

Yur Curler

APRIL 2022

PARALYMPIC PLAYBACK

A LOOK BACK TO PARALYMPICSGB PERFORMANCE IN BEIJING

LANDING FROM LAS VEGAS

SCOTLAND RETURN FROM THE WORLD MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

Scottish Curling Championships

A look into the Scottish Mixed, Mixed Doubles, Senior Mixed and the Junior Mixed Doubles.



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A Word from our CEO

Welcome to another Your Curler packed with great stories from across the country.

We have reason to celebrate much that has been achieved in the last year at local clubs and on the world stage. Success comes in many forms, so in the first season since the pandemic struck, curling has resumed in all the ice rinks in Scotland and we are pleased with just how many members returned to curling when it was possible to do so. Ice rinks and clubs have changed the ways they operate and kept people engaged and active in the sport, this has required hard work and commitment, so they should all be congratulated. The demand for TryCurling was phenomenal in most ice rinks, so we should recognise the impact that came from the national and local promotional campaigns and the performances and successes of our Paralympic and Olympic curlers in Beijing.

The Annual General Meeting of the RCCC is moving from previously being in June to Saturday 20th August this year, in Edinburgh and online. The date change was announced last year and will allow for greater preparation and consultation prior to the AGM and for a full financial audit to be completed. There will be no voting required for the vacancies of directors and vice president, as the number of applicants matched the vacancies. The board will be seeking input from members in the coming weeks as we are currently preparing proposals to modernise the Articles of the RCCC, we are also working on a new Selection Policy to cover 2022-2026 and will be seeking member input to the next Strategic Plan 2023-27. If you have ideas or interest in any of these, please get involved when the process starts as we need the views of members to help shape the future direction of curling in Scotland.

Live Streaming from the World Mixed Doubles Championship in Geneva will see Eve Muirhead and Bobby Lammie representing Scotland. See two of the games live online:

Mon 25 April 12:00 (in the UK) SCO v CAN [**CLICK HERE TO VIEW**](#)

Tues 26 April 16:00 (in the UK) SCO v USA [**CLICK HERE TO VIEW**](#)

Good luck to them both and to our teams playing in the World Seniors also in Geneva next week, with skips Keith Prentice and Edith Hazard. Then in May is the chance for our Junior teams to shine on the world stage when they take to the ice in Sweden a fortnight later.

If you have a story to tell please send it to us at marketing@scottishcurling.org

2022 Paralympic Games



The ParalympicsGB wheelchair curling team (Gregor Ewan, Hugh Nibloe, David Melrose, Meggan Dawson-Farrell, Gary Smith) showed a great outing in Beijing and played some magnificent games on Paralympic ice. Unfortunately, sitting 6-4 at the end of the round robin, the Scots' efforts were not quite enough to secure a play-off spot.

Despite falling to an opening defeat at the hands of Norway, positive signs in the ParalympicsGB team's play predicted great things to come. The Scots immediately delivered on this promise in their next game when a cool, calm, and collected performance secured a magnificent victory over United States. With their confidence clearly boosted, the team went on to secure an outstandingly dominant win over Switzerland that did not leave anything to be desired. Next up were Slovakia who played a marvellous game and build up an advantage the ParalympicsGB curlers were not able to over despite a significantly improved performance in the second half. The Scottish side got back on winning ways when they pounced at the chance to capitalise against an error-prone Estonia team. However, table-toppers Sweden were up next and unfortunately, a spirited comeback after the break did not come off.

Things took a turn for the worse against Canada where on-ice proceedings were rendered secondary by an accident for David Melrose that ruled him out injured and forced a line-up change that saw alternate Gary Smith coming in. With the close-knit Scots notably – and understandably – shaken, the game tipped in Canada's favour. A subsequent loss to Korea took the ParalympicsGB side out of play-off contention with two round robin games to go. The team looked in great shape against China, but the eventual gold medallist found an extra gear in the second half and that fixture too ended in defeat. However, the Paralympic campaign came to a conciliatory end for the Scots when a magnificent performance against Latvia saw them close their journey with a win.

Relive ParalympicGB's wheelchair curlers' Beijing 2022 fixture by fixture [here](#)



Paralympics GB



WCF



Paralympics GB



WCF



WCF



WCF



WCF



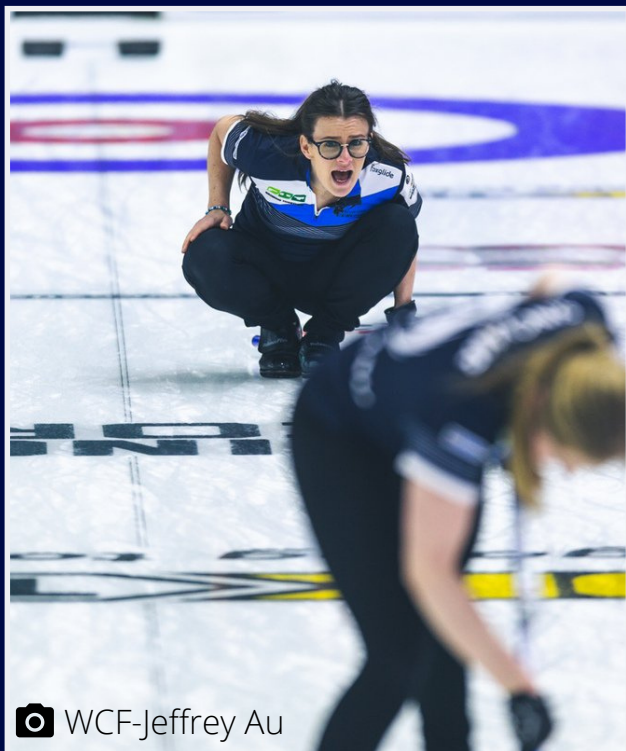
WCF



World Women's Curling Championship

Scotland's campaign at the World Women's Curling Championship 2022 was sadly over before it really began. A series of unfortunate event, or, in this case, positive covid tests meant the Scottish delegation had to withdraw their participation after only two games played.

Having only just arrived in Canada, skip Rebecca Morrison was first to be hit by the curse of covid, meaning she was sure to miss at least the start of the tournament. In turn, Fay Henderson received a call-up from the bench, but when the alternate too tested positive, things started to look seriously bleak.



With the event already underway, one last shot at putting a campaign together was made by recruiting Beth Farmer at the 12th hour. Amazingly, she dropped everything and was on a transcontinental flight a few hours later to help the team out.

