



Tunnel Town Curling Club
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TUNNEL TOWN CURLING CLUB RECORD DOCUMENTS TTCC DETAILED HISTORY

DETAIL HISTORY OF THE CURLING CLUB 1991 - 2010

The Municipality replaced the sand base under the ice areas, with a Portland Cement Concrete floor, during the summer of 1992 (*Manager's letter to members dated Mar. 18, 1993*). The cooling lines for the ice area were replaced at this same time.

TTCC had 379 members and 12 juniors, for the 1995/96 season. Evening League Fees were \$180 plus GST plus PCCA/BCLCA dues, and \$110 (20 games) for day time seniors.

The Tunnel Town Senior Mens Curling Club donated a large "Welcome to Tunnel Town" banner for the south wall of the rink in the fall of 1995.

The Club applied for and received a licence to hold a Casino Night at the Great Canadian Casino at 709 W Broadway on February 8th & 9th 1996. The club raised \$45,887 from this event. These funds were used to purchase numerous improvements for the curling facility, including the following :

1. "Ice King" Scraper for ice maintenance.
2. "Jet Ice" sediment filtration system for the water for making the curling ice.
3. Carpet the lobby floor.
4. Pool table
5. Shuffle Board
6. Computer, printer and scanner for the office.
7. 25 Lockers in the lobby.
8. \$2000 contribution towards a viewing window to arena from the lounge.
9. TV for the lounge.
10. Store Room shelving
11. Paid ice consultant (B.J. Gagnon) to match curling stones & advise on ice maintenance.

The Club, in 1996, had funded the installation of a partial "Jet Ice" filtration system, which removes the sediments from the water used for the ice making. A full "Jet Ice" system which removes both sediments and minerals from the water was leased by the club, and installed by the Municipality, for the 1997-98 season. This system was purchased by the club in November 1998, with the Municipality being asked to fund the maintenance of the system. The Municipality painted the interior of the curling club, and purchased new tables for the lower lobby, during the summer of 1997. They installed a new Refrigeration unit for the ice, and a new HVAC System for the Lounge & Lobby Area, during the summer of 1998.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

Member volunteers lead by Joe Campbell, constructed wooden shelves in the Store Room, using material purchased by the club in February 1998.

Delta charged TTCC for the rental of each sheet of curling ice at the following rates for 98-99 season: Adult \$45 for league & 15 for Bonspiels, Youth & Senior \$29 for league and \$7 bonspiel. School Students were charged \$0.50 per session.

The club manager, Bob Fisher suggested to the Directors at the February 2000 Board Meeting that the club crest (crossed corn brooms & rock on sun ray background) be digitized and used as awards by adding a bar below with wording such as "Men's Club Champions - 2000" etc. This was approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting and crests became the standard award for certain titles won each year, thereafter.

Tunnel Town Curling Club and Delta Parks and Recreation combined forces to construct a new trophy case in 2000. The club manager, Bob Fisher, prepared the design for the new trophy case. The club purchased the material and Delta paid for the labour to construct the wooden portion of the case, which is located in the stair well to the "Ice Chip" Lounge. Jack Drover, one of the municipal ice technicians, did the woodwork. A club member, Steve Lebedovich, who owns Phoenix Glass (1992) Inc., donated the materials and installation of the glass for the doors and shelves, as well as the mirrors for the back of the case. Another club member, George Cederberg arranged for the club to purchase the hardware at wholesale prices through his company's (Ceco Construction) account. The first material was purchased for the case in January 2000, most of the woodwork as done during the summer, the glass work was installed on Sept. 27th and the lighting and final finishing completed in November 2000.

Adult Evening League Membership fo 2000-01 was \$222.30 including PCCA Dues and GST, with \$25 reduction for a second Leagues and a \$15 reduction for any subsequent leagues. Day Time Ladies Membership was \$141.90 including BCLCA Dues and GST. Sr Mens Wed & Fri League Membership was \$240.86 including PCCA Dues and GST. There were 358 Members of TTCC for the 2000-01 Season.

The Corporation of Delta replaced the old inadequate, florescent type lights, over the curling ice, with new "Metal Halide" type light fixtures, during the last week in December, 2000, at an approximate cost of \$25,000 (*to be confirmed*).

