



# THE T-LINE

## VICTORIA CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2011



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With only have 2 months left of curling in this year's curling season most leagues play-offs are well underway and there are many things happening both in and around the curling club. Congratulations to the Dailene Sivertson Team coached by Cindy Tucker for your showing at the recent Junior National Championships, we are very proud of you all.

At the time of writing this, the Jason Clarke and Neil Dangerfield Teams are about to begin their quest for a Provincial Championship in Vernon BC, good luck guys we are all pulling for you.

Congratulations to Doug Grant and the rest of the organizing committee of the recently held Senior Men's Bonspiel, by all accounts a very successful event. At this time I would encourage all teams to consider entering our upcoming club Bonspiels, the Ladies Daffodil, March 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> and the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Thunderbird Bonspiel March 17<sup>th</sup> thru 20<sup>th</sup>.

These Bonspiels are very important to the curling club and a good time is had by all who participate. If the team you are curling with cannot enter, please consider providing your name to the organizing committees as Teams looking to enter quite often need a curler in order to fill their line-up.

I would like to thank all the League representatives who took part in the President's Social meeting and luncheon on February 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss some of the upcoming changes that are in the works now to make your curling experience more enjoyable. The feedback from the league reps was very positive and another meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup>, I hope that all league reps will be able to attend.

David Mueller - President

### VICTORIA CURLING CLUB

### 58TH LADIES

### DAFFODIL BONSPIEL

MARCH 3 to 6, 2011

4 Events - Banquet - Entertainment - Raffles

Door Prizes - Theme The Musical Grease

\$200 Entry - \$50 Deposit

Victoria Curling Club 250-386-6396

[viccurl@victoriacurlingclub.com](mailto:viccurl@victoriacurlingclub.com)

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE CLUB

February 11-13

Can MidWest Bonspiel

February 22

Junior Windup

February 25

Teacher's Windup

March 3-6

Ladies Daffodil Bonspiel

March 9

High School Windup

March 10

Senior's Interclub

March 13

Legion Windup

March 14

Monday Open Windup

March 16

Wed AM Ladies Windup

March 17-20

Men's Thunderbird Bonspiel

March 23

Wed. Comm. Windup

March 24-27

WestCan Dental Bonspiel

March 25

Friday Mixed Windup

March 27

Sports Traders Windup

March 28

Aft. Ladies Luncheon

March 29

Ladies Windup Banquet

March 30

Men's Windup

March 31

Thursday League Windup

# **MANAGERS MESSAGE**

We are now entering into our final stages of the curling season, and this is where the club turns into bonspiel and wind-up central. The office has been very busy lately with outside groups wanting to come in and curl for fun. This interest would be from the past Olympics, curling being on T.V. lately as well as the media attention we are getting from us having so many club teams qualifying for provincial and national championships. Thank-you to all curlers and volunteers that once again make the VCC "The Place to Curl".

During the weekend of Feb. 11-13, the club will play host to the Can-Mid West Curling Bonspiel. This event is back at our club every 3 years and this year has 28 teams travelling from all the western provinces to play.

Please remember to get your teams registered for the Ladies Daffodil and Men's Thunderbird bonspiels. The bonspiel committees are very hard at work organizing these events and our club teams should be already entered through the club office. It should be a priority for all VCC league teams to be supporting our own bonspiels. Not to mention what a way to finish off the season So please get your entries in as soon as you finish reading this edition of the T-Line!

Our club president Dave Mueller and I attended the introduction of the Rocks & Rings program recently to grade 5 students at Braefoot School. This program is a very welcome idea that will get students familiar with the sport before they come to the rink, meaning more time can be spent with the kids learning how to play the sport as soon as they arrive, rather than spending quality time showing them the equipment and etiquette of the game.

Finally, good luck to everyone in their league playoffs, and see you all around the club at the upcoming bonspiels.

**Bill Chester – General Manager**

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**



We have been working with our 2 teams for the provincials by having them participating in the Development League. This is a Youth League for the youth on the island and we play at different clubs.

We have just hosted our invitational bonspiel. There were some 60 athletes and 30 coaches and volunteers from our club, Nanaimo, Parksville and Powell River.

The bonspiel was a great success (all of them are) and all went home happy.

Our team of Danny, Drew D, Drew S and Mark won the bonspiel with coach Barry Loney. Teams from Nanaimo and Parksville placed 2nd and 3rd. We also presented a stick curling event at the bonspiel. This too was very successful.