Nevertheless, with the games go, Scotland were forced to field a three-member team of Gina Aitken, Sophie Sinclair, and Sophie Jackson for their opening games. However, when another two team members fell victim to covid, the Scotland squad made the brave decision to withdraw from the tournament for the safety of the other participants. Team Morrison said in a statement on their Instagram page:

“This is the toughest thing we’ve ever had to post. Unfortunately, our team has continued to suffer the consequences of covid, and we have lost more team members. Because of this, we have made the difficult decision to withdraw from the world championships in order to protect the rest of the teams and officials. We are completely devastated that this week which should have been one of the best experiences of our life has turned into this. We cannot thank everyone enough for their support – especially our behind-the-scenes team who have tried so hard to make this work for us. We really hope that we will get this experience again, and we look forward to the day we can all step onto the ice together again.”

Scotland’s on-ice campaign at the World Women’s started off in the toughest possible way, down to three players and up against reigning champions Switzerland (who would go on to defend their title unbeaten). Although Scotland went into the game with hammer and opened the scoring with a single in End 1, on-form Team Tirinzoni showed no mercy. The game concluded after the mandatory six ends played and the scores reading 12-1. Their next, and, as it turned out, final, fixture, however, was a formidable display of strength and perseverance. Still playing as a trio, Scotland were trailing Czech Republic by five points after four ends but found an extra gear to cut their deficit with a three in End 5. Going into the second half, both sides scored with hammer, but the Scots outcounted their opponents with another two threes and took the lead by a single point with one end remaining. Unfortunately, the comeback eventually didn’t quite come off when Czech skip Alzbeta Baudysova executed a throw for two in the 10th end that secured her a 10-9 win.

World Men's Curling Championship



Team Scotland (Ross Paterson, Kyle Waddell, Duncan Menzies, Craig Waddell, Euan Kyle) went on a rollercoaster ride through all the emotions a World Men's Curling Championship has to offer. A partially shaky, partially magnificent round robin came to a happy ending when the Scots secured fourth place and a spot in the play-offs. However, their campaign ended in the qualification games when a spirited comeback against United States did not quite come off.

Scotland kicked their stint at the Orleans Arena, Las Vegas off in ideal fashion. A single point in the last end secured a win over Italy, but things would get trickier from there. Korea dealt Scotland their first loss with a frustrating last end steal before a young Norwegian side brought their A game and edged out the win. However, with their backs up against the wall, the Scots went on a remarkable run. Starting with a comprehensive victory over Denmark, they followed on with triumphs over Germany, United States, and Finland before their winning streak culminated in a spectacular 6-0 shut out over Czech Republic.



Unfortunately, high-flying Scotland were brought back to the ground when Netherlands prevailed in a tight game. With Sweden and Canada up next, the Scots faced a tough challenge and defeats to both title favourites rendered their remaining fixture against Switzerland a must win. An absolute nail-biter, the game was tense until the end, but Scotland took the win and thereby booked a play-off spot. Up against a confident US team in the qualification game, Scotland took some moments to settle into proceedings. However, once in the swing of things, the Scots started a spirited comeback that tightened the encounter. Eventually though, Korey Dropkin's team saw the game out and ended Scotland's Worlds campaign.

Relive Scotland's #WMCC2022 fixture by fixture [here](#)



Scottish Curling Mixed Doubles Title

Congratulations to Eve Muirhead and Bobby Lammie who beat Jen Dodds and Bruce Mouat 9-2 in the final to secure the 2022 Scottish Curling Mixed Doubles title. A big four-points score in the fourth end brought the duo in a comfortable position and they managed their lead to a 9-2 victory at the Dewars Centre, Perth.

THE FINAL

Muirhead/Lammie got off to a flying start, scoring four in the first end and following it up with a steal of one for a big lead after just two ends played. Fresh off Olympic mixed doubles curling in Beijing, Dodds/Mouat clawed two back in the third end only for their opponents to respond with a two-points score and kept the advantage at the break.

Going into the second half, Muirhead/Lammie looked cool, calm, and collected and put the game to bed with a steal of two that prompted Dodds/Mouat to shake hands after just five ends played. It is the first Scottish Mixed Doubles title for both Muirhead and Lammie.

'It was always going to be a tough game out there against Jen and Bruce, but both of us played very well and we're absolutely delighted to get the trophy,' Muirhead said after the game. 'The four in the first end set the tone for the game,' Lammie added. It gave us a head start and we just controlled it from there. The steal of two in five definitely clinched it for us!'

Two weeks after their Olympic success in Beijing – Muirheads Team taking gold and Lammie part of the silver-winning Team Mouat side – the Scottish Mixed Doubles almost came as a welcome return to normality. 'It's been a busy couple of weeks,' Muirhead admits. 'We were always going to get back to normal at some point and we knew we had this mixed doubles tournament, so we rested up for it and came as prepared as we could. It'll be nice to get a little bit of rest now!' The on-ice action will continue soon in their respective four-players teams, says Lammie: 'We both got Grand Slam championships in April, so that's the next thing we're gearing up for – it's rest for the next couple of weeks and then back into training.'

National mixed doubles champions Eve Muirhead and Bobby Lammie will represent Scotland at the World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022 taking place in Geneva, Switzerland from 23 to 30 April this year. Muirhead aims to complete her medal collection and claim the only major title that still eludes her.

Read the full report from the Mixed Doubles [here](#)



STEWARTON ACADEMY ARE THE 2022 SCHOOL CHAMPIONS



Congratulations to Amy Mitchell, Ewan Jackson, Holly Smith, and Libby Johnstone of Stewarton Academy on winning the 2022 Scottish Curling Schools Championship at Curl Aberdeen. The Kilmarnock side beat Perth Academy I (Arran Thomson, Lewis McCabe, William Gorton, Sam McConnachie) comprehensively with a 6-1 win in the final.

16 teams, four each in four sections, went into the tournament held at Curl Aberdeen. A round robin in the individual sections was followed by quarter-finals played between the top two teams from each section. These determined the four rinks that would contest the semi-finals on Sunday to earn a chance to compete in the shoot-out for the title.

Read the full article [here](#)

HYSLOP/CARSON OF DUMFRIES I EDGE WIN TO BECOME 2022 SCOTTISH PAIRS CHAMPIONS



**HYSLOP/CARSON OF DUMFRIES I EDGE WIN TO
BECOME 2022 SCOTTISH PAIRS CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to Archie Hyslop and Orrin Carson of Dumfries I on winning the 2022 Scottish Curling Pairs Championship at Stranraer Ice Rink. The duo narrowly beat home side Stranraer I (Andrew Chalmers, Frazer Hare) 5-4 in a tense final that went all the way to an extra end.

