



VOL. 59, Issue 2

October 2014

President's message

As I write this message the new compressor has been delivered and work is proceeding on the installation. If everything goes according to plan we should be starting the ice installation as you read this edition of the Curlogram.

Another new addition to our facility is high-efficiency lighting throughout the club. By replacing our every other configuration with brighter and lower wattage bulbs, we've evened out the light output in the playing area. We've also changed out a number of exterior and interior fixtures to LED bulbs.

New, but not unknown to us is our Club Manager. Please join me in welcoming Dominick Rose to his new position. While Dominick takes charge of "the front of the house" he and his Soup To Nuts staff will continue to provide the fantastic food we all enjoy.

I hope by now you've signed up for all your league nights. When you come back to the club, be sure to stop by the Kiltie Korner and update your gear. The ice crew tells me the number one cause of picks on the ice is old, shedding grippers. So pick up a new one and help improve everyone's game. While you're at it why not replace that nasty broom head? You'll be surprised how much better your sweeping will be with a fresh pad.

As always, remember the best way to improve the club is by introducing a friend or two to the game and growing our membership.

Hoping you have a safe and successful season.

John Jacon, UCC President

KING'S CUP—Friday night Mixed Curling

Dear Curlers,

After many years of deliberation, the mixed committee has decided to change the format of the Kings Cup. It will remain a Friday night fun mixed league but will no longer be a medal event. Instead, it will be much like the Thursday "Fun and Fitness" and "Happy Hour" leagues, but the emphasis will be on the "Spirit of Curling" as Jim King had intended. It will run both the 1st and 2nd half and the Crawford medal will be moved to the "D" event winner of the Calder Conley Hurd.

Jim and Marie King, longtime UCC members and very dedicated to mixed curling, especially enjoyed the social Friday night Co-Ed league. After Marie's untimely passing, Jim asked if he might sponsor a trophy for the Friday night Co-Ed, which was a pin event, in honor of Marie and his love for the event which mixed the new curlers with the experienced, had short, fun games and left ample time for fish fries, making new friends and socializing. Thus, the King Cup was born.

The family tradition lives on, supported by Kathy King Palazzoli and family, and we welcome the new format which emphasizes the fun of curling.

NEW Kings Cup Rules:

1. This is the fun mixed league that runs the 1st and 2nd half of the year. The winner of the Jim King Spirit of Curling Award will be determined at the discretion of the mixed committee.
2. The Spirit of Curling Award will go to the team each half that mentors new curlers, exhibits fair play, good sportsmanship and makes the game enjoyable.
3. Games are six ends with skips shot to the button in the event of a tie.
4. In the true Spirit of Curling, substitutes for all positions must be of equal skill level or less to the player being replaced. Under no circumstances can there be 4 subs on one team or be composed of 4 men or 4 women.
5. For this event only a new curler is considered 3 years and under. Each team will be assigned a new curler according to membership and discretion of the chairs.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we go forth with this change.

The Mixed Committee

The scheduled dates are Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19 with draws at 5:30pm and 7:30pm.

A \$10 per person league fee is required to be paid on the first night.

Please fill out the form and mail back to

Brenda & Phil Citriniti, 3036 Mohawk St., Sauquoit NY, 13456 or

email citro5@roadrunner.com

Chairs: Phil & Brenda Citriniti



KING'S CUP 6 end games starting at 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM

Name _____ phone # _____

I would like to: Play _____ Sub _____

Draw Preference (Rank 1-2): 5:30 pm _____ 7:30 pm _____

Position Preference (Rank 1-4) Lead _____ 2nd _____

Vice _____ Skip _____

Please be sure to rank both draw time and all positions in order you would like to be considered.

Send to: Brenda & Phil Citriniti, 3036 Mohawk St., Sauquoit NY, 13456

Phone: 315-737-8909 Email citro5@roadrunner.com

IMPORTANT REMINDER: \$10 per person league fee is required the first night of play.

BOERGER FUN AND FITNESS 2014

Co Chairs:

John & Peggy Caneen, Bill & Jennifer Turner, Fred & Pam

Come join us on Thursday afternoons at 4 PM for some Fun and Fitness. We don't know how fit we are but we sure do know how to have fun. League play starts October 23. Please sign up by October 15.

