

# CURLING BONSPIEL 2024

## ***HURRAY HARD TO THE VALLEY***



The Kings Branch of the Retired Teachers Organization hosted the Provincial RTO Bonspiel on March 8 and 9, 2024 at the Glooscap Curling Club in Kentville. Eight teams registered and each played five games over the two day event. On Friday using a random draw process, the teams were divided into two divisions. Each division had a three 4-end round-robin games to establish a ranking position that would take them into a Saturday play down round. Standings in each round were determined by a pre-established point scoring system based on a win/tie in the match, and win/tie of each end played. The Glooscap Club was pleased to welcome teams from Dartmouth, Wolfville (2 teams), Liverpool, and Chester to our bonspiel. Rounding out this year's field were three teams from the host Glooscap Club.

Social activities also played a large part in the activities over the two-day event. At the time of registration, prior to the a Meet and Greet on Friday, and a the conclusion of each game snacks and treats were served by members of the Glooscap Club lead by Ellen Clark (RTO Kings Local). Between the second and third round games on Friday, participants were treated to an excellent Cordon Bleu Chicken dinner prepared in the banquet kitchen at Glooscap by Chef Bert Layton (RTO Kings Local). Seatings of eight players had one members of each team dine with a member from each other team. The meal and social interaction was great. Our meals concluded on Saturday with a delicious pizza lunch. Between games we also had a Trivia Contest organized and presented by Keith Moores . All participants had a chance to win door prizes of two gift cards and a special curling mug donated by RTO President Alyson Hillier. Two 50/50 ticket draws were held, with each winner walking away with over \$100 in cash.

On Saturday morning all eight teams were again back on the ice for the first of two six end games. In the morning we saw four games, two crossover games between the first and second place teams from the two divisions (The Medal Round), and another two crossover games between the third and fourth place finishers (The Consolation Round) from Friday. Saturday afternoon we saw the winners in the Medal Round play for Gold and Silver, with the other two teams playing for Bronze. In the Consolation Round winners and runners-up from the morning, played for ranking position in the bonspiel.

When all the points were tabulated at the closing, the Glooscap team of John Ferguson, Richard Christie, JP Boudreau, and John MacDonald were victorious and declared winners of the bonspiel. We were very pleased to welcome Provincial RTO President Alyson Hillier to our bonspiel, and she presented the trophy to the winning team.

Our thanks go out to Manulife Financial, NS Provincial RTO, and Kings Branch of the RTO for their generous financial support of the bonspiel. From all reports, a good time was had by all.

Co-Chairs: Ed Getson and Keith Moores

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