Read the full article [here](#)

TEAM STUART WILSON ARE THE 2022 SCOTTISH CURLING SENIOR MIXED CHAMPIONS



Congratulations to Team S Wilson (Stuart Wilson, Margaret Agnew, John Agnew, Sheila Kennedy) who took the 2022 Scottish Curling Senior Mixed title at Border Ice Rink. The Stranraer side edged out Team McIntyre 5-4 in a tight final to become champions. In the low road final, Team P Wilson got the better over Team Martin.

Eight teams went into the competitions and, split into two sections, played a round robin before going into crossover games. The final section standings decided the play-off high and low road line-ups.

Team S Wilson secured a spot in the high-road semi-finals by losing only a single game at section stage. Encountering Team Cormack, they trailed 4-1 at the break and faced a tough second half. Living up to the challenge, it was all Stranraer when they returned to the ice. Scoring a single in End 5, they went on to steal in all remaining ends and navigated to a 7-4 win that secured a place in the high road final.

In contrast, Team McIntyre (Graham McIntyre, Karen Kennedy, Martin Herd, Michelle McIntyre) only narrowly booked a place in the high road semi-final with two draws, one win, and one defeat. However, the Greenacres outfit showed their strength in the play-off game against Team Murray. Getting the encounter off to a two-points steal, Team McIntyre led by two points at the break. They went on to steal time and again in the second half, culminating in a big four in End 7 that ended the game prematurely with the scores 12-3.



Team S Wilson took hammer into the final and used it to open the scoring with a two in the first end. Consecutive singles saw Team McIntyre tie the board three ends in before a blank fourth end meant the sides sat level at the break. Team S Wilson opened the second half with a two, but their Greenacres opponents copied the same feat and the scores were even once more. After a blank seventh, it all came down to the final end where the Stranraer side of Stuart Wilson secured a crucial point for a 5-4 win.



In the low road final, Philip Wilson's Stranraer team (Kate Adams, William Johnston, Elspeth Johnston) held a handsome 5-1 lead at the break. Going into the second half, Border home side Team Martin (Colin Martin, Liz Martin, Paul Jess, Helen Forbes) went on a streak of singles and cut their deficit down to a single point with one end to go. Unfazed by the pressure, Team P Wilson bagged two in End 8 for a 7-4 win.



ROBYN MUNRO AND JAMES CRAIK TAKE SCOTTISH CURLING JUNIOR MIXED DOUBLES TITLE

Congratulations to Robyn Munro and James Craik who triumphed at the Carr's Billington Scottish Curling Junior Mixed Doubles Championship 2022 at the Dumfries Ice Bowl. The Dumfries duo prevailed 11-9 over Amy Mitchell and Jack Strawhorn in a fiercely contested final that went all the way to an extra end.

A high-quality field of 20 teams contested the tournament in Dumfries. Split into four sections, they first tackled a round robin to decide the play-off spots with eight teams qualifying for the quarter-finals.

Unbeaten in their section, Munro/Craik comprehensively secured a place in the first knock-out round where they faced Katie McMillan and Angus Bryce. The high-profile encounter got off to a fairly even start with the Stirling side, in fact, leading by two points at the break. Munro/Craik fought back in the second half and strung together a series of singles, earning them an 8-6 win and a place in the semi-finals. Their fixture against Holly Hamilton and Hamish Gallacher was a fairly straight-forward affair. Holding a three-points advantage at the break, they brought the result over the line to book a spot in the final with an 8-4 victory.



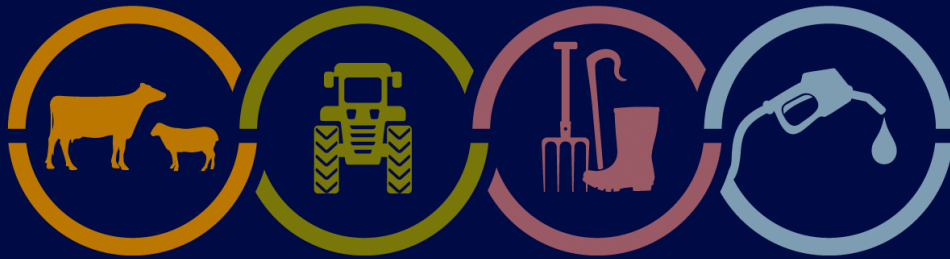
Mitchell/Strawhorn too went undefeated in their section and faced a semi-final against Alex Mackintosh and Lewis Logan. The Stirling team got off to bright start and held a 7-2 advantage at the break. The game was blown wide open again when Mitchell/Strawhorn scored a big five to level the scores. Consecutive steals saw them lead by three points, Mackintosh/Logan fought back and took the game to an extra end. Coming down with hammer, Mitchell/Strawhorn secured a decisive point to progress to the semis with an 11-10 victory. Up against Laura Watt and Ross Craik, their semi-final was a far less nervy contest. Commanding the second half after a fairly balanced start to the encounter, they didn't even have to play the final end to bag a 10-4 win.

Although Mitchell/Strawhorn held hammer going into the final, Munro/Craik went on the board first. They followed a single steal up with a big steal of five to already hold a handsome lead after two ends. Mitchell/Strawhorn cut down their deficit with a two-points score and a single steal and the standings read 6-3 at the break.

Munro/Craik were again first to take points in the second half with a single in End 5, but Mitchell/Strawhorn came on in strides afterwards. They scored three and although their opponents responded with a deuce, they bagged another three to take the game to an extra end. Having thrown away a big advantage, Munro/Craik were under pressure, but the duo scored a vital two points to decide the final 11-9 in their favour and secure the title.



CARR'S BILLINGTON



Scottish Curling were delighted to have Carr's Billington on board as title sponsor for the 2022 Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles Championship which took place from 25 to 27 March at the Dumfries Ice Bowl. The sponsorship included supporting the streaming of the event, enabling live online streams of every sheet over the weekend.

'We're proud to be supporting Scottish Curling's Junior Mixed Doubles Tournament this week!,' Carr's Billington said. 'As many of you know, our purpose is to keep rural and agricultural communities a step ahead of the curve; to be ready for whatever might come our way; to control the controllable; to ride out the pressures and grab the opportunities... We'd like to extend that same support and attitude to all the curlers who are competing in Dumfries this week. Wishing you the best of luck from across Carr's Billington, you've got this!'

