
PORTAGE CURLING CLUB

2019-2020 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Fellow Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you all rested up and rehabilitated from last year and eager to get back out on the ice for another great season. For all of you new curlers, I want to welcome you to the Portage Curling Club and to the 2019/2020 curling season. As a member, volunteers, and parents of children involved in our club, I would just like to mention how lucky we are to have a place like this. During this season the Portage Curling Club will have reached 170 years as a club. To have that longevity has taken the commitment of the members to give a little of their time to help in any way to maintain and improve the club. So this season it's up to us to make this club stand out and make guests and non-members want to curl here.

Looking back on last year we held some very successful events including the Junior Qualifier, 5 and Under Bonspiel along with the USCA Senior Women's Championships. The people that have attended these events have sent us comments and are spreading the word that the Portage Curling Club is a great place to hold an event. Once again it was the hard work and volunteer time of our members that made their experience a memorable one.

At the end of last season, we had elections to fill the two positions left open by Hank Egan and Natalie James. Thank you Hank and Natalie for your time and commitment last season. Returning members that deserve many thanks include Vietta Kampen, Kyle Dumbleton, and Andy Murphy. I would also like to welcome Craig Johnson and Bobbie Zander to the board. Lastly, a well-deserved thank you to John Schultz for his two-year term as President, his devotion to the club and his continuation as a board member this season.

What can you expect to see this year? There will be some physical changes and some subtle ones as well. An important one is our compliance with the USCA and federal law and its requirements for SafeSport. All board members and anyone 18 or older that interacts with minors at the club were required to do SafeSport training and become SafeSport certified. All those who are certified will be posted at the curling club. What does that mean for club members? As a member it will be you that will be our eyes and ears in reporting any harassment and behavior by anyone that is inappropriately dealing with minors. With High School students having use of the club and some even being members, we need to emphasize that there are changing areas and that we should be using them. Plans are in place that will keep all youth program supplies upstairs in order to keep children from going downstairs. Some physical changes include the flags in the ice house being relocated. This will help keep the airflow more consistent. Painting will be done in the ice house by the High School curling team members. The old big screen TV will be mounted on the wall east of the fireplace for training purposes, displaying event functions, or streaming live curling events. In the parking lot you will

notice that Alliant Energy delivered two power poles to be used as parking barriers to keep vehicles out of the line of falling snow from the roof. This year the club will also offer the opportunity to rent a mobile grill. This is the grill that Cardinal Glass let us borrow for events. Information on the grill rental will be posted in the club and on the website. The grill can be used for the Monday dinner league or for that matter any league that wants to use it on their nights at the club.

As for league information, Steve Dubberstein has taken over for Harry Erdman and Addie Tamboli is still Chairperson for the women's Tuesday night league. Steve will be the league chair for only the Wednesday and Thursday night leagues. He will also be involved with the play downs. We will be electing or asking for a volunteer to chair the Monday dinner league. Questions or concerns about league play should be brought up to the appropriate Chairperson of that league first. It will then be up to that Chairperson to bring any issues that they cannot work out to the board.

Those of you who are into the social media or need another favorite website please check the ones we have for the Portage Curling Club. This year let's try and get more fun photos and information out on our Facebook page and website as we can. If you have pictures you would like posted to the Facebook page, please see Katie Egan for details. Facebook is a great place to save pictures and keep a history of events. The webpage has the club calendar of events, minutes from the board meetings, league schedules, and other club information. This year we will try and keep the standings posted more often. To help us out with this the winning team should be circling their team number on the schedule as soon as they come off the ice.

Last season the girls and boys Portage High School Varsity teams had a terrific year. Once again they will be coached by Jim Shlimovitz and Michael Statz. New this year to assist the coaches will be Mike Charles. The girls brought home a Conference Championship and a State title, I believe that this season the girls and the boys can pull it off and bring State and Conference Championships to Portage once again. Wish them luck and come out and support them when you can. I believe the Grandma's will be returning for another season as well. Wooosh!!

Our junior program is still going strong. Vietta Kampen and Mike Charles are the ones in charge of this program. This year Vietta will be the instructor in the morning and Mike will be running the afternoon sessions. This program is well known by other clubs around the state as an outstanding youth instructional curling program. Great job Vietta and Mike.

In closing, I want to wish all the teams good luck this season. May your stones always find their way to the house and that you treat everyone like they are guests in your house. Good curling 2019/2020 members!

