



The Sweep

Royal Kingston Curling Club

Volume 26, Issue 5

May 2025



Mike Deslippe accepts his Life Membership certificate from Ron Cameron.

RKCC celebrates new Life Members

RKCC welcomed three new Life Members in the 2024-25 season. Mike Deslippe, Gene Miller and Rick Pim have been members of Royal Kingston for 30 years. Rick did not attend the presentation.

Ron Cameron introduced Mike as a longtime friend and teammate, who volunteered with the junior program and was junior convenor for three years. Mike was also on the board of directors during the sale of the old club to Queen's University and continues to volunteer behind the scenes. What brings him back, year after year, said Mike, "more than curling, are the friends. You are not going to see those friends unless you curl."

Similarly, Fran Cooney has been a friend and teammate of Gene and his wife Linda for decades. She described Gene's long history as a curler, assistant ice tech, volunteer, competitor and good friend to many and for whom RKCC has been like a "second home".



Fran Cooney presents Gene Miller with his Life Membership certificate.

RKCC Championship Saturday

The 2024-2025 curling season ended on April 12 with 22 teams playing for the trophy honours.

Winners highlighted in red.

<i>Sheet 1</i>		
2- Person Stick Final	Mike Schneider (skip) Dave Burke	John Latimer Tom Bryant
<i>Sheet 1</i>		
Doubles A final	Denise Mulville Anthony Hale	Joe Waller Peter Waller
<i>Sheet 2</i>		
4-Person Stick final	David Townsend (skip) Tom Sephton John Latimer Al McLaughlin (for Steve Mansell)	Reg Gore (for Vic Matthews) Cathy Grant (for Joanne Miller) Mike Charette Paul Gillespie (for Tom Miller)
<i>Sheet 3</i>		
Day Women's A Flight	Karen Matheson (skip) Mirelle Ringuette Laurie Winter Sharen McDowall	Melanie McEwen (skip) Andrea Berry Jennifer Robertson Heather Proderick
<i>Sheet 4</i>		
Evening Women's A Flight	Laura Brown (skip) Kaitlyn Welch Vanessa Cooper Erica Simpson	Heidi Burke (skip) Kelly Johnson Colleen Cross Cyndy Murphy
<i>Sheet 5</i>		
Juniors A Final	Grace Berry (skip) David Polk Copelynn Henderson-Boileau Mac Dopking	Alex Splinter (skip) Megan DaCosta Nathanael Young Hannah Perez
<i>Sheet 6</i>		
Juniors B Final	Lexi Wowk (skip) Ewan Jones Maggie Berry Jonah Winsor	Leah DaCosta (skip) Medha Charan Addy Winterstein Siobhan Rodgers

Both the afternoon and evening draws were piped on the ice by Eric Gray and introduced by RKCC President Keith Mitchell.

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Championship Saturday, continued.

The trophy presentations were hosted by Keith Mitchell with assistance from the following convenors: Kathy Jackson (Stick Leagues), Josée Dumas-Hurt (Day Women), Karen Matheson (Evening Women), Anthony Hale (Evening Men), Peter Waugh (Mixed), Ian Gauthier (Doubles), Liz Baer (Carrie Cole), Shawn Kelly (Day Men) and Michael Berry (Juniors).

Winning teams highlighted in red.

<i>Sheet 1</i>		
Mixed A final	Todd Johnson (for Michael Berry) Denise Mulville Curtis Friesen (for Anthony Hale) Andrea Berry	Mario Fabbro (Skip) Sarah Young Ross Fabbro Megan Wheeler
<i>Sheet 2</i>		
Women's Flight (EL vs. DL)	Laura Brown (Skip) Kaitlyn Welch Vanessa Cooper Erica Simpson	Karen Matheson (Skip) Mirelle Ringuette Laurie Winter Sharen McDowall
<i>Sheet 3</i>	<i>Day Women</i>	<i>Evening Women</i>
Carrie Cole Final	Judy Russell (Skip) Lisa Mulville Christine Haight Brenda Smith	Joan Doucet (Skip) Deb Kennedy Bev Pitts Liz Horton
<i>Sheet 4</i>		
Evening Men's Club final	Alex Tosh (Skip) Dale Marecak David Barr David Burke	Michael Flowers (Skip) Bob Pritchett Frank Pinder Jeff Donald
<i>Sheet 5</i>		
Evening Men's A Flight final	Noel Herron (Skip) Steve Lodge Jason Boyce Chris Barkley	Michael Berry (Skip) Anthony Hale Patrick Tessier Graham Berry
<i>Sheet 6</i>		
Day Men's A Flight final	Alex Tosh (Skip) Rick Ward Denny Williams Bill Grant (for Frank Pinder)	David Townsend (Skip) Tom Sephton Steve Mansell John Latimer (for Bronek Korczynski)