NAME _____

Phone # _____

I would like to play (1st choice, 2nd, 3rd, 4th)

Skip _____ Vice _____ Second _____ Lead _____

Other request:

Send to:

Email: fredpam@twcny.rr.com (put Fun & Fitness in subject line)

Snail mail Fred Hicks
5958 Central Corners Rd
Vernon Center, NY 13477

You will receive a confirmation back that we received it. (If you don't, we didn't get it.)



Kiltie Korner???

Have received permission from UCC Board to do this, and so am asking for suggestions for a name change for our pro shop. There will be entry forms for your ideas on the counter of the display case.

A group of 3 judges will decide what name best represents:



What it is-What items are sold-Where it is

Will announce winner-*prize to be determined*- Nov 21 after Friday night's draws



My early apologizes to Peggy Rotton



Women's Tuesday Morning /Mary Clark Curling

will begin on October 21, 2014 at 9:45a.m. The Mary Clark pin will be awarded to the winners of the vent, but this year it is NOT a ladder competition . Women and men curlers are encouraged to join this FUN MORNING of friendship, sharing and curling too!

DEADLINE for sign up is October 14th. Please let us know what dates you will be unable to curl. Think about signing up for our sub list!

Join by calling either Jacquelyn Schmidt at 315-853-6566 or email minireg@roadrunner.com or call Susan Williams at 315-339-7382, 315-336-0790 or email susanwilliams134@gmail.com.

Charbonneau Men's League

This year we will be running the Charbonneau the same as we did last year. To try and make full sheets of ice for all the nights the Charbonneau will be run on Mondays at 8pm and Tuesdays at 5:45pm. The rink (first leg of the ladder) will be run on Wednesdays at 8pm which will allow more skips to start in the ladder. There will be no Thursday night league this year. With an increase in membership we will consider returning the 3 nights of Charbonneau and returning the rink to Thursday night at 7pm.

The Charbonneau is the Men's league starting the week of October 21st, with teams playing on Mondays at 8:00pm and Tuesdays at 5:45pm for the next 8 weeks through the week of December 15th, with playoffs in January.

The medal is awarded to the winner of the playoffs between the Monday and Tuesday champions plus the 2nd place teams from both nights. Mondays winner will play Tuesdays 2nd place team and Tuesdays winner will play Mondays 2nd place team. The 2 winners will play for the medal.

We will try to match new curlers up with their sponsors so please indicate new curlers you would like to have on your team. Because of these changes, there may not be as many slots for players wishing to play two nights in the Charbonneau as there were in the past. Preference will be given to early sign ups, bringing in a new curler or those *not* signing up for the rink or the open league.

Fill out the form on the return slip and send it to:
Mike Kessler, 50 Blackburn Court, New Hartford, NY 13413 793-3330
Or email doctormjk@aol.com no later than October 15th.

Charbonneau Men's League, 8:00pm Mondays, 5:45pm Tuesdays
Send to Mike Kessler,
50 Blackburn Ct, New Hartford NY 13413, 793-3330,
doctormjk@aol.com

Name _____

Day telephone _____

Night telephone _____

Night I'd like to play (M, T) _____

I'd also like to play a 2nd night (M. T) if sign-up allows _____

Deadline October 15th, 2012

Position I'd like to play (Sk, 3rd, 2nd, Ld)

1st choice _____

2nd choice _____

Please pair me with new curler _____

WELCOME BACK PARTY!!!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

October 18, 2014

It's that time of year to celebrate a new curling season!

The Welcome Back Party will be Saturday, October 18th at 6:30pm.

We will once again be having toddy bowl, hors d'oeuvres, 2 rounds of trivia and music – all for only \$16

Come join your friends and have some fun to start an exciting new season!

You can make your reservations with Phil and Brenda Citriniti

Mail: 3036 Mohawk St., Sauquoit, NY 13456;

Phone: [315-737-8909](tel:315-737-8909)

Email citro5@roadrunner.com

- Chairs, Brenda & Phil Citriniti, Knyoca Law



UCC Email Notices

Joyce Shaffer will be sending the UCC email notices. These notices are sent to you to keep you informed of club activities, other curling opportunities and "happenings". If you have a notice that concerns the membership, email it to joyceshaffer@roadrunner.com
PLEASE SEND IN EITHER DOC (not DOCX) OR PDF FORMAT
I will always reply confirming that I received your request.

