



October 2019

Celebrating 85 years

**Message from the President, Kirby Bahr:** I moved back to Bemidji just prior to the winter of 2010. Having been away since 1968, other than short vacations, I knew very few people. The Bemidji Curling Club members were welcoming and have been ever since. This is a great curling club. Let us all deliver that message to our community! I am hoping that we can welcome more members this year. What a great diversion from winter! I thank all my curling friends, and I have many, for some fun years. Welcome all...to the 2019-2020 Bemidji Curing Club Season! It just keeps getting better!

**Message from the General Manager, Eric Fenson:** Welcome back for another great year of curling! We will continue to offer curling supplies for sale in the office on the main level. Just stop by and take a look if you need something. Also, remember to bring a friend or relative to join your team in league. The club can always use more members. One last note on the ice. Please remember to have a separate pair of "curling" shoes to wear when you are in the arena. Outside shoes are not permitted on the ice. Nobody likes to have a "picked" stone. I am looking forward to another fantastic year. GOOD CURLING!

**League/Draw Times, and Contacts for the 2019-2020 Season:** This year's leagues and league chairs are listed below. Since all league start dates are different, please confirm with league chair.

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| ➤ Monday Junior League, 3:45           | Jaime Quello, 218-556-3545               |
| ➤ Monday 2 on 2, 5:30                  | Pete Bahr, 218-444-4813                  |
| ➤ Monday Open League, 6:45             | Eric Johannsen 218-760-2262              |
| ➤ Monday Mixed Doubles, 8:15           | Amanda Kelly 218.252.3005                |
| ➤ Tuesday Afternoon Legends Open, 2:30 | Kirby Bahr, 218-444-8008                 |
| ➤ Tuesday Afternoon Open, 4:30         | Lynn Baird/Liz Johnson 760-6447/243-3174 |
| ➤ Tuesday Night Open League, 6:15      | Matt Boyer, 218-766-2526                 |
| ➤ Wednesday Night Men's, 5:30          | Dan Haluptzok, 218-751-8948              |
| ➤ Wednesday Night Novice League 7:30   | Lanny Cyr, 218-556-9440                  |
| ➤ Thursday Afternoon Open, 1:00        | Kirby Bahr, 218-444-8008                 |
| ➤ Thursday Businessmen's League, 3:00  | Terry Matson, 218-308-0949               |
| ➤ Thursday Businessmen's League, 4:45  | TBA                                      |
| ➤ Thursday Businessmen's League, 6:30  | Josh Bahr, 218-766-6537                  |
| ➤ Friday Open League times & dates TBA | Eileen Campbell 218-760-2605             |

**Junior Committee Report:** Junior curling had another exciting year with 5 players in the U-18 National tournament, 5 players in the Jr Nationals and 3 players making it to the world tournament level. Bemidji Jr Curling has the largest Jr Curling program in the nation with over 150 students in instructional

leagues. These Jr's are our future and need guidance from the adult members. If you want to donate your time to help navigate this next generation contact Jaime Quello @ 218-556-3545.

The BCC Junior Program continues its reimbursement program for certain fees. Eligible Juniors under the age of 21, participate in a BCC League or Program, and reside in the Bemidji area. In return, Juniors are expected to complete four hours of volunteer work at BCC, or Bemidji Winterfest.

Beginners, intermediate and competitive curlers in 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade can participate in the Monday After School Curling Program from 3:45 to 5:10. Open to boys and girls, Juniors will get instruction and competition suited to their level of play. The program begins Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and runs every Monday at 3:45-5:15 pm through March 9, 2020. Brooms and sliders are provided and there is an option to rent curling shoes. Register in person at the Bemidji Community Education office, or at [www.bemidjicommunityed.com](http://www.bemidjicommunityed.com). Fee is \$50.

Boys and girls in grades 1-5 will start curling Sunday Nights at 5:30pm, starting January 5, 2019. The program will run Sundays from 5:30 – 7:00, running 8 sessions around the club schedule. Registration is available in person at the Bemidji Community Education office, or at [www.bemidjicommunityed.com](http://www.bemidjicommunityed.com). Fee is \$55.

**It's Back! Open Curling:** After much interest and a successful kick-off season last year, there will be open curling on select Friday evenings again this year. Similar to open bowling, anyone who wants to curl can come to the club and, for a fee of \$20.00, curl for 2 hours. Helpers will be needed. Please consider getting involved in this event. Watch for times and dates TBA! This is open to all; people who have never curled, families who want to have an evening out, experienced curlers who want to curl with family or friends can just throw rocks or play games. Exact dates and details yet to be finalized. Questions or comments: Contact Eileen Campbell @ 760-2605 or Terry Matson @ 308-0949

**Community Ed, Open House and Novice League:** Community Ed Intro to Curling classes will be held Oct 28, 29, 30<sup>th</sup>. Nov 4, 5 and 6<sup>th</sup>. We will need volunteers to help with instruction, so please keep that in mind. We will have an Open House on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, followed by an all-day Novice Bonspiel on the 9<sup>th</sup>. This is free to our Community Ed students and members of the Bemidji community. A free lunch will be provided to all who participate. Club members will be needed to help skip teams and provide instruction. Contact Eric Fenson for more details at [curlbem@paulbunyan.net](mailto:curlbem@paulbunyan.net)

**The Wednesday Novice League** is back again! This is a perfect place for Community Ed students and other inexperienced curlers to start. The league is Wednesday nights at 7:30 and teams are formed by whoever shows up that night, so there is no pressure to participate every week. This is open to all curlers with 3 years of experience or less. For questions contact Lanny Cyr, 218-556-9440 or Pete Harrison, 218-239-0027. We welcome novice curlers!!

