

THE T-LINE

VICTORIA CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER Dec. 2007

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The month of December is here and with it comes the start of competitive curling. I am pleased to advise that the Dailene Sivertson Team and the Joel Cave Team were successful in advancing to the Junior Provincials this month. Congratulations to both teams and good luck at the Junior Provincials in Port Alberni on December 31st.

We have the Mistletoe Mixed Bonspiel taking place December 28 to 30th, it is filling up quickly and if you are interested in curling in this popular event, you should register soon before it is filled. A reminder that the Curling Club is closed from December 23 to December 27th to give our staff a well deserved rest. All leagues will start again on January 2nd, 2008.

The Planning Committee of the Board of Directors continues to work hard on your behalf on the concept of a regional curling facility and has met with a number of the core municipalities seeking support for a study into the feasibility of a regional curling facility. The Victoria Curling Club is truly regional in nature as it draws its membership from the four core municipalities with the majority of our members residing in Saanich and Victoria.

We have contacted the Host Committee of the Scott Tournament of Hearts with respect to what role we might play in the Tournament including acting as the Heart Stop Lounge. We are optimistic that the Victoria Curling Club will be selected as the site of the Heart Stop Lounge in February of 2009. I will keep our members informed of progress in this regard. This is an exciting curling event for our region and we would like to a part of the success of yet another major curling event in our region.

To one and all, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. To the staff, job well done and we will see you in the New Year! Don't forget to stop into the Pro Shop for those Christmas gifts for your curling relatives and friends!

Bud Harbidge - President

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

We are almost at the half way point of our curling season, so everyone should be over the initial rusty-shot making from the summer lay-off, right? The Mistletoe Bonspiel is right around the corner. At this time we have 32 teams entered with the deadline for entries Dec.13th. So if you have not yet registered your team, call the office ASAP! Once again the club lounge is fully booked with Shorty's and Xmas parties. The coffee shop and bar

staff are hopping now and will continue now until season's end. Friday Night dinner specials are again very popular this year. Please remember, whether you are curling, attending the Salmon Kings game or just out and about, Janie and staff create the best Friday dinner for \$9.95 you can find anywhere! Be sure to visit the Pro Shop for your Xmas ideas. Currently we have all remaining VCC crested shirts and pants on at 40% off regular sale price plus all your curling accessories. JUST IN! We have the **2008 Tee-Off Golf Savings Coupon Book**. There are over 40 Vancouver Island courses alone, plus another 220 province wide courses in the book all for just \$40 (pst & gst extra). Congratulations to Joel, Ian, Tyler, Corey and coach Len for advancing to the Provincial Jr. Mens. Well done team! Also to Dailene and her team for their berth to the Provincial Junior Women's. And finally, I would like to wish all curlers, coaches and staff a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Bill Chester, General Manager

Sat. AM

The *Saturday AM Curling League* is an open, relatively unstructured mixed league for men and women, playing any position, in any combination. Players range from novice to experienced, with the objective of having fun on Saturday morning. We are doing this by keeping the whole league as a casual place to curl and enjoy the fellowship the game offers. Saturday AM curling has remained at 12 teams this year. The league executive is working hard to expand to 16 teams next year. So if you're thinking of joining let us know.

Again thanks to the support of the Victoria Curling Club and Curl BC and Cindy Tucker, our league held two curling clinics. The on ice session clinic in November was attended by over half our curlers. The second clinic in December will be a classroom session to go over strategy and curling etiquette on December 8th.

The 15th of December will be our last game before Christmas and it will be a Skins game playing for \$100 per game. We will be holding another Skins Game on the last curling date in March. On February 9th, 2008 we will have a shorty Bonspiel and invite all curlers to participate particularly new young curlers (over 19) we will hold a special draw for you.

For Information or registration Contact: Brian Morin 479-0088 bwmorin@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

The High School League at the VCC is up and running with a total of 13 teams. Round Robin play started on Nov. 28 and will run through to Feb. 27th. Thanks to all schools, teachers, volunteers and the Optimist Club of Victoria.

Mike Wood, instructor

SELECT LEAGUE

The Select League has 12 teams this year. It's down in team from 16 but is still a very competitive league. Thanks to all team sponsors and to Sports Traders for being the league sponsor.

