



New Brunswick Curling Association/Association de Curling du Nouveau-Brunswick

**Annual General Meeting
Sunday, May 1, 2022, Thistle St. Andrews Curling Club**

Clubs Represented: Beresford, CWC (Fredericton), Carleton (Saint John), Curl Moncton, Florenceville, Gage, Hampton, Heather (St. Andrews), St. George, St. Stephen, Sussex, TSA (Saint John), Woodstock.

Meeting Minutes

- **Report on Credentials/Order of Business:** Attendees were reminded that this document is contained in the previously issued Participants Guide and was then read through by the Executive Director, Marg Maranda.
- **Call to Order:** Curling NB President, Bernard Savoie, welcomed all meeting attendees and called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken by Marg in advance of the Business Meeting.
- **Moment of Silence for Departed Members:** A moment of silence was observed for departed members.
- **Appointment of Scrutineers:** Scrutineer for on-line participants was Stephen Thompson while Arnold Mallais assumed the role for those attending the meeting in person.
- **Ratification of Agenda:** Dave Burpee (Carleton) moved approval of the agenda as submitted and Sue Lister (Heather) seconded the motion. Carried
- **Adoption of November 7, 2021 SAGM Minutes:** Minutes were included in the previously issued Participants Guide. Bernard asked for any errors or omissions. A slight correction regarding the mover & seconder of the motion regarding the Curling NB Hall of Fame was pointed out and made. Sue Lister moved approval of the minutes as amended & Steve Thompson seconded the motion. Carried
- **Salutation from GNB-Sport and Rec Branch Consultant-Christine Powers-Tomsons:** Bernard reported that Christine sent her regrets as she is currently attending Canada Winter Games meetings in Niagara. She asked that her appreciation be extended to all for the hard work done by clubs over the last two very difficult seasons. David Burpee suggested that Curling NB forward a letter/note of thanks to Christine for her significant support, particularly over the past few years.
- **Appointment of Accountant/Auditors:** The Board was very saddened by the unexpected and untimely death of our long-time accountant, David Stewart. Due to the timing of David's passing, we had the accounting firm of Teed, Sanders & Doyle complete our 2020-21 financial review and prepare our annual financial statements. This is the same accounting firm that has completed our last two audits. At this time, we require a Motion to appoint an accountant to perform the annual financial review and preparation of the 2021-22 financial statements. Wayne Tallon (CWC) moved Teed, Sanders & Doyle be appointed to perform the annual review and preparation of the 2021-22 financial statements & Sue Lister seconded the motion. David Burpee asked who the principals of the firm are and Marg reported that John Landry is her direct contact. Motion carried.

- **Notice of Motion re Formats Review:** Regarding the Notice of Motion contained in the Participants Guide and discussed during the Business Session....
MOTION: Alex Robichaud moved that Curling NB, in conjunction with the Players' Committee, conduct an in-depth format review of its "adult" events leading to a National Championship. Phil Leger seconded the motion. Carried (see copy of carried Notice of Motion below)
- **Curling NB Board of Directors Annual Reports:** Board annual reports are included in the Participants Guide and copied below. Board Members were invited to speak to their report and meeting participants were invited to ask questions. Shannon Tatlock (Curl Moncton) asked about the report of the Players' Rep. Alex Robichaud responded with a verbal report.
- **Curling NB Board Elections:** Marg presented the 2022 Nomination Committee Report which was contained in the Participants Guide. Following this, Bernard took a few moments to thank the only outgoing Board Member, Zone Director-Phil Leger, for his time, dedication and service on the Board. Phil brought a great deal to the Board and to the clubs in the Zone he represented. Phil was responsible for translating many Curling NB documents and has offered to continue doing so, he was instrumental in the creation and delivery of the Curling NB Road Show and was the driving force in securing our new Club Championship sponsor....just to name a few things.
- **Recognition Awards**
 - **Les Harrison Volunteer of the Year:** Bernard thanked the clubs that took the time to recognize their volunteers by submitting nominations for the Les Harrison Volunteer of the Year Award. As difficult as this task always is, a recipient has been chosen and arrangements made to present the award. A photo will be posted through the Curling NB Social Media Platform directly following the presentation.
 - **Other(s), if applicable:** The Curling NB Executive Committee has approved the creation of another award, the Curling NB President's Award. This award recognizes an individual or group of individuals whose unique contribution(s) significantly exceeded the expectations of their position(s) at the provincial level or whose achievement(s) significantly impacted the sport of curling in New Brunswick. Recipients of the Curling NB President's Award will be determined by the Curling NB Executive Committee as deemed appropriate.
- **Adjournment:** Dmitri

