

JASPER PLACE CURLING CLUB

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WELCOME! WHAT A WILD RIDE.

It has been a wild and traumatic 16 months for all of us. I hope you can see your way clear of this pandemic. I have no illusion of returning to normal, though I would like to find a path to better.

All people and all businesses have been impacted by this pandemic. Some have been devastated and some have flourished. The curling club has been on a roller coaster. There were times during the past year when I believed we would never open our doors again; now it seems we will recover and perhaps find a path to better.

Thank you to all who were able to help the JPCC financially last year by donating their refund. That helped enormously in our plans to return to play.

We can hardly wait for the season to begin – and a big part of making the season a celebration of great curling, warm camaraderie and *Rocking the House at Our House* is to ensure everyone at JPCC is safe.

Getting vaccinated is the most effective way to protect ourselves and everyone around us. Management decided long ago all JPCC staff must be fully vaccinated. **The Board of Directors has recently decided that all registered JPCC curlers also must be fully vaccinated.** Declaring your vaccination status will be part of the online registration process.

JPCC is aware this is a controversial decision given current political and privacy considerations, but your Board believes providing the safest possible curling environment is paramount. We maximize the safety and comfort of our curling community when we are confident everyone we curl or socialize with is fully vaccinated – and we are the only curling club in the Edmonton area committing to this assurance of safety.

Please contact your team mates. Check to make sure they are fully vaccinated – and are ready to return.

Once you have your team sorted out, it's time to register. As usual, JPCC requires that 1/4 of the team fees are paid by September 3, 2021 to retain your place in the league. As last year, JPCC prefers every player register and pay at least \$100 to confirm their spot rather than one person from the team paying their full fee.

The JPCC has launched a new website that will make registration easier and will give you more access to news throughout the season. An obvious change is the requirement to log in. It's easy –

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and secure. Look for a separate email soon about the website. Visit regularly. As we figure out how to use all the capabilities of the site, it will continue to improve.

Please feel free to give me a call at 780-489-6428 if you have concerns or questions about the new website or the COVID protocols. I look forward to seeing you on the ice very soon.

Cathy

All teams planning to return to the Jasper Place Curling Club will guarantee their place in the league they last played in by registering online by September 3 and having each curler pay at least \$100.

REGISTRATION AND FEE INFORMATION

Registration fees have increased for the first time since 2016.

Registration fees would have increased this year even without the pandemic – and curling remains one of the most affordable organized sporting activities around. We're offering a few fee structures this year – depending on time of play, number of ends, etc. The eight-end, prime time leagues still cost less than \$25/game - less than \$12.50/hour! - and this includes GST and the Curling Alberta fee.

Curling Alberta and Curling Canada fees

Curling Alberta has changed the way it collects fees. The JPCC has always paid the Curling Alberta and Curling Canada fees on your behalf. The fee has increased substantially, and rather than absorb that amount into your registration we are collecting it only once from each registered Alberta curler. That means the \$13 fee is in addition to your fees, but if you curl in more than one league or more than one club you pay it only once.

We heard you don't like late draws

We know most people don't like the late draw. However, we cannot survive financially without two full draws each evening. This year, we are trying something a little different. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday the late draw will be only **6 ends**, and we will charge a slightly lower rate for this draw. The early draw start time has been moved earlier as well to accommodate the late draw folks. Thursday remains unchanged – so if you want an 8-end game regardless of the start time then Thursday is the night for you.

Registration fees for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening curlers

Curling fees vary from league to league this year depending on the number of ends in the game and the number of games played. When registering, be sure to double check the day of week, the time of day, the number of ends in a game and games in the league.

Please remember as a full-year club member you receive 20 league games, free practice ice, additional games in the club championships or grand challenge at the end of the season – so your ~\$24/game fee is a real bargain.

Registration fees for Bent Broom and JPL Sunday Morning will again be set by your league coordinators. However, the \$100 deposit, and the declarations as described below will apply.

A \$100 deposit is required from every curler this year. Due to the change in Curling Alberta fees and the need for declarations, all curlers are required to register online and pay either a \$100 deposit or the full league fee prior to the start of their league. Please click the registration link for your league on the website.

Balance of fees, completion of forms. By October 8, the balance of your fees must be paid using the online registration system. A vaccination declaration and an assumption of risk form is also required to be submitted by this date. (These documents are part of the online registration process – if you got to the place where you could pay your fees, then you have completed these forms). Anyone arriving at the curling club on their first curling day without completing the online registration will be required to complete these and sign these documents before they are allowed entry to help ensure the health and safety of all curlers.

Hardship. If pre-paying fees creates a financial hardship, please contact Cathy at 780-489-6428 to discuss a payment plan option.

Discounts. Again, this year we are offering a **multi-league discount** to anyone registering in more than one league at the JPCC. Prime time leagues will receive a **\$50 rebate**, paid in JP coins.



COINS FOR CURLERS - Recruitment Bonus: Want to put some sweet silver JP dollars into your pocket? It's easier than ever!

