

Dear members,

This is a long one!

Hope you are all well and have been able to take advantage of this wonderful weather! Maybe a few sunny walks or even a round or two of golf..?

Updates:

1) Start of League play

As mentioned earlier, League play at most Quebec curling clubs continues to be on hold and we are all anxiously awaiting our chance to start playing. Early in August, based on your feedback and the input of other local clubs, the Board decided to open our club. We continue to follow the guidelines set out by our Return to Play committee and have implemented all necessary safety guidelines and protocols.

Although we cannot predict when league play may start, we are currently hoping to be able to play a 3/4 season, even if we are further delayed this month. It would be a condensed season certainly, but something we are all looking forward to. We continue to control expenses and are looking for innovative ways to generate revenue. On that note, please watch for an announcement this month regarding a new donation program that will allow donations to be eligible for a tax receipt in the year the donation is received.

2) Practice availability:

Although we cannot resume league play, we are permitted to practice individually or in pairs provided that safety measures are in place. Therefore, a few weeks ago the Board made the decision to provide full members with the ability to book practice time at the Club, following our Return to Play guidelines. This has been well received and we have decided to open up practice times to our Social members. A Social member is entitled to 2 free practice sessions of one hour each. Subsequent practice hours will be charged to Social members at \$15 per person, or \$25 per sheet of two persons. We encourage those that have not paid for a membership yet this year to contact Martine (accounting@bdcc.ca) in order to take advantage of this offer by at least paying for a Social membership.

Details:

All protocols in our Return to Play guide must be followed. The wearing of masks at all times is mandatory while in the Club, including the ice shed.

You must submit both your registration form and your signed Acknowledgement of Risk waiver form, prior to practicing, if you have not done so already. The waiver forms are available from the club website under the Member's Home landing page.

One hour practice times are currently:

Monday-Saturday

* 2:00PM

* 3:30PM

Monday-Friday

* 7:00PM

* 8:30PM

There are currently no practices on Sunday.

The ice will be pebbled and nipped before the afternoon and evening sessions by designated persons. Rocks will be disinfected prior to each session by our volunteers.

A maximum of 2 people per sheet is permitted.

Practice time must be reserved via the Book Ice Time option found under the Member's Home on the club web site. You must get a confirmation back. No drop-ins will be allowed. Currently, members will only be permitted to reserve two hours per week in order to share the resource among members.

The seating in the lounge will strictly be used to change into your curling shoes and as a place to leave your jackets and/or bags. You must come dressed to play and are asked to leave the club once you are changed back into your outdoor clothing. The changing rooms will remain off limits, but the washrooms are accessible.

Please remember that club brooms and stabilizers are not available to borrow. If you would like to purchase a curling item, please contact Earl Lasalle (proshop@bdcc.ca). Some second hand equipment is also available (Please contact Bob Cox (cox.robertw@gmail.com) for more info). As many of us use identical stabilizers, please ensure that yours is properly and easily identified.

Volunteers continue to monitor the practice sessions, as are responsible for cleaning the club. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Martine (accounting@bdcc.ca).

We hope that these practice sessions will serve as a means for our members to remain active and to have safe interaction with other members during the period of increased restrictions, in advance of the return of our regular schedule of play. We know these are uncertain times. As the days get colder and the nights grow longer, perhaps taking advantage of a practice session will be a welcomed change!

3) Social Get Togethers

Although all remote at this time, our social activities still give us a chance to connect with fellow members. Friday's 'cinq à sept' was a modestly attended event, yet fun nonetheless! Karla is planning more events in the near future!

Finally, on behalf of the entire Board, it is an understatement to say that this has been a challenging season. We have been meeting regularly, and working tirelessly, to keep you updated, and most importantly, to support you and the club as best as we can in the midst of what this season has had to offer thus far.

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you at the club soon!

Sincerely,
John Michalovic, President