



Venerables CoffeeBreak



Christmas Edition - December 2016

THEY SAY THE JOINT WAS ROCKIN'

Tam partee animals from Venerables, mixed seniors, day ladies, business ladies, euchre and a rowdy table of tennis ladies, all gathered to show that they could still bust a move (and not a hip) at the 2016 Fifties/Sixties Nostalgia dance on Dec. 7th.



Gary Pennington, emcee for the event, (reprising his alter ego Gary Glitter) welcomed returning Elvis tribute artists John Cigan and his son Mason both of whom wowed the assembled glitterati with memorable favorites by Elvis, Rickey Nelson and Johnnie Cash.

Victor Shim, our celebrity DJ, spun hot wax and awarded spot dance prizes to the delight of the assembled group of



seasoned dancers. The revelers enjoyed drinks and munchies, served up by tireless Karen at the bar as well as Damiano delicacies, fruit and cake.

Sharon Cockburn and Ron Heind won the door prizes, a bottle of champagne and two flutes in gift boxes donated by Glenn Hill (Y group) Sutton Group Realty. Les Guinn and Doris Shtogryn won the best costume contest prizes of gift certificates donated by Fratell's Village Pizzeria.



quiz prizes after a hard fought battle finally



decided by a coin toss. Three lucky 50/50 winners shared in a prize of \$285.00.

Comments from the crowd included "Wonderful party - terrific entertainers, good emceeing, and lots of fun - thanks"

A men's league member passing through to buy a beer at the bar was amazed by the crowded dance floor rivaling their events.

Thanks to the sponsors, ticket sellers, and volunteers, office, kitchen and bar staff, our very own paparazzo, Steen Thureson, and the committee, Andrew Lamb, Gary Pennington, Ray Cockburn and Jerry Goldhar.

ROCK AND ROLL.....Jerry Goldhar

President's Message

By now our curling is well under way and it is appropriate to provide a mid-season up-date on Venerables activities.

50's 60's Nostalgia Party

Another very successful party was held on December 7, attended by 130 people. John Sagan and his son were once again the hit of the night with their Elvis, Johnny Cash, Dean Martin impersonations. Thanks to Jerry Goldhar, Ray Cockburn, Gary Pennington and all the volunteers who made the night a success.

Skins Bonspiel

The first bonspiel of the year was held on December 14. The skins format always provides a fun alternative to tour regular full game format. Even more fun is seeing all the Loonies and Tnoonies and quarters being divided up and the end of the day. Congratulations to the big winners.

Turkey Shoots

Two versions of this event were held this year. The recently traditional format of two rocks to the button was used by three of the groups, again with cash flowing out the winners. On the other hand, Y Group opted to use their own format that included turkeys (of course) and wine as prizes.

VTEC

One major achievement this year has been to keep the Friday competitive curling active with the introduction of the Venerables Team Entry Curling. At the same time we honoured our commitment, made last year, to return to status quo regarding the allocation of ice between VTEC and Tag Draw on Fridays. See the separate update on results below.

Membership and Fees

Membership is an ongoing concern for the club. We continue to see erosion in our numbers. At present we are about 218 versus about 243 last year. Some of this decline is health related and some is due to the departure of members who did not realize we would continue with a Friday competition.

As we all grow older the chances for injuries and
(see **President's Page 4**)

Upcoming Events

- Dec 22 *Sr. Mixed Christmas Spiel*
- Dec 24-27 *Club closed*
- Dec 28-30 *TCA Junior Bonspiel - All day*
- Dec 31 *Club closed*
- Jan 1 *Club closed*
- Jan 3 **Regular Group Draw returns**
- Jan 4 *Euchre Night*
- Jan 9 *President's Spiel Sign up Closes*

For the complete calendar please visit our website:
tamheathervenerables.com/calendar

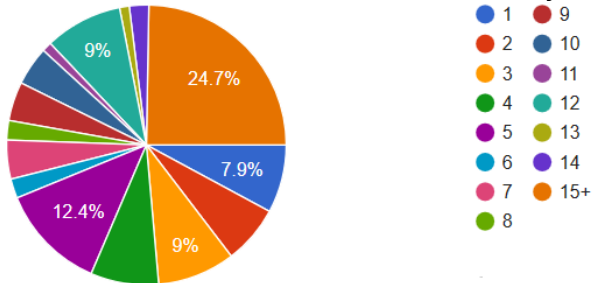
Satisfaction Survey

Last spring the Board of Directors offered a survey for your feedback with the following categories: Background Information, Schedule, Bonspiels, Other playing formats (eg Interclub, SEMUT, VCC), Social Activities, Communications, and Club Membership. We received 89 complete responses to the survey both online and hard copy.

