

The Sheet

Circle City Curling Club

CCCC's Newsletter

Your source for all things curling in Circle City. Who's curling? Where and when are they curling? Who's winning? Who's having fun? What are people doing off the ice?

newsletter@circlecycling.com



The Board Report

Following the summer members' meeting where new board members Jim Puckering and Nicole Brinkmann were elected to the board, the board has met in July, August, and September. The main issues for discussion and decisions have been scheduling the fall and winter leagues, planning Learn-to-Curl events (particularly following the Olympics, which always results in a boost to interest in curling), and fund raising. By the time of publication of this newsletter, the first fundraising event of the year was planned and held (see page 2), and plans are underway for a golf outing fundraiser next summer (see below). Additional items have included searching for appropriate accounting software and planning for how CCCC can be best represented at national events. The club has recently added a Facebook "page" (in addition to the Facebook "group") for wider presence on social media. (Be sure to "like" and "follow" the new page so that you stay current on all happenings at the club.) Because CCCC is a 501(c)3, the minutes of all board meetings are a matter of public record. Please submit a request (board@circlecycling.com) if you ever want to read the full minutes.

Current Dedicated Ice Fund Total: \$140,886
 Goal for 2017 donations to the Dedicated Ice Fund: \$12,000
 Current 2017 Dedicated Ice Fund Total: \$9,575

2017-18 Board

President	Ernie Forney
Vice President	Adam Van Zee
Treasurer	Tammy Hoffman
GLCA rep	
USWCA rep	
Secretary	Steve Straiger
Past President	Dan Ivers

Nicole Brinkmann Reeves,
 Rachel Buetens, Susan Fleck,
 Jeff Heck, Matt James, and
 Jim Puckering

board@circlecycling.com



A golf outing fundraiser is scheduled for September 15, 2018 at West Chase Golf Club. Mark your calendar if you're a golfer, and if you're not, send an email to newsletter@circlecycling.com to volunteer. No golf skills needed to volunteer!

Trivia Fun(d) Raiser a Success

The Circle City curlers and their family and friends proved they know more than how to throw an out-turn as they competed for the win at the first Trivia Night Fun(d) Raising Event on Sunday, October 8. About 40 people turned out at Forest Park in Noblesville for an afternoon of trivia competition. The event opened with the round “Famous First Lines,” and moved from there to pop-culture, computers, the US states, and more. All of the teams were within about 10 points of each other, and the lead switched a couple of times before Jim Puckering’s team prevailed for the win.

Teams were somewhat quiet as competition got underway, but as Tammy and Wes Hoffman’s teammate James began singing and bargaining for bonus points by offering to dance the Boot Scootin’ Boogie, the whole group began to loosen up. There was easily as much laughter as correct answers by the time the event was complete. One curler commented, “I think my favorite part was getting to know some of the other curlers off the ice and laughing with them.”

And congratulations to Chris Pennington who won free membership to the club for the 2017-18 season by recruiting the most noncurlers to attend the event.

Between the trivia, mulligan sales, and a rousing game of Heads-or-Tails (won by Rachel Buetens), we raised \$419 for the club’s dedicated ice fund. A big thank-you to everyone who came to join us for the afternoon and who invited friends and family to play. Watch for announcements of the date and time of the next Trivia Fun(d) Raiser – let’s try to double the number of people at the next event! Get your team together and don’t miss out on the fun!



Fall 2017 Winning Trivia Team: Jim & Lorraine Puckering, Nate & Tracey Everett, Michael & Amanda (not pictured) Born

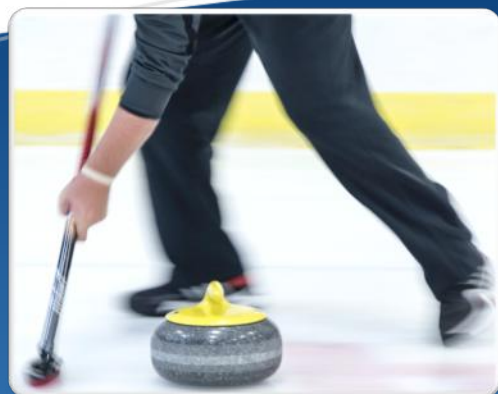
Heard on the Ice...

Situation: The skip called for a guard.
The throw went through the house.
Teammate’s reaction:

“Oopsie poopsie. That was a doozy.”

Who said it? Send your guesses to newsletter@circlecycling.com

The first correct response will be declared the winner. Winner will be announced in the next newsletter. Prize will be awarded at league night.



Did You Know... that curling is a game of good sportsmanship, common courtesies, and honorable conduct? But what exactly constitutes those things in curling? This column is your resource for learning all about curling sportsmanship, courtesies, and conduct.

Did you know...

Did you know... that there are rules about who can be in the house and when? Leads and seconds are not permitted in the house except when sweeping their team’s throw – or when removing stones after the vice-skips have agreed on the count for an end. This means that only the skip or vice-skip of the nondelivering team may sweep – and at that, only one player may sweep. And if this player wants to sweep a rock of the opposing team, it may only be swept behind the tee line. The delivering team has first right to sweep its rock behind the tee line, but it would be poor sportsmanship to sweep just for the sake of deliberately preventing the non-delivering team from doing so.

