



Best wishes for the Festive Season from **THE HACK**. Hope you have great mid season break. Thank you to everyone who has supported the venture - we look forward to many more articles next year. The next edition is due in February 1999.

Bob Smith has recently curled for Dunfermline !! He turned down the chance to join .. could it have been related to the fact it was going to cost £25. Obviously the principle of best value has spread to accountancy/curling.

At one point we had hoped this issue would be eight pages - but our promised articles did not arrive (Christmas post ??). We kept to the plan of printing in tie for the last blg event before Christmas - the Broomhall Bonspiel on 16/12/98. Please send in articles for the next issue as soon as you can.

Contents include:
 Match reports
 League results to date
 IcED GoSSip
 and much more
 (there could be even more if we had more contributions!)

It seems that we have an event missing from our calendar - a closing Bonspiel with the league rinks in action together. It could be a fine evening with the rink **O**you have dedicated your season to playing together. What do you think?

It has been a good feature of this season to have a number of nights when two or three rinks have been used at the same time by club teams. It adds to the sense of occasion.

Craig , one of the ice men at Kirkcaldy was very nervous last week, as he was expecting to be lynched and taken to the Court at Markinch. In fact he bottled out and so can expect triple hassle next year - he also escaped last year.!

Bob Smith reports that one of our members sent his subs in from Saughton prison - Pete Campbell must have had enough ! Thanks Dr. Murray.

The **next issue** will be out in February. Do you want it to appear at the Dinner - allowing for a new round of results in the pairs and the final League table .. or would you prefer it in early Feb? It's up to you especially if you send in material.

EDITORIAL

Will we get the harsh winter conditions required to create the ice for outdoor curling. Some of us will have mixed feelings about dreaming of cold spells .. if there was no inconvenience we should all be hoping for the chance to hear stones on outdoor ice -- the growl and roar is tremendous.

The season is almost half way through - a good one by anyone' standards. Hope the enthusiasm laststhrough the excesses of the Festive season.

Special thoughts from **THE HACK** to Tom Hunter who is being missed on the ice.

Happy
 Christmas to
 Everyone

Gardening tips

by Jan McLoud
(contributor - did not supply name!)



Many of my fellow curlers may not realise that I am a keen keen gardener and therefore a dab hand with the hoe and chainsaw. So I am taking this opportunity to share some of my trade secrets with you.

Let's start with the common onion (**Jimous Riginermus**). make sure you plant them, at least 3 - 4 metres apart. This is known as the longwalk method. Another favourite is the old cabbage (**Jonus Tibertet**). This one needs lots of feeding but not a lot of water and must be kept in a warm spot. It can also be varied in appearance.

Then you have the top of the range the carrot (**Tominus Clarkitoid**). Now this has a vigorous top growth, very bushy. Although it needs very little feeding stand it in sand and it will soak up water and additives you can throw at it.

Now we come to the mushroom (**Bilious Broonnot**). It may be classified as something to be avoided - but it is in fact a fungi. To conclude it has to be said my real love is the common flower the pansy - I'm sure I do not need to tell you about pansies.

That's all folks.

The Scottish Curler

has a new section - **HACK'S DIARY**

Nice to think we might have set the scene. Perhaps we should let them know.

Serious and dedicated curlers might consider subscribing to the magazine. It certainly contains lots of news about curling. The most recent issue includes articles about changes in rules and so much news about individuals and events

Wanted

We have been inundated with requests to have an advertising section in this prestigious journal. Some of the requests have been disregarded as they are quite dubious. Here are some of the classified ads for you to consider. Please contact the members concerned directly. The telephone numbers are in the book.

