



THE HACK

Issue no. 7

January 1997

We are back - earlier than expected !! Hope you are back in action after the Christmas festivities. Read on to find out more about your Club.

Contents

Club News

An interview with the League's winning Skip.

Letter from our Hon Pres.

Results and progress reports well read on and find out for yourself!!

Tait wins League Championship.

As the last issue was going to print it seemed that the outcome of the championship would depend on the final games. As it happens the results fell the way of Bob and his rink.

Congratulations Bob.

Read on for more details.

We hope the next issue will be printed in before the Dinner on 28th Feb - if you have any stories and articles please send them in. It would be great to receive even more match reports and news of achievements on the ice.

STOP PRESS

Queens - OUT Gladyer Inn - IN

The President and Secretary were surprised and disappointed when they met the management of the Queen's Hotel to finalise the arrangements for the Dinner. **THE HACK** understands our representatives impressed the Queens that the Club preferred to maintain the tradition of staying there. Compromises were made on all bar one new of the restrictions - a maximum of only 50 guests could be catered for.

In the true spirit of the Club, the Committee were determined the Dinner should go ahead, and as many members as possible could attend. The limit of fifty was not acceptable. At short notice alternatives were considered. A satisfactory deal has been made with the Gladyer Inn. If you think about it, the nearest hotel to Inverkeithing to offer the space for our functions.

It may be a great disappointment to many members, lets make sure we make the best of it so we do not continue the disappointment. Here's to a great dinner.

THE HACK expects to hear more news about the venue of the AGM. Can we be sure that the Queen's Hotel will have the space for us?

Happy New Year to all our readers

2x2 2x2 2x2x 1996/97 2x2 2x2 2x2

1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	Semi finals
H. Smith & Knust v Maclachlan & Godsell	Maclachlan/Godsell v Kennedy/Brown	Kennedy/Brown v 28/1/97	?
Robertson & Stlbards v Kennedy & Brown	Ritchie/Paxton v Hay/Ritchie	Ritchie/Paxton	v 14/2/97
Ritchie & Paxton v J. Macdonald D Murray	Wilson/Murray v R. Smith & Jas Wilson	Smith/Wilson	Smith/Wilson
Hay & S Ritchie v Ward & Hunter	Clarke & I McLeod v Aitken & D. Smith	v Aitken/Smith	
Ayres & Armour v JR Wilson & J Murray	Campbell & Ogg v Burns & Tadrowski	Burns/Tadrowski v Hunter/Riggans	v 28/1/97
	Hunter & Riggans v I Macdonald & Martin	Hunter/Riggans	
	Barton & Trainor v <i>walkover</i> Rae & Terras	Barton/Trainor 6 (Tibbert)	Barton/Trainor
	Tait & Tibbert v C. Blyth & A. Terras (P.Barton)	v Blyth & Terras 3 (Hay)	

Final to be played on Wednesday 26th February at Murrayfield at 9.35. If you have a couple of spare hours why not go along and cheer the lads along. Last years final was one to watch. Ask Douglas Murray!! and he lost!!

Experience and a little lubrication inspire Tait's rink!!

Bob Tait was able to take a few minutes from his desk to speak to THE HACK about his rink's achievement in winning the League. He is still recovering from the high drama at the end of his final match v Tam Hunter. Like four of his other matches the victory was sealed by a single shot, all bar one in Bob's favour.

Bob moved ahead at the penultimate end, to lead 8 - 7. Prior to the last stone Bob had five shots in the head. Tam valiantly tried to peel the match, failing by a small margin. A peeled match would have left Alistair Lamond a great chance of topping the League, as his points advantage is far superior. The final result 9 - 7.

Bob has experienced victory in the league before, many years ago he was lead to Jimmy Wilson. A nice touch for Jimmy to be in Bob's rink. In fact Bob has had a fine run of results since returning as a skip four seasons ago. Last year he was third and second the year before.

Ed Martin had a strong season. He has obviously benefited from Bob's leadership, enjoying two of his three seasons as part of a Tait rink. Jimmy Wilson brought all his skills and experience to the team. Jim Aitken had a rock steady year as third.

Although his team had a good turnout rate Bob called on a number of subs. Douglas Lamond featured in the rink's largest victory against Alan Maclachlan at Murrayfield.

Ed Martin's views on Kirkcaldy are well known. Bob has equally strong views about the quality of the ice at Kirkcaldy. They must have been pleased to have had only two matches at the Top of the Toun!

For future seasons Bob has noted that a little lubrication prior to the matches has relaxed his second and third. His lead has not swallowed as much. Bob has taken his driving responsibilities very seriously. It is true that the strategy of a drink or two before a match can be taken advantage off. There are rumours that Jock Wilson encouraged Jim A to have more than his fair share whilst visiting him on his way to the ice rink!

Celebrations are still due the rink. Bob will certainly be happy to buy his rink a drink or two at the Bonspiel next week. All other members are welcome to join in the celebrations. Well done Bob, Jim, Jimmy and Ed.

Thirds

B I. Macdonald v Clarke W for TC

The only result to date. Many more to report on in the next issue.

The club has like most clubs had a quiet spell over the last two months. The team who turned out so soon after Hogmanay deserve a special mention!!

Thanks to Jimmy Wilson for sponsoring this issue. We have had several offers to pay for the postage for each issue. If you are interested please contact the editor or Bob Smith.

Don't forget there is a prize at the end of the season - a bottle of whisky for the best match report.

