

# Between the Sheets



## SUNOVA CLASSIC AGAIN A HIT



While the Sunova Classic, the Manitoba Curling Tour's stop in Beausejour, proved somewhat disappointing in terms of teams participating, that was more than overcome by the entertainment value and quality of play offered throughout the bonspiel. Regrettably due to a lack of men's entries, we were obliged to proceed with only the women's teams in this bonspiel. Those twelve teams, however, made the event a spectacle well worth taking in. Game after game went down to the last shot, and featured a number of amazing come-from-behind victories. While there were a few teams of well-known veterans, the bonspiel clearly belonged to the "young guns". The eventual winner was the Vandepoele team from Ste. Anne (featuring Beausejour's own Selena Kaatz throwing skip's rocks). A perfectly placed guard enabled them to steal on the final end for a thrilling 5-4 win over the Boettcher rink of West St. Paul to take home the \$2000 first prize. Perhaps even more impressive was Selena's game winning shot from the game before in which a gutsy double-raise tap to the four-foot secured a win against Barb Spencer. The semi-finalists were another couple of young teams, the Montford rink from Assinboine Memorial and the Konzelman team from Elmwood.

A well-deserved thanks goes to all those who contributed to the success of the bonspiel: our sponsors Sunova Credit Union, Thrifty Car Wash and the Beausejour Co-op; Dennis Adams for his long hours in providing the competitors with fantastic ice-conditions; and bonspiel coordinators Megan Younghusband and Doug May for fulfilling the thousands of tasks required behind the scenes (not to mention Doug taking up residency at the curling club for the week-end) to make an event, such as this, a success. Our thanks to all of you. Below is a photo of the Vandepoele rink accepting their first-place cheque.



### AFTER SCHOOL CURLING PROGRAM

Several dedicated parents are working hard trying to keep the After-School program going for this season, but finding a head coach to replace Roger Bates has proven a major stumbling block. Thus, Susan Yusishen would like to pass the following plea to the members.

"We have an urgent appeal for a coach for the after-school program. Commitment is Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:15 and assistant coaches will be there to help. Level 1 coaching certificate preferred. Interested parties should contact Deb (268-3993), Karen (265-3572) or Susan (265-3357). If no head coach is found, the after school program may not run this year which would be a real shame as it has been the starting ground for many of the teams who are now entering the adult leagues."

So if you any of you could give a couple of hours of your time on Wednesday afternoons (or you know of someone who might be interested), could you please give one of the three individuals indicated above a call?

### CURLING CLUB WEBSITE

The BCC website has long been a dependable source of valuable information related to our curling club...from league schedules to bonspiel dates and contacts. So there was understandable outrage when suddenly our website was no longer accessible. After some investigation, we determined that, without notifying anyone on our Board, the CCA abruptly withdrew its website hosting service, leaving the public with no access to the website. Fortunately, a new provider has now been found to host our website and it should be up and running by the time you read this. But we now have a slight change in the URL needed to access the website. The new one is:

[www.beausejourcurlingclub.ca](http://www.beausejourcurlingclub.ca). The sharp-eyed among you will note that the "dot" has now been removed from between "beausejour" and "curlingclub". Webmaster Andy Taylor has updated all the relevant information, and so drop by to find out about all things curling in Beausejour.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



We would like to thank two additional local businesses that have stepped forward to sponsor our cameras and monitors project. Wojcik's Funeral Chapel (Richard Wojcik) has provided a \$1000 sponsorship and Country Auctions (Jack Kowalchuk) has provided a \$500 sponsorship. Thanks to both of them for their generous support. They are acknowledged with decals promoting their firms in front of the house at the "away" end.

The Beausejour Curling Club has been awarded the opportunity to host the Safeway Southern Berth Bonspiel next October. This is a terrific opportunity for us to showcase our club, as many of the province's top men's teams will be competing for a berth in the 2011 Safeway Select provincial championship. Please help out with this event if you are called on, as it will take the efforts of the entire club to make this the success we know it can be.

In the interests of building a social atmosphere within our club, we are encouraging each winning team to buy their losing counterparts a post-game beverage (ie. winning lead buys losing lead a drink etc.). By enjoying a post-game drink with your

opponents it provides newcomers and veterans alike the opportunity to build relationships with fellow club members. As you're talking about your family, your job, where you grew up etc., it's amazing the amount you may find you have in common...like you both dated the same high-school cheerleader or quarterback. Let's give it a try.

## OLYMPIC BOUND

The excitement builds as top curling teams from across the country vie to become Canada's entry in the Vancouver Olympics in February. What's different this year is that a Beausejour Curling Club team is very much in the running for that much-sought-after honour. Yes, the Jason Gunnlaugson team, featuring Beausejour's own Justin Richter at third, has qualified for the Olympic Pre-Trials event held in Prince George the second week of November. There they will compete with the Stoughtons, Burtnyks and Gushues of the curling world, as the top four rinks out of the twelve competing will go on to challenge the four teams already qualified at the Olympic Trials to select Canada's Olympic representative. So this is a huge accomplishment!