Congratulations to Mary and Glen in winning 1st, Bill and Maggie 2nd and a tie at 3rd for Barry and Russel and Kelsey and Tony. Also congratulations to coach Emily and Joe for coaching the event

We will be sending our 2 teams to provincials Feb 10 in Coquitlam, good luck to them!

**Ed Gerhardt**



## **AFTERNOON LADIES**



Happy Valentine's Day! As of this writing, we are commencing with the final draw of the season. Time certainly flies when one gets older (and having fun, of course)!!

Since the last newsletter, the ladies celebrated Christmas with a lovely luncheon at the Uplands golf course. Everyone received a gift (courtesy of the Executive); Wilma Williams delivered two humorous jokes (as only Wilma can do); and a good start to the Xmas season was had by all. Thank you to all the ladies who helped to make the luncheon such an enjoyable experience.

Please add to your calendar the date for the AGM and final luncheon to be held at the club on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. The Executive is looking for someone to stand as Vice President, Draw Convenor, or as Thursday spare coordinator. Alice Howes has thankfully agreed to step into the President's position for one year. If you have not had a position on the Executive (or even if you have) please consider taking a position. Both the Draw Convenor and the President have been on the Executive for the past 3 years and are ready to "retire". PLEASE think of taking a position.

Congratulations to the top teams of the second draw: Monday's winner is the team of Barb Copley, Barb Vincent, Pauline East, Marg Sworder. Runner-Up is the team of Sharon Kelly, Marg Richmond, Lorna Anthony, Cathy Garrett. Thursday's winner was Nina Olsen's team of Joanne Schmitke, Alice Howes, Shirley Lucyk. Runner-Up was the Barb White team of Shirley McDonough, Marg Sworder, Lorna Anthony.

Our league donated the club's share of the 50/50 from the Xmas luncheon to the Victoria Hospice. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year the club's share of the 50/50 has gone to a charity. I would like to see this tradition continue. We also presented a cheque for \$200 to the Dailene Sivertson Junior team from the club who is representing BC in the Nationals. We wish them success.

I will have one more T-Line issue to write before I retire from the Presidency, but I would like to make several thank you's before then. First, a huge thank you to the office and kitchen staffs of the club who have always been very cooperative and helpful. I would also like to thank Yvonne Oakley who went the extra mile as our Draw Convenor. Her organizational skills are outstanding. To the Executive of the last three years, thank you for your diligence and support. Lastly, to the afternoon ladies, it has been a pleasure to be of service. You are a group of wonderful women who share a true sense of sportsmanship and fellowship.

Linda Carswell-Bland President



## **59TH THUNDERBIRD**



 **MEN'S BONSPIEL** 

**MARCH 17 to 20, 2011**

**Over \$10,000 in Prizes - 6 Events**

**Banquet - 4 Games Guaranteed**

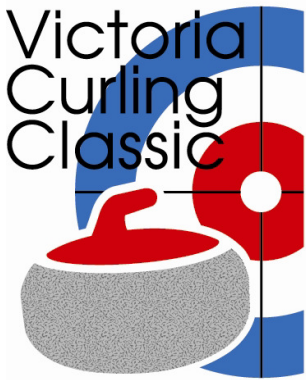
**Skills Competition - Reverse Draw**

 **\$200 Entry - \$50 Deposit** 

**Victoria Curling Club 250-386-6396**

**viccurl@victoriacurling club.com**

## VICTORIA CURLING CLASSIC



The **Victoria Curling Classic** is less than 2 months away. Have you got your tickets yet? You don't want to miss this amazing event being held at the **Archie Browning Centre Arena in Esquimalt. March 31-April 3, 2011.** The best field of teams in the world are playing under one roof here in Victoria.

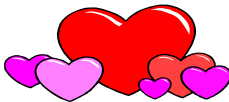
This year, the 8 team ladies section will include 2010 Olympic Silver Medal winner Chgeryl Bernard, defending Scotties Champion Jennifer Jones, as well as Shannon Kleibrink, Amber Holland and Cathy Overton-Clapham who are all competing in this year's upcoming Scotties!

There is also 3 BC teams to round out the field and they are 2000 World Champion Kelly Law and former BC Champions Marla Mallett and Allison McInnes.