The agricultural supplier provides rural and agricultural communities with the support they need to succeed. Whether they are after a healthier herd or flock, increased yields, faster growth rates, a decent return on their land or even just a helping hand, Carr's Billington offer the people, products, and services to meet these needs. Their values of integrity, respect, and trust align perfectly with the spirit of sportsmanship in curling, and with the sport being hugely important to rural communities across Scotland, Carr's Billington is the perfect partner to have on board for the championship.

Scottish Curling Mixed Championship



Congratulations to Team Bryce (Cameron Bryce, Lisa Davie, Scott Hyslop, Robyn Munro) who clinched the 2022 Scottish Curling Mixed title at Curl Edinburgh. The Border side went unbeaten in the round robin to secure a direct spot in the final where they comprehensively beat Team Craik by seven points to two.

While a perfect 4-0 record in the round robin took Team Bryce straight to the final, runners-up Team Craik were set to face off with third-placed Team Strawhorn for the remaining spot. For Team Morton (Grant Hardie, Rhiann Stagg, Billy Morton, Barbara Morton) and Team Dakers (Robin McCall, Holly Davis, Chris Morris, Rachel Dakers) it was curtains after the round robin.

Holding hammer, Team Craik (James Craik, Fay Henderson, Angus Bryce, Laura Watt, Emma Barr) opened the scoring in the semi-final with a single point. However, Team Strawhorn (Jack Strawhorn, Robyn Mitchell, Kaleb Johnstone, Amy Mitchell) swiftly took the upper hand and led 3-1 at the break. It was all Team Craik in the second half though who followed a three-points score up with steals of two and one respectively that earned them a 7-3 win after seven ends and a place in the final.

Their undefeated run meant Team Bryce started the final with hammer but only managed to score a single point in the first end. The sides were fairly evenly matched and traded good shots, but an error by Team Craik in the second end gave Team Bryce a chance to steal two and build an early advantage. The Forfar outfit eventually did get on the board in End 3, albeit with only a point. They were subsequently forced into damage limitation mode in the fourth end when skip James Craik drew the four foot against three, but Cameron Bryce managed to nudge his opponents' stone to score two and stretch the lead to 5-1 at the break. Team Craik were in trouble once more in End 5 and again had their skip draw against three, this time to score a single that did little to cut their deficit. When a comfortable- and confident-looking Team Bryce recorded two points in the sixth end, fist bumps were exchanged early with the final standings reading 7-2. This is the third time Cameron Bryce has skipped a team to victory at the Scottish Mixed Championship.

'This competition went smoothly for this new team,' the delighted skip, whose line-up had only come together a mere week before the tournament, said after the final. Looking forward to the upcoming World Mixed' at Curl Aberdeen (15-22 October 2022) Cameron commented: 'I am really looking forward to this Worlds as I got bronze in 2016 and our team are looking to do better than that. It is a good event and Aberdeen is a great venue where I have done well before, so I'm looking forward to getting up there in October.'



HENDERSON BISHOP TROPHY

HENDERSON BISHOP TROPHY

Congratulations to Kate Adams, Vicky Chalmers, Kate Wright, and Louise Kerr of Stranraer who have won the 2022 Henderson Bishop Trophy. The team overcame Greenacres in the final and secured the title with a 7-5 win.

Read more [here](#)



RINK CHAMPIONSHIP

Congratulations to Colin Dick, Scott MacLeod, Quentin Russell, Ewan Ramage and Paul Stevenson of Edinburgh I who won the 2022 Rink Championship. In a fiercely contested final, they edged a 6-3 victory over Perth I.

Read more [here](#)



MAXWELL TROPHY

Congratulations to Greenacres who won the 2022 Maxwell Trophy at Curl Edinburgh by beating Ayr with two finals wins to one.

Read [more here](#)



MORTON TROPHY



Congratulations to Stranraer who triumphed at the 2022 Morton Trophy with a clean sweep of all three finals wins over Forfar.

Read [more here](#)

ASHAM U17 SLAM SEASON FINALE



Congratulations to Team O. Carson (Orrin Carson, Logan Carson, Archie Hyslop, Charlie Gibb) who took victory at the Asham Under 17 Slam held at Forfar Indoor Sport. The Dumfries outfit beat Team Archibald 8-0 in the High Road final to triumph at this season's final U17 Slam. In the Low Road division, Team Jackson got the better of Team Rutherford in a low-scoring 3-1 final.

Read more [here](#)

HAMILTON YC AND CURL EDINBURGH SECURE TRIUMPHS AT U15 AND U13 FUNSPIEL IN PERTH

Congratulations to Hamilton Y.C. (Lindsey Haggart, Holly Burke, Alison Hamilton, Emily Haggart) who comprehensively beat Dumfries Y.C. in the U15 Funspiel final and to Curl Edinburgh (Amy Seftor, Clare Cassells, Rachel Grant, Isla Kay) who overcame Hamilton Y.C. to win in the U13 Funspiel final. Well done to all involved!

More info [here](#)



U13 Winners - Curl Edinburgh



U15 Winners - Hamilton Y.C.

Newcomers Trophy

Congratulations to Team 8 skipped by Arran Bauer (third: Holly Smith, second: Ava Haggerty, lead: Niall McLoughlin) who clinched the 2022 Newcomers Trophy at Greenacres. Well done to all players involved!



32 young curlers tackled the competition with the teams compiled on the day. Five games played by each squad decided the play-off games with spots in the final and in the match for third up for grabs.

A total of three wins took Team 8 to the final where they faced Team 3 (Oliver Dodds, Jessica Sharp, Rachel Eadie, Isla Fleming), also with three wins plus a draw to their name. Up against hammer, Team 8 were first on the board with a single steal in End 1. Team 3 responded swiftly and took the lead with a deuce in the second end to pile on the pressure, but Team 8 kept their nerve and scored a decisive two in the third and final end for a 3-2 win.

In the game for third, Team 6 (Cara Thomson, Coalan Johnstone, Emma Gardiner, Rory Dodds) were up against Team 1 (Alison Hamilton, Elliott Cullerton, Emily Stobo, Cara Steel). Team 1 opened the game with a single steal before Team 6 took the advantage with a big score of three. Trailing by two, Team 1 needed a big third end and sure achieved it by scoring three points that bagged them a 4-3 win.

