

FACILITY REPORT

Over the summer the brine headers have been replaced by our contractor, CIMCO Refrigeration. The headers are two 5-inch pipes that run the width of the rink at the south end and distribute and collect the chilled brine that runs through 103 loops under the concrete floor. It was the failure of the connection of one of these loops to a header that almost cost us our ice as the season was starting last October. The old headers were 45-year old PVC plastic pipe, and the Board last year approved their replacement with new steel pipe.



To prepare for the installation of the new equipment we had a lot of work to do. First we had a hazardous waste company pump accumulated paint sludge from the trench under the boards, then we removed a rotten 45-year old wooden crib (picture above) that had formed the floor and back of the trench, we flushed and cleaned all 103 brine loops to remove sediment that reduced the efficiency of the ice plant and actually caused soft ice last year on sheet C, and we had a concrete floor poured in the trench (picture left). After the installation of the headers by CIMCO staff we had to rebuild the wooden

structure that hold the covers over the trench, and at the time of writing we are waiting for new carpet to be installed on the covers to complete the project.

The system has been refilled with brine, and the pump has been circulating brine to purge air from the lines. Everything looks good at this point. The current plan is to start the ice plant on September 19.

A number of members volunteered their labour and helped keep the overall cost of the project well within the \$10,000 estimate presented to the May AGM (for work required beyond the CIMCO contract). Among those wielding shovels and hammers were George Dixon, Jim McCreary, Geoff Barley, Jim Sinclair, Ken Languay, Dave Drummond, and Larry Broughton. Thanks also to Rob Martin for technical advice and for helping arrange contractors.



MIDLAND CURLING CLUB

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We are getting ready for the new season, our 92nd in the grand old building that has been home since the Club was founded in 1919. As I read Edythe Clark's history of our Club on our website it struck me again how much the nature of the game has changed over that time. When the Club was founded the game was played only by men, and in the 1940's women first played in their own league. Today we have curlers from 8 years to 85 playing in fun leagues, competitive leagues, open and mixed leagues, a youth league, and a special needs league. Our game has adapted itself to changing times!

Welcome back to returning members. Be sure to check inside for news about Day Curling and a new Tuesday evening open league - and for the technically minded, read about our major summer project on the back. And remember to bring a friend or neighbour along to registration night!

If you are not yet a member of our Club, we invite you to drop in to one of the registration nights (below) to talk to us, or check our website for more information. Curling is a great way to help pass a North Simcoe winter, and we would love to have you join us for the sport, the fun, and the new friends you will make.

Geoff Barley, President

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REGISTRATION NIGHTS FOR THE 2011 - 2012 SEASON

Please join us on **Monday, September 19** and **Tuesday, September 20** from 7:00 to 9:00 PM to enjoy a glass of wine, talk to league representatives, and meet your curling friends. One copy of the registration form is enclosed, and you can print additional copies from our website.

Registration forms and payment can also be mailed, or dropped into the Club office mornings after September 12.

EVENING LEAGUES

Monday Men's: This is an entry-level competitive league for male curlers of all experience levels. The league offers 3 sessions of curling, and each session new teams are formed based on skill level, balancing each team for fairness.

****NEW** Tuesday Open:** The Tuesday league is changing from women-only to an open league for men and women, with weekly play on an early draw. This will be a novice- to intermediate-level league - more competitive than Friday Mixed but less than Thursday PYOT. You may put together your own team (skip's choice) or be matched with other curlers on a team.

Thursday Pick-Your-Own-Team (PYOT): The PYOT League is the most competitive of the evening leagues, with no restrictions applied to the make up of the teams. This league employs the flight system in order to maintain the competitive spirit across all levels of ability. Registration is by team, but individual curlers may register and will be matched with teams if positions are available. (Registration will be limited to the first 22 teams, and full team payment is required for registration.)

Friday Mixed: The Mixed league is extremely popular within the club. Both individuals and couples register for this league and new teams, usually two women and two men, are formed three times during the season. The emphasis is on fun, recreational curling as members unwind at the end of a work week. The Mixed league uniquely combines men and women, novice and skilled curlers on a night when social aspects of curling prevail over competition. (Registration will be limited to the first 92 curlers.)

Watch the web for information on coaching and clinics.

YOUTH CURLING

Sunday morning, 9 to 11 AM, is a busy time at the Club as the Youth League takes to the ice. There are 3 age divisions:

- Little Rocks (8 to 12)
- Bantam Boys/Girls (12 to 16)
- Junior Mens/Womens (17 to 20)

The league focuses on skills development with qualified on-ice instruction and coaching, and gives the youth the opportunity to play toward a spot in the Club's year end Right to Brag Spiel.

Junior members can also play in evening leagues, and in April it was fun to see two of our Junior men playing on the Monday Men's teams in the Right to Brag.

CURL MORE !!

Curling in a second league costs **just \$100** more than the basic one-league adult membership, and an all-league member pays **just \$40** more on top of that. Extra leagues are great value!

Paid Spares: Interested in curling in an additional league but can't commit to play every week? Or in playing for a variety of teams in a league? Consider signing up as a paid spare. Paid spares are given priority when teams have an open position and can curl as often as they are called.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Club has a part-time paid position open for a **Business Administrator**. There is a job description posted on the website and on the Club bulletin board.

DAY LEAGUE CURLING ...

... is open to **all adult members**. The league now invites all adult members to join them for Tuesday and Thursday daytime curling. With a tag draw format for setting teams each day members have the flexibility to curl as their schedules permit.

Curling Passes: This year Day League curlers have another membership option. Instead of paying for a full-year membership you can choose to play on curling passes. Sold in books of 5 passes, each pass is good for one game. There is a signup fee of \$50 for curlers interested in using passes, and each book of 5 passes then costs \$60. (These prices include HST and OCA fee. Curling passes are non-transferable and non-refundable. Some conditions apply)

Clinics: We will be running two clinics this season. Please sign up on the registration nights.

- New Curler Clinic (beginners only): Oct. 11 - Oct. 13, 9:00 – 12:00, Lana Lyons will cover the basics you need to know to get on the ice and enjoy curling. This clinic will include classroom and on ice instruction. There is no charge for this clinic.
- Experienced Curler Clinic: Oct. 12 or Oct. 13 (two separate clinics) 9:00 – 12:00, \$25.00 per person, Sherry Middaugh will cover stretching and warm up exercises, deliveries, curling drills, brushing, game strategies. This clinic will be both on ice and in the classroom.

NEW MEMBER OFFER

Members who are new to the Club, or members returning to the Club after an absence of at least three years (past members whose last season was 2007-2008 or earlier) are entitled to a discount on their dues. For new adult members the discount is \$186, bringing the cost of a one league membership down to **just \$199** (HST and OCA fee included). For new youth and junior members the discount is \$52, dropping the cost of curling to just \$52 for Sunday youth curling or \$83 for a junior curler playing one evening league.

Members: Enclosed are two referral slips. Give one to someone you think would enjoy curling - but be sure to write your name on the slip first. There will be some prizes awarded by random draw of the slips that come in on registration night! **Word of mouth is our best form of advertising - please help spread the word!**



VOLUNTEERS

Our Club is fortunate to be able to pay contract staff for some of the important chores - Bryan is back making our ice and Colleen is again managing the house - but we also depend on volunteers for a lot of what keeps the place going.

This year we are asking, on the back of the registration form, that you tell us about skills or interests you might be willing to volunteer to the club. Your Board (we are all volunteers!) requests that you give this question some thought when you complete your form.