We are excited to announce that the men's field is the strongest in the history of our event. The 2010 Olympic Gold Medal Winner Kevin Martin will try to defend the title he captured here last year. He will be hard pressed to repeat as teams such as Glen Howard, Kevin Koe, Jeff Stoughton, Brad Gushue and young upstart Mike McEwen will all be trying to capture the 2011 Championship.

Don't forget that your Full Event Pass includes free admission into the Fan's Lounge located right next door where there will be live entertainment, food and prize giveaways all weekend long for you to enjoy. So hurry hard!! And get your tickets now, exclusively sold right at the Victoria Curling Club. For more information, please visit our website: [victoriacurlingclassic.com](http://victoriacurlingclassic.com).

### MONDAY AM OPEN



The league's second 10-game session began Jan 10<sup>th</sup> and will wrap up with a luncheon on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Once again, the eight teams are enjoying the recreational atmosphere created by an exceptionally pleasant group of curlers.

Most people dread Monday mornings but this group sees Monday in a much different and more positive sense.....what could be better for a curler than starting the week out on the ice?? Think about that when planning your curling calendar next season!

**Eileen DeFoe**

### PRO SHOP NEWS



V.C.C. Pro shop only .. **20% OFF**... RockWatcher stop watches, no further discount.

V.C.C. Pro Shop only .. **20% OFF**... Bob's Telescoping Stick shooters, no further discount.

Now available new V.C.C. logo ball caps.. reg. \$24.99 .. now only \$16.99 less your 10% discount for members.

Your **BROOM PAD** and your **GRIPPERS** should be replaced at least EVERY OTHER YEAR.

Fine Grit Sandpaper, followed by fine steel wool in a circular pattern will take all the scratches out of your sliders, and return it to normal speed again. If you want to go faster you need thicker Teflon.

The "**HAMMER**" Broom is Back!!! Brooms and replacement heads are now available in the VCC Pro Shop and at Sports Traders.

## SENIOR MEN



Our third and last draw is well on its way. Curlers are enjoying the comradery and the personal challenge with each end.

Our ANNUAL BONSPIEL was a real success. Next year we will tweak a thing or two which will make it even better. "Great curling and good competitors" was overheard several times.

The winners of A division was the Brian Morin team, B division was the Gordon Schnell team, C Division was the Tom Goodchild team, D division was the Paul Convey team. This was a gift from Don Moss. Well curled Curlers.

The very popular Crowther event was won by the Jack Williams team followed by the Jack Sandberg team, the Jim Millar team, the Bob Johnson team, the Ed Miskiman team and the Norm Eyres team. The rest of the team congratulate the top winner.

The Thursday banquet was well attended. Janie and her girls served up a wonderful dinner which was enjoyed by all. The door prizes which were donated by our members and the sponsors to the Victoria Seniors Curling League Bonspiel were well received.

We thank all those who donated their time and prizes. The support of the 50/50 draws over the duration of the bonspiel and at the banquet was phenomenal. The happy winners declare it a success. The non winners say thank you for the chance to win.

The Victoria Curling Club and the executive of the seniors league wish to thank all those who have assisted in making this season a wonderful success.

**Gordon Churches**

### FRIDAY MIXED



Well Friday nighters, the season is nearing an end. It seems so fast, but thankful for all fun that we had. I want to remind everyone that the last night of curling is going to be Friday, March 11.

And we will be having the banquet on Friday, March 25, 2011. The bar will open at 6:00 pm and dinner will be served at 7:00.

Of course after dinner and the elections we will be having the prize draws and presentations to this year's winners. I will be talking a head count over the next few weeks as to who is attending the banquet.

If you wish to invite friends/family we can arrange for additional tickets at a cost of \$20.00 a ticket. But you need to let me know in advance. Thanks again for a great year. And remember, the way you make this league great is by participating.

Volunteer to help out, challenge friends and co-workers to put a team together and try to beat you and most importantly, join us again next year.

P.S. \*\*\*Public Service Announcement\*\*\*: Men don't forget your ladies on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> (Valentine's Day). I may have saved a life just now.

**Thanks again - Darren**



 Investment Planning Counsel® IPC INVESTMENT CORPORATION Phil Gibson 250-475-3499	 SPORTS Traders Al Mellett	 Metro Lexus Toyota Victoria Dennis Andrews	 castle building centres Vicki Hagel
--	--	---	--

## THURSDAY NITE MIXED LEAGUE



It is hard to believe that the curling season is almost done. As I write this, our regular league play is "winding down" and the "Draw master" is putting together a playoff round.

