

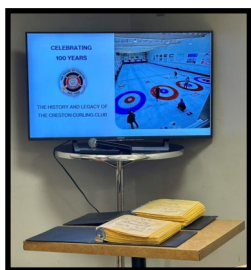


Welcome to

The Curling Sheet

“Success in curling is not measured by the number of wins, but by the memories created on the ice and the friendships formed off the ice.”

Melting Ice & Major Milestones: Our Year in Review



Another curling season has wrapped up, and what a great year we had. Not only did we celebrate our club’s centennial, but we also hosted six successful bonspiels.

The season started with a soggy surprise in October when a sensor failure melted the ice. Thankfully, our learn-to-curl workshop squeaked in before the shutdown. As a fitting bookend, our year-end banquet was delayed a day due to a power failure in town!

Our youth programs continued to thrive, with Thursday Juniors going strong and school groups filling the ice two mornings a week for most of the season. However, Thursday night curling continues to be a challenge. We introduced drop-in curling last year, and it worked well through the winter. But this past fall, attendance dipped and we often didn’t have enough curlers to play. In the winter session, we used the time to run three workshops, all well attended. If you have ideas for workshops next season, email crestoncurling@gmail.com. We’d love to hear them.

January brought a double celebration: Curling Day in Canada’s big shootout and our own centennial event. We sold commemorative pins and glasses—if you missed out, there are still some available. Email the club and we’ll arrange a pickup time.

We wrapped up the season with our funspiel. Thank you to Kelly and Avis for organizing a lively one-day event that even included a ham-to-the-button challenge. Congratulations to the O’Connor Team for finishing first, and to the Kinder Team for a strong second-place finish

We also want to cheer on the teams representing Creston beyond the Kootenays. Our Special O team shone in Kelowna; you can read more about their success on page 4. And once again, four teams are heading to the BC Masters Combined (BCMCC) in Chilliwack.

Whatever your summer plans—golfing, gardening, or simply enjoying the beauty of the Creston Valley—have a wonderful off-season. We’ll see you in the fall.



Mark your calendars:

Next week:

- Watch your inbox for a Bar and lounge survey. Make your voice heard!

BCMCC:

- March 28 to April 1

Pencil in these dates:

AGM:

- September 2026 (date TBA)

League games:

- Watch for announcements for registration and start times in late August

Bonspiels (to be confirmed):

- Seniors open: Nov 16-18, 2026
- Bothamley open: Nov 27-29, 2026
- Wild Chicken open-mixed: Jan 9-10, 2027
- Valentine’s ladies’: Feb 12-14, 2027
- Butterfly men’s: Mar 4-7, 2027
- Wind-up funspiel: Mar 20, 2027

Valentine's bonspiel



The Roaring Twenties met the Twenty-Twenties at this year's Valentine's Bonspiel—a playful theme that also tipped its hat to the club's centennial. With six visiting teams and twenty local teams (including 10 more out of town curlers), the lounge was buzzing. Transformed into a 1920s nightclub, it looked fantastic.

Costumes were as creative as ever. We saw everything from flappers to the 1928 Ladies' Olympians to determined Suffragettes. Congratulations to "Benko's Side

Show," "The Newsies" with their daily stop-press editions, and the "Bathing Beauties" for taking first, second, and third in the costume contest.

We missed our longtime piper, who moved away this year, but all four finals kicked off together right at 2:00 pm. The games were close, full of great shot-making, and the final results were evenly split between home teams and visitors.

Special thanks to the men's teams who helped in the lounge, on the draw boards, and with refereeing duties. And as always, our bar staff kept everyone smiling as they poured throughout the weekend.

A bonspiel takes a village, and several committee members are "retiring" this year. If you'd like to help keep this event thriving, consider joining the committee next season.

| Event | Sponsor | First place | Runner-up | Consolation |
|-------|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| A | Creston & District Credit Union | Team Amonson | Team Hicks | Team Plante |
| B | Macaulay Forestry Ltd. | Team Gomes | Team Belley | Team Rab |
| C | Pyramid Building Supplies | Team Benko | Team Weaver | |
| D | J. H. Huscroft Ltd. | Team Heald | Team C Thompson | |

“Curling brings people together, creating friendships and bonds that last a lifetime.” *(Eve Muirhead, former Scottish Olympic, Mixed Doubles, World Champion)*

Introducing our BC Masters Combined (BCMCC) Curlers

Curling may be finishing up soon here at home but the fun continues! Our four Masters curling teams have been introduced and we'll be cheering them on as they compete in Chilliwack from March 28 to April 1. Follow them online at www.bcmcc.ca or here: mastersbc.ca/Schedule.aspx?opt=schedule&from=menu