A huge "thank you" to April Welsh for organizing the trophies both before the event and then after, for engraving!

Thank you to Jeff Gray, Gisele Cyr and the ice team for the wonderful ice for the event!



Junior Finals

Junior A Champs (above)

Above, from left: vice David Polk, second Copelynn Henderson-Boileau, skip Grace Berry and lead Mac Dopking.

Runners-Up (photo right)

From left; skip Alex Splinter, vice Megan DaCosta, second Nathanael Young and lead Hannah Perez.



Junior B Champs (photo left)

From left: Maggie Berry, Jonah Winsor, Ewan Jones and skip Lexi Wowk.

B Flight Runners-Up (photo right)

From left: skip Leah DaCosta, vice Medha Charan, second Addy Winterstein and lead Siobhan Rodgers.





Men's Club Champions

From left: vice David Barr, second Dale Marecak, skip Alex Tosh, lead David Burke.



Photo Right: Mixed Doubles A Champs

Anthony
Hale and
Denise
Mulville



2-Person Stick Champs

Mike Schneider, left, and Dave Burke.



Mixed A Flight Champs

From left: Curtis Friesen (spare for Anthony Hale), Anthony Hale, Denise Mulville, Andrea Berry, Michael Berry and Todd Johnson (spare for Michael Berry).



4-Person Stick Champs

L-R: Tom Sephton, skip Dave Townsend, Al McLaughlin (sparing for Steve Mansell) and John Latimer.



Day Women's A-Flight Champions

L-R: Sharen McDowall, Laurie Winter, Mirelle Ringuette, skip Karen Matheson



EW A Flight and Overall Champions

L-R: Erica Simpson, Vanessa Cooper, Kaitlyn Welch, skip Laura Brown.



Carrie Cole Winners

L-R: Brenda Smith, Christine Haight, Lisa Mulville, skip Judy Russell.



Day Men's A Flight Champions

L-R: skip Alex Tosh, Rick Ward, Denny Williams, Frank Pinder



Evening Men's A Flight Champions

L-R: Skip Noel Herron, Steve Lodge, Jason Boyce, Chris Barkley.



RKCC's Team Mitchell won the first draw. From left, lead Dave Bracken, second Dave Barr, vice Alex Tosh and skip Garth Mitchell.

RKCC Super Seniors 60+ Spiel a super success

By Dave Lollar

On Friday, March 14 the RKCC Super Senior 60+ Bonspiel was held with 16 teams in attendance. This Spiel is quite often referred to as the "meat spiel", as all the prizes are meat. The generous sponsorship by Bob's

Butcher Shop and Edward Jones makes the day a great success, especially since meat prices are on the rise. There were six out-of-town teams from as far away as Ottawa and, with great support from our RKCC seniors' group, RKCC had 10 teams registered.

The Super Seniors event features a continental breakfast organized by John Emerton and a delicious hot roast beef-on-a-bun lunch prepared by Murray McDowall, assisted by many volunteers and featured Kathy Lollar's homemade apple crisp. John Whitaker and Shawn Kelly did the scoring and assisted with the event. Special thanks go to all our volunteers, Mada, Chuck, Anthony, Zach and Rhonda for their efforts through the course of the day to make the spiel success.

Garth Mitchell's team skipped with vice Alex Tosh, second Dave Barr and lead Dave Bracken from RKCC won the first draw with their overall point total securing their names on the trophy for 2025. Brian Brose's team that included Al Lowe (throwing fourth rocks), vice Michel Barsalou, second Bill Rickard with skip Brian Brose (lead rocks), from Brighton Curling Club won the second draw.



