President’s Message

Dear UCC Members,

It is hard to believe that the first half of the season is already done! The fall and early winter seems to have flown by.

We have a very busy second half coming up. January starts with the Calder, Conley, Hurd followed by the Mitchell, the Empire, and the Mixed Championships. February brings the College bonspiel and the Cobb. We are also hosting an Olympic Open House on February 16th. In March, we wind down the season with the Elizabeth Childs Challenge, an Olympic Curling school, and the Rose. I want to thank, in advance, all of the volunteers who work so very hard to run these bonspiels. It takes a dedicated group of people to make sure that these events are successful and so if you are asked to help with one of these events, please consider doing so.

I’m happy to report that our ice plant has held up so far and our ice crew has done a fantastic job of maintaining the ice with the comprised state of the ice plant. However, we would really like to be able to move forward in replacing our failing plant. This means that we need to raise some capital in addition to securing loans and grants. As noted in the last Curlogram, the goal is to raise $75,000 for our Capital Campaign. Thanks to those of you who already have given so generously. For those who have not yet contributed, if you feel you can make a donation to the Capital Campaign, please consider doing so in 2014 – every little bit helps.

I look forward to a very busy second half of curling and I hope everyone has a happy and healthy new year.

Good Curling,

Julie Chanatry, President
Karen Rogowski’s team aptly named “The Squash” turkey-trotted to victory in the 2013 Turkey Spiel. Karen’s crew included Don Decarr, Sabrina Thibado, Brenda Card, and Gary Mcvoy. Each team member was awarded a frozen turkey in this points curling event. Although each team won a prize, the team placing last was given the traditional Turkey Spam prize. Needless to say they will remain anonymous unless they invite you to a Turkey Spam dinner sometime in the future.

This year the Turkey Spiel was sold out with twelve teams of 5 curlers each competing for the prized turkeys. A number of members also brought dinner guests to the club. The 74 curlers and guests were treated to a traditional turkey buffet dinner catered by Dominick and Rhonda.

Special thanks goes to co-chair Carrie Casab who used all of her skills as a cowgirl to round up members to curl in this event. Although co-chair Ben Gaetano thought that 50 curlers was a great number, Carrie didn’t stop pounding the pavement until she filled the field. There is no question Carrie has very persuasive powers.

A non-curling spouse also gets special recognition for working like crazy to keep Ben from self destructing while managing the event. Kathy Stevens assisted him in a number of ways to help keep the bonspiel on track. He is forever in her debt.

Thanks to all of the first year curlers who put their big toe on the frozen water and the old timers who encouraged them to curl in the Turkey Spiel. It is important that we continue to have them participate in as many of the bonspiels they are able to attend.

With that, see you next year at the 2014 Annual Turkey Spiel!

—Ben Gaetano
There’s only one way to get to the Land of Cobb

Come get blown away at the 2014 Mixed Championships & Cobb Playdowns

January 23, 25 & 26

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET
CURLERS & NON-CURLING GUESTS

STEMWARE AWARDS TO THE WINNERS OF THE 1st FOUR EVENTS

AUTOMATIC INVITATION TO THE COBB BONSPIEL FOR THE TOP FOUR WINNERS AND THE A-EVENT RUNNER-UP PLUS ONE LOTTERY-PICKED WILDCARD TEAM

SAVE THE DATES AND LINE UP YOUR TEAMS

SINGLES, COUPLES AND SUBS ENCOURAGED
WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO PLACE EVERYONE WHO SIGNS UP ON A TEAM

Be watching the Mixed Bulletin Board right after the Calder-Conley-Hurd for the sign up board and more info.

Chairs: Dawn & Joel Scherer, Melissa & Audrey Foote, Sabrina Thibado
USA takes bronze!

The 8th Annual U.S. Open International Wheelchair Bonspiel is in the books! Twelve teams from six nations, including Korea, Russia, Slovakia, Scotland, Canada and USA, demonstrated tremendous skill throughout the weekend. In the end, Scotland defeated Russia for gold while USA defeated Quebec for bronze.

Special thanks go out to UCC, Charlie Schatz and the Ice Crew, Doug Smith for his tremendous web streaming, Dominick Rose for preparing wonderful meals, the volunteers and the Sitrin Health Care Center for your continued support!