Our Curling Family Grows

Our club’s littlest curling fan was at the arena in September to cheer on new dad, Nick Mergener. Club members were excited to welcome Hazel Dawn to the arena, and Peggy Hoy soaked up as many pre-game snuggles as she could before the 8:00 PM draw. Although Hazel and her mom, Darcy Christian, didn’t get to see dad win, Nick had some great shots to help keep his team in the hunt until the final end.



Darcy Christian and Nick Mergener with daughter Hazel Dawn

Intraclub Rivalry Heats Up in October

While the Circle City Curling Club prides itself on being an open and welcoming environment, occasionally things can get a bit tense between members of the club. Indianapolis is about the same distance from both Cleveland, Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois, and so it is not surprising that just weeks into the Fall 2017 season, the Circle City Curling Club became a battleground between baseball fans. One unnamed curler admits, “I met [name redacted] during the spring curling league last April. We were playing his team, and my husband and I were laughing and joking with him during the game. I thought he was nice, but then he took his jacket off, and I saw who he really is.” The curler she was referring to revealed a Cubs t-shirt and told us, “I wasn’t trying to rub her face in it, but my team did beat hers [the Cleveland Indians] in the World Series in 2016, and well, yeah, maybe I was rubbing her face in it.” On the first night of fall league this year, the two were seen interacting in what appeared to be a civil manner, although the Cleveland curler’s husband did confide to this reporter that, “I was a bit nervous when I saw him walk in wearing that Cubs shirt again.” Another curler added, “I saw him point at his shirt and taunt her saying, “This isn’t coming off until the play-offs are over.”” At the time of writing this, the Cleveland Indians had taken an early exit from the 2017 post-season, while the Chicago Cubs had advanced to the next



Photo blurred to protect the identities of the curlers.

round, and I can report that the Cubs fan was seen offering condolences to the Indians fan at league. When questioned, he neither confirmed it nor denied it, saying, “All I have to say is: Go, Cubs, go!” It appears, at least for now, that our club will weather this skirmish.

Snap Your Smile – Amazon Smile Donations

Did you know that with every Amazon purchase you make, you can make a donation to the Circle City Curling Club? It's so easy to do, and it costs you *nothing* extra! Use these simple steps:

- (1) Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>
- (2) Enter: Circle City Curling Club as your selected charity
- (3) Start buying stuff you already buy on Amazon

As of August, CCCC members, family, and friends have raised \$277.20 for the Dedicated Ice Fund by using Amazon Smile.

Christmas Challenge – Snap Your Smile

Watch the CCCC Facebook Group Page for an Amazon Smile Fundraising Challenge. We will compare individual tallies reported by December 25, and the individual who has donated the most will be announced in January and will receive a prize (an Amazon gift card – how apropos!) If you have family and friends who are not part of the club but use the CCCC Amazon Smile page, their totals can be credited to you and added to your own tally. Details of how to report your tallies will be announced. For now... start smiling while you shop!

Friendlies, Bonspiels, All-American

The annual Friendly Interclub Challenge with the Midland Curling Club is scheduled for December 9-10 in Midland, MI. Cost is \$25 for four games and includes meals. Complete the Google Form posted on the Facebook Group page to register for the Friendly. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/8547599118>)

The Circle City Ladies represented the club well at the Blue Hawaii Bonspiel in Columbus, OH, in mid-October. Tammy Hoffman led her team of Susan Fleck, Lauren Werkenthein, and Caryn Thompson to the semifinals of the C-event. Over the course of the weekend, they played tough against the eventual A-event runners-up and logged a win against the ladies from Fort Wayne in addition to each making some impressive individual shots.

Watch your email and the Facebook pages for information about plans for Circle City's first USWCA All-American Bonspiel.



Social Happenings with CCCC

Members of the curling club got their **Halloween** faces on and took to the ice. Candy and prizes went to the participants and costume winners.

Dig through those closets and keep your eyes open at thrift shops and local stores for **Ugly Christmas Sweaters and/or Hats** and be ready to sport those on the ice in December. (Word is our local prize-candy-girl will be ready with more prizes and candy!)

Also, watch the Facebook page and your email for information on **White Elephant Broomstacking**, a group evening at a local **theatre, game night, community volunteer day**, and other off-ice social events.

If you have ideas for off-ice social events, let us know. You can either organize something yourself and share the details (when, where, what) on the Facebook page or use the email, members@circlecitycurling.com. Or send your ideas to newsletter@circlecitycurling.com and tell us you have an idea and would like help planning the event. We're here to help you make this be the club that you want it to be.

Facebook Group (membership req'd): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/8547599118/>

Facebook Page (public): <https://www.facebook.com/CircleCityCurlingClub/>

Butler Curling – Back in the Hack

Rachel Buetens

With college classes back in session, and a new crop of recruits, the Butler Curling Club has more than doubled the number of student participants from last year. There are so many new Butler Curlers that the first 3 weeks of league play were spent doing Learn to Curls to teach them the basics of the sport. To see the growth of this club is something like watching a little baby seedling grow up to be a sturdy, thriving Oak tree, and I can't convey how much this warms the cockles of my heart.