Read more [here](#)

SUCCESS FOR SCOTLAND AT THE FOUR NATIONS

This year it was the turn of Scotland to host the Four Nations which took place at Ayr Ice Rink at the weekend. Over one hundred curlers from all over the United Kingdom gathered to play in the prestigious tournament. The initial competition between Scotland and England dates back to 1895 with the other events following on over the years.

Seven trophies were contested for between Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and England in a busy schedule with over 30 highly competitive matches. Scotland were involved in four of the trophy fights: Scotland Men faced England Men for the Tom Ballantyne Trophy while Scotland Women contested England Women for the Connie Miller Trophy. Mixed Teams played Wales for The Big Bertha Stone and Ireland for the Marshall Millennium Trophy respectively.

Scotland successfully retained the Tom Ballantyne Trophy, beating England over eight matches, as well as the Connie Miller Trophy, competing over two matches. The Scottish delegation also won The Big Bertha Stone for the first time in three years. However, Ireland once more proved too strong and retained the Marshall Millennium Trophy.



Nordic Junior Tour



Teams Henderson (Fay Henderson and James Craik) and Burke (Holly Burke and Jonathan Buchanan) travelled to Stockholm, Sweden on Tuesday to compete in the Nordic Junior Curling Tour Mixed Doubles Event. Sophie Jackson (Academy Manager) and Scott Andrews (Development Manager and Matt Murdoch Curling Foundation Trustee) have travelled with the two teams to support as coaches.

The event is held at Sundbybergs Curling Club, just south of Stockholm and home to Team Anna Hasselborg. Besides the Nordic teams from Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland, line-ups from across Europe and North America will be competing, providing great depth in the field and promising an exciting competition.

Scotland's Team Henderson and Team Burke won the prize of attending this event by making the final at the Edinburgh Under 21 Mixed Doubles which was played in February. The trip presents an exciting opportunity for the young curlers to attend an international mixed doubles event which is being ran in a similar format to a World Championship. The prizes are awarded by the Scottish Curling Academy and the Matt Murdoch Curling Foundation with the aim of helping to develop and give vital international experience to promising young athletes.

AYR DISNAE B TAKE VICTORY AT NATIONAL GATEWAY CLUB CHALLENGE



Congratulations to Ayr Disnae B (Andrew McElwee, Tony McMonagle, Jean Pearce, Diane Wilson) who beat Edinburgh side New Stones 7-3 to triumph at the National Gateway (Virtual) Club Challenge. Special thanks goes to British Curling Supplies who kindly donated the prizes for the event.

Saturday 26 March saw the return of Scottish Curling's Gateway Club Challenge taking place at the Moray Leisure Centre Ice Rink in Elgin, after two years of absence. 10 teams went into the competition, all playing three games each to decide the four rinks that would progress to the medal matches.

Ayr Disnae B booked their place in the final with a perfect unbeaten run. Starting their campaign against home team Elgin Granite, they came back from a disadvantage after End 1 to eventually win 4-1. They led from the start against Forfar V1 to overcome them 4-1 before securing a confidence-boosting 9-0 victory over Moray side Wheelies & Feeties.

New Stones (John McOmish, Max McMullon, Alan Gill, Susan Gill) too went undefeated to clinch a spot in the final. Getting off to a 4-1 win over Wheelies & Feeties, a tougher challenge followed against Forfar V2. After trading singles, New Stones took a more comprehensive advantage with a deuce in End 3 and when the Moray side could only respond with a one, the game finished 3-2 in their favour. Finishing off with a 9-2 victory over Fife Ice Arena, New Stones went into the final with their spirits high.

Ayr Disnae B started the final with hammer and used it perfectly to secure a big three points in the first end. They followed it up with a single steal, but the game was suddenly wide open again when New Stones scored three in the third end to cut down the deficit. The Edinburgh side looked on course to steal a further two in the fourth and final end, until Ayr skip Andrew McElwee produced a fantastic double take-out to score three with his last stone to win the trophy.

Andrew gave a vote of thanks at the prize giving afterwards and said: 'All of the teams have had an absolutely fantastic day! Thanks to everyone in Elgin, from local volunteers, umpire Alan and all the staff here and at Scottish Curling. We have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, the whole day was wonderful. The new curling stones were great and the ice makers did a super job, turning the ice from skating yesterday, so they were up really early for us which is appreciated. The games were all really good and we had to fight all the way.'

Reflecting on his time in the Gateway Club in Ayr Andrew said: 'It has been a fantastic experience we have all learned a lot, so I'd like to thank the coaches for their patience and advice over the last few years. We are all looking forward to more curling in the future.'

The game for third and fourth was a face-off between the two home teams Moray Gateway and The Spice Curls and saw a very fine display of curling with healthy rivalry. Although Moray Gateway utilised hammer in End 1 to open the play-off with a deuce, it was all Spice Curls thereafter. Scoring two themselves, they levelled the scores before taking the lead with a three-points steal. A blank fourth end, courtesy of a spectacular double take-out off an angled raise, meant the game finished 5-2.

Key member of the local organising committee Sandra MacIver commented: 'We are delighted to host this event in Elgin and to see teams from the south of Scotland travel to sample our hospitality and play great curling in an atmosphere of friendship and yet competitive spirit.'

View all the photos from the event [here](#)

A successful season of Disability Try Curling

The 2021/22 season has seen Scottish Curling host three Disability Try Curling events across Scotland.

Our first event was supported by Parasport and was held in October 2021 at Curl Edinburgh. The event was the first of kind for a number of years following the COVID break, however we managed to attract 11 new curlers to the ice. With the support of Parasport the day was truly special for those in attendance (both participants and coaches) as we saw new curlers take to the ice and experience the joy of curling. Aileen Neilson also brought her Paralympic bronze medal which participants were thrilled to see, as well as hear her story within the sport.



Above: Lola with Scott and his Olympic medal



Following the success of the event in October, Scottish Curling were keen to run additional events for those in other areas of the country. With the support of staff and curlers at local rinks, we were able to run two Disability Try Curling Festivals in Inverness and Stranraer.

Both events were held at the end of March following the Paralympics, which allowed those who had been captured by the competition to register and try curling for themselves. Both festivals had a mix of both ages and ability levels, including attendance of an organised group of young people with learning disabilities.

Over the two festivals, we welcomed over 25 people to the rinks, and had the support of a number of skilled and friendly coaches and volunteers. Many thanks to those from the curling community who came along to help and show their support for the festivals, without this kind of assistance we would not be able to run events like these.