Chris Rietmann

Facebook page – Portage Curling Club

Website - <https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1830452>

CLUB CLEAN-UP DAY

Club clean-up day is **Saturday, November 2nd from 8:00 a.m. to noon**. We will dust trophy cases and chairs, vacuum, clean out the cupboards, clean bathrooms, floors, etc. The more people, the faster the clean-up. Participation counts toward your volunteer hours and makes you a great member!

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

President:	Chris Rietmann	608-566-5140
Vice President:	John Schultz	608-225-2395
Secretary:	Kyle Dumbleton	608-445-6645
Treasurer:	Vietta Kampen	608-697-6510
Director:	Andy Murphy	608-963-9452
Director:	Bobbie Zander	608-332-9651
Director:	Craig Johnson	920-471-3426
Building Chairs:	Andy Murphy and Kyle Dumbleton	
Ice Chair:	Steve Benck	608-617-9884
Kitchen Chair:	Shannon Schultz	608-697-9093
Long Range Planning:	Kyle Dumbleton and Andy Murphy	
Ice Making Equipment:	Ken Ryczek	
Ice Making:	Steve Benck	
Rating Committee:	Joel Caulum, Dave Vorpahl, Steve Dubberstein, and Dan Brunt	

Our State and National Curling Representatives:

USWCA: Stacie Heberlein

Columbia County:

WSCA: Jim Shlimovitz

BWCA: Vietta Kampen

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Calendar of Events

Wednesday work nights at 6:00 starting **Sept 25th** – preparations for ice making

Oct 8 (subject to change) – Ice Making Starts

Oct 12 – Junior curling signup 8:00-11:00 AM

Nov 2 – Club Cleanup 8:00 – 12:00

Dec 7 – Varsity open

Dec 13-15 – Portage Men's Bonspiel

Dec 19-22 – USCA Mixed Doubles Challenge Round

Jan 4-5 – College Bonspiel

Jan 18-19 – Junior Bonspiel

Feb 7-9 – 5 and Under Bonspiel

Mar 8-9 – Alumni Bonspiel

Mar 9-12 – Club Playdowns

ICE MAKING

Ice making is scheduled to begin October 8th. However, the schedule can be adjusted based on weather conditions. The entire process takes about three weeks. Work takes place most nights starting at 7:00. Steve Benck will be coordinating the signup process as he has in the past. Members are encouraged to lend a hand at least one night during the process. It is a good way to get some volunteer hours. There is plenty of work to be done, and knowledge of the process is not a requirement. There will always be somebody on the crew that can show you what needs to be done.

Contact Steve Benck at 617-9884 or benck.steve@gmail.com if you have questions.

CLUB DUES

1st Year member: \$150

2nd Year member: \$215

3rd Year & over Member: \$265

Family: \$595

Jr. Member (in adult leagues): \$125

Social Membership: \$50

½ year leagues \$120/league

Friday league only: 25% discount

(non-member dues, sub rules apply for ½ year and Fri only)

Saturday Juniors: \$30, Returning Saturday Juniors: \$60

Locker Rental: \$30

If a junior member will be competing in a USCA event, they will be responsible for paying the USCA dues of \$25.00 at the beginning of the curling season as well.

JUNIOR CURLING PROGRAM

Junior curling sign-up - Saturday, October 12, from 8-11 AM

Encourage your friends to join. There is a fund available to pay for the dues of a limited number of new junior curlers.

Parents will also be asked to sign up to help on ice and to bring snacks. We will again use an online signup app for this.

Beginners: Saturdays 9:00 – 10:00

This level is primarily for youth ages 6 to 8. Most of these curlers will be new to curling or returning curlers who still need to work on skills. Curlers will learn basic delivery skills, ice safety, ice etiquette and sportsmanship.

Intermediate: Saturdays 10:00 – 11:00

This level is primarily for youth ages 8 to 10. The majority have learned the basic skills and are ready to put them to use. Sliding, balance, delivery, sweeping skills will be emphasized. As the season progresses students will play half sheet games and learn basic strategy. Some curlers may be moved up into the developmental group once they are able to consistently throw the stone to the other end with a balanced delivery.