Orange Lilly Seeds	Ernie Archibald
Wooden Garage	Sandy Armour
Old Joiner Tools	Colin Blyth
Size 15 Curling Shoes	Ian Knust
Extra large hip flask	Jim Macdonald
Old WOODEN PALLETS	Dave McPherosn
NEW ANSWERING MACHINE	Henry Murray
Lessons on etiquette Vols 1 - 5	Ian Paxton
Scottish Phrase book	Hector Smith
Small van and trailer	Archie Terras
Book "Alcohol for Connoisseur's	Jas Wilson
House on other side of town	Ed Martin
House with a view	Alan Maclachlan

For Sale -

no reasonable offer refused

Book of Black country Ditties	Dave Chadwick
Pirates of Penzance Double LP	Tom Clarke
Selection of musical instruments	John Tibbert
Mixed bag of rusty nails	Billie Brown
Newspaper cuttings (with photos)	John Blyth
Curling Stone Night light	Bob Smith
Size 15 Curling shoes (no laces)	Tom Hunter
Rules of Curling Vol 2 - 109 (1 missing)	Lewis Kennedy
Embroidered sweat shirt (used once)	Douglas Lamond
Large quantity of brewers yeast	Ian Macdonald
Curling brush (can be used on windows)	Sid Ward

Virgin Skipping!

The task of leading a rink for the first time has left the Ed thrilled and ready for more - but also so aware that the task is one to grow into and develop over a long time. He has missed the sweeping part of the game. The first two experiences resulted in sound defeats. The fourth game showed an improvement - but we had four points down from the start. John Paxton played a fine last stone to turn a five against into a plus one. The third game was much closer. The spirit of each game was first class. He wonders if he will be known as the 'cavalier' third - that's all he will be if he does not get it tighter. Lewis will be glad to get from the states to rescue his rink.

3 - 12 10 - 113 172 - 244

Three defeats in one

Ed's first match in the thirds was against a superior and vastly experienced team. Consider the score line of 3 - 12 defeat. Consider the rink of Jan Wilson, Pat McHale, Douglas and Alastair Lamond. Years of curling experience were calculated at 113 v 101. Combined ages on 244 v 172 gave an even greater differential. So what over the view the rink was soundly beaten.

He must have put off Ed - he opted out of the second match.* Andy J enjoyed the third slot. Ian K and Colin C were vallant subs.

* He was late for the next! Something to do with being a grandparent for the first time I would guess.

SEE THIRDS SECTION ON BACK PAGE!

PAIRS 2 x 2

The less usual style of play starts in January. It is understood that in the past there was a chance to play in round robin leagues to give more experience at the game. It certainly allows 2nds and leads a chance to control the head and make decisions. The current format means that half the teams go out after one game.

Could we go back to a league? That would of course mean much more ice time and more games.

Other suggestions being talked about include a Pairs competition being played on one evening/day. Some clubs have very successful events. The great bonus is that there is a high level of audience participation! Dalgety Bay Club say it is a great event in their calendar. This sound like an idea that should be discussed more. What do you think?

Comments in writing will be printed in the next issue.

Other Matches - results

Challenge	Archibald	Lalbert	3	8
	Aitken		5	6
C & WF	Kennedy	R & A	7	9
BoS FC	Lamond	Dunfermline	3	4
	Clarke		4	11
Challenge	Archibald	Dunfermline	9	10
	Lamond		7	5
	Tait		5	7
	MacLachlan		4	10
Bonspell	Ritchie	Tullihallan	11	3
Province	Aitken	Kennoway	5	10
C & WF	Kennedy	Kirkcaldy	1	9
60th yr	Kennedy	D Bay	3	3
Challenge	Lamond	D. Bay	4	3
	Smith	D. Bay	1	11

Bank of Scotland Knockout

This second round tie was played at Kinross (not surprisingly as the event is organised by the rink!) Lamond played with the rink he used in round one - Paxton, Barton & Jan Wilson. They won a fine match v Dunfermline (a nice habit for Alastair this season) 8 - 4.

Tight play and had sweeping, were features of the match.

Tom Clarke stepped in with a rink of Ayres, Hay & Aitken (pensioner). They found the going much tougher - on the end of a 10 - 4 (7 ends to 1) defeat.

Cries to Tom of "get your finger out were perhaps uncalled for - nothing his injury list this season. He has been very careless losing part of one finger and trying to harm two others by breaking a light bulb in his bare hands. A real strong man.