As one who curls in the Thursday Mixed, I am so impressed by the advancement of the players and teams that are relatively new to curling. When I think back to September and their abilities then and compare "those days" to what these players are doing on the ice now - it is simply astounding.

It says a lot about the league and the "experienced" curler's willingness to help and the beginner's enthusiasm for the game.

Keep up the "good work" and you all must feel proud about your efforts this year - Thursday Nite Mixed was and is a curling success. Thank you...Good Luck the rest of the season!!

**Paul Malnarich**

## GREATER VICTORIA MASTERS SUPER LEAGUE SINCE 1990

 Megson FitzPatrick INSURANCE SERVICES Jay Tuson	 RWIN INDUSTRIES Ron Bilodeau	 Victoria Curling Club	 merit TRAVEL Paul Dixon	 GICdirect Your Source to Best Rates! 250-592-7707
---	---	---	--	--

Our season finished on Thursday, December 16, culminating in the final playoffs on December 9th and 16th.

Competition within our league was pretty fierce. At the end of the regular draw two teams were tied for first place in overall points: the **Moss Team** (Skip Don Moss, Chuck Coell, Rick Pepper, Mike Pednault), and the **Bombezin Team** (Skip Georges Bombezin, Dave Smith, Stello Tedesco, Jim Baldwin). Four teams were tied for second place in overall points: the **Woytowich Team**, (Skip Lawrence Woytowich, Wayne Scott, Paul Addison, Frank Nash), the **Melnyk Team**, (Skip Tom Melnyk, John Errington, Dennis Erickson, Wayne Cessford), the **Danderfer Team**, (Skip Roy Danderfer, Barry Turner, Bob Horner, Jack Sandberg) and the **Morin Team**, (Skip Brian Morin, Al Teasdale, Denis Lieutard, Dave Davies). Well done to our top teams! Then came the playoffs - the results of which were:

- "A"- 1st **Morin**, 2nd - **Bombezin**, 3rd - **Moss**, 4th - **Melnyk**
- "B"- 1st **Woytowich**, 2nd - **Danderfer**, 3rd - **Garroway**, 4th - **Field**
- "C"- 1st **Silver**, 2nd **Spencer**, 3rd - **Lyon**, 4th - **Demeriz**
- "D"- 1st **McCorquodale**, 2nd - **P. Thompson**, 3rd - **Canning**, 4th - **Coulombe**
- "E" 1st - **Merriam**, 2nd - **Hall**, 3rd - **Orton**, 4th - **J. Campbell**
- "F" 1st - **Begg**, 2nd - **Brown**, 3rd - **Irlam**, 4th - **Simmons**
- "G" 1st - **Jones**, 2nd - **Williams**, 3rd - **R. Campbell**, 4th - **Eyres**
- "H" 1st - **Convey**, 2nd - **Johnson**, 3rd - **Antrobus**, 4th - **W. Thompson**

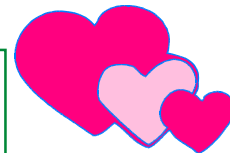
This league has been a great venue to sharpen team and individual skills. It has also been a great venue to meet with fellow curlers in the Greater Victoria area. You can all expect to see one another over and over again at regional bonspiels and championships, so you will know a bit about each team and what to expect from the competition.

The wrap up for our league concluded with a catered luncheon in the upper lounge at VCC. It was a scrumptious lunch with ample servings for everyone (a vast improvement over previous years at our former venue). It was fully paid for out of your fees, profit from the 50/50 and generous sponsorship funds from our Sponsors. We should acknowledge the good work of our Executive; without them we would not have had such a successful season. Give them your thanks when you get a chance: Chairman- **Steve Willett**, Treasurer-**Ray Field**, Secretary- **Grant Marshall**, Drawmaster- **Rick Gilmore**, Director- **Glen Canning**, Director- **Stu Carmichael**, Sponsorship Director- **Al Mellett**. Also, we owe a debt of gratitude to our 50/50 coordinator, **Don Weeden**, for his good work and persuasive selling.

In addition, on behalf of all curlers in the GVMSL, we want to thank **Bill Chester** and the Executive of the Victoria Curling Club for welcoming our league to their club, and helping us settle in to our first year at VCC. We look forward to many more years ahead.

