Edition #07

February 2026

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

IN THE HOUSE

MANOTICK CURLING CLUB



Manotick Little Rocks curling program for the Governor General (see inside)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MCC

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Grand Spiel

Hello Curling Friends,

February brings an exciting stretch of curling at our club, highlighted by two upcoming spiels. **The Grand Spiel**, featuring **Extravaganza Night**, promises plenty of action and social fun, while the **Closing Spiel** will soon mark the end of another memorable season.

Message from your Chair

FEBRUARY 2026

Dear members, I wanted to start off by relating a recent heartfelt experience I had entering the club. It was between draws so the lounge was bursting with people coming off and prepping to go on the ice. The air filled with laughter and conversation. A wide smile spread across my face as I felt the joy and friendship in the room. As I walked up the stairs and said hi to the many friendly and familiar faces I realized how lucky I was to be a part of a very special community.

K, after getting all emotional, how about we look ahead, to March where there's lots of excitement, and a popular signature event at the club: The Grand Spiel. Fully registered in a single day (a record), the draft was held at the club on February 21 and, with teams finalized, action is set to commence March 23!

February has also been a very busy month re the renovation project which is ready to take flight. Thank you to all who provided reactions, input and suggestions on the designs. Thank you also to the Building Renovation Committee (BRC) for taking the time to get together and discuss options, provide feedback and make recommendations to the Board. The Board held a special meeting to discuss the project and exciting news is coming on the project (read on, fearless readers to find out more!)

See you at the Club!

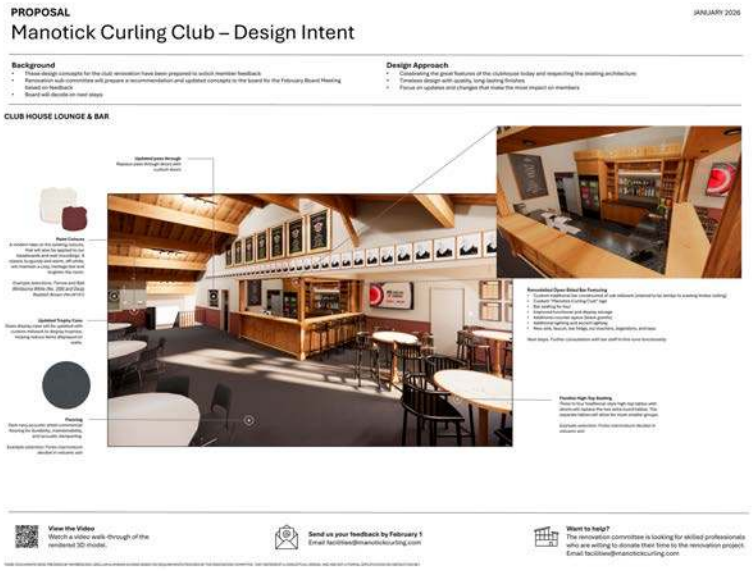
Tony



Tony Frost
Chair, Manotick
Curling Club



Renovation Update



For more than 60 years, the Manotick Curling Club has been a place where friendships are formed, championships are celebrated and our community comes together both on and off the ice. As you will know, for the past year, we have been discussing the possibility of a renovation, the first significant update in two decades, and, with the help of the club's Building Renovation Committee (BRC) and some very talented designers, a vision came to life. The upgrades were meant to enhance the experience for current members and ensure our club remains vibrant and welcoming for years to come.

After receiving your feedback, and careful deliberations, the BRC recommended to the Board that the club move forward with the project. During the February Board of Directors meeting, the recommendation was discussed in detail and approved to move forward. A Committee made up up Mark Lucuik, Pat Lam, Don Coulterman and Tony Frost has been struck to oversee the project. Next steps include development of a full project plan, construction schedule and detailed costing. While decisions are yet to be taken regarding sequencing (some aspects will be out of our control), the club is planning to commence the project this Summer!

The club has been building a fund for this and, while the majority of funding will come from our savings and capital funds, to have sufficient financing, the project will require some fundraising. Keep your eyes open for the campaign as we invest in the next chapter of our club, together. As well, to keep costs down, we want to leverage the talents of our members. We know there are many who are skilled or have businesses that could help. Stay tuned for a callout for help – don't be shy… sign up!

More information will follow as we hit important milestones.



