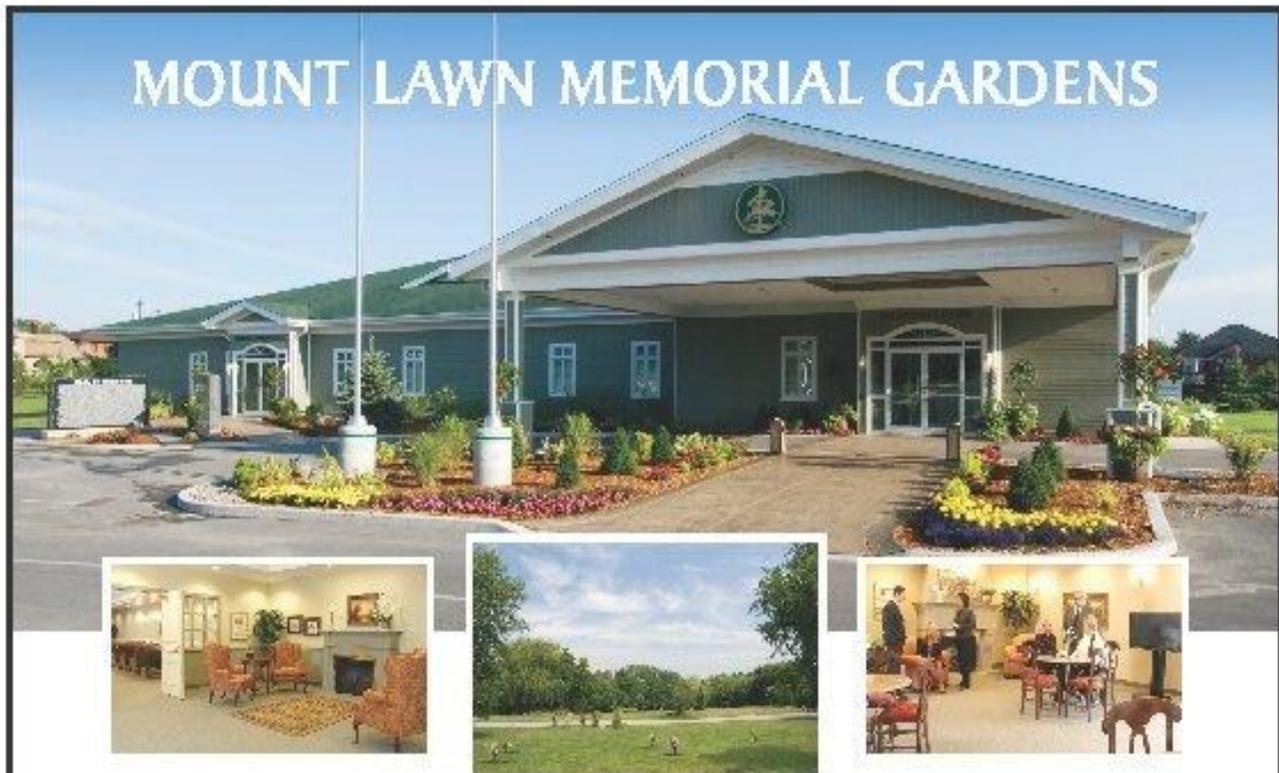
Many of them have included updates in this edition of Rock Talk, so I don't want to steal their thunder. However, on behalf of the Board I do want to say thanks for getting the season off to such a wonderful start.

You may have noticed a trend that permeates throughout almost everything I've referenced above. None of this would occur without the work of dedicated volunteers. It is why we introduced the volunteer program a few years back, and why we say that without you there would be no Whitby Curling Club. I encourage you to continue to look for ways to help out, whether it's assisting Janice in marketing by making phone calls, offering to help the League Reps organize teams or events, coming out to help coach the Novice League, offering to join one of Paul Slean's work crews, or by simply offering to help. If you don't know who to talk to, or if you have an idea that you want to try, speak with Casey, myself or any member of the Board. We can't encourage you enough.

