



DUCK SOUP

Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club
www.ardsleycurling.com



Big Apple 2024

Another successful Big Apple is in the books thanks to efforts from Vinay Goenka and his army of volunteers! Monica Walker's Broomstone's team gets their name on the trophy after battling against Peter Stewart's Galt team in a competitive A event final. (More Big Apple on pages 7-8)



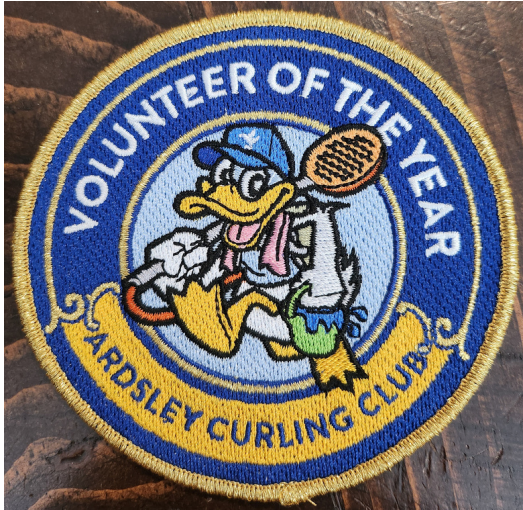
- A Event Winners:** Broomstones (Walker)
- A Runners-up:** Galt (P. Stewart)
- B Event Winners:** India (Raju)
- B Runners-up:** Schenectady (M. Stewart)
- C Event Winners:** Brooklyn L. (Clouser)
- C Runners-up:** Nutmeg CC (Holme)
- D Event Winners:** Windy City (Suthakaran)
- D Runners-up:** Ardsley (Symbouras)

- E Event Winners:** Long Island (Ruckdeschel)
- E Runners-up:** Nutmeg (Miller)



First stone thrown by 2023 Volunteer of the Year, Travis Spokes

Volunteer of the Year Nominations



It's once again time for Volunteer of the Year nominations. Probably the most important annual award given out by the curling club! You can only win this award once, and winners names are engraved on the Jesse Wang memorial plaque hanging prominently in the warm room.

Past winners include: Geoff Broadhurst, Alison Bankes, David Schrull, Bob Kennedy, Julie Everett, Curt Pader, Matt Scheiner, Joe Sablow, Jim Borgia, Tim Klein, Derek Kayser, Travis Spokes and Victoria Vron.

Members are asked to nominate the person or persons they feel deserve this honor. The final decision will be made by the "Ice House Committee" under the leadership of Bill Borowitz and awarded at the club closing dinner on May 3.

Please nominate your choice with a short explanation by e-mailing Jim Duke at: jimoduke@aol.com



Save the Date

Pull the Plug -- April 13-14

Ardsley Annual Meeting -- Sunday, April 14
(after pull-the-plug)

Closing Dinner -- Friday, May 3

Junior Program

(a letter to the editor)

A couple of Sundays ago I stopped by the club to drop something off. It stopped me in my tracks to see all three sheets filled with our Juniors playing and learning. I had no idea that the program was so big.

Kudos to those running and helping out with this program. It was so much fun to see all those kids out there, and with some of our best curlers helping instruct them. Many of the juniors were children of non-members.

I just want to share this experience with those who do not know, and to thank those who invest their time and energy to help grow our sport.

-- **Mike Shalhoub**



Aanya finished runner up in the A event at the Utica Junior Bonspiel. She played with Zoey (Utica), Noah (Potomac), and Eva (Utica).

The Ardsley Junior Bonspiel will take place at our club on April 5-7.


This year the bonspiel filled very quickly after registration opened. So, word is out that Ardsley is the place for junior curling!



Nutmeg Neon - glowing on and off the ice

Ardsey was well represented at the Neon Junior Bonspiel held over President’s Day weekend at Nutmeg Curling Club. This ‘spiel looks like so much fun! And, who knows, maybe we’ll see some neon at future national championships.



Back in 2015 - Danny Casper’s first win as a skip happened at the Nutmeg Neon. 



