President’s message

I hope you all had a chance to read the Fall 2015 edition of the United States Curling News. Inside, you would have seen that UCC member Bob Prenoveau is the recipient of the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award for the U.S. Wheelchair National Program. Bob was recognized for his participation on two U.S. National teams, included the team that brought home a bronze medal at the 2008 World Championships. In addition he was lauded for his work with Upstate Cerebral Palsy and CABVI. Congratulations Bob on a well deserved honor.

Our own Roger Rowlett is conducting some interesting research on the characteristics of some of the newer brush head materials, and their potential effects on the playing surface. I’m hoping he shares some of his findings in a future Curlogram.

The next event on our calendar is the Turkey Spiel. Don't shop for your holiday meal until after you come home with the grand prize from this fun event.

—John Jacon
Message from the Glengarries President

The opening party for the Utica Glengarry’s was held on September 24th at Aqua Vino’s Restaurant. A special thanks to Eileen Sunderhaft for putting together a great opening party menu and making the delicious home-made dessert. It was a fun filled evening that welcomed back our members.

Our All American bonspiel was the first event on our club’s ice and calendar that started off our curling season. Thanks to Joyce Shaffer and her committee who helped put together a wonderful bonspiel and yummy snacks. Thirty women curlers participated in the All American.

On Saturday, November 14th, the Utica Glengarries will host the USA Friendly. If you haven’t already signed up please contact Melon Sofinski at Melon3@me.com or 315 263-5157.

Keep women’s curling ALIVE…See you on the ice!!
—Jacquelyn R. Schmidt, Glengarry President

All American Results

A Event Winners: Lis DeGironimo, skip; Jen Turner (Julie Chanatry) Becky Schewe (Ann Kebabian), Rebecca Kick
A Event Runners-up: Karen Rogowski (Mellon Sofinski), MJ Walsh, Pam Jones, Karen Barnes

B Event Winners: Liz Nolan, skip; Jacquelyn Schmidt, Pat Mihalko (Vicky Sheardown) Eileen Sunderhaft
B Event Runners-up: Dawn Scherer, skip; Heather Swirecz, Colleen Welch, Tami Dunnigan

C Event Winners: Donna Caleo, skip; Peggy Caneen, Jan Rishel (Brenda Citriniti), Dee Pfohl
C Event Runners-up: Joyce Shaffer, skip, Sue Gardner, Queen Mary, Jeannie Galvin (Kristen Smith)
Dear Curling Pilgrims,

It's hard to believe the holidays are creeping up! The highlight of the Thanksgiving season will be the Annual Turkey Spiel. If you have already participated, nothing more needs to be said. For the rest of you -please consider joining us this year for a great time!

The event this year will be held on Saturday, November 21st.

The day includes two 5-end draws. A five member team will rotate through the four positions (one player sits out each end) so that everyone will get a chance to play in each of the four positions -something they may not have done previously. It's a great learning experience!

This is an ideal opportunity for 5 yr. and Under's and especially First Year curlers. The event is very relaxed. You'll get the benefit of playing with people who have a lot of experience, who will be willing to share their knowledge of curling with you.

Between the two draws there will be time for snacks. After the second draw Dominic will serve up his Thanksgiving feast.

The cost of the event this year will be $25, which includes dinner. If you’re unable to curl please consider joining us for dinner for $17. In order to keep costs this low there will not be a “curling only” price.

Please look for the sign-up sheet on the Mixed board. Registration will close the Monday before the spiel.

If you have any questions, please call Mitch at 271-5199.

Good Curling! —Mitch & Karen
**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. We have currently raised over $10,000 for the Club.

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 you 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 the Broomhanging 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 34 spots taken which resulted in $1700 being raised to reduce our mortgage. Otherwise remember each time you go to find your broom: walking is good exercise. Sign up now, it’s good for you and good for the Club. —Don Knapp
Welcome Back Party a Success!

Our club’s kick off opening party for the 2015-2016 Season was a fun filled evening welcoming back old members and welcoming our new members. The sixty-four people who attended enjoyed drinks, dinner, trivia and fellowship. A special thanks to the caterer who served a great meal and to all who donated their time and talents that helped make the evening a great night for all. The event was sponsored by the Utica Glengarries.

Glengarry Christmas Party

SAVE THE DATE: Monday, December 14, 2015 for our annual Glengarry Christmas Party. It will be held at the Utica Curling Club, look for more info in our next Curlogram.

