

**CURL MESABI
PO BOX 500
VIRGINIA MN 55792**



ROCK RECONDITIONING

By now, most everyone has heard that 8 sheets of rocks have been sent to Canada for a reconditioning process. The question is why? We will try to shed a little light by explaining what, why and how.

All curling stones wear over the course of time. Running surfaces become wider, smoother, scratched, and maybe even pitted. All of these wear factors affect the running/curling tendencies of the rock. The hitting surface contact area where the rocks collide also becomes wider, pitted, and sometimes concave. Some of our older rocks, which we sold to start-up clubs, had concave hitting surfaces. When a concave surface is present the rock is not salvageable.

The rocks that we are currently playing with have a lot of wear on the hitting band surface. It is very wide and will soon become concave and not repairable. The running surfaces are not as bad, but there are a number of rocks that react differently than the population as a whole. The most cost effective process by far is a complete rock reconditioning. The process involves completely cutting out the center (running surface) of the rock and replacing it with a new piece of granite. The entire rock is then cut/milled, including re-shaping the hitting band surface. The new running surface is put through a break-in/abrasive process that will soften the tendencies new rocks display. In essence, we will have 8 sheets of new rocks at a fraction of the cost and be set for 30-40 years of curling.

That brings up the cost. We have 128 stones in for reconditioning at a cost of \$175 - \$190 each. A total bill of about \$25,000. The Curl Mesabi Board is asking our members to "buy a rock". If each member or member family/couple contributes \$100 to \$150 we can go a long way toward defraying the cost. The final payment will be due sometime in October. If we do not raise enough funds by October 15th, we will pursue other fund raising efforts. A contributors plaque recognizing members participating will be displayed at the club.

To make a contribution, mail your check, payable to "**Curl Mesabi - Rock Fund**", to Chris Mikulich, 511 N Auburn Ave., Eveleth MN 55734

SMOKING ISSUE UPDATE - RANGE RECREATION CIVIC CENTER IS SMOKE FREE

At their monthly meeting in June, the RRCC Board voted 4 - 1 to designate the RRCC as a smoke free building. Rich Moore, honoring our membership vote this spring, was the lone dissenting vote.

The city of Eveleth has passed smoke free ordinances regarding public buildings. Because of these ordinances, the RRCC Board felt it necessary to designate the RRCC as smoke free.

ELECTRICAL VOLUNTEERS

I would like to thank Pete Johnson and his fellow retired electrical workers from Local 294 who recently volunteered 40 - 50 hours of their time doing some electrical work identified by Gordy Dahl. Thanks guys!

ICE PLANT SWITCHED ON OCTOBER 17TH.

Current plans call for the plant to be turned on Sunday, October 17th. Volunteers should contact T-Ball for the exact schedule. Our first bonspiel, the United Way Bonspiel, is scheduled for October 29th and 30th.

WOMEN REP FOR THE MCA

Any woman interested in this position should contact Jim Newman or Mark Forte.

THE WORLD IS COMING TO CURL MESABI !!

Our bid for the 2007 World Junior Championships was accepted by the World Curling Federation. A big thank you for a job well done to those who put together a fine proposal.

2004 - 2005 DUES

The dues structure for this coming season is unchanged.

One League	\$159.75
Unlimited Leagues	\$202.35
Lockers	
small	\$15.00
medium	\$25.00
large	\$35.00

Dues may be paid early by mailing to Curl Mesabi at PO Box 500, Virginia MN 55792 or to Chris at the above address for the Rock Contributions.

LEAGUE STARTING WEEK

All leagues are scheduled to start the week of November 8th.

Mark Forte