



THE ROYAL MONTREAL CURLING CLUB

News...from the Hack!

November 2018



©Caroline Tabah

Goodness, that rock looks big! See inside for more photos from the October 13th Open House.

Juniors' program

RMCC member Mark Billings is putting together a junior curling program on Sundays (time TBD, but it looks like 10 am to noon). We are welcoming new junior curlers, between the ages of 12 and 17, to join. Mark has a couple of juniors lined up already and is in need of a few more. The perfect number would be eight players. A Junior membership is \$110 + tax.

Anyone interested please contact Mark at the coordinates below, as he is the volunteer coordinator of the program.

Mark Billings
mark@marengomgt.com
Cell: 514-296-1641

See inside for details about Oyster Night!!



Hey, wait a minute! If I lose my shell, am I naked or homeless?

"Foot fair, draw to a hair. Your stone being well directed. You'll hit your aim and win your game. If you miss, be not dejected."

President's message / Message du Président



Michael Stearns
President/Président

Dear members,

The season has gotten off to a very busy start with most leagues having two healthy draws, at 6pm and 8pm. Our ice team continues to work hard to give us quality conditions. It is up to league managers and members though to help maintain the ice cleanliness for all.

Our Open House event was a complete success, congratulations to all who organized and volunteered with their time and food. We had nearly 100 people go through the on-ice lesson. We signed up over a dozen people for our six-session Learn to Curl program and many of these signed up as member immediately, so lots of new faces in the club. Please introduce yourselves and make everyone feel welcome.

You may have seen our new School of Rocks Learning Center in the Trophy Room. There will be weekly lessons for members' benefit and to meet the requirements of our education plan. Please take the time to read the lessons and confirm that you have done this in the binder nearby (name, date, initials and remarks).

Chers membres,

La saison a pris un départ très occupé avec la plupart des ligues ayant presque deux départs complets, 18h00 et 20h00. Notre équipe de glace continue de travailler fort pour nous donner des conditions de qualité dans l'aréna. Il appartient aux gestionnaires et aux membres des ligues d'aider à maintenir la propreté de la glace pour tous.

Notre journée portes ouvertes a été un succès total, félicitations à tous ceux qui ont organisé et donner de leur temps, ainsi que la nourriture. Nous avons eu près de 100 personnes qui ont participé sur la glace, nous avons enregistré plus d'une douzaine de personnes pour les 6 sessions Apprendre Le Curling et beaucoup d'entre eux sont devenus membres immédiatement. Donc, beaucoup de nouveaux visages dans le Club, s'il vous plaît vous présenter pour que tout le monde se sentent les bienvenus.

Vous avez peut-être vu notre nouveau Centre d'Apprentissage School of Rocks dans la salle des trophées. Il y aura des leçons hebdomadaires pour le bénéfice des membres et pour répondre aux exigences de notre plan d'éducation.

Veuillez prendre le temps de lire les leçons et de confirmer que vous l'avez fait dans le cartable à proximité (nom, date, initiales et remarques).

Enjoy this curling season. Profitez de cette saison de curling!

Michael

What an Open House!!!

Nearly 100 people participated in the on-ice session. Thank you so very much to all of the volunteers who helped make the day a success.

Here's a selection of photos, courtesy of Caroline Tabah.



©Caroline Tabah



Match Committee says “Speed it up!”

If your game starts at 6pm, the first stone should be travelling down the ice at 6pm. That’s one of the ways the RMCC’s Match Committee believes will help games make it to eight full ends. Another way is being mindful of the speed of play. As soon as your opponent has left the hack, you should be in it. Clean your rock and be ready for your skip’s instruction.

The Match Committee also recently decided that your final end may begin 10 minutes prior to the end of regulation time. However, this final end will only be a half end with four rocks per team. This half end is meant to allow for the conclusion of games without the need for a draw to the button.



OYSTER NIGHT

Please join us Thursday, Nov. 22 for a Cinq-à-Sept with one of Montreal’s best Oyster Shuckers.

