The IceBreaker

Nutmeg Curling Club
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Makeover of theSeason — Want to know what it looks like now? Turn to Page 3.

On the Bonspiel Trail

Cape Cod Summer Bonspiel

Kathy Morley's rink of Naida Leslie, Karen Shane and Susan Verner won the Third Event at the Cape Cod Summer Bonspiel in Falmouth, MA. – placing their rink 5th out of 24, with teams from across the US and Canada. The women's portion of the competition ran July 15th through July 18th

Potomac Inaugural

Hal Purkey's Rink of Donna Purkey, Jim Meinhold and Jennifer Stannard headed south to Laurel, MD for the 6th annual Potomac Inaugural bonspiel. 24 teams curled in the event. Winning 2 and losing 2 (in the wrong order of course) put them out of the medal play. (Jennifer's evil twin appeared in the final round and it was clear she had never curled before!) However, they were very successful off-ice winning the Jack-o-lantern carving contest, a raffle prize of a curling stone ice bucket and spending an afternoon at the National Gallery in DC. Potomac was the newest dedicated curling facility in the USA until Nutmeg came along- their bonspiels are great fun and Nutmeggers are encouraged to attend the Cherry Blossom bonspiel there March 27 - 30.

Kettle Morraine Women's Bonspiel

Jennifer Stannard headed west to Milwaukee, WI for the Kettle Morraine Women's bonspiel. Reuniting with her Scot Tour team members from Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota, they had a record of 3 wins, 1 loss and finished winning the 5th event.

Message From the President

Dear Nutmeggers-

What a great start to our second season! The ice is FANTASTIC due to the dedication of Jeff & Sally Hannon's crew and many hours of labor. The opening cocktail party had our new Social Committee Chair, Jayne Beattie, hitting a home run (perhaps it's just a great Fall for the Sox and their fans!). Donna Purkey brought in Sandra McMakin to create a slew of new Nutmeg instructors and Donna & Bobbie Stoll have already run skill sessions to 'get the rust off' our deliveries. Open Houses are in full swing with Jill Owens and her group 'meeting and greeting' while Donna and Bobbie Stoll wrangle the new and seasoned instructors into coverage. Ann Karrick's PR team led by Dave Christofferson was 'center ice' at the Sound Tigers for a curling demo between periods. Sally & Jeff Hannon teamed with new Nutmeggers (but not new curlers) Derek Surka & Charissa Lin to demonstrate the new 'Mixed Doubles' event. Joseph Smith, new to Nutmeg, and a Level 3 Coach from Canada, has already put our collegiate members from Yale through their paces. To top it all off we bring an Olympic Medalist, Pete Fenson, to practice, share pizza and chat with us about curling. All this and League play hasn't even started yet! More to come as the committees have been hard at work in the 'off season'. WOW!!!!!!!!!

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Goldline Mobile Pro Shop at Nutmeg

Thursday Nov 1 4 -11pm *(afternoon & evening)*
Friday Nov 2 9:30-12 *(morning)*

- new G40 shoe –Goldline 40th anniversary– (over 350 advance orders!!)
- new line of evolution gloves
- new line of "ERGO" brooms.

All of the new products are enjoying tremendous success.

Goldline will bring a full selection of curling shoes, brushes, accessories and fashion. If you wish to check out the product, refer to Goldline's web site at www.goldline.ca

Come get your curling supplies!
Our club benefits from these sales!

Message From the President (Cont'd)

With so many activities the need for everyone to 'pitch in' becomes even more apparent. Not on a committee? Please consider doing so; we are a club and run solely by volunteers. Interested in a committee? Let the Chair know. No preference but you can help out? Drop me a line! This is our club and it's only as good as each of us makes it. Let us also not take for granted the efforts of the committees and especially the Chairs; as volunteers they do their very best to carry out the directives of the board- elected to run the club. Any issues with the ways things are done? Talk to me about it and let's leave our committee chairs unencumbered by many individual suggestions. Helpful as we all try to be it can sometimes be counter productive.

Our next few weeks will see the start-up of League play and new members coming through the Green Horn League on Saturdays. The Green Horns will need volunteers on-ice to assist the instructors and, it's a good way to review the basics yourself.

Membership sent out a survey this Fall; thanks to all who responded. One message that came through loud and clear was a desire for more scheduled practice time. We will have practice time available 1 hour before each league through November and December. Then, we'll evaluate to determine continuation.

We have a full year coming up- 'Friendlies' (inter club competitions) with Ardsley, Cape Cod, Plainfield and Norfolk; hosting the Open 5 and Under Event; the GNCC mixed playdowns and numerous 'special events' at the club. I'd like to encourage everyone at all levels of experience, to sign up for a Friendly or get out to a bonspiel this year. A bonspiel is a weekend curling 'tournament' hosted at various clubs. Curling, meals and entertainment of various sorts are included and the camaraderie is great. The warmth and hospitality of curlers is one of the key ingredients of the growing success of curling in the US; going to other clubs is one of the ways we support the sport. Try it, you'll like it!! Questions about bonspiels? Ask me, or any of the more experienced Nutmeggers. (www.gncc.org) is the sources for local bonspiels).

