

## RECREATION

## Getting into the groove at Middleton Curling Club

**Karen  
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Throwing  
Rocks



Now settled into the routines of the regular season, Middleton Curling Club hums with activity every day of the week.

The Learn-to-Curl group on Sunday is enthusiastic and looking forward to joining league curling soon. In the hour between this group and the Sunday Western Draw, from 5 to 6 p.m., the ice is open to curlers who want to get in a little extra practice or just more exercise – this is free time and club members can drop in to use the ice.

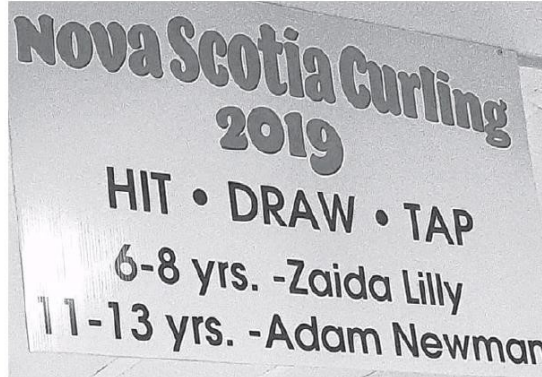
The youth programs go from strength to strength, and this year there were enough students that co-ordinator Dawn Spidle started a second afternoon for the juniors

in order to give everyone enough ice time.

This group has started learning how to play mixed doubles – the rules and strategies are quite different from regular curling. The ends begin with some rocks already placed on the ice in pre-set locations, and with only two members on each team, it is a much faster paced game. The young curlers like the speed and also the games are generally higher scoring.

The older group is now learning to sweep with their sliders on – a skill you have to grow into!

Both the Little Rock and junior programs are practicing for the “Hit, Tap, Draw” competition. The first level of testing is done at the club on Dec. 1, and then scores are sent to the provincial curling body. The top scorers are invited to a province-wide event. Last year’s was held at the Scotties, and the club had two winners who are honoured in a placard over the ice beside other provincial champions.



The Little Rock and Junior curlers are practicing for the ‘Hit, Tap, Draw’ competition. Top scorers are invited to a province-wide event. Last year the club had two winners who were honoured at the Scotties with a placard over the ice.

**CONTRIBUTED**

It is not all work for the students, though. The afternoon programs also feature short games with the black lights and glowing circles on-ice.

Last Friday there was a social evening and small silent action, but the day had already been busy with the Afternoon League hosting curlers from Berwick in the

first half of their annual Home-and-Home. The game resulted in Berwick being ahead on points but the scores are cumulative over the two days of the visits, so MCC has a chance to retain the trophy when they play in Berwick.

The event also includes a substantial amount of eating and socializing, in fine curling style, so everyone wins.

The club has begun to look like a Christmas Wonderland with items on display for the annual Christmas Fete Ticket Auction, on Dec. 7. The one-day curling funspiel is open to individual curlers and there are still some spots left for this: two six-end games, lunch, and prizes for all.

Also make sure you have the next Big Breakfast on your calendar: Saturday, Nov 23.

Information always at [www.middletoncurlingclub.com](http://www.middletoncurlingclub.com) or follow us on Facebook.

Karen Sotvedt is a member of the Middleton Curling Club.