



Did You Know?

The Galt Curling Club (your club) is a member driven, not-for-profit corporation. Over the past 175 years the club has flourished, in large part, because of the dedicated support of our member volunteers. In fact, volunteer opportunities for members is a key element of our clubs mission statement:

- The mission of the Galt Curling Club is to encourage and facilitate the development of curling in our community so as to provide a sociable recreation opportunity for persons of all ages, in the fall and winter, through the sport of curling. We will also provide opportunities for member volunteers to actively govern and manage the daily operation of the club and encourage volunteer participation for curling and other events.

Your volunteer hours allow us to successfully run various member events throughout the year, helping to build strong bonds between our members (e.g.: bonspiels).

In addition, the thousands of hours our volunteers put in to organizing and running our leagues and clinics, performing repairs and maintenance to our building, property and equipment, raising funds and managing the business of curling helps ensure the viability and sustainability of our club. Your volunteer hours reduce the cost of running the club/ business and in turn, that allows us to keep our membership rates as affordable as possible.

Many curling clubs have instituted mandatory volunteer hours, while others offer a choice of volunteer hours or an annual surcharge in lieu of volunteer hours. Our club wants to continue with encouraging everyone to participate by becoming involved with many volunteer opportunities available at the club.

We will be formally reaching out with volunteer sign up sheets at some point in the future, so we want to give you insights into some of

the volunteer committees. Committees work closely with a designated board member for guidance and support.

Listed below are a few examples of ways you can be involved. These are not all inclusive, but hopefully they will get you thinking about what role you might play in helping out at the club. Examples include:

Events & Fundraising Committees: These volunteers can be involved with our opening and/or closing bonspiel activities. You might sign up to help with other events that take place throughout the year (e.g.: Home Hardware Bonspiel; OCA events). Maybe you have some skills to offer around fundraising. Many successful smaller ideas to raise money have allowed us to make improvements to our club over the years (most recently the scrap metal drive). You might have experience and want to volunteer to lead a major fund raising campaign. We are always looking for new and creative ways to have fun and to raise money. Do you have experience researching for government grants & funding, or writing proposals, completing grant application forms? We've probably missed some good funding opportunities along the way, but having someone monitoring for new funding/grants would be of real value to our club.

Membership Committee: Do you have some ideas that might help increase membership? If so, you might like to be part of a team that participates in activities to do just that. Do you have time available during the week and enjoy helping others? Then maybe you'd like to volunteer as an on ice assistant with the high school groups that come to the club. If you are a strong curler, you might like to assist with the "learn to curl" clinics. Is your strength administrative? You could consider volunteering to help out with member registration nights. So many possibilities.....

Health & Safety Committee: While the club has the required supplies and forms, do you think things could be even better? Then this is the spot for you. Think about it...

House, Property & Equipment Committee: This aspect of running the club requires a lot of volunteers. Are you a handyman? What about a handywoman? We need painters, carpenters, general maintenance skills and housekeeping skills. Housekeeping? You bet. How nice is

it to come back to start the season and find the lockers have all been wiped down and the locker room is freshened up. During the springtime we like to do an outdoor property clean up (getting rid of garbage and debris that has accumulated during the winter). This pride of property helps us with hall rentals for weddings, showers and other events. Remember the water damage we had last year in the downstairs hall? If you don't, that's because our awesome group of volunteers got rid of the damaged wall, put up new drywall and repainted. How nice is that! So if you think you could be a part of this team, we'd love to have you with us.

League Conveners: These volunteer roles are absolutely critical to the curling experience / member enjoyment. Individuals run some leagues, other leagues have formal committees while others use a team approach to running the league. Either way, be sure to talk to your convener and find out more about how you can become involved.

Board Members: Would you like the opportunity to help run a corporation? Are you interested in strategic planning, setting policy and managing budgets? Do you have specialized skills or accreditations that would benefit the club? If so, we'd love to hear from you. These opportunities also help with resume building, so if you are trying to differentiate yourself in a competitive job market, sitting on a Board of Directors might just strengthen your chances.

There are so many more examples and opportunities, but hopefully this outline gives you a broader understanding of how our club works (relies on member volunteers) and ways you might become involved.

To our many current and past volunteers, we extend a big thank you for your generous contribution of time, effort and expertise!

To those who have not yet participated in volunteerism at the club, we look forward to having you join with us in the future.

With appreciation,

The Board of Directors