It's shaping up to be a great year and I look forward to all we have planned.

See you on the ice! - Jennifer

NUTMEG CURLING CLUB

President	**Jennifer Stannard** jenniferstannard hotmail.com
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Upcoming Club Dates

Tuesday, October 23 — Competitive League Play Begins
Wednesday, October 24 — Fenson Frenzy at the Club
November 1 and 2 — Goldline Mobile Pro Shop at the Club
Sunday, November 4 — League Play Begins
Monday, November 5 — Delivery Video & Analysis 5-7pm
Wednesday, November 7 — Delivery Video & Analysis 5-7pm

Ice Makeover

Oct 3rd – The Before Picture

Oct 9th – The Final Result

It took 7 days, 450 man hours and 5000 gallons of water to complete. Of course with any project this big there were a few glitches along the way. The pump we used for painting in the white was acting up until Allan started hitting it with a stick. We were without a flooding wand until Don designed one in the plumbing aisle at Home Depot. There were a few paint drips from the red and blue in the houses and a couple of bugs got frozen in during one of the floods.

So the cliff notes version of the process. Start on Wednesday with a quick seal of the concrete (300 gallons of water). Lay down the metal plates for the hacks. Thursday and Friday is flooding all day, six floods in total, 3500 gallons of water. Each flood takes an hour to put down and 3 to 4 hours to freeze. Saturday is painting the ice white with 150 gallons of white ice paint. The paint is a powder which is mixed with water in a large tank and then sprayed on the ice. The white paint is then sealed with a fine mist of water. Next the houses are cut into the ice with a router. Sunday is painting the hog lines and the houses. These are sealed with a fine mist of water. Then all the lines are laid down with yarn. These are sealed with a fine mist of water. Finally the entire ice surface is sealed with a mist of water multiple times. Monday is more flooding at a higher ice temperature so the water will level, three floods with each taking about 5 hours to freeze. Tuesday is scraping to remove any hills, each sheet is scraped for about two hours. The rocks are also placed on the ice on plastic mats for 24 hours so they don't melt into the ice. Finally the ice crew collapses and sleeps for 2 days.

A big THANK YOU to Mike Hope, Joel Leneker, Jim Meinhold, Dave Hirx, Allan Alward, Bill & Nancy Brautigam, Don Nicholson, Jennifer Stannard, Jay Buss, Holly and John Tarleton.

Mr. & Mrs. and Miss Head Ice (Sally & Jeff Hannon and Bobbie Stoll) and of course the famous ice maker Shorty Jenkins.

Etiquette and Speed of Play Top 10

1. Program the club's phone number into your cell phone: 203-615-0077. Program your skip's cell phone number into your cell phone. If you are going to be late for a game, call one of these numbers and let your skip know.

2. Check the schedule and know on which sheet you are playing.

3. Leads: Don't wait for someone to tell you to flip the coin. If you lose the coin toss, don't debate color preference— just pick one.

4. Get in the hack, clean your rock, be ready and waiting for your skip to call your shot. Leads: After the end—Don't worry about the score, getting the rocks out of the house or anything else—just get yourself ready.

5. It is the Vice Skip's job to determine the score at the end of an end. Do not interfere. It is also the Vice Skip's job to hang the score.

6. Sweepers: Get out of the way after you are done sweeping. Pay attention to what the other team is doing. If you are in their way, move. Also, move down the sheet as far (stopping at the hog line) and as quickly as possible. This way you can get ready for the next shot more quickly.

7. Front-end: Put your Skip's rock in front of the hack. If really pressed for time (and the Skip doesn't mind not having this as part of their pre-shot routine), front-end could clean the rock for the skip. Check with your Skip on this.

8. Front-end: Don't question shots when the Skip comes back to the hack. Most Skips don't shoot as well after the front-end questions their shot choice. Clarify the shot, ask for weight or rock placement, and then just go. If you have a concern, go to the house to discuss. If you have concerns about strategy— discuss after the game for future games.

9. Congratulate your team and your opponent on good shots. Never cheer for a missed shot.

10. Shake hands with your opponent before and after the game. The traditional salutation is "Good Curling".

11. Bonus — if you win the game, Ask your opponent what they would like to drink, and then go get and pay for that drink.

Note: Lots of time is wasted at the beginning of the game and between ends. If you need practice slides, get out there before game-time. Once an end is over, start the next quickly (skips call shot quickly, lead ready to deliver, etc.)

