

Eildon Curling Club

About Us

We are a mixed ability club and play at the Border Ice Rink in Kelso. The club was originally St Boswells Ladies but changed its name to Eildon Curling Club when it decided to become open to both women and men. It is now quite independent. Our members come from all over the Borders and we welcome those who are new to curling as well as those who have played for some time. We see ourselves as a friendly, inclusive club which creates a welcoming atmosphere for all members. We try also to give members opportunities to develop as curlers.

We normally play on Thursday mornings starting at 10.30am and finishing around 12.30pm. As such we are one of the very few Clubs at Kelso who curl exclusively during the day time. Our membership, therefore, consists entirely of people who are able and willing to play during the day.

We curl throughout the season at Kelso starting at the end of September and continuing until the end of March. At present we play two main competitions in both of which each team plays every other team once. They are:

- Eildon Stone – this takes place from September to December and rinks are normally skipped by players who do not regularly play as a skip
- Eildon Trophy - this runs from January to March and, in this competition, rinks are led by experienced skips

We also have a Club bonspiel at the end of March, also on a Thursday morning. After the bonspiel, the Club holds its AGM during which prizes for the competitions are presented and members enjoy an informal lunch.

Club members are invited to enter for as many of the competitions as they wish. They can elect to play as reserves who can be called on to play when a normal rink member is unavailable. It is possible also for two members to share a place in a rink rather than opting to play in every game.

Rinks for the two main competitions are drawn and published in the club fixture card which is circulated to all members before the start of the season. The rinks for the Eildon Stone and the Eildon Trophy are not the same. Every effort is made to ensure that members are able to play in positions which suit their capabilities but particular attention is paid to the need to help members develop their curling skills and experience. Rinks in all competitions include female and male members.

We enter inter-club competitions organised at Kelso by both the Roxburghshire and Berwickshire sections of the Border Province but do not put a team in the Border League. For each competition, a senior member of the Club is asked to put together a rink and this helps to ensure that different members can participate. The competitions give those involved a chance to improve their curling by playing against players from other clubs.

The annual Club subscription is £7.50 which members pay at the beginning of the season. This is to cover administrative expenses such as production of fixture cards and trophy engraving.

Ice fees for the Eildon Stone and the Eildon Trophy are paid in advance and are also due at the start of the season. Members are informed beforehand of the total amount which they are required to pay.

Members must also pay a membership fee for the Border Ice Rink Club and an annual levy to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club. Eildon is a day time curling club and many members join another club to enable them to play in the evenings. Those who are in this position may pay the Border Ice Rink Club fee and the levy through their other club. These payments are only made once.