



SPCC 2020 NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2020

780-467-9412

admin@sherwoodparkcurling.com

# Come back to Curling!



What will curling at the SPCC look like next season? None of us can know right now, but we are planning for a number of different scenarios including:

- Plan A - a regular length season running October to late March
- Plan B - a slightly shortened season running prior to Christmas to late March
- Plan C - a shortened season running January to early April

We also may face restrictions on the number of people allowed to be in the club at one time which will affect our draw times and schedules.

All our plans are subject to decisions by Alberta Health and Strathcona County. As provinces phase back into reopening, we will continue to monitor the state of indoor and outdoor facilities. Please stay up to date with us on our website and social media.

## Message from our Manager

It's been just over a month now that that we officially closed the club to do our part to help flatten the curve.

For myself, I have been eager to help, to get out and assist and show how much curlers care about our community. However, I realize the best means for me to assist is to stay home, take care of my family and vulnerable loved ones and to manage our club thru these uncertain times.

Believe me when I say I truly miss you!

I have appreciated the chance to chat when following up on the survey. I encourage you all to call a teammate, have regular virtual hangout with friends from SPCC or check in with someone you haven't heard from awhile. Aim to lift someone's spirit during these difficult time of isolation. Curlers care for each other all year round, so I hope you join me for Tea-line Time on Tuesdays during our Hangout with Heather spring sessions!

Details, updates and FUN on the next few pages...

We are seeking Secretary and Treasurer for the SPCC Executive for the upcoming season. If interested, please contact us!



# Hangout with Heather!



## Strategic Planning Session April 18

Thank you to the following SPCC members & staff that dedicated their time & knowledge to help us guide our future directions into the SPCC 2020 - 2025 Strategic Plan!



- ★ Kelly Rudyk - President of Strategic Planning Services & SPCC Saturday Night League Rep
- ★ Lesley Stafiniak - Administrated meeting & SPCC Web
- ★ Heather Nedohin - SPCC Manager
- ★ Doug Kroetsch - SPCC President
- ★ Herb Herder - SPCC President Elect
- ★ Donna Dosman - SPCC Member
- ★ Terry Shea - SPCC Head Ice Tech
- ★ Cara Richards - SPCC Admin
- ★ Bonnie Schmidt - SPCC Senior President
- ★ Lynn Penner - SPCC Director at Large
- ★ Roland Robinson - SPCC Coach & Member

## Tea-LINE TIME

*with Heather Nedohin*

On every other Tuesday starting May 5 at 10-11am, the SPCC welcomes curlers to virtually Hangout with Heather as she breaks down the game strategically, tactically and takes us thru ways to improve our team's overall curling game. All curlers are welcome, NOT just SKIPS!

Join using the link that will be posted on Facebook and the club website 15 minutes prior to each session.



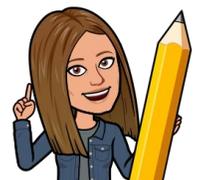
### Other changes for next season:

- Etiquette: Handshakes and fist bumps will be replaced with big smiles!
- There will be wipes located between the sheets at both ends of the rink.
- Lots of cleaning: All high touch surfaces will be disinfected between draws.

## "Hold Your Spot" - Coming Soon!

We want to start planning for you all coming back to curling this fall. We will open "Hold Your Spot" registration as soon as we have better information on the public health situation and dates for Alberta ReLaunch Strategy. One thing that has been decided is that the "Hold Your Spot" cost will be reduced to \$200 this year. We are also looking into payment plan options for the balance of the fees.

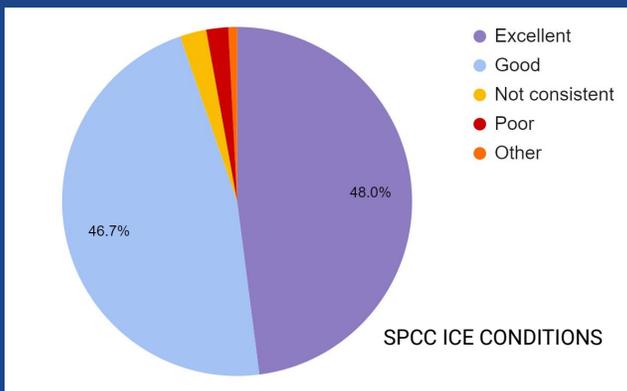
**SIGN ME UP**



# SURVEY SAYS!

We had 187 responses to the General survey and 247 to the League survey. Thank you to everyone who shared their opinions! Here are some things we learned from the survey:

- 98% of members surveyed planned to return to the club in 2020-21! We know the world has changed since the survey but we hope to see you all return to the club.
- We get to curl on great ice. 94% of those surveyed said the ice was good or excellent.



