

# The Hack & Back



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

Feb. & Mar., 2022

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## Thursday, April 21



We also have openings on our board for new members and we would like you to join us. It doesn't entail a lot of time but new people bring new ideas to make the club bigger and better.

[www.ferguscurling.ca](http://www.ferguscurling.ca)

# The Bulletin Board



Out with the old and in with the new. The old stove in the kitchen has served us well over the years but it is time to retire it. Apparently we are getting a new stove to replace it. We bet the old one could tell us some stories if it could only talk.

## A bunch of useless facts

### 'A SHOT OF WHISKY'

In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents and so did a glass of whisky. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whisky.

### 'THE WHOLE NINE YARDS'

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

### 'BUYING THE FARM'

This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000.

This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

# The Roaring Game

What is this roaring game they go to play?

Cold granite stones glide smoothly down ice.

Surface dotted and stippled, called pebble they say.

Gentleman's game. Handshakes, nod, smile - be nice.

"Yup! Yup!" they yell. "Hurry hard! Hurry, HURRY!"

Rough woolly sweaters, breath puffs on air.

Brooms at the ready speed to action with flurry.

"Harrnd, Harrrrrrnd!" They sprint to the house, off they tear.

The roar of the granite echoes on ears.

Crashing of stones - Bang! Bang! - Off they fly.

Players revel in a shot, discuss later with beers.

Warm lounge beckons, "Good game. I'll have rye".



Played in ice sheds 'cross Can'da while snow's outside whirling,

Stones, brooms, booze, ice, laughs - this game is called Curling.

We now have a poet laureate in our midst. Janet Tolton wrote this and we thank her for this effort. If anyone else has a hidden talent like this please pass it on to us.



# Krazy Curling Costums



## Points to ponder for us "seniors"

- Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say: "close enough."
- I'm a multitasker. I can listen, ignore, and forget all at the same time!
- People who wonder if the glass is half empty or half full miss the point. The glass is refillable.
- When you can't find the sunshine... be the sunshine.
- I don't have grey hair. I have wisdom highlights.
- Sometimes it takes me all day to get nothing done.
- My heart says chocolate and wine, but my jeans say, please, please, please, eat a salad!
- Never laugh at your spouse's choices. You are one of them.
- One minute you're young and fun. The next, you're turning down the car stereo to see better.



## **A national curling championship for women**

It wasn't until the 1950s that women's curling moved beyond provincial borders in an organized way. At the time, there was a Western Canada Women's Championship, sponsored by the T. Eaton Company. In the east, there were individual provincial championships (Macdonald Tobacco, for example, sponsored a Quebec women's event) but no all-eastern championship. There was talk in women's curling circles about how wonderful it would be if they could have a championship of their own to emulate the Brier.

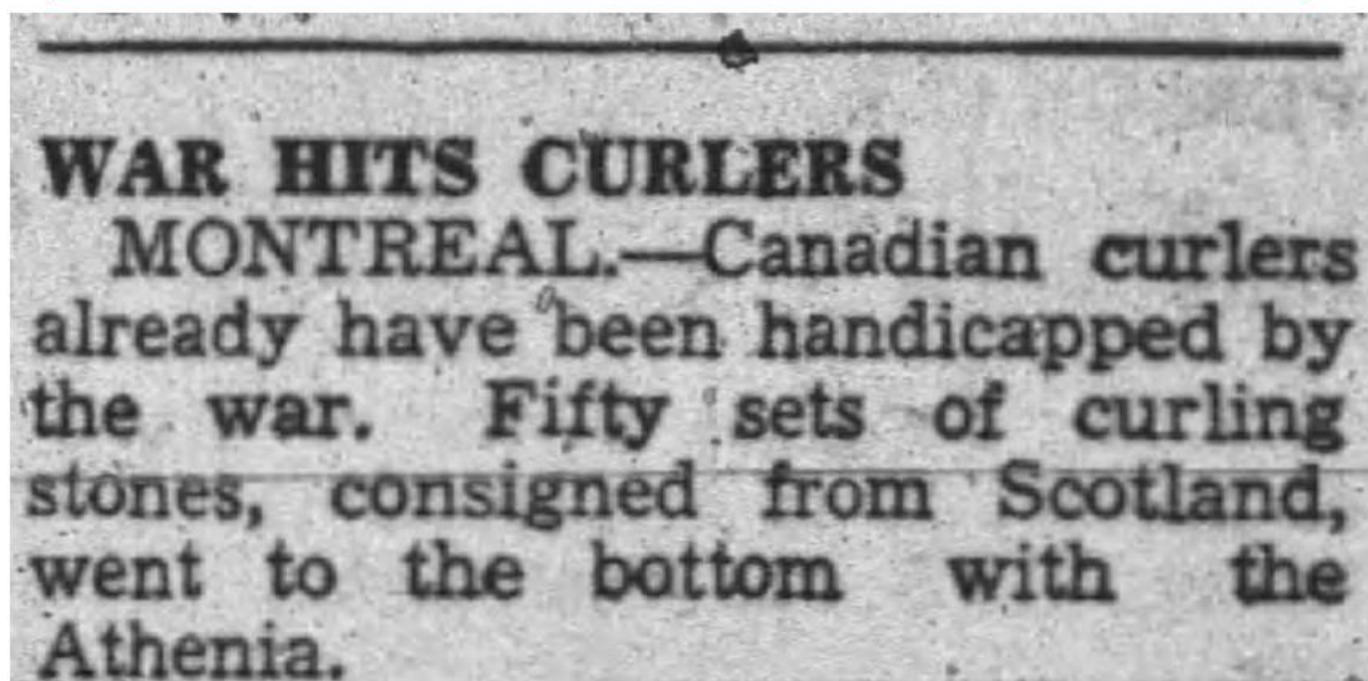
In February of 1960, the Canadian Ladies' Curling Association (CLCA) was formed, with Hazel Watt as its first president. At the inaugural meeting, John Hull of Public Relations Services Limited (PRSL) was there to present a sponsorship plan on behalf of Dominion Stores Limited.

