Pacific Coast Masters Curling Association FALL NEWSLETTER 2024



President Lawrence's Report

I want to open by reminding everyone that the board is always open to questions and suggestions. We want to stay in touch with you and vice versa!

Federal Grant - Under Cheryl Eason's guiding hand and some great help from a couple of outside sources, we developed an application that was submitted in mid-September for a 2025/26 grant to expand senior curling. The application is still under review but we feel optimistic. More on this later!

Website Improvement – chaired by Nancy Stagg, one of our (Zone 3) Directors, we've begun to identify options for a more user-friendly PCMCA website. Subject to available funds, we want to get to work on this project as soon as we can.

January Board Meeting –We are very happy to report that we've welcomed several new Directors filling vacancies due to people moving and other Directors taking on Executive positions. We also have created a new Director of Communications. Because we now have several members that have never met each other the board is looking forward to an in-person January board meeting.

Vice-President Bruce's Report

2025 BC Masters PCMCA/BCIMCA Combined Championships

The PCMCA is hosting the 2025 BC Masters PCMCA/BCIMCA Combined Championships this year. The Combined event at the Cloverdale and Langley Curling Clubs March 24-28, 2025. We have arranged for block reservations at both Sandman Hotels near Highway 1 in North Langley. They are short commutes to both curling rinks.

We are very pleased to report that the Combined Championships will be expanding to include a new category aptly named the Open 80+ which allows any combination of men, women, stick and wheelchair entries.

Starting bright and early, March 24 from 9am to 4pm, teams will have the opportunity to practice at the two curling clubs with teams assigned according to the club at which they begin play on March 25. As usual, there will be a skips meeting starting at 5:30pm at the Cloverdale CC. As importantly, starting at 7pm, there will be a *Meet and Greet* for all participants in the upstairs lounge, Cloverdale CC.

The next day, competition begins at both curling clubs with the first draws at 8am. There will be two games per day in all categories with all games taking place in the daytime. No evening curling.

Different from recent years, we will be holding the banquet for all competitors on Thursday, March 27 at the ABC Rooms adjacent to the Langley Curling Club. This should help competitors with their hotel reservations and plans for their travel home.

Friday, March 28 – the final round-robin games take place. Awards (trophies/crests) will be presented following each final game.

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Zone News

Your Zones and member clubs have also been very busy organizing events and other sessions to make your curling experience fun and productive.

As an example, below is a snapshot of highlights from around Zone 3:

- Fourteen keen volunteers attended our inaugural Volunteer Training Session on Sep 5. The topic was PCMCA-Style Bonspiel Software. Lots of questions were answered and all were provided with the latest version of the spreadsheet.
- Our Fall Zone Meeting was an energetic one with 17 attending. There was a lot of sharing of information and ideas including the merits of wearing helmets.
- 'The North Shore Masters are hosting a NEW 80+ Spiel on December 10 (at Royal City). Sign up soon for this one-day event.

PCMCA Website

<u>www.pcmca.ca</u> – this link will take you to the homepage of our website. From there you can choose to view a variety of pages containing interesting and/or relevant information:

- Click on **Directory** button
 This page will lead you to contact information for your PCMCA
 Executive and Zone Directors.
- Click on Event Calendar button
 The Event Calendar lists all of the bonspiels and playdowns occurring with the PCMCA Zones.
 - Take a look at this page if you are interested in participating in a spiel in your or other zones. With a bit of experimentation, you can specify what you are looking for. Don't worry, nothing gets permanently changed if you wander to a place you didn't want to go to!
- Click on Championships button
 This will lead you to the BC Masters Curling Championships.
 If you click the BCMCC logo, it will open up to all the information you might be seeking about our 202 championship celebration.

 Go take a look. You won't be disappointed.
- If you want to leave a comment, click on the **Home** page button and click on "Ask a question of the PCMCA Executive" and leave us a question or comment.



Our very sincere thanks and appreciation to all the people who have pitched in to make the PCMCA the place for mature (60+) curlers to continue to enjoy the game, the camaraderie and as importantly safe and healthy exercise. Let's all keep it up!!