Finally, going forward this year the Board will be looking at trying to implement a plan that ensures that the quality of curling that we enjoyed last year is maintained for this year and for years to come. As most of you know, we have an older facility with a lot of older equipment. What we do not have is a structured capital upgrade plan nor the funds to implement it. Working with Jamie, Casey, Paul, the Board, our League Reps and many of you, we will be identifying key capital and equipment issues, sourcing opportunities for funds and looking to formalize a plan that will address both immediate and long term needs. It won't be easy! But we have too good a thing going here and we want to ensure that we can continue to enjoy it for the months and years to come.

That's an ongoing topic of discussion. For now, enjoy the season and "good curling"!

Andrew Gray
President



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Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Classic Results

Reigning world champion Glenn Howard's team rocked the Whitby Curling Club in early November, going undefeated (six games) in winning the Mount Lawn Gord Carroll Classic. Howard picked up the \$ 7000.00 last rock win by picking out a buried Mark Kean stone from the four foot. Toronto's Jill Mouzar won the ladies' event by making a fantastic angle raise take-out of a hidden four-foot Jacqueline Harrison rock.

Howard reached the final by edging Ottawa's Frank O'Driscoll 9-8 on last rock in an exciting offensive match while Sweden's Niklas Edin was upset 6-5 by Annandale's Mark Kean's last rock draw to the but-

ton. Defending champion Peter Corner's effort to win his third consecutive Mount Lawn ended with a 6-5 loss to Kean in the quarter-finals. The international entries from Norway, Sweden and the U.S. added interest and excitement as they joined a very strong Ontario contingent of teams making this year's 31 team men's draw the event's strongest field ever.

Jill Mouzar, a former Nova Scotia Scot-ties representative, entered the playoffs as the sixth, and final seed but ran the table on Sunday. The final saw the Nicol sisters playing on opposing rinks. Playing with Mouzar were Stephanie LeDrew, Danielle Inglis and Hollie Nicol. Harrison

had Kim Tuck, Susan Froud and Heather Nicol with her. Stephanie Van Huysse's Whitby rink won her pool, entering the playoffs as the top seed but was toppled by Jacqueline Harrison in the semi-finals.

Both finals came down to last rock, ending a fantastic five days of curling. The buzz created by Howard's first visit to the event was quite evident and produced large crowds of dedicated fans. Hopefully we'll be graced with his presence for next year's event.



Curler's Poem

Please grant me half the wisdom
and half the class, to match the
wizards behind the glass!!!



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Day Ladies

Although curling ended in April, the Day Ladies kept busy throughout the off season. Our book club, continued to hold monthly meetings until June and then reconvened in September, sharing summer reads and choosing books for the upcoming season. In June, the ladies' annual golf tournament was held at Oshawa Airport golf course, and once again the sun shone for us. Thanks to Liz Stillar and her committee for their dedication to this yearly event. Congratulations go to the winning team of Margaret Chew, Nancy Ginman, AnnMarie Fitzpatrick, Debby Addie and their coach and caddie Elaine Forshaw.

Our 2012 - 2013 season got under way with Get Acquainted Day. We welcomed new members to the ladies section, (Ruth Meaney, Patricia McCarthy, Betty O'Toole), as well as

some ladies who are returning to curling after taking some time off due to family commitments, injuries or illness. Not wanting to put too much strain on our muscles, we curled 4 ends, and then spent some social time sharing 'holiday' news. Thank you Barb Gabourie for planning this event.

'Team Sonley,' has been preparing for the annual Zimmerman Senior Bonspiel which will be held on October 31st. This bonspiel welcomes out of club teams as well as some of our own Whitby teams. Thank you to our anonymous sponsor! We do appreciate your continued support. On November 12th, the ladies will be cheese and wine tasting, at the Wine Kitz Bonspiel, sponsored by our club member Er-

roll Gee, of Wine Kitz in Whitby. And yes, there will be curling too!

In December this year, the annual Attersley Cash Spiel will be celebrating the 50 th year of sponsorship by the Attersley family. The committee has been busy planning to make this year's event a very special day. Our first Euchar night will also be taking place on November 19th. For information regarding this evening please contact Liz Mitchell.

We look forward to another season of fun, friendship and good curling!