Tunnel Town Curling Club, on October 2, 1999, applied for, and in December, was awarded a Direct Charitable Access to Gaming Revenue Grant, in the amount of \$39,000, from the BC Government's Gaming Commission, to help pay the club's Ice Rental cost for the fiscal year 1999 - 2000. The club then donated \$40,000, from their general revenue, to the Corporation of Delta, towards the purchase and installation of a new "desicant" type De-humidifier, for the South Delta Recreation Centre. The installation of this new De-humidifier, which serves both the Ice Arena, and the Curling Rink, and had a total cost of approximately \$85,000, was completed for the start of the 2001-02 curling season.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

The municipal staff carried out the following improvements to the facility during the summer of 2001:

- Constructed six large boxes to store the rocks in, and serve as benches at the end of each sheet.
- Painted the lounge, curling rink interior, and the score boards.

Bryson Kerr, Delta's Maintenance Supervisor, retired in September 2001, and was replaced by Mike Ryder.

Tunnel Town Curling Club contracted with Thompson Brush Company of Winnipeg, Manitoba, to reshape the striking bands of all ninety six of the facilities curling stones, and install Blue Hone Ainslet Granite "Tile" type running surfaces on their bottom side. The \$21,600 cost of this contract was shared 50/50 between the Club and the Corporation, and the work was carried out during the summer of 2003.

The Corporation of Delta purchased six wooden benches in the summer of 2003, at a cost of \$1,700, to replace the old leatherette benches in the lower lobby, which had been donated to the club, by a member (Don Sharland) in 1968.

TTCC purchased a "Nipper" hand powered ice scraper in January 2004, at a cost of \$1,172, from Challenger Curling & Rink Supplies of Calgary. One pass of this Nipper, up one side of the sheet and down the other, after the game pebble has been applied, greatly reduced the "Heavy" first end ice which had always been a problem at this club. The rocks times in 2004, following use of the Nipper, were about 20 seconds (hog to stop on the Tee) for the first rocks, and increasing to 22 to 23 seconds by the third end.

TTCC purchased a "Pentium 3, 450MHz" computer with a 40GB Hard Drive during the summer of 2004. A club member, Ossie Abbott, assembled this computer from spare parts which he had, and sold it to the club for \$300. The club also leased a High Speed Internet connection from Telus, for this computer, at a cost of \$60 per month.

The Corporation of Delta approached TTCC in the fall of 2003, and asked if they would be interested in entering into a lease agreement for portions of the curling rink facility. Negotiations took place over the next few months between the Club and Corporation. The Club was represented at these negotiations by their Past President (Phil Savard) and Manager (Bob Donaldson). These negotiations resulted in a lease agreement being approved by the Municipal Council in August 2004, which contained the following key elements:

- Transfer of the operation and maintenance of the Bar and Lounge, including the Wash Rooms, to TTCC
- Transfer of the Municipality's Liquor Licence for the Bar and Lounge to TTCC
- Transfer of the operation and maintenance of the Lower Lobby including the Concessions and Wash Rooms, to TTCC
- Transfer of the right to sell Advertising space on the interior walls of the Curling

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

Ice Area to TTCC

- The Municipality will continue to provide and maintain the curling ice, and total building heating, cooling, and utilities, as per a Base Service Agreement.
- TTCC will pay the Municipality a fixed fee of \$50,000 per year for use of the Curling Ice by all Leagues and three club Bonspiels.
- TTCC will pay the Municipality a fixed fee of \$6,000 per year for lease of the Bar, Lounge and Lobby areas.

- The Municipality will set aside 5% of the funds received from TTCC, and TTCC will set aside 5% of their Profits from the Bar each year (TTCC contribution was later set at \$3000 per year). These moneys will be used to fund repairs to the facility.
- TTCC will carry a \$5 million liability insurance policy.

The TTCC Board of Directors approved this Lease agreement at a Meeting on August 31, 2004. The current Club President (Bill Rafter) and Treasurer (Charlene Nunes) signed this Lease Agreement on September 10, 2004. The Lease is for a period of five years, with an option for an additional five years.

Kerry Bysouth became responsible for the management of the South Delta Recreation Centre in 2004, taking over from Kevin Near who had held the position since 1995.

