United States Curling News

Inside this edition:
• Starting a college program, P. 7
• USCA board meeting actions, P. 12-13
• USA v. Brazil, P. 13
• USWCA activities, P. 16-17

The House That Carolina Built

With two new dedicated facilities open in North Carolina, what is next for curling’s bright future?

Story, P. 10-11
Take time to give thanks – today, and year-round

By Rick Patzke, Interim Chief Executive Officer & Curling News Associate Editor
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In the daily chaos of living life, it is very easy to neglect the need to stop, think, breathe deeply, and be thankful on a regular basis.

It’s probably no surprise that there are all sorts of studies, statistics and charts depicting how an average American spends his or her time. If you’d like, you can spend some of your time reading more about that here: http://www.bls.gov/tus/charts/.

Among other things, this U.S. Department of Labor site offers some interesting data telling how much time Americans of all ages spend caring for others, engaged in sports and leisure activities, and in volunteer activities. These categories in particular are very relevant to the community of USA Curling.

I have no desire to get bogged down in data, however. Since we’re closing in on Thanksgiving, I will focus on caring for others, being thankful, and celebrating.

At USA Curling, we are often overwhelmed with the next thing on the must-do list, and don’t properly pause to express our thanks or celebrate the many good things happening in the sport around the country. I’m pleased to say we did take some time at the inaugural Members’ Assembly in Denver to do just that. Thank you to all who attended, and in particular joined us in celebrating the selflessness and dedication of 2014 Volunteer of the Year Mary Fanette of the Norfolk Curling Club.

As special as she is, we know that there are many others like Mary across the country. Please take a moment to express your appreciation to them yourselves, and also consider nominating your local heroes for the Volunteer of the Year award next spring.

I’m thankful for all the volunteers who exemplify the same traits as Mary, whether preparing ice at their local rink or national events, cooking dinner for a bonspiel, organizing a youth league, officiating, instructing, or quietly putting in countless hours to make sure everything is just right no matter what the task. “Slainte!” volunteers. Curling in the United States would be nowhere without you.

Those who serve on the USA Curling Board of Directors give not only of their time and talents, but also their personal resources. They attend meetings at their own expense, often missing days on the job to do so. I’m thankful for the Directors who have given their desire, time and resources into serving the greater USA Curling community as a whole.

The people who have volunteered to serve on their local curling club Board of Directors deserve our appreciation as well. I speak from a weak position of having never done so, and would like to personally honor all of those in my home club in Waupaca, Wis., who have answered the call. There’s no glory in setting up open houses, organizing leagues and bonspiels, figuring out how to fix aging equipment, or setting budgets. But there is honor in a job well done, so I salute you all.

I am thankful for the steadfast sponsors of USA Curling, with the organization through thick and thin, year in and year out – Atom Ampd, Nike, RAM Restaurant & Brewpub, Brooms Up Curling Supplies, Sitrin Healthcare and BalancePlus. And for all of the donors, large and small, who have made supporting curling a priority in their charitable giving.

I’m grateful beyond words for every one of my colleagues at USA Curling. There isn’t a single person working for this organization who watches a clock or who says, “That’s not my job.” Whether they curl regularly or not at all, every one of the employees of USA Curling is passionate about customer service, devoted to the mission of growing the sport, and ties their heartstrings to every player and coach going off to represent USA in world championships, the Paralympics and Olympics.

Where would we be without NBC? What a wonderful broadcast partner they have been since 1999. We have hinted at more national television programming to come in the winter of 2015. Thank you, NBC, for the abundant exposure you have given and continue to give curling.

The investments of the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) in USA Curling go far beyond competitive arenas, impacting the evolution of the organization itself, international relations, fundraising and media, to mention a few. Did you know that the USOC has invested more than $350,000 in televising curling in the United States in just the past two years?

I am likewise thankful for the World Curling Federation (WCF), which also continues to devote many dollars and other resources toward capitalizing on the potential of the vast U.S. market. Since we jointly conceived of the deferred payment stone purchase program in 2001, more than 30 tons of granite has been shipped from Scotland—home of the WCF office—to the United States to be distributed to existing and new clubs around the country.

Speaking of country, while USA has about the same number of registered curlers as Scotland—16,500, albeit in a population of 316 million compared with Scotland’s 5.2 million—we have a lot more ground to cover to get curling teams together. To be specific, 3.1 million square miles in just mainland USA, compared to 30,000 square miles for Scotland.

So I am very grateful for all of the competitors giving up their days, nights, weekends, vacation days, family time, etc. to travel far and wide in pursuit of excellence for themselves, their teammates, and on an international level, for the pride of the United States.

Finally, I am thankful for the opportunity to have served the individual members of USA Curling for over 18 years, beginning as the communications manager in 1996. It has been a pleasure and a privilege. I certainly didn’t always get everything right, and very likely didn’t always meet your expectations, but I want you to know that I always have my heart in it, and hope that I have honored the sport in your eyes.

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// INSTRUCTOR COURSES

Dec. 6-7, Lake Region Curling Club, Devils Lake, N.D.
Jan. 10, Heather Curling Club, Mapleton, Minn.
Jan. 10, Charlotte Centre Curling Club, Charlotte, N.C.

More details are posted at www.usacurl.org.
2015 Junior Nationals land smack in the middle of North America

By Layton White, Devils Lake CC

Just a short drive away from the “geographical center” of North America” lies the 132-year-old community of Devils Lake, N.D. The odd community name was translated from native language and became known as Devils Lake reflecting the local waters’ “bad spirits.” Those “bad spirits” have been doing their work here since the lake began mysteriously growing in size back in 1993. Since then, the lake has “gobbled up” more than 70,000 acres of farmland and more than 300 homes as it exploded to four times its original size. Road work, dike construction and outlet attempts have kept the community buzzing with both growth and conflict as government agencies worked to control the expansion and protect residents. The unfortunate loss of farmland has been a problem for agriculture-related industry but the expansion of habitat for fish and waterfowl has turned some lemons into lemonade as the tourism industry grows each year. Professional valleye fishing tournaments held here and television coverage of these events has fueled a tremendous growth in angler demand for hotels, restaurants and guiding. With flooding now under control, lake homes are being built at a record pace and the community is acclimating to the new tourism industry.

Tucked away in a high and dry location sits the Lake Region Curling Club. Founded in 1967 as the largest (six-sheet) club in N.D., it still remains a premier facility using five of the original six sheets. No stranger to highs and lows of the volatile farm economy and more recently the highs and lows of the flooded lake level, the club has battled through many economic and community swings. Bankrupt once and nearly a second time, the club now benefits from a renewed growth in membership. The local media hype of hosting the 2009 USA Junior National Championships, the recent heavily televised Olympic Games and partnerships with the local chamber of commerce have created a roster of young-minded Generation X and Y members. Like the original settlers who homesteaded this great state, Lake Region Curling Club is a statement reflecting the strength and dedication of North Dakota residents and their willingness to protect a sport that shares the same values of its residents. Sportsmanship, kindness and community are all trademarks of the “Roaring Game” and trademarks of North Dakota citizens. The club is owned by its members and run entirely by volunteers.

North Dakota is a place you need to experience and understand. The farm fields here are exhausting in size, huge rolling spans of agriculture land feed this country and farmers export the excess. Just to see a grain-handling facility is amazing, towering over the horizon just existing to hold and ship grain to whoever makes your bread. The durum wheat grown here is used internationally for premium pasta. Your favorite bag of sunflower seeds and the canola oil from your grocery store all have roots here. Even the crude oil flowing from the well-publicized Bakken formation in western North Dakota is helping the country on a path independent of international oil imports and creating jobs at record pace. For those into American history, the state is enriched with the Native American populations living here and their impressive stories.

The Lake Region Curling Club, the community of Devils Lake and the state of North Dakota are proud to host the 2015 USA National Junior Curling Championships and will be welcoming the competitors with open arms Jan. 17-24. This is your encouragement to work hard, junior curlers! Win your state playdowns, pack up your family and head to the middle of the continent to meet you. Good curling!

Championship set for Jan. 17-24 in Devils Lake, N.D.

The 2015 Junior Nationals land smack in the middle of North America.

Fargo readies for 2015 Club Nationals

The six-sheet Fargo-Moorhead Curling Club in Fargo, N.D., is set to host the 2015 USA Curling Club National Championships. This will be the first major national championship the club will host since moving into its brand new facility.

The 2015 event will mark the 11th time the event will be staged since debuting in 2005. The Club Nationals features 10 men’s and 10 women’s teams that qualify via a regional playdown system. These are teams that traditionally play together in weekly league competition and then register to compete at a regional, and potentially, the national level. The event will take place March 7-14.

To find out when all the regional competitions will take place, refer to the playdown calendar on Page 22 of this publication. Results will be posted online at www.usacurl.org.
Endless options await for getting creative on the ice

By Kim Nawyn, Director of Growth & Development, kim.nawyn@usacurl.org

Curlers have no end to their creativity. They regularly draw upon their imaginations when preparing for bonspiel costume competitions and coming up with unique (and sometimes slightly outrageous) team names. During the inaugural Members’ Assembly, which took place in Colorado in October, participants discussed a number of fun and creative practices that they have incorporated into bonspies, league play, and/or training. A few of those ideas are summarized below.

Cur-Bowling
Five plastic bowling pins placed anywhere in the four-foot sets the foundation for the game of cur-bowling. One team (two to four players) is on the offense. The other team’s goal is to defend the pins. The defending team decides where to place the pins and shoots first. Free guard zone rules are enforced. In addition to being a fun alternative to a regulation curling game, especially when short a few players, cur-bowling can be a good way to help juniors think about how to play offensively versus defensively. The game can be modified by changing the number of pins and/or parameters for placing the pins.

Curling Bingo
Curling bingo can be an enjoyable on-ice bonspiel activity or a way to get a group of spectators more invested in watching a game. Prepare bingo cards with specific shots or even “goofs” a team might make. Questions about the club or the area in which the club is located can be included in a few squares. Teams can choose to engineer their shots in order to get the first “bingo” or let the game flow as it would normally. Small prizes for the winners help to keep up the excitement.

Glow-in-the-Dark Curling
Glow-in-the-dark curling requires some preparation, but can be fun for both the young and young-at-heart. Preparation starts with outlining the houses in glow-in-the-dark paint at the beginning of the season. Black lights need to be suspended over the houses for the paint to glow. Attach glow sticks or glow bracelets to stone handles. Players should also wear glow sticks or jewelry. If you want to clearly see the skips’ brooms, don’t forget to deck those out, too! Remember, safety first! Keep the area bright enough to avoid tripping hazards.

Cut-Throat Curling
For curlers who also are billiards players, cut-throat curling may be something already attempted on a slow night at the curling club. With three players, each playing five stones (e.g., bats for Halloween) using a felt tip marker.

Speed Curling
Are you looking to get a quick game in one evening before the snowflakes start flying? Try speed curling. In this version, players have approximately five minutes per end. The skip has to think quickly, as players are expected to deliver the stone before the opposing team’s shot comes to a rest. That means, there is no sweeping and each person delivering a stone needs to get up quickly. For safety reasons, this game should be played with experienced curlers only.

Little Rockers
Some ideas shared at the Members’ Assembly specifically focused on getting kids excited about the sport. Examples included:
- Drawing pictures on the ice in the house (e.g., bats for Halloween) using a felt tip marker.
- Using small rubber cones during practice to mark the place where the coach wants the rock to end up. Kids get a sticker when their stone hits the cone.
- Playing the “short game” to help kids think about strategy. Curlers play to the near house with no sliding and one foot in the hack as each stone is delivered.

Whether working with children, adults, new, or experienced curlers, creative efforts have potential to be enjoyed by all.

MEMBER MATERIALS
Does your club need brochures or other club development materials? These items are available to member clubs at no cost year-round. To request materials, log onto the USA Curling website (http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Curling/Clubs/Membership-Materials) or call the national office at 888-CURLERS.