Merry Xmas and Happy New Year

Mike Wood

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Wed. Dec. 12

Wed. Ladies Xmas Luncheon

Fri. Dec. 14

Teacher's Xmas Party

Mon. Dec. 17

Aft. Ladies Xmas Luncheon

Tues. Dec. 18

Evening Ladies Xmas Banquet

Fri. Dec. 21

Senior's League Turkey Shoot

Dec. 23-27

Building Closed

Dec. 28-30

Mistletoe Bonspiel

Dec. 31-Jan. 1

Building Closed

Jan. 18-20

Men's Coasts

Jan. 28-Feb. 1

Senior Men's Bonspiel

Wed. Feb. 13

Senior's Wine & Cheese

Feb. 14

Senior Men's Interclub

EVENING LADIES

The Evening Ladies League are enjoying this curling season. All new and “old” members are in full swing and our new members are a welcome part of our league. We are looking forward to our **Christmas Party on Tuesday December 18**. Tickets can be purchased from Lori Gray up to and including December 4 and from the office until December 6. Ticket prices are \$10.00 for active curlers and \$15.00 for spares and guests. The Evening Ladies League is going to support a “needy” Ladies Shelter. All ladies are encouraged to donate \$5.00 or the amount of their choice. At the Christmas Party there will be a donation box at the entry ticket table. There will also be a box for the Mustard Seed should anyone wish to contribute. Santa will also make his appearance. All attending the party may participate in the \$15.00 gift exchange. Bring a present for under the tree.

The **Semi-annual General Meeting** will be held after the early draw @8:45 in the upstairs lounge on **Tuesday January 22, 2008**. ALL CURLERS PLEASE ATTEND!!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy prosperous 2008. Good Curling!!

Lorna Taylor

WED. AM SELECT LADIES

As we have been practicing since the beginning of October we should all be ready for our turkey shoot on Dec. 5th! Our Christmas Luncheon is Dec. 12th (better practice up on your singing). After the Christmas break we start back curling Jan. 2, 2007. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season and a Happy 2008.

Diane Caldwell

WED. COMMERCIAL

As of this writing, we have 2 weeks of curling left before the Christmas / New Year's holiday. We will resume curling on January 2, 2008. With 6 games to go in the initial round -robin, Team Rauch leads the pack, 3 points ahead of Teams Reimer & Stuart. Just 1 point further back are Teams Horowitz & Morin. However, enough games remain for changes in leadership to occur. Our best wishes for the Holiday Season, and for a healthy 2008!

Issy Horowitz

AFTERNOON LADIES

Our first draw of round robin games are in full swing and these will end on **December 13th**. During this time, we enjoyed Halloween treats (courtesy of Alice Howes) and the 40th Annual Interclub Bonspiel hosted by Glen Meadows. We entered 9 teams in this 4

area club event. Many thanks to Pam Shemilt and Jean Burrows for their organizing skills.

Congratulations to: Orma Paton, Val Turner, various spares, Lois McCabe-1st in the **B event**; Nancy Mawle/Lee Fast, Helen Paterson, Ev Sigalet, Claudia Hemphill-2nd in the **C event**; Joan Lopeter, Pat Morrison, Cathy Bartlett, Jean Zier-3rd in the **C event**; Peggy Jeffery, Myrna Pringle, Barb Naylor, Edith McHugh-4th in the **C event**; Jean Burrows, Diane Caldwell, Pauline East, Louise Reader-2nd in the **D event**.

We will be having our **Christmas luncheon** at the club on **Monday, Dec.17th**. Please check with your skips for your tickets to this event. Our 2nd draw of round robin games will begin on **Thursday Jan. 3rd** and **Monday Jan. 7th**. Thanks to Yvonne Oakley for your draw master skills.

Best wishes for the Holiday season and a big thank you to my hard working executive. May 2008 be good to you all.

Sylvia Bradley

ICE TECH TALK

I get asked questions all the time by curlers wanting to know different things about the ice. I thought I would try to explain briefly some of the many different factors that go into making good curling ice. The conditions are changing all the time and it is my job to try and adjust what I do with what is happening. The temperature of the brine, the pebble temperature, air temperature and humidity all play a role in what kind of ice is produced. Generally the best ice to play on is a sheet that has just been scraped and freshly pebbled. This removes the frost, dirt and old pebble. This procedure produces ice that is clean and keen with ice times reaching 14 plus seconds. This is done twice a day to try and keep the ice as consistent as possible. "In a major competition this is done after every game". The ice surface temperature should be between 23.7 degrees and 24.5 degrees. If the ice gets too cold it will be straight and quite heavy. If it gets too warm the pebble will flatten out (melt) and cause the rocks to be inconsistent by slowing down or fudging as they like to say. The type of building we have is not insulated so the ice is greatly influenced by the weather outside. If it is a cold day the ice can be warmed up to the proper playing temperature by adjusting the brine and pebble temperature. The same applies in the spring when it gets warm we have to make the brine and pebble temperature colder. There is no exact science to curling ice as every curling rink has its own different set of conditions. The only real way to get the best possible conditions is to try different temperatures, scraping, pebbling techniques until you come up with the results that work best in your building.