The following year saw the Diamond D turn to the Brier format of ten provincial teams seeking a national crown. The teams were assembled in Ottawa, and the event proved instantly popular. The 1961 title was won (as in 1960) by the Joyce McKee team, this time with a new front end of Barbara MacNevin and Rosa McFee to accompany Sylvia Fedoruk at third. McKee would go on to win a third crown, as skip, in 1969, and three more Canadian championships as second for Vera Pezer. Between them, McKee and Pezer helped establish and solidify the stature of the Canadian Women's Championship.

In 1979, Macdonald Tobacco, under increasingly heavy pressure from the Canadian government's anti-tobacco thrust, reluctantly withdrew its support of both the Brier and the Lassie ... and for the next two years, the CLCA operated its own championship.

In February of 1982, the first Scott Tournament of Hearts was held in Regina, with [former world champion curler and former Scott Paper employee, Robin Wilson] acting as coordinator. Today, the Scott Tournament of Hearts is Canada's longest-running sponsored national event.

The combination of Adroit promotion, skilled play, and full television coverage helped the [Scotties] Tournament of Hearts to become a vital component of the Canadian curling scene.





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## Car Curling



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On an annual basis, Curling Canada sanctions and conducts **12 national curling championship events**, as well as the **Home Hardware Canada Cup of Curling**, **Continental Cup of Curling** and one of the **World Curling Championships** (alternating men and women each year).



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# New game new rule

In conjunction with the last bonspiel of the season a new rule will be started for the coming season. It will be called the **H.L.V.B. Rule** (Hog Line Violation Bank). Here's what the rule entails. Simply put, if you "HOG" a rock you will be required to put a toonie for each hogged rock in the H.L.V.B. box which will be placed on the bar.

So don't hog any rocks from now on or you will be required to pay \$2.00 for the privilege. The money collected throughout the season will go directly to benefit the club members for that season.

This club rule will be implemented with the new **1834 CurlKoob Fun Bonspiel** being held at the club on April 22 and 23rd. Here is a sneak preview of what the ice will look like during part of this new game. When you sign up for the season you automatically agree to abide by this new rule. Skips, please make sure your players put their toonie in the H.L.V.B. box



Looks and sounds like a lot of fun. This game was invented by our ice crew and already other clubs in the area are inquiring about it. Andy is looking for a big turnout for this and there already has been a lot of people sign up to participate.

The term "hog line" references **Scottish slang** for a weak lamb that was unlikely to survive with the rest of the herd, "hogged." This term was commonly used amongst farmers in Scotland. In short, the term draws a parallel between a weak lamb and a stone that fails to cross the hog line. This is why these stones are sometimes referred to as "hogged stones," as the stone was delivered too weakly to cross the hog line.





We were just about ready to wrap up this issue when this came in from Lynda and Gary Waterhouse. Thanks folks. The names etc. are not in any particular order.

Gary, presenting the Fergus Lions' Club Award to the top four players:

Carter Watson, Grace Hons, Natasha Plumstead. Paige Gleva is missing from photo.

2nd Place (with Gary)

Carter Hoffman, Addison Plumstead, Andelynn Rooyakkers, Archer Rooyakkers

Spirit of the Game: Grace Hons.

Future Stars awarded to the rest of the curlers.

The kids played the "Viking Curling Game" created by our ice maker Andy Maine. The object of the game, knock out the guards to get to the King.

As they love hitting things, knocking things down, they had a blast and didn't want to come in like usual! Their parents were cheering them on from behind the glass.

A great group of kids, along with Mrs. Kaylynn McGeachie, Gabriela Goetz and Peyton Marshall who assisted on the ice with Linda and Howard Coates, Andy Maine, Michael Semanyk and Michelle Marshall.

After the awards were given out we enjoyed pizza, cup cakes, Rice Krispie Squares, Ice Cream and drinks. A great day to end a fabulous (albeit cut up season).

Many thanks to the curlers, the volunteers, the parents and of course the Ice Making Team.

Following the game the awards were distributed Thank you all!