Men's 70+

Skip: Terry O'Connor
Third: Laddie Pavlis
Second: Norm Fahselt
Lead: Mike Kennedy

Men's 60+

Skip: Mark Easton
Third: Nelson Hilger
Second: Gary Wilson
Lead: Maurice Robins

Women's 60+

Skip: Joan Fahselt
Third: Kim Wilson
Second: Marlene Gates
Lead: Kelly Moberg

Mixed 60+

Fourth: Pete Plante
Skip: (Third) Janet Plante
Second: Terry Jaeger
Lead: Denise Jaeger

Butterfly bonspiel



The houses were truly *rocking*—and so was the Ninth End Lounge—throughout the Butterfly Bonspiel from February 26 to March 1. Fans packed the viewing area to cheer on their favourite teams, and they were treated to tight games, bold shots, and a few unexpected upsets.

This year’s winners and runners-up are listed below. You’ll notice several new names on the board, including teams who don’t normally curl together. It made for a lively, unpredictable weekend.

Congratulations to the draw to the button winner and runner up: Scott Pemberton and Richard Tetz.

The 50/50 draws were a hit, with winners taking home more than \$600 on both Friday and Saturday

A huge thank-you to everyone who helped make the bonspiel run smoothly. The women’s league curlers kept the lounge tidy, acted as referees and timekeepers, managed the draw board, and handled all the behind-the-scenes details that keep an event moving. And of course, our bar staff kept spirits high and glasses full all weekend long.

| Event | Sponsor | First place | Runner-up |
|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A | Brewery Workers Union Local 308 | Team Fahselt | Team Beaudry |
| B | Sponsored by the Butterfly | Team Firman | Team Haberstock |
| C | Creston & District Credit Union | Team Gerrand | Team MacAulay |
| D | NuFloors – the Samuelsons | Team Melenchyck | Team Minichello |
| E | Cavell Street Dental Clinic | Team Czar | Team Salviulo |
| F | JC’s Self Storage | Team O’Connor | Team Wood |

Etiquette tip of the month:

When awaiting your turn, either to brush or throw, stand at or just behind the hog line, at the edge of the sheet, so as not to obscure the line of sight for other players.

New Season, New Voices: Consider Joining the Board

Our Annual General Meeting is coming up in September, but planning for next season starts long before then. Over the summer, your board will be meeting to prepare for registration, leagues, events, and everything else that keeps our club running smoothly.

This year, four board members will complete their two-year terms, and three long-serving members are retiring. Their current areas of responsibility include: **Registration & Leagues**, **Workshops & Bonspiels**, and **Marketing & Juniors**. Remember that our board roles aren’t fixed. New members aren’t elected to specific positions, and responsibilities can shift depending on your interests, skills, and the needs of the club. If you enjoy organizing, communicating, problem-solving, or simply want to help shape the future of curling in Creston, consider putting your name forward by emailing us at: crestoncurling@gmail.com. Fresh ideas and new perspectives make a big difference.

Fair Play: The Heart of Our Sport

One of the things I've always loved about curling is that it's a self-policing sport. We call our own infractions, we own our mistakes, and we treat each other with respect. In club play, there's no referee blowing a whistle or tossing a flag to stop the action. Even at bonspiels, officials are mainly there to help clarify the rules when something's unclear.

Curling Canada publishes the Rules of Curling, which our club—and every club in Canada—follows. Right at the front, they highlight the Curlers' Code of Ethics and a section on Fair Play. We shared the Code of Ethics in November. Now it's a good time to take a closer look at what our sport says about Fair Play.

From Rules of Curling—Fair Play:

- Fair Play begins with the strict observance of the written rule; however, in most cases, Fair Play involves something more than even unfailing observance of the written rule. The observance of

the spirit of the rules, whether written or unwritten, is important.

- Fair Play results from measuring up to one's own moral standards while engaged in competition.
- Fair Play is consistent demonstration of respect for teammates and opponents, whether they are winning or losing.
- Fair Play is consistent demonstration of respect for umpires, an acceptance of their decisions and a steadfast spirit of collaboration with them.
- Sportsmanlike behaviour should be demonstrated both on and off the ice. This includes modesty in victory and composure in defeat.

In a nutshell, as curlers we honour the spirit of the rules and we carry ourselves with integrity, humility, and sportsmanship on and off the ice.