We also need to recognize the financial contribution provided by our Sponsors. Their support pays for all the extras in our league. Please take note of who they are; their company logos and representative names are posted at the end of the sheets & also are at the top of this news article. You are encouraged to support them in return for their sponsorship of our League.

## TEACHERS LEAGUE



We have just wrapped up the round robin section of our league play. Congratulations to the Richard Thierbach team for coming 1st place and the Richard Pawley for 2nd place. On Friday January 28th our league ran a funspiel to let our hair down and enjoy ourselves before the playoffs.

Gayle Bliss skipped Cathy O'Brien, Brent Wassermann and Josee Paris to a first place prize of nachos! Playoffs start February 4th so get ready for some intense play and sharp shooting! A reminder that there is no curling on February 11.

**Barb**



## MASTERS SUPER LEAGUE CONTINUED

**THE FUTURE:** With such a successful year, I am already looking forward to curling against all of you again next season. Hopefully you will all return to the GVMSL in 2011.

If you are contemplating a return, you better get your team signed up early as this league is extremely popular and seen as 'the' league to curl in to hone teams for regional bonspiels.

We already have a waiting list of teams dying to get a spot in the draw for 2011. So, if you want your team to curl in our league next year, contact the Drawmaster, **Rick Gilmore**, by email at [rs\\_gilmore@telus.net](mailto:rs_gilmore@telus.net) as soon as you can.

**Good Curling, see you in the bonspiels  
Dan Eakins**

# TECH TALK - THE HISTORY OF THE CURLING BROOM

In the beginning (the 60's is as far as my memory goes) CORN BROOM was the broom of choice for Canadians. It was a sweet sound hearing two or three great sweepers 'whompa, whompa, whompa, in poetic harmony from the likes of: Ernie Richardson, Hec Gervais, and Ron Northcott etc. The Corn Broom was loud, messy, and brash and it was great when you're young, strong and competitive.

The Corn Broom evolved into leather tongues to make them louder, and evolved again in fabric brooms with plastic tongues and finally three finger fabric brooms with three tongues, even louder yet. When your team fell behind in points, you would bust out the new corn broom and whack chaffe all over the ice with your sweeping of a new broom, hoping to invite picks and misses to get back into the game. It was brash, it was loud, it was unfair, it was great.

The SCOTS came over to the Air Canada Silver broom one year in the 70's, with Horse hair brooms, and commenced to beat the Canadians at curling with their little hair brooms. That changed curling brooms forever at that moment. Horse hair brooms became the rage for years to come.

WOOD: Was the choice of handles and heads for years, and came in horse hair, Hog Hair and fabric.

These brooms were worthy, and lasted for years before plastic became popular.

HAMMER Broom was the first all plastic broom, made in Campbell River, with a swivel head, and fabric face, and quickly became a very popular broom, especially on the west coast. Believe it or not, they are still making this broom today after a few years of shut down. Sports Traders has just received a few new Hammer brooms and faceplates for sale after many years of not manufacturing.

PERFORMANCE BRUSH COMPANY revolutionized the OVAL, SWIVEL head design with their introduction at the Scottie's in the late 80's. It proved to be a very effective sweeping tool, which allows three brushes to sweep in close proximity to the rock for maximum effect.

This Oval design is found on all major broom suppliers today. Performance Brush Company makes the heads and sells them to all the shaft suppliers in the industry. The majority of our sales is Performance heads.

## THUNDERBIRD MEN'S SPIEL

2011 Men's Thunderbird – BC's Biggest Bonspiel! The 59<sup>th</sup> annual Victoria Men's Thunderbird bonspiel runs March 17 to 20. In order to maintain our status as "British Columbia's Biggest Bonspiel", we need as many Men's teams to register as possible.

Registration is easy, just call Anita during business hours at 250-386-6396 and/or drop by the office with a deposit.

Support your curling club by putting a team together and registering today. Partial teams and singles looking for teams to play on are also accepted. If your business can donate a table/door prize, please contact Anita. The bonspiel entry deadline is March 11.



FIBREGLASS Shafts became very popular this decade, and gave you a lightweight broom, at a reasonable price, with the performance head.

CARBON FIBRE: is the latest space age technology in shafts today. Ultra lightweight, Ultra strong and comes in spectacular graphics, and is slowly coming down in price.