Sincerely,
Marc DePerno

High School Charity Challenge

The High School Charity Challenge will take place on Monday, February 17th (during our February break) from 11 am to about 4 pm. I am in need of some volunteers to help out with this event. I need…

-a buddy to run this event with me
-a treasurer (help me count money)
-coaches (the kids are really really really good and fun…you’ll enjoy your day!)

If it entices you to help, I will buy you lunch that day!

If you know any high school students that would enjoy this event, spread the word! (Also, they need volunteer hours in order to graduate if they are seniors…this would be a fantastic way to get some…fundraising and curling takes a while!) If you have any questions, or want me to buy you lunch when you volunteer, let me know by e-mailing me at Audrey.foote@gmail.com. Thank you!!!
Olympic Open House

On Sunday, February 16 The UCC will open our doors to the Olympic viewing public eager to try the sport of curling. We will be running advertising prior to that date on local media and during curling broadcasts in order to draw the largest crowd possible to the club. Olympic open houses have been one of our largest sources of new members and we need your help to make this event a success.

We need as many current members as possible here at the club to greet prospective members, get waivers signed, help fit grippers, give brief safety instructions, coach on the ice, explain curling school and league opportunities, and finally close the deal and sign up new members.

Four years ago over 300 prospects visited the club to get their turn on the ice. This year, we will charge $10 admission which can be applied to the cost of the curling school we will run in the weeks following the open house.

The open house will run from 10 AM til 4 PM. I will post a volunteer sign-up board or you can contact me at

vicepresident@uticacurlingclub.org
**Time is tight**

The opposition’s shot has just come to a stop in the house. Their draw didn’t bury and your skip immediately calls for the open take-out. Are you ready to throw your stone?

Even if your pre-shot routine of cleaning the rock, and settling in the hack on-line only takes 30 seconds, multiply that times your 16 rocks during the game. Now add in the 5 other front end players and their 16 rocks and 48 minutes have been added to the game. Simply gathering your rock and cleaning it during your opponents shot can easily shave half of that time off the game and keep draws under the two hour window.

I know I’m guilty of waiting for the call, and promise to all of you to make an effort to play ready curling. I hope you’ll join me in the effort. —John Jacon

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**2014 Empire State Bonspiel**

**Ladies:** Please check the bulletin board in the ladies locker room for information/updates & items needed for this event. Please clear out your locker (Sue Williams, Chair) for our guests by Wednesday evening, January 15. A sign-up will be on the ladies bulletin board to let Sue know that your locker is empty. **Removing your jackets from the rack so that our guests can use it will be appreciated.**

There is a sign-up for subs for the E.S. If you are available to sub on any of the time-slots, please add your name. Empire State Rules do not allow teams to start without four players.

**Everyone:** Sign up for score board duties (Fred Hicks Chair) and to put snacks on tables after draws (Susan Fountain & Linda Rance, Chair). Sign up will be on the bulletin board near sheet 1 in December.

**Thank you**

Joyce
Instructor’s Corner
Roger Rowlett & Mary Jane Walsh
USCA Level II Certified Instructors

I can never figure out where to hit a rock to get a double or the perfect roll? What am I doing wrong?
—Roland Wide

It’s all about angles
When one curling stone strikes another curling stone, it’s one round object hitting another round object. It would be easy to envision that this will not turn out well—to novices it seems almost unpredictable. Experienced curlers know just where to hit the rock to get a slash double or cross-house flop and freeze. What’s the secret? Knowledge of angles. It’s simpler than you think.

Visualizing angles
Two simple rules will help you plan and visualize angles when two rocks strike one another. Consider the accompanying diagram (Figure 1) in which two rocks are shown in contact. These could represent a pair of frozen rocks that could be struck on the nose, or they could represent a thrown rock (red) and a struck rock (yellow). The angles will be essentially the same either way. To figure out where the back (yellow) rock will go, draw an arrow through the center of both stones. To figure out where the front (red) rock will go, draw a tangent to the contact point. That’s where the edge of the front rock will go. (The center of the rock will travel parallel to that line). That’s it!
Let’s set up a scenario for a cross-house double. Where do we need to hit the front rock to make the shot? Draw a line from the front edge of the top rock to the back edge of the back rock. When you have the line drawn out, you need to hit the top rock at where the line touches the top rock.