Proud of our Special O Curlers



Our Special Olympics curling team travelled to Kelowna on the March 1 weekend for their first-ever qualifying event. They competed in the Region One and Two Qualifier for the BC Special Olympics Winter Games, which will be held next year.

Our athletes brought home 1st place in their division, winning all three of their games. Not only did they go three-for-three, they showed remarkable poise, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout their very first bonspiel.

This was also their first time competing without on-ice coaches—a big milestone for any of them. Their coaches and supporters couldn't be more proud of the effort, focus, and dedication each athlete showed.

Congratulations to our curlers:

Jonathan Robins (skip), Patrick Kusnir (third), Arthur Hager (second), and Janice Reid (lead). (Not in picture, Claire Lemaire who curled with the team in Creston through the year.)

A heartfelt thank-you to Head Coach Ed Hager, who worked tirelessly to make this year possible, and to Coach Diane Charrois, who has been supporting and training the team all season.

We are incredibly proud of our athletes and everything they achieved.

Strategy workshop



We wrapped up our series of curling workshops in late February with a final session focused on strategy. A big thank-you to Janet and Pete Plante, who guided us through offensive

and defensive play and how smart shot selection shapes both approaches.

We also dug deeper into line calling, reading the ice, and working together to get the best out of your team.

To cap things off, we headed onto the ice for a live demonstration of the drag effect—always a crowd-pleaser.

What would you like to explore next year? Send your ideas to crestoncurling@gmail.com.

In other news



After decades of curling, Duke Duprey threw his final rock last week. Duke had the honour of being our oldest active curler. We'll miss seeing you out on the ice, Duke, but we hope you'll still drop by the club. The door is always open for you.

**“No matter how many times your stone falls short, keep pushing forward.
Success in curling comes to those who never give up.”**

Rookie corner—Sweeping Tips for New Curlers

As a new curler, you'll most likely start in the front end, and a big part of that role is sweeping. You already know you should always be ready to sweep, but it can take time to learn *when* to sweep and *why* it matters.

Sweeping does two main things:

1. It helps the stone travel farther.

Pay attention to the weight of each shot. If a stone is light, start sweeping as soon as it's released to help carry it further. At the same time, call out that it's light so your skip can adjust and be ready with a Plan B.

2. It helps control the line.

If a stone is “tight”—thrown inside the broom—you may need to sweep early to keep it from over-curling. Your

skip will usually tell you if it's inside or outside the broom, either by calling or using hand or broom signals. Sweeping can also help the rock curl a little more.

Directional sweeping can influence the path, and while club curlers won't see the dramatic results elite sweepers get, even a centimetre of extra curl can be the difference between getting past a guard or ticking it.

No matter the shot, communication with your skip is essential. Learn to predict where the rock will finish and call it early—at release, at mid-ice, and again at the far hog line. The skip is in charge of the line, and your information helps them decide whether to hold the call or switch to Plan B.

Thank you volunteers for making it possible



"Volunteering is so pervasive it's invisible. We take for granted all the things that have been pioneered by concerned, active volunteers."

Susan J. Ellis

Volunteers are the heartbeat of our club. Without you we would have no bonspiels, no workshops, no special programmes, and really: no curling at all. Thank you to everyone who contributes their time so we can keep curling.

In the last newsletter, we acknowledged all the sponsors and volunteers for the Bothomley and today we thank everyone else. If I've missed you, know that we thank you too.

THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU

Bar

Andrea Hopkins
Gary Wilson
Jen
Kayla Ducharme
Kim Wilson
Penny Sharp
Roxanne

Dawn Joy
Dawn Speaker
Dean & Noah Eastman
Denise Jaeger
Diane Charrois
Don Warner
Elaine Shunter
Gary Wilson
Greg Terrill

Nelson Hilger
Pete Plante
Sandy Thompson
Scott Pemberton
Sydnee Bayliss
Sylvia Main
Ted Hutchinson
Terry Jaeger
Terry O'Connor

Gary Wilson
Kim Wilson
Lynda Stewart
Ross Gowan

Bonspiels

Andrea Hopkins
Avis Hutchinson
Brad Christenson
Brad Dreher
Brenda Gomes
Carmen Lunn
Carol Thompson & team
Carolyn Hawton
Colleen Hedlund
Courtney Truscott & team
Dale Moberg

Harold Kindopp
Jamie Vigne & team
Jim Stewart
Joan Fahselt
Kellie Bibby
Kelly Moberg
Laurie Heald
Marla Dreher
Mel Joy
Melissa McInnis
Mike Joy
Nancy Woods