Developmental: Saturdays 11:00 – 12:00

This level is for middle school curlers with limited experience. Time will be spent learning or perfecting deliveries, sweeping skills, strategy, etiquette, sportsmanship, and half-sheet and full sheet game play. As curlers improve they may be moved up to the competitive group.

Competitive: Saturdays 12:00 – 2:00

This level is for junior curlers who have developed their delivery and are ready to play more games, learn more strategy, and compete in bonspiels. Registration for this group will be based on last year's skill level. The goal is for all curlers to compete in at least one junior bonspiel this year. Bonspiel dates will be available at sign-up. When ice is available you are allowed to use Monday nights open ice to practice.

Parents with children who bonspiel outside of the PCC must take the Safe Sport Training. You will be provided with the training information.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Dues should be paid and the release form signed **BEFORE** you step on the ice. Skips, it is your responsibility to make sure all members on your team have paid their dues. The treasurer will be at each of the leagues during the first two weeks of the season to help facilitate this. If you want to pay with a credit card, see the information below.

On December 1st, a list of curlers with unpaid dues will be posted. After Dec.15th, any team that plays with a curler who has not paid dues will forfeit those games.

Credit Card Payments

New this Year: During the first two weeks, you will be able to use a credit card to pay for your dues. The swipe device will be directly linked to our bank account (this is not through the website). You can still pay with a check or cash.

Website

Shannon Schultz has again volunteered to maintain the website. If you have anything that you want posted, you can email Shannon at Shannon.Schultz99@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook, and Instagram as well.

BEER CLUB NEWS

Curling without beer? Blasphemy!
Some of you know me, some don't. My name is Dave and I'll be taking care of your beer for the season. We're looking at having 4 Taps of Craft beer and one Tap for the Macro lovers (Bud, Miller, etc.). Last season things were getting pretty good, Jim got some help getting the lines balanced for better pours and there was rarely an empty tap. I'm hoping to improve on that even more and Jim's done a great job giving me a pedestal to start from. I'd love any feedback, positive or negative, any recommendations, thoughts, or volunteers to help clean the lines and taps! Feel free to send me an Email: Dtapke@gmail.com
Dues are:

\$125 for men

\$90 for women

Cheers! Slàinte! And Good Curling!

Dave Tapke

HIGH SCHOOL CURLING

Portage High School is starting on Nov. 4 after school, this is open to all High School students within the Portage School District. We have practice every Tuesday - Friday after school. Games start at 15:45. It would be nice to see club come cheer on these High School Students. We would like to thank the High School Curlers for patching and painting the inside for the curling ice.

If you have any questions, please call Jim Shlimovitz 608-617-3104 (Girls Head Coach) or Michael Statz 608-334-6681 (Boys Head Coach) and Mike Charles (Asst. Coach).

HIGH SCHOOL CURLING SCHEDULE

GIRLS SCHEDULE

BOYS SCHEDULE

Dec. 10	Portage @ Lodi		Lodi @ Portage
Dec. 12	Poynette @ Portage		Portage @ Poynette
Dec. 17	Pardeeville @ Portage		Portage @ Pardeeville
Jan. 3-4		Tietge	
Jan. 7	Lodi @ Portage		Portage @ Lodi
Jan. 9	Portage @ Poynette		Poynette @ Portage
Jan. 14	Portage @ Pardeeville		Pardeeville @ Portage
Jan. 21	Portage @ Lodi		Lodi @ Portage
Jan. 25		JV Open at Lodi	
Jan. 28	Poynette @ Portage		Portage @ Poynette
Feb. 4	Pardeeville @ Portage		Portage @ Pardeeville
Feb. 14-15		State	



LEAGUE INFORMATION

Get in Touch with Your League Chairs Now!

Monday Dinner League

Monday: 5:00PM

Chair: Josh Brandsma, 608-790-4558, brandsmajosh@hotmail.com

Tuesday Night Women's League

Tuesday: 6:30PM

Chair: Addie Tamboli, 608-617-5571, atamboli@charter.net

Wednesday Night Men's League

Wednesday: 5:45PM & 8:00PM

Chair: Steve Dubberstein, 608-697-8818, steve@dubberstein.com

Thursday Open League**

Thursday: 6:00PM

Chair: Steve Dubberstein, 608-697-8818, steve@dubberstein.com

Friday Night League: 6:30PM***

Chair: Shannon Schultz, 608-697-9093, Shannon.Schultz99@gmail.com

**Thursday is an open league allowing men and women as well as sons and daughters to curl together. If there are enough teams to have two draws, a bell system will be implemented to ensure that the 8:00 draw is on time. Any men's team with 50 points or less in this league are eligible to participate in the play downs at the end of the year.