- **Team effort:** An existing team that brings in a new team* will receive **\$200 in JP coins**. JP coins mean CASH good anywhere in the club – for drinks, food, pro-shop items or even curling fees.
- **Go solo:** An existing curler in any full-year prime time evening league who brings in a new player** will receive **\$40 in JP coins**.

*New teams: register for a full year prime time league (they can be new to JPCC or just adding an extra night of curling)

**New players are defined as those who have never been registered to curl at Jasper Place Curling Club.

FORMS: VACCINE DECLARATION AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Last season, JPCC required every participant sign a COVID-19 declaration. The situation has progressed since then. Now we know the best way to mitigate the spread is to get vaccinated. JPCC requires all curlers are fully vaccinated. If you haven't started that process yet, you have time to complete both vaccine doses before the start of the season.

In the 2020-21 season, JPCC required everyone to sign a waiver before curling began. Many of you let us know you thought that was an overreach. This year – no waiver. We will ask you to sign an Assumption of Risk. This document outlines the risks to participation without asking you to give up your rights for recourse.

WILL THE WARM SIDE OF THE GLASS BE SAFE?

Safety is of prime importance at JPCC. While staff and curlers are required to be fully vaccinated, guests may not be. Guests who are not fully vaccinated are required to wear a mask at all times while in the curling club.

We will continue many of our 2020-21 practices regarding physical distancing while in the curling club lounge and lobby – including requesting curlers on the early draw go upstairs before their game to put on their curling shoes and prepare for the game (unless they have arrived early to eat). This leaves the main floor relatively empty for those playing on the late draw. And early curlers get their choice of table for their drinks after the game!

HAPPY MUNCHING!

Jonathan of Preserve Food Truck is returning this year – so get your taste buds geared up for his fab food treats. And of course the bartenders are ready and waiting to serve!

RETURN TO PLAY – WHATEVER CONTRIBUTES TO A GREAT GAME

There are no formal return-to-play curling rules this year so teams – and individual curlers – are free to do whatever makes them feel comfortable and safe.

For example, the tradition of shaking hands with opponents before the game is entirely up to you. Elbow bumps or brush taps work as well.

TRIPLES – AN INTERESTING ALTERNATIVE

Triples curling is here and now. It's the roaring game's iteration of the moment, curling 3.0 if you will, tailor-made for fast-paced fun and a chance to try all curling positions during the game.

In a typical six-end game of triples, everybody gets to call the shots, deliver the goods and sweep like crazy. Each member of a team will rotate through the three positions, playing two ends as lead, middle and skip. It's new age democracy on ice. Every player also delivers two rocks per end so the action is fast. Most games wrap up in less than two hours.

It's competitive, too. Scores are doubled in the fifth and sixth ends so no game should be too far out of reach for long. You won't want to shake hands after four ends!

CURLING EDUCATION

JPCC offers several curling education courses before the curling season begins and a few throughout the year.

Learn-To-Curl: This three-day course will be held Monday, October 4, Tuesday, October 5 and Wednesday, October 6, from 7-9:30 p.m. This course is designed for the first-time curler, curlers

who have played fewer than three full seasons or those having trouble with balance and timing in their delivery. This program is a group lesson that provides information on all areas of the sport. The on-ice portion is tailored to your specific needs. At \$80/person, this 7.5-hour program is the best coaching value available. Please register online at jasperplacecurling.ca or call to register.

Learn-to-Curl Highlights: Don't know how? Don't have time for the learn-to-curl? This shortened version will get you started. Saturday, October 2 from 1-4 p.m. For new curlers. Cost \$35.

Delivery stick clinic: Are you using a delivery stick? Not getting the results you'd like? Using a stick is a different style of throwing rocks and the same principles apply for good technique. This 1-hour clinic is designed to improve technique for better results when using a delivery stick. Saturday, October 2 from 11:00 AM-Noon. Cost \$10.

CURLING EQUIPMENT

Pro shop: JPCC runs a small pro shop out of the office. The pro shop is an integral part of the curling club's operations for two reasons: first, because we know most of our curlers and see them on a regular basis, we can provide insight and information to assist you in the purchase of new curling equipment. Second, the pro shop is an important additional revenue stream for our operations and, therefore, another way for our members to support their club.

We are well aware that sometimes our selection is too small for your needs – so we've made a partnership with **Kevin's Rocks and Racquets**, located in the Saville Sports Centre. It has a much larger selection of gear. When you would like to purchase an item not in stock at JPCC, Cathy will write you a letter of purchase to take to Kevin's. They will provide you with the item and invoice the JPCC. This means you'll pay at the JPCC, receiving your member's discount, and the JPCC will get your business. See Cathy for more details.

Everything you need to know about:

Curling shoes: In order to help keep the ice in top condition for everyone, all curlers must have shoes that are only worn on the curling ice. That may include curling shoes or slip on grippers (and sliders) that completely cover the bottom of clean running shoes. Sadly, your favorite shoes do not last forever.

