# The Back Back

Official newsletter of the Fergus Curling Club, the oldest continuous curling club in Ontario since 1834

September 2021

### What's going on here?

#### Club Executive

#### President

Calum McGeachie president@ferguscurlingclub

## Vice-President

John Ferguson

#### Past-President

Bonnie Talbot

#### Treasurer

Steve Graham

#### Secretary

Deb Wilson

#### Club Directors

Dale Beirnes

Richard Booy

John Ferguson

Brian Gibbon

Bob Grant

Bob Hook

Chris Taylor

David Aoki Special Covid-19 advisor

#### Newsletter

Bill Longshaw blong@sentex.net



For those who were wondering what was being done in front the club well the word is out. Apparently there had been some issues with the sanitary sewers in that block and we were not immune to the problems so the town fathers decided to rip up the street to replace the system. Hope fully that will take us through many more years in our cub.

Well folks get out your curling gear, dust it off and start planning your games. We are planning on full curling this year with some restrictions in place this fall. The exact date and what restriction will be coming soon so stay tuned. We welcome back all our members and we know there others who want to join in our beautiful game.

www.ferguscurling.ca





# PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIRED FOR ENTRY

One thing we have to do and our executive is adamant on this is to show proof of double vaccination when you register before being approved for membership this year. We all know this is because old Mr. Covid-19 is still around and will

attack us if we don't protect ourselves. Our clubrooms will have a specific flow of traffic as to where people can walk and where they can't. Bonspiels will be handled in much the same way. Yes bonspiels are on the horizon once again but to enter a spiel we will have to pay the entry fee by credit card on line before the event and provision for this will be available on line when registering. There will be a policy that will need to be adhered to in the lounge, locker rooms, bar, ice surface and bathrooms so please do the right thing and stick to them.

Our webmaster extraordinaire George Loney will be doing a lot of work on the website as you may expect. Some things will be different, you will see a place where and when you can volunteer, your game schedule and who you will be playing, your teams score and much more we presume.





Plastic cups will be back to eliminate washing glasses and the possibility of spreading covid. Perhaps we could set up a game called Beer Pong.

# Ladies curling at Rideau Curling Club



# One of the bad boys of curling



In an era when most curlers were clean cut and shaven, Calgary's Paul Gowsell was the complete opposite.

Gowsell regularly wore plaid pants with messy hair and a full beard. Combined with a bigger than life personality, the skip was known as the "rebel of curling" during his playing days in the 1970s and 1980s.

Two-time Brier champ Hec Gervais once said that "with a shave and two haircuts, he'd be all right."

Gowsell used to drive from bonspiel to

bonspiel in an old, beat up Chrysler van and had no problem with staying up late after games to have a good time. Gowsell famously earned the nickname "Pizza Paul" when he ordered a pizza during a live game while playing in a bonspiel in Regina. As the legend goes, Gowsell's team won the game when his opponent's last rock picked on a black olive from the pizza.

Gowsell was the first skip to win two world junior championships (1976 and 1978) and made one career Brier appearance in 1980, losing to Northern Ontario's Al Hackner in the semi-final. His team was one of the first to use push brooms, completely altering the sweeping methods of the roaring game.



Our bar will have a few changes also. For those tending bar there will be a new system set up to track our inventory. We will be able to accept debt cards so we can minimize money changing hands and thus the possibility of spreading covid. And yes we will be going back to plastic cups to eliminate the spread.

# Home practice













Tips to keep Curlers in peak condition

Drink

Yell

Analyze

Inink about the last time you lost a game in the last end, and mult to over for the evening to keep the blood boiling. (also burns calories)

Sweep the floors/driveway/sidewalk/walls to keep core muscles activated (in 30 second intervals to mimic sheet length).

Watch Armchair curling: Watch curling game re-runs to make sure you still know more about strategy than Olympic level athletes.

Have a virtual drink with the team to complain about the recent team line up changes announced and work out the arm muscles.

When you see people walk by your house, yell "Hurry!" and see if they walk faster to test out your skip skills.

# Vagaries of English Language!

Why isn't a Fireman called a Water-man?

How come Lipstick doesn't do what it says?

If money doesn't grow on trees, how come Banks have Branches?

If a Vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a Humanitarian eat?

How do you get off a non-stop Flight?

Why are goods sent by ship called CARGO and those sent by truck SHIPMENT?

Why do we put cups in the dishwasher and the dishes in the Cupboard?

Why do doctors 'practice' medicine? Are they having practice at the cost of the patients?

Why is it called 'Rush Hour' when traffic moves at its slowest then?

How come Noses run and Feet smell?

Why do they call it a TV 'set' when there is only one?

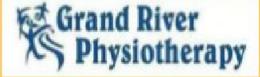






















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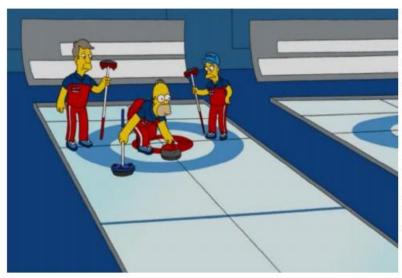






We all must have some stories to tell from our weeks of lock down and shut in. As editor we would like to hear some of these stories and let our fellow members know what has happened. We will even publish anonymous stories.

Thank you!



Something else we are trying this year and that is going to 3 sessions instead of 2. This will give Curling 101 curlers a chance to join and play in a league earlier. Our members who travel may also find this appealing. The fees will be on a per session cost. It could help those people who are recovering financially from covid to able to find a fee structure that will work for them

And finally... we will be losing some brands of beer, coolers and wines for the coming year. We will be simplifying to ensure a fresh product, and ease of use while in covid restrictions. Due to this draft beer may not be available this year.

