

The Dominion Daily

Monday, November 21, 2011 – Team Registration & Practice



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Let Us Rock You In Richmond!

Congratulations and welcome to the 112 players arriving from coast to coast to coast across Canada, and to all the friends, families and fans of the curlers participating in this year's third edition of The Dominion Curling Club Championship. After the inaugural edition in Toronto in 2009, and last year's successful event in Charlottetown and Cornwall, PEI, it's time for a little western hospitality. And besides the on-ice action, it will be a busy week of festivities and socializing for the best club curling teams (and their fans) in the world's top curling country.

Today is a busy day, both on and off the ice, with registration and team photos, the official "team

meeting" with Head Official Jim Waite, practice sessions for all teams, and tonight's Opening Banquet. The theme for tonight's banquet is "Welcome to British Columbia", but that goes for all week too, with a full roster of events to give everyone a taste of what makes this area so special.

One of the main goals of this week is to continue to establish The Dominion Curling Club Championship as one of the premier sporting events in the country, and to make the curlers participating feel like they're on a similar stage as elite curlers we see on TV at the Tim Horton's Brier or Scotties Tournament of Hearts. The great thing about all the teams taking part, is that they

are "club teams", some with competitive curlers in their ranks, but all teams had to pass strict eligibility rules to qualify. It's a grassroots focus that The Dominion is proud to promote. Another special touch is the inclusion of Nunavut as a separate team—the only Canadian national championship (so far) to give Nunavut a separate entry.

Highlights of the week ahead include a visit by "The Queen" at tonight's Opening Banquet, to give us her special insights into the sport of curling. Tuesday night features the official Opening Ceremony, Wednesday is Ladies Night Out in Steveston, Thursday is the men's Pub Night at Granville Island, Friday is Volunteer

and Sponsor Appreciation Night at the curling club, and Saturday morning will see a High Performance Clinic for the curlers. Saturday's Finals will be followed by the Closing Ceremonies, and then over to the Delta Hotel for the Closing Banquet with Master of Ceremonies Rick Lang.

The players will have plenty of chance to get to know each other, and build friendships which will last a lifetime. Fans and volunteers alike will also be able to socialize with competitors between draws. Of course, don't forget there's four draws a day of top flight curling! Stay tuned, and check out The Dominion Daily each day for the latest news and results.



Richmond Curling Club Hosts Another National

The original Richmond Winter Club was opened on January 1, 1961, on 3 acres of land along Cambie Road, not far from the current building, which was opened on September 23, 1989. The original plans projected future expansion to include skating and racket sports, but eventually the club was renamed the Richmond Curling Club in 1999.

The modern 8-sheet complex includes a restaurant (Big Rock Café), a curling pro shop, meeting rooms, excellent viewing areas, and a huge upstairs lounge complete with dance floor, shuffleboard, and a pool table. The lounge area can accommodate up to 200 people for banquets and (beside the many Club functions) it is often rented out to the general public for weddings, anniversaries,

and other social or business occasions.

Richmond has hosted numerous provincial and national competitions, including the recent Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship, and the Canadian Firefighters Curling Championship. It is also the home of the Pacific International Curling Cup ("The PIC"), which was founded by Richmond club members in 2000, along similar eligibility principles now in place for The Dominion Curling Club Championship.

While you are at the club, check out the numerous championship banners hanging on the walls, along with photos and plaques of Richmond championship teams. It's a virtual who's-who of Lower Mainland and British Columbia curling over the last few



The 2011 Executive Committee: (L to R) Wayne Braun, Leigh Armstrong (The Dominion), Jennifer Rochefort (The Dominion), Jim Schuman.

decades.

Club Manager Doug Bradley and Head Ice Technician Lawrence Layton, and their friendly staff wish you good luck, and good curling this week.



Participants Support BC Paraplegic Association

At the heart of The Dominion's commitment to consumers is a promise to make a difference in the communities where we live and do business. The Dominion's support of The Dominion Curling Club Championship is one such example of our efforts. Any profits made from the event are re-directed to the Canadian Paraplegic Association and developmental curling initiatives in communities across the country. During the 2011 event in Richmond, British Columbia, profits will benefit the Canadian Paraplegic Association British Columbia division.

The Dominion Curling Club Championship Top Individual and Top Club Fundraising contest raises much needed funds for BCPA while giving you and your club the chance to win great prizes! It's not too late to get your friends and family together in support of your club and raise the most funds to become the Top Club, or raise the most funds as an individual and become the Top Individual fundraiser. The Contest is open until midnight on Friday, November 25. Winners will be announced at The Dominion Curling Club Championship Closing Banquet on Saturday, November 26th. All funds raised support the BCPA.

As of 10 AM on November 20th, \$18,146 had been raised. And that number is sure to grow. Gary Steeves of the BCPA says he's been overwhelmed by the response of this year's curlers and curling clubs across Canada. Steeves calls their generosity "absolutely incredible".

The Top Individual Fundraiser is eligible to win a trip to Vancouver, including a two-night stay at the Delta Vancouver and dinner at Pier 73. The Top Club is eligible to win \$1,000 for club improvements, \$500 in Jet Ice gift certificates, and four BalancePlus brooms.

During the week there will also be opportunities to take part in a silent auction, 50/50 draws, and a raffle for great prizes, including an Apple iPad 2, Apple iPod Touch, and a Canon camera.

The Canadian Paraplegic Association was founded in 1945 by a group of paralyzed World War II veterans who were determined not to spend the remainder of their lives in hospital. Since 1957, the BC Paraplegic Association has been a vital link to the community and to successful independent living for thousands of people with spinal cord injuries. There are over 5,000 people living in BC who have a permanent spinal cord injury that affects every aspect of their lives. Over 400,000 British Columbians have a disability that affects their mobility. The BC Paraplegic Association helps people with spinal cord injuries achieve goals, regain independence and move forward with their lives—improving the quality of life of all British Columbians.

The Leaders

(as of 10 AM November 20th)

TEAMS:

1. Nunavut Ladies - \$3644
2. Alberta Ladies - \$2789
3. Nova Scotia Ladies - \$2555
4. BC Men - \$2040

INDIVIDUALS:

1. Kendra Nakagama (Alberta Ladies) - \$2009
2. Frankie Amos (Nova Scotia Ladies) - \$1715
3. Robin Mackey (Nunavut Ladies) - \$1513
4. Deb Goodwin (BC Ladies) - \$1350