// CERTIFICATIONS

Level I Instructor
Kyle Bauman, Evergreen Curling Club
Lindsay Estabrooks, Coyotes Curling Club
David Forcum, Cincinnati Curling Club
Linda Kirkman, Potomac Curling Club
Robert McDade, Granite Curling Club
Katie Mordarski, San Francisco Bay Area Curling Club
Pam Parks, Chesapeake Curling Club
Jeff Reisinger, Dakota Curling Club
Joseph Sablow, Ardsley Curling Club
Matthew Scheiner, Ardsley Curling Club
Stephanie Simpson, Cincinnati Curling Club
Ryan Smith, Palmetto Curling Club
Keith Wood, Potomac Curling Club
Yushi Yang, Ardsley Curling Club

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

// REPORTS FROM THE WARM ROOM
Starting up a college curling program

By Gordon Maclean, chairman, USCA College Curling Committee

It has been just over a year since the United States Curling Association (USCA) Board sanctioned the College Curling Championship, now officially known as the USA Curling College Championship. This year’s championship will be held in Rochester, N.Y., the weekend of March 13-15. We want to acknowledge those who make this championship possible: the USCA, corporate sponsors Taco Bell and Brooms Up Curling Supplies, and all of the private donors who fill in the financial gaps.

We currently have almost 50 active college curling programs going on across the nation, from California to Maine and Texas to Alaska, and many more are in the development stage.

With new dedicated facilities opening up, we have been fielding a lot of questions about "How do we start a college program?" The answer is, "It’s pretty easy," and this is how it is done.

First, all players MUST be dues-paying members of the USCA. That is usually taken care of through membership in their local USCA member clubs.

Second, all players must register on the USCA playdown registration site (usa.sportssignup.com/site) before the deadline on Jan. 31, 2015. There is no cost to register and after the player’s account is setup, it takes about five minutes.

Third, look for local college bonspiels to participate in. Playing in these events will earn your school points, and it is those points that will earn your school an invitation to the championship in March. The college bonspiel event list can be found on the USA Curling website events page (www.teamusa.org/USA-Curling/Events-Section) and at the College Curling USA website (www.collegecurlingusa.org). The event organizers will forward the results for recording and the current point standings will be updated on the College Curling USA website.

If your school is in an area with few opportunities to compete in college bonspiels due to distance, we have alternatives detailed elsewhere for you to still have a chance at competing in the national championship.

It is highly recommended that your college curling team become a recognized on-campus organization. The process and details vary from school to school, but usually it involves getting a minimal number of students agreeing to form the campus club and finding a faculty/staff advisor. If you can find an advisor who also curls you have hit the jackpot because they should know the ins and outs of being a campus club, the resource and financial advantages of being a campus club, and something about the bonspielling world.

Having the support of your local USCA member club helps a lot, too. Getting ice time can be difficult if your community relies on arena ice. We would hope that your USCA member club would permit you to play as a team in their leagues. If you are fortunate to have a dedicated ice facility to curl in, see if you can come in together as a team for some extra ice time.

Really, that is about all it takes to get started.

We’ve covered the how, the next important thing is the “who.”

College curling has two goals. One, to introduce the sport to new players who due to life circumstances may never have had an opportunity to play before. Two, college curling also acts as a bridge for those who have to cut back on junior curling due to school or who have “aged out” of the junior program but cannot dedicate the time to adult competitive curling. So we want to make college curling as available as possible, but we do have to set some limits.

The one thing you must remember is that the championship is an invitation and it is the school that receives the invitation, not a set team of players. At the championship all of the players on a team must be from the same school but schools are invited and encouraged to bring as many team members as they want and are free to swap as many players between games as they want. If you want to bring 10 players to the championship and play all 10 at some time, you are free to do that.

College Curling participants must be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student (with a minimum of six credits) at a college or university in the United States, during all semesters/quarters in which that individual participates in any USA college curling merit point events, and/or in which the championship event takes place should that individual qualify for participation. This season you must have been born between and including Jan. 1, 1987, and Dec. 31, 1997 (World University Games criteria).

Full details on eligibility and event points can be found on the College Curling USA website in our published “2015 United States College and University Curling Championship Guidelines.”

By the way, if you are at all interested in college curling, whether as a student or as an enthusiastically supportive non-student, join the more than 200 members currently on the Facebook US University Club andVarsity Curling page.

Next time, “Strategies for a College Curling Start-Up.”

College tournament logo contest winner announced

The winner of the 2015 USA Curling College National Championship logo contest is Michael Parker of Yale University. Michael’s submission was designed with the colors of the houses at the Rochester CC in mind (purple and green), invoking the spirit of Rochester, N.Y., through a background reference to its long ties with the lilac, which is part of the city logo as well as the annual Lilac Festival.

For submitting the winning design, the Yale University Curling Club will receive will receive six BalancePlus composite brooms in their choice of color (or colors, any combination) courtesy of BroomsUp Curling Supplies, http://www.broomsupcurling.com.

Congratulations Michael Parker and the Yale Curling Club!
Do you consistently hit the broom? Are both the stone and your body sliding along the invisible line from your hack foot to your skip’s broom? If not, you are probably missing the broom and missing shots. Read on for some ideas on how to improve your alignment and your shooting percentage.

The ABCs of a good delivery include Alignment, Balance, and Curl (grip, turn, and release). Balance is obviously the most important because if you don’t have a good, balanced delivery, it is hard to focus on the finer points of a solid delivery – the fear of falling down overrides all else. If balance is holding you back, you may want to check out my previous articles on developing a good, balanced delivery. The Curling News Instructional library is available at www.teamusa.org/usa-curling (click on Clubs – Membership Materials – Curling News – Columnists – Mielke).

Here is a simple drill that you can use to refine your slide and help you hit the broom more consistently. Start by placing three cups in a triangle out on the ice (see Figure 1). Initially, place the cups to the left side of the center line and at a distance from the hack that is several feet shorter than your typical slide.

The two cups closest to the hack should be about 15 inches apart – wide enough for a rock to go through. Start out wider if that makes you more comfortable and then tighten things up as you get more proficient at the drill.

The third cup should be centered between the first two cups and 12-15 inches farther out from the hack. This cup is your target – a surrogate for the skip’s broom. It should be easier to hit because it is about 100 feet closer than the skip’s broom would be during a real game.

The object of the drill is to slide both the stone and your body between the two closest cups and to hit the farthest cup without touching the other two. Start by setting up in the hack, just the way that you do for a normal shot. Step into the hack from the back and aim the toe of your hack foot straight at the farthest cup. Then crouch down with your shoulders at a 90-degree angle to the desired line of delivery. The stone should be directly in front of your hack foot, centered on the invisible line that runs from the toe of your hack foot to the farthest cup. For right-handed curlers who are right-eye dominant, their right eye also is directly behind the stone and in line with the intended line of delivery.

Go through the same pre-shot routine every time, regardless of whether you are practicing or playing a game. The way you practice is the way that you will play. Don’t cheat yourself by taking shortcuts.

Once you are set up in the hack, go ahead and shoot at the farthest cup. Press to break the stone’s inertia, elevate your hips, pull the stone back toward your hack toe by sliding your slider foot back slightly while moving your hips back to a position behind the hack. Be careful, do not pull the stone back with your shooting arm – pull it back with your hips. Using your arm instead of your hips will probably move the stone sideways and off the all-important invisible line. The rock should move straight back and then straight forward on top of the invisible line throughout the delivery – no side-to-side motions that will eventually require fixing or result in a shot being thrown wide or narrow.

As you start the forward motion, the stone moves out in front as you lean into the shot and your slider foot moves gently into the newly-created space between the hack and the stone. The slider foot should end up directly behind the
USA Curling awarded grant from The Chicago Community Trust

USA Curling has been awarded a grant from The Chicago Community Trust in support of the growth of the sport in the United States.

Through use of these funds, USA Curling will enhance its Growth and Development initiatives. Funds awarded by The Chicago Community Trust also make the Darwin Curtis Fund Grant Program possible. The program, which is administered by USA Curling on behalf of The Chicago Community Trust, this year is awarding matching funds to six clubs/arenas across the U.S. Recipients, which were selected through a competitive application process, include the Charlotte Curling Association in Charlotte, N.C.; Coyotes Curling Club in Tempe, Ariz.; Fort Wayne Curling Club in Fort Wayne, Ind.; the Homer Hockey Association in Homer, Alaska; the Klamath Ice Sports/Bill Collier Community Ice Arena in Klamath Falls, Ore.; and the Utica Curling Club in Whitesboro, N.Y.

“We are so appreciative that The Chicago Community Trust has provided USA Curling with the continued opportunity to run a grant program to support projects in organizations promoting the growth of the sport in the United States,” said Kim Nawyn, USA Curling’s Director of Growth and Development. “This year the grant funds will impact a diverse group, including three clubs that built new facilities in the past year.”

Funds for The Chicago Community Trust grant originate from the Darwin Curtis Fund. Curtis was a prominent Chicago-area curler in the mid-20th century. The proceeds from his bequest must be used for projects intended to increase public participation in curling in the United States. The Trust has awarded grants to the USA Curling every year since 2006.

About The Trust

For 99 years, The Chicago Community Trust, our region’s community foundation, has connected the generosity of donors with the needs of the community by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. In 2010 the Trust made over $160 million in grants. From strengthening community schools to assisting local art programs, from building health centers to helping lives affected by violence, the Trust works to enhance our region. Learn more at www.cct.org.

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Stone and centered under your chest. If your slider foot is in any other position, you will not be able to balance on it. As a result, you will fall or put undue pressure on either your sliding device (broom or stabilizer) or the stone. Any of these unbalanced results will cause you and the stone to go out of alignment and the shot will, in all likelihood, be missed.

As you apply leg drive to your shot, you and the stone should be sliding directly at the farthest cup. Ideally, you and the stone should slide between the two closest cups without touching either one and the stone should then make a direct hit on the farthest cup. For right-handers, the broom/stabilizer should pass to the outside of the left cup. And remember, if you miss the center of the third cup by an inch or two at close range, you would have missed the skip’s broom by several inches at the far end of the sheet.

Many people have more success with alignment on one side of the sheet vs. the other. To practice on both sides of the sheet, reposition the cups as shown in Figure 2. Everything is the same except the cups are now on the other side of the center line. This repositioning will also affect your set up in the hack. You need to point your hack toe in a different direction and the invisible line from your hack foot to the broom now intersects the center line and runs down the other side of the sheet. Also, pay special attention to where the rock is located when you set up in the hack. Rather than being fully on the left side of the center line, the right edge of the stone is partially on the center line. This provides a good spot check to make sure that you and the stone are properly aligned before you start your shot.

Practice a variety of shots by repositioning the cups in different locations across the sheet. At the widest point on each side of the sheet, the invisible line from the hack to the target cup should point to the outside of the far house. If you are better at the drill on one side of the sheet vs. the other, work even harder on your weak side – turn a weakness into a strength.

Hopefully this little drill will help you hit the broom more consistently. When you get proficient enough to take balance and alignment for granted, you can start concentrating on weight control – that’s when the game gets really fun!

Until next time – Good Curling!

Jon Mielke is a Level III instructor and a Level III coach. He is a member of Bismarck’s Capital Curling Club and a 2012 inductee into the United States Curling Association’s Hall of Fame.
It’s exciting to see our great sport continue to prosper year after year. Twenty years ago would we have envisioned that North Carolina would be home to not one but two dedicated curling facilities by the year 2015? That’s reality thanks to great fundraising and commitment to growing the sport in the south by a dedicated group of curlers.

The Charlotte Curling Association plans to officially open its new facility on Dec. 13 and had a “soft” opening on Nov. 1. The club has a short history, having just formed in 2010 and ambitiously built a dedicated facility a mere four years later. Roasting more than 100 members now, the club anticipates filling its four sheets of new curling ice.

“Our ice is being put in this week and the building is almost ready to go – very exciting! Our leagues and learn to curls start that same week,” according to Kristen Conrad, Charlotte Curling Club’s head of marketing.

“We have launched our new website this week using Curling Club Manager, which is really working out well so far. Our official grand opening ceremony will take place Dec. 13, and Jamie Sinclair, our club member who is a member of the [USA Curling] High Performance program, will be stopping...
The soft opening of the new Charlotte Curling Club took place in early November with club members eagerly hitting the ice at their new dedicated facility in Charlotte, N.C. Photos courtesy of Ben Sherrill Photography

Who knows, maybe the Coastal Carolina Curling Club in Wilmington will follow in the footsteps and make North Carolina home to three dedicated curling facilities.