Respectfully submitted by Marg Maranda



2022 AGM Notice of Motion

Submitted by: Players' Representative
Subject: Championship Format Review

Be it resolved that Curling NB, in conjunction with the Players' Committee, conduct an in-depth format review of its "adult" events leading to national championships.

Be it further resolved that following extensive consultation with players in all disciplines, any amendments, via subsequent approval of Notice(s) of Motion at the November 2022 SAGM, be implemented in time for the 2022-23 Provincial Championships.

Rationale:

- Curling NB provincial event formats have not been thoroughly reviewed in several years, the most recent being the review and subsequent format change of the Seniors Championships at the November 2017 SAGM. Over the years, the number of team entries have been declining, and current formats may no longer reflect the current reality of our playdowns.
- Any suggestion that could improve participant satisfaction and enjoyment, increase participation, or lead to a more robust selection method in choosing our provincial representatives may be considered.
- This format review will not aim to introduce change for the sake of change. Format amendments will need strong support from the player base. The review may not necessarily deliver any concrete changes.



2021-22

Board of Directors

Annual Reports

Report for Curling NB 2021 / 2022 Season
From President, Bernard Savoie

The 2021 / 2022 curling season turned out to have its challenges that once again disrupted the normal staging of our Provincial championships, some of which we were able to conduct favourably and others that had to be rescheduled. A majority of our curling clubs opened for most of the season and die hard curlers wanted to curl in as much as the Provincial health restrictions would allow them too. Curling NB staff and Board members worked diligently to adjust the Provincial curling calendar to allow for representation at the 2021 Curling Club Championships, 2021 Canadian Seniors and Mixed, 2022 Canadian Juniors and U18, 2022 Brier, Scotties, Canadian Seniors and Masters Events. Our Executive Director engaged regularly with Provincial government groups to navigate through all the restrictions and provide opportunities for curling clubs to apply for further funding opportunities wherever possible. Huge thanks to the hard work of our Executive Director!

As President I participated in many offline meetings to address challenges as they came forward and as a team decisions were made for the safety of all curlers and betterment of the situation at hand. Notwithstanding the harsh criticisms we received, our choosing to reschedule events was to protect not only the competitors but also the entire ecosystem that surrounds them. One thing is for certain, New Brunswickers are very passionate for the sport and emotionally concerned for the chance for competition. I also worked with the Executive Director with the launch of our first online 50/50 raffle; I lead a committee to secure at least one sponsor partnership and also assisted with the implementation of the new nation-wide Safe Sport Policy. We have a very good group of Board members to work with and that makes the task easier.

At the National level I represent New Brunswick as President in regular meetings with Curling Canada and serve on the Executive Committee of the Canadian Presidents working group. Curling Canada is planning for face to face National Strategy Meetings and Curling Symposium at the end of May 2022 which I plan to attend.

Let's not forget the exemplary performance of our New Brunswick representatives at the 2022 Scotties with a Bronze medal finish which clearly demonstrated that our Province can compete with the best teams in Canada!

We truly remain hopeful that curling activities will return to normal for the 2022 / 2023 season and that everyone will be able to once again partake, without any hindrance, in the sport they love so much.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernie Savoie

2021-2022 Executive Vice President's Report

The 2021-2022 Curling season once again presented many challenges to our curling community. The season began quite promising but by December new restrictions were once again implemented that impacted our sport. Our Executive Director worked closely with the Sports and Recreation Branch of the government to clarify questions and ensure that the numerous Covid-19 Sport and Recreation updates as well as information on Youth Program and Covid Relief funding was distributed to Curling Clubs. A huge thank-you goes out to Marg for all her arduous work in keeping everyone informed.