How about a slash double? Draw a line from the center of the front rock to the edge of the back rock. (We don’t want to nose the back rock, so we want to hit it off-center to spin it out.) Where the line crosses the front of the top rock is where you need to hit it to make the shot.

Making an angle raise is similar to making the slash double. In this case, just draw the line in Figure 3 toward the center (instead of the edge) of the back stone.

If you want to practice lining up angles on the ice, you can use your broom handle as a straight-edge. (Don’t do this during a game, however.)

**Calling line to get the right contact point**

So now you know how to line up the angles and get the right contact point. That’s the easy part. The hard part is hitting the first stone at exactly the right point. If people were computers, we could just do some sines, cosines, and arctangents, and maybe throw in \( \frac{1}{2} mv^2 \) somewhere, to calculate the stone trajectory and the exact contact point. Unfortunately people aren’t computers, and no one can accurately calculate a trajectory very well in their head during the
execution of a shot. Fortunately, there is a much simpler way to do this. The first step is to visualize the contact point by setting up your angles as described above. Once you have done that, visualize how much the striking stone “overlaps” the struck stone when viewed from down low straight down the ice. If the stones completely overlap (i.e., nose hit) that’s a 100% overlap. If the center of the striking stone is aligned with the edge of the struck stone, then that’s a 50% overlap, or “half a rock”. If the overlap is thinner, say only 25% of the striking stone is overlapping with the struck stone, that’s a “quarter rock.” Commit the required overlap of your shot to memory. Now when the shot is delivered, monitor the overlap as the shot develops. It helps to get down low and well behind the rock to call line. Use your sweepers to slow the convergence of the stones as necessary to get the desired overlap at the time of collision. That is, if the two rocks are converging too quickly (so that you will have too much overlap by the time they collide) then sweep. If the two rocks are on track to achieve the desired overlap at the point of collision, or are too wide of each other, then get the sweepers off. It’s all about the overlap, which you have already sized up. No trigonometry required. If you sized up your angles correctly, and visualized the right overlap, and hit that point, you will make the shot.

Some gotchas
There are a couple of extra things to consider when playing angles. One is the turn of the stone. If you throw a hit outside-in, and hit the target rock on the outside, the shooter will “spring” off the struck stone with good momentum because the spin of the stone is maintained after the collision. This stones will spin off the struck stone at a slightly steeper angle than predicted by the method described above. (But probably not enough different to make you miss the shot.) If the shooter crosses over the center of the target stone before striking it, then the shooter’s spin will reverse after the collision, which will kill a lot of the momentum of the striking stone. (In physics-speak, some of the stone’s linear momentum is converted to angular momentum.) The shooter will come off the collision “deader” and a little “flatter” than you would otherwise predict.

The second gotcha deals with frozen stones. If they are struck off-center, you can get “drag” effects, which have been explained in a previous Instructor’s Corner article. Watch out for drag effects when striking frozen or nearly frozen stones.

Try it out
Now you know how the pros do it. Next time you hear Glenn Howard on TV telling Wayne Middaugh they need to hit a “skinny half” to make that slash double, you’ll know what they are doing. And you can do it in your games, too.
EARLY BIRD FRIENDLY BONSPIEL

The Chinstrap Penquins skipped by Roger Rowlett won the Early Bird medal event in a close game with the Galapagos Penquins skipped by Kathy Davis. While that battle was going on, the Macaroni Penquins skipped by Charlie Schatz beat the Rockhopper Penquins skipped by Marena Taverne in the finals match for the Friendly event medal.

The Early Bird Friendly bonspiel saw eight teams competing in the two-day knockout event. The curlers were treated to a bounty of pizzas on Thursday evening, a continental breakfast early Saturday morning, a Dutch treat lunch between draws, and a brunch after the awards ceremony. Dominick and Rhonda catered all of the meals. Kathy and Marie adequately manned the bar at various times. Prior to the games on Saturday, the curlers were also treated to mimosas and moose milk. Needless to say there were a number of happy curlers on the ice for the first game.

Congratulations to the Early Bird winners, Roger Rowlett, MJ Walsh, Mike Hurd, and Mike Krumme. Also congratulations to the Friendly winners, Charlie Schatz, Melissa Foote, Bob Preneveau, and Joe Falcone.

