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September 7, 2011

Memo to all YCA-affiliated curling clubs

Happy off season everyone

I trust that everyone has been enjoying their summer. The YCA board has been steadily working on plans for the upcoming season, and we are very excited to partner with Atlin, Watson Lake and Whitehorse clubs to host various YCA events in the coming season. Please refer to the attached competition schedule and share it with all the members of your club. If your club was not a member last year, please do consider the benefits that your community and club can receive by being a member.

The 2012 Yukon Dominion Club Curling Championships are also an opportunity that all affiliated clubs should make a priority for the upcoming season. It will take place in Whitehorse in March 2012 and the winners of these events will represent our territory at the 2012 Canadian Dominion Club Championships. Each affiliated YCA club is permitted to send one men's team and one ladies' team to the Yukon Championships. A separate email to the curling clubs will provide you with more details about this event. Talk with us on how you can use this opportunity to grow and develop your membership activities in your club.

Did you know that by affiliating your club with YCA, you are eligible to apply for grant money from CCA through the **Curling Assistance Program**? If you have a bricks and mortar project, or have a membership recruitment strategy, you may want to consider applying. Also, CCA, YCA and each affiliated Curling facility can also access the **Curling Development Fund**. This is a great way to be able to access donation money from the community, and offer tax deductions for the donation in return. As a registered amateur athletic association, the CCA is able to issue tax deductible receipts for donations of \$100 or more. 100% of the donation targeted for your project will be returned to the club when the club requests it. There is no administrative fee for this service. If your club has a need (new equipment, renovation, etc) this may be a way that you can have that need fulfilled.

YCA is again organizing a high performance junior camp on the Thanksgiving long weekend. We are expecting athletes to attend from Alaska, NWT and, of course, the Yukon. It is geared towards Junior athletes who have some experience in the sport, but they do not need to be on a team. Please consider this as an opportunity to kickstart the junior programming at your club. More details will follow.

Also in October, we will be providing an opportunity for ladies to learn more about competitive Curling. On October 10 and 11 there will be an introduction to competitive curling for ladies interested in competing in Scotties, mixed, seniors and Dominion events this season. More details to follow.

We are also excited to be reaching out to others in our community who may not have considered Curling as an opportunity for them. In partnership with the CCA, YCA is initiating getting started programs for those in our community who may be mobility impaired. If you know of any wheelchair users in your community that might be interested or even curious, let us know so we can include them in the planning.

YCA is also interested in supporting your club with other developmental programs and services to grow your membership of all ages. Keep in touch with YCA and let us know what your needs are for the upcoming season, so that we can find ways to partner, support and assist the growth and development of your club.

Last year, YCA developed a new website. We are prepared to have your club events posted on our site so that there is one place to go to know where you can curl every weekend of the winter. Please also send in your club news items, photos and other pieces of information and we will make sure it gets posted properly. www.yukoncurling.ca is the address.

Is there someone in your club interested in volunteering on the YCA board? We would be very interested and have space to fill. Please let us know if you have anyone. Spots can be filled at anytime!

Our AGM is scheduled to occur on September 29 at 7 pm at Sport Yukon. As always, we will also be having this as a teleconference call, so it will be easy for the communities to be involved. Please let us know your interest in participating in the meeting.

Sincerely,

Wade Scoffin, on behalf of the Yukon Curling Association Board of Directors