Darcy Jones, and Neil Elliot, who were the municipal employees that had been the Bar Tenders for the Curling Club Lounge for about fifteen years, were terminated, and the club hired their own non union bar tenders.

TTCC, in October 2004, leased a credit card terminal for the bar, and another for the manager's office, to facilitate payments by their members. The cost of these terminals is \$60 per month plus 2.5% of the amount charged through them.

TTCC contracted, in October 2004, with a Club member, Elsie Claridge, for providing the cleaning service for the Upper and Lower Lounge areas and the associated washrooms, at a cost of approximately \$500 per month. Elsie continued with the club's cleaning until the spring of 2009, at which time her and husband, Ken, relocated to Cutlas Lake, BC

The Corporation of Delta purchased and installed new plastic covered 4" x 4" wooden dividers between the curling ice sheets and repainted the interior of the east wall for the ice area during August-September 2005. They also repainted the interior of the east wall of the ice area. The Corporation of Delta purchased, in the summer of 2005, 25 used, fabric covered chairs to replace the leatherette covered chairs in the lower lobby of the curling rink at a cost of \$5.00 per chair. The cost of this purchase was shared 50-50 between Delta and TTCC with the funds coming from the 5% Maintenance funds being set aside by each of the two organizations.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

The municipal ice technicians had the location of the hog lines marked on the dividers which they replaced. Some how, following installation of the new dividers , the locations of the hog lines for the 05/06 season were placed almost three feet too close to the house, on all six sheets. Amazingly, this error went undetected until the Open Mixed Bonspiel in late November. One of the

more competitive visiting teams could not get the back line to hog split times and hog to hog times to relate. They soon realized that the hog lines were too close to the house, and brought it to the club managers attention. The hog lines could not be changed without taking the ice out and starting over. As a compromise the Municipal staff installed a second hog line in the correct location, when they did the next ice wash over the Xmas break. The rest of the season was played with two hog lines showing, but only the correct one being in play.

TTCC had 382 members and 14 juniors, for the 2005/06 season. Evening League Fees were \$242 incl. Curl BC dues and banquet, plus GST., with a discount for the second league, and \$150 (20 games) for day time seniors, or \$262 for 40 daytime senior games.

The club was able to rent advertizing sign space at the scoreboard end of all six sheets for the 2005/06 season with revenue of \$450 per sign per year.. They also rented two side wall sign locations for \$300 per sign. These firms all contracted for a minimum of three years.

Tom Kinch was promoted from Ice Technician to Maintenance Supervisor, replacing Mike Ryder, in January 2006.

Sandra MacKinnon tabled 3 options for a new club logo at the Club's July 2006 Board Meeting and a committee of consisting of Sandra, Brian Crane, Glenn Flach, Phil Savard, and the club manager, Doris Torrence was established to make the final selection. The new logo (a stylized curling rock) was introduce for the 2006-07 season.

A committee of volunteers, comprised of Nancy Booth (Chair), Bob Fisher, Kai Kielesinski, and Warren Wolfe, met over the summer of 2006 to design a web-site for TTCC. Sandra MacKinnon and Warren Wolfe got the website operational for September 2006, which contains 43 pages of Club History provided by Bob Fisher.

The municipality Replaced the "Chillers" or refrigeration units, which freeze the ice for the arena and the curling rink, during the summer of 2006. These units had failed at our club's sister facility, the North Delta Recreation Centre, in the fall of 2005. The municipality therefore replaced the units at our facility to avert a possible unplanned loss of our ice during the curling and hockey season. The new units were installed on the exterior, in a fenced enclosure, at the north end of the curling building, rather than in the equipment room where the original ones had been. The contract included the replacement of the hot water tanks for the building heating system. The carpet on the floor of the curling rink entrance hall, was also replaced by the contractor as part of this project. This project which was funded by the municipality cost approximately \$250,000.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

The municipality painted the block wall at the east end of the upper lounge and in the stair well during the summer of 2006.

Tunnel Town Curling Club purchased two 37 inch LCD "View Sonic" televisions at a cost of \$1303 each, and mounted them on the south wall of the upper lounge in November 2006.