*Oysters + Nibbles + Curlers
= A Great Evening*

SOIRÉE D’HUITRES

Rejoignez-nous le jeudi 22 novembre pour un 5 à 7 avec un huîtreur bien connu.

*Huîtres + Grignotines + Curlers
= Une belle soirée*

Time/heure: 17h à 19h

Date: le 22 novembre

Price/prix: 35,00 \$



*Why do oysters go to the gym? It's good for the mussel. * What kind of picture does an oyster take? A Shell-fie. * How do oysters communicate? With shell-phones. * Did you hear about the oyster that was in a gang? It was the hired mussel. *

The complete 2018 – 2019 events calendar

Date	Event
22-Nov-18	Oyster Night: all members and guests, 17h00-19h00
24-Nov-18	Richler Cup Qualifications 1 (Snooker): all members and public, 12h00
25-Nov-18	Grey Cup Party: all members and guests, 17h00
01-Dec-18	St Andrew's Day Luncheon: members of The St. Andrew's Society and their guest of honour are our guests. All members and guests, 12h00
7-Dec-18	Christmas Dinner and Dance: all members and guests, 18h00
01-Jan-19	New Year's Levee and Brunch (War Memorial): New Year's tradition mixing morning curling (10h00) and exceptional food 12h00). All members and guests.
24-Jan-19	Founders Day and The Robbie Burns Dinner: Celebration of Scottish bard, Robbie Burns and Club foundations of January 22, 1807. All members and guests, 18h00
03-Feb-19	Super Bowl Party: all members and guests, 17h00
13-Mar-19	Irish Pub Night: all members and guests, 18h00
23-Mar-19	Richler Cup Qualifications 2 (Snooker): all members and public, 12h00
30-Mar-19	Kurling 4 Kids: charity event where 12 curling clubs in the Montreal area raise money for The Montreal Children's Hospital and L'Hôpital Ste-Justine. Members enter teams, fundraise, sell raffle tickets or become a sponsor, 09h00-17h00
26-Apr-19	Closing Night: all members and guests. Competition prizes are presented, 18h00

Historical Notes: *CRAMPITS AND CREEPERS*

Crampits and creepers were iron frames with short spikes strapped on the feet. They destroyed the ice and were replaced by "hacks": a hole about one inch deep hacked into the ice to provide purchase. Other aids to stone delivery were small mats with tacks on which the curler stood.

Submitted by Pat Forbes, Club Historian



The Harvest Dinner on October 18 was great fun – in part due to this trivia contest. Can you match the "fun fact" to the RMCC Member? (answers page 11)

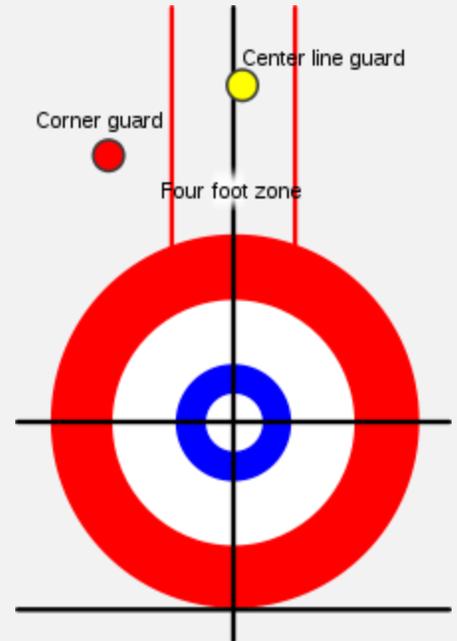
1. I was selected to do a movie screen test with Kris Kristofferson	
2. I raced F3 cars at Silverstone	
3. I love bird watching	
4. I was a toy buyer for Zellers	
5. I received the "Gold Cord" (one of the highest honours in Girl Guides)	
6. I played Tarzan in a skit at Club Med	
7. I was in a singing/dancing troupe called the Fossil Club that raised money for charities	
8. I canoed down the Soper River on Baffin Island	
9. I lived in a grungy hotel in Istanbul for a month	
10. I rode an elephant in India in search of Bengal tigers	
11. My first job was in Gimli MB (home of the famous incident with Air Canada's "Gimli Glider")	
12. I once ate 50 chicken wings in one sitting	
13. I spent a season meditating in India	
14. I have hiked the West Coast Trail	
15. I was a DJ for a 3-hour jazz show on radio CHSR-FM	
16. I've kayaked the Saguenay River from Sainte-Rose-du-Nord down to Tadoussac – solo	
17. I walk under ladders for good luck	
18. I won a lip sync contest as Cindy Lauper	
19. I gave Mike Weir a golf lesson	
20. I'm a minor league hockey coach, and my team has won a provincial championship	
21. I have scuba dived with great white sharks	
22. I did an aerobatic flight in an open cockpit Tiger Moth	
23. Cucumbers love me because I won't eat them	
24. I was a ski racing coach	
25. I played rugby for 20 years – without breaking any bones	
26. I did a parachute jump from 10,000 feet	
27. I hate tapioca pudding	
28. I talk to myself all the time	
29. I translated a play that has been produced twice in Montreal	
30. I won the NRA Rifle Sharp Shooting trophy	
31. I bought a car for less than \$200 and toured Europe in it	