If you do not wish to receive these messages, please email UticaCurlingClubNotice@gmail.com and request to be removed from the Google Group. Please do not report these messages as spam to your internet provider. —*Joyce Shaffer*

Ladies Evening Leagues – First-Half Sign

Calling all women curlers: sign up for leagues now! You can use the sign-up form for the first-half leagues on the league webpages (links below) or use the form below. Please sign up by **Saturday, October 18, 2014**



For the new curlers, the [All-American](#) (Wed. night) is a medal sponsored by the U.S. Women's Curling Association and competed for, separately, in clubs all across the country. It's "designed to encourage the involvement of women—especially new and less experienced women curlers."

The [Calder](#) (Mon. night) is the first step of the women skip's ladder (see the [orientation booklet](#) for more information about ladders). It's where we get our start in learning how to skip. Games begin at 5:45pm. Get your curling dues worth and sign-up for both leagues! Returning curlers, encourage new curlers to join these evening leagues.



Women's Evening Leagues, 2014

Mail completed form to M.J. Walsh (address in club roster)

Name: _____

Tel: (home) _____ (work) _____

Monday 5:45pm (*Calder*): Oct. 20-27, Nov 3-24, Dec 1-15
_____ curl _____ sub _____ skip (can't curl on Mon)

Wednesday 5:45pm (*All American*): Oct 22, 29, Nov 5-19
_____ curl _____ sub _____ skip (can't curl on Wed)

BROOM HANGING

Late during the 2005 curling season the Board received a request from a Club member. The request was to be able to select a spot on the broom rack for your own broom. For this privilege the member was willing to make a donation to the Club. At first the Board thought this was not a particularly good idea. I was astonished that the Board was turning down a potential revenue source. As is often the case, when you open your big mouth it comes back to haunt you. At my urging the Board decided to implement this program, with myself as the Chair.

You may be wondering “Why anyone would want to pay for a spot to hang your broom?” How many times have you played against a, shall we say, deliberate, analytical skip. By the time you are finally off the ice you are hanging your broom down by the compressor room and the next time you curl it takes you 5 minutes to find your broom because you can’t believe it is way down there. Or worse yet you get picked in a league by a deliberate and analytical skip and this happens for 10 weeks in a row. Or even worse you are married to a deliberate, overly analytical skip and you begin to think the King’s Cup is the best event of all time because you don’t have to curl with your deliberate, analytical spouse.

To help all these people out, and to help the Club also, the Board began a new program. For a ***\$50 tax deductible donation to the Burn the Mortgage Fund***, any member of the Club can select a spot to hang one broom or crutch. The member is responsible for securing their broom. People who purchased a spot previously can reserve their current spot by contacting me.

Checks can be made out to the Utica Curling Club and can be mailed to my home address: 2549 Sulphur Springs Road Sauquoit 13456.

Any questions please contact me at 794-8657 or docdbk@yahoo.com

Last year we had a total of 38 spots taken, up from 34 the year before, which resulted in \$1900 being raised to reduce our mortgage. It also meant that the walk to your brooms just keeps getting longer and longer for the rest of you. Sign up now, it’s good for you and good for the Club.

—Don Knapp



OPEN LEAGUE

Open League Signup

Any gender in any position, limited to 14 teams

Tuesdays at 8:00pm

The Open League will be starting early this year with the first game Tuesday, October 21st at 8:00pm for 9 straight Tuesday nights at 8pm through December 16th.

This league was formed to provide practice for teams who would like to play together. Men's, Women's, Junior, Kayser, Women's Challenge or Dykes, etc., teams may enter, so sign up as a team for some great games. Here is your chance to put a team together with people you want to curl with.

Return the slip and send it to:

Mike Kessler, 50 Blackburn Court, New Hartford, NY

13413 793-3330 or email doctormjk@aol.com.

Because we are starting early we need to receive your rosters by October 18th.