— Charrissa Lin

Curling on the web

How do you find information today, why the World Wide Web of course. There are lots of curling sites out there that you may not know about. Here are a few that are worthwhile surfing to once in awhile.

www.nutmegcurling.com Of course you visit this site on an hourly basis so you should be familiar with all the content. The "Announcements" is a great place to start since this is where all the up to date information is posted. "Bonspiels" has a listing of all the flyers and entry forms we receive from other clubs. The "Address Book" has contact information for club members. To access this page you must login to get to the member home page. If you need help, just contact the webmaster Jeff Hannon by clicking on the "Requests/ Questions" which will send him an email.

www.usacurl.org The site for the US Curling Association contains information of interest to all US curlers. One of the items is the rules of curling which do change slightly each year. Take some time and read through them, they can be found under the "Championship Booklet".

www.gncc.org The Grand National Curling Club is the organizing body for all the clubs on the East Coast. The site contains the calendar which lists all the bonspiels occurring everywhere in the GNCC. It also has a link to all the club websites.

www.inthehack.com Once a very popular chat room this site has now evolved into a common reference for curling articles that are published on the web. The US forum is still popular with a lot of curlers for chatting, you may even find some Nutmeg members there. InTheHack also has a collection of blogs about curling as well including one by a certain Nutmeg member.

www.curlingzone.com Now the site for curling chats although it is mostly Canadian in content. A great place to keep up with the Canadian curling scene and it also has a scoreboard for all the major curling events that are happening each week.

www.curlnews.blogspot.com A blog from The Curling News that keeps up with current curling events and happenings all over the world.

There are a lot more niche sites out there as well. So surf around and discover curling on the web, maybe you will even run into the cow curling game.

— Jeff Hannon

Nutmeg on TV

As you've probably heard, Nutmeg Curling Club will be part of the holiday show for *"No Reservations" with Anthony Bourdain, on the Travel Channel*. The show is currently scheduled to air Monday night Dec. 10th. We'll pass it on once the date is confirmed.

Over 50 Nutmeggers joined in at the annual Nutmeg Clambake on September 16 at Penfield Beach in Fairfield. Andy and Jenn Sherriff organized the event which featured a beautiful sunny day to go with the lobster and clam chowder.

PRACTICE ICE TIME!

Ice available 1 hour prior to League Play every night for practice.

ALL CURLERS ARE REMINDED- DO NOT PRACTICE ALONE IN THE CLUB FOR SAFETY AND INSURANCE REASONS!!

CLUB MASTER SCHEDULING

Please send all schedules (league, mixed double curling, make-up game dates, practice sessions, corporate events and others) to Bill Brautigam, Jeff Hannon, Jim Meinhold, and Andy Sherriff.

OPEN HOUSE MADNESS CONTINUES

Help Membership help the club - if each member would bring in one new member, we'd make our goal of 50 new members with ease. Invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and community newcomers to one of the "Learn to Curl" Open House sessions. Please contact Jill Owens at ctcurlers@aol.com to register your guests and volunteer to help.

Nutmeg Curling Club Merchandise

COMING SOON!!! -- The Merchandise committee has heard your suggestions. For those Nutmeggers who cannot wear a fleece jacket due to 'excessive heating', a new "Competition Jacket" is in the works as an additional option to complement our existing fleece jackets. This will be a lightweight, full-zip jacket with an UPDATED Nutmeg Shield embroidered on the front to identify you as an NCC member. Two examples (not the actual item) are on display in the warm room just for show. Complete roll-out will be coming by mid-December. Stay Tuned!

Custom Image Merchandise -- Nutmeg fleece jackets & vests, turtlenecks, duffel bags and more are currently available. New styles of vests have been displayed in the club for all to see. All white t-shirts, short and long sleeve, are available for $10 each. Help promote the club with your NCC attire. Sizing and color options are included in the Merchandise binders in the warm room. Orders should be placed in the book at the club or through Heide Follin, bigwave2@optonline.net.

NEJ Merchandise -- Go directly to the website, place your order, pay with credit card and it will be sent directly to you via UPS. Order with a friend and save on shipping! www.nejinc.com/nutmegcurlingclub. Limited items and styles available but small quantity orders welcomed!

Many samples are in the display cabinet along with an in-stock supply for sale. All sales assist in offsetting NCC operating costs.

Fenson Frenzy!

Pete Fenson, Skip of the Olympic Bronze Medalist Men's USA Curling Team arrived at Nutmeg on Wed. October 26th for pizza and practice. Pete, who was joined by his rink for a 'media competition event' in New York on Friday, practiced and visited with members of Nutmeg. It was a great opportunity to interact with an elite (to say the least) competitive curler. Following his practice session, where Pete was rumored to have thrown many perfect shots, Nutmeggers enjoyed pizza and listened to "Curling Words of Wisdom from Pete. After that, it was on the ice with the Olympic Curling Medalist.