Tunnel Town replaced the cooler in the bar at a cost of \$ 2,698 (of which Delta paid 50%) and purchased convection oven and crock pot for the bar at a cost of \$ 683 in the fall of 2006.

The TTCC Board of Directors decided at the Oct. 24, 2007 meeting to donate the pool table and shuffle board, which only received minimal use, to a local youth group. The South Delta Baptist Youth Group took them.

The Beach Grove Golf Club donated a used Mitsubishi 45" TV to Tunnel Town in the summer of 2007. This TV was set up in the lounge where the shuffle board had been.

TTCC purchased a drop safe at a cost of \$508 in Sept. 2007, and a commercial grade steamer in November 2007 at a cost of \$410, for the bar.

Jim Levin became the manager responsible for the South Delta Recreation Centre in August 2008, taking over from Kevin Bysouth.

Delta municipal staff, at the request of TTCC, removed the T-Bar ceiling from the upper lounge and painted the open web steel joists and corrugated steel ceiling a flat black during the summer of 2008. They had new ceiling and wall mounted lights with dimmer switches on them, installed. The electrical materials cost approx \$7,000 and the installations about \$5,000. They also installed a new sound system that cost about \$3000. The total cost for these renovations was about \$27,000 plus Delta staff labour costs. Delta covered all of the costs associated with this work.

The Life Member and Past President's portraits were relocated following the lounge renovations. The six Life Member portraits were hung on the wall between the two washroom doors. The club historian, Bob Fisher, scanned all of the Past President portraits into his computer, and produced 5" x 7" versions of the first twenty, which were then placed into two 24" x 36" frames and hung by the trophy case. The remainder, in the original 8" x 10" size, were hung on the wall above the window at the east end of the lounge. The cost to the club for these changes was about \$225. Several old trophy plaques were put into storage, rather than re-hanging them on the lounge walls.

TTCC introduced an "Open League" on Wednesday evening in September 2008 in which a team could be made up of a combination of members without regard to gender. Only four teams registered so they played an interlocking schedule with the regular mixed league.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

The club Manager, Richard Brower, arranged for Curl BC to hold a Performance Ice Making Session at TTCC on October? 2008. Delta's Ice Technicians attended this session which was given by B.J. Gagnion. He recommended that Delta use a finer sprinkler head for pebbling the ice. Following the purchase by the club, of two new heads, at a cost of \$263, the ice speed improved from about 22 seconds, hog to tee, to about 24 seconds.

The TTCC Annual Mixed Bonspiel which was held November 7 - 9, 2008 was interrupted by an electrical power outage. At 02:30 am, on the morning of November 8, a transformer owned by Delta, blew and the main electrical panel for the facility was damaged. Following frantic phone calls, the remainder of the bonspiel was moved to the North Delta Thistle Curling Club, with the first draw there being held at 5:00 pm on November 8th, and the finals taking place at 3:30pm on the 9th. The dinner Saturday evening, and the award presentation on Sunday were also at the Thistle. A replacement transformer arrived from Grand Forks late on the 8th, and the power was back on at Tunnel Town by 5 pm on the 10th. Although, all those involved, worked as quickly as they could to complete the repairs, the curling ice had melted down to the paint. It was therefore decided that in order to have good looking ice for the remainder of the season, the rink was closed until November 24th. This gave the Delta staff time to paint over the old ice and place additional layers. The two weeks of league curling lost were added on to the end of the season.

TTCC purchased a new microwave oven for the bar in November 2008 at a cost of \$128

A club member, Sue Murdock, took over the contract from Elsie Claridge, for cleaning the club's facilities for the 2009-10 season.

The contract between Delta and TTCC expired in April 2009. A new contract was negotiated during the summer and fall of 2009 and signed in January 2010. TTCC will pay an average fee of about \$62,500 per year to Delta, for use of the curling facility for the next five years, under this new agreement.

The new contract between Delta and TTCC gave the club the authority to put up 21 - 4 ft x 8 ft advertising signs on the walls of the curling ice area. A club member, Darcy Hiesler, in the fall of 2009, solicited 20 firms to pay for these advertising spaces. Most of these firms were owned or managed by club members. This advertising generated \$10,000 in revenue for the club over the period from 2009 to 2011. The club gave Darcy a commission for obtaining this revenue.

