



On the Button

NEWS FROM THE GOLDEN EARS WINTER CLUB

February 2010

Hard Times Mixed Bonspiel

This year the committee thought that a “Hard Times” theme might be appropriate since not only have we all faced a huge recession but the club has also had a big drop in funding which has affected the bottom line. So the old saying “when the going gets tough the tough get going” has never applied more. We want the Bonspiel to be great competition but also a whole lot of fun. Although the bonspiel is traditionally a mixed spiel we would like to add a novice division. This division must have a minimum of four teams. If there are not enough teams for this division we encourage the mixed novice teams to sign up for the regular mixed division.

After the first round of play the teams are broken up into A, B, and C levels making it fun for everyone.

We are choosing some activities that relate to our “Hard Times” theme. We are going to have a penny drive and donate the proceeds a deserving charity, so bring in all those pennies and let’s see if we can make a difference! We are also going to have a fun auction with the proceeds going to the club. Do you have any fun collector or wacky garage sale items that you no longer need or want? Maybe they are someone else’s treasure. The funkier the item the better. Let’s all have a good laugh and raise some money to boot. You

can bring your items to the rink on Thursday March 4 or Friday March 5 so we can get them on display.

This year we already have quite a few out-of-town teams expressing interest in coming to the spiel. We plan on making our “Hard Times” turn into good times; we just need your participation. Please invite and encourage all your curling buddies to sign up. Look forward to a fantastic weekend March 5, 6 and 7. HURRY HARD!

All Members Invited to Board Meeting



Members are invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting of the Board of Directors on Monday, February 8th at 7 p.m. In the Extra End lounge.

Come and get an update on the status of the club. Bring your suggestions and questions. We hope to see many of you there.

Upcoming Events

February 8 — Town Hall Meeting

The GEWC AGM is May 15th – mark it in your calendar now!

March 5-7 — Hard Times Bonspiel

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On the Button

The 12th Annual Mainland Club Challenge Will be Hosted at the Richmond Curling Centre



**Mark your calendar!
Richmond hosts club challenge
April 16 to 18**

Mark your calendar – the Challenge will be held on **April 16 to 18, 2010.**

Here's how the Club Challenge will work: Teams will be randomly drawn into round robin boxes of four or five teams, depending on the number of entries, with one team qualifying out of each box for each of the men's and women's championship rounds. A banquet for the players will be held Friday at 6 pm.

The Champions will receive embroidered jackets and their names on the Mainland Club Challenge championship plaques which will be put on display at their home club for the year. Silver

and bronze medalists and the fourth place qualifier will receive plaques. In addition, the top three teams will each have their entry fee paid in the 2010 Pacific International Cup which will be hosted at the Richmond Curling Club from April 21 to 25, 2010. The top BC finishing teams in the PIC will be advancing to The Dominion Curling Club Championship (Canada) to be held in Prince Edward Island in November 2010.

If your team is interested in representing the GEWC, please sign up at the office. If necessary, we will hold a playdown to see which teams will represent the club.

More information can be found at:
www.bcclubchallenge.ca



Foursome Takes Fraser Valley Masters Cup



Mike McAstocker, President of the Fraser Valley Masters Curling Association, presented the Fraser Valley Masters Cup to the winners, Skip Ed Collinson, Third, Chuck Lilley, Second Gregg Hook, and lead Don Sventlander.

After a three-day playoff hosted by Cloverdale Masters on January 11-14, 2010, the Ed Collinson rink from GEWC won the Zone Cup Championships.

The trophy dates back to 1966. This playoff is a unique opportunity for the average curler to experience a bonspiel atmosphere and participate in zone level playdowns.

Advertiser Profile: AOK Tree Services

The GEWC is grateful for the ongoing support of all our sponsors including: Ray Werger - Royal Lepage BC Real Estate Sales; Bill Fowle - Fowle Foto Enterprises; Al Hogarth - Coldwell Banker Tri-Tel Realty; Grant and Diane Dezura -- Coronation Insurance Craig Longmuir - Fraser River Pile and Dredge. Read on to learn more about Al Owen and his company AOK Tree Services.



Q. Tell us about your business.

A. The business is just over two years old but the knowledge and experience go far beyond that. We do everything from pruning and branch reduction to removals including the stump.

Q. What sets your business apart from your competitors?

A. We are proud of the service we offer, whether it be small jobs or big jobs. From start to finish we are there for the customer.

Q. How many employees do you have?

A. Our business is small and personable with up to five employees on one job.

Q. What made you decide to advertise with the GEWC?

A. GEWC has a great facility that reaches a lot of people. For the cost of the advertisement it just made sense.

A. I've curled out of the GEWC for 40+ years -- some competitive curling in my early years and legion play-downs more recently. I've been involved in the club on the executive board, as a volunteer and helped with everything from social events and bonspiels to the men's and women's provincial championships.

Q. Do you have anything you'd like to say to the members of the GEWC?

A. This is a great club, always has been, always will be. It is what you make it. It's the volunteers, no matter how small a contribution is made, that make the club that much better. Thank you to them. I've had great success on the ice and tons of fun on and off the ice. Here's to many more good years of curling.

AOK Tree Services can be reached at 778.554.8702 or allanowen@shaw.ca.

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Q. What's your interest in curling?

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Thanks to Our Volunteers

Coastal Senior Men's Play-downs: June Booth, Ron and Vaila Reichelt, Diane and Jack Stadel, Dave and Lynn Brown, Marie Glenndinning, Tim McCulloch, Gwen Degenhardt, Verna Patterson, Bob Mackay, Chuck Lilly, Bill and Wayne Leech, Diane and Grant Dezura, and manning Play-downs.com input Jeff Cawker, Diane Dezura, and Peter England. The response from the players was always very positive – especially about the ice, and the meals – two of the most important things to competitors! Kudos to the “Nascar Pit Crew of Curling.” Thank you all.