Volunteers Needed for the 10th Annual U.S. Open International Wheelchair Bonspiel

The 10th Annual U.S. Open International Wheelchair Bonspiel will be taking place at UCC on December 4-6. Thus far, ten teams have registered including Korea, Scotland and Switzerland as well as several teams from Canada and USA. Volunteers are needed to assist with rock handling throughout the weekend. Draws are Friday morning/afternoon, all day Saturday and Sunday morning. Come see athletes competing in the 2016 World Championships and help make this a memorable experience for all!

Please contact Marc DePerno at mdeperno@sitrin.com or 737-2459 for more information.
TO ALL 5 YR and UNDER CURLERS!

As a relatively new curler, my experience has been that those of us with 5 or less years of curling under our belts have needs and interests that may not be fully shared by the more experienced members of the club.

In order to test this theory, I am proposing a meeting for us to express our personal thoughts, interests and suggestions in this matter. If the interest is there, I’d like to put together a committee to help coordinate our activities at the club.

If this appeals to anyone, please send me your email address so I can put together a mailing list and organize an evening get-together in the near future. My email address is rmrubinovich@gmail.com. You can also reach me by phone at: 315.271.5199

‘Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Good Curling, Mitch Rubinovich

---

Donations of toiletries & cosmetics needed

There is a box (under the sink) in the ladies’ locker room for donations of toiletries and cosmetics going to local shelters and other institutions for people in need. Soaps, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, lotions, unused cosmetics, nail polish, and the like are all useful. Many times the clients arrive with only the clothes on their backs, having fled from a disastrous situation, and personal care basics are always needed and appreciated. Even the small ‘freebies’ from hotels are accepted. Peggy Rotton will be collecting and distributing the donations. She is also happy to hear of institutions that could use our help.

---

UCC Cookbooks available!

These will make great gifts for the holidays, birthdays, and many other occasions. The cookbooks are available at the UCC bar or from any Cookbook Committee member. Buy one for yourself and one for a gift, and help the Glengarries meet their fundraising commitment. –Peggy Rotton, chair, Cookbook Committee
2016 Men’s Ladder Sign Up

The signup sheets for the 2016 Men’s Ladder (Men’s second half leagues) will be posted in the Men’s Locker Room. Please sign up for as many nights as possible so we will have teams for all skips currently in the ladder.

This year there will be three events as follows:

- Garber   Monday   8 PM
- Allen    Tuesday  7 PM
- Sims     Wednesday 8 PM

Remember to indicate the number of events you would like to curl in and mark all the events you would be available to curl. See the instructions and examples next to the signup sheets.

New curlers are encouraged to sign up for men’s leagues. Please ask me or someone on the Men’s Committee about signing up if you are a new curler and have questions. The more you curl the better curler you become.

Skips, please mark the skips signup sheet indicating whether you plan on skipping in the ladder this year. If you are eligible to be a returning skip and would like to re-enter the ladder, please sign up on the skips signup sheet under returning skips.

Sign up deadline is Saturday December 12th. Early signup is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

Curling begins Monday January 6th and runs for 11 weeks.

Draft dates are as follows:

- Sims   Monday   December 14.
- Allen  Wednesday December 16.
- Garber Monday   December 21.

All drafts are at 7 PM at the club.

Thanks

Jerry Stevens
Men’s Ladder Chairman

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The Early Bird Friendly will be held December 10 and 12

We aim to make this fun for both new and experienced curlers
Glengarry Holiday Fundraiser

Beautiful 6” pot, 5 bloom Poinsettias

Only $10.00 each
Pink / Red / White

High-tech brooms can “steer” the rock
… but top teams say they won’t use them.

New types of brooms with directional fabric or coarse material allow sweepers to manipulate the rock in ways they never could before.

The story (including videos) is on the CBC website (http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/top-curling-teams-say-they-won-t-use-high-tech-brooms-1.3274903)

Happenings

Jill Jones, mother of Pam Jones, died Oct. 18th after a brief illness.

Our condolences go to her family and friends.
Instructor’s Corner
Roger Rowlett & Mary Jane Walsh

Why is my team so slow? How long should it take to play a game?
—Mark N. Thyme

Slow play is a common problem at curling clubs everywhere. The pros of course play with a game clock—in the past, 73 minutes per team to complete 10 ends, and today 38 minutes of thinking time for 10 ends, or 30 minutes of thinking time for 8 ends. You go over your allotted time, you forfeit the game. Any way you slice it, an 8-end game should take about 2 hours to complete using these timing rules as a guide. (The pros get some additional time between each end; this is usually not the case for club leagues.)