Yours in Curling,
The MCC Board

Events

SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE

It's been a busy and fantastic year for MCC Special Events! We've enjoyed a full calendar, including the **Opening Spiel, Turkey Spiel, New Year's Eve celebration, Youth events, Shiverfest**, and more. It's been wonderful to see so many members out on the ice and taking part in the fun.

We're now gearing up for an exciting finish to the season with both the **Grand Spiel** and the **Closing Spiel**. The **Grand Spiel** is officially full, and teams have been drafted — it's shaping up to be a great event. Registration for the **Closing Spiel** opens **February 28**, and this year it will be TEAM registration. We're also introducing a new Skins format, where teams focus on winning ends, not just scoring. This should bring a fresh and exciting twist to the competition.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to help make our club events such a success this season. We're always happy to welcome new volunteers, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to get involved.

See you on the ice!

Dave Hannah
MCC Special Events
events@manotickcurling.com



SHIVERFEST 2026

As part of Manotick **Shiverfest** Feb 7, MCC opened its doors to the public for mini curling lessons. The event was well attended with 74 people coming out. Very special thanks to the members that helped coach and organize. Thank you *Ken Sokoll, Kathy Sokoll, Matthew Crummey, Glen Ashworth, Wayne Renaud, Tony Frost, Charlotte Smaglinski, Sharon Barnard & Art Ficko*. There is lots of interest in curling in the community. Hope you all had fun and see you next time!



Events

CRYSTAL HEART CURLING CLASSIC

26th Annual
Crystal Heart Curling Classic
A fundraiser in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation February 5-8, 2026

THANK YOU!!
Curling Club Members & Staff

With your help we raised over $77,000 this year bringing our lifetime contribution to Heart & Stroke to over $1.25 Million!!!

Dear Curling Club Members, Staff and Volunteers,

On behalf of the Crystal Heart Curling Classic organizing committee, we extend our **sincere and heartfelt thanks** to the curling clubs, volunteers, and members who generously donated ice time and facilities in support of the **26th Annual Crystal Heart Curling Classic.**

Your contribution is the foundation of this event.

Because of your willingness to open your clubs, coordinate schedules, and support hundreds of curlers over an entire weekend, the Crystal Heart once again welcomed 96 teams and more than 380 participants, competing across 10 host clubs and representing curling communities from across Ontario and beyond. The logistics and cooperation required to deliver an event of this scale are significant—and your support makes it possible year after year.

What truly sets the Crystal Heart apart is this unprecedented multi-club collaboration. Thanks to you, the Crystal Heart is able to deliver the largest women's curling bonspiel of its kind, bringing together more teams, clubs, and communities than any single venue could ever accommodate. This unique model is a testament to the generosity, coordination, and spirit of the curling community.



Manotick Team Representatives
Gwyneth Harkin, Kim Davis, Krista Kelly, Karen Johnston

Beyond the ice, your support directly fuels the Crystal Heart's mission. The 2026 event continued our strong fundraising legacy in support of the Heart & Stroke Foundation, building on more than 25 years of impact and thanks to the record setting fundraising from this year of over $77,000 we bring our lifetime donations to over $1.25 million raised to advance heart health education and research. Every draw played and every sheet donated helps turn sport into meaningful, lasting impact.

Participants consistently tell us that the hospitality, professionalism, and sense of community at the host clubs are what make the Crystal Heart such a special experience. That reputation belongs to you.
Thank you for your generosity, your time, and your unwavering support. We are deeply grateful for the role you play in making the Crystal Heart Curling Classic a success—on the ice and far beyond it.

With sincere appreciation,
Tara Holland on behalf of the
The Crystal Heart Curling Classic Committee

Jr Members Update

U15 SPIEL NORTH GRENVILLE



Congratulations to our Manotick team placing 3rd in North Grenville on February 7! Way to go!

Walker Winchester - Skip
Kellan O'Halloran - Vice
Henry Quail - Second
Joshua Casselman - Lead



The Manotick Little Rock team proudly represented our club at the North Grenville U12 event on Saturday, February 7.

Raelyn Martel
Kinley Winchester
Lucas Deslauriers
Landon Folk

2026 GOLDLINE OVCA U12 CHAMPIONSHIP

Manotick had two teams in the **2026 Goldline OVCA U12 Championship** Zone 2 Qualifier at the Navy CC on February 1st.

Manotick 2 finished with 1 win, 1 loss and 1 tie. Their first game was Manotick 1 vs Manotick 2. Manotick 1 came out on top. Manotick 1 had one win and 2 losses.



