



Potomac NewsFlash

Volume 1, Issue 4

November 13, 2006

Have news to share? Let me know. Tired of hearing just my opinions? Write an article. Have a topic? Send it my way.—charrissalin@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events:

Turkey skins	Nov 24
Big Spiel	Nov 30– Dec 3
Officiating Clinic	Dec 16
Hangover Spiel	Jan 1
EXTERNAL	
Harvest (Phil.);	Nov 16-19
Calder (Nflk); Silver Belles (Brmstnes)	Nov 30-Dec 3
10-yr and un- der (Sch.); Highland Games (Roch.)	Dec 7-10
Cracked Bell (open- Phl)	Jan 4-7
Mitchell (M— Utica); Ben Ames Williams (X—Belfast)	Jan 11-14

Ms. Hog Line

When you want some advice, or want to surreptitiously give some to someone else, ask Ms. Hog Line

Dear Ms. Line -

I'm a brand new curler and I keep falling, especially when I'm sweeping. What should I do?

Slipping and Sliding

Dear Slipping -

One of the best things you can do is buy yourself a pair of grippers to put over your running shoes. If you are ready to make the investment, a pair of curling shoes can be even better. The gripper material on grippers and shoes is a softer, more grabby rubber than normal running shoes and will make you more secure on the ice. If you already have grippers, take a look at their condition—it may be time to get new ones.

Dear Ms. Line -

Sometimes it seems like I'm getting frustrated looks from the opponents. What am I doing wrong?

Uncertain

Dear Uncertain -

It could be that you are violating some basic rules of etiquette. Things to check:

- Are you staying between the hoglines when it is not your team's turn to shoot?
- Do you walk down the sidelines or down the middle of the sheet, thus interfering with the progress of the game?
- Do you play front end and are you getting too involved in measuring stones/counting score or in giving advice to your skip? Involved at all would be too involved, as it is the vice-skip's job to agree on the score.
- Are you playing slowly? Especially on a late-draw, this can be tiresome.

Good luck!

Dear Ms. Line—

Sometimes my back gets cold while I'm in the hack.

Possible plumber

Dear Possible -

Make sure your shirts are long enough and tucked in and that your pants stay up. Trust me when I say that your fellow club members will thank you.

Dear Ms. Line—

I've noticed that I have a drift in my delivery—sometimes my body is completely to the right of where the rock is. What could be causing this?

Not on the same sheet

Dear Not—

There can be several causes to a drift and I'll mention two.

- You could have a slight-C (or sideways motion) in your sliding foot as your bring it back and then forward. This sideways motion will cause you to drift.
- Sometimes a shooter's timing is off—they are not getting the rock out before the foot tries to come in. Then the foot tries to squeeze in and pushes to the right.

While you may let go of the rock "on-the-broom," your rock will behave differently, generally curling quite a bit less (sometimes falling out) - unless of course you roll your release over. :)

Consider Potomac in your annual giving

Some of you may have noticed in Dominique's last President's update that the club has established a reserve of \$50K that we've put in an interest-bearing account. This may have led you to think that the club is flush with money and doesn't need your donation. However, I wanted you to know that is not true—the club needs your support now as much as ever.

The dues from our membership are our primary source of revenue, but those dues only cover a little over 50% of the annual expenses of the club, and don't even cover all of the non-

discretionary expenses that the club faces each year (debt payments, insurance, utilities). The gap is filled by the revenue we make from events and donations/fund-raising.

To meet our annual obligations, we depend on the generosity of members (and others). The reserve that we've built up (in large part thanks to the open houses and learn-to-curl of the Olympic year) is to ensure that we can meet our debt obligations in the future.

This is the time of year that you may be thinking about your charitable contributions for 2006. Potomac is a 501 (c)3 organization which means that your contributions are tax-deductible. As you get ready for the holiday season and think about your charitable contributions—please consider the club!



As you get ready for the holiday season and think about your charitable contributions—please consider the club!

A little or a lot, it all helps!

Traveling, traveling

We had a lot of travelers this week. Plainfield hosted the Founders bonspiel and Potomac sent several representatives up to our friends in NJ. Jay Davies and Becca Baxter played with Rachel and Bob Howell (Plfd.) to win the 2nd event. Michael Fry and Michael Campbell played with Louisa Bartok and Paul Graebner (both of Plfd.) and were runners-up in the 3rd event. Other fine representatives of Potomac included Ann Drummie, Caitlin Shaw, Barbara and Barry Frost and Kathleen Harlow played with Bob Graham, Suzanne

Lindsay and Mary Lou Mitchell (all of Plfd.).

The 39th Annual Ross Tarlton International Bonspiel was held on Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11. The competition is 16 teams from the Grand National versus 16 teams from the Ontario Curling Association. Rather than wins and losses, the winning country is determined by total stones. This year's results were about the same as they have been for the past decade-and-a-half, the U.S. lost by approximately 50 stones (best

guess 285 to 235). The Potomac team--George Shirks(s), Bob Pelletier(v), Bob Semerad(2), and Neil Christenson(1)--was 0-3-1 for the weekend and a negative 14 stones overall. Despite the result, the boys enjoyed the hospitality of the Albany and Schenectady clubs, and reinforced the camaraderie between the GNCC and the OCA.

Scott Edie also was traveling to North Dakota. No word yet on his exploits, but you can always stop him and ask him.

Joan Twigg is just back from the Friendship Tour—hopefully we'll hear about her travels next week.