**Membership Committee:** is looking for a couple of new members. We would like to get a representative from each league or at least each night of curling. We will be helping the league chairman fill up their league and help them make sure all the registration forms are filled out. In addition to these jobs we will start working on a new "use based membership dues" form for next season. If you are interested contact, Steve Johnson, Jon Chandler or Eric Johannsen.

**The Bar:** Once again we welcome Bar Manager Monet Cairns and assistant bartender Cathy Thompson as behind the bar staff. The year will bring many new things. For starters, the BCC has decided to raise beer prices to keep in line with rising costs. Monet, Cathy and the BCC Board are looking forward to giving the bar area a facelift. This will create some volunteer opportunities for painting, cleaning, repurposing and reorganizing the bar area. We are hoping to put our best foot forward for the Mixed Doubles Nationals! We will again be selling pull tabs. A big shout out of appreciation for everyone who helped implement new rules of not storing liquor bottles in the office, keeping them in their lockers or bring them home and helping the bartenders keep the bar area clear for the added security needed for pull tabs.

**New registration and early bird discounts:** The early bird discount has changed to 11/11/19 for this season. The board set this date for the following reasons, A. This is the day most league will start this year. B. For insurance reasons we need the release form on the registration form signed before the member is allowed on the ice. C. Our club bylaws indicate member should not be allowed to play before his or her dues are paid. (If this creates a financial burden to anyone, contact Eric Fenson our GM, the club will work out an arrangement for you).

Please fill out the complete membership form. We would like you to fill in leagues you are playing on and any league you may be interested in. This helps the league chair to fill their leagues. Fill in your locker number if you have one. Contact Eric Fenson or Dan Haluptzok if needed.

Due to the fact that there have been a few members that no longer curl but still want to support the club, there is a Social Membership on the Registration form this year. As a Social Member you will be allowed member discounts at the bar and you will be able to substitute 3 days this season. This will also insure everyone on the ice has signed the release form.

We removed the discount for volunteering this year. Instead, if you volunteer you will receive gift certificates for food or drink for the bar. Last year we offered a discount for signing up a new member, this year instead of taking \$25 off your membership, we will be sending you a check for \$25 for each member you sign up. Last year you found 25 new members! "Good Job!" This year we hope you bring us 50 new members We will make sure your checks arrive before Christmas. Thanks For all your help building this great curling club and let's have a great season!

**A note from our Web Developer, Rob Yuretich:** Hello everyone, we are looking into implementing a new online registration/member management system. This will be incorporated into the website and will allow members to register an account with login access. There are many features included with this system that will allow online member registration, online payments, league management, club calendar, and event management to name a few. Keep an eye out for emails announcing when this is ready. We're hoping to get things up and running before the start of the season. As always, be sure to follow our club Facebook page for up-to-date announcements and events.

**Our Sponsors!** **PLEASE** support our numerous sponsors. Take the time to thank them for sponsoring the Bemidji Curling Club. Support their business. They are ALL important. It is very important to take the time to say Thanks!

**Mixed Doubles National Championships:** The United States Curling Association selected Bemidji's bid for this event. The dates are February 27-March 1. This is one of the hottest venues in curling, and we expect

a very large turnout of spectators. We are seeking advertisers and sponsors at this time. If you would like to participate as a volunteer, contact Kirby Bahr at 218-444-8008 or [vkb1@paulbunyan.net](mailto:vkb1@paulbunyan.net).

**Memorials/Donations:** The Board of Directors, may accept on behalf of the corporation, any contributions, gifts, bequests, or devise, for any purpose of the corporation. This would be a 100% tax deductible donation through a fund at the Minnesota Northwest Foundation. An account has been established for this purpose. If anyone wishes to establish a fund for a specific purpose to benefit the club, contact Terry Matson at 308-0949

**NEW Mixed Doubles League:** Come learn the new Olympic sport of Mixed Doubles! This fast-paced, casual league is for teams of two people (one male and one female), and is limited to 12 teams. The rules of mixed doubles are slightly different from traditional curling so a rules meeting will take place on the first night of league. Monday, 8:15PM. Contact Amanda Kelly for more information at 218.252.3005

**Committee Needs:** Our curling club is in need of a few members to serve on committees. There is very little time commitment here but our membership's ideas are important to the current board members. You will find a list of committees and their chairs in this mailing. Please consider helping.

**CPR/AED training:** The club is tentatively planning a one evening presentation/demonstration on performing CPR and use of the clubs "defibulator." This will benefit club members while at the club and also in their personal life. We plan to have this class at the start of the season if possible. There may be a fee (nominal) to attendees. When (date / times) are firmed up there will be an email sent to all club members. Info and notice will also be posted at the club.

**Calendar of Events for 2019-20 season (Not a full listing available at time of printing):**

- January 25-26, Curling Rocks Junior Bonspiel
- February 8, Charlie Schmitt Memorial Bonspiel
- February 14-16, Leroy Zarling Memorial
- February 22, Shrinking Tator Tots (invite only)
- February 27-March 1, Mixed Doubles National Championships
- March 6-8, Paul Bunyan Men's
- March 14, Clearwater Women's Spiel
- March 20-21, American Legion Mixed
- March 22, Lyle Derosier Memorial Beverage Spiel
- March 28, 1st National Bank, Lumberjack Spiel
- April 4, Baseball fundraiser, "Lumberjack Games."