Back to the competition - this is certainly one to make sure we enter next year. The format has a lot to praise.

ICED GOSSIP iced gossip

Alastair Lamond has been tipped up by a new golf clothing company - muddy fox! Well that's what you would have thought if you had seen him at Aberdour Golf Club recently. It is a good job the frost was no sharper as he would have ended the match wearing a leg brace of frozen conduroy. (Great match though Alastair - Ed)

Pat McHale is ahead of the times - he is alleged to have paid his ice fees at Kirkcaldy in euros. Apparently the exchange rate is better.

John Wilson is facing an RCUA Tribunal after delivering a brutal blow to a new curler at Aberdour. Ask him for the details - must be worth a fine at the dinner.

Inverkeithing Curling Club League Championship 1997/98

More League results :

Hunter	v	Maclachlan	12 - 3
Ritchie	v	Tait	4 - 8
Clarke	v	Robertson	7 - 3
Campbell	v	Ritchie	7 - 6
Clarke	v	Hunter	5 - 9
Lamond	v	Maclachlan	7 - 4
Kennedy	v	Tait	2 - 9
Robertson	v	Ward	10 - 12

Over half way through and it is now clear who will be contesting the Championship and those rinks who are fighting relegation - and a possible spell as a third.

Jim Aitken has taken over with a 'weak' rink* from the belagured Tom H. Allstair Lamond has a critical game in hand v Tom Clarke.

The action continues in January.

The final positions could be greatly influenced by the shot difference - so much differential this season.

* cynical view of course !!

Send your match reports in please. It would be great to hear some of the details from matches.

Favourite for the championship. New odds quoted are:
Lamond 3-1 Hunter 4-1
Tait 8-1 (from 4-1)
Campbell 8-1
no bets for others being taken

	Played	Won	Draw	Lost	Shots	Ag'st	PTS	+/-
Hunter	5	4	1	0	53	32	9	21
Lamond	4	3	1	0	29	21	7	8
Campbell	5	3	1	1	35	35	7	0
Tait	5	3	0	2	44	26	6	18
Ward	5	1	2	2	33	34	4	-1
Maclachlan	5	2	0	3	23	36	4	-13
Clarke	4	1	1	2	25	26	3	-1
Robertson	5	1	1	3	35	47	3	-12
Kennedy	5	1	1	3	20	41	3	-21
Ritchie	5	1	0	4	35	34	2	-1

Table at 14/12/97

Thirds - the battles are almost over

*John Tibbert v
Ian Macdonald decided
in group one!*

Smith	v	Paxton	4 - 13
Aitken	v	Tibbert	6 - 8
Blyth C	v	Macdonald	4 - 11
Barton	v	Blyth J	3 - 12
Aitken	v	Ayres	11 - 4
Smith	v	Archibald	p'stponed
Blyth C	v	Ayres	8 - 8
Paxton	v	Barton	14 - 7
Tibbert	v	Macdonald	6 - 7
Blyth J	v	Archibald	9 - 3
Aitken	v	Macdonald	9 - 9
Blyth C	v	Tibbert	3 - 8
Smith	v	Barton	6 - 4
Paxton	v	Archibald	4 - 10 ?
Ayres	v	Tibbert	7 - 8

The thirds competition has been keenly fought - the results in each section are far from clear, at least two skips from each section can gain top spot to contest the final in February.

There has been a high level of absenteeism - a few thirds have not had the opportunity to have the experience of the skip. (some wags would say that this was in fact an advantage!)

It seems to be a vital competition in the life of the Club giving opportunities to different players up and down the rinks.

Still to play

Aitken	v	Blyth C
Ayres	v	Macdonald
Paxton	v	Blyth J
Smith	v	Blyth J
Barton	v	Archibald
Smith	v	Archibald

Contributions for THE HACK should be sent to Phil Barton:

Fax: 01383 860956

Mail: 21 Inch Avenue, Aberdour, Fife. KY3 0TF

Tel: wk 01383 860314 hm 01383 860125

email: info@starleyhallschool.co.uk

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

THE HACK is printed by Bendameer Publishing