

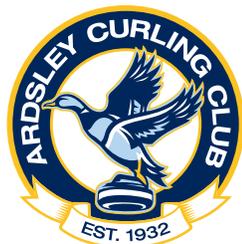


Official Newsletter of the Ardsley Curling Club

DUCK SOUP

January 2014

"All the News That Fits"



North Mountain Drive
Ardsley-on-Hudson, NY 10502



Upcoming Events

GNCC Senior Men's Championship
Thurs. Jan. 23 - Sun. Jan. 26
Cape Cod Curling Club

USCA Senior Women's Nationals
Thu Jan 23 - Sun Jan 26
Eau Claire, WI

USCA Junior Men's & Women's Nationals
Sat. Jan. 25 - Sat. Feb. 1
Seattle, WA

Buildspiel (Open)
Fri Jan 31 - Sun Feb 02
Norfolk Curling Club

GNCC Mixed Championship
Thurs. Feb. 6 - Sun. Feb. 9
Chesapeake Curling Club

A complete calendar of GNCC events is available at gncc.org

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The Ardsley Video Committee

Raymond Ullmer



A very exciting thing that the board at Ardsley is working on is to enhance the online video experience of curling at our club. A Video Committee has been formed with Dave Wagenheim, Bob Kennedy, and Jon Schuster as members to advance that mission forward.

The committee has spent a significant amount of time on due diligence – "a lot of homework" - investigating what other clubs are currently doing, how their systems were put together, how they were being used, and what the costs were.

One thing that came from this phase was the decision to continue to use free Internet software such as "Ustream" to deliver the club's live video and scoreboard overlays to users on the Internet.

Another finding is that most clubs were not using very high resolution cameras. The committee felt it needed to "plan for tomorrow today" and install cameras that had HD quality. This led to the purchase and installation of two HD cameras with "Pan/Tilt/Zoom" capabilities. You can see them above the ice with their domed enclosures. The idea is to have the cameras in one of two default configurations: "Unattended mode" with an expansive view for general league play, and an "Attended mode" requiring an onsite "producer" for events where a particular sheet would be the focus.

In either case, the user at home would see a view from each camera to follow the action flowing in both directions.

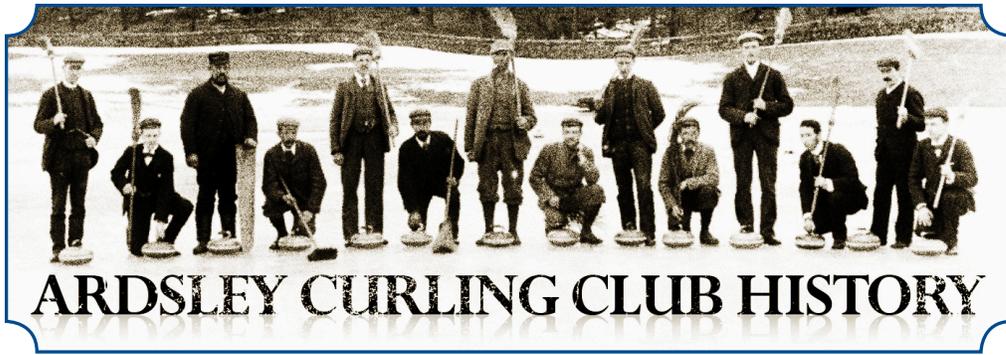
The "Ongoing Mission" of the committee is to bring a "just like being there" feel when viewing league games or events online. Want to see what's happening on the ice, or get a score? It's right there on the Ardsley web site.

Future plans include a look into DVR capabilities, so that video presentations could be archived for viewing at any time, not just live.

The demo I got with Jon Schuster at the controls was nothing short of stunning - the decision to go HD has really enhanced the viewing experience. The images that accompany this article are direct screen shots of this feed – they look great.