“We will be promoting the new facility widely across Charlotte, including on ice during Charlotte Checkers’ games (our local AHL team). Overall, we are thrilled to see this dream come to fruition and excited to really fulfill our mission of helping curling flourish in the South by making this great sport available to all in our area,” Conrad said.

To learn more about the building projects for these clubs, go to www.trianglecurling.com and www.charlottecurling.com.

by for a meet and greet. Additionally, our first bonspiel – the PajamaCurl – will take place Jan. 16-18. We really are jumping in with both feet.”

The Triangle Curling Club is well on its way to completing its building project with plans to officially open in January with four sheets of glistening, beautiful ice waiting for existing and new curlers to start chanting “hurry hard” across the field of play. The club began in 1996, making it the oldest curling club in the southeast. After curling in several different ice arenas, the club began fast and furious fundraising efforts to create a permanent home.
By David Carlson, Chairman, United States Curling Association Board of Directors

The United States Curling Association (USCA) Board of Directors recently held a board meeting in Denver, Colo. It was authorized by the USCA board for the chairman to appoint two task forces. Both these task forces are in the context of the continuing transition of the USCA to a policy board, CEO-staff driven operational business model.

The Strategic Planning Task Force mission is to finalize the draft of the strategic plan for 2014 to 2018 for the USCA. This draft will be presented and subject to approval by the board. The task force members are: Russ Lemcke, Allison Pottinger, Sean Silver, Jeff Hannon, and myself as board chairman. From the USCA staff, contributing members are Interim CEO Rick Patzke and Director of Growth and Development Kim Nawyn. Lemcke is a member of the Cape Cod Curling Club out of Grand National Curling Club and is currently serving on the Nominating/Governance Standing Committee of the USCA. Pottinger (Eden Prairie, Minn.) is a director on the USCA Board from the Athlete’s Advisory Council. Silver (Chicago) is a director on the USCA Board and chairman of the Finance/Audit Standing Committee. Hannon (Norwalk, Conn.) is a director on the USCA Board out of Grand National Curling Club.

The CEO Search Task Force mission is to vet independent search firms and make a recommendation to the board for approval. Also, the task force will work with the selected search firm during the initial round of evaluating candidates. Members of this task force include Rich Lepping, Courtney Schmidt, Dean Gemmell, Jennifer Stannard, and myself as board chairman. Lepping (Madison, Wis.) is a director on the USCA Board and member of the Finance/Audit Standing Committee. Schmidt (Gates Mills, Ohio) is a USCA Director elected by the Great Lakes Curling Association. Gemmell (Short Hill, N.J.) is a USCA director elected by the Athlete’s Advisory Council and a member of the Human Resources Standing Committee. Stannard (Stamford, Conn.) is a USCA director elected by the United States Women’s Curling Association and a representative to the World Curling Federation.

LIAISON/TOWN HALLS

With the passage of the USCA bylaws, all clubs within the USCA are now members of the USCA. To recognize this new status, I’m requesting of the clubs to identify one or more individuals to be a liaison between your club and the USCA.

As a liaison, it is the expectation that you will be provided updates about USCA activities and decisions which, in turn, we request that you share with your club curlers and board members. An example of such information would be the summary of the October Members’ Assembly and board meeting held recently in Denver. This summary is included in the sidebar on this page. In addition, as a liaison, you will receive invitations to participate in town hall dialogues with representatives of the USCA.

These town hall meetings will provide your club with a forum to directly communicate with the USCA about your concerns and to learn more about the functions and decision making of the USCA. These town halls will be held by teleconference or webinar, depending upon the information and materials presented, and in person at the annual Members’ Assembly as well as in-person board meetings.

Please consider becoming a liaison for your club with the USCA. With your involvement, we look to developing a USCA that is both relevant to your club and curlers and which supports our athletes who represent us, the United States of America, internationally in a manner such that they may achieve competitive success.

If interested in becoming your club’s liaison to the USCA, send your name, email address, and club name to Christy Hering at the USCA via email at christy.hering@usacurl.org.

October board meeting summary

The United States Curling Association’s journey toward sustained international success to assist in growing the sport nationally was integrated into a vision statement that was adopted at the recent board meeting and inaugural Members’ Assembly in Denver.

The vision statement is as follows: “The United States Curling Association is committed to sustained growth of the sport through competitive excellence.” A task force, which has been implemented by David Carlson, board chairman, can now use the vision statement as a guide moving forward to complete the working draft of the USCA’s new strategic plan.

Fundraising

As the directors are the foundation of the USCA, it is part of their fiduciary responsibility to be the foundation of the ”Build the House” fundraising campaign, which is being rolled out this fall. The board has set a goal of 100 percent self-participation as an indication of its support for this program, and as a show of its commitment to the long-term financial viability of the organization to those who represent new revenue streams, new grant sources, and new individual donors.

Board members Dean Gemmell and Dave Flippo, with the support of the Board, will lead the effort to ensure that all necessary funds will be raised to allow for the webstreaming of the 2015 USA Curling National Championships in Kalamazoo, Mich., which was not one of the projects supported in the 2014-15 USCA budget. The goal of this effort is $20,000. More information on this campaign will be announced in November.

As part of the ”Build the House” fundraising campaign, the Board has reviewed, considered and approved the support of the USCA as the sole backer - and thus the sole beneficiary - for a fundraising event to be staged at Chelsea Piers New York, on March 12, 2015.
Brazil will challenge the U.S. for the right to compete in a world men’s championship for the third time this winter.

Brazil, a World Curling Federation member since 1998, will challenge the U.S. for the second Americas berth at the 2015 World Men’s Championship this April in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The United States will host the challenge, which will be a best-of-five game competition Jan. 30-Feb. 1 at the Four Seasons Curling Club in Blaine, Minn.

Twelve teams compete at both the men’s and women’s world curling championships each year. Two teams represent the Americas Zone, encompassing both North and South America. Since the inception of the world championships, the only two WCF member associations to represent the Americas have been Canada and the United States.

Canada has qualified for the 2015 Ford Worlds in Halifax by finishing higher than the U.S. at the 2014 world men’s championship last spring in China and by virtue of hosting this year’s world event.

The U.S. will be represented at the Americas Challenge by a team from within USA Curling’s High Performance Program, as determined by the national team coaches and director of high performance.

Brazil challenged the U.S. in 2009 and 2010 for world berths with the U.S. sealing its appearance in those world championships by winning the challenge each time in three straight games.

**Athletes nominated to become Team USA after the November tryouts in Wausau, Wis., include (l-r) Patrick McDonald, Steven Emt, Jimmy Joseph, Penny Greely, and Meghan Lino. The official team will be named by Jan. 1 to represent the U.S. at the 2015 World Wheelchair Championship in Finland.**

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**Chief Executive Officer (CEO) search**

As part of the ongoing chief executive officer (CEO) search process, the USCA Board of Directors has developed, reviewed, discussed and approved a job description for the newly created position of chief executive officer. The chief executive officer serves as the chief staff officer of the USCA and, in partnership with the Board, is responsible for the success of the USCA. The Board and the CEO jointly assure the USCA’s relevance and accountability to its various constituents, and the accomplishment of the USCA’s mission and vision.

**Members’ Assembly**

In addition to conducting the business of USCA members, the Members’ Assembly was a means of stimulating greater communication and information sharing between individual curlers, clubs, states/regions, and the USCA. Throughout a two-day period, seminars addressed topics such as effective use of social media, fundraising, corporate events, diversity, building a dedicated ice facility, developing an instructional program within your club, and volunteerism. The seminars exceeded all expectations as to their relevance to member clubs. The content was significant to both dedicated ice and arena-based curlers and energy was high throughout, according to Kim Nawyn, USA Curling’s Director of Growth & Development. Attendees were encouraged to share ideas and experiences, which resulted in constructive dialogue. Discussion continued at social activities including a tour of the U.S. Olympic Committee Training Center, USCA reception, and dinner/curling at the new Denver Curling Club in Golden, Colo. Top quality on-ice training in delivery, sweeping, and strategy rounded out the event. The date and location for the 2015 Members’ Assembly will be announced before the end of this year.

“One of the major goals for the Members’ Assembly was to share information and stimulate discussion about issues relevant to running a curling club, and we were able to achieve that. Several club members have already requested that USA Curling set up an online forum for attendees to continue discussions that started during seminars,” Nawyn said.

**Other board business**

The USCA Board of Directors reviewed, updated and approved the “Director Code of Ethics and Fiduciary Responsibility,” the “Responsibilities and Expectations of a USCA Director” and “USCA Financial Policies” documents.
Together we can create positive change

Dear Editor,

Much rabble has been roused about what the USCA does and doesn’t do for its general members because everyone is so focused on the high performance nonsense. So when the Member Assembly event was announced along with the governance changes earlier this year, I thought it sounded like a great idea to bring curlers together, and be a great time for people watching as members let the Board of Directors have it!

After attending it, I can honestly say that it is a great idea and something that will get bigger and better each year. While I’m disappointed I didn’t see any Jerry Springer-level drama unfold, I’m more excited to see so many people who want to grow the game.

Between the information seminars, casual networking, and on-ice training there was no shortage of knowledge to glean and ideas to share. To top it off, the atmosphere within the Denver Curling Club as they cut the ribbon on their shiny new curling center was electric.

So when someone shared a version of the above sentiment on a curling message board and was greeted with a response of “So hooray for the marketing material straight from the USCA’s specialists... What *actually* happened?” it really got my goat. As if there is some nefariousness happening, or a desire to see this event fail, or whatever other ideas that fuel one’s distrust of the USCA.

What actually happened? Probably depends on who you ask. Between USCA staff, board directors, panelists, and general members I’d bet everyone has their own takeaways, but this is what happened for me.

I got inspired. Inspired by Denver CC’s efforts to accomplish such a task, the positive energy at the grand opening, and the little ones carrying adorably proportioned brooms.

I learned. Both formally and informally. Seminars on building a facility, volunteerism, social media, arena ice making, and dynamic warmups got conversations started. Then continued throughout lunches, coffee breaks, and pints at the bar.

I met people. Knowledgeable, fun, interesting people. New folks from Houston, Cedar Rapids, and even neighboring Orange County, and old pals I hadn’t seen for a while.

I talked a lot of curling. The place was full of people who care about the game and want it to improve their curling world. Whether their world consisted of their personal game, their local club, or the country as a whole, there was no shortage of thoughts and conversations to be had.

I found ways to be involved. There’s no shortage of opportunities to help make the USCA the organization you want it to be, but it’s not always evident through emails, websites, and social media. In-person discussions make these issues real. Seeing so many older white men in that room compelled me to join the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Is there room for improvement? Sure. But a really strong effort for the first time out. There’s already a spot on my calendar for next year’s assembly, and I hope to see more curlers there.

Matt Gamboa
Hollywood Curling Club

70 years of friendship

Editor’s note: This season the U.S. Curling News magazine is celebrating its 70th year. We’ve invited readers who are turning 70 this season to share memories for consideration for publication. If you fit the bill, email me at terry.kolesar@usacurl.org.

I just turned 70 this Sept. 13. Many fond memories in the 50-plus years of curling. I have been a member of clubs in Poyntette, Wis.; Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan; Arlington, Wis.; Mortlach, Saskatchewan; Wauwatosa, Wis.; and Milwaukee, Wis.

Curling has allowed me the wonderful opportunity of traveling and meeting wonderful people throughout the world. I have recently retired from education and coaching. Coaching curling is what I already miss so very much.

I began coaching at a college in Canada in 1976. It was there I started attending coaching forums and gleaned everything I could from the opportunities the CCA extended. When returning to the U.S. in the early ’80s very few of us were coaching. It was in the mid ’80s that Bill Farbe extended opportunities for me to work with him in camps and put together training manuals for athletes, coaches, and instructors.

I am thankful for the loyalty many athletes and, especially, fellow coaches have extended me. I will not list any of the many here; but so many have left me with those fond memories previously mentioned.

