

■ SPORTS

It's all about the ace these days

Karen Sotvedt

Throwing rocks



The ace in Middleton Curling Club's Chase the Ace is simply refusing to be drawn.

Last Friday there were only three cards and still the ace of hearts remained elusive. Tickets are now on sale in two locations, at the club and also the neighbouring Masonic Hall which shares the parking lot with MCC, and which has seating and snacks for those who wish to avoid the crush at the club.

The winner for the night took home more than \$1,500 but did not draw the ace, which was worth more than \$12,000. This Friday, Nov 16, will see the pot go even higher. Surely with only two cards remaining, this will be the week.

The weekend continued to be busy with the Learn to Curl group braving high winds to come out Sunday night to enjoy an hour of instruction on the ice where it feels like you have a winter day – but no wind chill. The sheets were full with some groups doing the hack delivery and another learning to use the stick.

This Saturday, Nov. 17, is the next Big Breakfast, a community favourite with the club full of the welcoming aromas of hot toast and bacon – along

with beans, eggs, sausage and pancakes. Friends exchange news over a leisurely coffee and this week the chat is sure to be about the ace: if it was won, then who got it and how much it was worth. If it wasn't drawn, then there will be the "I don't believe it" element with the single card remaining and the next night's winner being it, after a year, and 52 weeks of drawing.

The weekend is a very busy one, with the drama of the ace on Friday, the sociability of the breakfast on Saturday, and then on Sunday the coordinator of MCC youth programs, Dawn Spidle, is holding an afternoon of instruction and some practice with the "Rocks and Rings." This office curling system uses rocks on casters that run on a plastic surface which allows the curler to throw the rock as if delivering from the hack.

The "Rocks and Rings" programs will have been in a number of schools in the area during the week, and any student who has participated is invited, with a parent, to join in this event at the club.

By the time Sunday evening rolls around the club will have had a real work-out, but the Learn to Curl groups will be back on the ice. MCC is certainly "rocking" these days.

Information on the club and its activities is always on www.middletoncurlingclub.com

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.

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