It is only fitting that the Beausejour Curling Club let our guys know that we are really proud of them and want to wish them well at the Pre-Trials. Thus, on Friday evening November 6 all BCC and community members are invited to join the Gunnlaugson team to give them a rousing send-off. Just drop by anytime that evening between 8 and 10 and let the boys know that we are all behind them. Not sure that you would recognize our pre-Olympic competitors from among the throngs of athletic-looking BCC members? Well, below is a photo of the team riding the Curling Club float in this year's rodeo parade.



## WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

If there is one trait that all curlers share, it is their ability to justify their failure to make a routine shot at a critical juncture as being the result of circumstances beyond their control, rather than their own flawed eye-hand co-ordination. Each month we will select one of the more creative excuses that come to our attention. The best one we've heard early in this curling season is the curling equivalent of "I lost that pop fly in the sun." The one we like is, "The skip's broom handle was too dark." This excuse seems to overlook the point that you should be aiming at the base of the broom itself, which is about 8" in width. Anyone who can't view a target of that size has more pressing issues than the hue of a broom handle...for them I would recommend an immediate evaluation by our curling optometrist, Lorne Ryall. So there it is for this month, but keep those ridiculous excuses pouring in.

## EIGHT IS (MORE THAN) ENOUGH

Of course, we all know that a hole-in-one is the pinnacle of golfing excellence. But curling has its own standard of exceptional merit...the sought-after eight-ender. But unlike its golfing counterpart, such an achievement requires not only an exceptional skill level by the successful team, but a remarkable degree of cooperation on the part of one's opponents. As rare

as this accomplishment is, Dawn Compton's rink of sharpshooters (Dawn Compton, Brigette Goertzen, Darla Armstrong and Sue Mackenzie) achieved just that in their first night of curling in the Wednesday Ladies' league. As a result of their deadly draw weight, shot after shot found its way into the rings, while their opponents, found a way for their rocks to weave through the gauntlet of Compton rocks without displacing a single one of them. In deference to the self-esteem of the victims of this feat, that team shall remain anonymous. But I am told that Lydia Ewasko is encouraging each member of her team to attend next Monday evening's practise session.

## VIEW FROM THE LOUNGE



We are pleased to have a number of new curlers join us this year...it's great to have some fresh faces, not to mention some fresh stories as us "old-timers" tend to rehash the same old ones year after year. To keep those fresh faces returning, however, it's important to make them feel welcome and not leave them wondering what the heck they got themselves into. So this month I will offer my thoughts on what NOT to do to help our newcomers find a home here at our curling club.

First, don't hit that new curler on your team up for a loan...or at least not for the first few weeks until you have assessed his or her financial wherewithal on the basis of the quality of their curling apparel and the thickness of their wallet. Of course it is good form to permit the new arrival to buy the first few rounds of drinks for the team to facilitate their full acceptance as a team member. But if you notice your new team member standing outside the post office playing the harmonica for donations of spare change, it might be an idea to demonstrate your concern for them by providing him or her with some post-game refreshment every now and then.

Secondly, it is decidedly bad form to roll around on the ice in laughter as your new team member contorts him/herself like a pretzel while trying to deliver the first rock of her/his curling career. Much preferable would be a few words of sage advice, such as pointing out that the path of their rock is likely to run straighter if it does not ricochet off their foot in the midst of delivery. This type of respectful etiquette will pay dividends once the newcomer figures out the intricacies of the game by the fourth end and are making come-around draws that you could never hope to replicate using your patented knee slide and cross-fire delivery.

While it is natural for the new curler on your team to want to provide a few favours to us old-timers in the interest of bonding with the rest of the team, it is inadvisable to take advantage of their eagerness. Of course it is perfectly acceptable to integrate the new curlers by asking them to drive you to the curling rink (provided you don't live more than 10 miles away) or to have him or her carry the brooms and curling shoes for the rest of the team from their vehicle to the locker room. Expecting them to clear the snow from your walk to enable you to trudge to their waiting vehicle unimpeded or to polish your curling shoes in advance of each game, however, may be pushing the envelope just a trifle. Should you request such services from them, it will be absolutely essential that you acknowledge their efforts with a few words of encouragement and a pat on the shoulder.

So hopefully these few tips will alert you to things to avoid to ensure that your new team-member thoroughly enjoys their first curling experience at our club and will remain with us for many years to come...provided their back doesn't give out from hauling around their team-mates curling equipment. Until next month.