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# ELGIN CURLING CLUB

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## ELGIN CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER December 2011

Hello fellow curlers. It is hard to believe that another year has gone by. It has been a strange year with the weather playing up. A lovely warm November and then a wild December. At least we have been able to curl most of the time. The ice started off quite good and keener than usual, however it did cause a problem on several occasions. We hope that it will improve and it can be good as proved by the final Bonspiel on the 10 December.

The club has had quite a few injuries to cope with and I wish everyone a speedy recovery. It was unfortunate that we lost a team in Division 1 due to Douglas's injury; however I am sure he will come back as strong as ever.

We had a successful Bonspiel in November and a big thank you must go to Morag who organised it. I know she was still sorting out teams up to the start and she did an excellent job. It was good to see so many junior teams taking part and the standard of play from them holds good for the future. The winners of the Bonspiel and the Strang Trophy were, Helen Downey, Kenny Oswald, Ed Dodson(morning) and Brian Cantlay and Morag Cumming(afternoon). The runners up were Rob Tyson, John Downey(Morning), Oonah Grigor(afternoon), Mike Kemp and Calum Sword. Once again it was sponsored by Ian Yeats and his wife. So on behalf of the club a big Thank You!

The Club also had teams entered into several other Bonspiels. These included the Nairn Bonspiel, the Dennis Ice Bowl(both held in Inverness) and the Liesure Centre Bonspiel here in Elgin. The teams involved had a great time and even won a prize for the Fancy Dress competition at the Nairn Bonspiel. The pies supplied from Ashers Bakery were delicious. All these Bonspiels were very social occasions and I hope that more members will take part next season.



NAIRN BONSPIEL, INVERNESS

We have a few competitions nearing conclusion. The Falconer will be contested between Rob Tyson and Chris Taylor. This will take place on Monday 19 December.

The Points competition was won by Alastair Grant and the ladies by Helen Downey. Thanks goes to Mike Kemp for organising this and for Oonah for helping on the night. I had not played in this for a few years and forgot how much fun it was. It is a great opportunity to practice different shots that your Skip keeps asking you to do in a game.

The SMD has just completed and the winners were Bill Fords team. Due to injury, Graham MacKenzie covered as Skip and did a great job. It was a close contest with only 1 point separating the winners and the second team from Bob Stewart.

It was great to see the Scottish Ladies Team win the European Championship in Moscow. In the final they beat the favourites Denmark, who had been unbeaten up till then. Well done ladies!

To conclude I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and hope you have a good curling New Year.

John Downey

President