AnnMarie Fitzpatrick
Ladies Chairperson

Friday Afternoon Mixed

The FRIDAY 430 LEAGUE is a fun league. We have 3 draws with 6 or 7 games each draw.

There are new teams each draw. At the end of each draw we celebrate with PRIZES and PIZZA .

This League has been in existence for more than 5 years and has become very successful.

With 15 teams we are working hard to accommodate everyone. As well Pelican Caterers are continuing to offer suppers

on Friday night in a variety of formats, buffet, country style and plated. While the Friday 430 members are its main supporters it is open to all members.

The committee members are Winston and Lorraine Dixon, Fay and Jack McCorkell, Ray and Jackie Gorecki and Kent and Connie Young..

We are happy to answer your questions. Good Curling All !

**Thanks to all of
our curling club
sponsors. If you
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them out first!!**

Monday Night Men's Rated

The 2012 – 2013 curling season is upon us and the first draw of the Monday Night Men's League is well underway. It took some fine tuning but the league has an 18 team draw with a few openings for any men that may change their mind at the last minute. If you are lurking out there and are interested in meeting a lot of club members, this is a great opportunity. Please let the convenors know as soon as possible.

Speaking of convenors, Men's curling welcomes Stan Senkowski to the organizing committee this year. Please congratu-

late Stan on his new role when you see him.

It won't be long before the second draw is upon us so watch for the sign-up sheet on the Monday bulletin board and submit your name for one of those openings!

See you on the ice!





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Good luck Whitby Curlers!

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Thank You

The Whitby Curling Club would like to thank John Wheeler of Remax Jazz and Ron Fennell of Meadwell, Mowatt, Fennell for their donation of the cameras and monitors for the sheets at the club. Anyone else interested in donating additional cameras and monitors for the 4 remaining sheets can contact Janice Brooks for details.



Mixed Curling—Wednesday and Friday Nights

Mixed Curling is for everyone! You don't need to sign up as a couple to enjoy the Mixed lifestyle, singles are welcome too! If you're curling only in the Mens' leagues or just the Womens' leagues, consider joining us on Wednesday or Friday night.

Mixed curling is a great way to meet the other half of the Club. Curlers come from all ages and skill levels – learn from our seasoned veterans or take part in introducing new curlers to the game. If you can't commit to an evening and that is preventing you from joining, think about signing up as a spare and get your fix on an as-needed basis.

The Mixed Committee has been very creative this past summer and we're introducing a number of new concepts this year. We are working on making our section under the "Leagues" part of the Club website a place to visit. You'll find the usual schedules, team and spares lists and a host of new items. We're having several theme nights where you'll be encouraged to do something different and perhaps make a statement. The last week of October saw people dressing up for Hallowe'en and preparations for the next theme night are underway. Leads provided snacks for everyone at the same time with anything from dips to crab meat seen around various tables.

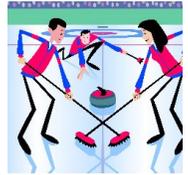
We're also working on a list of last year's playoff winners and displaying pictures from previous events. Keep an eye out for the Closing and tell us if there is something else you would like to see on the web. Watch for free

nights, where league curling will not be taking place, but special events will be planned. Jitneys or Mixed Doubles have been suggested for these evenings and we are open to ideas that you have – tell us what they are.

New curlers to Mixed can see Dave Simmons on Wednesday night or Bryce Jordan on Friday night if you have any questions about the league or an inquiry of any kind. The Committee is looking for more help – think about joining us. We are already begun work on the Closing (in my humble opinion, it is the best party of any league) and we need help. That help can come in many forms – you can join the Committee, be able to take on specific tasks or partake in a Flash Mob to set up for the closing. Let us know what interests you and we'll find a place for your efforts.

The Mixed Committee consists of:
Francois LeClerc

Pauline Darling
Rob Warren
Gary and Beth McConnell
Linda Schofield
Dave and Lori Way
Bryce and Jo-Ann Jordan
Fran and Glenn McKinnon
Dave Simmons
Joanna Rolfe
Stuart Way
Kellie Flynn



I spoke with a curler who joined our league after finding that the club he and his wife curled at wasn't meeting their expectations. They have found the Friday night crowd welcoming, warm and a lot of fun - they are happy that they made the switch.