From the Brighton Curling Club, Team Brose won the second draw. From left: Brian Brose (skip/lead Stones) Al Lowe (fourth stones) Bill Rickard (second). Missing from photo is Mitch Barsalou (vice).

Stick League Season Highlights

By Kathy Jackson, Stick League Convenor

The RKCC stick leagues continue to see increased participation as curlers make the switch to delivering their rocks with a stick. Anyone interested in joining our leagues in 2025-2026 should watch for the opening date of registration in mid-July. We'd love to have you join us!

Two-Person Stick League Results

'A' Division Champions: The team of Mike Schneider and Dave Burke were victorious over Tom Bryant and Bill Coulter (who was sparing for John Latimer.) Tom and John were presented with the *Remembering Ed Bauder Two-Person Stick Runners Up* award.

'B' Division Champions: The team of Ernie Carter and Jen Robertson (replacing Vic Matthews) captured the 'B' division trophy for the second consecutive year.

Four-Person Stick League Results

The Townsend team of David Townsend (skip), Tom Sephton (vice), John Latimer (second) and Al McLaughlin (lead) handily defeated the Matthews team on Championship Day. The Matthews team, skipped by Reg Gore (in place of Vic Matthews), included Cathy Grant (sparing for Joanne Miller), Mike Charette replacing Reg at second, and Paul Gillespie (for Tom Miller). The Matthews team was presented with the *Remembering Ed Bauder Four-Person Stick Runners Up* award.

Four-Person Stick Festive Funspiel – Save the Date

The Four-Person Stick Festive Funspiel continues to be a popular event, filling to capacity both years it has been held. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 17, 2025. Come out and give delivering your rocks with a stick a try.

On behalf of David, Tom and myself, thanks to all stick league members for an enjoyable season. We appreciate your support and encouragement. We hope to see you again next year.



The team of Ernie Carter and Jen Robertson (replacing Vic Matthews) captured the 'B' division trophy for the second consecutive year.



Tom Bryant and John Latimer accept the Remembering Ed Bauder 2-Person Stick Runners Up Award.



Dale Marecak has been a volunteer coach with the junior curling program for 15 years. His daughter Sam (not pictured) joined him shortly afterwards as an assistant coach in the Little Rocks program and recently became the lead instructor for the five- to six-year-olds. Both coaches are moving on.

Valued junior coaches moving on

By Michael Berry, RKCC Junior Curling Convenor

With the end of each season and the beginning of another, a period of change is inevitable. One change that comes to the club next season is the loss of two important coaches in the junior curling program. For the last 15 years, club member Dale Marecak has given his time on Sunday afternoons to help train the next generation of Kingston curlers. Recently retired, Dale has elected to spend more time with family and in new pursuits. Dale's kind and friendly demeanor has allowed him to easily connect with the youth curlers over the years. Dale has provided support to youth curling in other ways, regularly inviting juniors to join his teams in the Empire Life Bonspiel or with his adult league teams.

Shortly after joining the coaching team at RKCC Dale was joined by his daughter, Sam Marecak, who volunteered as an assistant coach in the "Little Rocks" program. Over the years Sam's confidence and leadership grew to the point where they have most recently been the lead instructor for the 5-6-year-old curlers. Sam's connection with our littlest curlers was clear to see. Together Dale or Sam have provided foundational skills training and, most importantly, a place where our juniors can have fun learning the game.

Current RKCC junior curlers have found success in local, provincial and school competition at the U15/U18 levels and beyond, each having spent time learning from Dale or Sam. The RKCC junior curling program will be forever grateful to Dale and Sam for the time and effort they have provided the club over these years. On behalf of the club and from the junior convenors who have come before me, I wish to thank Dale and Sam deeply and wish them the best moving forward.

On a related note, the Junior Curling program is in need of new coaches next season. If any members have an interest in joining the team in this rewarding cause, please contact the club or myself.



The award-winning Frontenac Secondary School (FSS) girls team, from left: Ella Rowsome and RKCC members Grace Berry, Lexi Wowk and Leah DaCosta.