Our Return to Competitions committee worked tirelessly to develop directives, reschedule events, and make tough decisions regarding cancelling or postponing events. This was done after numerous conversations always with the safety of our curlers, volunteers, spectators, and their families as the top priority. These folks deserve a special thank-you for all the time and commitment they put in over the past 2 years during the pandemic.

As Executive Vice President I participated in meetings with the Curling NB Board and Executive committee as well as attended virtual Curl Canada Town Hall meetings as well as a governance workshop. I was part of the committee reviewing the Curling NB constitution as well as part of the review of the roles and responsibilities of the Technical Committee.

Curling NB as well as our clubs and curlers had a challenging year once again but we all worked together to ensure the safety and well being of our curling community. Let us hope next year we will return to normal play.

Thank-you to the Board and our Executive Director for all your hard work this past year and to all of you who have supported us. See you on the ice next year!

Respectfully submitted.

Gail Samaan

Executive Vice President, Curling NB

2021-2022 Associate Vice-President's Report

Thank you allowing me the privilege of assuming the role of Associate Vice President for Curling NB. It's going to be a great experience for all of us.

We've weathered another year with the COVID-19 pandemic with many ups and downs in all aspects of our lives; why should curling be any different? We planned our season hoping that the pandemic would end and we could return to "normal", whatever that is. We came to find out that the pandemic is still here and we will need to adapt to COVID-19 as endemic, with all the requirements around that. Some provincial events were held with varying degrees of success and a relative minimum of spread of the virus secondary to restrictions we kept in place even when the province dropped theirs. I feel strongly that we did the right thing. Our Return to Competition Committee worked tirelessly to make the best decisions regarding competitive events attempting to balance player safety with holding free and fair competitions. They deserve our support for making the tough choices.

I'm getting my feet wet in this new role as a means to step up to the President's role in the next few years. I have excellent role models in Bernie, our current President, and Gail, our Executive Vice-President. Thanks to them for their guidance as I get used to the intricacies of our organization.

I see a bright future for Curling NB over the next few years and I hope to make sure that you as curlers get to realize that vision. Hopefully, we will be able to get back to some sense of normal for both competitive and recreational curling in the coming months.

If you have any questions or concerns about Curling NB, please send them along at your convenience. I'll do my best to respond in a timely manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Thompson

Associate Vice-President, Curling NB

2021-2022 Past President's Report

And so, ends another season, this one as wild as the last. For those who were able join us in person, welcome, and for those coming in remotely, I hope things are well in your part of the province. The season has seen a lot in terms of successes, triumphs, and firsts for curlers in our province; the season was also heavily tinted through the COVID lens, with changes, cancellations alterations made throughout the year to ensure the well-being of our curling communities. Here is hoping that we will see next season as one of wellness and normalcy!

My largest function this year was as a member of the Returns to Competition Committee. Our group, comprised of representatives of many different elements of curling, spent many a night assessing the state of the province, working with releases and information from the province of New Brunswick, and making decisions that, while not always popular, were made with the interest of our sport at heart. Making decisions that limit time on ice will never be a player's preference, however, ensuring that our host clubs, their many volunteers, families, communities, and athletes are able to compete in an environment that is safe is our priority, and something that I can say with confidence was considered every step of the way. I am extremely proud of the work completed by the Return to Competitions Committee, their dedication to the well-being of our curling families, and know that even in my departure, you will be in the hands of people looking out for all of us.

I will look to keep my report relatively short and sweet. I would encourage you to read the reports of the other members of the board as well, and feel free to ask us any questions that you may have. While this may be my last action on the board as a member, it is certainly not the last that I will be involved in the curling community; it has been my pleasure to serve you these past eight years, and I leave knowing that you are in excellent hands for years to come. The individuals on your current board are hard working, dedicated and driven to ensure that the sport continues to grow and thrive within our province, and it has been my utmost pleasure in working with each of them. Finally, a huge thank you to our executive director, Marg, who keeps things moving forward with a tireless work ethic behind the scenes; the board is fortunate to have someone as dedicated and driven as Marg on the team!

For now, wishing you and your families the best. Stay healthy, be well, and see you on the ice.

Yours in curling,

Dmitri Makrides

2021-22 North East Zone Director Report

The North East Zone includes the Bathurst, Campbellton, Miramichi, Beresford and Tracadie Curling Clubs.

