

DUCK SOUP

Ardsley Curling Club, N Mountain Drive,
Ardsley, NY 10507

"All the News That Fits"

www.ardsleycurling.org

Little Rockers

By Jeff Casper and Mike Courts

January 2nd saw Ardsley host the local Little Rockers Bonspiel. This marks the 3rd year this spiel is held. We had two teams from Nutmeg, one from Plainfield, and two from Ardsley/Nutmeg. Ardsley itself had four little rockers: Tim & Christopher Courts, sons of Mike Courts; Andrew Stopera, son of Bill Stopera; and Tyler Chebatar, son of Rich and grand-nephew of Adam. This year's winning team was Tim Courts, Andrew Stopera, Christopher Courts, and Tucker Morley from Nutmeg.

Each team played four games of four ends each. The winner was determined by total points.

Afterwards, the skips made speeches thanking the entire team and head organizer Mike Greene, who had plenty of help from all the proud parents.

The Bucket

By Jeff Casper

Mike Greene once again organized The Bucket bonspiel along with Nicole Husch from Plainfield. This year's spiel went Ardsley's way by a total points score of 89.25 to 75. Ardsley's lead tightened in the early afternoon, but we pulled it out in the late draw. The weather held out this time, as the original date of this event was canceled due to snowstorm. Plainfield and Ardsley both sent 24 curlers through bitter cold temperatures and a wind chill in the single digits.

This year's event also featured a few young curlers on both sides, who also had a lot of fun.

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Ardsley Bucketeers



Plainfield Bucketeers

Utica to the Junfrau: Both Mean Happy Curling

By Walter Baggett

Imagine the perfect bonspiel. Is it a team of draw artists who can throw hard and sweep even harder, six sheets of perfect ice, beer at \$6 a pitcher and lots of games to watch and talk about with a good crowd when you are not playing a match? Or, is it waking up in the morning to a Swiss smorgasbord breakfast, a walk through the snow to get the newspaper followed by a 10:00 am match on irregular outdoor arena ice with panoramic views of the Alps, after which comes lunch on a sunny terrace and another game at 2:00 pm, all played with a delightful mixed international crowd of all ages well peppered with Scots and English folks? This January I expect to do both. The first by going with our competitive Monday night team to the Mitchell bonspiel in Utica. The second by flying to Switzerland and taking the train (there are no roads going to this place) to Wengen in the Burnese Oberland where I will sign up for matches, stay at the family owned and operated Hotel Falken (www.hotelfalken.ch, est. 1895), put on a baby blue club sweater and play with my fellow members of the Wengen Curling Club(founded 1915).

Of course, you do not have to go so far for a great time. Consider Valentine's Day weekend curling with your spouse or sweet heart at the Norfolk Curling Club Mixed. Stay in a cozy, first class New England bread and breakfast. And it is only 90 minutes away. There are plenty of other mixed events from the Crack Bell in Philadelphia in January to the Golden Handle in nearby Bridgeport in March. Each one has its own flavor. They all have good ice and better parties.

Similarly, there are plenty of men's, women's and open events. Go to the www.GNCC.org website

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and look at the calendar. Plan on getting away Thursday afternoon or evening and coming back some time on Sunday. The local clubs will provide a list of possible places to stay.

For those who do want to consider a wider range of options, going to the Canadian and U.S. Curling association websites will get you to provincial, state and regional web addresses where you can find lots of events to go to. Ardsley often sends teams to the Quebec International, the City of Ottawa, USWCA and U.S.Men' seniors. If you just want to watch, the Briar, the Canadian Men's championship, is in Halifax this year. Kay Sugahara always makes a point of getting to the Men's world championship. Ask around. As Ardsley's GNCC representative I would be willing to offer any information and help I can.

Good Curling!

The next board meeting is January 21. Anyone with an issue they feel should be discussed should buttonhole a board member before this date or contact Jeff Lesuk.

Lost and Found

By Jeff Casper

Pippa Broadhurst reminds us that there is a Lost and Found box down in the warm room. Geoff Broadhurst and Jeff Lesuk recently paired a number of single curling shoes. If anyone is looking for a free pair of curling shoes, hurry up and see if you can find your size in the Lost & Found box. The big mystery is this: how does one lose one curling shoe and not miss it?

*A special thank you goes out to **Alison Bankes** and her volunteers for putting together a corporate outing for the NBA office's holiday party. Over 40 curlers were watched over by Alison, Pete Westrell, Norm Laird, Nancy Clancy, Karen Casper, Walter Baggett, James Weeks, and Pete McCuen. Thanks to all of you for keeping our dues down!*

Bloodys and Brooms

By Walter O. Baggett

At noon of Friday, January 1, 2010 thirteen Ardsley curlers, apparently no worse for wear after the night before showed up at the club for the annual Bloodies and Brooms eye opener. After a round of coffee, four teams, one with four members, the others with three played two six end matches. After a brief respite for drinks and some lox and bagels the winners played the winners and the losers played off for the second event. The winners are Nancy Clancy, Matt Scheiner & Maria Mata, beating Dave Schrull, Ted Pitt & Ron Stytzer. Over in the second event Heinz Gruettner, Jim McGinnis, Bob Kennedy & Jim Duke prevailed over John Dorff, Jeff Klein and Ann MacMillan. The traditional refrigerator magnet recognition awards are being prepared and will be presented at the closing dinner.

Ardsley Team Competes in Mixed Doubles Championship

By Jeff Casper

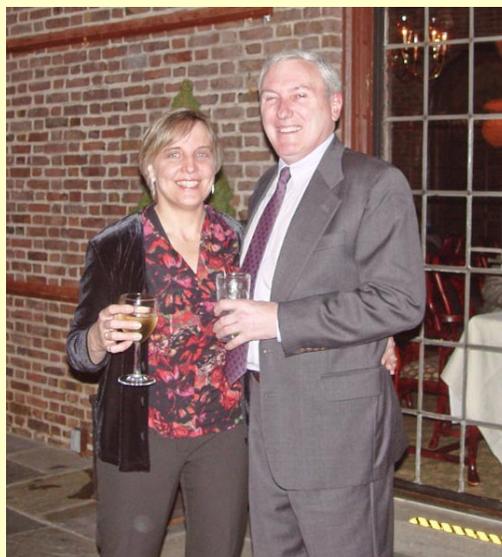
Joyance Meechai teamed with former Ardsley curler Jason Nawyn early December and took a trip to the Great Northwest for the 2010 Mixed Doubles Championship held at Granite Curling Club in Seattle. The winner goes on to the World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship held in Chelyabinsk, Russia in mid April. Nineteen teams competed, divided into three pools. Joyance and Jason fared well, placing second in their pool and earning a spot in the playoff round. The event was eventually won by Sharon Vukich and Mike Calcagno of Granite. Given their strong showing, we will have to wish Joyance and Jason well and give encouragement should they have another go at it.

Mixed Doubles curling has different rules from

conventional curling. Teams are made of two people, one male and one female obviously. Two rocks are placed prior to the start of each end. Each team throws five rocks, and the person who throws the first rock must also throw the last in the same end. The teammate throws the middle three stones. No rock can be "taken out" until the fourth stone is thrown. There are no sweepers, but the thrower or skip may pop out and sweep if needed. The order of throwing can change each end. Finally, the hammer is determined by choice. Whoever wins the coin toss or fails to score in the last end chooses to keep the hammer or gives it to the opponent. For more information on mixed doubles curling, see www.curlingseattle.org or www.youtube.com/watch?v=SaKwYEOuXyg for a demonstration.

Happy Holidays & Here's to a Great 2010





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