The next step is to add sound to the mix. This would include both ambient sound from the ice, and a feed from someone who would actually provide commentary for the game. The plan for the upcoming McKay-Douglas bonspiel is to have such an audio system in place with commentary and to tie it all together with Ustream. The end result would be available by going to the Ardsley web site and clicking on "Club Live Web Stream". (Note that for regular league games, streaming will only be available to Ardsley members)

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ARDSLEY CURLING CLUB HISTORY

Richard Wells and the Windeler Cup

Geoff Broadhurst and Raymond Ullmer



The men's "junior skip" Blanton competition on Wednesdays transforms mid-season into the Wells and is a competition of this year's top junior skips and returning veteran Wells skips from the previous year. (See the article further on in this issue with this year's Blanton results)

Before it was the Wells, this session of curling was called the "Windeler" and its cup was considered the top trophy at the club.

From Joseph P. Ringlands "History of Ardsley Curling:"

"...The Windeler Cup is the oldest and most cherished of Ardsley's trophies. Mr. Herbert Windeler, father-in-law of William Kimbel attended a dinner of the Club on January 3, 1933, where he announced that he was presenting a cup for competition within the Club. For many years following the death of Mr. Windeler, it was customary for the skip who had won the trophy to write to Mr. Windeler's widow to maintain the ties and heritage of the cup.

Since the first year of the Club, there has always been a Windeler competition except for the War year 1942-43. The winning of the cup has also been considered the Club Championship, except for the two seasons 1943-44 and 1944-45, when this honor went with the Ardsley Medal. But the Windeler competition returned to its proper status in 1945-46. All members were assigned to Windeler rinks until the enlarged membership made this impractical in most years since the enlarged membership following building our own ice..."

Richard C. "Dick" Wells had joined both St. Andrews and Ardsley curling clubs in the late 1940's and he held many ACC Offices as well as being a strong curler at the ACC and in Canada. In February 1975, Dick was featured in FORTUNE magazine as one of the senior executives in US and Canadian corporations that loved curling. FORTUNE included one piece of curling etiquette: "... Curlers make a point of ignoring the relative wealth, position and social status of their teammates and opponents. Curlers do so in the knowledge that no curler will be wanting in acceptability. **All the best people are curlers...**"

In 1988, the year following Dick's passing, the Ardsley board of directors decided to honor Dick by changing the name on the Windeler men's club championship medal to the Wells medal.

Present-day curlers competing for Richard C. Wells' trophy should feel proud that they are participating in a long-standing and illustrious Ardsley institution!

Wednesday Men's League – Blanton Results

Matt Scheiner

The Wednesday Men's League is broken up into two halves – the first half of the year, known as the Blanton after the late Alexander Blanton, is comprised of junior skips who draft their own teams. We have a saying on Wednesday nights that "anything can happen in the Blanton," and it does. This year, going into the last week, we saw a three-way tie for second and a five-way tie for fifth, only one game behind the second place teams. This was exciting, as the last week had five of six games that had direct implications towards the final standings, with only the first and last ranked teams already determined and playing each other in the final week. Ultimately, a night of fun and good curling was had, and we all went our separate ways for the holidays. Congratulations to the Hsu and Baggett rinks for winning the gold and silver Blanton Medals, respectively. We look forward to a hearty competition in the Wells this coming session, where our senior skips will be drafting their own teams and competing for the Wells Medal. Final Blanton Standings are as follows:

1. **Hsu** – Ken Hsu, Tom Doherty, Nick Beaton, Joe Hodgekinson
2. **Baggett** – Walter Baggett, Will Pryor, Seth Altman, Curt Pader, Bunkie Harmon
3. **Ness** – Andy Ness, Gert Messing, Martin Webb, Eric Oster, Bruce Huffine
4. **Scheiner** – Matt Scheiner, Jeff Lesuk, Dave Schrull, Geoffrey Domm
5. **Klein** – Tim Klein, Matt Gallegos, Joe Panella, Bill Langley
6. **Casper** – Jeff Casper, Ray Ullmer, Andy Eaton, Jim Murray
7. **Becker** – Jordan Becker, Chris Banino, Alex Zic, Peter Decker
8. **Greene** – Mike Greene, Geoff Broadhurst, Mike Courts, Jerry McCarty
9. **Borowitz** – Bill Borowitz, George Austin, Pete McCuen, Barry Rosenbloom
10. **Spensieri** – Mike Spensieri, Dan Tufaro, Jan Zahour, Kevin Greaves
11. **Gruettner** – Heinz Gruettner, Adam Chebetar, Doug Hill, Jim Duke
12. **McGinnis** – Jim McGinnis, Steve Hess, Shoji Takiguchi, Pete Westrell

Playing in the GNCC Junior Playdowns

Danny Casper



Danny Casper is pictured with his mates on Team Clawson (Potomac): Eli Clawson, Caleb Clawson, and Zachary Blough

The GNCC Junior Playdowns were played at TCC and Broomstones in Boston December 27th-30th. Ardsley had lots of curlers in the event. Andrew Stopera, as part of Team Dunnam finished second and qualified for Nationals. The top two teams go. Will Pryor's team, Team Suslavich, did not qualify. However, Will is going as a 5th for Team Dunnam. Team Schoder curled on the girls side for Ardsley. That team had Ellen Schoder, Susan Dudt, Kate Schickel, and Sere Politano. They competed well but did not qualify. Their event was held at Broomstones at the same time.

Junior Play downs is something I highly recommend to any juniors. I went with a young team that was not expected to do well. We played teams with Ardsley curlers Andrew Stopera and Will Pryor. Even though we didn't make nationals, at my age and it being my first play downs, winning was not that important to me. Now of course it would have been fun to win, but to me, it was more about the experience. My long-term goal as a young curler is to maybe win something like this tournament, but most importantly is to have fun. By going to the Play Downs, I think I have had the best experience I can have as a young curler.

USWCA and Chicago Ladies Bonspiels

Nancy Clancy



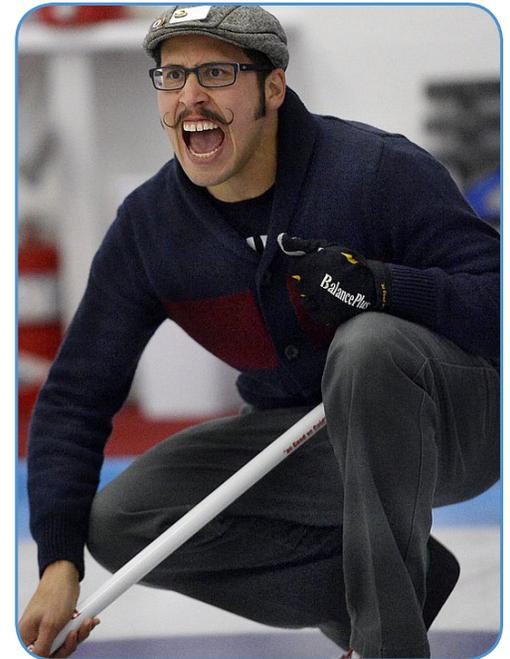
Nancy Clancy, Diane Muldowney, and Karen Luckey, joined by Majik Jones from Chesapeake, curled in the USWCA Senior Women's Bonspiel at Itasca CC, Grand Rapids, MN. Grand Rapids is the birthplace of Judy Garland, so the theme was OZ-tasca. Team Ardsley won the costume event.

Nancy Clancy joined a Bowling Green team for the Chicago Ladies Bonspiel in January. The theme was Olympics. The curling team became a team of synchronized swimmers. The photos were burned.

