

FRIARS' BRIAR – 2010 EDITION
March 8-12, Salmon Arm, B.C.

March 8-12, Salmon Arm, Twenty curling teams gathered from Ontario and West at Salmon Arm, British Columbia in the heart of the Shuswap. The local venue was the Salmon Arm Curling Club. A good number of curlers stayed at the Holiday Inn, walking distance for most but not all. The fun began with the first draw 3:30 Monday March 8th followed by an opening luncheon, the first rock [honour given to Fraser Muldrew], and then the second draw at 7:30. On Tuesday through Thursday there were four draws per day thus insuring that no team had to curl back to back games, a fact much appreciated. For the round robin portion the teams were divided into four pools of five each. In order to give each team five round robin games, each team played one interlocking game with another team from another pool. Everything was set up by a blind draw. The top two teams after the round robin moved on to the Medal Event, the next two went to The Don Amos Event, and the 5th place teams went into The Hugh Christmas Event for the play-off games on Thursday and Friday. The last draw was Friday at 11:00 which was followed by a closing luncheon and presentations.

There was good curling and there were some strong teams as noted by the results. For example both the Williams and the Friesen teams went through their pools without a loss and in the play-offs the Friesen team remained undefeated and the Williams team had one loss. The results for the week: [1] The Medal Event; Gold – Arnie Friesen Team from BC; Silver – Sieg Wall Team from Manitoba; Bronze – Dave Martin Team from Ontario. [2] The Don Amos Event: 1st. Dave Hunter Team from Saskatchewan and British Columbia; 2nd. Mike Kuhn Team from Alberta; 3rd. Allan Grundahl Team from Saskatchewan. [3] The Hugh Christmas Event: 1st Rolf Nosterud Team from Alberta; 2nd Doug McKenzie Team from Ontario; 3rd Don Sjoberg Team from Alberta.

Congratulations to these teams but perhaps the biggest congratulations should go to the Kutch Imayoshi Team. They had a tough week with a zero and eight record but they were more than gracious in defeat. Thanks Kutch!

The banquet was held at the Curling Club on Thursday evening. Dennis and Grace Cook who operate the curling concession once again provided an excellent meal which received many compliments as did their work all week long. For entertainment a local musical quartet provided background music prior to and during the banquet. Their playing was superb. The banquet was followed by the AGM. There were two notable items of business. One was the election of Sieg Wall as the next president of The National Friars' Association succeeding David Hunter who had guided the Association for a number of years. The other item was the invitation from the Ontario curlers to come to London Ont. next year for the 2011 FB as London is also the home of next year's Tim Horton's Brier.

Thus next year is London, Ont. We hope to have a full slate of 24 teams and to have a good time of curling and fellowship as was experienced in Salmon Arm.

Perhaps the 2010 local committee was the smallest ever with three people: Ernie Paetsch, and Bill and Veronika Kiesman. We worked hard but seeing the results, the smiles, the laughter, the good humour during the week of curling was more than worth all our effort. Again we realized: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Thank you once again to all who participated.

Submitted by
Ernie A. Paetsch