



Renfrew Curling Times

December 2018



Editors Corner

As I complete this newsletter, I take a moment to reflect on the coming season and what Christmas means to me. It's the warmth of family and friends, sharing of food and drink and a time to feel how truly blessed we all are. So, to all my friends and fellow sports people I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Off the Ice with Leo McCallum

By Janice Moss

The 2018/19 Curling Season is well underway and here at Renfrew Curling Rink we are enjoying seeing so many new members as well as familiar faces. So, we thought we'd start a new column in our Newsletter to help us get acquainted with some of the faces we see on and "Off The Ice".

Leo, to start things off, where are you from? Leo: I was born in McNab Township, East of Renfrew.

Did you grow up here or move around? No, I moved around with Ontario Hydro -- Ottawa, Perth, Cobden.

What did you do with Ontario Hydro? I was with the Forestry Department.

Forestry! So, does that involve putting up lines? Well yes, yes. Clearing the rights-of-ways, keeping the trees away from the lines.

How about your family? I was born and raised out on McCallum Drive, east of Renfrew.

So where does *that* name come from? Well, my Dad. My Grandfather.

Did they own property? Oh yeah, my Dad owned a lot of property there.

And what did they do? Farm.

Oh right, so that's how the name of the area came about. And I moved away from there and went to Ottawa for 8 1/2 years, then spent 8 years in Perth, then Cobden -- 11 years in Cobden.

And children? I have two, a boy and a girl.

And how about grandchildren? I have three. None of them live around here. One's in Kingston, one's in Brockville and one's in Victoria. In fact she's going to the University of San Diego. She's in her 4th year of university.

What are your plans at Christmas? Well, we'll go to my son's who lives on McCallum Drive. He curls here -- Rick.

So how long have you been curling? About 43 years.

And how long with Renfrew (Curling Rink)? Since '88, which would be about 30 years. There's probably lots of people that have been here longer than me.

You've been a Skip for quite a long time. Yes, quite a few years now.

And I understand that you were one of the first players here to adopt the stick delivery? No, no! I wasn't the first one. I have been doing it now for a few years. I had a knee replacement 3 years ago. I probably still could get down, but I daren't take a chance on doing that to my knees.

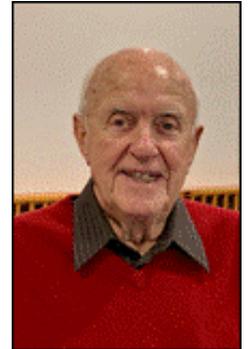
What advice would you give to someone who wants to make that switch to using a stick? Well, if you don't use the stick you're not going to be playing. A lot of people wouldn't be curling if they couldn't use the stick. It's just that simple.

Do you think it's any trickier, or easier, or what is the most challenging aspect? I don't enjoy curling as well with the stick, but a lot of the times, some people curl better with the stick than they did without it. But I don't play well with it.

I haven't seen you miss too many shots! But take-outs seem to be really deadly with the stick. You can really get up some speed. Yes, if you can keep them straight with the stick then you can take out pretty easily. But weight is trickier. You kind of walk at the speed you know you want to throw the rock.

And you only have a few steps to judge that, right? That's right! And, if you let the rock go close to the hog line, which maybe if you were sliding you might let it go sooner, you're closer to the hog line, so you've got to kind of judge it that way.

Is it easier, maybe, to make a hog line violation? Yes. I guess it is. I see some guys playing with the hog line.



So, what advice might you give to one of us more mature adults who wants to start curling? Well, if you can slide and enjoy a slide and everything, go for it. It's really a good, active thing, Good exercise. It's good for your muscles. Everything!

There're also some other benefits. Oh yes! There's a good social end to it. A lot of good people. I've met some really good people. It's unbelievable. We curled quite a bit in competitive (leagues) over the years. Seniors leagues. The Masters. I went to the Grand Masters in Toronto in 2007.

We've been to the Provincials in the Farmers and Masters, which were OCA events. I curled a lot for Ontario Hydro, too. They had their own league and even Provincials. So, I went to the Provincials a couple of times.



2007 Grand Masters: Bert Miller (Third), Jarda Papousek (Second), Chuck Wakelam (Lead), and myself (Skip).



1996 Masters, Wallaceburg, ON. Bert Miller (Skip), Myself (Third), Bob Buzzell (Second), Dave Heins

1993 Provincial Farmers, Bobcageon, ON. I played for the Eastern Region of Ontario Hydro for the Luney Trophy. I guess when they gave up curling they phoned me up and asked me if I wanted to keep the cup. So now I have it at home.

Isn't that something! Now that's a great memory. I got my name on it a few times. **Excellent! So, no plans to quit anytime soon, right?** Well, I don't run up and down the ice like I used to, so as long as I can throw it I'm going to keep doing it.

Thanks so much Leo. I really appreciate your time and your willingness to be our guinea pig for this first edition of *Off the Ice*. Thank you. There is one thing that I

would like to add. Our Club looks great, thanks to all the hard work of many volunteers and staff, thank you.

And Now for Something Completely Different



RAFFLE
 2 - FULL EVENT PACKAGES
 INCL. TIE-BREAKERS AND FINALS
 VALUED AT \$800.00
 TO THE
 2019 SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS,
 FEBRUARY 16-24, 2019
 1 FOR \$5.00 OR 3 FOR \$10.00
 DRAW CLOSES JANUARY 12, 2019
 ALL PROCEEDS TO RENFREW CURLING CLUB

Saturday January 19,
 9am - 12PM
 Register at: **FREE**
<https://oncurling.wufo.com/forms/z9m1x611fikw5v/>
SKILLS
ANALYSIS
TECHNIQUE

Sweetheart 'Spiel
 Feb. 16
 \$25 each
 Potluck Supper

Competition Entry Deadlines Did You Know?

Senior Women	Jan. 7
Silver Tankard	Mar. 4
Club Challenge	Mar. 4

Sweeping at the start of a throw makes a rock curl less and travel farther. Sweeping at the end when a rock is slowing makes the rock curl more. Especially if you sweep in the direction of the curl! Sweepers are responsible for the speed of the rock and, more importantly, communicating the speed to the skip. It's also important for sweepers to know where the skip wants the rock, preferably before it's thrown. So, sweepers let's hear you yell! Skips can do their job better with your help.

Men's & Ladies Club Championship
 Jan. 26
 Sign-up at Ice Shed Door