- A. Alison Bowie
- B. Andrew Haberl
- C. Andrew Shatilla
- D. Andrew Tucker
- E. Anne Dixon
- F. Barbara Kalkhok
- G. Betty O'Connor
- H. Beverley Hutchison
- I. Dick Macklem
- J. Esther Wearing
- K. Giovina Rogers
- L. Glen Nobes
- M. Glenn Rourke
- N. Grace Shatilla
- O. Jane Allan
- P. Jim Mathewson
- Q. John Montgomery
- R. Louis Bedard
- S. Louis Gascon
- T. Mary Jo Gascon
- U. Michael Stearns
- V. Paul Adamson
- W. Reme Adamson
- X. Robert Boisvert
- Y. Ryan Maliska
- Z. Sandy Chisholm
- aa. Suzanne Coté
- bb. Tony Kalkhok
- cc. Tracy Johnstone
- dd. Wendy Cude
- ee. Zac Campbell

Five-rock free guard zone in effect

The RMCC is following the lead of the World Curling Federation (WCF) and Curling Canada by implementing the five-rock free-guard zone this season. The four-rock rule previously applied. The expanded rule will add another protected rock to the four that can't be removed from the area between the hog line and the house. The fifth stone is expected to increase offence, reduce blank ends and generally lead to more entertaining games.

Under the four-rock rule, teams could remove a second guard with their fifth shot. With five rocks, none of the guards can be removed until the fifth stone has been played. The free-guard zone has been around curling since 1993, with some modifications to the number of stones. Previously, none of the rocks were protected and teams could peel guards when they got an early lead, which led to low-scoring and boring games. Canadians originally played a three-rock free-guard zone while the WCF played under the four-rock rule. Canada eventually adopted the four-rock rule.



Richler Cup Qualifier – November 24

Our snooker table will have some esteemed visitors on November 24th when the club will host qualifying play for the Richler Cup.

The Richler Cup is the largest international open tournament in Canada with a \$20,000 prize pool. The cup is named for famed author Mordecai Richler and saw its humble beginnings in their Eastern Townships home. We are pleased to associate ourselves to this event, please help us support it.



Notre table de snooker aura quelques visiteurs estimés le 24 novembre prochain quand le Club accueillera le jeu de qualification pour la coupe Richler.

La Richler Cup est le plus grand tournoi international ouvert au Canada avec une bourse de prix de \$20 000. La coupe porte le nom de l'auteur célèbre, Mordecai Richler, et vit ses humbles débuts dans la maison familiale dans les Cantons-de-l'Est. Nous sommes heureux de nous associer à cet événement, s'il vous plaît aidez-nous à le soutenir.