Will **you** be the next convert?

Dave Simmons



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Did You Know?

- The Whitby Day Ladies and the Whitby Senior Men's shared the cost of the new ice cube maker. Many thanks for your support!
- RJ Winters installed our new camera security system. Thanks so much!
- If you don't play the 50-50 you can't win the money. We've had a lot of carry overs. Don't forget to submit your \$1. Every member is eligible to play!!!

Senior Men

The kick-off to our 2012-13 curling season started with the 25th Annual Golf Tournament held at Whispering Ridge on Wednesday, September 5th. Under bright sunshine, 72 golfers played a full team scramble best ball with prizes for the closest to the hole and rope, the longest putt on the 18th as well as special prizes for the three teams with the lowest gross scores. All players received a prize as determined by a double random draw by team and player. A modified 50-50 cash raffle draw was held with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd cash prize awarded amongst the participants. A luncheon held at the club provided the close to a most successful day.

A record 113 returning and new Senior Men curlers were welcomed to the new curling season for Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning 10 am curling. Again this year, the league will use a colour code system so as to guarantee 2 of the 3 curling days per week to each curler.

The first Thursday of each month of the curling season has become a day to look forward to for the men of the senior section. These days entail a curling game with a twist that emphasizes some aspect of the game, a libation, prizes, lunch and camaraderie. The popularity is illustrated by the amount of time that it takes for one of these events to be fully booked. We are only able to accommodate 48 curlers and normally have our quota in less than a week. These events demonstrate that a little variation definitely improves interest. The first Special Event for this season, a "fill the house" tournament will be held on Thursday, November 8th.

Interclub curling on Wednesdays is also available to members with the first outing held on Wednesday, October 24th. This program permits members to enjoy morning curling at four nearby area curling rinks.

New this year is a dedicated site on the Whitby Curling Club Website where members can visit to obtain information on Senior Men's curling activities including the calendar of Special Events throughout the season, as well as the team make up, schedules and hosting clubs for all Interclub curlers. The Friday Competitive league schedule, team standings and team lists are also included on the new website.

The Senior Men's curling is a strong supporter of the Whitby Curling Club through volunteering for various special events as well as contributing financially for projects to bring about capital improvements to the Club. Prize money from the members as well as profits from the annual Golf Tournament and the Gus Brown Invitational Bonselpiel provide a solid base for our activities. The Senior Men financially support the Club's "The Little Rocks Program" and the "Annual Salvation Army Christmas Campaign"

The Senior Men's Executive Committee Members for the 2012-2013 curling season are: President, Peter Watson; Vice President, Dave Taylor; Treasurer,

Dave Humphries; Special Events Director, Doug Sauer; Drawmaster Director, Paul Barnett; Interclub Director, Ray Gorecki; Secretary, Peter Conrad; and Past President, George Bilodeau. Looking forward to the 2012 -13 curling season. See you on the ice.

RESULTS OF THE UNIONVILLE "DON ALLISON" FALL CLASSIC BONSPIEL HELD ON MONDAY OCT.22.

THE JOHN BUECKERT RINK WITH ED GOSTLIN(VICE), DON FLETCHER(2ND) AND LEAD PETER WATSON WERE THE 2ND DRAW WINNERS WITH 155 POINTS WINNING BOTH THEIR GAMES , WINNING \$200 1ST PRIZE. THE 1ST DRAW WINNERS WON WITH 155 POINTS VS OUR 153 POINTS.

Youth

Recreational

Another great start to the year with just over 80 curlers registered in our program. Once again the parents, coaches and student volunteers have stepped forward to allow us to boast of one of the best supported programs in the GTA! Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to the young curlers at our club!

We are getting ready to host our annual bonspiels; the Bantam/Junior Cashspiel on November 10th and the Lloyd Sonley Little Rocks Bonspiel on December 1st. The Cashspiel is full with teams

coming from as far away as Bobcaygeon & Parry Sound. We look forward to watching some excellent curling at both events!

Our kids are looking forward to visiting some clubs for bonspiels as well. Bayview, Oakville and Port Perry have already been booked.