In this edition of CoffeeBreak, we will examine the first three categories, Background Information, Schedule, and Bonspiels.

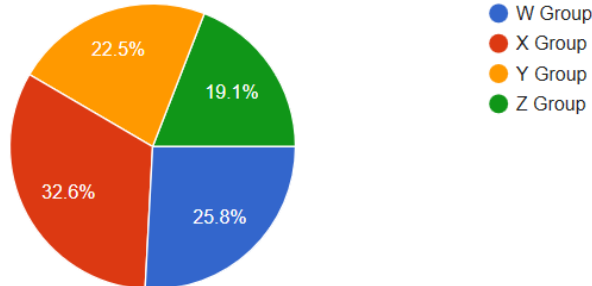
Background Information

I have been a member of the Venerables for ___ years.



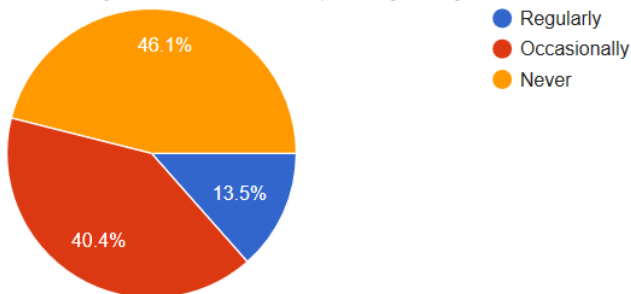
The largest group (24.7%) have been members for 15+ years. The next largest at 12.4% were 5 year members.

I am a member of ___ Group



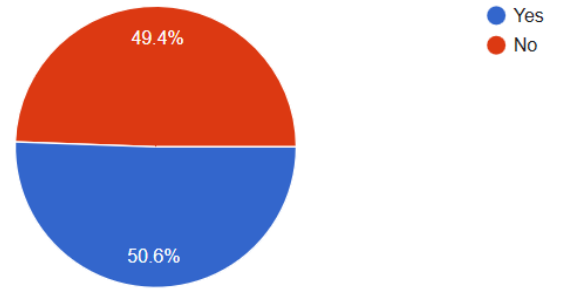
The membership is fairly well distributed amongst W, X, Y, and Z group.

I curl with a group other than my assigned group

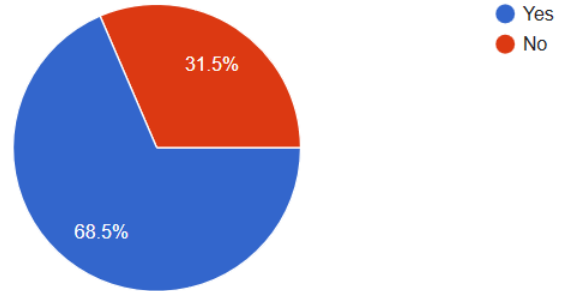


Almost half of the membership (46.1%) only curl with their assigned group.

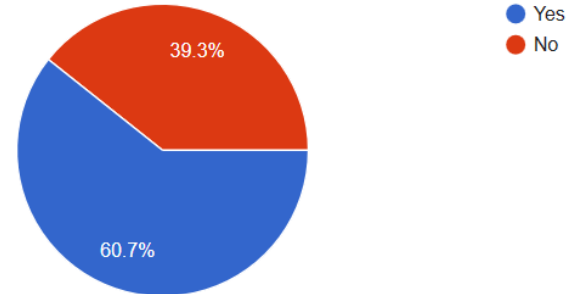
I use a stick (cue) when I curl



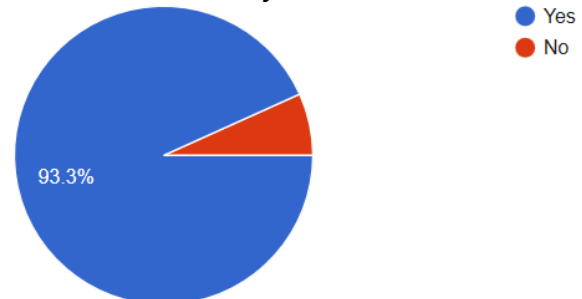
I wear some form of head protection when I curl.