Many of the participants who attended the festivals, are in the process of being registered with their local club, or Scottish Curling are supporting them in finding appropriate opportunities within their local community. Going forwards it is hoped that this positive work in providing opportunities for those with disabilities to try curling will continue to succeed. Our new Disability and Inclusion Development Officer, Isla McLennan, is now in post and is already planning further opportunities for next season and beyond.

Isla can be contacted via isla@scottishcurling.org



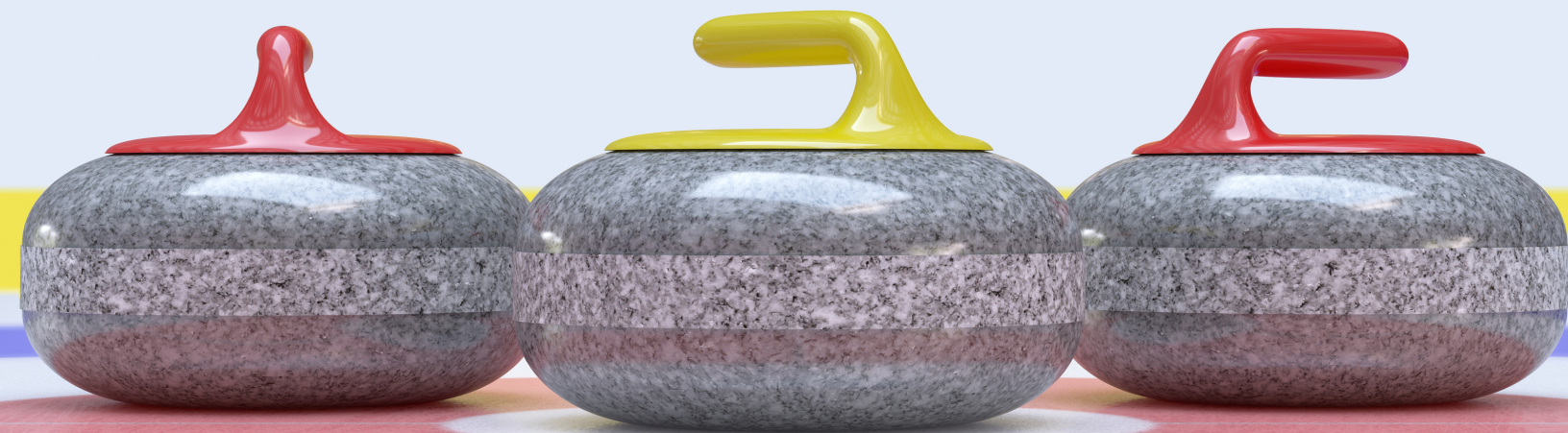
Above photos taken at a Scottish Curling and Parasport Get Active With event www.parasport.org.uk.



SCOTTISH WOMEN'S TOUR TO SWEDEN!

The Swedish Curling Association has invited 16 female curlers to tour Sweden as their guests from 3-14 Nov 2023.

All paid up female RCCC members can apply for this great opportunity. More info and how to apply [here](#).



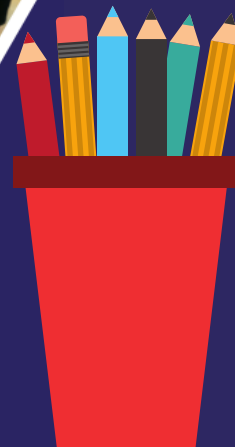
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For more information take a look [HERE](#)

VENUE CONFIRMED FOR RCCC AGM (2022)



We are delighted to confirm the 184th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club will be held on Saturday 20 August 2022 at Curl Edinburgh, the home ice rink of RCCC President, Susan Kesley.

More information will be circulated to members at least 21 days before the AGM. We hope you can join us.

Perth Junior Curling Club Presentation of Prizes and Skills Awards

We had a really good evening with over 50 juniors plus their parents turned out for the final session of the season. The juniors enjoyed a fun bonspiel then there was great excitement when former Perth Junior Mili Smith turned up with her Olympic Gold medal. After the bonspiel we held our prizegiving with Mili presenting the prizes. Competition prizes were issued as well as the Scottish Curling Skills Awards. We had 12 members achieve the new skills awards with 3 gaining their Fundamental, 4 their Discovery and 5 the Advanced levels. They all were thrilled with their achievement not only on the ice but with the theory too. We have another 16 young curlers working towards various levels which they will continue with next season. The Perth Academy team also received their Scottish Schools runners up medals. The junior members then asked Mili many questions and she gave a good insight about her life as an elite curler. She also brought some Olympic goodies which were given to the members who'd been identified by the coaches as showing the most improvement during the season.





Congratulations and thank you to all concerned, the players, coaches, our curling development officer, junior club committee and the ice rink team and supporters who make it all happen throughout the season.

Thanks again and 'see' you in September.

Jackie

Stranraer Young Curlers end of season Bonspiel and Skill Awards

Thank you to Jim Ryder for the following report and images.

Sunday the 27th of March saw six rinks compete in five ends of curling with each end having a different challenge. Ends 1 and 4 were normal curling rules, end 2 was draw shots only, end 3 was similar to the previous end but all stones from both rinks counted, the last end was played to a puck placed in the middle of the rink and teams played from both ends, all stones from the same rink closest counted with a bonus of 10 points to the winning rink. After all the scores were in it was the rink skipped by Adma Hale with 3rd Jake Waugh, 2nd Matthew Knowles and playing lead Leo Waugh with 18 points. In a close second place was an all girl rink skipped by Gemma Cassie, 3rd Beth Maxwell, Louise Church 2nd and lead was Lily Cook with 15 points.

During the season we hold an after school league with 22 young curlers in total playing 4 ends of curling but not in the same rink, each game names are drawn at random with each member of the winning rink getting 2 points and 1 point for all others for playing, after 11 games 1 point separated two young curlers with a total of 16 points Finn McLean was awarded a selection of goodies from Gail's cupboard, signed pad, top and a pair of gloves with Louise Church a close runner received signed pad from Team Mouat from Gail's top drawer.



Stranraer Young Curlers prior to their last game of the season

With the pandemic behind us the season got back to some sort of normality and the new Scottish Curling Skill Awards was initiated. With the first few weeks of coaching getting everyone back to where they were two years ago we managed to put the following young curlers through their Fundamental Level, Thomas Agnew, Katie Keegan, Matthew Knowles, Amy Stewart and Jake Waugh. The Discovery Level this season we passed Louise Church, Rachel Stewart and Struan Young. Young Eva Hare before the pandemic had just achieved her old Blue award. Playing with her dad Frazer in the Stranraer Super League gave the coaches a good representation of Eva's on ice skills which watching her play eight games passed in fact superseded our expectations for the Advanced Award, passing her written part of the award we are pleased to say that Eva passed her Advanced Award and now moves on to her Excellence Level.



