



# **BCIMCA 2016 WINTER NEWSLETTER**

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## **2016-17 BCIMCA BOARD of DIRECTORS**

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## ***HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2016 COMBINED CHAMPIONSHIPS***

### ***HOSTED BY THE BCIMCA AND THE KELOWNA CURLING CLUB***

The Kelowna Host Committee, chaired by Peter Ellison, did an outstanding job in putting on this event. Mayor Colin Basran and MLA Norm Letnick provide a warm welcome to all curlers. The event was graciously supported by seventeen sponsors and advertisers. The Kelowna Curling Club were gracious hosts providing us with fantastic ice, a great meet and greet with plenty of appetizers with beer and wine tasting. The Gala Awards Banquet treated curlers to a fabulous dinner with a huge dessert table.

In total, there were 32 teams, with 8 teams competing in each of 4 event categories (60+ Ladies, 60+ Mixed, 60+ Men, and 70+ Men). Congratulations go to our **2016 Combined Championship Winners**: the Dale Abrey rink from Summerland capturing the 60+ Men's Combined Championship; to the Karen Lepine team from Langley winning the Ladies 60+ Combined Championship; the Jack Holden team from

Comox Valley winning the 60+ Mixed Combined Championship; and the Lynn Wilson team from Glen Meadows capturing the 70+ Men's Combined Championship.

The **2016 BCIMCA Championship Winners** were: The Gord Duplisse team from Salmon Arm capturing the 60+ Men's Jack McAllister Trophy; the Al Tholl team from Creston capturing the 70+ Men's Graham Donaldson Shield; the Bev Skinner team from Summerland winning the 60+ Ladies BCIMCA Presidents Trophy; and the Dan Martell team from Kelowna capturing the 60+ BCIMCA Mixed Trophy.

Sandy's Heart was awarded to Lois Mollard from Armstrong, recognized as the curler voted on by all ladies in the competition as the female curler who best demonstrated sportsmanship. And for the first time at the Combined, BCIMCA sportsmanship awards were presented to curlers in the 60+ and 70+ Men categories. Congratulations to Mark Bailey from North Shore and to Larry Bodner from Kelowna receiving this year's sportsmanship awards respectively.

**The 2017 Combined Championships will take place in Langley and Cloverdale from March 14-18.**

### ***WHAT'S NEW in the BCIMCA ?***

The 2016-17 curling season is starting with some major changes to the BCIMCA Executive. After serving in stellar executive capacity, we say many thanks to Vern Ronmark (past president); Linda Debelser (secretary treasurer); Paul Beattie (Zone 1 Director); and Norm Tiltman (Zone 3 Director). Bill Gawiuk having served several seasons as our Zone 4 Director is our new Vice President. Jim Skrenek has returned as President having been voted in at our March 2016 AGM. We welcome Ray Tate and Eric Breitzkreuz as Zone Directors for Zones 3 and 4 respectively, along with Dave Williams taking on the very busy position of Secretary Treasurer.

Our new Board has met in May of 2016 and recently on October 18, 2016. There are several areas of business the new board wishes to highlight to our BCIMCA membership: These are:

#### **CONSTITUTION CHANGE:**

At our March 2016 AGM held in conjunction with the 2016 Combined Championships in Kelowna, a Constitution change was passed regarding membership eligibility. Membership in the BCIMCA is now open to ALL club curling leagues and to all curlers who are 60 years of age or over by December 31<sup>st</sup> in the curling season. Previous membership was restricted to age 60+ curlers curling in day-time leagues only. This change was brought about by several factors: In some clubs there are no longer enough curlers to warrant a day-time league. By choice or necessity more seniors are working full or part-time and not available to curl in day-time leagues. In other situations seniors are looking after their

grandchildren and unable to regularly participate in day-time senior leagues. The BCIMCA is truly a curling association open to membership by all Master curlers in the B.C. Interior.

Commencing with the 2016-17 curling season ALL 60+ age curlers are eligible for membership in the BCIMCA and therefore eligible to participate in Zone, Interior and our Provincial Combined Championships provided:

- They are 60 years of age by December 31, of the curling season
- They are regular members of a curling league, and
- All eligible 60+ curlers in that league are registered BCIMCA members in good standing

The annual membership fee in the BCIMCA remains at \$4.00 per season.

