



Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.
I hope you will find items and information of interest herein.

As I am about to retire as chairman of the Coaching Committee, this will be the last newsletter introduction I have the pleasure of writing. I have enjoyed my stint as Convenor but am at a loss to explain where the last three years have gone!

I am pleased with what has been achieved over that time. I wish Lynne, National Coaching Officer, Albert Middler, our new Convenor and the rest of the committee all the best for the future. I am sure coaching in Scotland will be safe in their hands.

Yours in Curling
Richard Gray, Coaching Committee Convenor

Nominations for the Scottish Curling Awards



To date, and rather unusually, the Royal Club has not received any coach nominations for the Scottish Curling Awards.

Do you know a coach who has made a significant contribution to the sport of curling at local level and therefore would be eligible for the "Grassroots Coach of the Year Award"?

A panel will assess all nominations and will shortlist three finalists. The award will then go to the coach who attracts the most votes from the Royal Club membership.

The Deadline for nominations is **Tuesday, 10th April 2012.**

Please, don't leave it to someone else, nominate a coach from your area. Download a form, from the Royal club website - news article - 20 March 2012 and help us to recognise some worthy individuals.

PVG Scheme



The Royal Club is now fully integrated and is processing new and up-skilling coaches onto the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) disclosure Scheme.

The Royal Club has become more aware that some of these coaches are already members through different organisation that they are involved in. For the Royal club to be included as an organisation with these coaches, a separate (shorter) form is required and is available on request.

In the future, all coaches will be required to register, in a phased process. However the Royal Club has been informed by *Disclosure Scotland* that there will be a delay to the commencement date for the retrospective checking. This is due to a failure in the testing of the IT system to support the anticipated volume of retrospective cases. In the update on 30 March 2012, *Disclosure Scotland hopes to announce when retrospective checking will begin in the near future. We will update customers as soon as possible.* The Royal Club will continue to communicate over the summer and keep up to date.

Coaching Course 2012-2013

Shortly, the Royal Club will be looking for venues for ten Assistant Coach courses and four Technical Coach courses. For more information on the specifications of requirements or if you feel there is a demand for one of these courses or any of the additional modules, please contact Lynne MacKenzie, Coaching Officer - lynne@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org



Coaches Gathering

The Coaching Committee (CC) repeated the Coaches Gathering, a free social event for coaches held during the Scottish Championships, on the 18th Feb in Perth. A less formal approach was adopted with hosted discussion tables for coaches to gain advice or ask questions from qualified Technical Coaches and Elite coaches in “round the tables”.

Over 50 coaches submitted their apologies, many of which were submitted on the day due to inclement weather. However, over 55 coaches from all areas, did brave the threatening snowfalls to discuss matters of mutual interest, pass ideas, share plans, swap contact details as well as, meeting and making friends.



Welcomed by Morag Wellman, Iain Parkinson (CC LSC & ASC reps) and Joan Young (RCCC Administrator), coaches were checked in and issued a raffle ticket into a free prize draw before moving through to grab a refreshment.

Renowned as a source of support and service, via countless phone calls and emails, many coaches were glad to have the opportunity to meet our Joan Young in person. A “wee bubbly & friendly lady”, Joan plays a vital role in all Development and Coaching Administration



The table hosts included Technical Coaches, Ormand Smith, Jim Morrison and Jan Howard, who answered questions, offered advice and shared their experience in gaining the new Technical Coach qualification.

RCCC performance coaches, Nancy Smith & Brad Askew, provided clarification and advice to many coaches regarding the new Talent programme and Academy selection.

Coinciding with the Co-operative Funeralcare Scottish Championships semi finals, the gathering provided opportunity to see the best teams in Scotland competing, nevertheless British Curling’s Dave Crosbie, Soren Gran, Rhona Martin and Cate Brewster all took time out of their busy schedules to host a few more tables.