I will look forward to those who share from this unique 70 club.

Sincerely,
Neil Doese
Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Curling Night in America coming soon!

The U.S. Curling Association and other partners are close to finalizing plans for an international, made-for-TV competitive event that will result in a series of six programs to air on national television in the 2014-15 season. More details will be released as plans are completed. Check the USA Curling website at www.usacurl.org for updates since the next edition of this magazine will not be out again until late January.
The eight-sheet St. Paul Curling Club will host the 2015 United States Senior Men’s Curling Association National Bonspiel on Feb. 18-22. The first 64 teams to sign up will receive guaranteed acceptance into this annual tradition. The deadline to register is Jan. 16 (invitations will be sent out by the USSMCA). All players must be a minimum of 55 years old by Feb. 18, 2015. The event is divided into three events – masters (minimum age = 68), super seniors (minimum age = 63), and senior (minimum age 55).

Entry fee for the event is $500 (plus Minnesota sales tax, $36.25). If you’re bringing a fifth man, please include $75 (plus Minnesota sales tax, $5.65). Guest fees are extra. The costs includes a four-game guarantee plus a banquet and other meals. The Thursday night banquet will take place at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel.

The USSMCA championship guidelines will govern all event assignments.

St. Paul prepares to host 64 teams for coveted senior event

Will Larry Brown’s team defend its Masters title in St. Paul this year?

Caption this photo!

What is Heath McCormick, 2012 national champion & 2014 Olympic Team Trials participant, thinking in this picture? Send us your best response to curlingnews@usacurl.org and we will select a winner with the wittiest reply. The winner of last month’s contest was Tim Eichholz of the Petersham Curling Club, who wrote “Smells like burnt stone.”

Upcoming USWCA-sponsored events

67TH NATIONAL WOMEN’S BONSPIEL
JUNIOR BONSPIELS
5-YEAR AND UNDER BONSPIELS
ALL-AMERICAN BONSPIELS
CIRCUIT EVENT PARTICIPATING BONSPIELS
SCOT TOUR
FRIENDSHIP TOUR

PLEASE GO TO WWW.USWCA.ORG FOR COMPLETE DETAILS
On our way to a successful year

By Jeannie Borland, USWCA President

The fall meeting of the United States Women’s Curling Association (USWCA) was held in Kent, Ohio, at the Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center, Sept. 12-14. Since we are an all-volunteer organization, a lot of work must be accomplished in a relatively short time. I’m happy to report that our officers, club representatives, and other member-attendees did just that. Besides the work of the committees there was time for sight-seeing, shopping, banquets, catching up with old friends, and meeting some new ones. The atmosphere around Kent was lively and stimulating for accomplishing our goals.

Committees that support our events had much to report. The All-American Event was held in 31 clubs last year and the committee is pushing for more this year. Five-Year-and-Under events are scheduled to be held in every region during the upcoming winter. Both the Senior National Bonspiel and the National Bonspiel are set for this season and sites have been chosen for the next two years as well. The Senior Friendship Tour is almost ready for the visiting Canadian team from British Columbia. The Scot Tour Committee has sent out the application forms for the 2016 tour and is making plans for that team. The Circuit Committee reported increased involvement by clubs, sponsors, and participants last season with even greater numbers expected this year. All of our events were successful and well attended.

The committees that manage the business of the organization have been busy, too. The budget is in order, rules are being updated, bylaws have been passed to keep us current, and pins and trophies have been inventoried, purchased and replaced. The Promotional Sales Committee has produced a new jewelry pin and the Women’s Curling Development Fund supported a junior team attending the U-18. The Financial Stewardship Committee reported a successful campaign and will be continuing its fundraising efforts. The Membership Committee has been able to register former member-clubs and recruit new ones. The Communications Committee has been extremely busy updating the website, producing a colorful rep sheet, and sending email blasts out to area liaisons and club representatives informing and reminding everyone about important events, dates and deadlines. The work of the organization continues year round even though we only meet formally twice a year.

In order to be more efficient in our operations, more productive in our services, and more beneficial to the modern curling community, we have adopted the beginnings of a strategic plan. I would like to thank our Strategic Planning Committee, led this year by Nancy Seitz, and the other committee chairwomen for their dedication and hard work in taking us this far. We have more to do but I’m very proud to have you check out the separate article detailing our mission, vision, and value statements along with our goals. Due to recommendations of this committee, a Governance Committee was formed and has been working on a reorganization and realignment structure to streamline a growing organization. They recommended the creation of a Financial Oversight Committee, which is reviewing the organization’s financial status. The way we operate the organization in the future may look very different than “the way it’s always been done.”

Right now it is exciting to get a peek into the future vision of what our USWCA will look like. It may take a little time yet, and a lot of hard work, but we’re determined to be the best run organization we can be for the good of all the curlers we serve. Be patient — we’re a work in progress!

USWCA presents results of strategic plan

By Nancy Seitz, Chairwoman, USWCA Strategic Planning

Strategic planning. To some it sounds like some business jargon sound bite. To others, it’s a hocus pocus waste of time that leads nowhere. In fact, strategic planning is a process that can help any organization or business to define and map out future success – an organization like the United States Women’s Curling Association.

Curlers love their sport and their enthusiasm for the game is instrumental in helping it grow and expand throughout the country. The USWCA was created by curlers to serve women in curling more than 65 years ago and has been creating and maintaining programs that provide curling opportunities ever since. As the nature of American curling has expanded and changed, especially since its debut as an Olympic sport, so, too, have the lives and expectations of our USWCA members, our member clubs and curlers who have not yet chosen to take advantage of our services. Even as the USCA began considering the changes it needed to implement in order to move forward in support of curling at the elite level, the women of USWCA committed to embark on a process that would define what we are now and what we want to become, what value we have successfully provided and what changes will make us even more valuable to the curling community.

It took time, effort and cooperation. It took reaching out to everyone inside the organization and also to those outside the organization. It took asking hard questions and really listening to others, finding a common thread in the hundreds of responses that gave us the answers to the direction we need to go and the changes that need to be made to best serve the century curling community in today’s world. The strategic plan was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors at our September meeting. Listing our mission, our vision, our values and our goals is just the first step in our journey. These very basic statements will guide change in our governance as well as our programs and activities, our communications and our initiatives to expand membership. The strategic plan itself will grow and change as each committee incorporates the plan’s goals into their decisions.

We can never be all things to all people, but we are committed to being a relevant and valuable asset to the life of U.S. curling. Questions and comments from our members and the broader curling community are always welcome. To learn more about the strategic plan, visit www.uswca.org.
Clubs old and new embrace USWCA Circuit

By Elizabeth Demers, USWCA Circuit Committee

One of the oldest curling clubs in the nation — and one of the newest — are adding their women’s bonspiels to the USWCA Circuit in the 2014-15 season. The Heather Curling Club in Mapleton, Minn., has roots stretching back into the mid- to late-19th century, when Scottish immigrants carried their love of the game to Minnesota’s Maple River region. Incorporated in 1904-05, the club constructed its current facility in 1950 after previously playing on natural ice. Heather curlers attended the Sippy Spiel in Centerville, Wis., in 2014, where they met several Circuit teams and saw firsthand the benefits of Circuit participation. “When we asked some of the women if they were coming to Mapleton, their first question was: ‘Are you on the Circuit?’” said Kim Krengel of the Heather Curling Club. “We are excited to be a part of the Circuit, and hope that joining it will benefit our club by increasing the number of teams for our bonspiel.” Mapleton will host the Women’s ’80s Spiel, Feb. 27-28.

By contrast, the Fort Wayne Curling Club is a little more than four years old and is celebrating its dedicated ice, attained in 2014. In addition to a new women’s Spiel, Fort Wayne is hosting the USWCA’s Central Region’s Open Five-and-Under Event, Jan. 23-25.

“The Fort Wayne Curling Club has always done everything it can to support the growth of curling, and the USWCA is a major lever to grow the sport,” said Craig Fischer, Fort Wayne club president. Fischer further noting that the USWCA’s “focus on women’s curling and the Five-and-Under are two areas that have tremendous potential.” Fischer expressed his young club’s enthusiasm for the breadth of the organization’s programs.

First Circuit bonspiel of the year promotes curling/new members

The Plainfield (N.J.) Curling Club held the Mid-Atlantic Women’s Bonspiel Oct. 16-19 – the 10th anniversary of this traveling event. The two-sheet club hosted 20 teams from 11 different clubs, including several Circuit members, arena curlers, juniors, and new curlers. Organizers Mary Lou Mitchell and Gail Knight were thrilled with the turnout. “The enthusiasm for the sport among our new curlers was exciting and bodes well for the future of women’s curling in the New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland areas,” said Knight. Curlers may sign up for the Circuit at participating bonspiels, but must do so before playing their second game, in order to receive points.

The Fort Wayne club sees the Circuit as a way to help its women’s curling program grow. “We established our first women’s league this season and have a number of women who are interested in taking their curling to the next level. The ability to meet and socialize with the Circuit curlers will encourage our members to take their curling to the next level,” Fischer said. Fort Wayne will host the Stone Cold Beauties Bonspiel, April 10-12 – a perfect last chance to earn valuable Circuit points at the end of the season. “The cost to be on the Circuit is extremely reasonable,” Fischer said. “Putting our women’s Spiel in the Circuit helps both the USWCA and our club. It’s a win-win for all involved.”

Build the House

Make a financial gift to grow the sport of curling in the U.S.

To donate, visit www.usacurl.org or mail a check to: 5525 Clem’s Way Stevens Point, WI 54482
A sport like ours is all about its volunteer base. Of course, there are great opportunities within your own club and most likely, a great need for help. If you’re looking to get involved at the national level, here are a few of the areas where we are looking for great people like you:

**Arena Championship Committee**
The Arena Championship Committee supports efforts by USA Curling staff and the Host Site Committee to run the annual USA Curling Arena National Championships. The Committee will assist with duties that may include:
- Pre-registration communications with arena-based curling clubs
- Team selection (based on pre-determined criteria)
- Answering questions from host site and/or participants
- Developing educational sessions to enhance the championship experience
- On-site support (if able to attend the championship)
- Writing up notes from post-event survey (survey has been developed by USA Curling)

Duties can be tailored to the interest and skills of the individual. Communication is primarily through conference calls and emails with higher levels of communication needed in the approximately four months prior to this event (typically hosted in the summer months). Please contact Christy Hering, Development Associate, with questions at christy.hering@usacurl.org.

**Arena Club Development Committee**
Arena-based curling clubs are key to the growth of the sport at the club level in the United States. The focus of the Arena Club Development Committee will be to build upon current resources available to arena-based clubs (both emerging and established clubs). Resources can include but are not limited to best practice models, a library of documents used by existing member clubs, individuals who are willing to mentor clubs in either their own region or throughout the nation, etc.

Individuals interested in this committee should have interest in and experience with arena club curling. Both new and experienced arena club curlers are encouraged to contact Kim Nawyn, Director of Growth & Development, at kim.nawyn@usacurl.org.

**Diversity & Inclusion Committee**
As the landscape of the United States continues to become more diverse, it is important for the participants and audience of the United States Curling Association, Inc. (USCA, also d.b.a. USA Curling) to reflect those changes. Our organization is committed to increasing opportunities for full participation of all U.S. citizens. The USCA Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Plan was first created in 2012 and includes policies, best practices, and programming to position the USCA to increase participation and fan base. We are looking for individuals interested in helping to continue to develop and implement the Diversity & Inclusion Plan annually. Please contact Rick Patzke (rick.patzke@usacurl.org), Interim CEO, with questions.

**Fundraising Committee**
The USCA Fundraising Committee is starting to form and is looking for members with a diverse skill set to help us develop successful fundraising campaigns. While we of course need members who are willing to reach out to fellow curlers and fans of curling to ask for support, we also need individuals who can bring their talents to help us build our message. Some examples of skills we are looking for include:
- Grant Writers: assist with drafting proposals to foundations
- Graphic Designers: create artistic and compelling brochures, emails and ad designs
- Computer Programmer: draft HTML code for webpages and emails, help us move away from a standard widget format
- Marketing Professional: help develop themes and messaging to inspire gifts
- Fundraisers: assist with personal outreach within your region and/or encourage participation at fundraising events

These are examples of the many skills that are needed to develop a strong fundraising program. If growing financial support for curling in the United States interests you, please speak to Michelle Schleibaum, Director of Philanthropy, to add your talents to this committee. Michelle.Schleibaum@usacurl.org or 608-338-5600.