### **BCIMCA FINANCIALS**

Prior to the start of the 2016-17 curling season the BCIMCA had a bank balance of \$3,433. Based on a membership of 1000- members we will receive \$4000 in membership fees. Revenue this fiscal year is estimated at a further \$5,000 from zone playdown entry fees, of which ALL is distributed to Zone winners to offset travel expenses associated with their participation in the Combined Championships.

Past policy (since 2005) has allowed the BCIMCA Board of Directors to each receive an honorarium of \$50 annually and the Secretary Treasurer to receive a \$200 honorarium. Very few Directors have ever opted to receive their honorarium. In addition, Executive members were allowed to claim 30 cents /kilometer for mileage associated with meeting travel. At our May, 2016 Executive meeting we amended our policy to claim only direct travel expenses (gas), and at our October 2016 meeting we amended the honorarium policy to dispense with them all-together. Further, our policy now is to reimburse Executive members for receipted out-of-pocket expenses only (ie: printer ink, stamps, envelopes, etc). These are seen as prudent cost cutting measures

In the year that the Pacific Coast Masters Curling Association (PCMCA) hosts, or the BCIMCA hosts the annual Combined Championships, the host Association gratefully receives an amount of \$3,000 from Curl B.C. to offset the host club(s) costs. This amount goes 100% towards offsetting the meal costs for the Gala Awards Banquet benefiting all participating curlers.

### **UPDATED BCIMCA BROCHURE**

The BCIMCA Brochure has been update as of October, 2016 and is now in the hands of the respective Zone Directors to assist them in communicating with club managers, leagues master curlers, and to assist in promotion and advertising needs.

## **DISCIPLINARY and APPEALS POLICY**

By-Law #4 of our Constitution outlines the terms for which membership in the Association shall be forfeited. The terms are: a) failure to pay the Annual Membership Fee. And b) On being found guilty of any action subversive to, or contrary to the aims and objects ByLaws and Rules of the Association.

The BCIMCA never had an appeals policy associated with any disciplinary action taken under ByLaw #4.

In October 2016 the BCIMCA Board of Directors passed a "Disciplinary and Appeals Policy. A copy of this Policy is being posted on our website ([www.BCIMCA.ca](http://www.BCIMCA.ca)). Copies may also be obtained from any member of the BCIMCA Executive.

## ***2017 COMBINED CHAMPIONSHIPS***

The Combined Championships are being hosted by the PCMCA and the **Langley Curling Club March 14 – 18, 2017**. Planning is well underway by the Langley Combined Host Committee Chair. The event will be held at two six sheet curling facilities; the Langley Curling Club and the Cloverdale Curling Club.

Team meeting, Opening Ceremony, and Meet and Greet are taking place on Tuesday evening of March 14<sup>th</sup>. The Host Committee have a deal at the Best Western in Langley for teams which is a 15 minute drive from the rink in Cloverdale.

## ***STICK CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS – A POSSIBILITY?***

The BCIMCA enjoys an affiliation with the BC Stick Curling Association. Stick curlers make up a large and growing number within the BCIMCA membership. Open 2 person stick curling leagues and bonspiels are huge and growing in the Okanagan, especially in Zones 3 and 4. Is it time to consider a BCIMCA 2 person Open Stick Curling Championship? Our Executive and members of the Stick Curling Associations are in discussion and considering the very real possibility. We know interest is high in the Okanagan and such an event would be quite likely very successful, however it would be imperative to bring our Zones 1 and 2 on-board. Our joint executives will be continuing the dialogue and assess interest across member clubs and curlers in the BCIMCA to determine proceeding with such a championship in 2018. We would welcome member input and feedback.

## ***2017 BCIMCA Zone Playdowns***

2017 BCIMCA Zone Championship Playdowns for each region are being finalized by the respective Zone Directors. A poster will be put up in each club announcing the dates for your Region shortly, as well as dates being posted on our website.

The BCIMCA emphasis has always been on providing competitive curling opportunities to 60+ Master curlers through a spirit of good sportsmanship, opportunity for all, and to foster and promote the sport of curling throughout the BC Interior. We represent a strong voice for Master curlers in BC. 100% of all playdown entry fees go to support the Zone winning teams in each respective event category to help offset team travel costs to the Combined Event. The more teams competing in each event category obviously benefits the amount a Zone winning team will receive. We encourage all curlers to compete in their respective Zone playdowns. Team entry fees in each zone playdown event remain at \$140 per team.