The “freebie” table was most popular, PVG disclosure ID checks were completed, good debates and discussions were generated at the coaching aids & drills table, while the photo gallery provided some amusement!

Winners of the prize draw were Nancy Smith, Alison Strang, Sheila Swan, Robbie Scott and Stuart Brand.

We thank all who gave their time to support this event.

Curling Coach Retires after 19 Years



A presentation was held at Kinross Curling Rink on 15 March to mark the retirement of Anne Porter as coach of the Mini Curlers. It was in 1993 that Anne was instrumental in the setting up a mini curling initiative which became known as The Thursday After School Club specifically to introduce children, from the age of 10, to the sport of curling. During the last 19 years countless children across Kinross-shire have gone from the early steps of the sport to take part in many competitions and later joined adult clubs in the area to continue this traditional Scottish sport.

Anne has made a huge contribution to encouraging and coaching children in Kinross-shire and children, parents and fellow coaches are grateful for her commitment over the years.

Many thanks to Anne from us all.



Coaching Committee 2012-2013

Having served their two seasons, two of our coaching reps have resigned and with the appointment of our new convenor, there is opportunity for three new coach representatives to join us. The table below depicts the reshuffle of the committee for next season.

2011 - 2012		2012 - 2013
Richard Gray	Convenor	Albert Middler
Trevor Dodds	Board Representation	to be announced
Lynne MacKenzie	National Coaching Officer	Lynne MacKenzie
Ian Parkinson	Area Standing Committee	to be announced
Morag Wellman	Ladies Area Standing Committee	to be announced
Cate Brewster	Coach Representative	Cate Brewster
Isobel Hannen	Coach Representative	vacant
Albert Middler	Coach Representative	vacant
Lockhart Steel	Coach Representative	vacant
Jim Morrison	ADO Representative	to be announced
Pam Mackay	Lead Child Protection Officer	Pam Mackay

In conjunction with the change of convenor, the meetings are likely to move more geographically north and venues in the Edinburgh area are being considered.

To find out what's involved in being a committee rep, have a look through the remit and minutes from the Royal Club website - or ask some-one who is! We need representatives who care about the progression of coaching within our sport and be a link to communication opinions on current issues. Interested? Please contact either Lynne MacKenzie or Albert Middler - contact details available via the committee's webpage.

Coaches update

Thank you to all the organisers, assessors, lead coaches, rinks and tutors who contributed to the success of the many coach education courses which have been run this season.

Please recognise and support the following people who have attended the following courses since January 2012

Trainee Assistant Coaches

Chiara Grossi	Perth	Cameron Lockhart	Perth	Ryan Tierney	Perth
Niamh Jack	Perth	Andrzej Marcinczak	Perth	Amoz Vasquez	Perth
Shaun Kay	Perth	Nicola McFarlane	Perth		
Maciej Korytko	Perth	Jasmine McKay	Perth		

Accrediting Technical Coaches

David Jones	Kinross	Alex Dickson	Dumfries	Jim McCormack	Dumfries
Alex Bryden	Dumfries	David Heal	Lockerbie	David Owen	Dumfries
Craig Carter	Aberdeen	Iain Jamieson	Dumfries		

Congratulations to the following who qualified,

Assistant Coach

Elsbeth Burton	Stirling	David Gordon	Kinross	Robert Polea	Waterfront
Stuart Carnegie	Kinross	Craig Hamilton	Stirling	Matthew Taylor	Dumfries
Bill Chalmers	Braehead	Lee McCleary	Kinross	Tracey Wright	Lockerbie
Bill Duncan	Elgin	Billy McDonald	Waterfront		
Anne Gordon	Lockerbie	Margaret Polea	Waterfront		

Technical Coach

Kay Gibb	Aberdeen	Claire Milne	Perth	Ormond Smith	Inverness
Bob Kerr	Stirling	Gail Munro	Stranraer	Brenda Urquart	Aberdeen