**Freelance Writing**
Have you always been interested in writing about your favorite sport? The U.S. Curling News magazine is looking for volunteer freelance writers to write club-driven articles about what’s going on in the curling community. If interested, email Terry Kolesar at terry.kolesar@usacurl.org.

**Members’ Assembly Committee**
The Members’ Assembly Committee will assist USA Curling staff with planning the annual Members’ Assembly. The Members’ Assembly is a product of the by-laws adopted by the organization in April 2014. In addition to conducting the business of the organization, the Members’ Assembly is designed to provide direct communication between Member Clubs, States/Regions, and USA Curling and offer educational opportunities relevant to curlers throughout the United States.

Committee members will assist the Director of Growth & Development with planning and/or logistics at the annual event. Examples of responsibilities (based on individual skill and interest) may include:
- Selecting host site, evaluating costs of traveling to locations under consideration from various areas of the country.
- Proposing topics for seminars or other educational offerings based on club needs/interest and recruiting presenters/trainers.
- Contributing ideas and working with host site to develop social events designed to enhance the experience for participants.
- Developing marketing materials.
- Exploring possibilities of sponsorship and opportunities.

Continued on next page
Committee members will communicate through teleconference/email during the year. While committee members would not be required to attend the event, they would be encouraged to do so. Please contact Kim Nawyn, Director of Growth & Development, with questions at kim.nawyn@usacurl.org.

Site Selection Committee
The site selection committee will assist U.S. Curling staff to select host sites for all USA Curling sanctioned events, with the exception of the Men’s & Women’s National Championships, Arena Curling Championships, and College Curling Championship. Though communication with clubs will be largely driven by the U.S. Curling office, this committee will be responsible for assessing bids with the competitive curling experience in mind. Duties include:

- Reviewing and evaluating bids received from prospective hosts based on the following criteria:
  - Quality of equipment and venue technical components as provided by the bidder.
  - Personal competitive experience at the proposed club/venue.
  - Other athlete experience at the proposed club/venue.
  - Location of club/venue in relation to hotels, airports, restaurants, etc.
  - Past hosting experience.
  - Enthusiasm of bidder.
  - Financial aspects of the bid.
- Developing a list of items that may require follow-up in order to make a final determination.
- Finding creative ways to increase club interest in the hosting experience.

This committee will generally meet via teleconference three times per year. However, additional calls and email correspondence may be required to finalize host site selection (when additional information is needed) and/or to strategize a plan for outreach when bid interest is low. U.S. Curling staff will continue to promote the bid process via direct e-mail correspondence, web postings, U.S. Curling News articles, and other outreach methods, as well as communicate to bidding clubs/venues when a site has been awarded or a bid has been declined.

Project Specific Support
Are you interested in supporting the growth of the sport of curling? USA Curling is seeking to identify individuals with special skills or abilities who are willing to volunteer their time on a project-specific basis for upcoming projects or initiatives. These include individuals with experience in app design, editing, and grant writing. Please feel free to contact Kim Nawyn, Director of Growth & Development, at kim.nawyn@usacurl.org with questions.

USA Curling National Office Support
Are you interested in volunteering with USA Curling and live in (or are visiting) central Wisconsin? USA Curling staff members are seeking assistance from individuals who can assist on a semi-regular basis at the national office. Currently, assistance is needed with reconciling reimbursement requests to receipts and filing financial documents. A background check (paid for by the USCA) would be required. Please contact Sandy Robinson, Controller, with questions at sandy.robinson@usacurl.org.

USWCA sponsored events

67th Annual National Women’s Bonspiel
“Curl in the Name of Love”
Detroit Curling Club, Ferndale, Mich.
Feb. 11-15

Junior bonspiels
East: Nov. 7-9
Potomac Curling Club, Laurel, Md.
Central: Dec. 12-14
Madison Curling Club, McFarland, Wis.
West: Jan. 9-10
Itasca Curling Club, Grand Rapids, Minn.

All-American Bonspiels
All regions: Check with your club’s representative to get the dates for the event at your club.

Circuit Bonspiels
Check for dates and locations of all Circuit-participating bonspiels at www.uswca.org

Complete information about all the USWCA-sponsored events can be found at www.uswca.org
# Alternate Reality

*By Matt Gamboa*

**How The Fireball Recall Started**

You put in too much; it may kill someone.

You gotta help me! These two guys were me night and day.

They put our friends in the Fireball and they gave my red hat to the...
Bonspiels

10] Dismisses any and all inquiries about his prolonged and mysterious four-year absence from the sport by insisting that he was merely “off the grid.”

9] Standard pre-shot routine often includes brutally blunt comments to his sweepers like, “Believe me, you will experience a pain that I cannot even describe.”

8] Seems genuinely convinced that there is a high probability that each and every opposition team may be composed of “mad psychot ic terrorist bad guys.”

7] Instructs teammates who are en route to a bonspiel with him to diligently scan the skies and be on the lookout for targeted strikes by unmanned aerial drones.

6] Frequently resorts to using facial recognition software in order to more thoroughly vet the background of potential new teammates.

5] Demonstrates an amazing ability to negotiate all kinds of congested urban traffic conditions and reach any curling club in the greater metropolitan area in less than 10 minutes.

4] Rarely able to take part in post-game club room socializing on account of being routinely arrested, handcuffed, and remanded into federal custody at the conclusion of each match.

3] Ignores reliable coaching advice from highly renowned curling-savvy individuals in favor of so-called “quality intel” relayed by some guy from “Division” who supposedly used to be the “Head of Field Ops.”

2] Prone to using decidedly arcane terminology— like when he refers to pebbling as “wetworks,” a burned rock as a “compromised asset,” throwing guards as “securing the perimeter.”

1] Never seems fazed by having to endure the inevitable post-game critical assessments such as “You were right, Jack,” “I should have listened to you, Jack,” and “Jack has been more right than we have today.”

Founders’ Bonspiel
Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2014 // Plainfield CC, South Plainfield, N.J.

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<th>PLACE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1EW–Philadelphia</td>
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<td>1ERU–Plainfield</td>
<td>Bill Nickle, Shelia Nickle, Dean Gemmell, Amye Brewer</td>
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<td>Earle Conrad, Mary Cognetta, Ryan Humphreys, Lyn Steeger</td>
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<td>4ERU–Plainfield</td>
<td>Bill Vallier, Cindy Vallier, Charlie Rebick, Rennie Clayton</td>
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Winners of Founders’ Bonspiel at the Plainfield Curling Club were (l-r) Ken Seiverd, Ian Alexander, Jay Rusek, and Paul LaTour.
The United States Curling Association (USCA) Championships Rules for 2014-15 stipulates that two men’s teams and two women’s teams will advance to the 2015 USA Curling National Championships in Kalamazoo, Mich., based on the World Curling Tour “Year-To-Date” Order of Merit points as of the conclusion of the Curl Mesabi Cash Spiel on Dec. 21.

For the second consecutive year, the USCA will follow a season long World Team Selection Process that will use YTD OOM points from the World Curling Tour along with OOM points from our Nationals Qualifying event and from the US nationals itself to determine our representative at the Men’s and Women’s World Championship.

The standings for the byes to the National Championships as of Nov. 7 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World ranking</th>
<th>USCA-YTD ranking</th>
<th>Skip name</th>
<th>WCT-YTD points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>John Shuster</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Brady Clark</td>
<td>7.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mike Farbelow</td>
<td>6.375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Korey Dropkin</td>
<td>6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Craig Brown</td>
<td>5.325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Heath McCormick</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brandon Corbett</td>
<td>4.175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Scott Dunnam</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Greg Eigner</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>John Lilla</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ethan Meyers</td>
<td>0.825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Fred Maxie</td>
<td>0.825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grand opening of the new Denver Curling Center was one of many highlights during the inaugural USCA Members’ Assembly in Colorado.
Several changes relating to the national events USA Curling hosts each season have been created. Here is a summary of those updates:

**World Team Fifth Player Selection:** A fifth player for any World Championship team will be selected by the USCA National Coaching Team (NCT) and the Director of High Performance (DHP) in consultation with the team members (with the exception of seniors and mixed). It will be based on the NCT’s judgment of the fifth player’s ability to fill in on the team roster at a world performance level as needed. Teams are advised that the USCA NCT will recommend that the newly added fifth player be qualified to play at any position, including world-level skip, unless the four-player team already includes two (2) world-level skip players. This stipulation recognizes the unique nature of the skip position in curling, and the need to protect the competitive interests of the team and the USA should the team skip be unable to play during the World Championships.

Once the fifth player has been approved by the USCA NCT, that athlete will be placed on the team roster. The decision whether or not the fifth player plays at the applicable World Championship will be at the discretion of the NCT and the DHP.

Fifth players will be selected within ten (10) days of completion of the World Team Qualification Process.

**World Team High Performance Athlete Agreement:** All athletes to be nominated to Team USA for the men’s, women’s and junior world championships are required to sign the USCA High Performance Program National Team Athlete Agreement. A copy can be found on the USCA website. Any athlete failing to sign the agreement when invited to do so shall be disqualified from representing the USA. In this instance the National Program Coach reserves the right to invite another athlete to fill the vacant position. If two or more athletes fail to sign then the team shall be disqualified, and the Director of High Performance shall appoint a replacement team.

**Mixed National Championship/World Mixed Championship:** The winning team of the 2015 Mixed National Championship will advance as Team USA to play in the 2016 World Mixed Championship in September of 2015. Therefore, anyone participating in the Mixed Nationals playdowns must be a U.S. citizen and provide proof during the registration process.

**National Championships:** Two Nationals spots will be awarded each year (men and women) to High Performance Program teams and one spot will be awarded each year (men and women) to the Junior National champion. (The Junior National champions will receive a registration and fee exemption for the National Championships). Two Nationals spots will be awarded to the top two Order of Merit (OOM) Men’s and Women’s teams not already qualified. The OOM teams can be found on the World Curling Tour website at www.worldcurl.com. The remaining five men’s and women’s National Championship spots will be determined at a single Challenge Round event.

**USA Men’s and Women’s World Championshp Team Qualification process 2015:** Teams can count their six best Order of Merit (OOM) results going into the Nationals; however, a team may only use a maximum of four U.S.-based OOM events toward their total of six results. Please note: This change was approved in June by a High Performance Advisory Group (which included Athletes Advisory Council representatives) and was inserted into the current draft of the 2015 Rules Book, with the anticipation that the Rules would be published in early summer 2014. The USCA staff regrets that this was not singled out and widely publicized on its own once the publishing of the Rules was delayed.

**// MEETINGS & WEBINARS**

**FEB. 3**
USCA Board of Directors meeting/webinar

**FEB. 9-12**
U.S. Women’s Curling Association Spring Board Meeting, Kent, Ohio

**MAY 15-17**
USCA Board of Directors meeting, location to be determined

**JULY 13**
USCA Board of Directors meeting/webinar

Send us your address updates

Are you moving or did you recently move? Make sure that your copy of the Curling News moves with you. Send address updates to us via email at info@usacurl.org or by calling the office at 1-888-CURLERS.
USWCA 5 & Under  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–San Francisco</td>
<td>Reggie Wilcox, Zevi Altus, Shir Aharon, Amanda Chang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ERU–Coyotes</td>
<td>Mike Siggins, Sean Keeling, Ashley Siggins, Tatiana Keeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2EW–Curling Club of Houston</td>
<td>Carl Schaepper, Matt Kane, Tom Jaworski, Kevin King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ERU–Coyotes</td>
<td>Jeff Baird, Charles Lealbad, Tom Stokes, Doug Woods, Ryan McFarlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3EW–Coyotes</td>
<td>David Rock, Tom Danielson, Chad Conley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3ERU–Coyotes</td>
<td>Bud Meister, Jennifer Meister, Vince Biccichi, Eric Kowal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4EW–Coyotes</td>
<td>Tom Morelli, CJ Boyce, Carl Thompson, Amy Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4ERU–Coyotes</td>
<td>Chuck Jackson, Corey Brown, Dan Weaver, Karl Suttie-Kadish</td>
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Winners of the USWCA Five-and-Under Bonspiel held at the Coyotes Curling Club were Amanda Chang, Zevi Altus, Shir Aharon, and Reggie Wilcox.

