



Kerry Park Curling Centre

July 2021

Fellow Kerry Park Curling Members;
Wow. These past 18 months have been nothing short of crazy. A pandemic that I'm sure none of us imagined has reeked havoc on our lives and in some way, shape or form, impacted us deeply. For those amongst you that may have suffered through personal loss, as a result of the pandemic or otherwise, or know someone who has, we share our condolences.

Reflecting Back:

Although we attempted to have a 2020/2021 curling season at the Kerry Park Curling Centre, albeit much different than the more traditional curling and social atmosphere we are used to, the COVID-19 Pandemic, along with its associated Public Health Measures and Provincial Restrictions, forced us to put our curling gear back in the closet after less than 2 months on the ice.

I would like to thank my Kerry Park Curling Executive colleagues (Myrna Proulx; Moira Hauk; Cam McDiarmid) for their tremendous efforts, guidance and advice in our attempt to get us back on the ice last year. You are amazing people and I look forward to working with you all again this coming season.

I would also like to thank each and every Kerry Park curling member who joined us on the ice last year. It was through your individual and collective efforts and sacrifices, abiding by and enforcing our Kerry Park Curling Centre COVID-19 Safety Plan, that allowed us to put our sliders on and throw some rocks at houses. We thank you!

Additionally, thank you to all of our local sponsors who, through a difficult time, stepped up in spades to support the Kerry Park Curling Centre. Individual sponsor names can be seen on the pages of this News

Letter and on the Kerry Park Curling Centre website. We appreciate you so much and we look forward to your continued support this coming season. Thank you all so very much. Finally, I wish to thank the wonderful Management and Staff at the Kerry Park Recreation Centre, with a special shout out to Sheena Boyles, without whom we would not be have been, and continue to be, afforded the awesome curling experiences we enjoy right here in our own community. We very much look forward to working with you for many years to come – hopefully in a more “normal” environment.

Looking Forward:

I, like many of you I'm sure, do not want to walk into our Curling Club for the 2021/2022 season with “restrictions” in place. I, like all of you I'm sure, want not to have to worry about face coverings and two-meter distancing rules. We want to be able to enjoy the friendly competition, social atmosphere, and great sportsmanship for which the sport of curling is known and loved.

So, as has been our tradition at the Kerry Park Curling Centre, we will kick off the 2021/2022 Curling season with our 45th Annual Summer Bonspiel 16-19 September 21. This will again be an open mixed bonspiel format with room for 24 teams to participate. The Planning Committee has been formed and work is well underway to ensure we have another great bonspiel to start the season.

Next, we anticipate the 2021/2022 Curling season commencing on Sunday, 26 September 2021. The reason for a slightly earlier than normal start is that it is not smart business for Kerry Park and the CVRD to have curling ice sitting idle for an extended period from the end of the Summer Bonspiel



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and the start of regular League play. We also did not want to push the start of the Summer Bonspiel any later (that would defeat the purpose of referring to it as a Summer Spiel). We are excited and optimistic that all established leagues will return to play for a more "normal" 2021/2022 curling season at the Kerry Park Curling Centre.

The Kerry Park Senior Select Men's Bonspiel will occur 1-4 Nov 21. Finally, we will end the 2021/2022 curling season with the 2nd annual Lorraine Gagnon Memorial Open Bonspiel, currently planned for 17-20 Mar 2022.

We will also be scheduling a League Rep Meeting in early September and an AGM, hopefully in the September-October timeframe. More details on this and the bonspiels will be communicated and posted on the Kerry Park Curling Centre's website: kerryparkcurlingcentre.ca as we draw closer to those dates.

As many of you know, recruiting and retention of curling membership in clubs around the province can be a struggle, and Kerry Park is not an exception. As fellow Kerry Park Curling Centre members and lovers of our wonderful sport, I strongly encourage you to be ambassadors for our Curling Club for the upcoming season. Details on Leagues and contact information, as well as event information, will be available on the Kerry Park Curling Centre website: kerryparkcurlingcentre.ca. Promote our sport, tell your friends, get new curlers involved. We need it!

Again, thank you all so very much and I will see you at the Kerry Park Curling Centre very soon!

Best Regards;

Darrel
Darrel Downey
Vice President/Acting President
Kerry Park Curling Centre



**If you have any questions or concerns
please do not hesitate to email:
kerryparkcurlingclub@gmail.com**