Duck of the Month

Cape Shoveler
(*Spatula smithii*)

This dabbling duck is a resident of South Africa. Known for its large bill, this bird prefers being called a Cape Sweeper during curling season.

2024 PCC Stone

Tom Vespo teamed up with Dennis Mellerup (former Ardsley member), Dannie Steski and Dan Festerling (Plainfield) for the PCC Stone in Plainfield, New Jersey. After losing their first draw they went on to win the next 4 draws and win the B Event. The good food and good ice made for an enjoyable weekend.



Gordon International

This year's Gordon International was held at Nashua Curling Club and The Country Club in Brookline, MA. GNCC fielded 20 teams to face 20 Canadian teams and included teams from Ardsley and LICC this year. The Ardsley team was represented by Tim Klein, Joe Sablow, Tom Vespo, and Mike Shalhoub. And, from LICC we had Keith Wisbauer, Colin Kasprovicz, Frank Buquicchio, and Jack Glanzer.

The gold was taken by the Canadians.



Stockton at TCC



Mike Shalhoub's team played George Austin's at the Stockton spiel at The Country Club.

TAM Super Villains

The Evil Cheesecake run for Scott, Mike, Jonathan, and Astrid at Albany's TAM: Bonspiel of Super Villainy ended with a heartbreaking B Finals loss to Utica in an extra end after they made an incredible long angle runback to tie the game up in the 8th.



Evil Cheesecake

Ardsley Curling Club

Skip: **Scott Druskin**

Vice: **Mike Horowitz**

2nd: **Jonathan Leung**

Lead: **Astrid Mel**



Also of note, Mike was the representative in the Friday Skills Competition and came in 4th place. He made us all proud with his cross sheet draw that ended up a biter.



Big Apple 2024

-- *Vinay Goenka*

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Even if I keep saying thank you to the volunteers for the next 12 months it won't be enough to express my gratitude! What makes Big Apple truly special is how much our members care for this spiel.

Believe it or not, but I have already many messages making plans for next year! Mike DeWalt has pinged me on what he plans to cook next year!

Erin & Sere are planning the Instagram stories for next year ... btw, if you missed out on the live commentary on Saturday night please check it out on our IG page. I think that is the future of bonspiel commentary!



I wanted Big Apple bonspiel to be a celebration of the curling season along with friends and family. I am thrilled that people like Cody Clouser and Monica Walker believe in our vision too!!! I won't say everything was perfect – we did have some glitches, and the responsibility lies with me. Hopefully, we have identified them and I am confident the next edition will be bigger and better. Suggestions and feedback is welcome.



A big thanks for the generous raffle donations. We raised around \$2600, that goes a long way in keeping the bonspiel buzzing. Thank you Lynn and Karen for the amazing baskets!

More Big Apple

Big Apple now has a reputation for the food we serve and Mike & Eric have raised the bar! I had an army of more than 30 volunteers manning the warm room over the 4 days, so you can only imagine that I can fill the entire newsletter thanking them. Whether it was veteran volunteers like Jeff Greenberg, Diane Borgia, and Dolores Redding or our newest member, Pam Endreny, working nonstop from Saturday evening to Sunday afternoon, the spirit of Ardsley CC was on full display. I believe the success of a bonspiel is measured by the energy in the warm room and Nora, Colin, Rockstar Ilya, and Gallegos made sure the atmosphere was electric.



The Big Apple draw schedule is very demanding, but the ice crew managed everything with aplomb. The 3 tight finals on Sunday are a testament to their skill. Thank you again and wish everyone a wonderful summer!



Sportsmanship winner: Aanya Goenka, one of our up-and-coming junior curlers. With draw-master, Matt Scheiner.



Future Curlers Expected

The Tuesday Night Ladies had a baby shower/celebration for Katy Hodgdon (due April) and Heather Wadley (due July)! We're all looking forward to meeting Ardsley's 2 newest curlers!

Congratulations to Katy and Heather!



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Duck Soup: Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club
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