In this unprecedented time, curling like all other sports was brought to several interruptions during the 2021-22 season. The board continue communicating by video conference and was able to meet during the Board Planning Meeting on June 25th in St. Andrews with Covid 19 restrictions. Our priority was how to help Club open and survive during these times.

In July I attended the Volunteer of the year award presentation to Lloyd Chedore at the Campbellton Curling Club. Congratulations Lloyd, a well-deserved award.

In November I was able to meet in person with the Bathurst and Beresford executive and discuss the on and off ice protocol (Return to Play document). The Tracadie Curling Club was also contacted but decided to postpone opening in 2021-22 because of Covid restrictions.

Our Zone hosted two Provincial Events this season (Mixed Doubles and Men's Tankard) both at the Miramichi Curling Club. I acted as the liaison officer for both the events and would like to personally congratulate Shawn Ingersoll and his committees for organizing both events so successfully.

During the rest of the year, I attended the Zoom meeting with Board and participated primary on two committees (Sponsorship and Junior Development). I helped in identifying and negotiate a 3-year contract with our new Provincial Curling Club Championship sponsor St Isidore Asphalte. I also translated several of our Rules, Regulations, and other documents of interest in French addressed to our French member clubs.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for their support during my last season as Northeast Zone director, and I am look forward to continuing to support curling in New Brunswick and especially the North Zone.

Respectfully submitted by:

Phil Léger
Northeast Zone Director

Northwest Zone Report-2021-2022 Season

Well, it's certainly been an interesting 2021-2022 season! The beginning looked promising like it MAY be more like a "normal" season. Then we got toward the holidays and we faced a lock down, clubs are

closed. After the holidays, it didn't look promising that clubs would even open again. Letters were written and concerns expressed, and clubs were able to open for league play. Then restrictions lifted more, and clubs were able to host spiels and return to more normal routines again. To say it's been an up and down season again this year is an understatement, so hats off to the organizers and volunteers in curling clubs in this zone and across New Brunswick who were able to keep curling going in their communities during the last difficult two years. On that note, I feel lucky to have been able to play in five different events this season across the province at different curling clubs, as well as drop in on the Provincial Event that happened in my zone, the U20 Preliminaries at the Woodstock Golf and Curling Club. Below, I have spoken with different representatives from each curling club in the Northwest zone to get a summary of their seasons.

Florenceville Curling Club:

The Florenceville Curling Club had a stable season after remaining closed for the 2020-2021 season. Adult membership was up to about 50 with some new members and returning members from previous years, although down a few long-time members. Junior membership with 10, and Little Rocks with 17. This season, Florenceville had two open league nights on Monday (8 teams) and Thursday (12 teams), Little Rocks and Juniors on Sunday afternoon, as well as a drop in Fifty plus league on Thursday mornings. The club also has a program for special needs individuals that operated twice monthly. The club hosted one bonspiel at the end of the season in April combining the closing bonspiel with the traditional Shamrock spiel that is usually held in March around St. Patrick's Day, calling itself the "Irish Spring Spiel" with 14 teams. The club ended their season on the Sunday after this event with the Little Rock and Junior awards and pizza party with skating on the curling ice. During the summer of 2021 the club refreshed their ice shed, repainting it with mould resistant paint and replacing the carpets, as well as changing out some lights to LED bulbs. The club also had mini-splits installed in the upstairs area and downstairs, this has helped reduce the power bill some. This season the club was able to apply for and receive some covid-assistance funding from the government.

Grand Falls Curling Club:

This season, the Grand Falls Curling Club had one league on Monday night, with 6 teams; this league had 10 teams in the season pre-covid. Tuesday and Thursday mixed leagues, changing up the teams every 4 to 5 weeks, members like the change of teams. Wednesday night the club tried a doubles league that everyone enjoyed and would like to do next year. Little rocks and junior programs on Sunday saw a major drop in members, prior to covid they had over 40 now down to only 6 this year. General membership was down but they hope to get some of them back next year.