Skill Award recipients back row L/R Louise Church, Struan Young, Rachel Stewart, Eva Hare front row L/R Jake Waugh, Matthew Knowles, Thomas Agnew, Katie Keegan and Amy Stewart.

GREATNESS IN GREENACRES



DREW JOLLY AWARDED TOP COACH FOR THE SEASON!

A big thank you to Greenachers Curling Club for sharing their success with us this season! **Did you know?**

A Total of 389 Try Curlers (which included the private Try Curling Groups/Club Try Curling groups/Greenacres Try Curling along with some returnees) were coached by Greenacres Coaches February, March & April.

The club had 80 school children over 3 sessions.

Top Try Curling Coach award (a competition that started between two coaches mid February) won by Drew Jolly (pictured above).

Well Done Drew, and what a great season!



Lockerbie Ice Rink awarded charitable status

Thank you to Rae : Lockerbie Ice Rink for this piece

Lockerbie Ice Rink has recently been awarded charitable status by the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator reg No SC 051314. The trustees for the Lockerbie Ice Rink SCIO which takes over from the South of Scotland Ice Rink Club have been confirmed as Mr Duncan Gracie, Mr Rae Graham, Mr David Morton and Mr David Stewart. This was confirmed at the recent Annual General meeting of the South of Scotland Ice Rink Club. A new structure has been established with a new management committee in place to oversee the day to day running of the ice rink activities.

A spokesman for the ice rink said, "This is great news not just for the ice rink but also for the local community. Hundreds of skaters and curlers use the ice rink every week, and this announcement will enable us to apply for funding from various organisations to help us improve our facilities and promote the sports of curling and skating. Following the recent success of GB curlers at the Beijing Winter Olympics, we hope this will encourage even more people to try winter sports".

Evenie Water Curling Club 150 centenary celebrations

Thank you to Sandy Stewart for the piece below



Club members and former members : Back Row : – Piper Jim Menzies (Letham Grange CC) Arthur Smith, Garry Smith, Ian Robertson, Dougie Alexander, Ken Wallace, Dave Pattullo, Lindsay Hume, Andy Wallace, Andrew Renwick, Hamish Robertson, Mike Cummings, Mike Morison, Alistair Stewart, Evan Bruce-Gardyne, Dave Alston, Eric Potts, Sandy Stewart John Dowell. Front Row : – Tricia Hynd, Kirsty Geddes, Angus Dowell, Rory Dowell, James Arnot, John Halder, Ross Hume, Peter Cargill, Sandy Reid. Front:– Alan Arnot Club President.

Evenie Water curling club celebrated their 150th Anniversary with a celebratory bonspiel on Saturday 12th February at Forfar ice rink and an anniversary dinner on 26th February at the Park hotel Montrose.

At the bonspiel Evenie Water curling club members and guests were piped on to the ice by Jim Menzies of Letham Grange curling club. This was followed by club patron Evan Bruce Gardyne, throwing the first stone to start the day. Fifteen neighbouring clubs competed against Evenie Water who had assistance from some Forfar young curlers. The bonspiel was held in true curling spirit with hospitality and friendship during the day followed by a dinner and prize giving in the evening at the ice rink. Evenie Water rinks prevailed on the ice winning by 92 shots to 78. The highest guest rinks in each session were Suttieside, Dun, Fotheringham and Panmure curling clubs. Other neighbouring clubs who help celebrate were Broughty Ferry, Forfar, Angus Glens, Edzell, Dalhousie Ladies, Aberlemno, Caterthun, Forfar Ladies, Brechin Castle, Fettercairn and Letham Grange. A video of the opening session can be seen [here.](#)

A 150th anniversary history book has been compiled from the club's archive which dates to its foundation in 1871. The clubs' ponds and bothy are still in existence although dilapidated at Middleton estate, Friockheim. There are still some club members whose families have continuously curled with the club for more than 100 years, indeed, the patron's family were founder members and the current president Alan Arnot's grandfather was president 100 years ago at the club's 50th anniversary.

The club's anniversary dinner was held at the Park hotel Montrose. Guest came from over twenty neighbouring clubs as well as Evenie Water members, family and friends. The dinner had many toasts during the evening as is usual for Evenie Water. The top table was headed by Alan Arnot, club president, Sandy Stewart, club vice president and Angus Dowell who provided the toast to the RCCC. The guest speakers were Dave Birse from Caterthun curling club who, along with being master of ceremonies for the evening, toasted Evenie Water curling club. Mike Ferguson, RCCC vice president, replied on behalf of the RCCC. The formal part of the evening was followed by after dinner speeches from David Hay, former world champion curler and Olympic coach and Tam Cowan, Scottish football journalist and radio Scotland presenter. The evening was great success with much wit and laughter entertaining the 140 people present; a good night was had by all.

The club has nominated Forfar young curlers and the Scottish curling trust to be beneficiaries of surplus funds generated from the events, in addition, a club curling development fund for young and new curlers is to be set up. Ian Taylor of Forfar young curlers and Kay Gibb of the Scottish curling trust were present at the anniversary dinner on behalf of the beneficiaries.



IMAGES : BONSPIEL DINNER AT ICE RINK WITH CLUB MEMBERS AND GUESTS.

You can read more about the event in the Dundee Courier [here](#)

Forfar Young Curlers and The Scottish Curling Trust



Thank you to Sandy Stewart, for the above photos from the presentation of £1000 cheques to Forfar Young Curlers and The Scottish Curling Trust.

The first shows club patron Evan Bruce Gardyne and club president Alan Arnot presenting the cheques to Marianne Jenkins and Ian Taylor from Forfar young curlers and Kay Gibb from the Scottish curling Trust. The second photo is in the curling rink with club members in attendance.

Dundonald CC 200 Anniversary Bonspiel

Thank you to Andrew Kerr for the below report and images.

Dundonald CC held a bonspiel on Sunday 06 March 2022 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the club.

6 rinks of Dundonald members and 10 rinks of invited clubs enjoyed a “pink gin”, courtesy of Club Secretary, Andrew Kerr, before being piped onto the ice by Fergus Goldie, grandson of Honorary President Liz Goldie. After an enjoyable afternoon of curling and banter, captured by the many photos of club member Bill Rae, the curling was concluded with the top 4 rinks from both sections competing to determine the eventual winners.

