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THE PEOPLE WHO HELP: Your GMCA Executive 2013-14

Grant Marshall (President) Jack Campbell (Treasurer) Lynanne Smith (VP Activities) Dan Eakins (Secretary) Oleene Herman (VP Communications & Retention) Frank Kickbush (VP Recruitment & Advertising/Promotion)	Julia White (Day Ladies' League) Brian Nyberg (Men's League) Karen Nicolson (Tuesday Night Ladies' League) Brian Crossley (Wednesday Night Mixed League) Ray Johnson (Friday Night Mixed League)
Lawrence Woytowich (Senior Competitive League + Curl BC South Island + PCMCA South Island Director + BC Senior Games Zone 1 + Canada Senior Games BC Liaison Coordinator) Lynn Wilson (Juniors' League and Junior Development) Dorothy Wright (Stick League)	Stan Hegstrom (Masters League) Paul Addison Governor at Large for Curl BC, Bob Donaldson Director of Novice League Web master, Bob Bendall Marilynne Miles Gray (Rock Talk Editor)



LEAGUE REPORTS -- GMCA Special items – Noted in red in the following text.

Mon & Thurs Men's: Monday Men's has 8 teams and Thursday Men's has 6 teams. The league has lost some long-time curlers from both nights, continuing the trend from recent years. However, two new teams have joined the league. The season has gotten off to a good start with no problems or issues raised so far. Discussions have been initiated about trying a new format for the Thursday league, similar to the rotating team/draw system used by the Masters League. The hope is that a new format would generate more social interaction and enthusiasm



within the league. The league will discuss the idea further and possibly give it a try later this curling season.

Juniors: There are 23 juniors in the league, 4 being new this year. Thanks to Accent Refrigeration, which donated funds to pay the annual fees for one of the 4 new curlers. A draw was conducted and Abigale Simard was the winner. There was a Junior's Cash Spiel in November in Esquimalt and that our Juniors entered one team in the event.

Competitive: The league has enjoyed the benefit of being full and competition this year has been better than ever. As usual, GMCA teams seem to be entering all the spiels and doing well.

Day Ladies: All is going well. They entered 5 teams in the Ladies Interclub and basically "won everything". The Interclub was a success, with 4 days of curling two games per day.



Masters: There were 20 teams in the League's first draw of 12 games. All is going well so far. Jack (Masters' Drawmaster) reported that it looks as if the number of teams will remain at 20, four below previous years.

Wednesday Mixed: This League has 7 teams. An eighth team would be fantastic to add to the group. The Mixed Bonspiel is in the planning stages. The goal will be to look for 24 teams with a three-event draw. The Friday Night Mixed League has been asked to participate more in the event this year since the Wednesday League is down in numbers. Friday and Wednesday directors are liaising with one another to get teams to play against Bye teams. Wednesday league will consider the rotating team/draw system used by the Masters League in an attempt to attract more curlers.

Friday Mixed: The league started with 11 teams for the first week with another team joining since play began.

Sunday/Novice: Nine novices playing on Sundays and 5 more novice ladies playing on Wednesday (as they cannot attend on Sundays). The standard of play is good: "*novices can hold their own in other leagues*".

Stick: There are not enough stick curlers to form a league yet. **UNDER CONSIDERATION:** Stick Bonspiel similar to the one held last curling season. Let us know if you're interested.

Ice Conditions and Reporting: We are still experiencing poor ice conditions as compared to the other rinks in the Greater Victoria area. At the recent Ladies Bonspiel, the curlers submitted written assessments of the ice, which were "wholeheartedly negative". GMCA submitted a letter to GM Office with copies of the Ladies' assessments. This resulted in an apology from Jo-Anne but with no plan for improvement. As the GM Office staff is on an equal partnership basis with the Ice-making staff, they have no authority over the Ice-makers. Leagues will continue to do more reporting on the ice conditions. **ICE CONDITION REPORTS:** All League Directors are to ensure ice condition reports are filled in and reported regularly.



Jitney: The Jitney event was a fantastic success with 32 teams participating. Thanks to Bill Tschihart who proposed the event and provided all the unique and quality prizes. UPCOMING Another such event is being considered for 2014. Prize donations encouraged.