Nackawic Curling Club:

This season at Nackawic Curling Club, adult membership remained stable compared to previous years at 38, with 20 Little Rock/Junior members. The club had open leagues on Sunday and Monday evenings, Tuesday afternoon Ladies Curling, Wednesday night fun league, Thursday night mixed, and Little Rocks/Juniors on Sunday afternoon. This season the club also refreshed their ice shed, repainting it and installing new carpet. The club also received some covid-assistance funding from the government. The club did not hold any spiels, they would have normally been held during the time of the lock down. Concerns going forward for the club are the increasing cost of insurance which jumped a significant amount for them this year, and liquor licence costs.

Woodstock Golf and Curling Club:

This season at the Woodstock Golf and Curling Club, the club had a Tuesday mixed/open league, Thursday competitive league, Junior and Little Rocks on Sundays, Stick Curling league, and Special Olympics program. Junior membership was stable with 11, but other groups/leagues saw a decrease with 8 Little Rock members, 32 members in Tuesday league, 28 in Thursday league. The stick curling program has really taken off with around 40 different people that play; some once and awhile while most are weekly players. They have ice time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 3 hours in the afternoon with three draws. On Wednesday and Friday the 3 draws are full while Mondays are slower. For teams they choose names out of a hat for first and third draw and second draw is a competitive league. Many players will play 2 games in an afternoon. They can pay per game, \$7, or membership of \$130. The organizer of the program would like to continue to see stick curling grow to other clubs in the area and is willing to help with that. The club hosted one Curling NB event, the U20 Preliminaries with 9 teams, 4 girls teams and 5 boys teams. They also hosted the successful "Spud Spiel" with 22 teams. They have four members going on to National events this season; Sam Goodine- JR representing team NB at National U18 Championship, Leah Cluff- JR representing team NB at National U18 Championship, and Mark and Dodi Stewart representing team NB at National Stick Curling Championships.

Submitted by:

Jacob Elsinga
Northwest Zone

2021-22 South East Zone Directors Report

The clubs in my Zone were contacted a few times during the course of the year, either to find out how they were doing or to communicate events taking place at local clubs.

Participated in committee work for a number of events scheduled during the fall of 2021 and early 2022.

- Monctonian Challenge: held in November – competitive Men & Women spiel
- Scotties NB : committee meetings over a few months – event cancelled due to Covid
 - Curling Hall of Fame: monthly meetings, event to be held April 30th, 2022 which I will be attending.
- Friendship spiel: held at Curl Moncton, once in November/21 and 2nd in March/22
- Seniors Championships : event meetings, event held March 18th, 2022
- Participate on committee for NB Mixed Championships, event cancelled.
- Monthly Board and committee meetings of Curling NB
- Plan to attend Curling NB summer planning meetings.

As part of Safe Sport, applied for and received a criminal check and completed the coaching course.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold Mallais

2021-22 South West Zone Directors Report

This was my 1st year as the South West Zone Director and it was rather difficult as I wasn't really sure what was expected of me and I didn't know which clubs were in my zone. But as the year went on, I learned what was expected of me...somewhat. The clubs represented by the South West Zone Director are St. Stephen, Harvey, St. Andrews, St. George, and Grand Manan. Once again, clubs experienced a great deal of ups and downs due to Covid. With clubs opening and closing, depending on current restrictions, clubs lost a great deal of income and struggled with just staying on board. I was unable to visit the clubs I represent this season but am looking forward to doing so next year.

That said, I did get to participate in a Fun Spiel at Harvey. It was a great day with our St. George team placing first and Fredericton Junction placing second. Also, it was great to see Blacks Harbour working towards re-opening this season.

Hope everyone has a great summer.

Brenda Allison

2021-2022 South Zone Director's Report

The South Zone includes Thistle Saint Andrews and Carleton Curling Clubs in Saint John, Hampton Curling Club, and Sussex Golf and Curling Club. Our entire curling community was saddened to hear that the Board of Directors of Riverside Golf and Curling Club closed its curling operation in favour of indoor winter golf activities. Although some of the Riverside curlers joined neighbouring clubs, we fear that many curlers may not return to the sport.

Like all zones in our province, our clubs experienced challenges in maintaining our membership particularly in league play, and suffered financially because of the lack of traditional bonspiels. Despite these challenges, our clubs opened and closed at their regular times, and made all the necessary adjustments during the various levels of Covid.

