



Voyageur Curling Club
1216 John Street, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0

*Fun
Fitness
Friendship*

The VOYAGEUR CURLING CLUB (MATTAWA) STORY

The Voyageur Curling Club has fallen on some very good times in the past 2 years as a result of some very good planning, a very positive outlook by not only the VCC Executive but also all of its members and the total community and certainly taking it all one day at a time. The VCC was incorporated in 2010 breathing new life and new directions for the Club. The Executive and all members worked together with the total community including the Corporation Town of Mattawa to pay off all outstanding debts while adding membership services and opportunities. The fundraising events such as bonspiels and chase the Ace draws were well supported. The main bonspiels found new sponsors...the FOODLAND Mens (always the 2nd weekend of January), the FRESHMART Ladies (always the 2nd weekend of February), the Mixed FOOLSPIEL (close to April 1 fools day) and all co-sponsored by MOOSEHEAD ESTATES and MATTAWA COUNTRY STYLE helped make these events fun and financial successes.

The VCC also has a fantastic partnership with 24/7 FITNESS CENTRE who lease the downstairs area and operate a 24 hours per day 7 days per week 365 days per year fitness centre. This provides good revenue for the VCC.

The VCC also lease the Clubhouse for the total off season the past 2 years and will continue to actively pursue interested parties for the 2013 offseason.

The Executive puts spending into perspective..."how many memberships have to be sold to cover the cost of this expenditure?". However, at the same time..."how will this expenditure create savings over the short, mid-term or long term for the Club?"

The Club submitted funding requests too Ontario Hydro and received a \$1,000 grant that assisted in defraying the costs to change all Clubhouse fixtures. The Club also submitted a funding request to the Canadian Curling Association bricks and mortars and were successful in receiving \$15,000 grant (covering 50% expenditures) which assisted in defraying the costs of a new ice plant header (which literally blew up), new gas heaters (which were leaking), new ice area fixtures (the old 8' tubes costing mega hydro), new walkway (which was totally rotted), repairs to ice surface piping (which were leaking) and other improvements. The front doors (which was single pane glass) and other exit doors (which were non-insulated) have been replaced-these doors and a number of other assets such as exit lights, interior doors etc. were provided by the Franco Nord Catholic School Board prior to the demolition of Ste Annes School in Mattawa. This opportunity exists for ALL Curling Clubs who may know of various buildings being demolished in their own community. Our Mattawa Lions Club provided a grant to purchase a shoe cleaner. The Corporation Town of Mattawa provided a one time grant to assist with the junior rocks curling program...many thanks to our Mayor and Council. The business community jumped on board and sponsored the scoreboards by providing cash, services and/or product. There has been lots of involvement by many due to an active and positive thinking Executive and membership.

The Voyageur Curling Club became a NEW member of the NOCA in the 2011-2012 season and proudly hosted the Region 5 NOCA Men's Playdowns in January 2012 and will be hosting the Region 5 Junior Men's in Nov 2012 and the Region 5 Senior Men's and Women's playdowns Feb 2013. The Club is also investing in a new pool table and refurbishing the existing shuffleboard table so that members and visitors during bonspiels will have yet another activity to participate in thus supporting the Club while having fun...a win/win situation. The ice surface will have a new look with the new on ice house designs. These new houses from Jet Ice will have a mid-term to long term savings not only in cash but many hours of volunteer time.

The Voyageur Curling Club (Mattawa) has a tremendous volunteer base. Each individual takes their responsibility seriously thus sharing of the workload to many. And seriously...everyone is having fun rolling up their sleeves and "just doing it". The volunteer base is even beyond the membership as non-curlers come and help install the ice or do the vacuuming or help install those free doors and frames. This is truly a COMMUNITY CLUB and we extend our arms and are grateful to everyone involved.