NEW: OLSON'S ISO-GRID Shaft with Reactor Swivel Head. The shaft is Carbon Fibre latticed in Grid form to create the world's lightest and strongest broom. This broom weighs less than two empty paper coffee cups. This is the lightest most technological broom today. Priced in the \$229. price range.

NEW: GOLDLINE'S FIBRELITE shaft. Combination Fibreglass/ Carbon Fibre mixture to create a very light and strong broom with Performance Heads, at a reasonable price at \$89.00.

NEW: BALANCE PLUS TAPERED Carbon Fibre ultra lite Shaft with it's new unproven reflective heat oval sweeping pad. Yet to be proven, but is priced in the \$229. range.

NEW: ASHAM'S Ultra light Carbon Fibre shaft with the new BOOMERANG head. This head is shaped like a boomerang, designed so three sweepers can sweep side by side and completely surround the running surface of the rock, and create a more effective sweep. Sells for \$200.

NEW: CUSTOM BROOMS with your own name and your choice of graphics. You can choose any Province, Curling country or custom graphics of your choice with your own name on the shaft, made of carbon fibre, with Performance head. If you pay attention to all the curlers on T.V. at the Continental Cup, Brier, Scotties, they will all have these custom brooms showing their sponsors. Sells for \$200.

NEW: 8 – ENDER brooms with carbon fibre shaft with new Transformer interchangeable heads. New head features Ultra lite horse hair broom with synthetic inserts to offer both hair and synthetic head all in one. New last year, got rave reviews, and is available in performance hair as well this year.

This is an exciting time for new curling products, it seems new products are being introduced every year, and Sports Traders is on top of them all will stockS them all for you to check out. Hope you enjoyed your Curling Broom History Lesson

**Al Mellett - Sports Traders**

## SELECT LEAGUE



The main Round Robin portion of the **Cut Above Tree Service** Select League schedule is complete and congratulations to Montgomery team for finishing the round in first with a strong 13-2 record. The team with the most wins at the end of the season (from both the Round Robin and the Playoff Round) will be the first team to get their name engraved on the new VSCL trophy (the "Super Cup").

The league has been broken down into A and B squares for the second half of the season (the Playoff Round), which lasts seven weeks. Our league wind-up will occur after the early draw on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

· A event teams – Clarke, W. Craig, Dangerfield, Epp, Merrifield, Montgomery, Skillings, and Tuson  
· B event teams – Burgoyne, R. Craig, Dey, Fletcher, Hozack, Iuvale, Shortreid, and Sivertson

Congratulations go out to Team Sivertson for winning the BC Junior Women's Title – best of luck at Nationals!

## ♥♥♥ EVENING LADIES ♥♥♥♥♥

The Ladies Evening league plays on Tuesday evenings. We are group of women ranging from the youthful age of twenty something to those lucky retirees and everything in between. The league enjoyed a tasty Christmas dinner on December 21. Many thanks to Janet Sime and her team for some great entertainment and making the tables festive!

We started the New Year early on January 4<sup>th</sup> to complete the round robin and we are now into the square playoffs. It's great to see many of the teams that had a slow start really came along strongly towards the end of the round robin play. This will make the Squares play very interesting indeed!

The women are also madly planning for the Ladies Daffodil Bonspiel on March 3-6<sup>th</sup>. The event theme is the musical GREASE and should provide lots of entertainment and competition. I hope to see a large turnout to the event. LADIES - GET YOUR REGISTRATION IN! Please contact Terry Bonin for any information about the spiel or register at the VCC office.

With the extra league nights this year, we have decided to try something different! After league play, the league will be holding 3 weeks of skins games. Each week will pay out slightly more as everyone will start to learn the strategy required. I think it will be an exciting and challenging finish to the season..

The league windup banquet and awards presentation will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> at the VCC lounge. Tickets will be available from the Janet Sime team. We will also have elections for the new executive and a summary report of the current season. Ideally we will get some feedback on any changes we have instituted this year. I am a rookie at this executive position and have had much to learn!

**Eylin Gilbert**

## THURSDAY OPEN



The fourth round-robin session has just started, after the second round of promotions and demotions. They determine who is eligible to play for the overall league championship, namely the teams in A division. But cheer up! There are championships in divisions B and C as well. The teams in A division are skipped by Michelle Vecqueray, Tom Child, Rachelle Kallechy, Richard Baigent and Hiro Yokota. Michelle, please bear in mind that it would be impolite to win the championship in your first year in our league. Of course the other four teams will have something to say about that too.