A past member, Larry Wold, donated to the club, in February 2010, a framed painting of a 1950's era curling play-down. This painting was done by William Winters, who was an established historical modernistic artist from Winnipeg, who has paintings displayed in the National Gallery. It is now hung on the wall in the upper lounge, together with a picture of Sandra Schmirler.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

The municipality, at TTCC's request, hired a contractor to replace the carpet and vinyl flooring in the lounge including the bar and washrooms, in December 2009. The stairs were not done until April. The cost of this work was approximately \$12,000. During the summer of 2010 the counter tops and sinks were replaced in the lounge washrooms and the bar counter top was replaced. Some cabinets were also added in the bar area. In addition the chairs in the lounge were replaced with 100 new ones in August 2010 at a cost of approximately \$10,000, and the old lounge chairs were relocated to the lower lobby area. The costs for the floor and chairs were taken out of the maintenance fund which is contributed to by the club and Delta on a 50/50 basis.

The club manager, Sandra MacKinnon, arranged for oversize buttons in each of the houses, for the 2010-11 season. Six different companies, then paid an annual fee to have their name or logo painted in the two buttons at either end of a sheet.

TTCC contracted with Tonmar Janitorial Services to clean the Lobby and Lounge areas for the 2010-11 season.

TTCC had 317 members and 45 juniors, for the 2010/11 season. Evening league fees were \$260 (incl. Curl BC dues), plus HST. A second evening leagues was only an additional \$130, and the third one another \$60. A daytime league cost \$170. The Awards Banquet cost an additional \$35 (\$45 after 1 February 2011) instead of being included in the league fees, as it had been for the past several years.

Bob and Joyce Fisher had managed the club for the 98-99 through the 2000-01 seasons, and had been members of the club since February 1974. When Joyce past away from cancer in July 2007, a reception was held in the club lounge and Bob donated \$500 to the club. The Board of Directors arranged for the installation of Joyce's Corner at the east end of the club lounge. It consists of a sofa, two chairs, and a coffee table with a engraved plaque on it. The Plaque reads "Joyce's Corner - Dedicated to the Memory of Joyce Fisher - former Club Manager and curling friend - To Fun and Friendship". The dedication took place following the Friday Evening Mixed Draw on December 17, 2010. It was open to all club members, with snacks provided by the club.

Sandra MacKinnon who became the club manager in August of 2010, arranged for TTM Resources to donated a used Samsung 60" Wide Screen LCD Television to the club in December 2011. The 50" TV which had been purchased by the Municipality and was located at the east end of the lounge stopped working, and was removed in January 2011. The 45" Mitsubishi was moved to that location.

An auction was held during the Ladies Bonspiel in February 2011 to raise funds in order to purchase an Electric Fireplace for "Joyce's Corner". A five night stay at a home on the shore of Mara Lake was donated by TTCC member Mary Kay Thurston, and purchased by Terri Walker for \$700. A total of \$1600 was raised by the Ladies through this auction. The Fireplace was purchased for \$420, in March 2011.

TTCC DETAIL HISTORY 1991 - 2010(continued)

TTCC has approved eight (by 2010) “Honorary Life Members” since 1959. A brief biography for each of them is contained in a separate section of the Club History.

The Club has had approximately 17 Managers between 1962 and 2010, including two wives who were co-managers with their husbands, and a brief biography on those which were available for input are contained in Appendix “A” of the Club Record Documents.

TTCC has elected 46 Presidents between 1959 and 2010, including two who served only partial terms, and three who were Presidents of the original Ladner Curling Club. A brief biography on most of them is contained in Appendix “B” which is contained in a separate section of the Club History.. The Ladies and Senior Men’s Club Presidents are listed with their Directors in Appendix “C” of the Club Record Documents.

TTCC has hired their own Bartenders since leasing the Bar from the municipality in 2004. Marie Rose and Terry Douglas shared the majority of this work over the first couple of years. Amber Haklander took some shifts since late 2006. Al Lee and his son Mike were hired in 2007? and continued to work through the 2010-11 season. Gary Smith was added to the bar staff for the first half of 2010. Al and Mike were replaced by Becky and Jamie Campbell in late February of 2011.

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