Competitive Development

The response to this program has been overwhelming, both from the number of kids who want to step up their game and the number of qualified coaches who have stepped up to help! We will have two Bantam teams, Lavery (girls) & Stoner (boys) representing Whitby at

Bantam Zones in Oshawa on Jan 12/13. In addition, we have 2 girls teams entered in the TCA Interclub league.

But it doesn't stop there... we have 3 other teams, 1 mixed and 2 boys teams who will be competing in bonspiels as well.

Thank you to Jeff Whelan, Linda Corcoran, Jason Mitchell, Karen Bemister, Laura Arbour, Al Stoner & Sarah Gray! The kids & parents truly appreciate the time and enthusiasm for the game you are sharing with the kids!

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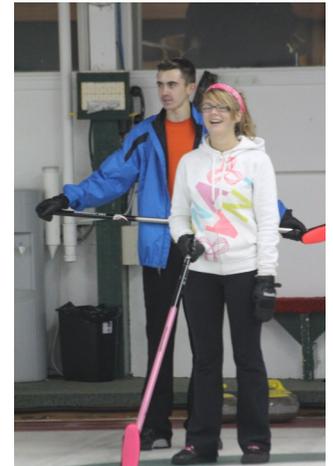
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Thank You from Team Van Huyse

Team Van Huyse (Stephanie Van Huyse, Laura Arbour, Sheryl Tavoularis and Jennifer Allan) would like to extend a very special thank you to our sponsors Roy's Enterprise and Janice Brooks – Remax Jazz for their support this year. We couldn't do it without you. We would also like to extend our sincerest and most heartfelt thank you to the members of the Whitby Curling Club for their incredible support over the Mount Lawn Gord Carroll bonspiel held at the club. The organization, hospitality and ice for this event was by far the most outstanding of any of the events that we have participated in. The volunteers outdid them-

selves. We heard very positive comments from our fellow competitors about every aspect of this event. Well done Linda Green and the dedicated team that puts this event together. Most of all we want to thank you for watching and cheering us on. It really helped us achieve our best result of the year so far. It truly made us feel very proud to be members of this great club!



Did You Know?

The Whitby Curling Club was represented at the Mount Lawn Gord Carroll bonspiel by teams Macaulay and Van Huyse and our members were on other teams as well!!!





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Business Women

The Business Women have started their 2012-2013 season with some new friends as well as some returning ones. We have 13 teams for Draw 1 – we usually only have 12. It is great to see some new interest in the great sport of curling.

We would like to Welcome back to the Tuesday Business Women's League : Jennifer Lovelock, Linda Oakes and Tina Power. Welcome back ladies – it is great to see you again!

We would like to also Welcome to our League, ladies who have curled in other Whitby Curling Club leagues : Rhonda Comeau, Lynne Plamondon-Long, and Astrid Schnurr. Thanks for joining Tuesday Nights!

We would like to extend a Big Welcome to the Club and to our league : Joanne Arbour, Lorri Busch, Stephanie Dehart, Nicole Graham, Sara Koke, Carole McConnell, Kelly Murphy, Glenda Russell, Joanna Thompson, Aileen Walton, and Christina Ward. Hope you enjoy your first year at the Whitby Curling Club!

We would like to send out a Special Welcome to Stephanie

Van Huysse who some of us got to meet last year as she was one of the Friday Night bartenders and who is now the assistant Ice Maker. Thanks to you and Jamie for such great ice.

We also want to mention Rachel Payne who convinced some of her co-workers to give curling a try and brought to our league some new and eager curlers. We should have you help out with New Membership – you are great at it! Mark your calendars for March 2, 2013 as this will be the date for our Business Ladies Bonspiel.

Good Curling....



Business Women Golf Tournament

On Saturday September 22nd, the WCC Business Women hosted the 1st Annual 'Bragging Rights & a Bottle of Wine' women's open golf tournament at Lyndebrooke Golf Course. We were pleased to have entries representing every woman's league at our club!

The cool damp weather actually gave way to some sun, which added to the success of the day! Gloria Ryan was the overall winner, although she would prefer beer to wine! The honour of Most Honest Golfer went to Karen Konoby. Sheryl Tavoularis claimed Closest to the Pin. Gloria Ryan took Longest Drive.