RKCC junior success at the high school level

By Lisa DaCosta

RKCC junior curlers (and junior curling alumni) have been seeing lots of success on the high school curling circuit. The Frontenac Secondary School (FSS) girls team (RKCC members Leah DaCosta, Lexi Wowk and Grace Berry) came second in the Kingston Area Secondary Schools Athletic Association (KASSAA) championship. They then received a last-minute entry into the Eastern Ontario (EOSSAA) championship, where they took home the gold, earning a berth at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) championship, which was held in Sarnia in March. The FSS girls came in fourth out of 20 teams from across Ontario!

Coming off their gold medal run at OFSAA 2024, the Frontenac Secondary School boys team (RKCC juniors Logan Bedard and Laura Johnson, along with former RKCC juniors Andrew DaCosta and Ryan Kriek) won the KASSAA boys championship for the third year in a row. They went on to earn silver at EOSSAA in Deep River in February.

The Kingston Secondary School girls team (RKCC juniors Alex Splinter, Opal Phillips and Adelaide Ormsbee) took the gold at the KASSAA championship in Napanee for the second year running, and went on to place fourth at EOSSAA.

The Regiopolis Notre-Dame Mixed curling team, led by RKCC junior Medha Charan, has dominated both the KASSAA and EOSSAA championships for the past two years, winning gold at all events.

The LaSalle Secondary School girls team had a great introduction to curling with several members being brand new curlers this season and three of them international students! They include RKCC members Anna Benz (Germany), Laura Iaconni (Italy), and Siobhan Rodgers (Kingston).

The RKCC Junior Curling program is proud to see such success by our curlers and look forward to many more in the future.



B Flight Winners:
From left, the team of Carol Fitzpatrick (sparing for lead Amy Hacker), second Lisa Thorburn, vice Liz Baer and skip Wendy McCullough claimed victory over the team of Pauline Herron (Monica Kirk sparing), Suzanne Herron, Sandy Edwards and Jenna Herron.

Evening Women's League Report

By Karen Matheson, Convenor

As we come to the end of another very successful season, I would like to congratulate the winners of our club and flight leagues.

Our Evening Women's Club champion was the team of Judy Russell, Lisa Mulville, Christine Haight and Brenda Smith, who came up against an experienced team of Donna Smith, Doreen St John, Karen Peters and Pat Wideman. The Judy Russell team went on to successfully win the Carrie Cole title on Championship Day.

Our Evening Women's B Flight final was played on the Wednesday before Championship Day. The team of Wendy McCullough, Liz Baer, Lisa Thornburn, and Amy Hacker (Carol Fitzpatrick sparing) claimed the victory over the team of Pauline Herron (Monica Kirk sparing), Suzanne Herron, Sandy Edwards and Jenna Herron.

Our Evening Women's A Flight Final was played on the morning of Championship Day. The team of Laura Brown, Kaitlyn Welch, Vanessa Cooper, and Erica Simpson played the team of Heidi Burke, Kelly Johnson, Colleen Cross and Cyndy Murphy. The winner was determined in the eighth end with the Laura Brown team coming out on top. It was a very exciting game.

Laura Brown's team went on to successfully defend their title of overall Women's League winner in the evening game against the Day Women's A Flight team of Karen Matheson, Mirelle Ringuette, Laurie Winter and Sharen McDowall.

I would like to thank the Evening Women's Executive and the many volunteers on making this season a success.

I wish everyone a wonderful time off this summer and look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Grandmothers & Great Aunts 50th

Bonspiel a 'royal event'



By Karen Matheson

The 50th annual Grandmothers and Great Aunts bonspiel on was held on March 25 and we celebrated the 50 years by having a 'Royal Event'. We had 20 teams this year with our royal colours shining through. The women had some excellent games and fun was had by everyone. The overall winner of the Grandmothers and Great Aunts bonspiel from Draw B was the RKCC team of Donna Jeffery with Joanne Manion, Susan Hara and Mary Skeggs (photo top left). This is a repeat for the Jeffery's team. Draw A's winner was Sue Lennox's team of Sheryl Martin, Cathy Howard and Marla Chadwich from the Napanee Curling Club (photo top right). The women were very inventive with their take on royal costumes; RKCC has never seen so many Queens in one place!!