Some clubs use total time game clocks to force the conclusion of play after a set time—for example, ringing a bell after 1 hour 50 minutes, signaling you must finish the end you are in and no more—but such rules are not entirely in the spirit of the game. If one or both teams play slowly, the game may not complete the normal number of ends: this can dramatically affect strategy, such as trying to retain the hammer in even ends. In the worst possible case, an unethical team can stall with the lead to shorten the game by an end or two.

So why do so many club games stretch well beyond the 2 hours required for complete 8 ends of play? There is not necessarily one reason for slow play, but many. What are they and how can they be avoided?

Not being on time

It goes without saying that you can’t finish on time if you don’t start on time. If the ice is ready, there is no reason not to go on the ice early, shake hands with your opponents, and take your practice slides before the official game start time. If hammer and stone colors are not pre-selected, this can be accomplished ahead of time as well, maybe even in the warm room. The U.S. Curling Association rules put a premium on getting started on time: you are penalized one full end for being one minute late, two ends for being more than 15 minutes late, and forfeited if more than 30 minutes late (Rule 11.i.i). Club rules are often more lax, but that should not be an excuse to hold up a game for everyone else. Get to the club on time.
**Slow decision making**

Slow decision making is a major contributor to slow play. Decision making has to be pretty snappy to keep a game moving. Let’s do some math. To throw eight ends worth of stones will require 128 x 24 seconds: that’s 128 stones that might require as much as 24 seconds each to be released and come to rest. That’s 51 minutes right there. Add 8 more minutes total to clear the stones after each end, and you are up to 59 minutes just to make shots and clean up after every end of play. That leaves each team about 30 minutes to think about how to play 64 shots: that is, you have an average of 28 seconds to decide on a shot. If one team takes an extra 10 seconds on every shot making decision, that’s an extra 10+ minutes. Ideally, a team will want to reserve some extra thinking time for the more complicated thirds and skips stones, when houses are often messier and/or critical, game-changing decisions must be made. This means calling more routine shots earlier in the end more quickly.

Skips can help their teams play faster by managing time better:

The first shot of an end should not be a mystery requiring extensive thought. A skip should already know what kind of end strategy, and therefore what initial shot sequence to call, based on score and end of play.

For routine shots—say an obvious takeout of shot stone—the skip should put the broom down and call the shot right away. Save thinking time for more challenging shots later in the game. Veteran skips will often have the broom down for the next shot before all the stones have come to rest.

Use simple broom- and hand-signals your team understands to communicate shot-calling. There is no need to make extensive “John Madden” diagrams on the ice or yell up and down the ice.

Don’t skip by committee: this is a tremendous time-waster. Most teams are not a democracy: the third may occasionally provide input to the skip; the front end should normally not provide strategic input unless asked. The only thing worse than a bad game plan is four game plans. (The “Three Tenors” was a good concept. The “Four Skips” is a disaster.) And arguing up and down the ice about which of four game plans is the right one. Don’t be “that” team.

If you are finding as a skip that you need lots of time to make strategy decisions, maybe you are trying to call too complicated a game. Playing a more open game with more takeouts and fewer draws is usually easier to call and may speed up your flow, not
to mention cause less decision angst.

**Not being ready**

It would be too easy, and disingenuous, to blame skips entirely for slow play. Arguably, teammates are just as culpable for slowing the pace of a game. Remember, 10 seconds per shot saved will shorten the game by 10 minutes; if your opponents do the same, that’s 20 minutes saved! The best way to save this kind of time is to simply be ready when it is your turn to play:

- Be in the hack and cleaning your stone *before* the skip calls your shots. As soon as the opposing player before you releases their stone, circle back to the hack from your position between the hog lines, retrieve your stone, remove your gripper, get your stabilizer, and get ready to make your shot. Don’t be the guy who gets caught every end: “What, it’s my turn to shoot? Where is my stabilizer?”

- When you make your shot, by all means participate in the execution of the shot, but when your role is done, stop admiring your handiwork and get to the sidelines or retreat to the boards. If you stand in the middle of the ice, gawking, the other team can’t call their shot and deliver their stone until you move out of the way.

- Set up stones for all your teammates, not just your skip. You will be amazed at how much time this saves over the course of a game.

- On the other hand, *do not set up stones for your opponents*. This may seem like a gracious, time-saving courtesy, but more often than not it is an annoyance and a time-waster for your opponents. You do not know what shooting order the opponents are using, and by moving rocks from the rock nest, you may be creating a trip hazard by putting stones where your opponents do not expect them. Let the other team deal with their stones.

- If you are playing lead, you should not be clearing stones at the conclusion of the end. The seconds and thirds can handle that quite well on their own. Leads should be back on the boards getting ready for their first shots.

