



The 1017th Challenge Summary
Dalhousie Lake at North Hatley
Feb. 5, 2023

For the first time in the North Hatley Curling Club's run of hosting the Challenge Cup they faced a team from Ontario. Dalhousie Lake made the voyage to the Eastern Townships on Sunday, February 5, 2023.

The guests were greeted with snacks and hospitality from members of NHCC as the juniors once again brought the energy to the club.

Once everyone was settled in, the rules were explained, and the leads enjoyed the traditional whisky shot. That allowed the games to begin.



North Hatley juggled the line-up to include two new players.

On ice 1 it was the team of Marty Rourke, Steve McPherson, Christian Lupien and Lorraine Cournoyer who defended home ice for North Hatley. Two blanks and a nose hit on an attempted third blank left the visitors up 2-1 at the break.

On sheet two, the Cote clan – Morgan Cote, Marc Cote, Chelsea Cote and newbie Kris Smith found themselves down 4-2 through five ends.

After snacks and beverages, the teams returned to the ice. On sheet 1 the Dalhousie Lake team of Billy Woods, Bill Carr, Tyler Benson and Kevin DeBoer blanked six, gave up a steal to the hosts in seven and took a pair in 8. They found themselves chasing in the ninth before Woods made a pair of double



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takeouts to limit the damage. North Hatley took advantage when Rourke's draw found the 8-foot for a pair to set up a thrilling finish.

On sheet 2 Dalhousie Lake's team of Matt Dupuis, Don Chasse, Jonathan King and Eric Bradbury blanked the 6th end on a wild shot then gave up a steal of 2 in seven before scoring 1 in eight and stealing a deuce in 9.

Dalhousie Lake was up three coming home.

Sheet 2 got ahead by a few rocks and Cote with last rock was set to take advantage of a Dalhousie Lake miss to score a deuce. Unfortunately her rock came up inches short and North Hatley scored a single.

With a few rocks left and a number in play, there was still hope for North Hatley. Coming down to the final shot the hosts were lying 3, forcing a tough double takeout attempt from Dalhousie Lake that narrowly missed.



Overall, the game ended up tied 11-11 meaning North Hatley retained the cup.

As the teams exited the ice there was a large appreciative crowd to applaud the players. After an exchange of beverages, the traditional rusty nail was prepared in the Challenge Cup before it was enjoyed 'post-Covid style'.

An excellent dinner was served by our wonderful volunteers and great stories exchanged to round out what was an exceptional afternoon and evening for the North Hatley Curling Club.