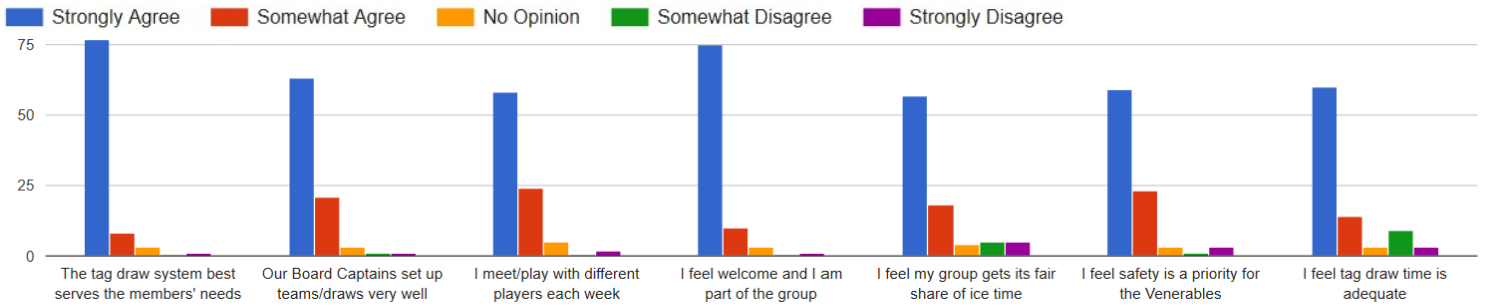
I have replaced my gripper over the past year.



I expect to be a playing member of the Venerables for the next 3 year.

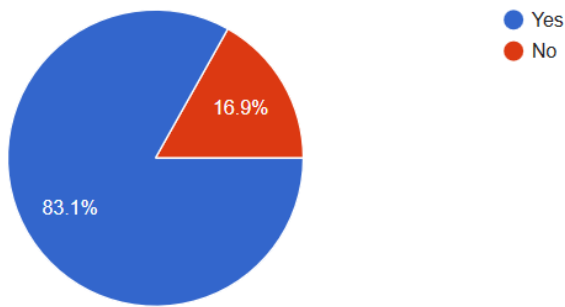


Schedule

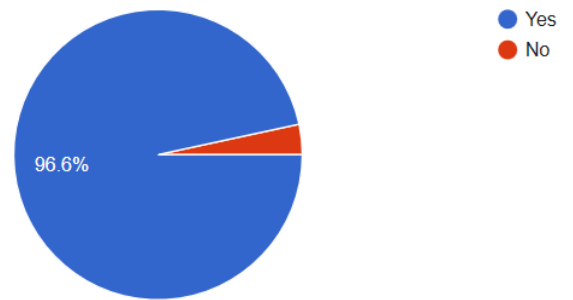


Bonspiels

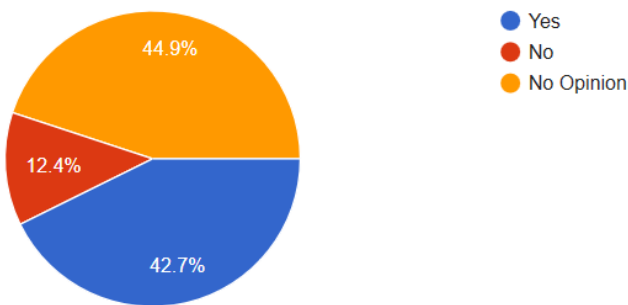
Are you aware of the difference between in-house and invitational Spiels?



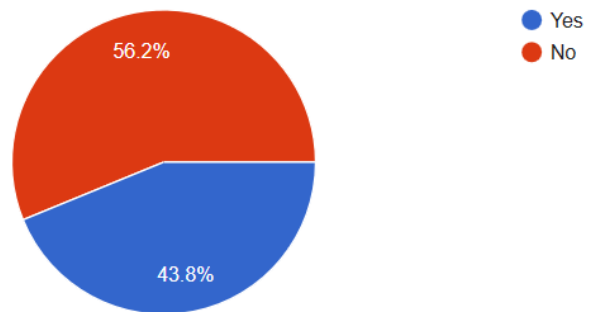
New member should feel comfortable, and be encouraged to participate in all in-house bonspiels.