Open League

Open league limited to 14 teams

Tuesday at 8pm starting Tuesday Oct 21 through

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Send to Mike Kessler, 50 Blackburn Ct, New

Hartford NY 13413 - 793-3330

doctormjk@aol.com

The first 14 returned slips will make up the league

Team name _____

Skip _____

Third _____

Second _____

Lead _____

If there are byes, I would like mine on _____

EMPIRE STATE PLAYDOWNS

Joyce Shaffer, Chair

The Utica Glengarries will enter (2) two *additional teams in the Empire State Bonspiel being held **at the Ardsley CC**,
January 15, 16, 17, 18, 2015.

All UCC women are encouraged to participate.

To determine the two (2) additional teams that will represent Utica, play downs are scheduled for the following dates:

Thursday, October 30, 6:45 pm,

Thursday, November 6, 6:45 pm,

Thursday, Nov 13, 6:45 pm,

Thursday, November 20, 6:45 pm

All dues-paying women are eligible to play down. Participants must sign up as a team.

Deadline for sign up is Friday, October 24. Sign-up will posted in the ladies locker room,

*As 2014 ES winners, Cindy Brown's team will be the 2015 ES Defending Champions

All play down participants MUST BE committed to play in the Empire State Bonspiel (this is a rule)

ANY QUESTIONS please email:

joyceshaffer@roadrunner.com



How to get your news out

The Utica Curling Club has several different ways to get news out to the members – and for members to stay informed.

Our website, <http://uticacurlingclub.org/tiki-index.php> is the place to go for the most up-to-date information. Contact our **webmasters**, Roger Rowlett and Mary Jane Walsh, at webmaster@uticacurlingclub.org if you have news updates or other information that goes on our website.

The *Curlogram*, distributed monthly 8 times a year, includes information about upcoming events, league signups, general reports about the sport of curling and our club, and news about our members. Send articles to **Ann Keabian**, Curlogram editor. The newsletter is sent electronically to all members with an email address and in paper to those who do not. We are trying to limit paper distribution as much as possible to save money and trees.

Email 'blasts' have both updates about UCC activities and information from other clubs and organizations (away bonspiels, etc.). You can 'opt out' on your membership form, but this is a source of information that isn't covered elsewhere. Contact **Joyce Shaffer** (joyceshaffer@roadrunner.com) if you have

information that should go out in a hurry.

Doreen Hayes sends sympathy, get well, and congratulations cards on behalf of the Utica Curling Club. Please let her know (email hayesdoreen@Hotmail.com or call 736-0394) if you know of a situation when a card is appropriate.

And don't forget the club bulletin boards and your favorite barstool as prime sources of 'what's up at the club!'

Using your UCC Web site

Online calendar. The most current calendar information is available on the UCC web site. There are two options for seeing scheduled events. Option 1 involves clicking on the Calendar link in the main menu. (You have to be logged in as a member to do that.) The calendar is color coded by men's, women's, mixed and open events, etc. Click on an event to get more details about scheduled time, and usually a link to the relevant web page. Option 2 is to look in the right-hand column of the web page, where you will see a little calendar. Any day in the calendar that is green and underlined has one or more events scheduled. Hover your mouse pointer over one of those links and you will get a popup of the events scheduled for that day. (If the list of events is long, you will only see the first few events.) If you click on a day with events, you will be taken to the main calendar.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Utica Curling Club website. At the top is a banner with the club's logo and contact information: "THE UTICA CURLING CLUB", "8300 Clark Mills Rd., Whitesboro, NY 13492-3912", and "315.736.1724". Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for Home, Join, Be a Sponsor, Ice Rental, Programs, Bonspiels, Leagues, and Media. A search bar and a "Log out" button are also present. The main content area features a "Welcome to the Utica Curling Club" message with a photo of a curling rink and the tagline "Where Central New York Plays the Hottest Sport on Ice". There are three main sections: "TRY CURLING" with a "Join Now!" button, "MEMBER NEWS AND NOTICES" with links to external resources, and "Upcoming Events" with a list of events including "1) Wed Oct 09, 2014 07:30 pm Try Curling at the Utica Curling Club, October 8, 9, 10. Public welcome." A sidebar on the left contains a "Menu" with links to Home, Search, Calendar, Wiki, File Galleries, Trackers, and Admin, along with a "Quick Edit a Wiki Page" button and a "Create/Edit" button.