We welcome our 16<sup>th</sup> team. Robert Forget, Jim Magnus, James Trueman and Hazem Aboulnasr are colleagues who decided to form a team this season and moved through the Sunday Rec league fast enough to join us a few weeks ago.

There's no doubt that we all know the buzzer rule and leave the ice when we should. That being said, most of us do play slowly. Many other leagues routinely play eight ends in the two-hour slot. Some of us occasionally get to eight, but seven is common and sometimes only six ends are played.

Perhaps it could be a resolution to play faster this session. Here are a few suggestions about some things I've noticed. 1. Start on time. 2. Skips move down the ice faster to throw. 3. Be ready to throw. Seconds and thirds should move to the hog line at the throwing end immediately after sweeping their team's previous rock, then move to the hack as soon as the other team has delivered. Get your gripper off and clean your rock. 4. As soon as the score for an end has been agreed, leads and skips should prepare for the first rocks of the next end. Putting the rocks away is a job for seconds and thirds only, and there's no prize for neatness. The first rock to be thrown should be put at the hack, not in the corner with the others. ♥♥♥

**Good curling to all - Jon Preston**

## SPORTS TRADERS



Feb 6 is the last night of our round robin & although we have that 1 game left, it looks like the Lois Richmond team will clinch 1<sup>st</sup> as they now sit at 26 points with only 1 loss. The Keith Kresse team also has 26 points but lost to Lois, so may have to settle for 2<sup>nd</sup> place once again.

Although the Al Mellett team had a promising start, they will finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place as they now have 22 points. Based on total points earned during the round robin, teams are split into A & B divisions for our 7-game playoffs which starts Feb 13. Our last night of curling is March 27, followed by our wind-up banquet & prizes for all.

The round robin winners will get 1st dibs at the prize table, followed by the winners of the A & B divisions & then the runners-ups for A & B. Prizes will then be selected based on each team's total points (round robin + playoffs).

After curling on Dec 19 was our annual Xmas pot-luck, followed by our Xmas Cheer booze raffle draw for gift cards in \$125, \$100 & \$75 denominations. Laurie Auger won 2 bottles of wine for selling both the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winning tickets to her brother-in-law, Gerry Auger.

About 1100 tickets were sold; thanks to Jackie Graham who sold 14 books & to Neil Porter who sold 12. The festivities ended with draws for the numerous prizes that Al & Karen Mellett generously organized for this event.

There has been a lot of bonspieling going on & many of our league players have been in the prizes, i.e.

- Glen Meadows Mixed, January 7-9 - Skip Mike Angrove & his Sunday night team came 2<sup>nd</sup> in A;

Skip Gord Irwin, along with Denise, came in 4<sup>th</sup> in B.

- Duncan Women's, January 20-23 - Skip Lois Richmond, along with Laura Angrove & Jackie Graham, won A.

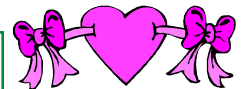
- Cowichan Lake Men's, January 20-23 - Skip Dave Blower's team won C.

- Juan de Fuca Mixed, January 28-30 - Skip Mike Angrove, along with Lois Richmond's Thursday night team, came 4<sup>th</sup> in A; Skip Kirk Wenzel, along with Susan Smigel & the Kresse's, came 4<sup>th</sup> in D.

Each week Neil Porter & Ben Townsend take turns skipping with the threat that whoever loses the most games is required to wear a dress/skirt while curling. Looks like Neil might be showing off his legs at the beginning of the playoffs. Stay tuned.

**Cathy Weigel O'Brien**

## LEGION LEAGUE



Hello to fellow curlers. As our first half of the season wrapped up with Ron Bilodeau's team winning the league championship with Jane Schmit, Mike Pouliot and Angie Preston.

The next ten teams were separated by six points so it made for a lot of fun games. Our playoffs will now take place over the next few weeks so good luck to all. On Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Britannia Curling League is having a 25th Anniversary Celebration at Britannia Legion doors open at 11:30 a.m. admission is \$5.00 Contact Kathy Allen or Stew Thomson.

There will be a light lunch and snacks served and a lot of fun to be had by all. Hope to see you there.

Happy Valentine's Day and good curling.

**Stew Thomson**