The bonspiel could not have happened without the many wonderful volunteers and the support of the Day Women's League.

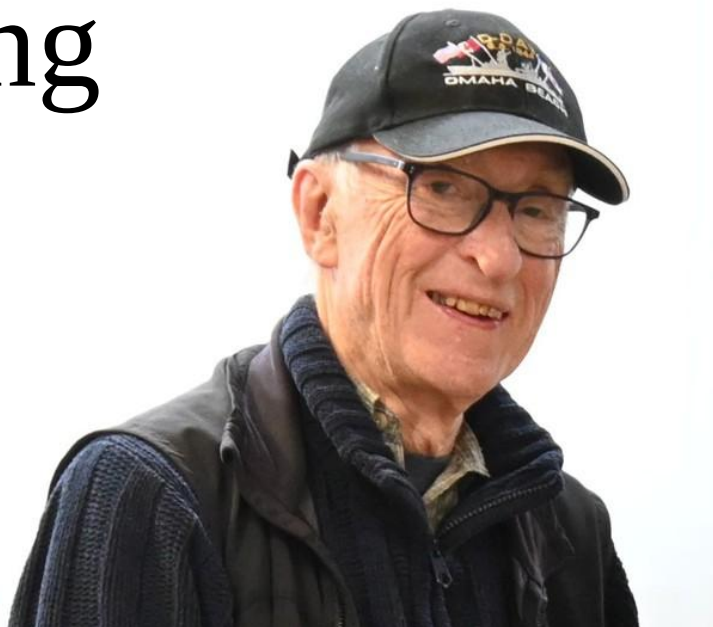
Remembering Vic Matthews

By Fran Cooney

Vic Matthews was an outstanding advocate for curling and the Royal Kingston Curling Club. He started his curling 'career' at QECVI in 1960, being part of the original high school curling club at the age of 14! They had two 2-hour times that they could curl, Monday afternoons (walking to KCC from QE!) and Saturday mornings for the fee of \$4 per session. Vic was hooked.

Vic joined RKCC in the 1994-95 season and received his Life Membership in April 2024. During his 30 years he packed a significant amount of volunteer work and curling within and outside of the Club. He joined the RKCC Board of Directors in 2006-07 as co-chair with John Berry in the Ice/Property portfolios. He stayed on the Board in various positions until 2012. He served eight years as Chair of Operations Committee (Vic, Wayne Smith, Dean Clark, Reg Gore, and many others) that continue to keep the Days Road Club the standard that it is today.

His most memorable contribution was as part of the Project Management team (Vic, Wayne Smith, and Tim Prue) contracted by the Board September 2005 to supervise building the 130 Days Road RKCC club. First there were many trips to Cornwall C. C. (newly built club) to get project ideas and to see how the construction went before 2006.



The Project Management team worked tirelessly from finalizing the detailed plan of the Design Build format to overseeing the demolition of the previous building, to maintaining costs, supplies and contractors, doing the construction prep to conclusion and follow-up with the contractor deficiencies.

This was all done within a tight time frame of less than a year, and within budget. There were untold voluntary hours as well as the contracted amount of .01 per cent of the total building cost.

Vic was detailed-oriented and made sure that he or the team were on site for all the important parts of building the new club. Working with CIMCO and the refrigeration system and ice pipe system, Vic's expertise as an ice maintenance technician made him want the best ice system possible for RKCC.

Meetings with M. Sullivan Construction, including sub-contractors and mechanical engineers, were always very positive and non-confrontational and positively contributed to the smooth running of the construction phase.

Other voluntary projects included painting the blue support beams in the ice shed (at night), installing plastic side boards on the ice edges (took two weeks) and, 15 years after the build, insulating the duct work for the air conditioning upgrade needed for summer use in the ice shed.

Continued on page 14.



Vic was a member of the curling club at Queen Elizabeth Collegiate and Vocational Institute. Photo is from 1960.



With his trademark yellow scarf.