Knights of Columbus bonspiel: This 'spiel was organized by Reg Nelligan and Roy Dyke and they also had volunteers to help. Thank you to Roy and Noreen for a great clean up on Saturday night. Thank you sincerely to the Knights of Columbus organizers who so generously cooperated with GEWC by overlapping their banquet with the Bettsworth bonspiel. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

GEWC volunteers are eligible to be recognized by the International Tankard and the club will pay for recognized volunteers to attend the banquet. Anyone can submit a volunteer's name to the club for recognition at this prestigious event. If you know someone who goes above and beyond, please submit his/her name.

Family
Curling
Rocks!



Curling and Tim's — A Truly Canadian Experience

Family curling got off to a good start in January with another two families registered through Parks and Leisure. The family night program offers one night of exposure to the game of curling for family members of all ages. The main re-

striction is that children under the age of 9 must wear helmets. Saturday January 16 saw nine adults and seven children experience curling on the back ice. We all had a lot of fun!

As one dad put it: “Now we are all going to Tim Hortons to round out the truly Canadian experience!”

You're Invited to the BC Mixed Curling Championships

The Chilliwack Curling Club is hosting the 2010 Williams Moving & Storage BC Mixed Curling Championship March 15-20, 2010. The schedule of event is as follows: March 15 is designated as a practice day. Curling draws are scheduled for 12:00 and 7:00 PM March 16-19. Tie breakers, if necessary, and finals are scheduled for March 19-20 – timings to be determined. The round robin draws and results will be displayed on www.playdowns.com.

The Chilliwack Curling Club organizing committee wishes to invite all members to personally take in the competition. For more information please call the Chilliwack Curling Club at 604.792.1572 or visit www.chilliwackcc@shaw.ca.
Admittance is free!

Kudos!



Kudos to the Martin Jut team and the Derek Webster team for participating in the Region 11 Men's Tour. Though they did not make the top 16, the teams represented Golden Ears Winter Club and made great representatives putting us 'on the map' for the tour.

Don't forget to attend the Mixed Curling Championships in Chilliwack!

Special Olympians Bring Home the Gold!

We were very successful at the Abbotsford Special Olympics bonspiel. GEWC had a first place team and our other team had two wins in three games. There were 12 teams from Vancouver, Langley, Abbotsford, Richmond, Burnaby, Gibsons and Maple Ridge.

The program is in its fifth year and practices are Tuesdays from 4:00 – 5:30. We have 14 athletes and six coaches making it one of the biggest curling programs in BC. We will be at

the Langley Bonspiel February 7th as well as the Special Olympics Regional Qualifying bonspiel in March hosted by Abbotsford Curling Club. We have always had great support from the management and staff of GEWC and are proud to call it our home club.

Congratulations to: Head Coach, Kelly Brack, and Assistant Coaches, Tori Brack, Bill, Eric, Hugh and Chuck

Team # 1 / Skip Chloe Murphy – Completed 2 wins & 1 loss / just out of medals contention.

Lead Derrick
2nd Deandra
3rd Natasha
Spare Jason + Tyler

Team # 2 / Skip Kyle Jarrett – Completed 2 wins & 1 loss with 11 points for 1st Place

Lead Matthew
2nd Jeramy
3rd Dave
Spare Youlanda





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**Find us on the
web:
www.gwec.ca**

Ford Hot Shots Now in its 16th Season

For the 16th consecutive year, the popular Ford Hot Shots curling skills competition will be contested at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Sault Ste. Marie and the Tim Hortons Brier in Halifax.

The pre-event shot-making competition requires curlers to execute six shots: Hit and Stay, Draw the Button, Draw the Port, The Raise, Hit and Roll and Double Takeout. Each shot is awarded points on a scale from 0-5, rating the success of each.

Ford of Canada will provide the winner of the Ford Hot Shots at both the Scotties Tournament of Hearts (January 30-February 7 in Sault Ste. Marie) and Tim Hortons Brier (March 6-14 in Halifax) with a two-year lease on a 2010 Ford Taurus SEL FWD, an approximate retail value in excess of \$25,000. In addition to the two-year lease of the 2010 Ford Taurus SEL FWD for each winner, the second place finishers will be presented with a cheque for \$2,000, while the third place finishers receive \$1,000.

Ford Hot Shots On-line

For the second consecutive year, Ford of Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Curling Association, has launched an interactive on-line version of the Hot Shots skills competition. Curling fans will have a chance to win a two-year lease on a 2010 Ford Taurus SE, an approximate value in excess of \$25,000, an autographed Team Canada curling jacket, full event VIP passes to the 2011 Tim Hortons Brier in London, Nintendo Wii and gift certificates to the Online Store of the Canadian Curling Association's Season of Champions.

The Ford Hot Shots On-line game, unveiled last year, culminated with a one-game playoff at the Ford World Men's Curling Championship in Moncton, after approximately 27,000 participants had played a total of over 1.6 million games. Dan Sherrard of Edmonton was the inaugural winner of a two-year lease of a 2009 Ford Flex, valued at over \$20,000.

Similarly, this year, once the contest closes on March 14, two finalists will be flown to Swift Current, Saskatchewan, site of the 2010 Ford World Women's Curling Championship, March 20-28, for a one game playoff.

All the information, including rules, regulations, player registration and game instructions are available at FordHotShots.curling.ca.