A fine for PB at the dinner is expected for not knowing all the rules of the game. A stone striking another stone that is clear of the hog line is deemed to have crossed the hog line. Thankfully his zest at clearing the stone did not turn the match, Sorry Pres. Pete.

Other results Dec - Jan

10/12/96	Waldie Griffiths	Ritchie	W
10/12/96	Province	H. Smith	W
11/12/96	C & WF	Lamond	?
20/12/96	Province	Lamond	?
3/1/97	Zermatt	Ritchie	W

13 - 6 v Orwell Ladies**

9 - 5 v Markinch

** Loch Leven Province lost the Kirkcaldy match v West of Fife 40 - 53

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

On writing to express my frustrations that there seems to be unreasonable behaviour and level of expectations from some brother curlers. We make a commitment at the start of the season to play regularly, or as an occasional player. It strikes me that with the level of call offs and people not taking their sport seriously enough an occasional player can play more than a regular.

One way other clubs encourage a commitment is to ask for rink fees in advance. This would also mean the sub has not to pay out as much. At a recent outing four curlers had to pay double fees to ensure the pairs matches went ahead.

Yours

name supplied

It certainly seems that this topic needs to be discussed at the AGM. And a few brother curlers need to make sure they read their programmes and put dates in their diaries. Letting team mates down is not fair.

Dates to look out for: make sure you put them in your new 1997 Diaries.

Bonspiel

Friday 10th January 8.45
Kirkcaldy

Points

Thursday 30th January 8.00
Kirkcaldy

Thirds Final

Monday 24th February 7.45
Kinross

Pairs Final

Wednesday 26th February 9.35
Murrayfield.

Club Dinner

Friday 28th February 7.30
Gladyer Inn

Knockout Final

Wednesday 26th March 8.00
Kirkcaldy

Club AGM

Monday 28th April 7.30
Venue tbc

Editorial

THE HACK returned to print in December. It could become a stronger feature of Club Life if members choose to use it. Conversely it should not exist if it does not receive the support of the members. The costs of the publication and the resources used could be better used if **THE HACK** is not serving a useful purpose.

It is also possible for publications to develop and change to meet the demands of the readers. We would like to know if we are getting it right. We do not have to cope with the rigours and threat of facing the electorate as will our politicians this year. However at least they get a definitive answer and know where they stand. Can you help **THE HACK** get a sense of perspective and it's merit? Make a contribution - write an article or a match report - send in an amusing story.

League results from 10/12/96 to 4/1/97

MacDonald v Tait	7-13
MacDonald v Kennedy	9-4
MacDonald v Ritchie	7-8
MacDonald v MacLellan	10-2
MacDonald v H. Smith	5-8
MacDonald v Robertson	5-9

There were four more League matches played between 10/12/96 and 4/1/97 in the second year. Full details of the final matches in the next issue.

Congratulations to the Winning Rink:
Skip: Bob Tait
Third: Jim Wilson
Second: Jeremy Wilson
Lead: Ed Martin

This year the League was as competitive as it has been for a number of years. The six matches after the end of the year were extremely important in deciding the outcome of the League. All regular curlers can feel a sense of achievement. Best wishes for the final games and competitions of the season.
More comments inside.

Inverkeithing Curling Club League Championship 1996/97

	Played	Won	Lost	Draw	PTS	Agst	PTS	+/-
Tait	9	7	1	1	81	60	15	24
H. Smith	9	5	3	1	54	50	11	4
Lamond	7	5	2	0	63	35	10	28
Hunter	8	5	3	0	65	46	10	19
Robertson	8	5	3	0	46	66	10	-20
R. Smith	8	4	4	0	65	55	8	10
MacLellan	8	3	5	0	46	52	6	-6
Kennedy	8	3	5	0	51	61	6	-10
Ritchie	8	2	6	0	44	60	4	-16
Macdonald	9	1	8	0	49	82	2	-33

Table 4/1/97

Letter from the Honorary President - Mr. James Murray

Dear Editor,

Would you be good enough to wish all the members to have a happy and successful New Year and hope to see several of you at Otterson Loch within the next two months. If the call comes to all curlers make sure you take advantage of the frozen loch to have two or three days of fine curling. Wicks and kettle shots will be in abundance!!

I have been heartened by the results from various games against neighbouring clubs and hope 1997 will continue in the same vein. I'm looking forward to the Bonspiel. I would make a plea that fewer conferences shall take place at the back of the head with nos 1,2,3, & 4 all wandering about whilst the opposite no 3 or skip are playing their shots. No 1 & 2 should only patrol the sides of the rink between the hog lines and should not sweep beyond the tee.

Yours in curling,

Honorary President.

PS As reported in the last **HACK** - the 2 characters who sat in the viewing seats at Kinross watched intently and came to the same conclusion as their Muppet counterparts. "What do you think of the curling so far? Rubbish!!"

ED: Fair comment Mr. Henson! And the advice about conferences is important. Lets improve our etiquette.

Contributions for **THE HACK** should be sent to Phil Barton.

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** This is our temp address over the winter. We are 'housesitting' a house called Bendameer.

Bob Smith will also receive articles and pass them on to the Editor.

THE HACK is printed by Bendameer Publishing c 1996

** A brother curler from Markinch Club suggested it might be more appropriate to call it Bend Max Publishing! He was worried his Club sec would see **THE HACK**, it would appeal to his fascination with statistics and Club history.

Start writing for our next issue. The sooner articles are handed in the better.