Schenectady 10 and Under

Mike Spensieri

The Gallegos 5 and under men's rink (Matt Gallegos, Jordan Becker, Mike Spensieri and Joe Panella) was in action again this past weekend at the Knights of Curling 10 and under event in Schenectady. After getting defeated in their first match by a Schenectady rink that would wind up as the eventual A event winner, the team steadied themselves and went 3-1 the rest of the way. A tough loss in the B semifinals to a tough Philadelphia rink was followed by a win on Sunday morning in the E event shootout where they placed 2nd out of 8 teams by the shootout's scoring method. As usual the boys had a great time and hopefully learned a few things about the ice that they can use to their advantage when they return to Schenectady in February for the Francis J. Dykes!



Although the Ardsley boys did not take home any hardware, they did manage to close down the club's bar to kick off the weekend!



Cool Duck 5-and-Under Bonspiel Receives "Ducky" Response

Matt Scheiner

The Cool Duck 5-and-Under Bonspiel was held on Friday, December 27 through Sunday, December 29, 2013 and was received very well by the visiting teams. In addition to the seven (7) Ardsley teams, we saw teams from the Long Island Curling Club, Nutmeg Curling Club, Plainfield Curling Club, Bucks County Curling Club, and Woodstock Curling Club. Along with some great curling, the atmosphere in the club was the highlight of a weekend full of fun. Darrell Seife filled the warm room with rubber ducky themed decorations. The raffle was rife with prizes donated by Tom Wilk, Barry Rosenbloom, Bob Kennedy. Our Saturday dinner caterer was Sam's Restaurant in Dobbs Ferry, and the national anthem was never sung so proudly at the start of our illustrious boat races! Late night revelry continued with shorty games, left-right-center and shut the box dice games, while Andrew kept the bar open until

the last person left the warm room. Cookies baked by Barbara Gabhart adorned the buffet table for every meal. The response from the out-of-town teams was nothing other than pure elation.

The warm room atmosphere was not to be outmatched by the curling on the ice. Congratulations to Team Gallegos – Matt Gallegos, Sharon Gallegos, Nick Beaton, and Jennifer Stein – for winning the Cool Duck Trophy. It was also nice to see so many first and second year curlers involved in the medal ceremony. That's what 5-and-under curling is all about – getting the newer curlers into the bonspiel spirit. The Cool Duck Organizing Committee highly recommends that if you are returning to the Cool Duck next year that you bring a first-year or second-year curler with you and show them how much fun bonspieling is.



ARDSLEY - 1

1st Event Winner

Matt Gallegos (skip), Sharon Gallegos
Nick Beaton, Jennifer Stein

LICC 1

1st Event Runners Up

Matt Scheiner (skip), Mike Spensieri
Nicole Mikoleski, Karen Miller



BUCKS COUNTY - 1

2nd Event Winner

Greg Danks (skip), Zac Gery
Bob Foley, Dave Schmel

ARDSLEY - 4

2nd Event Runners Up

Doug Hill (skip), Seth Altman
Peter Decker, Laura Hill



WOODSTOCK - 1

3rd Event Winner

Jay Flanders (skip), Nate Miller
Rita Seto, Paula Flanders

LICC - 2

3rd Event Runners Up

Frank Buquicchio (skip), Eric Oster
Kevin DellaVecchia, John Paccione



ARDSLEY - 2

4th Event Winner

Ray Ullmer (skip), Leeza Furman
Darrel Seife, Ivelisse Hornyak

ARDSLEY - 6

4th Event Runners Up

Tom Wilk (skip), Nicole Zahour
Jan Zahour, Jen Kagel

The Ardsley Video Committee

Raymond Ullmer

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The committee has done a tremendous job, and they deserve thanks for what they've accomplished so far, and for the work that is still ahead of them. They are moving the club into the vanguard of cutting edge Internet media technology. The guys also wanted to recognize Kay Sugahara who knows the folks in other clubs involved with video technology and consulted with our committee to offer his wisdom, experience, support and encouragement.

78th Annual McKay-Douglas

The McKay Douglas Bonspiel is right around the corner! February 20th to the 23rd. This is the major fund raising opportunity for our club, so please volunteer. Contact Jeff Lesuk at jeffnrob1@juno.com

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