Upcoming Events. You also see a list of Upcoming Events below the small calendar in the right column of the web page. These are non-league events that typically occur once during a curling season, such as league drafts, learn-to-curl sessions, bonspiels, etc. Chairs of events, please send information about your event (e.g. themes, entry forms, contact information, etc.) to the webmasters (webmaster@uticacurlingclub.org) so that we can encourage participation!

Scheduling make-up games or other special events. If you need to play a

makeup game or wish to schedule a special event, please consult the calendar and send a request to the scheduling chair (calendar@uticacurlingclub.org) so that your event will not conflict with previously scheduled events, and the calendar can be kept up to date.

Members-Only Pages. If you are in the membership database, you can access the Members Only pages of the web site. There, you will find an equipment exchange, minutes of board meetings, sub lists, a PDF of the roster, and many other goodies. You can only see these pages if you are logged in as a registered user. You will find the link under Home...Members Only. (Hover over the Home menu and select Members Only in the drop-down menu.)

Equipment Exchange. Have gently used equipment or clothing that you want to get rid of? Send contact information and price (including free) to M.J. at curlingschool@uticacurlingclub.org and she will post for you. Let her know when you've sold your items so that she can remove them from the webpage, or you'll keep getting requests!

Forgotten your username or password? Just click on *Log in* in the upper right hand corner of the web page. The login box will have an "I forgot my password" link at the bottom of the login box. Click on it and you will be taken to a web page to enter your email address OR username. Your user name is typically *Firstname <space> Lastname* (e.g. Robert Smith). If you can't remember your username (maybe it was "Robert Smith" or maybe it was "Bob Smith"?) you can enter your email address instead. If you choose the latter, you must enter the email address you provided with your membership dues form. If this works successfully, you will see a page that informs you that a password reset has been emailed to you. You will receive an email with a link to click on. If you don't see the email in a few minutes, check your spam box. Sometimes these types of messages get intercepted by overzealous spam software. Click on the link in the email message and you will be taken to a password reset page. Type in a new password twice. Please note that your password must contain both letters and numbers and be at least 8 characters long. The webmasters don't know your password and tell you what it is. Get an error message? Clear your browser cache and try again. Still having problems? Contact the webmaster (webmaster@uticacurlingclub.org) to have your account reset.

Please be patient if you are a new member. Your membership credentials will be uploaded to the web site as soon as we receive the full membership database in November. When we add you to the web site database, you should receive an email asking you to log in for the first time and type in your password. If you don't see that email—or it got sent to your spam box—you should be able to request a password reset yourself by using the procedure above for a forgotten password. —Roger Rowlett, Webmaster



<http://uticacurlingclub.org/tiki-index.php>

Membership

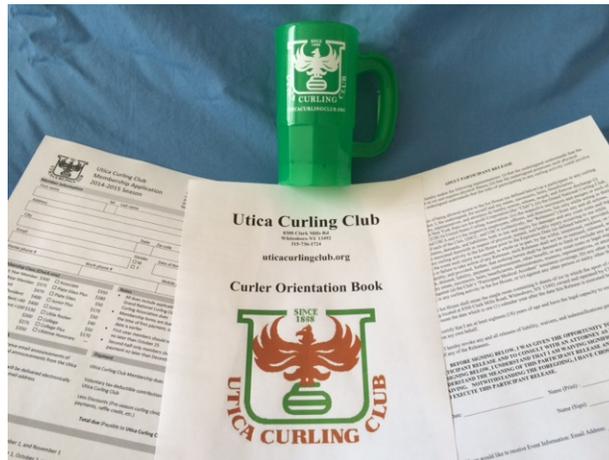
This summer while sitting on the deck and around a campfire or two, conversation turned to ways to increase membership and recruitment. Over the last year we have gathered email addresses from people who have attended the “Try Curling” and Olympic Try Curling Events. Since these

people had shown interest in Curling, it was decided to send an email out in late September to remind them of the dates and inviting them and their friends to come back and try curling again. This same email was sent to the entire membership as a reminder of the dates for “Try Curling” and members were asked to forward the mail to friends who might be interested. It is hoped that we will gather more contact information this year from “Try Curling” and corporate events for follow-up again next year.

