March News

2024

End of Year Deal! **If you join the club now, your membership is for the 2024-2025 season AND the remaining events this year. We have two more events scheduled for March of this year. One at Schenectady Curling Club and the other at the Albany Curling Club. Each event is $25 per person. Membership is $75 for an individual member and $125 for a couple.**

Annual Meeting coming in April: **Members only gathering where the Board will present an overview of our year, vote on officers, and an update on our Campaign Fund. A formal meeting notice will be shared closer to the date.**

Upcoming Events Sign Up here	
Mar 16	Mar 23
Member Curling Night	**Member Curling Night**
Members come together to form teams and play a friendly game. The night is filled with the spirit of curling, which is the cornerstone of the sport.	Members come together to form teams and play a friendly game. The night is filled with the spirit of curling, which is the cornerstone of the sport.
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Location: Schenectady Curling Club	Location: Albany Curling Club

Curling Etiquette

Etiquette is the courtesy and sportsmanship that you show your teammates and your opponents so that everyone can enjoy the game and play as well as possible without being distracted.

Before the game:

- Respect the starting time of your game.
- If you are unable to play, inform your skip and find someone (a spare) to play for you. It is your responsibility to find a substitute player.
- If you expect to be late, inform your skip or another member of your team.
- If possible, be on the ice at game time.
- Shake hands with your opponents, tell them your name and wish them good curling.

During the game:

- Be ready when it is your turn to deliver a rock, or your teammates' turn to deliver a rock.
- Be quiet and do not move when your opponent is about to deliver a rock.
- Stay on your own sheet of ice preferably close to the outside of the sheet when it is the opposition's turn.
- Pay attention to what is going on in your game. Use the opportunity to learn when a rock needs sweeping or to learn game strategy.
- Compliment any player on a good shot. Do not show your frustration at an opponent's lucky shot or a teammate's poor shot.
- If you touch a moving rock while you are sweeping, tell your skip immediately but do not stop the rock, unless told to by your skip.

After the game:

- Give each of your teammates and opponents a handshake and thank them for the game before leaving the ice.
- If you won the game, offer to buy our opponent (same position as you) a drink.
- If you lost the game, offer to reciprocate after the first drink.
- Offer to help any new curler or new member of the club with information about curling or the Club. Do not critique the skills of new members publicly, nor complain about your team's misfortune.

Member Curling is Wrapping Up

March is our final month of curling for this season. We have had a very busy year with many new people trying out this well loved sport. Our Norfolk night had 8 curlers, the first time this year we were not sold out. While we missed our fellow curlers who were busy elsewhere, good curling was had by those who were there. Curlers were able to focus on skills and form improving their game.

Our final two events are all on dedicated ice and promise to wrap up our season with not only good curling but joyful broomstacking.

Discover Curling

On February 24th Discover Curling was sponsored by the City of Pittsfield's 10 x 10 Festival of Outdoor Activities. We had 32 people *Discover* what curling is all about. This was full capacity with 4 sheets of curlers undergoing instruction. What a blast! We encourage any and all of these folks new to curling to come back and try it again. Consider becoming a member, then you can try it again at any event on the schedule.

TAM Bonspiel at Albany Curling Club

Curl Berkshires were the D event runners-up (Curl-ella de Berkshireville: Peter O'Neill,Cindy Nasman, Yoanna Maitre, Rick Nasman) and C event semifinalists (Ice Demons: Gordon Prescott, Maryellen Prescott, Karen Zinchuk, Mike Zinchuk) at the Albany TAM Bonspiel. The Cruella de Berkshireville team entered the costume contest. While they did not win they did show tremendous spirit. Great curling was had by both of our CurlBerkshires teams.

Sponsor a Stone

You can see your company or business' logo displayed prominently on one of our stones for the 2023-2024 season. We will also give you a "shout out" on all our social media platforms. You can sponsor one stone for $100 or two stones for $150. Just follow the link to Sponsor a Stone, by clicking on the blue button to complete the form, payment, and send us your logo and you too can sponsor a curling stone. Please check out our new sponsors at the bottom of this newsletter. Do you know a business owner that might want to get in on the action? **If you sponsor a stone(s) now your sponsorship will extend into the 2024-2025 season.**

Upcoming Bonspiels

We encourage you to consider entering a bonspiel this year. Think you haven't been playing long enough or aren't good enough? Bonspiels shouldn't be intimidating, they're actually a GREAT way to get MORE experience: you are typically guaranteed a minimum of three games, allowing you to develop your skills on great ice. You will also have the opportunity to socialize with curlers from other clubs, and maybe even learn some strategy while watching other matches. Best of all, winners buy the first round of drinks at broomstacking (after the match) so you really can't lose!

Additional local events and those further afield can be found online at:

https://www.gncc.org/index.php/calendars/calendar/complete-calendar

If you are interested in participating in a bonspiel but don't have a full team contact ymaitre@curlberkshires.org to help connect you with others

	Want to try a Bonspiel?	
Mar. 30	Cornhole & Curl Biathlon	Petersham Curling Club
Apr. 4-7	Spring Fling	Petersham Curling Club
Apr. 6 - 7	Bay State Games Curling	Blackstone Valley CC
Jun. 6-9	GNCC Arena Club Championships	Ocean State Curling Club

Happy shopping!

Club Gear

CurlBerkshires partners with SquadLocker to offer our online club store. Check our site for discounts which are frequently offered.

A portion of the proceeds of all purchases go to support our Curling Club of the Berkshires. Show your support with custom CurlBerkshires gear including shirts, jackets, and more! SquadLocker will periodically offer special sales and discounts. They are shared at the last minute and we will post them here as soon as we are notified of them. They are usually offered around various holidays. If you are interested in taking advantage of them check the Club Gear page of our website for the latest deal.

CurlBerkshires member Tim Egan is working with Goldline Curling to provide members a savings when purchasing curling equipment. Goldline requires a single point contact which is Tim Egan. To take advantage of this savings, please reach out to Tim by email: tim.egan@roadrunner.com

CurlBerkshires is proudly sponsored by

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