Ladies Viva Las Vegas Bonspiel Report: The Ladies bonspiel was an outstanding success. There were 23 teams in the event which included many Away Teams, including teams from Seattle, the Mainland and up Island. The Las Vegas theme was well appreciated by participants and the meal was excellent. Some lessons were learned which will be applied to next year's bonspiel.

Brian Boychuck used the Ladies Bonspiel as an example to set up a programme for a 24-team draw format.

Sponsors and In Ice Logos: GMCA has five Partner Level sponsors and two Friendship Level sponsors.

Curl BC Report: Lawrence explained that Dorothy Wright is the Curl BC Regional Treasurer and cannot also be the GM Curl BC representative.

PCMCA: There will be an Over-80's playdown in PCMCA this year, possibly held at Glen Meadows.

Web Site: The plan is to standardize the format for league input. Everyone needs to participate (submit information) if the site is to remain up to date. GMCA updates should be sent to Webmaster, Bob Bendall who has a form explaining the procedure for making changes to the web site. .

- Do you visit GMCA site at least once a week?
- If "yes", what are you looking for?
- What would you like to see on GMCA site?

To help use our scarce resources, a survey may go out to members asking questions such as:

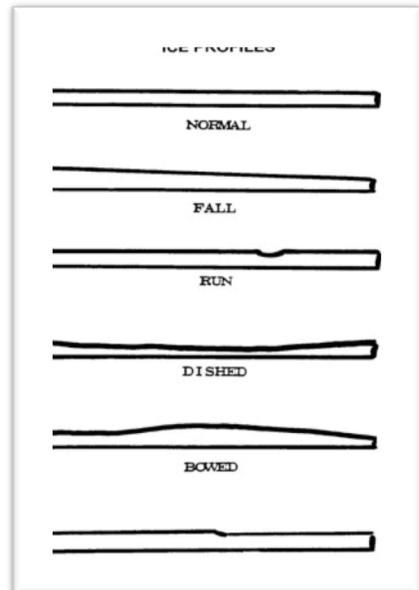
Quick Quiz: How much does it cost to curl in San Francisco?

See answer on last page.



Word of the day: Ice profiles

Unlike skating ice, curling ice is pebbled, which means it has been sprayed with water droplets to increase the friction of the stone against





the ice. This friction, together with the spin imparted by the shot, is what causes the stone to turn, or 'curl.' The combination of pebbling, ice temperature, air temperature, and how previous rocks have been played creates a unique and constantly changing set of conditions that will alter how a stone has to be delivered and the tactics of each team. For example, on heavy ice, it is more difficult to dislodge rocks from the house than on keen ice.

Four main types of ice conditions.

Heavy ice requires more than the usual weight to deliver the stone to its desired destination, while **keen ice** requires less. On **swingy ice** the rock will often curl more than expected, while on **straight ice** the rock doesn't curl much at all. It is common for ice to become keener in the later ends of a game, as rocks and brooms gradually erode away the pebbles and create a slicker surface. However, exactly the same actions can create heavy ice where the air temperature is above freezing.



As the pebble on the ice erodes and is worn away during game play, other ice conditions may develop that can affect play. **Dips and troughs** in the playing surface can create runs, preventing a stone from curling or otherwise affecting its intended path. Part of the curling sheet may even become sloped, a condition known as a **fall**. For these reasons, it is common to add new layers of pebbling during breaks in play. Between matches, the ice is scraped flat, then pebbling is applied anew. [Source: sprotinglife360.com]

Do you know?

What do GMCA Clinics cover/review?

If you know AND attended, you wouldn't be in a fix like the Canadians pictured above (at the Continental Cup). Here's what you missed if you didn't sign up for the 2013 early-season event. One (of the many great activities) session covered *The 5 Delivery Components*. 1. balance 2. alignment 3. timing 4. power 5. release GMCA Clinics are top quality and all delivered by volunteers. Be on the watch for future Clinics.



Were you correct?

If you had taken the GMCA Olympic Informal survey weeks ago, you'd have predicted who'd represent Canada + win curling gold at the Olympics

Trivia Quiz answer: How much does it cost to curl in San Francisco?

