

SPORTS

Sociability the key to fun times at Middleton Curling Club

Karen Sotvedt
Throwing rocks



Sociability was a vital part at Middleton Curling Club this past week.

Anyone who has watched Canadian curling events like the Briar has seen fans in the stands with large signs saying SOCIABLE. Curlers value this aspect of the game very highly, and at the club level, it is built into the etiquette of the game. The winners buy the losers a drink and everyone sits and enjoys some post-game time relaxing together.

This time of year curling clubs are bustling with this social activity and MCC is no exception.

The return match of the Home-and-Home with Bridgetown was held last Friday. Middleton went into the games with some points



Afternoon League co-ordinator Jean Fry, centre, poses with the trophy and some of the Middleton Curling Club curlers in the Home-and-Home with Bridgetown. **CONTRIBUTED**

ahead. Each club fielded three teams, and at the end of the eight-end game, MCC teams had held their lead in aggregate points to claim the trophy.

The six teams celebrated together with a lunch and drinks and a Valentine-themed cake. No one needed to be reminded to be sociable. Saturday morning the Big Break-

fast offered more hospitality to the community and club members alike. This popular event is only held during the curling season, so there is only one more to come, on March 16.

Winter is still with us with more ahead, but by mid-February the club curling season is already ticking things off the list: last breakfast is coming, final rotation of teams in the draws, planning the last potluck of the Western Draw. Everyone is making sure they get in as much curling as possible.

One way to increase playing time is taking part in bonspiels at other clubs. Last weekend Cindy Robar, with her team of Nancy Acker, Susan Coulter, and Becky Robar, took part in the Edie Corkum Memorial Bonspiel, an annual Berwick one-day funspiel begun in 1991.

The day celebrates the memory of one of that club's early and most active curlers and volunteers, and is a great day for all participants. MCC's team did well, placing fifth out of 16 teams, but were most

pleased with winning the Crazy Hat contest with their theme of the 'Blinking Team' headwear. It takes special commitment to curl with antennae and googly glasses on!

Coming soon in Middleton is another funspiel that always brings out the tickle trunks: the Spring is Here funspiel on March 9. Being near St. Patrick's Day and with the spring theme, green is the colour most often seen on the ice, with lots of shamrocks for the first, and the occasional pair of shorts or Hawaiian shirts for the latter.

Friday, March 1 the club is social night to which all are invited. Come have your TGIF at MCC – the bar will be open, snacks will be provided and a silent auction will be going on in the background. Community members are welcome.

Check www.middletoncurling-club.com

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.