We also discussed creating a booklet that contained information about curling and the Utica Curling Club and its leagues and Bonspiels in it in a logical manner for new curlers. Most of this information is scattered among various other sources including the web site. The *Curler Orientation Book* was created and consists of 21 pages of information from General Information, to Curling Basics, explanation of the Fall and Spring Leagues and Bonspiels, with a page or two devoted to the Curling School and membership structure and dues. This book is available from a link on the main page of the Utica Curling Club website and was sent to all members and the email lists of potential new curlers.

This year, when people come to the Try Curling, Our House is Your House Bonspiel and Learn to Curl nights they will be given a packet consisting of the *Curler Orientation Book*, an application and waiver and a 14oz Utica Curling Club Logo Stein. It is under consideration to do this for all Corporate Event participants.

--Carol Jones Membership Chair



Try curling packet



Instructor's Corner

Roger Rowlett & Mary Jane Walsh
USCA Level II Certified Instructors

I have trouble scoring 2 with the hammer, and can't seem to keep out of trouble without the hammer. My rocks always seem to be in the wrong place. Any suggestions?

—Skip N. Payne-Diaz

Rock placement is a topic that can generate a lot of discussion during the game, and a lot of second-guessing around the post-game table. New skips, especially, have a hard time sorting through “rules of thumb” like “keep the center open with hammer” and “keep the center blocked without hammer.” If only the game were so simple!

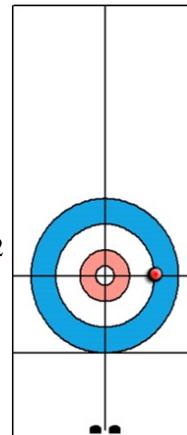
This article features a handful of common scenarios that occur in club curling games, with some suggestions about how these situations can be handled. Of course, there is more than one way to play a curling game, so you can take this advice for what it is worth—it's free, after all. In each scenario, you are shooting the red stones, and your opponent is shooting the yellow stones.

I got one in!

You have the hammer, and your team got off to a good start. The first opposition stone came into the house, and your lead made a beautiful board-weight hit-and-roll to the 12-foot. The takeout attempt by the opposition lead whiffed, leaving you shot rock with your lead's second shot coming up. Now what?

I'll bet that 9 out of 10 club skips will now attempt to split the house and lie 2, but this is probably not the best way to score 2 or more. Let's run the film forward to the conclusion of the end. To score your two, you “simply” have to draw in for 2nd stone, and then exchange hits, which will leave you sitting 2 after the last rock is thrown. Only there are 13 shots to go in the end. To score your deuce, your team will have to successfully make a draw to the house, and then hit-and-stick 6 times.

That means shooting 100% the rest of the way. On the other hand your opponent (the non-hammer team) can afford to hit and roll out on any of their takeouts—you (the hammer team) will have to successfully make a draw after a half-shot by the opponent to re-establish your potential deuce. If you (the hammer team) miss any shot or make a half-shot (i.e., a hit and roll out), your opponent can go after your other stone and lie 1 or 2, taking away your deuce opportunity. In other words, your opponent can shoot 50% and you still have to curl 100% to make your deuce stick. The purpose of curling strategy is to ensure that when you out-curl your opponent, you should win the game. If you are using a strategy that requires you to curl twice as good as your opponent, maybe it's not the right strategy!

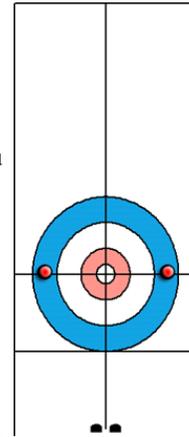


In this situation, you should consider throwing a corner guard over your shot stone. If you successfully throw the guard, the opposition will likely have to attempt a perfect freeze or waste two stones to remove shot rock. While your opponents are attempting to neutralize shot rock, you can elect to split the house. *Now* when you split the house, a hit and roll out by your team during an exchange of hits is not costly, because your other shot is still guarded. If you get a total miss out of your opponent (say a freeze attempt which comes up short or goes through) you can think about stuffing another rock around the corner guard, setting up a possible three. Even if your initial guard is not perfect, allowing your opponent to chip your stone out, you can still attempt to come around the corner guard to set up your deuce. So much possibility from a lowly guard!