Quora search interface showing a question and an answer by Emily Knutson. The answer lists curling rinks in the San Francisco Bay Area: Sharks Ice at San Jose, Sharks Ice at Fremont, and Oakland Ice Center. It also mentions lesson pricing: usually 5 week segments - The price for lessons is typically about \$20 - \$30 per 2 hour session (e.g., \$125 for a 5 week series).

Facebook post titled 'IT'S YOUR! Call' with a 'Latest' dropdown and a 'log in' link. The post contains several comments: 'Jones and Martin are my choice but really does it matter Canada has the gold in Sochi regardless who plays GO CANADA', 'Let's go Team Balsdon!!!!', 'GO JENNIFER JONES!!!!!!!!!!!! WINNIPEG WILL BE LOUD N PROUD BEHIND YOU! Only as Winnipeg does for sporting events! Ill cheer Stoutghen or Martin for mens', and 'Canada always seems to send at least one curling rink to the Olympics that hasn't won either the Brier or the Scott. Mike Harris in 1998. Brad Gushue in 2006. Cheryl Bernard in 2010. The exception was 2002. So, if that trend continues, I would guess that McEwan will be the one to do that this year. The rosters of the Road to the Roar, especially on the women's side, seem to really lack depth. I'd pick Jacobs and Menard to come out on the men's side and Holland and Sonnenberg on the women's side.'

Another 2013 Season review - 2013 Interclub Winners

<p>A - winners Skip: Kay Richards Vice: Flo Scott 2nd: Sharon Oates Lead: Susan Ikeda</p>	
<p>B - 4th place Skip: Jan Addison Vice: Tara Houle 2nd: JoAnne Bilodeau Lead: Jackie Day</p>	<p>C - 3rd place Skip: Connie Moffat Vice: Barb Donbrook 2nd: Barb Naylor Lead: Denise Irwin</p>
<p>C - 4th Skip: Lesley Milligan Vice: Kathy Nelson 2nd: Barb Carr Lead: Lesley Pike</p>	<p>D - 2nd place Skip: Julia White Vice: Judy Scott 2nd: Lois Clarkson Lead: Iris Fowler</p>



It's in the "House Rules"

GMCA games played using the "buzzer" system (for instance the Day Ladies) are asking:

Q: "When the buzzer sounds, how many ends can be played?"

A: If, for example, it's the 6th end, and the first rock of that end has been released by the first player in the hack, that end (6) and one more (7) can be played, should the buzzer sound.

If, for example, it is the seventh end, and the first rock of that end has **NOT** been released by the first player in the hack, only that end (7) can be played, should the buzzer be sounded. The 8th end can not be played.



What's the most often **broken** curling rules?

An informal survey of experienced, long-time GMCA players reports: It's the **sweeping!**

Ugly Scenario: Player ABC is waiting for Team XYZ's rock as it glides into the house. Broom at the ready and poised for action. It's a beauty of a shot! XYZ's rock approaches the edge of the 12 foot, slowing down as it comes towards the button...

Player ABC madly sweeps the ice on and behind the button, before the rock reaches the tee line, hoping to move the rock just a smidge...

Tsk. Tsk.

Here's the rule folks in case you'd forgotten or have decided to ignore it:

• 11. Sweeping

(7) An opponent's moving stone shall not be swept **until** the front end of the stone reaches the farther tee line and sweeping shall only take place behind the tee line.

Translation:

- Don't sweep in advance of the stone to "warm up" the ice. It's a no-no. But there are GMCA players who break this rule.
- Wait until the front edge of the moving rock touches the tee line, then do your sweeping.
- The rules also say: Behind the tee line at the playing end, only one player from each team may sweep at any time. This may be any player of the delivering team, but only the skip or 3rd / VS of the non-delivering team.

Rock Talk is the occasional Newsletter of Glen Meadows Curling Association playing out of GM Curling Centre on the Saanich Peninsula, Vancouver Island.

Thanks to all those who generously contributed review time, photos, email updates, and material, for this and all issues. Players, coaches, organizers, volunteers of all sorts, we haven't forgotten you. If it weren't for you, we wouldn't be here.

Do visit our website to keep up to date on all our activities and to see back issues of *Rock Talk*.

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