RMCC's Ice Committee wants a clean sheet, literally

Help keep our ice in great shape. The Ice Committee has these friendly requests of members:

- ❖ Please clean your shoes thoroughly on carpets and sticky sheets when entering the ice shed.
- ❖ Use corn brooms vigorously around hack areas at both ends after each game before using the dry mop.
- ❖ Clean your brush-head repeatedly during games, over garbage bins – and NOT OVER THE ICE
- ❖ Wipe the bottom of your rock before each delivery
- ❖ Brush off any dirt spotted on the ice during games
- ❖ If your knee touches the ice during your delivery, do not prolong the contact. Try to minimize the body contact with the ice as your body's temperature will melt the ice and cause indentations.



We shall have more pebbling and nipping clinics soon to help improve ice preparation. The more members that are qualified to pebble and nip, the better the ice shall be.

Glenn Rourke
Chair, Ice Committee

And under this rock...a "rock"

The importance of how debris on the ice can impact a game hit home for one Chicken League team recently. The just-delivered rock ground to a halt without travelling very far at all. A closer inspection of the underside of the stone revealed that a "rock" of a different sort got in the way.

A jeweler's appraisal revealed this rhinestone dates from the 1920s or 1930s. All Princess Curlers, please see Jenny in the office if you are missing a stone from your tiara.



Players needed for MacDonald Trophy competition

The **MacDonald Trophy** competition was started after our Bicentennial St. Andrew's Bonspiel in 2006/2007 which was won by The Pointe Claire Curling Club (PCCC). The trophy was originally donated by Art MacDonald to St, Georges Curling Club and after years of disuse was revived in 2008 as a Friendly between RMCC and PCCC. Art MacDonald was L. Ian MacDonald's father and each year Ian attends the dinner to talk about Canadian or U.S. politics.

This year's competition takes place at PCCC on Thursday, November 15th. Curling at 3:30pm; dinner at 7:00pm. The cost is around \$50.00 for the dinner plus a donation to The Montreal Gazette Christmas Fund of between \$50 and \$100.

We require 12 players from RMCC. If you are interested in playing in this very enjoyable Friendly and meeting members of PCCC, please contact me. If we have more than 12 members who are interested, will use a selection process that will allow as many players to participate as possible. Later in the year there will be two other Friendlies: on Saturday March 16th vs Jacques Cartier Curling Club in Quebec City and The Thistle Friendly on Monday, April 1st vs the alumni of the Thistle Curling Club that used to be on Fort Street, around the corner from RMCC.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in playing in The MacDonald Friendly.

Submitted by Andy Shatilla , andrew.shatilla@gmail.com
514-378-5686

Lunch & Bridge – Nov. 12

The Ladies' Fall social bridge and lunch is open to all. This is an opportunity to show off your club to your bridge playing friends. Just organize a table of four members or friends for 12 noon when the bar opens, followed by lunch and cards.

It is necessary to sign up on the bulletin board or via Jenny in the office, no later than Nov 5 We look forward to seeing you on Monday November 12 at RMCC.

Submitted by Pat Hamilton



Wednesday guest speaker luncheons* 11h30 – bar/ 12h15 - lunch

Date	Speaker/Subject
31-Oct-18	Jon Eakes, The CJAD Fix-It Man
14-Nov-18	Adam Daifallah, U.S. Mid-Term Elections
28-Nov-18	Lisa Byer-de-Wever, St. Columba House
05-Dec-18	Andy Shatilla, 2018 Scotland Tour
12-Dec-18	Matthew Zoern, Drones
16-Jan-19	Michel Langelier, Innovation Consortium, Artificial Intelligence/QC Innovation Plan
23-Jan-19	Sam Allison, Scottish heritage topic for Robbie Burns week

*Please note that a light lunch will be offered on Wednesdays when no speaker scheduled.

