

Welcome to the 2011 / 12 Season

August 1, 2011

This year will be a big year for Forest Curling. The modernization project is on track for completion at the end of August and what a change you will see. The entire lower level is bigger and brand new! We have a new roof, new on-ice lighting and new efficient heating, cooling and ventilation systems.

To showcase the first major improvement to the club facility since 1971, we hope that you come out early to see the changes and bring your friends, relatives and past members out to see for themselves. The grand opening will be Friday October 21 in the evening.

To showcase our new facility to the outside curling community, we will be hosting, in addition to our usual compliment of bonspiels, the OCA Zone Intermediate Competition in December and the OCA Provincial Master's event in early January.

Forest Curling is the place to be. Here are some other events to get you primed for the coming season.

- ✓ Third Annual Pork BBQ: September 9th, proceeds to the Modernization Project, Phase 2 – see our website page "Latest News" for details.
- ✓ Monday Night Open Competitive League (a.k.a. Major League): Organization meeting - Monday, October 17th at 7:00 pm at the curling club - skips or designate.
- ✓ Swing & Sweep Bonspiel: October 14-16th. In cooperation with Forest Golf & Country Hotel this event is a great way to start the fall season of curling.
- ✓ Practice Time: October 12th and 13th (ice installation permitting) and then again on Monday October 17th through Friday Oct. 21st. Clinics are being planned during the practice times. Watch for details on our website under "Latest News".
- ✓ Grand Opening of Modernization Phase 1: The evening of October 21; food, special guests and more. See our website page "Latest News" for details.
- ✓ OCA Club Coach Workshop at Forest: October 29 & 30. This program is \$175 and you can register at <http://www.ontcurl.com/courses/coaching.aspx>, or call Angela at 905-831-1757. The club will pay for coaches that were actively involved in the Little Rock, Junior and School programs last season.

On the administrative side, please note the following:

At the annual meeting, it was projected that we would have an operating surplus for 2010-11. As it turned out, we essentially broke even. Part of that is due to the diversion of fund raising activities to the project. This will continue as we work toward Phase 2. We also experience cost increases in several areas, most notably for electricity. Power rates increased in January 2011 and next year we will see the full impact of that. Margins on bonspiels also declined. As a result the boards has increased most membership fees, bonspiel entry fees and bar prices.

We are expecting energy consumption savings from the new HVAC equipment and on-ice lighting, but until that is realized we feel these increases are necessary. We are hoping to hold the line next year.

We will need to make some physical changes to the bar area this year to make it more secure. All members who tend bar are asked to take the Smart Serve program. The club will pay. It is available from Jim Minielly, our in-house trainer, or can be done online at <https://www.smartserve.ca/>. Just keep proof of payment and you will be reimbursed.

The deadline for submitting your application form and fee is now **October 15th**. Please submit your application form and payment at the same time. It is very important that Mac receives the applications in time to prepare league schedules.

Lockers in the new dressing rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Everyone that paid for a locker last year will be guaranteed a spot. There are over 80 lockers for men and about 60 for women - everyone who wants one should get a spot.

Use our website as an information source: <http://www.forestcurling.ca/>. Your webmaster will try to keep information as up to date as possible.

Mike Ash, President, for the board of directors ...

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