Although this was supposed to be a 'simple, low key' event, Casey worked her magic and found a magnificent trophy for us! In addition, we would like to thank Ian Cavanaugh (Wine Rack), Don & Liz Mitchell (Mitchell Lumber), Janice Brooks (Remax Jazz) & Frame by Design for donating prizes. We enjoyed a wonderful luncheon and one or two glasses of wine! Looking forward to the 2nd Annual 'Bragging Rights & a Bottle of Wine'. We hope to see you there!

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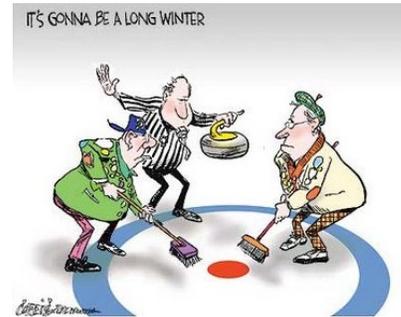
As a member of the Whitby Curling Club, you are more than just a registered curler in a league. You are a part owner of the club and have a say in how it is run, within the limits of the constitution. You are also a registered member of the Ontario Curling Association (OCA) which makes you eligible to participate in OCA programs and events.

Membership this year, overall, is slightly up over last year even though we continue to experience a significant amount of turnover from one year to the next. As in recent years, we attempted to contact those members who did not return this fall. What we

found is that there are many reasons why members have not re-joined. Most of them relate to personal circumstances such as health, re-location, age and financial/job situations. At the same time, the introduction of the novice league has helped to replenish our numbers with enthusiastic, new curlers. Going forward, we should all make an effort to welcome the new members who have replaced those who, for reasons they cannot control are not returning. Attracting and retaining these new members is the best way to grow our membership. As the year progresses, the Board will also be maintaining contact with the former members who indicated that they are anxious to re-join if their personal situations allow.

To all of our members, welcome to the Whitby Curling Club or welcome back as the case may be....And Good Curling!

Bryce Jordan – Director of Membership



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Curling Development

Greetings Whitby curlers, it looks like the season is off to a flying start. The new season opened with an unbelievable learn to curl event. We spent the first week at the WCC improving our own skills and assisting our newest members with their introduction to the roaring game that is curling. A huge thanks is extended to all who came out to teach, to learn and to all who, as I witnessed, had a great time on the ice. We now have a terrific novice league for first and second year curlers which is being spearheaded by Malcolm Macaulay. The novice league is a relaxed introduction to curling which is happening on Sunday evenings.

Our younger curlers have already benefited from a competitive curling clinic, a mock zone playoff and an excellent Bantam Development program on Monday afternoon. A huge kudos goes to Sarah Gray who is coordinating this program with the help of some very talented coaches. The future members of our club are in very good hands. It won't be long before some of these young curlers start making some noise in the regular adult leagues.

The adult leagues are now all in full swing but will have to step aside the first week of November to allow some of the planet's best curlers to work their magic at our very own club. What an excellent development opportunity awaits those who come to watch and learn from the shot-making and team work evident at the highest levels of our sport.

Now to the future... we have in our midst a very dedicated group

of zone, provincial and national level curlers who are committed to putting programming together to aid with the development of all WCC members regardless of ability level. Please look to your e-mails and watch the sign-up sheets around the club for your opportunity to be involved in seminars and clinics in basic and advanced level technical instruction involving delivery skills and teamwork. Also basic and advanced strategy sessions are being planned for curlers of all positions. There should be no shortage of opportunities for all WCC members to get involved in developing improvements in their own game or to assist others in the development of their curling skill. Together we can work together to assist each other and make this club the best curling club it can be. It promises to be quite a journey, I look forward to taking it with many of you.

Jeff Whelan - Director of Curling Development

The 9th Annual WCC Open Golf Tournament

It is quite fitting that the wind & rain from Hurricane Sandy are blowing as this is being written! Mother Nature offered up similar weather conditions for our golf day at Oakridge Golf Club.

Twenty foursomes ventured out dressed in their finest raingear to battle the course & the elements.....only 6 persevered to the end!!!