*** The Friday Night Mixed League welcomes any new and experienced curlers ages 21 and older. Because of its relaxed, social atmosphere, this league is a great opportunity to introduce new curlers to the game. The mixed format means that two males and two females make up a team and the throw order alternates (boy-girl-boy-girl).

Great news this year—the PCC Board has approved a membership dues reduction for those curling on Friday nights only! Any member curling only on the Friday night league will receive a 25% discount. Note that subbing rules apply (a maximum of three times subbing on other leagues or full membership dues will be charged).

If you have questions about the Friday Night curling league or want to get on a team, contact Friday Mixed League coordinator Shannon Schultz at shannon.schultz99@gmail.com or at 608-697-9093.

ADVERTISING PROGRAM

Our club actively works with local businesses to advertise in our clubhouse and ice house areas. The clubhouse signs are 17”x20” and cost \$450 for a three-year period. The on ice signs are 3’x4’ and cost \$900 for a three-year period.

Advertising can be a significant source of revenue for the club, and we are always interested in adding additional sponsors. If your company is interested in this opportunity, please let Steve Benck know, and he will discuss terms with your company representative.

Thrivent Choice Dollars, AmazonSmile, and Kwik Trip Rewards

Donating has never been easier. If you are a **Thrivent Financial** customer, you may be earning **Choice Dollars**. The Portage Curling Club is on their list of organizations. Each quarter you can **Direct Choice Dollars** to the club, and it doesn't cost you a dime. If you have any questions, Vietta Kampen can give you more information.

Amazon has a program called **AmazonSmile** where 0.5% of your purchases can go to a charity of your choice. Again, it doesn't cost you one red cent. Portage Curling Association, Inc. is already on their list. Go to **smile.amazon.com** to get started.

Kwik Trip now has a Charitable Rewards program. When you use your Kwik Trip+ Credit or Debit Card for purchases, the club receives a portion of the sales. This is in lieu of the Rewards check you have been receiving. We need at least 5 members signed up to participate in this program. Call **Kwik Trip** at **800-305-6666** to add your account or if you have any questions.

This is Your Club

This is a volunteer organization and there are many ways you can help out. Even if you haven't helped put the ice in before, you can learn. It isn't difficult and there is always someone on the crew that can teach you what you need to do.

Make Ice
Prepare ice for leagues
Volunteer at bonspiels (ice or kitchen)
Help with Juniors on Saturdays
Donate food or money for bonspiels
Sell extra calendars
Help with High School program
Clean or Vacuum when you see it needs it
Load and empty dishwasher
Take out garbage

Club Rental

Are you looking for a fun and unique team-building event, but don't think Janice from accounting wants to go bungee jumping?

Are you having a large family or friends gathering and need some extra space, but don't want to make Grandma eat off a card table in your broom closet? You should rent the club! It will make your event easy and enjoyable while helping support our club. The following rates apply:

Clubhouse Use Only:

Member: \$75

Non-member: \$150

Clubhouse & Ice Use:

Individual: \$300

Corporate Rate: \$500

All those entering the icehouse must sign a liability waiver.

Grill Rental

Did you know that the Club now owns the big old Cardinal Glass charcoal grill that we have borrowed for years? More details, including a sign-out form and borrowing rules, are on the Club's website.

VOLUNTEERING

The past several years you have been asked to log your volunteer hours. The results were that a handful of people do most of the work, which seems to be the case in many volunteer organizations. We have also looked at what other curling clubs and other Portage organizations are doing to get everybody to do their fair share. This year we will be trying something new.

At the start of the season you will be asked to choose one of the following options:

1. Sign up to work at least five (5) hours around the club. This could be doing ice, chairing leagues, committees, or events. Helping at one or a combination of the bonspiels which includes working in the kitchen, preparing ice, timing, officiating, cleaning, etc. A list of the events is located on the calendar page.

2. Sell five (5) additional calendars. If you make this choice, you will receive ten (10) instead of the normal five (5) when they are handed out in January.

3. Donate \$50



Portage Curling Club

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Portage, WI 53901

www.portagecurling.com