The winning rink from Stewarton Heather was skipped by David Reid, with Hugh Reid, James Whiteford and Alex Whiteford.



Runners Up were Dundonald 6 skipped by Mark Meehan with David Hope and Isabel McGeoch. In 3rd position it was Dundonald 1 skipped by Bobby Gault with Jim Miller, Linda Williams and Johnanne Stewart and in 4th place the rink from Crosshill, skipped by Bobby Ireland with Liam Scott, Bert Andrew and Alex Connell. Prizes were presented by Liz Goldie. Following the meal and prize giving the evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to Dundonald CC on behalf of the invited clubs by Bobby Ireland.



Thanks to Gemmill Jack for the scores throughout the afternoon and getting the curlers onto the ice in a timely manner, the ice staff, Amy and the bar staff and Lorrie and the catering staff for attending to us through the event.

Nicola George from Ayrshire Cancer Support, the nominated charity for the Dundonald bicentennial charity raffle, attended during the afternoon to give the curlers a quick presentation on the charity and an oversight into how the money raised from the raffle will be used to support the Ayrshire community. Raffle prize winners will be announced at the bicentennial dinner on 2nd April at Gales Hotel, Irvine.



Dundonald draw the button for their 200th birthday

Thank you to Elaine McClure and Andrew Kerr for the below article and images.

A year later than planned due to some pesky bug that's been doing the rounds, Dundonald Curling Club managed to bring its bicentennial celebrations to a conclusion with a dinner in the Gailes Hotel, Irvine on Saturday 2nd April.

The dinner was excellently chaired by President Morag Evans and 100 members and guests enjoyed a first class meal followed by a toast to the club by Andrew Kerr, Dundonald club member and Past President of the RCCC and the main entertainment for the night, a very witty speech by Archie Gilbert from Douglas Curling Club.



Above: Liz Goldie, Honorary President and Morag Evans, President.

The club had organised a charity raffle in aid of Ayrshire Cancer Support and are grateful to everyone who purchased tickets and to all the local companies which donated prizes. A cheque for £1,500 was presented to the charity's ambassadors Yvonne and Brian Hendrie.

A late donation of a case of wine presented the organisers with a slight quandary as the raffle had been drawn in advance but this was resolved by raffling all the place names and inviting donations towards the Ukrainians Appeal. The magnificent sum of £680 has been banked with the British Red Cross.

A great end to the club's bicentennial celebrations and a big thank you to all who contributed in so many ways



Above: Elaine McClure, Alison Wilson, Yvonne Hendrie and Brian Hendrie.



Above: Committee members

A blast from the past

Thanks to Jim Ryder for the below

Vickie and Bobby paid a surprise visit to their old Primary School, Leswalt. Prior to that members of Stranraer Crafters created a memory for the post box in Leswalt to mark their gold and silver medals in the Winter Olympics. They then moved over to their old school which is presently housed in Kirkcolm P School due to works being carried out in Leswalt.

Bobby and Vickie took part in a question time as well as the house captains read out some of the entries in their scrapbook, there was a final of the Leswalt Winter Curling Olympics were Bobby played wee Bobby and Vickie played Rachel after that young Thomas Agnew the youngest member of Leswalt Curling Club met Bobby and Vickie the class then had their photo taken with their Olympic heroes





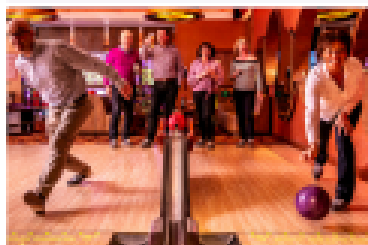
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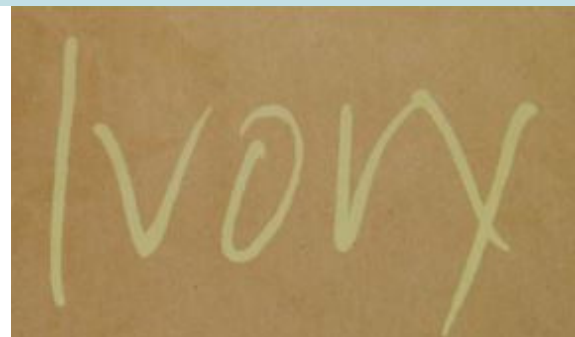
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HISTORIC RCCC DISTRICT MEDALS TO BE AWARDED AT END OF CURLING SEASONS

The Scottish Curling Trust made a peculiar and very special find. Wading through their collection of historical artefacts, they unearthed a number of RCCC District Medals but with no matches or clubs identified. Awarded as prize in the longest running competition in curling history, the medals are a thing of beauty. The Royal Standard of Scotland, stylised to merge with the RCCC emblem, stands proudly, as per tradition, with the words 'Nemo Me Impune Lacessit' (No one provokes me with impunity), the motto of The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

The coat of arms is framed by thistles and above it, a game of curling is engraved in the silvery metal. After many years in hiding, the medals are finally set to find a home.

Rules on the medals being awarded first appeared in the Annual for 1839-40. At the time, those to whom medals were awarded were decided by lot, a tradition that, in some way, will continue. Going forward, one lucky team each year will be issued with one of the historic winners' medals. Come the end of the season, the winning side's names will be drawn from a hat and they will be presented with the special prize.

Learn more about the Grand/RCCC District Medals in this blog post by curling historian David B. Smith.

(<http://curlinghistory.blogspot.com/2012/05/grandroyal-caledonian-curling-club.html>)

Curling News

BBC NEWSROUND

BBC newsround visited Curl Edinburgh to meet some young players and find out more about the ancient sports and what they love about it! Watch [here](#)



Congratulations to the 2022 SWCA Scottish Champions Team Gault

Gregor Ewan, John McClelland and Ian Donaldson (Pictured below).



Awards

- Junior Curler of the Year
- Grassroots Coach of the Year
- Ice Diamond Award
- Junior Team of the Year
- Team of the Year
- For more on making a nomination and eligibility click [here](#)

AFTER A SEASON AWAY WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT NOMINATIONS FOR THE SCOTTISH CURLING AWARDS 2022 ARE NOW OPEN!

The Scottish Curling Awards are held annually to acknowledge our amazing volunteers and to celebrate the success and achievements of Scottish curlers over the last year. The awards will be presented during the proceedings of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club's Annual General Meeting on Saturday 20 August 2022.



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