Ice, Installing and adjusting the cameras, other maintenance

Erich Gross
Woody Duncalfe
Richard Kasperski
Ted Hutchinson
Terry O'Connor
Bob Lunn
Pete Plante

Centennial Committee

Carol Thompson

Special O

Corinne Lemaire
Diane Charrois
Ed Hager
Maurice Robins

Junior programme

Foster Harris
Hilary Hager
Kelly Benko
Melisa McInnis

Youth programme

Brenda Gomes
Dale/Kelly Moberg
Diane Thiesen
Doreen Ralston
Gary Wilson

Glen Kinder

Judy Tegart

Kerri Roberts

Mike Kennedy

Norm Fahselt

Richard Kasperski

Sylvia Main

Terry O'Connor

Wind-up Banquet

Colleen Hedlund

Diane Charrois

Kim Wilson

Lorraine Rix

Lynda Stewart

Workshops

Brenda Gomes

Foster Harris

Gary Wilson

Janet Plante

Kathy Sommerfeld

Kelly Benko

Nelson Hilger

Pete Plante

Special thanks to

• Josh Firman

• Melissa Beaton

• Tammy Bradford

- All kitchen staff and many volunteers who bussed tables, ran the dishwasher, helped with ice, clean up, registration, score keeping and generally made the events successful.

Our bonspiel sponsors—supporting our curlers!

Along with the many volunteers from the club, we rely on so many local businesses and Individuals who sponsor our bonspiels.

Valentine's

Save-On-Foods

Creston District Credit Union

Macaulay Forestry Ltd

Pyramid Building Supplies

J.H. Huscroft Ltd

Cavell Street Dental

Activity Base

Creston Valley Funeral Home

Kevin and Colleen Hedlund

Kokanee Ford

Pealows Your Independent Grocer

Wild North Brewing Co.

Wild Chicken

S.O.P Heroes

Wlokas

Pealows

Kootenay Vape Store

Save-on Foods

TB Contracting

Romanos Runaway Lanes

Kiana Kleine

Hill Built Repair & Fabrication

Aardvark Electric

Heather Wellspring

Julios Lounge

Kelly Kemle

Butterfly

Save On

Interior Brewery Workers

Creston & District Credit Union

JC Storage

Nufloors Creston

Cavell St Dental Clinic

Wild North Brewing Co.

Columbia Brewery

Ghost Valley Cabins and

Campground (Kerri and Dan Roberts)

League standings

Congratulations to all the curlers this year. We're all winners when we come and share the ice, the laughs, and the small moments that make our leagues feel like a true community.

What makes our league special isn't just the final scores—it's the steady turnout each week, the willingness to spare when someone's short a player, the friendly ribbing, the post-game handshakes, and the sense that every team, no matter the standings, contributes to the heartbeat of the club.

But of course, a special congratulations to the top teams in our leagues!

Fall leagues

| League | First place | Second place |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Monday Open League | Ducharme (19) | Firman (16) |
| Sturling League | Plante/Jaeger (14) | Jenson/DeJong (12) |
| Doubles League | Kinder/Pavlis (13) | Minshall/Hilger (13) |
| Ladies' League | Gomes (12) | Fahselt (12) |
| Men's League | Firman (18) | Ducharme (15) |
| Senior Men's League | Ralston (21) | Wilson (21) |
| Friday Social League | Hedlund (18) | Jaeger (16) |

Winter leagues

| League | First place | Second place |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday Open League | Plante (19) | Wilson (15) |
| Sturling League | Allan/Thompson (16) | Jenson/DeJong (15) |
| Doubles League | Kasperski/O'Connor (17) | Hilger/Minshall, Wilson (tied—14) |
| Ladies' League | Plante (16) | Wilson (13) |
| Men's League | Czar, Ducharme (tied—18) | Firman (16) |
| Senior Men's League | Wilson (24) | Jones (22) |
| Friday Social League | Hedlund, (15) | Macaulay, Roberts (tied-13) |

DID YOU KNOW

We have commemorative centennial pins (\$5) and beverage glasses (\$10) for sale. Email us at crestoncurling@gmail.com to arrange to purchase yours.

We had another couple Creston teams winning out-of-town bonspiel Events. Congratulations:

- Castlegar Barbee Bonspiel C Event winners: Marla Dreher, Sandy Thompson, Andrea Hopkins, and Nikki Skuban-Stadnyk
- Roseville California's Barrel Bonspiel A Event winners: David Betts, Chris Skidmore, Nelson Hilger, and Eric Putnam

We're always looking for volunteers to help keep things moving. When you register, you can let us know if you would be interested in helping out. We especially need extra help with the school groups who come to learn to curl.