Although TSA operated only 5 of their 8 sheets of ice, membership was close to what it was three years ago. They credit the prompt and accurate communication from Board to members as the reason for strong membership. Despite the difficulty of planning because of the changing Covid protocols, several 'fun nights' were organized and proved to be very successful. TSA hosted the Provincial Kenny Coates tournament and the Provincial Masters as well as a fall Junior Cash Spiel. They hope to have all 8 sheets operating next season.

Hampton Curling Club began their year with free learn-to-curl sessions. This 3 week instructional series was partially responsible for an 18% increase in membership from the previous year. League play was

down slightly and because of Covid, they were not able to host any bonspiels. They are in the midst of a major, phased ice plant equipment replacement project with more work planned for this summer.

Carleton's membership numbers were lower than pre-covid, but they provided most of their regular events. Although league play was not as strong, they were pleased to host their three major bonspiels (Ladies', Men's and St. Patrick's) limiting registration to 12 teams and moving the ladies to a one-day event. They hope the increase in rentals in the latter part of the season will translate to higher membership next year.

Sussex Golf and Curling Club was able to operate all season thanks to the strong senior support. League play was down slightly, but ladies and seniors had strong numbers. They did not host any bonspiels the three extra Saturday events for members proved to be very popular. SGCC hosted the provincial Junior Mixed Championship. They hope to host their regular bonspiels next year and continue with some special member-only events.

Respectfully submitted

Lee Patterson-South Zone Director

2021 – 2022 Central Zone Director's Report

Attended the planning meeting in June for upcoming season and updating and reviewing COVID protocols. Participated in Curling NB virtual board meetings as scheduled, month to month. As well as special Board meeting as they occurred.

Worked live score and presented for the Mixed provincials held at the Capital Winter Club in October.

Worked live score and commentary for U-20 provincial held at the Capital Winter Club in February.

Worked live score, did commentary, and presented for the U-18 women's provincial at the Capital Winter Club in March. The men's U-18 were held at the Gage Curling Club.

Gage, Gladstone, and Capital Winter Club opened for the entire season.

Allow my name to stand for renewal as Zone Director for SE.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Muzzerall

2021-2022 Technical Committee Report

Technical Committee Members:

John Corbin

Brian Rice

Charlie Sullivan

Although COVID-19 impacted curling activities during the 2020-2021 season some courses, evaluations and club assistance was provided.

Courses, Clinics and Learning Facilitation

The delivery of coaching courses, coach evaluations, associated modules and assistance to other curling organizations was facilitated by Master Learning Facilitator Brian Rice and Learning Facilitator Charlie Sullivan during the 2021-2022 curling season. They conducted the following events:

- a. Charlie and Brian travelled to Sackville NS and completed on ice practice evaluations for 10 Competition Coaches for the Nova Scotia Curling Association on October 2-3, 2021
- b. On behalf of Curling Canada evaluated one Competition Development Coach for their on ice practice evaluation, pre-competition phase practice plan and EAP.
- c. Charlie and Brian facilitated a two day Club Coach course at Carleton CC for 11 participants on Oct 23-24 2021.
- d. Charlie and Brian conducted a Making Ethical Decisions (MED) course for 11 participants at Carleton CC Oct 22, 2021.
- e. Carried out 4 Competition Coach on ice evaluations for Competition Coach certification
- f. Brian conducted a one day clinic to 10 participants from the Bathurst and Beresford CCs. The objective of the clinic was to develop instructors in these clubs to teach their members.

It was a busy season for meetings with most being held virtually with both Brian and John attending many Curling Canada Technical meetings. In regards to ongoing professional development they both attended webinars presented by a number of organizations, Sport for Life, National Coaching Certification Program, Petro Canada Coaching Conference and Curling Canada.

The Technical Committee met online and exchanged emails before presenting The Roles and Responsibilities of the Technical Director and the Roles and Responsibilities of the Master Learning Facilitator to the NBCA Board for approval. The NBCA approved both documents.

2022-2023 Requirement for Learning Facilitators and On Ice Evaluators

Looking forward to next season there is a great need for more trained On-Ice Evaluators and Learning Facilitators. These are the people who allow the NB Curling community to maintain the capacity to deliver coaching courses, evaluate coaches and deliver clinics to curling clubs. If you are interested in learning about these roles please contact a member of the Technical Committee.