Special thanks are given to Dave Mathews and the ice crew, Dominick & Rhonda, Kathy & Marie, and Peggy Pratt who co-chaired the event with Ben Gaetano. Charlie Schatz helped considerably with the draw board. His help was invaluable. — Ben Gaetano

A reminder of some common rules

- A stone is in play when it reaches the near tee-line.
- If you inadvertently throw the wrong color rock, finish the shot, then replace with the correct rock.
- Free guard zone: lead’s rocks outside the house and above tee. Can be bumped but not hit out-of-bounds until seconds throws. Sweepers mark the
location of any lead rock in the Free Guard Zone that is hit by your lead’s rock. The rock will have to be replaced if it goes out.

- Rocks that strike a rock that is completely over the hog line are in-play, even if they are not completely over the hogline.
- Rocks that touch the side line are out. Rocks must fully cross the back line to be out.
- Only one member of a team may sweep behind tee-line. The rock must be in motion and must have touched tee-line before you begin to sweep
  * If your team has delivered, anyone can sweep
  * If the opposition has delivered, only the skip or vice-skip can sweep, regardless of which team’s rock is being swept
- Sweepers will report burned rocks. Your rocks:
  * Between the hog lines, immediately stop the rock and remove from play.
  * After the far hog line, let the rock run and announce the violation (see below)
- If you burn an opposition rock between the hog lines, see rule R.8.a.ii, pg. 9

**Touched moving stones inside the hog**

- If a moving stone is touched by the team to which it belongs, all stones are allowed to come to rest, after which the non-offending team has the option to:
  - Remove the touched stone, and replace all stones that were displaced after the infraction to their original positions; or
  - Leave all stones where they came to rest; or
  - Place all stones where they reasonably considers the stones would have come to rest had the moving stone not been touched.

If a moving stone is touched by an opposition team, all stones are allowed to come to rest, after which:

- the non-offending team places the stones where they reasonably considers the stones would have come to rest, had the moving stone not been touched.

**Touched stationary stones**

If a stationary stone, which would have had no effect on the outcome of a moving stone, is displaced by a player, it is replaced in its original position by the non-offending team.

If a stone which would have altered the course of a moving stone is displaced by a player, all stones are allowed to come to rest and then the non-offending team has the option to:

- Leave all stones where they came to rest; or
- Remove the stone whose course would have been altered from play and replace in their original positions any stones that were displaced after the violation; or
- Reasonably place stones in the positions where they would have come to rest had a stone not been displaced.
Curling Stones

The New York Times of Nov. 24th, 2013, featured an article about Ailsa Craig, the tiny Scottish island that’s the source of the microgranite used for the best curling stones.

Quarrying ended in 1969, when the island became a bird sanctuary. Previously-quarried stockpiles of rock are still being made into curling stones, though, including those that will be used in the Olympics at Sochi in Feb.


And more from the Times!

Lest you fear that the above was the end of the NY Times coverage of curling, on Dec. 17th they featured Scottish curler Eve Muirhead (http://www.nytimes.com/2013/12/17/sports/olympics/muirhead-and-britain-are-pushing-for-an-olympic-medal-in-sochi.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20131217&r=0) who will represent Great Britain at the Olympics.

A few questionable statements (sweeping “aims not at speeding up the rock but slowing it down, by heating and melting the ice, and altering its trajectory by brushing harder on one side than the other”), but at least they’re covering our sport! Anyone want to send them a correction?
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**Color/font key:**
- General UCC events
- Ladies events
- Men’s/Open events
- Mixed events
- GNCC events
- at other clubs

**GNCC EVENTS**

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR ALL CHANGES, UPDATES, AND ADDITIONS!**

http://uticacurlingclub.org

**JANUARY 2014**
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<td>Ice maintenance</td>
<td>Open Ice, ROCKS</td>
<td>Daytime Curlers League 10:00 (8 ends)</td>
<td>MVILR curling 10:00-12:00</td>
<td>Boerger Happy Hour 4:00</td>
<td>Crawford 5:30 &amp; 7:30 Fish fry</td>
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<td>Glenside Rockies 5:45 Sims 8:00</td>
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**Friday**

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**MARCH 2014**