So when, if ever, should you split the house? This is no universal answer, but thinking about the above discussion, you should probably not split the house until you are reasonably confident that your team is going to make the rest of their shots. For an elite team, maybe that's with your second lead stone. On a club team, you may want to wait to split the house until third's rocks, so you only have to make 3 or 4 consecutive perfect shots to score the deuce. The other reason to split the house is if your shot rock is behind tee line. Guarding a rock behind tee line gives your opponent an easy out by freezing or drawing above yours for shot, setting up a jam if you try to tap it out.

Embarrassment of riches

Sometimes, even when life is good, it's bad. Your team has managed to split the house with hammer and you got some huge misses from your opposition, leaving you sitting two and shooting. O beautiful day! Now where to put a third rock? You could guard one of your shot stones, but that would leave you scoring only 2 after your opponent takes out the open stone. If you remembered the rule of "keep the middle open with hammer" you would be tempted to draw to one side or the other, but that will likely leave a relatively easy double, or if you slip deep, a nice pocket for your opponent (non-hammer team) to freeze to. In this case, the best place to put your third stone is right on the centerline, near the button and level with your other stones to prevent any cross-house double. Spread 'em out as



much as possible. Your opponent will likely try to hit and roll toward one of your stones on the 12-foot, hoping to group stones for a future double, no easy shot to be sure. Alternatively, your opponent may try to freeze to shot stone, another difficult (and gutsy!) choice. If the freeze is not made, things could get really ugly! If you can keep the stones spread out for the rest of the end, you have a good chance of scoring 3. On the other hand, I have seen many teams escape this situation of 3-spread against them by making hits: just as in the first scenario, each half-shot by the hammer team potentially reduces their scoring potential by one stone.

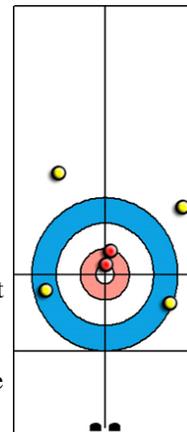
Run away!

This is a variation on the theme "sometimes the best guard is sitting 1-2". You

have played a wild end after your opponent (with hammer) froze to one of your stones on the wing. A freeze-tap-fest ensued with lots of rocks tapped to the back of the house or out, and you have somehow managed to get shot rock. Your shot rock in the wings is not really in a good position to steal, and it's looking pretty lonely in the house. With lonely shot rock without hammer and only one in the rings to your opponent's multiples, a guard here should be out of the question. Clearly, your opponent (with hammer) would like to keep play on the wings, hopefully tapping your stone back or even out of the rings. You need to sit 1-2 to counter the nibblers building up against you. But where to? You need to create a distraction away from the endangered shot rock. So put your next stone on the opposite side of the house to lie shot. Your opponent cannot ignore shot rock and therefore it will draw play away from the cluttered side of the house where your opponent wants to play.

When to guard with hammer

One of the golden rules of curling is to keep the center open when you have hammer. Even if you have shot rock in the middle of the rings. There is a good reason for this rule. If you guard your one and only shot rock on the top button with hammer, you just gave the other team the chance to cut down your scoring area by throwing a corner freeze around the guard you just gave them. Now to get your deuce, you will have to almost draw the button on the other side. If you have this situation with hammer, you should almost always direct play to the side of the sheet, especially so if the non-hammer team has no place to hit and roll under cover. Guarding lonely shot rock in the middle with hammer is a good way to turn deuces into singles.

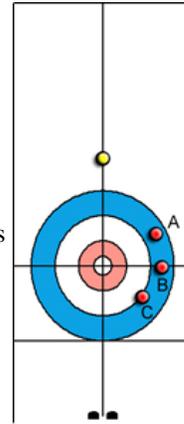


However, there are always exceptions to the "rules." In the accompanying diagram, you (with hammer) have managed to freeze two rocks on the four-foot behind your opponents center guard. Having had enough, your (non-hammer) opponent has peeled his guard and opened up the middle to gain access to your stones. If you blindly follow the "rules" you would ignore the stones in the center and draw behind the corner guard. Indeed, if you had only one stone on the four-foot, this would be a good call. But you have *two* stones on the four-foot now, enough to score a deuce already. If you guard, a freeze to the pile does not prevent you from scoring two. Indeed you may be able to score 3 with your last stone even against a successful freeze. Of course, if you go around the corner in the diagram position, you are still odds-on to score 2, and the pros will almost certainly play this way. But at the club level you may pose fewer problems for your opponent by playing to the corners. With one shot rock in the middle with hammer, spread the house; with 2 good rocks in the middle, consider guarding to lock up at least a deuce.