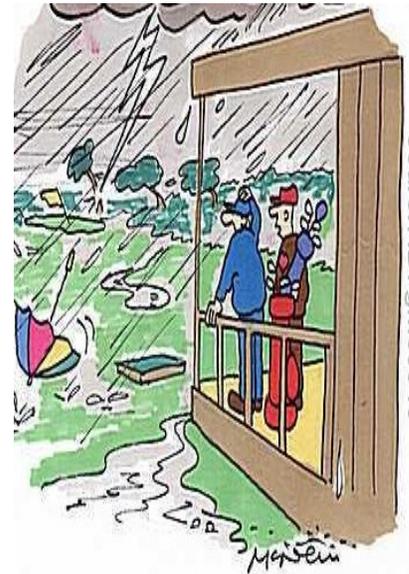
The day finished up in a much drier & warmer environment at the curling club. Thanks to JB Catering for a wonderful dinner! The evening finished with the silent auction & awards.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Open Winners: Andrew Gray, Eric Elliot, Glenn MacKinnon, Wayne Bolahood
Ladies Winners: Gloria Ryan, AnnMarie Fitzpatrick, Andrea Chapin, Linda Doyle
Men's Longest Drive: Peter Warnica

Ladies' Longest Drive: Jo-Ann Jordan
Men's Closest to the Pin: Gary Yates
Ladies Closest to the Pin: AnnMarie Fitzpatrick

The Mulligan Package Raffle was won by Dave Ross. The Golf Bag Raffle was won by Bob Winters. Bill Moore & Don Mitchell tied for the putting contest. They graciously donated their winnings to the Canadian Cancer Society. The event raised money for the club. A donation of \$280 was made to the Canadian Cancer Society. Thank you to all the members & friends who helped to make this a fun and successful event, despite the weather!



Volunteer Hours

Have you put in your volunteer hours yet? If not and you are looking for how you can help please talk to your league reps or Casey Warren our club manager. They are sure to find some place where you can help! Don't forget to submit your hours once the 8 are in to avoid the \$25 charge at the end of the year! It's also a great way to be involved in other aspects of the club and have a chance to work with some great people!!



Our fantastic staff are:

Manager : Casey Warren
 Ice Technician: Jamie DeHart
 Assistant Ice Technician: Stephanie VanHuyse (also bartends)
 Bar Tenders: Laura Arbour, Tracy Johnston
 Karen Bemister and Brad Wallace (also assists with ice maintenance)

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What's Coming Up?

- **November 24th** we will be hosting the **Durham Senior Games**
- **Poinsettia Pick up Day** is **Friday, November 30th**
- **The Lloyd Sonley Little Rocks Spiel** is **Saturday December 1st**
- **December 5th** is the **50th Annual Attersley Spiel**
- **December 8th** is the **Kurl for Kritters Fun Spiel**
- **December 18th** is the **Business Women's Christmas Dinner and Loonie Auction**
- **December 27th and 28th** is the **Whitby Curling Club Skins Tournament**

8 Ender at the Whitby Curling Club!!

As told by the winning skip—**John Wheeler**...

All I can say is that it happened very fast, a blur really, my lead went too deep accidentally, I expect my second and vice took one or two rocks out of play and we had 5 in before I realized what was happening, all stacked on the right side of the house. We kept the left side cleared, the opposing skip had a chance to curl into the pocket but put it through with his last shot... I went to the hack to throw my hammer stone trying desperately not to think about the outcome of the shot. I think the release was pretty good, a little sweeping by the second but I called her off when I knew it had enough to make it to the house, it crept in to the tee line and the opposing vice did her thing and swept it, but luckily our 8th and final stone stuck on the back 12 foot to my amazement, relief and joy! The rarity of it continues to astound me. They say it's like a hole-in-one in golf, (golfed over 30 years, still waiting!) but I think they're probably more rare, so many things



have to go right for it to happen. And for the opposition, it goes badly doesn't it? In the picture, L to R is vice-skip Paul McVety, myself, lead Gilson Barros (first year curler and recently moved here from Brasil!), the second is my wife, Janice Wheeler.