

■ SPORTS

Middleton Curling Club's Learn to Curl clinic coming soon



Enthusiastic curlers took to the ice last week for the start of the 2018-19 season at Middleton Curling Club.

But the excitement of reconnecting with curling friends was not the main topic of conversation. Most exchanges started with 'Can you believe it?!' because astonishingly, the Ace of Hearts was not pulled last Friday. The deck is now down to

only four cards, and the pot on Nov. 2 will be more than \$10,000. The winner last Friday took home more than \$900, but the ace stayed hidden.

The club homepage always has league information and registration for returning members, but for those who are new to curling or returning after a few years off the ice, there will be a seven-week Learn to Curl clinic starting Nov. 4. The sessions are one hour beginning at 7 p.m. and will run until Dec. 16. All aspects of curling will be covered - rules, both slide and stick delivery of the rock, sweeping, and general

etiquette, with instructions tailored for the individual.

Once new curlers have confidence on the ice, there are several leagues they can comfortably join: the Afternoon League for those free during the day, and the Tuesday night Western Draw which allows curlers to try all positions on a team as they wish.

The proceeds from the Chase the Ace are used to promote the youth programs at MCC under the leadership of co-ordinator Dawn Spidle. Curling is the easiest sport to join for students because the only expenditure is the modest fees. There is no complicated equipment - just a pair of

clean sneakers, warm clothing, and protective headgear like a bike helmet.

This season "Rocks and Rings" will be coming to some schools in Annapolis County and on Nov. 18 Spidle is holding an open house using this famous off-ice training tool. There will be two one-hour sessions for participants and a parent. If there are any questions, contact information is available on the club homepage.

Also supported will be the student developmental camp being held this Saturday for MCC's Little Rockers and Juniors ages nine and older. The all-day camp

is hosted by Team Young (a junior team from the Halifax area). Young curlers will work on their technical skills, sweeping, team dynamics, and etiquette on the ice.

MCC looks forward to seeing some new faces on the ice, and not just in the clubroom chasing after the ace. Chase the Ace continues this Friday, Nov. 2. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the draw at 8 p.m.

Club information and contacts always available at www.middletoncurlingclub.com

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.