



Grand National Curling Club of America, Inc.

WHAT THE GNCC DOES FOR ITS MEMBERS



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The Grand National Curling Club (GNCC) has been in existence since 1867 under the 1st GNCC President David Bell from Buffalo NY. By July 1, 1868 there were 12 clubs on the roster from all over the United States and Canada. 14 ends were played, rink fees were \$8 and curlers played outdoors. Today we have 22 dedicated curling facilities and 19 arena facilities in the GNCC and the spirit of curling is reflected in its most cherished traditions. As the connecting organization between clubs and the national organization our organization is an important resource to both.

Building Curling from the Grass Roots

1. Stone Program – The GNCC currently holds 20 sheets of curling stones (320). The GNCC paid for the refurbishing of 12 sets of rocks. The stone program is an enabler for new clubs building in the GNCC. GNCC stones are rented at reasonable rates to start up clubs. Over the years we have provided curling rocks to Lancaster, PA, Waynesboro, PA, Sarasota, FL, Woodstock VT, Rutland VT, Scranton PA, Long Island, Green Mountain and Tupper Lake, NY.
2. Arena Startup – The GNCC provides guidance, instruction and rocks to Arena clubs. This season the GNCC will recognize the importance of arena clubs by conducting the third annual GNCC Arena Curling Championship in June at Woodstock Vermont.
3. Insurance - GNCC Clubs Broomstones and Cape Cod first brought to light the inequities and lack of coverage of the liability insurance GNCC Clubs were getting from the USCA. After an exhaustive investigation, GNCC curler, Steve Gutro was able to find a policy that would adequately cover curling club activities. This is the policy most of the GNCC clubs and clubs outside the GNCC are now using. The GNCC also provides insurance for distinguished trophies of the Gordon championship, Emmett Memorial, Canadian Branch trophy, Presidents Trophy, and Mitchell as well as insurance for our rock program.

Instruction

1. Curling Instruction – The GNCC conducts clinics for instructor certifications and a Head Instructor to organize and teach on going clinics.
2. Officials – The GNCC conducts clinics for officiating certifications and provides a Head official to organize on going clinics and provide the appropriate amount of officials at GNCC and playdown events.
3. Coaching Instruction – The GNCC conducts clinics for coaching certification and competitive curling camps to provide additional help to competitive teams

Communication

1. Newsletter - The GNCC publishes 3 newsletters a year to all members a year updating members on issues affecting them in the curling world, providing information on upcoming events in the GNCC, providing results of bonspiels, workshops, and other news.
2. GNCC Website - Providing the fastest updates of bonspiel results, GNCC information, schedule of events, links to the curling world, training and the curling News
3. Handbook - The GNCC publishes a handbook for all members listing contact information for GNCC leadership, contact information for all GNCC clubs, and contacts for USCA leadership.
4. Olympics – The GNCC has a program in place to share suggestions and provide resources such as promotional items and media assistance to the GNCC clubs in preparation for the 2010 Olympics and upcoming 2014 Olympics.

GNCC Dedicated Funds for Members

1. Memorial Fund - The GNCC administers a Memorial Fund that provides low interest loans to member clubs for emergency repairs and replacement equipment. GNCC Clubs have applied for and received funding to repair roofs, replace compressors and other catastrophic failures that would have stopped play at a club. Norfolk, Potomac, Ardsley and Plainfield have all been beneficiaries of this fund
2. Legacy Fund - The WCF has a building fund for new clubs. The WCF requires seed money from a local governing body for the project to be listed on the application. The Legacy Fund will provide low interest loans as seed money for arena clubs transitioning to dedicated ice.
3. 2nd Century Fund – The 2nd Century Fund will provide funding to Jr Men's and Women's Curling teams to attend elite curling camps providing training, coaching and strategy improvements. The funds will help offset travel expenses and hotel accommodations for the team.

GNCC Championships

1. 5 Year and Under Events - The GNCC sponsors the highly successful Dykes (for Men), Elisabeth Childs' Challenge (for Women) and Kayser (Mixed Curling) for curlers with five years or less curling experience. The GNCC provides the pins, patches & trophies for the tournament winners.



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GNCC Championships – continued

2. Nationals and Regional Playdowns - The GNCC has a long tradition of Championships for Men, Women, Mixed & Juniors including the Gordon-Emmett, the Senior Men's, the Senior Mixed, the Senior Women's, Arena championships and conducting the National playdowns for the Men's & Women's clubs, Mixed and Junior Championships. The GNCC provides funding to the winning team(s) advancing to Nationals.

3. Seniors Championships - For two years, the GNCC Senior Women's Teams won the USCA National Championship and advanced as team USA to the Senior Women's World Championship. The GNCC provided Funding to the winning team(s) advancing to Nationals

4. Youth Curling - A Boot Camp is held for youth curling every July . The GNCC provides funding to each team that advances to the Junior Nationals, to help offset the cost of uniforms and travel expenses. The GNCC junior program is the beneficiary of \$1000 worth of merchandise from Goldline every year as a result of a contractual relationship with the GNCC.

6. Wheelchair Curling - The GNCC supports Wheelchair curling and has been in the forefront of expanding the sport and supporting the visibility and growth in many of their clubs.

7. World Championships - The GNCC was the host sponsor for the World Men's Curling Championship held in Lowell, Massachusetts in April, 2006. This major undertaking represents the first time a regional association has conducted this prestigious event, and has heightened awareness of curling in the GNCC and across the United States.

GNCC International Exchanges

1. Gordon International - The GNCC sponsors the Gordon International, pitting GNCC teams against teams from Quebec. This event has been played since 1884.

2. Ross Tarleton - The GNCC sponsors the Ross Tarleton, pitting GNCC teams against teams from Ontario.

USCA and WCF Liaison

1. USCA - The GNCC works with the USCA to support our sport nationally through membership initiatives and participation in USCA development programs. The GNCC sends three representatives to the USCA which serve as directors on the USCA Board of Directors. The GNCC supports the USCA financially with the payment of yearly dues to the USCA. The GNCC paid approximately \$95,000.00 for the 2011-2012 dues, which is about 22% of the total USCA dues.

2. WCF - The GNCC is active with the World Curling Federation, to inform GNCC members of rules changes, new club building funds, and impacts for Olympic and world level playdowns and competitions.

3. GNCC Representatives - The GNCC Executive Board strives to keep its members informed of issues affecting the GNCC through each club's GNCC Representative. In addition to providing the governance for the organization through votes at the annual meeting this meeting and a fall meeting give the GNCC Representatives a chance to share best practices from each other.