Halloween Spiel  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1EW–Madison</td>
<td>Tim Funk, Becca Funk, Trevor Host, Mikey Juszczyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ERU–Madison</td>
<td>Sean Murray, Heather Betzhold, Paige Caulum, Amy Kronberg, Dan Wiza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2EW–Wausau</td>
<td>Jeremy Stubbe, Ryan Kernosky, Andy Summers, Evan Brauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ERU–Poynette</td>
<td>Mark Kretzmann, Jon Vaningham, Dean Teeter, Alex Saager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3EW–Madison</td>
<td>Tim Ebert, Miranda Solem, Erin Wallace, Mary Parker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3ERU–Potomac</td>
<td>Melvin Shaw, Courtney Shaw, Jeremy Vandenhouwen, Catherine Coslick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4EW–Portage</td>
<td>Ian Journeaux, Dave Carlson, Mike Bennett, Steve Dubberstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4ERU–Madison</td>
<td>Dan Schally, Sydney Schmus, Tommy Stauffer, Torrance Scott</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winners of Madison’s Halloween Bonspiel were (l-r) Mikey Juszczyk, Trevor Host, Becca Funk, and Tim Funk.
### Blazing Leaves
**Oct. 10-12, 2014 // Nutmeg CC, Bridgeport, Conn.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Ardley</td>
<td>Gert Messing, Dennis Mellerup, Bill Nickle, Dannie Steski</td>
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<tr>
<td>1ERU–Schenectady</td>
<td>Mike Stefanik, Charlie Brown, Scott Brennan, Richard Gonyea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2EW–Nutmeg</td>
<td>Robert Kwan, Kent Suslavich, Don Malner, Kyle Slover, Sean Mayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>2ERU–Ardley</td>
<td>Michael Spensieri, Matt Scheiner, Barbara Gabhart, Nicole Mikolesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3EW–Potomac</td>
<td>Hunter Clawson, Caleb Clawson, Ethan Kennedy, Tyler Oliver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3ERU–Broomstones</td>
<td>Elizabeth Cousins, Ivy Mancuso, Lizzie Pettee, Sydney Mullaney, Karyn Cousins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4EW–Broomstones</td>
<td>Scott Price, Karen Walker, Paul Marseglia, Mike Sampson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4ERU–Potomac</td>
<td>Dave Bykowski, Brian Dauerheim, Jeremy Vandenboumen, Vince Serritella</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winners of Nutmeg’s Blazing Brooms Bonspiel were (l-r) Gert Messing, Dennis Mellerup, Bill Nickle, and Dannie Steskie.

### Carosella Bonspiel
**Oct. 24-26, 2014 // Schenectady CC, Schenectady, N.Y.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Mount Royal (Quebec)</td>
<td>Elaine deRyk, Aline Dumont, Debra Ann Gorman, Nancy Wurth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ERU–Schenectady</td>
<td>Charlene Fitzgerald, Loraine Waybourn, Denise Cashmere, Michele Moffit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2EW–Trois Riveres (Quebec)</td>
<td>Donna Gorman, Suzanne Godin, Louise Lampron, Louise Gaudreault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ERU–Cape Cod</td>
<td>Mary Colacchio, Cathy Offinger, Linda Pistilli, Carol Arakelian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3EW–Schenectady</td>
<td>Fay Navratil, Paula Lancaster, Becky Trousil, Sue Adair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3ERU–Schenectady</td>
<td>Christina Hall, Lisa Miller, Laura Dolins, Jackie Shaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4EW–Mayfield</td>
<td>Deb Horn, Martha Naber, Rachel Orvik, Connie Kupferschmidt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4ERU–Albany</td>
<td>Flo Springstead, Shirley Burgess, Emma Foster, Marj O’Donnell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winners of Schenectady’s Carosella Bonspiel were Nancy Wurth, Debra Ann Forman, Aline Dumont, and Elaine deRyk.

Winners of the St. Paul Cashspiel (women’s division) were (l-r) Aileen Sorumunen, Tara Peterson, Vicky Persinger, and Monica Walker.

Winners of the St. Paul Cashspiel (men’s division) were (l-r) Mike Farbelow, Rich Ruohonen, Kevin Johnson, and Dan Ruehl.
CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

Dec. 3-7
2015 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship, Eau Claire, Wis.

Jan. 7-11
Nationals Challenge Round, Seattle (men) and Bismarck, N.D. (women)

Jan. 17-24
2015 U.S. Junior National Championships, Devils Lake, N.D.
Online playdown registration period: Nov. 5-Dec. 3

Jan. 28-Feb. 1
2015 U.S. Senior Nationals, Curl Mesabi, Eveleth, Minn.
Online playdown registration period: Nov. 12-Dec. 17

Feb. 7-14
2015 World Wheelchair Championship, Lohja, Finland

Feb. 11-15
U.S. Women's Curling Association National Bonspiel, Detroit, Mich.

Feb. 14-21

Feb. 19-22
U.S. Senior Men's Curling Association National Bonspiel, St. Paul, Minn.

Feb. 28-March 8
2015 World Junior Championships, Tallinn, Estonia

March 7-14
2015 U.S. Club National Championships, Fargo, N.D.
Online playdown registration period: Dec. 3-31
*some regions had earlier deadlines to allow for an early season playdown

March 13-15
2015 College National Championship, Rochester, N.Y.

March 14-22
2015 World Women's Championship, Sapporo, Japan

March 28-April 4
2015 U.S. Mixed National Championship, Four Seasons Curling Club, Blaine, Minn.
Online playdown registration period: Dec. 24-Jan. 21

March 28-April 5
2015 World Men's Championship, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

April 18-25
World Senior Championships and World Mixed Doubles Championship, Sochi, Russia

July 16-19
2015 U.S. Arena National Championships, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

September
2016 World Mixed Championship, Dates and site TBA

Dec. 2-6
2016 U.S. Mixed Doubles Championship, Site TBA

2016

Jan. 6-10
2016 Nationals Challenge Round, Sites TBA

Jan. 16-23
2016 U.S. Junior National Championships, Willmar, Minn.

Jan. 27-31
2016 U.S. Senior National Championships, Medford, Wis. (men)

Feb. 6-13
2016 U.S. National Championships, Jacksonville, Fla.

Feb. 12-21
2016 Winter Youth Olympic Games, Lillehammer, Norway

March 5-12
2016 U.S. Club National Championships, Capital Curling Club, Bismarck, N.D.

March 19-27
2016 Ford World Women's Championship, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Canada

April 2-9
2016 U.S. Mixed National Championship, Site TBA

April 2-10
2016 World Men's Championship, Basel, Switzerland
Summer Blockbuster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Bismarck</td>
<td>Steph Jensen, Dave Jensen, Alan Larson, Nancy Jensen, Erik Jensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>1ERU–Orange County</td>
<td>Ken Millar, Bill Waddington Jr., Bill Waddington Sr., Bob Waddington</td>
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<td>2EW–Hollywood</td>
<td>Mike Harris, Miggy Guitterez, Jason Horn, Jenn De La Fuente</td>
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<td>2ERU–Ogden</td>
<td>Ben Womack, Tim Irish, Mark Rubey, Justin Stachnik</td>
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<tr>
<td>3EW–Hollywood</td>
<td>Parker Shook, Cameron Ross, Evan Workin, Rachel Tharalson</td>
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<td>Darryl Horsman, Wayne Fleming, Jeff Baird, Kent Groh</td>
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<td>Vinny Parekh, Gerry Vandevalk, Bill McMorris, Brian Davidson</td>
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<tr>
<td>4ERU–San Francisco</td>
<td>Chris Delauder, Ericka Hallstocke-Johnson, Kevin Ryan, Greg Wollenman</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Celebrity Game
Winner: Michael Trucco, Debbie McCormick, Bull Forman, Seanna Miller
Runner-up: Eden Riegel, Don Bartlett, Chad Kabecz, Scott Scheirbeck

Mid-Atlantic Women's Bonspiel
Oct. 16-19, 2014 // Plainfield CC, South Plainfield, N.J.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Philadelphia</td>
<td>Rosemary Morgan, Jo Hess, Pat Jolly, Theresa Seiverd</td>
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<td>1ERU–Plainfield</td>
<td>Anne Wiggins, Gail Knight, Cindy Vallier, Mary Lou Mitchell</td>
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<td>2EW–Plainfield</td>
<td>Rachel Howell, Jenna Burchesky, Allison Howell, Jane Burchesky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ERU–Ardsley</td>
<td>Nancy Clancy, Lorrie Needles, Cathy Jones, Sandy Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>3EW–Plainfield</td>
<td>Andrea Stepnosky, Louisa Bartok, Adrienne Adams, Mary Cognetta</td>
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<tr>
<td>3ERU–Bucks County</td>
<td>Christi Freeman, Kristen Weiss, Amanda Brachman, Barb Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4EW–Potomac</td>
<td>Dawn Findlay, Majik Jones, Susan Armiger, Dominique Banville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4ERU–Plainfield</td>
<td>Sue Lindsay, Robin Kerr, Anne Buckelew, Emily Pike</td>
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</tbody>
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Rocktoberspiel
Oct. 3-5, 2014 // McCall CC, McCall, Idaho

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Boise</td>
<td>Rob Hanson, Russ Benson, Craig Paprocki, Nick Hendricks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2EW–Lethbridge (AB)</td>
<td>Charles Funk, Reg Nicol, Bonnie Nicol, Wendy Funk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3EW–Boise</td>
<td>Thomas Tomlinson, Scott Fuhrman, Terry Potter, Travis Cooper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winners of the Rocktoberspiel were (l-r) Craig Paprocki, Kris Bohart (back), Russ Benson, and Rob Hanson.
Most events below are listed Friday through Sunday but some may begin earlier. Check the club’s website or the registration form for more information.

Key: O=Open; M=Men’s; W=Women’s; St=Stick; XD=Mixed Doubles; WC=Wheelchair; J=Junior; Col=College; X=Mixed; C=Cashspiel; Y=Youth; F=Five-year-and-under; T=Ten-year-and-under

DEC. 5-7
Anchorage, AK O
Appleton, WI X
Brainerd, MN O
Centerville, WI J
Chicago, IL SM
Columbus, OH O
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) O
Detroit, MI S
Fargo-Moorhead, ND O
Madison, WI OC
Milwaukee, WI W
Norfolk, CT M
Owatonna, MN O
Philadelphia, PA J
Rice Lake, WI Col
Schenectady, NY Col
Two Harbors, MN M

DEC. 12-14
Albany, NY WT
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) O
Duluth, MN W
Exmoor, IL M
Fort Wayne, IN M
Granite, WA (Seattle) O
Lake Region, ND (Devils Lake) O
Madison, WI J
Poynette, WI M
St. Paul, MN M
Schenectady, NY OT
Waupaca, WI SM

DEC. 19-21
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) C
St. Paul, MN Skins

2015

JAN. 9-11
Appleton, WI M
Cambridge, MN SM
Centerville, WI SW
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) O
Duluth, MN M
Fairbanks, AK O
Fargo-Moorhead, ND J & O
Hibbing, MN M
Itasca, MN (Grand Rapids) J
Milwaukee, WI X
Nofolk, CT SX
Philadelphia, PA O
Portage, WI J
Rice Lake, WI X
St. Paul, MN O
Wausau, WI J
Williston Basin, ND O
Willmar, MN O

JAN. 16-18
Appleton, WI W
Ardsley, NY W
Belfast, ME X
Blackhawk, WI (Janesville) X
Cambridge, MN M
Chesapeake, MD (Easton) X
Chicago, IL M
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) O
Duluth, MN J
Exmoor, IL (Highland Park) W
Four Seasons, MN (Blaine) O
Itasca, MN (Grand Rapids) O
Madison, WI O
Marshfield, WI W
Mayfield, OH W
Superior, WI X
Wausau, WI W