Al Sutherland, Ice Technician

SPORTS TRADERS

Just over the halfway mark of our round robin, the Wayne Spier's team has swept their way into 1st place with 16 points, having had only one loss to the Kelly Doerksen team, who are tied for 4th place with the no longer so formidable Keith Kresse team. The Lois

Richmond team has also had only one loss but that was to Wayne Spiers, so they're stuck in 2nd place. The Al Mellett team stands alone in 3rd place with 14 points. As far as those Auger boys are concerned, Maurice is the top dog with 10 points and Marty & Gerry are clamoring behind with 8 points apiece.

Don't forget that our **Xmas potluck party** will be after curling on **Dec 16th**, so you won't need to eat dinner before you curl. After our potluck pigout, we'll be drawing the 3 winning Xmas Cheer Raffle tickets, so please try to hand them in to the Keith Kresse team as soon as you can. Another highlight of the evening will be our 50/50 ticket draws, as there will be some extra & special prizes to be had, thanks to Al Mellett and his many connections.

Congrats to Gord & Denise Irwin who, on Nov 18th, left their hearts in San Francisco when they went there to celebrate their 40th anniversary.

Cathy O'Brien, Reporter

CFAX SPORTSMAN

On behalf of the members that make up Saturday's C-FAX Sportsman League I want to take this opportunity to wish all Victoria Curling Club members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2008. This curling season saw our league grow from 12 to 14 teams with much of the credit going to Al Hood who worked tirelessly to grow the league membership. As is the case each time we reach the month of December the league schedules the head to head battles between the teams closest to each other in the league standings. While the season is still young and several teams are playing well as we go into the Christmas break, it is the Barry Hilton team that may be the rink to beat as 2007-2008 league champs. The month of November saw the Sportsman League's annual "Shorty" Spiel organized by William Chow take place. This event is strictly a fun event giving people not only an introduction to curling but a fun night to meet new people. Once again the Sportsmen's League is back with its commitment to raise funds for the **C-FAX Santa's Anonymous**. Raffle tickets are being sold with this year's first prize being two tickets to a Vancouver Canucks hockey game. Ticket sales (organized by league member Jim Gordon) will be drawn on **December 17th** when the Sportsman League holds its annual "**Turkey Shoot.**" Those wishing to get tickets can ask for Jim during Sportsman League curling on Saturdays (11:15 am – 3:00pm).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Sportsman League executive.

SENIOR MEN

Fellow Senior Curlers: December is upon us and half the season is behind us already. Since the last T-Line, two of our members have passed away. Robin Ogilvie was an active curler and had organized the Seniors' golf tournament over the past few years.

Jack Crowther, although not an active curler, he played a very active role in the annual Seniors' bonspiel. Both will be missed.

The second draw will be finishing up on January the 4th. The Skips draw will commence on January 11, with Tuesday January 8 being a fun day.

The annual **certificate shoot** will take place on **Friday December 21** from 9:00 till 12:00. This year the Ladies Club have been invited to come out and participate with us. Have fun and good luck to all.

The **Victoria Seniors Men's Bonspiel** will take place from **January 28 to February 2**. Issy Horowitz is once again chairing the Bonspiel. Please see Issy to register. The sign up sheet for the Jack Crowther event is on the bulletin board. Please sign up NOW.

The Board of Directors of the Seniors Men League wishes one and all a very Merry and fun Holiday Season.

Doug Grant

JUNIOR CURLING

Wow! Members of the Victoria Curling Club can certainly be proud of our juniors! The Joel Cave team of Joel, Ian Hardy, Tyler O'Brien and Corey Chester, showed no fear when they moved out of the Juvenile category and went to Junior Men's Playdowns earlier this month. Despite tough competition, they earned a berth to the Provincial Championship to be held in Port Alberni, Dec. 31st to Jan. 5th. Congratulations boys, and all the best to you in Port Alberni.

Good news doesn't stop there. A dozen of our junior program participants won gold, silver and bronze – a clean sweep- - in our VCC Junior Bonspiel sponsored by the **Victoria Police Athletic Association** held on the weekend of Dec. 8 & 9th. The club and kitchen were hopping as we hosted 16 teams from the local curling clubs that participated in the fun bonspiel.

Josh Hozack skipped Nolan Reid (3rd), and first year curlers Emily Dagg (2nd) and Trista Gulliver (lead) to their 1st place finish. The silver medal went to skip Andrew Komlodi and his team of Carley Sandwith (3rd), Megan Thomson (2nd) and Reanne Streifel (lead), and coming in third for the bronze were Corey Chester (skip), Melissa Mackereth (3rd), Karsten Waters (2nd) and Alycia Streifel. Congratulations kids, we ARE proud of all of you!!

Ellie Gerhardt, Junior Director