

CLUB REPORT

Middleton curlers mix things up for day of love

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Throwing Rocks



All you need is love.

Valentine's Day was not just for lovers, at least not at Middleton Curling Club. It was a good reason to hold a funspiel, and this year was the 17th year Nancy and Dave Acker have organized this popular event.

The difference between a funspiel and a regular bonspiel is curlers sign up as individuals, not as a team, and then the teams are put together by the organizers. It's fun to curl with people you have not played with before, sometimes people you have never met, as family and friends also sign up. There



Richard Huebner, Jean Fry, Marilyn Crooks and Bill Horsman had plenty of reasons to smile after the Middleton Curling Club's Valentine Spiel. **CONTRIBUTED**

is no curler too new for a funspiel and it's the perfect way to start before trying a more competitive form.

As usual with MCC funspiels, part of the "fun" is get-

ting the appropriate gear – in this case hearts, and lots of red – to celebrate the season. Christmas sees plenty of ugly sweaters and tinsel garland, and the Spring is Here Funspiel,

held around St. Patrick's Day and the spring equinox, is a reason to get out shamrocks, and the wearing of all things green.

The Valentine Spiel had two draws in the morning, so everyone had a six-end game, and then stopped so all curlers could have a soup and sandwich lunch together, before more curling in the afternoon. Besides lunch, the Ackers provided lots of door prizes, and there was a ticket draw as well. Plus, everyone knew at the end of the day, all curlers would get something from the prize table. In the afternoon, the teams are split according to their results from the morning, so opponents were more evenly matched. The games are scored on a point system, not just "win or lose" like a regular curling game. The points then result in a ranking for all the teams. First place this year was Richard Huebner's team with Jean Fry,

Marilyn Crooks and Bill Horsman. They were awarded the trophy and got first pick of the prizes.

There were some funspiel regulars who did not make an appearance as it was a busy weekend away from the club as well. A team of women went to the Edie Corkum Bonspiel in Berwick, an annual event in honour of a longtime and enthusiastic member of Berwick Curling Club. MCC's team won the event, but only came in second for the hat competition (which seemed to be more important). And regional hockey finals were being played elsewhere so many of the youth curlers and families were busy with that.

Note: mark your calendar for the Spring is Here Funspiel on March 14. More information at www.middletoncurling-club.com or follow us on

Facebook.

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