



RACC Newsletter

November 2022

Greetings!

As the sounds of HAVE A GOOD GAME and SWEEP echo through the walls of the RA's Curling Centre of Excellence, the 2022-23 season is well underway.

It has been a very busy fall. Pre-season, the club hosted an on-ice Open House, an Information Night and a first Wheelchair Try Curling event. Meanwhile convenors were busily organizing their leagues. Several new daytime leagues were added to the roster: a Stick League, a competitive Doubles league, and an Open Fixed league. The Learn to Curl programs were expanded to include a Saturday Wheelchair Learn to Curl, and a weekday Youth league was added to the Youth program offerings. Thank you to all the new and returning league convenors for their hard work. The Club could not make it without you.

This season marks the Club's first time since the start of the COVID pandemic more than two years ago that we have been able to play without COVID restrictions, and as a result we have seen several former members return as well as many new ones join. Welcome (back)! We ask everyone to please continue to exercise caution, follow guidance from our local and provincial health authorities with respect to COVID and influenza, and respect your fellow curlers' choices and comfort level.

The unseasonably warm and humid weather this past month unfortunately put a damper on curling on a few occasions. Thank you to the ice techs who worked hard each time to quickly restore the ice to playable conditions. These weather blips aside, the ice has been great!

The Club is pleased to have contributed to several improvements and additions that support members' enjoyment and positive experience in the curling facility. And we are all eagerly awaiting the imminent opening and use of the renovated locker room, change rooms, and washrooms.

Finally, of note, our club and members have been recipients of several awards. Congratulations! Join us to help celebrate these achievements.

Read on for more details and news about all these and other items!



Goldline Pop-Up Sale – November 28, Central Lounge



Don't forget the Goldline Pop-Up sale in the Central Lounge from 1 PM to 8 PM on Monday November 28. RACC members will receive a 15% discount off the retail price!

Membership Update

It's great to see so many returning and new members this season. Our membership numbers are strong: we have 315 members in our leagues this fall, plus 55 in the Adult Learn to Curl programs and 38 in the Youth programs.

New Leagues and Programs

The Club introduced new leagues and programs this season, and they are proving to be quite popular. By all accounts everyone who decided to try Stick Curling (it has its own distinct set of rules!) is really enjoying the game – there are already 10 teams. The Daytime Open Fixed league is off to a good start with 5 teams signed up, as is the Thursday Competitive Daytime Doubles with 6 teams. The new Wheelchair Learn to Curl on Saturday afternoons has 7 participants, while the new Youth league on Tuesday at 5 PM sits at 12 participants.

Registration now open for the winter session!

(January 3 to April 22)

If you are interested in joining another league in January, or know someone who wants to join the club, or you are a soon-to-be graduate of one of our Adult Learn to Curl Programs, registration for the winter session is now open. The winter session is slightly longer than the fall, and the fees are thus approximately 60% of the full season fees. Check out the fees and league/program details on the RA Curling [website](#). Note that the Development program will be taking over the evening and daytime Learn to Curl timeslots, and that some of the other leagues are full or nearly full, so sign up quickly to ensure you get a spot.

Your Club's Capital Levy and Operating Funds at Work for You!

The Club is pleased to have used some of its operational and capital levy funds to pay for several improvements and additions that support members' enjoyment and positive experience in the curling facility. These include the bulletin boards, the revived "old" scoreboards, the new wheelchair ramp, the broom holders, and some of the seating in the renovated change rooms.



A special thank you to Chris Dick – seen here with the repurposed and newly mounted scoreboards. Chris donated his time over the summer of 2022 to design and build the frames for mounting the scoreboards.

6-ender!!

Congratulations to Garry and Sue Sully on their 6-ender scored in the Thursday Afternoon Doubles league on November 3rd!



Rock our House



World Men's Curling Championship 2023
TD Place, Lansdowne Park – April 1 to 9, 2023

ROCK OUR HOUSE

Get your full event passes or weekend packages
and your club will win exciting prizes!

Event passes and weekend packages are on sale for the World Men's Championships.

Don't forget to use our Club promo code "RA" when purchasing your passes, and the club will be eligible to win exciting prizes.

Awards and Recognition Corner

There are several club and member achievements of note and worthy of celebration this fall. **Come join us on December 15 at 9 PM in the Central Lounge as we celebrate them all.**

OVCA Ken Thain Award – Pippa Sellers



Congratulations to Pippa Sellers, one of this year's recipients of the Ottawa Valley Curling Association (OVCA) Ken Thain Award. This award is presented to curlers for their outstanding volunteer work at the club and/or regional level. For those of you who do not know Pippa, she is the convenor of our Sunday and Monday Doubles leagues, the past Treasurer of the Club, and has been responsible for managing the Goldline sales at the Club these last few years. Join us on December 15 to celebrate Pippa as she receives her plaque.

CurlON EDI Award – RA Curling

The RA and RACC were the proud recipients this September of CurlON's new Equity Diversity and Inclusivity award. We'd like to acknowledge all the work done by Kerrie Whitehurst who put forward the nomination in recognition of the long history and many achievements of RA Curling in supporting and promoting wheelchair curling. Collinda Joseph – RACC member and member of the bronze medal winning Canadian Wheelchair Curling team at the 2022 ParaOlympics – was on hand last September at CurlON's Annual meeting to accept the \$500 award and plaque on behalf of the RA.

CurlON Lifetime Achievement Award – Elaine Brimicombe



This fall, after six years on the Board of Directors of CurlON – four of them as Chair, Elaine Brimicombe retired from CurlON. Elaine's volunteerism, hard work, dedication, commitment, and action on so many fronts, including governance and inclusivity, not only in her roles and years at CurlON but also prior to that within the OVCA, were recognized by presenting her with CurlON's Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations Elaine on all your contributions to the curling community and for a much-deserved award. *Photo of Elaine receiving her award from Tim McChesney, CurlON Vice-Chair, September 2022.*

Algonquin Alumni of Distinction Award – Collinda Joseph



To her many lists of accomplishments and awards – including the bronze medal noted above in wheelchair curling at the 2022 winter ParaOlympics – this fall Collinda was awarded Algonquin College’s Alumni of Distinction, Changing Lives, Award. You can read more about Collinda’s award and accomplishments [here](#).

Member Directory

If you forgot and missed your chance to get your contact information included in the recently distributed Club Member Directory, don’t worry: we will be putting together an updated edition once the winter session has started. The link to fill in the [form](#) remains open and you can submit your info now for inclusion in the revised edition.

Practice Ice Booking

A reminder: the contact to reserve practice ice is Cynthia Gray (cynthia.gray.racc@gmail.com). The schedule of available ice for practice (and for rescheduling a game) is posted on the member pages of the RA Curling [website](#), and is included here at the end of the Newsletter. You can book ice one week in advance. A big thank you to Cynthia for ably managing this task as there has been a big demand for using the practice ice this season.

We hope you and your family have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.



Your RA Curling Club Council