**Not clearing the ice promptly**

A major source of wasted time in a typical league game is players of the delivering team lingering on the ice after a shot is concluded.
When your team’s shot is completed, hie thee away from the center of the sheet toward the sidelines, where you can make your way back to the delivering end in preparation for the next shot for your team. (And when you get back to the other end and the opponent’s stone is delivered, keep going back and set up your team’s next stone.)

If you feel you must have a conversation with your skip after the completion of a shot, assemble at the sideline at the far hogline, or continue to the boards so that your opponents can call and deliver their next shot. Don’t be the guy having the strategy conversation in front of the house while the other team is trying to call a shot.

**Being overly fastidious**

Every club has its obsessive-compulsive members who must have things in perfect order when competing on the ice. While this type of behavior is often commendable in other areas of life, in curling it can be a cause of slow play.

The stones do not have to be in numerical order, nor do they have to be in a perfect geometrical arrangement at the beginning of each end. If your teammates are finding and setting up your stones, this “pre-arrangement” of stones does not save any time.

Some individuals have elaborate pre-shot rituals. It is perfectly normal—and competitively necessary—to have a set pre-shot routine. However, if your routine takes more than a handful of seconds, you don’t have a routine, you have a ceremonial ritual. (Break out the incense.) I once put a stopwatch on an opponent skip who had an incredibly agonizing pre-shot ritual: almost 60 seconds from arrival at the hack to release of the stone. For this team, the skip alone was responsible for prolonging the game by 15 minutes or so.

If you and your team can successfully implement even a handful of these suggestions, you should be able to shave many minutes off every game. And you won’t feel rushed. The nice thing about a well-paced game is how much fun it is. Heck, you might even find you curl better. One thing is for sure: win or lose, the sooner you finish, the sooner you will get to the bar afterwards for a refreshing beverage!

*Good curling! Have a question for Instructor’s Corner? Have a suggestion for an Instructor’s Corner article? Send an email to curlschool@uticacurlingclub.org*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1
Cup game
12:00-2:00
Open Ice, ROCKS
2:15-4:15 | 2
Curl School 3:30-5:00
College 5:15-7:15 | 3
Mary Clark 9:45 | 4
Calder 5:45
Charbonneau 8:00 | 5
ROSS TAFNY
Niagara Falls, CA
Kaiser Fun and Fitness 4:00 | 6
ROSS TAFNY
King’s Cup 9:30
Fish fry | 7
ROSS TAFNY | 8
R.O.C.K.S. 2:15-4:15 | 9
Board Mtg 6:00
Curl School 3:30-5:00
College 5:15-7:15 | 10
Mary Clark 9:45 | 11
Calder 5:45
Charbonneau 8:00 | 12
Kaiser Fun and Fitness 4:00 | 13
GNCC Sr Women’s Broomstones
King’s Cup 9:30
Fish fry | 14
GNCC Sr Women’s
Utica–Schenectady –Albany Friendly (Utica) | 15
GNCC Sr Women’s Open Ice, ROCKS
2:15-4:15 | 16
Curl School 3:30-5:00
College 5:15-7:15 | 17
Mary Clark 9:45 | 18
Calder 5:45
Charbonneau 8:00 | 19
Kaiser Fun and Fitness 4:00 | 20
King’s Cup 9:30
Fish fry | 21
Turkey Spiel | 22
Open Ice, ROCKS
2:15-4:15 | 23
Curl School 3:30-5:00 | 24
Mary Clark 9:45 | 25
Calder 5:45
Charbonneau 8:00 | 26
Thanksgiving | 27
Ice Maintenance | 28
Ice Maintenance | 29
Ice available for practice | 30
Calder 5:45
Charbonneau 8:00 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Clark 9:45</td>
<td>CAB VI 5:45</td>
<td>Boeger Fun and Fitness 4:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(2 ch)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bonnie Piper 5:45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rink 8:00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E.S. Pydros 6:45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>7 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>8 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>9 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>10 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>11 Wheelchair Int'l Bonspiel</td>
<td>12 Early Bird Friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curl School 3:30-5:00</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
<td>College 5:15-7:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Curl School 3:30-5:00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>21 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>22 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>23 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>24 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>25 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
<td>26 Murray Semis 8:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>28 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>29 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>30 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>31 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>32 Garber draft 7:00</td>
<td>33 New Year's Eve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

http://uticacurlingclub.org
DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR ALL CHANGES, UPDATES, AND ADDITIONS!

http://uticacurlingclub.org