- 80% of members surveyed would like to participate in a Members Day event and many of you also asked for more opportunities to improve your game. We looking into adding clinics and training events to the calendar for next season. (Practicing is also good for improving your game and 36% of those surveyed never use the free practice ice.)
- There were lots of suggestions for events that you would like to see at the club. Looks like we will have to plan another big event. Stay tuned!
- There were many requests to host a Sturling (stick doubles) league/event. We will be looking for ways to include sturling in the club calendar.
- <https://www.sturling.net/>

**We would like to directly address some comments that members made in the survey:**

**Comment(C):** It would be nice to have beer served to us on the ice.

**SPCC Answer(A):** AGLC frowns on open booze in public areas. Our liquor license only permits alcohol in the SPCC lounge area. Open liquor on curling ice at GARC is not welcomed.

**C:** I miss curling in the Ladies Bonspiel.

**A:** It is returning! The 2020/2021 Calendar has it slotted in for February. Please support this event & volunteer by contacting the Wednesday Ladies Rep - Cathy Henbest at [Wednesdayladies@sherwoodparkcurling.com](mailto:Wednesdayladies@sherwoodparkcurling.com)

**C:** I would like to get a locker but the waitlist is so long.

**A:** Unfortunately we have way fewer lockers available than we would like. The waitlist is long but we do our best to keep it moving.

**C:** The ice is always dirty.

**A:** Our ice team works hard to clean the ice between every draw. If you find that your sheet always seems dirty, maybe your team is part of the issue. Check your team's equipment (grippers/shoes, brooms and clothing) before every game. Curling equipment **needs** to be replaced regularly.

**C:** I would like more info on what happens at SPCC Board meetings.

**A:** We are working on better communication of about SPCC Board Meetings. Minutes of meetings are posted on the club website under "Club>Board Meeting Minutes".

**C:** Some of the logos in the houses make it hard to read the house.

**A:** We agree some of the house designs are not ideal. Unfortunately, the current economic situation means our sponsors do not have extra money for new houses. When we are able to replace them, we will improve the designs.

## SURVEY SAYS! (continued)

- 64% of members surveyed do not use social media. We understand that it's not for everyone but if you want to check us out, we will be adding a feature to the website with the club's social media feeds so you can see them without signing up.

- The top 5 reasons you curl at the SPCC are:

- ★ Location, location, location
- ★ Friends who curl here
- ★ Leagues with the right level of competition
- ★ The social atmosphere
- ★ League times

- 35% of those surveyed volunteer their time at the club. You are the heart of this club.



- There was lots of productive feedback on the lounge. All your opinions have been shared with The Hat to make the lounge even better next season. If you have a request for a new beverage, talk to the Mike or his staff.

- Great quotes from the survey:

*"The transformation of the SPCC in the last five years into an actual curling club with an active community is amazing. For far too many years the SPCC was just 8 sheets of ice in a rec centre. The work Heather has done is amazing and am proud to be a part of this club"*

*"I love the atmosphere at the club, very friendly and caring. A person can improve their game if they want to or they can just be casual about it."*

*"Extremely well run club; very professional; fantastic ice conditions; welcoming; competitive in a very positive fun way; elevates the sport even for us rec curlers."*

## Comment Responses (continued)

**C:** Why don't we have discounts for people playing in multiple leagues?

**A:** The costs have a sheet of ice ready for a league game doesn't decrease if the players play in multiple leagues. In order to offer a discount to people who play in multiple leagues, we would have to increase costs for the "first" league across the entire club so we could still cover costs.

**C:** Please bring back the 2nd water cooler on the ice.

**A:** We do plan to install 2 water coolers on the ice next season. Additionally, we would like to encourage that all curlers bring their own reusable water bottles whenever possible. This is more eco-friendly and a safer option in light of the current public health situation.