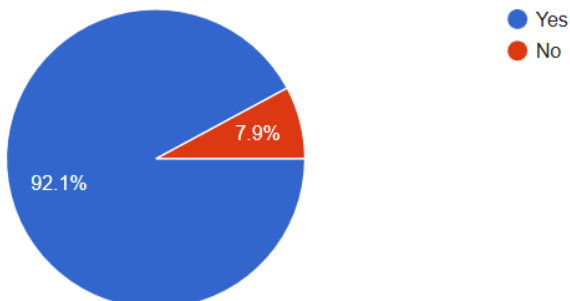
Did you like the new Tankard format for 3 day spiels?



Would you like to see more in-house competitions?



I think the price of in-house spiels is a good value.





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FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

ARE YOU READY TO PLAY

S.E.M.U.T. 2017

(SEASON ENDING MIXED UP TOURNAMENT)

We have the third annual **S.E.M.U.T.** planned for Fridays after VTEC is finished.

Participants must be Tam Heather Venerables.

We have 5 sheets, room for 10 Teams (40 Curlers).
After the first random Team selection, no one will play with the same Players again for the rest of the Tournament.

You will collect points as an individual,
2 for a win, 1 for a tie.

We will collect a \$12.00 Entry Fee.
40 Curlers X \$12.00 = \$480.00 for Prize Money.
Total Points available for the Tournament is 160.

Add up your Points after 4 Weeks and
receive \$3.00 per Point.

Your **S.E.M.U.T.** Committee
Don Hills, John Harzenetter, Peter Tibando, Ryk Weber



Christmas Skins Spiel

The Christmas Skins Bonspiel was held on Wednesday December 14, 2016. The competition for the day took place over 2, six end games.

The winners of the Christmas Skins Bonspiel with a score of 34 was team Gibson (with a perfect 21 score in game two): Skip Al Gibson Vice Ken Waddell, Second Ron Warren, Lead Rudy Vangel. In second place was team Wilmot: Skip Dave Wilmot, Vice Percy Baxter, Second Roy Dunlop, Lead Lynn Lefebvre. In third place was team Lamb: Skip Andrew Lamb, Vice Jim Thomas, Second Henry Stephens, Lead Jeff Dixon.

The skin games were very competitive and fun. All teams received prize money. The winning team received \$35. Special thanks to the Bonspiel Committee of *Jack Grant, Peter Tibando and Ian Valentine* for organizing a great bonspiel.



Felice Raimundo

VTEC Round 1

Season's Greetings from Venerable Team Entry Curling (VTEC). This is our first year and so far everything has been running smoothly.

We have finished the first round robin set of nine games. In A Division, the standings are very close with only 25 points separating the top 6 teams. In B Division, Vic Cuff (who is this guy?) and his team lead the way having lost only one game. B Division is still also close from fourth place down with only twenty points between 7 teams. The second round robin of five games started Dec. 16th and in both Divisions there is still lots of time for the standings to change – no doubt there will be some surprises!

Good curling to all.

Wayne Black

President's *(cont'd from page 1)*

failing health is a constant threat. This is our leading cause of lost members.

One solution to our membership numbers is for us to look around us to see who of our friends, neighbours and acquaintances who are candidates to become Venerables. Please make an effort.

Remember, dropping membership can only mean higher fees. A loss of 25 memberships this year means a decrease in our revenues of \$7750. It will take a \$35 increase for each Venerable to offset that decrease for next year, not to mention other increased costs.

Advisory Committee

I am pleased to report that our plan to create an Advisory Committee to the Board has been implemented. Fred Huggett, John McInall, Peter Tibando and Ed Welch have all agreed to participate. Their mandate is to simply keep eyes and ears open for issues and concerns in our members that for whatever reason are not making their way to the Board. If you have something to pass on you can talk to one of them and of course any of the Board members as well. Also be aware that there is a suggestion box outside office for comments and ideas.

It's Your Turn

At the start of the season I asked for people to be responsive - in a positive way – when called upon to help with the running of the Venerables. We have seen some good results, particularly with the formation of the Advisory Committee, but too often it's the same people doing a lot of the work and extending their terms of service. There is only one way to have vibrant curling club and that's to have as much enthusiasm off the ice as on. Think about how you can help when asked – or step forward and volunteer.

Jim Thomas