2022-2023 Coaching Courses

Again with next year in mind those desiring to take coaching courses to acquire a certification should contact the Technical Director. Every athlete deserves a certified coach. With that in mind the Technical

Committee will be looking to resume a full slate of courses next season starting in the fall. There is already great interest being shown by people in the Central Zone to have a Competition Coach course conducted.

What is required to hold a coaching course in your area?

A minimum of six people are required to conduct a coaching course. This ensures that the cost of conducting the course is covered.

Enjoy the summer, prepare for next season and we hope to see you in the house



Respectfully submitted, John J. Corbin NBCA Technical Director.

2021 - 2022 Competitions Director & Chief Umpire Report

This year was once again very busy as we completed the roles and responsibilities for the competition committee and hosting directives along with updating the rules for provincial play. We have started to build the competition committee and will meet this summer to review the work done to date and determine what else needs to be done. Jane Arsenault, Lawrence Forbes and Alison Chisholm have been approached and are willing to work on the committee. Once we meet we will determine if we need additional team members or if this will be the full committee.

The return to play committee was still very busy this season. This committee started meeting in August and met almost weekly to work with Marg who was in constant contact with our provincial sports representative. The situation was ever changing and often we needed to adjust our plans very quickly as the situation in the province changed. The committee was very dedicated and everyone participated to ensure that we did the very best for all curlers in New Brunswick.

This season we were only able to complete all but 3 of the championships. The winners of the championships to represent NB at nationals were as follows:

Mixed:	James Grattan, Jillian Babin, Jamie Brannen & Jaclyn Tingley
Mixed Doubles:	Alex Robichaud & Melissa Adams
Scotties	Cancelled
Tankard:	James Grattan, Darren Moulding, Paul Dobson, Andy McCann & Jamie Brannen
Senior Ladies:	Sandy Comeau, Shelley Thomas, Judy Blanchard, Carol Justason & Allison Chisholm
Senior Men's:	Terry Odishaw, Mike Kennedy, Grant Odishaw & Vance Lecocq
U20 Girls:	Celia Evans, Brooke Tracy, Julia Evans, Sierra Tracy, Marliese Carter & Coach Abby Burgess
U20 Boys:	Rajan Dalrymple, John Siddall, Jacob Nowlan, Cameron Sallaj & Coach Daryell Nowlan
U18 Girls:	Celia Evans, Marliese Carter, Julia Evans, Sierra Tracy, & Coach Abby Burgess Sarah Gains, Leah Cluff, Carly Smith, Ashley Coughlan & Coach Bill Gaines
U18 Boys:	Rajan Dalrymple, John Siddall, Jacob Nowlan, Cameron Sallaj & Coach Neema Patel Timothy Marin, Jamie Stewart, Sam Goodine, Emmett Knee & Coach Felipe Marin

NB sent Team Andrea Crawford to the Scotties based on their very successful fall bonspiel results and they came home with a bronze medal and were the talk of the Scotties. We postponed the NB Mixed as we had a bit of an outbreak of Covid 19 after the NB Seniors that affected the teams and the volunteer population in the clubs. In order to let the clubs hold their own events and the ability to hold this event in the fall was possible. There were 2 junior events and the club championship also postponed but these are not events that this committee administers.

Some suggestions that we will working on for 2022 - 2023

- 1) Mixed Doubles and the Simms Home Hardware U18 events timed to better prepare participants for the national championships.
- 2) Assign a head umpire and assistant to all events
- 3) Plan to work with the players committee to review formats
- 4) Assisting the Jr. Committee with Canada Games selection

Respectfully Submitted,
Catherine MacLean
Competition Director & Chief Umpire

2021-22 Executive Directors Report

There is no question that the highlight of this past season for most NB curlers, NB curling fans and, well, New Brunswickers in general, was the Bronze Medal win of team Crawford at the 2022 Scotties Tournament of Hearts. Congratulations to Andrea, Sylvie Quillian, Jillian Babin, Katie Forward & coach-Daryell Nowlan and thank you for providing us with something amazing to celebrate during a time we were all struggling to deal with the continuing effects of the Pandemic.

Leading up to and during the 2021-22 Board Planning Meeting, several items were addressed and Board sub-committees formed to ensure completion of identified tasks. Below is a list of a few of these initiatives and progress to date.

