

Little Rocks

We had 16 curlers, 3 were new this year. We had amazing helpers both on and off the ice. Pat Langlais, Matt Piercey, Gloria Stefanides and Ellen McKay were the consistent over the entire season. We still had a few of our juniors that acted as on ice helpers, thanks to the involvement of their younger siblings in the program.

Our Sackville club had 2 participants play attend the Ice Halo Funspiel that was held in Moncton Feb 1-2 on account of myself missing the registration deadline. Provincials this year were again held In Fredericton, between the CWC and Willie O'Ree Arena. We had 3 teams represent our club, 1 full ice team, which included one player from Rexton, and 2 half ice teams. Although we did not win a Provincial title, our curlers had a great weekend. We also had one "home" and one "away" game with the Amherst Curling Club. After the first event (at our club) the organizer, Terry and I decided to plan for specific days next season to have these events on a monthly basis. One parent coined this the beginning of the "Little Rock Border League".

This year held Little Rocks from 12:45-2 on Sunday as we did the year before. I attended a refresher of the Fundamental Movement Skills and Physical Literacy training, as well as the NB Curling "Road Show" which took the time to share more information about what types are programs are available to clubs, and specifically to the development of the junior curling in NB. As in previous years, snack and hot chocolate was supplied by Foodland with their generous \$200 donation.

Up to this point, we had been fortunate to borrow an extra set of little rock stones from Curl Moncton. With the extension of their facilities now completed, this set of stones has been returned. We would appreciate if the club would be willing to work with us in the purchasing of another set of stones for our program. Our numbers may not be huge with registration, but we typically share our half icers between two or three half sheets. Another set of stones is a necessity if we are to maintain or increase our enrollment, which we hope to do. We continue to watch for "used" stones, and have made a few calls to the River Hebert club to let them know that we are interested in their stones if they are looking to move them.

Juniors

Practices were held again this year on Wednesday and Thursday from 4-5:30. Unfortunately our numbers were small, and our volunteers were limited. We had 7 kids out consistently, week after week, but had only 9 registered for the program.

There are many bonspiels across the province, both provincially run or club run. Our curlers participated in at least 7 different events {Summer Spiel in Moncton (Aug), U15 in Miramichi (Nov) and finished 2nd, Christmas Spiel in Oromocto and CCE Junior Development Spiel in Moncton (Dec) Kenny Coates in Saint John (Feb) and finished 2nd, 2 mixed teams went to a U15 / U21 Mixed in Woodstock and the East Coast Slam in Fredericton (Mar)}.

This was a fast season, or so it seemed. I look forward to next year and the possibility of welcoming a “high school” club during our after school practices, as Ben Brown (club member and TRHS teacher) is very interested on trying to network at the high school, to generate enough interest to develop an exhibition league for Sackville and TRHS. Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome.

Thank you again for your support of our young curlers,

Tamara Carter