Grippers: Grippers are one of the largest problems in maintaining good, clean ice conditions. In order for grippers to be effective they are made with very soft rubber which wears out quickly. Grippers typically last 20 games (or less) as a sweeper and 40 games for skips and thirds. This typically means replacing at least once every year.

Curling brushes: Curling brushes do not last forever either. TV curlers replace their brush heads every game. Yours likely lasts 5-20 games. If you didn't replace it last year, you need to replace it this year. In addition to helping keep the ice cleaner, your new brush head will improve the results of your sweeping.

Compliant brush heads: WCF compliant brush heads are available in our pro shop along with non-compliant heads. We have chosen to continue to allow non-compliant heads to be used in club play at JPCC.

STUDENT/JUNIOR SUPPORT

JPCC supports junior curlers by providing a significant discount in curling fees. To be eligible, curlers must be born after July 1, 2001 and be a full-time student. Please call Cathy for details.

LOCKERS

Lockers are available in both the men's and women's locker rooms. The regular size lockers are \$25 (including GST) and the large lockers are \$40 (including GST) per year and easily accommodate a whole team. Curlers and teams renewing their locker will have first right of refusal until October 8, 2021 after which all lockers not rented will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. Locker rental is available in the online registration.

MURAL ON THE NORTH WALL

Have you driven by the curling club lately? Have you seen the amazing piece of public artwork that Edmonton artist Jill van Stanton www.jstanton.ca has created?

The JPCC was so lucky to receive a grant to help pay for this art installation. Do you remember in 2019-2020 when we sold raffle tickets and talked about the JPCC Building Project? Well, that didn't go away because of our interrupted COVID year. This mural was planned as the finishing touch on that project; but with the COVID interruption, the opportunity to hire Jill van Stanton and the increased mural grant – having the mural launch the Building Project seemed like a better thing to do.

We are confident that this mural will show people driving by that the curling club is a bold, dynamic place to play. We are confident that this mural will increase our visibility in and partnership with the community. We are confident that in making the statement that we are open again and here to stay.

CELEBRATE THE MURAL WITH A PARTY!

To celebrate the curling club's re-opening and to celebrate this amazing piece of public artwork, there will be a parking lot party on Friday September 10, from 7-10 p.m. Mark your calendar! Details to follow.

AGM REMINDER

The Jasper Place Curling Club Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m.** at the curling club. All club members are welcome to attend. At the meeting, the Board of Directors will present last year's financial statements, answer questions about return-to-play and the status of the Capital Improvement project. As well, Board members will be

elected. If you are interested in joining the board please let Cathy know prior to the meeting. Please plan to attend or consider signing a proxy when you register.

WHEN DO WE CURL?

League	Fall	Winter	Draw Time	Games	Fees
Sunday JPL	Oct 3 – Dec 19	Jan 2 – Mar 13	11:00 AM	22	TBD
Sunday Triples	Oct 17 – Dec 5	Jan 16 – Feb 27	2:00 PM 2:00 PM	6 6	\$100 + GST \$100 + GST
Monday Morning	Oct 4 – Dec 20	Jan 3 – March 21	9:00 AM 9:00 AM	11 11	TBD
Monday Mechanical	Oct 18– Dec 13	Jan 3 – March 21	5:00 PM	TBD	TBD
Monday Bent Broom	Oct 18 – Dec 20	Jan 3 – March 21	7:15 PM	21	TBD
Tuesday Open 6:15 – 8 end games 8:30 – 6 end games	Oct 12 – Dec 14 (20) Oct 12 – Dec 14 (10)	Jan 4 – Mar 9 (20) Jan 4 – Mar 9 (10)	6:15 & 8:30 PM alternating weekly	20 10 10	\$425 + GST \$225 + GST \$225 + GST
Wednesday Open (8 ends)	Oct 13 – Dec 15	Jan 5 – Mar 9	6:15 PM	20	\$450 + GST
Wednesday Fun (6 ends)	Oct 20 – Dec 8	Jan 12 – Mar 2	8:30 PM 8:30 PM	8 8	\$160 + GST \$160 + GST
Thursday Morning	Oct 7 – Dec 16	Jan 6 – Mar 17	9:00 AM 9:00 AM	11 11	TBD
Thursday Open 6:30 - 8 end games 8:45 – 8 end games	Oct 14 – Dec 16 Oct 14 – Dec 16	Jan 6 – Mar 10 Jan 6 – Mar 10	6:30 & 8:45 PM alternating weekly	20 10 10	\$450 + GST \$235 + GST \$235 + GST
Friday Triples	Oct 15 – Dec 10	Jan 14 – Mar 11	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	8 8	\$80 + GST \$80 + GST
Friday Open 8 end games	Oct 8 – Dec 10	Jan 7 – Mar 11	6:30 PM	20	\$450+GST
Friday 6-pack fun 6 end games	Oct 15 – Dec 3	Jan 21 – Mar 4	8:45 PM 8:45 PM	6 6	\$120 + GST \$120 + GST