

SPORTS

Young Middleton curlers take home silver from regionals



Middleton curlers Adam Newman and Zaida Lily came first in their divisions at a skills competition at the Scotties. In addition to their personal trophies, their names go on the large version that travels to the Scotties each year. **CONTRIBUTED**

Karen Sotvedt

Throwing rocks



The last two weeks were eventful for young curlers from Middleton Curling Club with lots of curling and travel involved.

Two teams of MCC students competed in the High School Regional Championships, held in Liverpool. Travelling outside the Valley to curl is always an adventure, but this year was even more exciting because the World Junior Curling Championships were being held in Liverpool, starting on the same day, with teams from 12 countries participating. This increased the intensity of curling fever in the region and the overall feeling of participating at a higher level.

Middleton's curlers showed the town and the club in a great light – both teams got silver for the region.

The boys team skipped by Cole Sawler included Matthew Newman, Adam Newman, and Bryce Smith. The girls were skipped by Jady Phinney with Katelyn Tattersall, Chaya Diggins, and Lauren Tattersall, and they had a very eventful and exhausting Saturday. Just the way the progression of draws worked out, winning their first game meant they came off the ice in time to do the coin toss, run to the bathroom and then back onto the ice. Then, winning that game did exactly the same thing – no time for a break before the start of their third game in a row – the gold medal game.

The girls were stiff, tired, hungry and happy to have won the silver after such a strenuous workout.

Last Sunday was the final day of the Scotties in Sydney, with the provincial skills test winners taking to the ice between the semi-final and final games. There was a full contingent to support MCC's three participants – Adam Newman, Matthew Newman, and Zaida Lily

– who were accompanied by family, fans and proud coach and youth coordinator Dawn Spidle.

There were five finalists in each age group, and each curler threw eight rocks: two practice shots to get the feel of arena ice, then two each to try the hit, the draw, and a tap. Adam Newman and Zaida Lily came first in their divisions and in addition to their personal trophies, their names go on the large version that travels to the Scotties each year. Well done!

On Sunday, March 3 Spidle is holding the annual Family/Friends Funspiel for her young curlers, another opportunity for them to curl outside a teaching situation. Anyone interested in participating is welcome for this day of easy curling with two four-end games, lunch, snacks and prizes for everyone.

Spidle can be contacted through the club webpage at www.middletoncurlingclub.com

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.