**C:** There is not enough practice ice time.

**A:** We have a very busy club and to keep the ice conditions at the high level we have all come to expect, there has to be also time for maintenance work. In order to fit in all the league play and the required ice maintenance, we must limit the amount of practice time available to members. Hard balance.

**C:** We would like a coat rack in the locker room.

**A:** GARC is a busy facility and our locker room is a public space. People tend to leave valuable personal items in their coat pockets which makes a coat rack a security risk. Please take your coats out onto the ice and hang them on the hooks behind your sheet if you do not have access to a locker during your games.

**C:** It would be nice if we could have benches beside Sheets 1 and 8.

**A:** The walkways next to sheets 1 and 8 are considered access paths to the fire exits and therefore we cannot install benches in these areas.

## And more responses...

**C:** Why doesn't the club have change rooms?

**A:** We just don't have the square footage for change rooms within our club leased space. We have a locker room, which is a public space, so DON'T change there. Please use the washroom outside the doors or the **large** facility change rooms located by the front desk. If you can't find them, we are happy to provide a tour.



**C:** Why can't we watch morning games from the viewing gallery?

**A:** Due to the presence of alcohol in our lounge, AGLC policies required us to have a staff member supervising the viewing gallery if people were using it. As it was not financially feasible to keep staff in the lounge during all league play, the viewing gallery had to remain closed to limit access to the bar area.

### **The limitation will change in 2020!**

A security gate, security cameras and a duress button will be installed in the lounge/viewing gallery to allow the space to open when food service staff are not present. Exact opening hours will be determined jointly between the SPCC and GARC operations.

**C:** Some teams are SO slow, we never get to play 8 ends.

**A:** Your team determines your pace of play so skips - Be decisive. Front ends - Stay quiet and sweep. If your skip frequently needs help making decisions, refer them to "Hangouts with Heather" for some off season strategy training.

**C:** Is it possible to have lines between the sheets so people know where to stand?

**A:** YES! We will be placing lines in the ice to show the division between sheets next season.

**C:** There is no parking available for the late draw.

**A:** We are all aware of the shortage of parking spaces when GARC is busy. We have raised the issue with the county and parking is on the list of requests for facility enhancements in the future.

**C:** Why can't the early draws start earlier (or later)?

**A:** Draw times have been set to balance three things:  
1) enough maintenance time before the draw  
2) time for players who commute/have families to get to the club for the early draw  
3) getting the late draw complete at a reasonable time.

**C:** What happened to the championship banners won by club members?

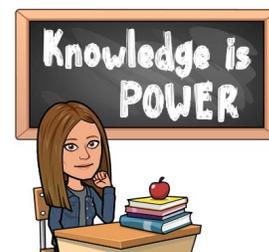
**A:** The banners are in storage. There are plans to create a banner wall along Sheet 8 but that project has been put on hold due to the covid situation. We are also working on a digital recognition wall project for the club website.

**C:** Where do we find the official rules of curling or the club's playoff guidelines ?

**A:** There is a copy of Curling Canada's rules in the proshop and you can always ask the staff for clarification. Electronic copies of these rules and the SPCC rules are posted on the club website under "Club > Policies, Rules and League Documents".

**C:** The club website is difficult to navigate.

**A:** We are always working to improve the club website but we agree that it's not always easy to find what you need. Please call the office or stop by during the season and we would be happy to give you a tour of the website so you can find the information you need. Any other suggestions welcomed!



# A little fun to brighten your day!

( or make you snort your coffee out of your nose )

Hey SPCC members, how have you been taking care of yourselves? Share photos of you staying healthy with the hashtags **#TeamSPCCThursday** **#TrueBLUE** on any social media platform or by email. We will feature them on Thursdays. (Bonus points if you are wearing SPCC blue in the photo.)



Check out our talented manager doing an upward facing dog pose over her sideways facing dog, Dahpa.



Have you been watching John Krasinski's new YouTube show, 'Some Good News'?

Here's a link to the first episode:  
[https://youtu.be/F5pgG1M\\_h\\_U](https://youtu.be/F5pgG1M_h_U)



**Follow us on our social media!**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sherwoodparkcc/](http://www.facebook.com/sherwoodparkcc/)

Instagram: @shpkcurlingclub

Twitter: @shpkcurlingclub