Municipal tax exemption update

There is no word yet from the Commission municipal du Quebec (CMQ) on our tax exemption application. As you may recall from the last newsletter, the RMCC pays approximately \$70,000 annual in municipal property taxes. Following the lead of other clubs such as Glenmore, the RMCC has recently filed an application to allow the RMCC to be exempt from municipal taxes. Our thanks to:

- ❖ **Jenny Jasper** who did all the heavy lifting and spearheaded the preparation of the tax exemption application and generated many descriptive documents about the RMCC which will end up on the RMCC's website.
- ❖ **Adam Daifallah** who reviewed our application and provided judicious strategic advice based on his extensive experience dealing with municipal officials.
- ❖ **Louis Bédard** who helped with the preparation of a descriptive blueprint or sketch of the layout of the RMCC.
- ❖ **Michael Taub** for forcefully driving the tax exemption file forward during his tenure as RMCC's Director At Large
- ❖ The new RMCC coach **Rahul Majumdar** who is working on revising and updating the RMCC's curling manual that we will have on hand for the hearing, in case it is requested.
- ❖ **Ralph Faraggi** who reviewed and provided input on all the documentation and signed the sworn statement as to the accuracy of the information provided in our application.

Since Ralph has attested to the documentation, he will be RMCC's representative in the event we are called to a hearing before a panel of the CMQ. Others may attend with Ralph.

Changes in the Club Office

As many of you already know, Cathy Ransom, a friendly RMCC Tuesday and Thursday accounting presence since the Fall of 2009, will be leaving us this December. She already works in another not-for-profit during the rest of the week and felt that she wanted to make some room for a person who would be able to commit more time to our growing RMCC operations. Cathy has been a crucial part of Club office for the past 9 years and we will miss her greatly.

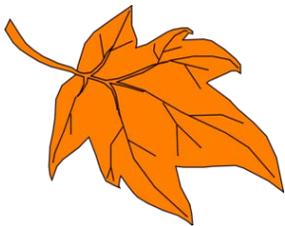


Cathy Ransom and Ibrahim Ba

Ibrahim Ba, a recent graduate from LaSalle College's Accounting program, and originally from Mali,

will be taking over her position once he is fully trained, along with providing the office with much-needed administrative support. He is a kind, hard-working fellow who many of you have already met and welcomed.

For those of you interested, we will be holding a little send off for Cathy sometime in December. Please stay posted for details.



Harvest Trivia Answers

1. J	2. bb	3. Q	4. N	5. dd	6. Z	7. L	8. M	9. P	10. O
11. E	12. K	13. B	14. G	15. U	16. R	17. H	18. aa	19. D	20. Y
21. X	22. cc	23. I	24. C	25. V	26. W	27. S	28. T	29. A	30. F
31. ee									

Member profiles

The *Hack* asked these folks to complete the following phrases:



Louis Gascon
Member 1999



Betty O'Connor
Member 2006



Anna Faraggi
Member 2017

I joined the RMCC because:

Mary-Jo and I joined the club because we were looking for a good social experience and wanted to learn to curl.

Alice Gagnon (neighbor of Marilyn Gillies) and I attended a combined President's reception and open house. "Alice bought us a glass of wine and we signed on the dotted line."

I travelled so much, this was one way I could spend time with Ralph, and now I discovered I love the game!

When asked what I do for a living, I reply:

I retired from my law practice approx. three years ago.

Retired nurse. "I do not work for a living now, but I do work"

I have been in the fashion industry all my life!

Other than curling, I am very good at:

Gardening

I am a good cyclist. I enjoy reading, sudokus, bridge, cross-country skiing, cinema, gardening and lawn bowling.

Baking a lemon chiffon poppy seed cake, a pear cake, banana cream pie, Italian meatballs, osso bucco, lamb shanks with a creamy polenta ... Dinner anyone?

A piece of advice to my younger self:

"One day you'll have to use a stick."

Maybe to be more of a planner.

There is only so much mom and dad could show me, be a rebel and go after your dreams!



KURLING FOR KIDS KORNER

Save the date:

Saturday March 30, 2019

2018 saw the 20th anniversary of K4K and the most successful event ever: RMCC raised **\$29,543** (our goal was \$23,000) and across the city the organization raised **\$420,000!!!** Plans are already under way for the 2019 edition. Look for our K4K Korner updates in each issue of the Hack.



What is Kurling for Kids?

K4K is a one-day curling event (with other peripheral activities) held at 13 curling clubs across Montreal. Funds raised are split between the 2 children's hospitals in Montreal.

The Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation

K4K has just confirmed a multi-year commitment to purchase a Functional MRI for the Medical Imaging Department (\$350,000).

Fondation CHU Sainte-Justine

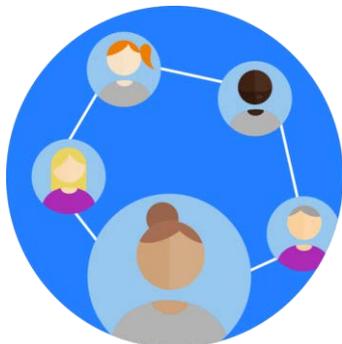
K4K has renewed its commitment to pay for the hospital's new Monteris NeuroBlate MRI System neurosurgical laser which has already saved many children's lives. (\$600,000)



Thank you to everyone who attended the Harvest Dinner on October 18. A portion of every ticket was donated to K4K – we already have \$350 in the pot to kick-start our 2019 fundraising!

What can you do to start raising funds now?

Challenge your league organizers to come up with creative and fun ways to raise money throughout the season. Every little bit helps!



Do you know a potential corporate sponsor?

Next month's K4K Korner will discuss how corporate sponsors can support RMCC's fundraising goals for Kurling for Kids.



Want to help out?

2019 planning will start shortly and there are lots of ways you can get involved! If you'd like to be part of the organizing committee, please contact Tracy Johnstone tjohnstone@videotron.ca

News...from the Hack!

November 2018



RMCC ALUMNI LUNCHEON Oct. 11, 2018



PIC·COLLAGE

The lunch was a great success! Thirty-two past and present curling members, all happy to be together once again, no sweeping necessary! A great way to start the season on a rainy day. Photos courtesy of Bonnie Pattee. 1) Myrna Southam, Margaret Armour, Marg Stewart; 2) Beverley Hutchison; 3) Gerry Macaulay, Jane Allan; 4) Gerry Bain, Grayce Shatilla; 5) Barbara Weir, Nancy Buzzell; 6) Addie Hare; 7) Myrna Southam and Pat Ackman; 8) Grayce Shatilla, Jane Allan; 9) Lunch participants; 10) Brede Merrigan and Nancy Buzzell.

Website Tips & Tricks

Sparing is an essential element in all Curling Clubs and a great example of mutual benefit. The Skip needs a player for his team. The Spare is looking for some curling action.

And now, after two hundred years, the **RMCC Website** offers a convenient marketplace where the two can meet.

Part 1 –Sparing Availability – A COUPLE OF CLICKS AND YOU CAN ADD OR REMOVE YOURSELF FROM ANY LEAGUE.

My Sparing Availability

League	Not Available	Available	Position 1	Position 2	Comments
The Hugh Paton	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Comment
Sunday Triples	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Comment
The Interclub	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Any <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Comment
Wednesday Mixed Fall 2018	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Comment
Wednesday Morning Curling	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Comment

Member Menu

- Your Personal Home Page
- Member Information
 - My Information
 - My GGGolf Profile
 - My Sparing Availability
 - My Volunteer Interests
 - My Teams
- League Information

Part 2 – Sparing Lists – Find the missing link for next week’s game

Sparing Lists

The sub lists reflect live information based on each members subbing availability information that they've selected online. So check this area each time you need a sub, as it is constantly changing! Select a league for the current list of members that are willing to sub.

If you are not on the list or need to change your selections, click here.

- The Hugh Paton
- The Douglas Brown Trophy
- Executive League
- Wednesday Mixed Fall 2018
- Wednesday Morning Curling
- Sunday Triples
- The Interclub

Member Menu

- League Information
 - Teams, Schedules, Standings
 - Sparing Lists
 - Rules and Regulations
- Member Search
- Curling Equipment & Apparel

Then Choose your league and contact the spares:

Sparing Lists - Executive League				
NAME	PHONE	POSITIONS	COMMENTS	EMAIL
Backman, Nicholas	H: 514-938-2127 C: 514-707-2128			<input type="checkbox"/>
Billings, Mark	W: 514-296-1641 C: 514-296-1641			<input type="checkbox"/>