On Thursday, October 25th, Pete presented the Nutmeg High School Championship Trophy, sponsored by Health Net, at Trumbull High School.

On Friday, Pete met up with Team USA in New York City for the 2007 Korbel Elite Curling Challenge on America's most famous ice—The Rink at Rockefeller Plaza. Due to poor weather conditions, curling

took place in the morning. A contingent of Nutmeg supporters cheered on the men's U.S. team as they took on the Swedish men's team.

Championship Trumbull High School Team

Sponsored by Korbel California Champagne, the 2007 Korbel Elite Curling Challenge featured a six-end game between 2006 Olympic bronze medalist Pete Fenson's team and three-time world champion Peja Lindholm of Sweden.

This program will be broadcast nationally on NBC on Sunday, Dec. 23, from 2:30-4 p.m. ET. It will also re-air in primetime that night on NBC-HD.

Tuesday Competitve League

Some questions have come in regarding the Tuesday Night Competitive League so I thought I'd try to give the background on the League. The Competitive League at Nutmeg is an invitational league meaning that 'rated Skips' can put in a team and, they make up their team, or 'invite' based on their own preferences. Some teams are based on team skills and other times on friendships. Club members indicating via survey or comment that they are interested in being on a team are circulated to Skips with incomplete teams. This is different than other leagues where teams are created by the League Chair with the goal of equalizing the level of play, and different than Thursday Night Open where '5 year and under' teams are encouraged to submit their team together for play.

Nutmeg in the past had a rating system. Twice a year Skips would meet and review the players assigning rankings based on shot making ability, sweeping ability and strategy comprehension. A list was then posted reflecting the people rates as Lead (everyone when they start), Second, Vice and Skip. (This list is critical when creating balanced teams for in-house competitions by the way.) The rating has not yet been updated as we would have had the folks who have been rated in the past and then, about 80 Leads! But, we'll look to reactivate that in the future.

Tuesdays, the recognized Skips at Nutmeg put in Competitive teams last season and, that continued for this Season with some 'position movement' on teams. The League Chair determined that we could expand from the original 4 teams this year. We have some experienced Skips who are new Nutmeg members and they have put in teams. We have 7 teams in the Competitive League which will allow for three complete 'round robins' throughout the season (Each team playing each other team 3x).

Questions regarding the Leagues are welcome. The intent here is to have a competitive level League for Skips to compete with teams they select.

-Jennifer

MISSING

4 Handles

Detached from Their Stones
Last Seen in March 2007

If you know the whereabouts of these handles or can provide information leading to their recovery, contact jeff_hannon@juno.com. If you are holding them against their will, release them.
— No questions asked.

WCF Stick Release Point Rejected — For Now

On Wednesday September 5, 2007 the USCA Rules Committee voted 8 – 7 in favor of not implementing the new WCF Stick Curling Release Point Rule. The GNCC does, however, encourage all stick curlers to try the WCF rule as well as two compromise release points:

1. A line parallel to the back line be placed across the top of the house. Stones delivered by stick would have to be released before the front edge of the stone reaches the front edge of the "top" line.

2.The Mixed doubles line (halfway between the top of the house and the hogline) be extended the width of the 4-foot. Stones delivered by stick would have to be released before the front edge of the stone reaches the front edge of the "top" line.

The GNCC is requesting feedback on the new WCF rule as well as the 2 compromise release points prior to January 15, 2008. All responses and comments will be reported to the USCA and the WCF Rules Committees so that they may make an informed decision about revising this rule.

GNCC has reiterated there will be changes over the next year or so regarding the hogline release point before a final rule is adopted. It is clear that the hogline will not be the release point but there is no clear indication where the stick release point will be located.

Be the First

Join us at Nutmeg Curling Club as We Host the First Ever USWCA-Sponsored

We're looking for volunteers to help with this event:
Warm Room
Snacks
Ice
Bartenders

Look for signup sheets at the club or email Pam or Kathy.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

December 13-16, 2007

Any combination of men and women with 5 years or less curling experience.

- ➲$280 Rink Fee
- ➲Three Game Guarantee
- ➲4 Events

Fee includes:
Thursday evening Hors d'Oeuvres
Continental Breakfast and Light Meals in the Warm Room.
Dinner on Saturday evening.

➲24 Team Maximum

One entry per club (non-paper clubs) guaranteed up to November 15.
After that, we'll accept teams on a first come-first serve basis.

Nutmeg Curling Club

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Phone: (203) 722-6651

Kathy Morley: edward_b_morley@sbcglobal.net
Phone: (203) 966-1763

Hotel Information:
Hilton Garden Inn
25 Old Stratford Road
Shelton, CT 06484
203-447-1000
Make your reservations by November 20 and Mention Group Code: NCT for the group rate of $89 per night.
Rate includes 2 breakfasts per room