Vic Matthews, continued from page 13.

Over the years, the Project Management Team/Operations Committee has saved RKCC thousands of dollars in time, labour, and expertise, and Vic was a large part of that.

Vic was also a committed curler, bringing in new members, forming many different bonspiel teams, going to many bonspiels throughout eastern Ontario, spreading the joy of curling. This past January Vic won the Senior Men's bonspiel in Napanee. He participated in several Napanee & District Curling Club events per year, was a presence in the Men's and Senior Men's leagues and curled in every open Men's spiel. Many times he brought a new team! January 11 was possibly the last bonspiel Vic participated in Napanee and his team won the A division!

Over the years Vic played in most RKCC leagues, including the Lefty McDonald Senior Major League at Cataraqui C.C, Evening Men's, Men's Senior Flight, and was a loyal supporter of the Evening Men's Club league. He was also a constant participant and supporter of RKCC bonspiels, including the Famous Fishermen's Bonspiel and the Men's Super Senior Bonspiel. He never missed playing in an in-Club Day Men's spiel. He most enjoyed the Mixed teams he formed, in which he would introduce relatively new members to bonspieling, including Gene and Linda Miller, Donna and Wayne Smith, Dupont and Kingston Construction Association members to name a few.

Since Covid, Ernie Carter played with Vic in the Stick League, with Vic promoting the next form of curling to willing participants. Vic was "one of the nicest and easiest skips to curl with," said Ernie, "totally comfortable calling the game and always a positive influence on the team. He said he didn't care about the standings, but he always knew where his teams were!"

Vic's name is on a number of trophies, but he also was an 'under the radar' kind of guy. His jokes and puns were legendary in the post-game social time, as well as on the ice! He was the 'essence' of a curler, both on and off the ice, to play with or against, always positive, never critical of his opponent.

Reg Gore summed up Vic Matthews in his Life Membership speech of last season: "He was a great ambassador for RKCC and the game of curling. Regardless of his many accomplishments, the one thing Vic treasured most about the game was not the game itself, but the fellowship he developed with many fellow curlers."

Vic Matthews will be sadly missed by RKCC members, old and new and the many, many other curlers he has met, mentored, played with throughout his long life and curling career. May he rest in peace.

Senior Men's Flight



Golden Brownie

Team Erwin Batalla won the coveted Golden Brownie award for providing the year's best Sr. Men's Flight lunch. Pictured are Rick Pim (left) and David Poirier. Missing from photo are team members Erwin Batalla (skip and master chef), John McCready and Mike Freeman.



D Flight

L-R: second Dan Lahey, vice Graham Jones, skip Ken Brant, lead Dave Londry. Missing from photo is fifth Eric McLean.



B Flight

L-R: lead Reg Gore, second Dave Fansett (sparing for Mike Boomhour), vice Peter Waller, skip Larry Waller.



C Flight

L-R: second Mark Publicover, skip John Futtit, vice Richard Dickson. Missing from photo is lead Dwight Farrell.



Overall Day Women's Club Champions

From left: skip Joan Doucet, vice Deb Kennedy, second Bev Pitts and lead Liz Horton.



Day Women's B Flight Champions

From left: skip Joan Doucet, Val Malmsten, Bev Ayling, Claudia Stevenson.

The Famous Ice Cream Dessert

Ingredients:

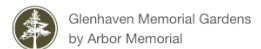
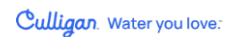
- 1 ¾ cups flour
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup melted butter
- 1 ½ cups caramel sauce
- 8 cups vanilla ice cream, slightly softened

Combine flour, brown sugar, rolled oats and pecans in a large bowl. Add melted butter and mix well. Pat a layer of the mixture (about half) on a larger baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees F, stirring occasionally for about 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and crumble while warm. Let cool.

Press half of the mixture into a 9" X 13" pan or glass dish. Drizzle with half of the caramel sauce. Spread on the ice cream, then the remainder of crumbs and sauce on top. Cover and store in the freezer. Cut into pieces and serve.

Thank you to Pauline Ryan for sharing this delicious recipe for dessert at the Women's Closing Dinner.

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