When I was at Butler (from 2005-2009), I had a small group of nerdy friends, and in February of 2006, we became obsessed with the Torino Winter Olympics and instantly became enamored with the sport of curling. I had always watched curling at home with my family, but wasn't sure how it would translate to a group of 18-20 year old college kids, but it did.

After the Olympics ended, one of my friends started doing research about stones, curling clubs nearby, and bonspiels, anything to fuel our new obsession. He got connected with a fellow Butler student, Ryan Brown, whose family was involved in the Chicago Curling Club. Ryan teamed up with the IWSA (Indiana World Skating Academy) and the Giedt's, and together they contacted the World Curling Federation to buy the original 4 sets of curling stones.

By 2007 we were traveling around the Midwest (Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois) to attend bonspiels (and getting our butts kicked), but we were having so much fun learning about the sport and meeting other people with a similar passion. We regularly attended league play at the IWSA and occasionally went to the RAM afterwards. (Side note: broomstacking is definitely less fun as an under-21 college student.)

When I started my 1st job out of college I dressed up as "a curler" for Halloween (easiest costume ever by the way). This was a great conversation piece at work, and I ended up coordinating a Learn to Curl event for my company's sales and operations teams as a team building activity at the IWSA. My former coworkers still mention it from time to time, and the fact that I helped introduced the sport to a group of people who otherwise wouldn't know about it makes me feel good.

After about 4 years, the IWSA went away, and the

lease for the stones was transferred to the Circle City Curling Club. All of the "OG" curlers graduated from Butler, and many left Indiana entirely. In 2011, Jeff Heck reached out to me on Facebook (seriously what did we do before Facebook?) and let me know that the club was curling in Fishers now and that there were 26 students from Butler involved. This was music to my ears as I think we had maybe 10 consistent curlers two years earlier in 2009 when I graduated!

I don't know what I was doing in 2011 that was so important (buying and moving to a house I think), but I didn't end up joining as a member of CCCC until 2014. My now husband Phil came to watch a game and then did a learn to curl, and he too became hooked. I think he joined the very next session of league play, and now you can hear me bossing him around on the ice every Thursday!

My involvement with Butler Curling Club and the Circle City Curling Club has come full circle, and it makes me so happy to still be a part of this ever-evolving and growing community. Eleven years ago when we were crammed together on uncomfortable dorm beds watching curling on a tiny tube TV, I never imagined it would turn into something that would be such a huge part of my life, but I am so thankful it did.



Little baby Rachel (and some other Butler team members) circa 2007 in Racine, Wisconsin at one of their first bonspiels.

Meet the Circle City Curlers

Like many couples, one person or the other was the “first” to curl, and the other started curling because their loved one loved curling. And, in a nutshell, this is the story of Bruce Johnston and Peggy-Anne Hoy. Bruce and Peggy were living in Ontario when Bruce began curling in 1989 at the Brockville Country Club with a group of his coworkers. But after a few years, life (kids, increased business travel, and a relocation to Carmel, IN) intervened and ended Bruce’s Olympic curling dreams. Peggy, however, had never curled – other than a “funspiel” for Bruce’s work. But 2011, their youngest headed off to college, and Peggy and Bruce found themselves becoming empty-nesters. “Since we are so different in personality,” says Peggy, “I decided we should make a concerted effort to do more things as a couple.” Peggy saw an ad in the local newspaper for a learn-to-curl, and she offered to take a lesson if Bruce wanted to curl again. “He agreed, and that’s how we ended up at the CCCC,” explains Peggy, adding, “We both enjoy the people’s camaraderie.” Bruce says that his most memorable curling moment occurred at a New Dundee bonspiel where his first double takeout took out his own team’s rocks (and his boss was his skip!) Peggy’s most memorable curling experience was at her first funspiel. “This was before we got married,” she says. “I was not very good but was able to get a few decent guards in play. Fortunately, my skip happened to be the president of the company and was a very good curler. Long



Bruce Johnston and Peggy-Anne Hoy (Bruce jokingly questions if ICE officials stake out curling clubs, looking for undocumented Canadians.)

story-short, we won the bonspiel, and somewhere in Canada is a Phillips Cables plaque with my name on it.” And fortunately for us, life brought this delightful couple to Indianapolis and to the Circle City Curling Club.

All photographs provided courtesy of Susan Fleck and club members.

Circle City Curling Club

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<https://www.facebook.com/CircleCityCurlingClub> (public)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/8547599118> (membership/approval required)

We’re only \$2425 away from our 2017 goal contribution (\$12,000) to the Dedicated Ice Fund. If all 40 members of the Fall League give \$61, we would reach that goal. Have you made a tax-deductible donation to the Circle City Curling Club’s Dedicated Ice Fund this year? Can you help us reach our goal for 2017? Better still – can you help us *exceed* our goal for 2017?

Board of Directors

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