Manotick 1 Team
Presleigh Bouris
Lucas Deslauriers
Lochlan Braid
Lincoln Smirle



Manotick 2 Team
Shawn Li (skip)
Ethan Cooney (third)
Elsie Cox (second)
Kinley Winchester (lead)





Jr Members Update

U15 JUNIOR SLAM SERIES



Team Bown continued their strong season in the U15 Junior Slam Series, competing in two January events.

They earned 2nd place in Pool A at both the U15 Titan Slam in Peterborough and the U15 Jupiter Slam in Belleville.

With these results, Team Bown currently sits in 1st place overall in the U15 Junior Slam Series standings.

Upcoming events for Team Bown include:
U15 Comet Slam – Acton, February 7–8
U15 Crystal Slam – Buckingham, February 21–22

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Jr Members Update

LITTLE ROCKERS AT GOVENOR GENERALS



On Saturday, February 7th, Manotick Little Rocks ran a curling program for the Governor General on the grounds of Rideau Hall as part of their winter festivities. The goal is to introduce people to the sport of curling. This is the 10th year that our group has been asked to run the event. The event is held on homemade outdoor ice made with plywood, a plastic tarp, electrical tape for lines, a vinyl curling house, and rocks on wheels. Despite the cold, everyone had a great time.

In attendance were Little Rockers:

Presleigh Bouris
George Mustard
Kennedy Mustard
Lincoln Smirle
Alex Hill
Tristan Hill









A special thank you to

Bill LeDuc

for his generous donation of his
$349 50/50 winnings to the
Manotick Renovation Committee.

WATCH FOR THE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN!





The **Monday Ladies League** would like to thank the members for the donations received in support of the ***Barrhaven Food Cupboard*** during the month of January. The donations have been delivered for distribution to the numerous clients who seek assistance to feed their families.

Thank you **Manotick Curling Club** for supporting the community.



GRAND SPIEL

Extravaganza NIGHT



Join us for

EXTRAVAGANZA NIGHT

April 8

Follow the action beginning MARCH 23
Spectators are welcome throughout the spiel — come cheer on the teams, dress sharp and enjoy the atmosphere!



- Feature Matches
- League Awards Presentation
- Delicious Snacks from the Kitchen
- Cocktail Party

* Register for **Extravaganza Night** on the MCC website.

See you on the ice.



From our Members



Curling finds a way—even on Sarah and Duncan's honeymoon. Sliding into married life at Diamond Beach, Iceland, January 6.







Phee Beveridge (player) and Hailey Armstrong (guest) was from the city wide jr high school intramurals hosted at Nepean sportsplex

DID YOU KNOW?



A FRIENDLY "SOLE" REMINDER

We love our curlers... and we *really* love our clean ice.

Just a quick reminder to please wait until you're upstairs to put on your curling shoes. Slipping them on in the lobby may seem harmless, but even tiny bits of salt, grit, or debris can hitch a ride onto the ice — and those little specks can make a big difference in how the rocks run.

Our ice makers work hard to give us great conditions, so let's all do our part to keep the playing surface clean and game-ready.

Think of it as sweeping before you even step on the ice 😉

Thank you for helping keep our club in top shape!

THANK YOU

Save the DATE!

FEB 28	•	CLOSING SPIEL REGISTRATION OPENS
MAR 7 - 8	•	LCA WALLINGFORD SPIEL
MAR 21	•	LITTLE ROCKS SPIEL
MAR 23 - APR 8	•	GRAND SPIEL
APR 9 - 11	•	CLOSING SPIEL





Myth #1: "I didn't sweep because it looked heavy."
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: It always looks heavy when you're standing still. It looks lighter when you're actually sweeping.

Myth #2: The ice only curls weird when I'm throwing.
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: The ice curls weird for everyone. Some people are just more vocal about it.

Myth #3: "One more end" means one more end.
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: "One more end" is curling code for:
- Another story
- Possibly another beverage
- Definitely pushing closing time



Myth #4: Buying new grippers will immediately improve your game.
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: Fresh grippers improve safety and traction. Shot selection still requires practice.
(But yes, please replace them yearly 😉)

Myth #5: The skip is always right.
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: The skip is confidently decisive. And when wrong… it was "just ice."

Myth #6: The loudest team wins.
❌ Myth ✅ Fact: The loudest team feels like they're winning. Which is sometimes just as important.