Where to put wing stones with hammer

One of the commonest strategies to score a deuce against a center guard is to play your first lead stone with hammer into the wings. The idea is to peel away the center guard(s) later in the end and either draw or take out the opponent's open shot rock for your second point. But exactly where do you put that first

rock? Another one of curling's hoary rules is "keep your rocks above tee line," but here it is not the best choice. If you place your stone at position "A", then it can be used by the opponents for a hit and roll to the four-foot above tee-line and behind the center guard. Choices "B" and "C" are better. "C" cannot be used by the opponents in a hit-and-roll attempt to roll to the four-foot. However, it is an attractive freeze target, and could act as a catcher in the back of the house for takeouts and tap-backs later in the end. Nevertheless, it could be your second counter for a "wing" deuce. Position "B" is a compromise between "A" and "C". A rock at position "B" is not the most attractive freeze opportunity, and is perhaps less likely to act as a catcher for takeouts and tap-backs. However, your opponents can use "B" to roll to the back four if needed. If you are playing the "wing" strategy for your deuce, do yourself a favor and put your stone at or behind tee line.



Evaluating your strategy

You are encouraged to track your own performance when selecting alternate strategies for various situations. For example, in scenario 1, how often you score a deuce when splitting the house early? How often when you split the house late in the end? How often when you guard shot rock in the wing early? How often do you score your deuce with a "wing" stone at tee line? Behind tee line? Keep track and you will know what works for you and your team.

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Send an email to curlingschool@uticacurlingclub.org



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“Our House is Your House” Bonspiel (that's curling jargon for game). Geared for people who are new to the sport, this half day event offers fun and fellowship and allows people a chance to experience the spirit of bonspieling.

Saturday, October 18th 2:30pm option instruction, 4:00-6:00pm curling,
followed by dinner & dancing.

For more information, contact the club at membership@uticacurlingclub.org
or visit: <http://uticacurlingclub.org>



Please distribute the poster above widely!!

A full-size, Word version is available *absolutely free, with no obligation!*

Contact Ann Kebabian — operators are standing by!

OCTOBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color/font key: General UCC events Ladies events Men's/Open events Mixed events GNCC events GNCC EVENTS at other clubs			Ice prep	Ice prep	Ice prep	Ice prep
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ice prep	Ice prep	Ice prep	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 "Try Curling" 7:30	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 "Try Curling" 7:30	"Try Curling" 7:30	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Board Mtg 6:00 College "Try Curling" 5:15	Rink Draft 7:00 "Learn to Curl" 6:00		"Try Curling" 7:30 Rink 8:00	"Try Curling" 7:30	"Try Curling" 7:30	"Our House is Your House" Bonspiel
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Open ice, ROCKS UCP 4:15-5:15 Curl School 3:30-5:00 College 5:15-7:15	Calder 5:45 Charbonneau 8:00	Mary Clark 9:45 Charbonneau 5:45 Open League 8:00	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 All American 5:45 Rink 8:00	Boerger Fun and Fitness 4:00	King's Cup 5:30&7:30 Fish fry	Welcoming Party 6:30 Utica-Schenectady -Albany Friendly (?)
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Open ice, ROCKS 2:15-4:15 UCP 4:15-5:15 Curl School 3:30-5:00 College 5:15-7:15	Calder 5:45 Charbonneau 8:00	Mary Clark 9:45 Charbonneau 5:45 Open League 8:00	CABVI curling 3:00-5:00 All American 5:45 Rink 8:00	Boerger Fun and Fitness 4:00 E.S. Plydins	King's Cup 5:30&7:30 Fish fry	

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

<http://uticacurlingclub.org>

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