**AIRDRIE YOUTH CURLING NEWSLETTER**

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Joe Brown. I am a long-time member of the Airdrie Curling Club. I play for recreation, and I coach competitively. As Ross Simmons has moved back to the east coast where he and his partner Wendy are originally from, I was asked and readily accepted the role of leading our Tuesday Youth Program. As background, I am a proud parent of a World Junior Champion and have coached teams to several championships including Winter Games Gold, U18 and U21 Provincial (winners, World Mixed Doubles and instructed at Alberta Rocks Curling Camp for 10 years.

I am happy to step in and continue this tradition of developing great curlers from our facility.

**2022/23 SEASON**

Club registration runs from early August until September 9th, 2022. To register, you must go to the website [www.airdriecurlingclub.com](http://www.airdriecurlingclub.com) and register and pay through the Registration link in the top right corner of the home page.

* $182 (plus associated fees) per player for the Tuesday program. This includes a jacket.
* Curling brushes, step-on or slip-on sliders and helmets are available in limited quantities
* If your player has experience or is very keen to learn and play, purchasing their own curling shoes and brush (gloves, stopwatch, water bottle, etc.) are well worth the cost. Especially compared with other sports!
* 5:00pm to 6:30pm on Tuesdays with a break during the Christmas season and any special events.
* Age is often a non-factor; HOWEVER, we do prefer that brand new curlers join the Airdrie Wednesday Junior curling program to start in order to gain the basic skills and knowledge needed before moving to the Tuesday program.

COVID-19 restrictions are eased for almost all situations and the Airdrie Curling Club (ACC) facility is looking forward to a full start to all leagues, bonspiels and special events. ACC does recognize that risk of infection still exists to members of the community at large, and we are sensitive to that. Our commitment is to provide as safe an environment as possible for all ages.

**VOLUNTEERS**

We are fortunate to have many of the volunteer on-ice coaches return for this season. Having said that, we could always use more. You don’t need to be an expert or have years of playing experience to volunteer on the ice, any help is greatly appreciated! We have roughly the same number of girls and boys in the program and ideally our volunteers would reflect the same.

I am more than happy to help you get started and lead you toward more formal training. If you are interested, there is a Curling Alberta - Club Coach Course tentatively scheduled for the weekend of September 17 in Calgary. There is a one-day club level program and separate two-day introductory course geared toward those who have played and have knowledge at the club level. Ages 16 and up. If you have Club Coach under your belt, Airdrie CC is tentatively hosting a Competition Coach Course September 30 to October 2. (Next level up, must be 16 years old.)

Not everything happens on the ice of course. Ross expressed pride and Airdrie Curling Club is very proud to have many teams curl in the Calgary Youth Curling Association Sunday League over the past few seasons. It would be great to have someone help coordinate the teams and registration for this worthwhile league.

Other tasks and activities are also available to be taken such as the Christmas and end of season pizza parties. It truly is appreciated!

I look forward to the start of the season and to help our youth curlers build their love for the game!

Thank you,

Joe