

SPORTS

Spring is Here a fun time at Middleton Curling Club

Karen Sotvedt

Throwing rocks



Last weekend was an extremely busy weekend for Middleton Curling Club's members both at the club and on the road.

MCC had three teams in the Provincial Club Championships being held at Glooscap Curling Club in Kentville. Dawn Spidle had a team in the women's event, skipping Emily Neily, Barbara Eaton, and Christine Spidle. At one time the men's and women's events were held at different clubs but this year Kentville hosted both simultaneously, making for a busy weekend for their volunteers.

The two men's teams from MCC had to start on Thursday night, earlier than planned, due to the number of entries and pressure



Winners of the Spring is Here spiel were Nancy Acker, Eric Marshall, Lucille Whynot, and Paul McDade. The Middleton Curling Club event was in its 14th year.

of time. Les Smith skipped a team of Andrew Smith, Bruce Johnson, Erwin Banks, and Ian Reesor. Bill Eaton skipped Rick Greene, Cody Spidle, and Larry Drew.

None of the Middleton teams

made it to the final, which is still being played at the time of writing. That would have made for a very long weekend.

Back on home ice, the Spring is Here spiel had a full house and

a great day, despite many regulars being away and the threat of weather, with power flickering. But all was fine.

Over the years, many friends and families of club members have come for their first taste of curling at one of these funspiels. This time was no exception with a number of attendees getting a few minutes of tutorial before the game started and then heading out to play. Many who had curled for years watched in amazement as they did very well and joined in the camaraderie of their teams. As always, the age span on the ice was broad – from young juniors to club seniors of many years standing.

Dave and Nancy Acker host the event – this was year number 14 – and the format and atmosphere is great for a club like MCC where everyone pitches in and feels a sense of belonging. Curlers play a game in one of two morning draws then the whole groups sits down

to a soup and sandwich lunch together, with lots of door prizes. The afternoon is two more six-end draws with points determining the winners of the trophy and first choice at the prize table. But everyone gets a prize – and two games and lunch and lots of fun – so there are no losers here.

This year's champions were the Eric Marshall team with Nancy Acker, Lucille Whynot, and Paul McDade. They will get their names on the trophy which stays in the club on the "wall of pride" in the trophy corner.

The curling year is winding down, but there are still league finals to be played and Bill Eaton's evening funspiel at the end of the month.

The last Big Breakfast is Saturday, March 24.

See you there or at www.middletoncurlingclub.com

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club

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