JAN. 23-25
Albany, NY M
Cambridge, MN W
Centerville, WI SX
Cleveland, OH X
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) O
Duluth, MN Col
Evergreen, OR (Beaverton) J
Fort Wayne, IN W
Granite, WA (Seattle) W
Hibbing, MN X
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland) Col
Marshfield, WI M

JAN. 30-FEB. 1
Arlington, WI M
Brainerd, MN W
Broomstones, MA (Wayland) J
Detroit, MI W
Milwaukee, WI M
Norfolk, CT SM
Nutmeg, CT (Bridgeport) Col
Rice Lake, WI M
Schenectady, NY O
Wausau, WI M
Wausau, WI WMJO

FEB. 6-8
Appleton, WI J
Centerville, WI W
Itasca, MN (Grand Rapids) O
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland) X
Las Vegas, NV O
Nashua, NH W
Norwood, MN O
Pardeeville, WI O
St. Paul, MN WF
Stevens Point, WI W

FEB. 13-15
Broomstones, MA (Wayland) J
Cambridge, MN O
Chicago, IL X
Copper Country, MI (Calumet) Col
Detroit, MI (USWCA National) W
Duluth, MN O
Green Bay, WI M
Nashua, NH W
Plainfield, NJ J
Racine, WI X
St. Paul, MN J
Schenectady, NY X
Utica, NY Col
Wausau, WI M
Wauwatosa, WI O

FEB. 20-22
Ardsley, NY M
Belfast, ME M
Cook County, MN (Grand Marais) O
Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth) M
Evergreen, OR (Beaverton) O
Heather, MN (Mapleton) M
Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland) X
Madison, WI O

Plainfield, NJ O
Superior, WI O
Two Harbors, MN O
Wausau, WI W
Wausau, WI SM
Woodstock, VT O
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bonspiel Calendar</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Norfolk, CT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waltham, IL</td>
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<td><strong>FEB. 27-MARCH 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Albany, NY</td>
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<td>Anchorage, AK</td>
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<td>Cambridge, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centerville, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curl Mesabi, MN (Eveleth)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
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<td>Detroit, MI</td>
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<td>Fargo-Moorhead, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather, MN (Mapleton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kettle Moraine, WI (Hartland)</td>
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**JUNE 5-7**
- Great Smoky, TN (Knoxville) | O | |

**JUNE 12-14**
- Four Seasons, MN (Blaine) | O | |
- Granite, WA (Seattle) | O | |

**JULY 3-5**
- Hollywood, CA (Panorama City) | O | |
- Pittsburgh, PA | O | |

**JULY 9-26**
- Cape Cod, MA | XWMJWc | |

**JULY 16-19**
- Capital, ND (Bismarck) | O | |

**AUG. 27-30**
- Wine Country, CA (Roseville) | O | |
Tune Up Spiel
Sept. 26-28 // Rice Lake CC, Rice Lake, Wis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1EW–Rice Lake</td>
<td>Bill Kind, Steve Swoboda, Randy Bina, Mark Turner</td>
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<tr>
<td>1ERU–Rice Lake</td>
<td>Bill Wiberg, Patti Fox, Bruce Smith, Mike McLin</td>
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<tr>
<td>2EW–Duluth</td>
<td>Courtney George, Tyler George, Derek Benson, Tom George</td>
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<tr>
<td>2ERU–Duluth</td>
<td>Doug Cameron, Mark Lusche, Jean Lusche, Kris Cameron</td>
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<td>3EW–Wausau</td>
<td>Evan Jensen, Ben Miller, Caleb DeMille, Zach Taylor</td>
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<td>3ERU–Two Harbors</td>
<td>Courtney Osbakken, Lexi Lanigan, Emma Bromenschenkel, Rebecca Miles</td>
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<td>4EW–Duluth</td>
<td>Seppo Sormunen, Grant Sormunen, Matt Wahl, Gary Johnson</td>
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<td>4ERU–Cambridge</td>
<td>Rory Ellingson, Kelli Ellingson, Curt Crego, Carrie Crego</td>
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Winners of Rice Lake’s Tune Up Spiel were (l-r) Bill Kind, Steve Swoboda, Randy Bina, and Mark Turner.

Bernick’s Miller Lite Open
Oct. 24-26 // Bemidji CC, Bemidji, Minn.

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<th>PLACE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1EW–Four Seasons</td>
<td>Korey Dropkin, Tom Howell, Mark Fenner, Luc Violette, Andrew Stopera, Alex Fenson (sub)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1ERU–Thunder Bay, ON</td>
<td>Al Hackner, Jeff Isaacson, Jared Zezel, Gary Champagne</td>
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<td>Semifinalist–Bemidji</td>
<td>Jake Vukich, Brandon Scheel, Alex Fenson, Graem Fenson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semifinalist–Pinawa, MB</td>
<td>Richard Muntain, Mike McCaughan, Curtis Atkins, Rodney Legault</td>
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BE READY FOR FALL WITH YOUR USA CURLING GEAR!
We’re your one stop shop for all things USA Curling

30 usacurl.org
It is good news to hear about the many new curling clubs across the USA, most of them arena clubs. The influx of new curlers provides an opportunity to review the history of curling or risk the great and true story fading away.

In the 1500s, a Dutchman named Arlen Oop and his sister, Allie, were bored one bright winter's day. Most of their friends liked skating on the frozen canals, but they wanted a more mentally challenging activity, and they were a bit impish to boot. So they decided to slide rocks at skaters, counting one point if they could draw the skater off their course and two points if they took out the skater. Being of intellectual bent, they even kept stats on their results (you can locate these stats in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum). The new activity proved both fun for spectators — famous painter Peter Bruegel recorded a scene on oil and canvas — and dangerous for the stone sliding Oops and their friends, all of whom soon met their fate on Dutch gallows, leaving the winter canal scene safe for skaters and eventually leading to many Olympic gold medals for Dutch speedskaters.

It is not known how this rock sliding activity spread to Scotland, the traditional home of the sport. Some say an Oop cousin, Angus Oop, brought the idea back home after a serendipitous visit to his kin in Holland. His original purpose was to buy Gouda cheese. However, after watching his cousins play their new game, he soon became consumed by an urge to slide rocks on ice and hurried home to get set up.

Perhaps Angus used the famous Stirling Stone, with its inscription “1511,” with his family team including his spouse, Amity Oop, and their children, Arthur (“Art”) and Alice. In the event, due to the sudden demise of all Dutch curlers, it was left to the Scots to further develop the Roaring Game of curling (the adjective ‘roar’ may be the sound a rock makes when sliding on Loch ice — it depends on the temperature and thickness of the ice, the depth of the water under that ice and the type of running surface on the rock.

One of their first actions, the Scots being practical people, was to eliminate the use of skaters as targets. This helped ensure their survival. The sport developed slowly but surely, primarily in the lowlands, as I read. It may be myth that curlers were summoned to the Loch for play by bagpipers.

After centuries of enjoyment and after the perfection of single malt whisky, in 1804, the first written rules of curling (the "Code of Laws") were recorded on the shore of Duddingston Loch, near Edinburgh. Soon after, in 1825, the Duddingston Curling Society built the octagonal Thomson’s Tower. The first floor was used to store curling stones, the second as a meeting room. To keep everyone on the straight and narrow, Duddingston Kirk was just a few steps away. As the Little Ice Age was ending, curling on the Loch had ceased by the 1850s. Once derelict, by the late 1900s, Thomson Tower has been completely restored.

No records remain concerning the contribution to curling of either the Scottish or Dutch branch of the Oop family. This could be because they all emigrated to the Detroit area to found the oldest curling club in the USA, the Orchard Lake Club, in 1831, later moving to establish the oldest continuously operating club in the USA, the Milwaukee Curling Club, founded in 1845. More history to come.

Note: anyone interested in Curling History can Google Sheriff David B. Smith and his book Curling, An Illustrated History, 1981. It is an expansive, well-written curling history. Smell the haggis! Not all the facts related in this story can be documented, but many are true! Or do we research Barney Google and Snuffy Smith?

True curling history? You decide
Get your tickets today!

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Home of the Kalamazoo Curling Club  
To secure tickets, visit www.wingsstadium.com
Senior curlers won first place this year at the Anderson High School’s (Cincinnati, Ohio) Halloween festivities. The students bought official USA Curling shirts for the occasion; the mustaches are fake though. They all liked the shirts they bought and plan to wear them again, thankfully not the mustaches though, according to Dave Hinaman. To view their video, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKzWb9d4qwE&feature=youtu.be.
A slippery slope? Not for curling’s ice technologists

Creating quality conditions for competition

It’s a game of ultimate precision played with 40-pound chunks of granite, where the tiniest changes in momentum and trajectory can bring victory . . . or defeat. And the success of every move starts and ends with the ice. It’s got to measure up.

For Shawn Olesen and Quentin Way, volunteer ice technicians for USA Curling, creating the quality ice a successful curling competition demands can be a challenge—or an opportunity. It’s all in how you see it.

Starting with a clean sheet

Curling doesn’t happen without cold, so it’s no surprise that home base for Olesen, Way, and USA Curling’s Head Ice Technician, Dave Staveteig, is North Dakota.

Getting ready for a major curling competition, like the US Junior Championships at the Granite Curling Club in north Seattle, starts literally with a clean sheet . . . of ice.

What makes great ice? The goal is “consistency through the event,” said Olesen, “so the players can call the shots they want to try and they don’t have any reservations because of the conditions of the arena. You should be able to throw the same type of shot with the same amount of curl and speed in the first game versus the last game.”

Olesen, Way, and Staveteig start several days before an event to paint the ice, flood on a fresh layer of water, and ensure the sheet is perfectly level. Water droplets are sprayed on the playing surface, where they freeze into “pebbles” that have two important jobs. As the sheet is leveled, the pebbles get shaved off the high spots, but remain visible to show where ice is low, and more water is needed. When leveling is complete, fresh “game pebble” is sprayed on to help the stones glide smoothly and minimize drag.

Too damp? Too dry?

Making and maintaining quality ice is a multi-dimensional challenge. The facility’s refrigeration system controls the ice sheet’s temperature, but the technology and capacity of these systems can vary widely. When play begins and several dozen competitors start moving energetically up and down the sheet, they move air and generate heat. Anticipating this effect, the ice team will turn up the cooling system to maintain optimum ice temperatures.

Temperature is critical. Too warm means ice gets too soft; too cold is too brittle. Just right, according to Way, is 23.5 °F (-4.7 °C).

Managing air temperature and humidity is also vital. Ice acts like both a solid and a liquid; in some ways it is almost alive. It can move, grow (if frost gathers from moisture in the air) or, if the air is too dry, evaporate and shrink.

“We’re always checking dew point, just to keep from building frost on the playing surface,” said Olesen. “Temperature and humidity—if we can control it, we will.”

The ideal dew point should match the ice surface temperature, said Way. “When you get down to the 18 degree [F] or zero degree dew points you’re actually losing ice surface.” When a facility’s HVAC system can’t deliver the right conditions—many northern facilities lack air conditioning to offset ambient heat—for the ice team, that’s not cool.

“Your pebble can deteriorate and break down, then you’re getting too much friction,” said Olesen. “You can have frost problems, or the ice changes during the play.”

If ice temperature rose just one degree, ice quality could be destroyed by mid-game, Way added.

Conditions outdoors can make a difference inside. When outdoor temperatures drop to minus 20 °F (-6.6 °C) in Fargo, Way said, just opening the doors will help cool the building and the sheet. But if there’s a wet snow outside, open doors could admit damp air and lead to frost problems.

“"If ice temperature rose just one degree, ice quality could be destroyed by mid-game ""
Air distribution can be another challenge indoors. How many heaters are present, where they are, and how they direct air all make a difference at ice level. Some facilities send heat to the center of the sheet, while others direct it to one side. To understand how this might affect the game and make adjustments, it’s essential for the ice techs to see what’s happening.

Measuring up

Ice control is founded on measurement, so the ice techs log readings of air, ice, and coolant temperature and humidity throughout the competition.