Constitution Review: Several minor suggested amendments to the Curling NB Constitution have been identified. Clubs can expect a Notice of Motion to Amend the Constitution in time for the November, 2021 SAGM.

Sponsorship & Marketing: It has become increasingly challenging to acquire sponsors for our Provincial Championships. Most notably is the absence of a sponsor for the NB Tankard. The committee working towards attracting new sponsors has been successful in signing a three-year agreement for sponsorship of the Curling Club Championship. We congratulate them and thank them for the time and effort required to make this happen. The committee continues to reach out to potential sponsors but general membership assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated. In many cases, successful agreements begin with an introduction.

Roles & Responsibilities: Three obvious sets of Roles & Responsibilities were identified as missing or lacking in our by-laws: Junior Development Committee, Competitions Committee and Technical Committee. All three have now been added with the understanding that those for the Junior Development Committee require further work. At the 2022-23 Board Planning Meeting, further review of existing R & R's and development of missing ones will be identified.

Safe Sport: The Government of NB-Sport & Rec Branch require all Provincial Sports Organizations to create/adopt a full suite of Safe Sport Policies by April 15, 2022. Last summer, the Curling NB Board of Directors took on this project which resulted in the adoption and publication of the required policies in September, 2021. The next step would be to move on to addressing required training, etc. for particular roles within our organization. A Safe Sport Training Matrix was developed and this past season, all coaches of teams participating in events leading to a National Championship were required to complete Safe Sport Training and to submit a current Criminal Record Check. The Curling NB Board of Directors were required to do the same. Moving forward, we will extend requirements for Safe Sport Training to athletes/parents of minors, etc.

Curling Week in NB: Prior to the pandemic, we were attempting to get more clubs involved with spotlighting curling by hosting Curling Week in NB activities. This past season, clubs were closed during Curling Week in NB but we were able to utilize our social media platform while helping the Curling NB Hall of Fame spotlight their inaugural inductees.

Heading into the 2021-22 season, we were hopeful that we would be returning to some semblance of normal with required vaccination and indoor mask wearing. Unfortunately, October came with the announcement of a three-zone circuit breaker. This was followed in December by movement into Level 2 and then Level 3 in January before moving back. In December, Curling NB President, Bernie Savoie sent a letter to the Government of NB and followed up with another in January. These letters were in an effort to have the government allow more flexibility for our sport with the argument that it could be played safely with vaccine requirements, mask wearing and physical distancing. It was with a great deal of shock and pleasure when, on January 28th, the sport of curling was categorized as a "low contact sport" which brought with it very few restrictions. Clubs could return to a semblance of normal league play and even host small weekend spiels. Curling NB could host Provincial events that would fall within the guidelines. We like to believe that the letters sent by the President, and which were followed up with a few clubs submitting same, had an impact on the Government of NB's categorization of our sport.

It would be great to end this report on a high note, but that simply is not possible.

Because of the continuing effect Covid had on our sport this past season, it became necessary to keep the "Return to Competitions Committee" in place. This committee was responsible to make impossible decisions that would, to the best of our ability, maintain the safety of our athletes, coaches, umpires, events volunteers and our communities. They were asked to set aside their personal preferences, any specific group of individuals or clubs they were on the Board to represent so they could impartially assist in making decisions that could and would impact not only the athletes, but volunteers, umpires, coaches, etc. This was very much a thankless job which was undertaken by four dedicated Board

members, all of whom have full lives outside their volunteer positions on the Board. I also sat on this committee. Our meetings were numerous and lengthy due to continuing Covid related changes within the province. Every decision required significant consideration of all parties involved. Decisions to postpone or cancel events were, as you can imagine, met with disappointment by many. It would always be much easier to have them proceed but, while considering the big picture, not always the most responsible for a Provincial Sports Organization. Did this committee always make the best decisions? That could be debatable. Did they deserve to be the recipients of e-mails and social media posts that, perhaps arguably, border on maltreatment? Absolutely not. Luckily, out of the large number of participants affected by these unpopular decisions, it was only a handful who felt the need to harshly verbalize their displeasure. It is my hope that this is the thought that prevails as we move from this season to the next.

Respectfully submitted,
Marg Maranda