

Little Rocks, Juniors get competitive experience

While the curling world and all its fans were glued to the Scotties Tournament of Hearts, local curlers continued to play and plan their own tournaments. The stakes may not have always been so high but the commitment is no less real.

The Senior League continued with its series of home and away games, curling last Friday in Berwick. This is a two-day series, with the winner based on cumulative points of the games. From year to year, the bragging rights pass back and forth between the clubs, but this year it is looking good for the Middleton curlers, who achieved a nice high score to take into the next day's curling.

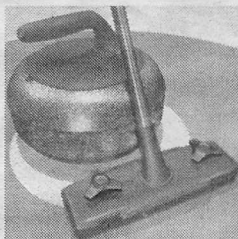
Little Rocks

The Little Rocks have an upcoming away day when they will participate in a bonspiel in Bridgetown, with teams from Digby, Bridgetown, and Middleton taking part. The coordinator for the Little Rocks, Dawn Spidle, tries to have as many of these opportunities as possible for her curlers, so they have a chance at real competition. In small clubs it is always a problem for younger curlers to experience team play that is not against the same people week after week. Being able to take her Little Rocks to another club offers opportunities for team-building, coaching in strategy, and developing good sportsmanship. Dawn also plans a fun-day at MCC with Juniors and Little Rocks, and some regular league curlers filling in

the empty positions.

Junior Curlers

This year, for the first time, a Junior League team curls with the adults in the Open League. Like the Little Rocks, Juniors do not get much opportunity to experience real competition when they play and practice with each other. The Open League team members change as Junior curlers are available from their other commitments, but each week four players take to the ice and hopefully learn a little about the skills and etiquette of curling by seeing it in practice, and not just being told as part of a coaching session.



Throwing Rocks

Karen Sotvedt
Middleton
Curling Club

Dominion Championships

MCC sent a team to both the Men's and Women's Dominion Club Championships. While neither team was successful in reaching the finals, it is important to note that alone among the similar-sized small clubs in the Valley, Middleton sent a team to both events and there was even competition within the club to determine the teams to attend. The club may not be large, but the level of interest and competitive heart of its curlers is great. Many of our surrounding clubs do not host Provincial Championships either, but MCC always bids to host an event and this keeps Middleton on the curling map. Upcoming events, and results and photos of past bonspiels, are always available at www.middletoncurlingclub.com