“Five years ago there’d be one thermometer out in the middle of the rink,” Olesen said, “and somebody’d have to walk out and check it every ten or fifteen minutes.”

To reach this article online, visit fluke.com/FN-Curl

Flukey 911 Temperature Humidity Meter

“When the games are underway,” Way continued, “we monitor all of our temperatures and humidity inside and even outside of the building. The Flukey 971 is great for instant feedback of our dew point temperature in the rink. We no longer have to resort to using psychrometric charts or online-based applications. Once we’ve attained our data, we will adjust dehumidifiers and air conditioners accordingly, if possible. If HVAC units aren’t available, we will resort to exchanging air with the outside air if it is of an acceptable dew point.”

“When it comes to monitoring atmospheric conditions we want to be as proactive as possible,” Way said. “These Flukey tools have kept us on our toes in some major national events. We were able to know that something was going to change with the ice and adjusted for it before anyone playing would have even noticed.”
Thank you to all who attended, organized, and made the inaugural USCA Members’ Assembly in Denver a success!

The inaugural USA Curling Members’ Assembly took place Oct. 9-12 in Denver, Colo. In addition to conducting the business of the organization, the Members’ Assembly was designed to provide curlers with information that could enhance their curling experience through on-ice skills improvement sessions, club development seminars, and networking with curlers from throughout the country. Special thanks go out to the dozens of people who helped make this event a success! It would not have been possible without the contributions of the speakers; sponsors, including Taco Bell, The Chicago Community Trust, and BroomsUp Curling Supplies; members of the Denver Curling Club; USA Curling staff and directors; the U.S. Olympic Committee; and others. Your efforts are greatly appreciated! USA Curling members who were unable to attend can access presentation files on the 2014 Members’ Assembly page on the USA Curling website. Presentations were designed to prompt questions, discussion, and experience sharing. We encourage you to attend future USA Curling Members’ Assemblies to learn from the experience of and share your knowledge with curlers from across the nation. Such collaborations are important to the growth of the sport on the club level.
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**Goldline FG360 Fiberglass Broom** $74.00  
1" & 1-1/8" Shaft and Synthetic Pad

**Delivery Sticks**

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<td>with Telescoping Handle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament Retractor Stick</td>
<td>$49.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Olson Reactor X Isogrid $179.00
20% Lighter than a Carbon Fiber Brush
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Pink, Red,

Olson Reactor X Carbon Fiber Flat Shaft Handle $139.00
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Pink, Platinum, Red, White

Olson Reactor X Fiberlite Flat Shaft Handle $89.00
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Dewberry, Platinum, Red

Olson Reactor X Fiberglass Flat Shaft Handle in White $59.00
BalancePlus Ultra Lite $149.00
Carbon Fiber Tapered Handle and EQualizer Pad
Available Option:
BalancePlus Ultra Lite $164.00
Carbon Fiber with Transformer Head
Colors: Red/White, Purple/White, Green/White, Blue/White, Black/White, Black/Silver, Black/Pink, Blue/Neon Orange, Red/Gold, Blue/Gold, Black/Gold and Blue/Light Blue

Olson Reactor X Carbon $179.00
20% Lighter than a Carbon Fiber Brush
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Pink, Red,

Olson Reactor X Carbon Fiber Flat Shaft Handle $139.00
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Pink, Platinum, Red, White

Olson Reactor X Fiberlite Flat Shaft Handle $89.00
Colors: Blue, Key Lime, Orange, Dewberry, Platinum, Red

Olson Reactor X Fiberglass Flat Shaft Handle in White $59.00
BalancePlus Ultra Lite $149.00
Carbon Fiber Tapered Handle and EQualizer Pad
Available Option:
BalancePlus Ultra Lite $164.00
Carbon Fiber with Transformer Head
Colors: Red/White, Purple/White, Green/White, Blue/White, Black/White, Black/Silver, Black/Pink, Blue/Neon Orange, Red/Gold, Blue/Gold, Black/Gold and Blue/Light Blue

BalancePlus Composite $109.00
Handle with Composite Head
Colors: Blue, Grey, Purple, Red

BalancePlus Tapered $79.00
Fiberglass
Tapered Handle and EQualizer Pad
Colors: Gold, White, Black, Silver

GREAT DEALS ON CURLING PACKAGES!
Internet only
www.BroomsUp.com
All Shoes from Brooms Up Curling Supplies come with Slider and a **FREE** Gripper!

★ Available for Right or Left-Handed Thrower

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Balance Plus</strong></th>
<th><strong>Goldline</strong></th>
<th><strong>Olson</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delux Series</strong></td>
<td>$299.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 5-10 &amp; 11) – 1/4” Slider</td>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12 &amp; 13, 14, 15) – 1/4” Slider</td>
<td><strong>Hexa Gripper</strong> $19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>500 Series</strong></td>
<td>$219.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 6-10 &amp; 11) – 3/16” Slider</td>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12 &amp; 13, 14, 15) – 3/16” Slider</td>
<td>Superior Grip and Durability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>400 Series</strong></td>
<td>$162.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 5-10 &amp; 11) – 3/16” Slider</td>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12 &amp; 13, 14, 15) – 3/16” Slider</td>
<td>Colors: Red, Black, Bali Blue, Purple, Pink</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRIPPERS**

| **Goldline Quantum X** | $269.00 |  |
| Women’s (5.5-10) • Men’s (7-12) | Slider Speed Rating 9 |  |

| **Goldline Podium** $185.00 |  |
| Silver Women’s (size 7-10) – 5/32” Hinged Slider |  |

| **Goldline Podium** | $185.00 |  |
| Silver Men’s (size 7-13, 14 & 15) – 5/32” Hinged Slider |  |

| **Asham Rotator Gripper** | $20.00 |  |
| Left or right foot – XS-XXL – Black |  |

| **Tournament Grippers** | $14.00 |  |
| Universal Fit – XS-XXL – Black |  |

| **Balance Plus Grippers** | $14.00 |  |
| Left or right foot – XS-XXL – Black |  |

| **Goldline Grippers** | $16.00 |  |
| Universal Fit – XS-XXL |  |

**NEW!**

Brooms Up Curling Supplies promotes the love of curling nationwide by donating to USA Curling.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Color/Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fly • Women</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewberry (size 5-10)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/32&quot; Flex Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td>$139.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Flex Perimeter Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td>$159.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bali Blue (size 5-10)</td>
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<td>$139.00</td>
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<td>3/32&quot; Flex Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berry Pink (size 5-10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/32&quot; Flex Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td>$139.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Flex Perimeter Slider</td>
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<td>$159.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ultima Dress</strong></td>
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<td>$119.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 6-10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ultima Sport</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$109.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 6-10)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/32&quot; Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12 &amp; 13)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/32&quot; Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eagle Shoes</strong></td>
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<td>$84.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 6-10)</td>
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<td>1/16&quot; Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12 &amp; 13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/16&quot; Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tour Ultra Lite Black</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$279.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 5-11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12, 13 &amp; 14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Asham by Luca Lovero</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$270.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 6-11)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12, 13 &amp; 14)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legacy Ultra Lite</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$260.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 5-11)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12, 13 &amp; 14)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/32&quot; Slider</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Competitor Ultra Lite</strong></td>
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<td>$124.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s (size 5-11)</td>
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<td>3/32&quot; Slider</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s (size 7-12, 13 &amp; 14)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/32&quot; Slider</td>
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</table>

Please Check Out Our Website for Additional Options and Products.
REPLACEMENT PADS/BROOM ACCESSORIES

**REPLACEMENT PADS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Colors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Style Pads</td>
<td>$20.00*</td>
<td>Black, Silver, Blue, Yellow, Orange, Gold, Red, Purple, Neon Pink, Neon Green, Dark Green, Camouflage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQualizer Brush Pads</td>
<td>$29.00*</td>
<td>Black, Orange, Blue, Red, Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson OPTI Pads</td>
<td>$29.00</td>
<td>Black, Red, Lime Green, Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldline Norway Pads</td>
<td>$29.00</td>
<td>Red, White, Royal, Orange, Black</td>
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**BROOM ACCESSORIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Colors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Capture Piece</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td>Red, Blue, White, Black, Green (Does NOT include bolts or faceplate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transformer F83H</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>8” Horsehair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transformer Ultra-Lite</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>F84H 8” Combo Synth./Horsehair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transformer Duke F87H</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson Horsehair</td>
<td>$43.00</td>
<td>Fits Olson Brooms Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Horsehair</td>
<td>$43.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transformer K87 Knobs</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transformer F91H</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>8” Red Cordura Faceplate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transformer F92H</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>8” Black Cordura Faceplate, Thick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson 6” or 8” Original</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament Icebreaker</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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*Quantity discounts and other styles available, see www.BroomsUp.com for details

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**DELI very AIDs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Style</th>
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<tr>
<td>Goldline Arrow</td>
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<td>Olson DynaGlide</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Stabilizer FS1</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldline Scepter</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**RINK EQUIPMENT**

Starting A New Club?
Contact us for rink equipment including hacks, club brooms, circle cutters, measuring devices and more…
# SHOE & GEAR BAGS

**Asham Shoe Bag**
- Individual shoe pockets
- Price: $29.00

**Asham Back Pack**
- Individual dual outer compartments
- Colors: Black/Red
- Price: $35.00

**Asham Large Duffle**
- Color: Red/White/Black
- Price: $42.00

**Asham Individual Broom Bag**
- Color: Navy/Grey/White
- Holds 1-4 brooms
- Price: $50.00

**Asham Team Bags**
- Holds Up to 8 brooms
- Price: $99.00

**BalancePlus Broom Bag**
- Small: $49.00
- Large: $59.00

**Goldline Duffle Bag**
- Color: Silver
- Price: $69.00

**Goldline Personal Broom Bag**
- Colors: Blue, Red
- Price: $51.00

**Goldline Team Bag on Wheels**
- Colors: Blue, Red, Silver
- Price: $69.00

**Olson Stick Bag**
- Ideal for 3-4 brooms
- Colors: Black/Red, Black/Charcoal
- Price: $55.00

**Olson Sport Duffle**
- Colors: Black/Red, Black/Charcoal
- Price: $39.00

**Olson Mini Broom Bag**
- Colors: Black/Charcoal, Black/Red
- Price: $44.00

**Goldline Team Bag**
- On Wheels
- Colors: Blue, Red
- Price: $69.00

**Asham Team Bags**
- Holds Up to 8 brooms
- Price: $99.00

**Classic Totes**
- 100% cotton canvas with printed silk trim,
- Waterproof bottom,
- Ziptop closure
- Colors: Blue, Red
- Exclusively for Brooms Up Curling Supplies
- Made in the USA

Exclusively for Brooms Up Curling Supplies

**VINEYARD VINES**
**APPAREL/GIFTS**

**QUESTIONS?** Contact us at 1.877.WECURL.2 (1.877.932.8752) • INFO@BROOMSUP.COM
Brooms Up Curling Supplies, 141 Hurds Hill Road, Woodbury, CT 06798 USA

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### CURLING PANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asham APW for Women . . . . $99.00</td>
<td>Balance Plus Men’s Dress Pant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance Plus Women’s Dress or Jean</td>
<td>Balance Plus Men’s Yoga . . . $89.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLX by Goldline . . . . . . $79.00</td>
<td>GLX by Goldline . . . . . . $79.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament Excel Pants . . . $50.00</td>
<td>Tournament Belted Pants . . . $50.00</td>
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### GLOVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Olson Ice Glove in Dewberry and Bali Blue $30.00</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olson Renegade Glove $30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson Ultrafit Leather Glove $25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### VINEYARD VINES

**Silk Ties In Red and Yellow**

[Image showing silk ties]

Made in the USA

Exclusively for Brooms Up Curling Supplies

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### GIFT IDEAS

**Miniature Granite Rock Ailsa**

[Image showing granite rock]

**Blown Glass Curling Stones**

Handmade in the USA

---

**Gift Certificates Available at www.BroomsUp.com**

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Prices, product description and photos are all subject to errors, omissions, substitutions and deletions without notice. All prices effective thru March 31, 2015.