

“S.O.B.” CURLING TOURNAMENT BRINGS THREE DAY WINTER PARTY BACK TO STANLEY JANUARY 29-31

If it's January, it's time for a 3-day outdoor curling tournament and party in Stanley! Boise Curling Club (BCC) presents the 4th annual Sawtooth Outdoor Bonspiel (The S.O. B.) at the Stanley Ice Rink January 29-31. Idaho curlers from Boise, Stanley, and Moscow will play “chess on ice with granite and brooms” against teams from Arizona, Utah, Washington, Montana, and Wisconsin. With 64 competitors and as many spectators coming to “population 63” Stanley for the weekend, the town will be hopping Friday and Saturday nights. Eateries, hotels, and taverns will be open and there will be live music at several local establishments.



Up to five curling games will be played simultaneously in a series of 2-hour “draws” which start at 5pm on Friday evening and continue Saturday morning, Saturday evening, and Sunday morning. Each of the sixteen teams plays at least three games during the weekend. The championship draw begins at 9:15 on Sunday morning January 31. At noon on Saturday, visitors and spectators are welcomed onto the ice to learn the basics from the competitors and try the Olympic sport.

“It’s a great weekend to plan a winter getaway to the Sawtooth Valley,” says Boise Curling Club president Vince Carlson. “Meet a bunch of friendly competitors from all over, watch some great curling, try throwing the stones yourself, and then hike or ski into Redfish Lake, go snowmobiling or snowshoeing, hit a hot spring, or just take in the stunning scenery and the nightlife.”

Boise Curling Club, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to growing the 500-year-old sport in Idaho. The club presents league curling in Boise and the annual event in Stanley, and conducts several “Learn to Curl” events each year.

“There are very few outdoor curling competitions in North America, and none with a backdrop like the Sawtooth Mountains,” says S.O.B. chair (“Chief S.O.B.”) Jared Belsher, who works with Stanley leaders each year on the Bonspiel. “The reception we get from the citizens and businesses in Stanley is something really special. Curlers come a long way for the event, and they keep coming back.” BCC member Paul Shubin enjoys the unique spectacle and the friendly atmosphere. “Whether you come up to Stanley to play or to watch, you’ll have a great time at this event,” says Shubin.

For more information on the Sawtooth Outdoor Bonspiel, contact Rob Smith, (208) 866-2473, email robsterdoc@gmail.com, or visit www.sobidaho.com.

For more information on Boise Curling Club, contact Vince Carlson at (208) 310-1843, email vince@boisecurlingclub.org, or visit www.boisecurlingclub.org.

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