



The 1018th Challenge Summary
Ormstown at North Hatley
Feb. 25, 2023



On Saturday, February 25th, the North Hatley Curling Club prepared to host Challenge 1018 of the Quebec Challenge Cup. It was Ormstown Curling Club making the trek to the Eastern Townships to face NHCC in their fourth defense of the storied trophy.

It was an early wake-up call and the lads from valley had some troubles getting their bus started on the frigid February morning so the scheduled 11 a.m. start time was pushed back by about 20 minutes. The players were greeted by a continental breakfast and anxious group of spectators.

Once the rules and traditions were adhered to, the players took to the ice.

North Hatley returned to their original line-ups.

On sheet 1 it was North Hatley's team of Marty Rourke, Steve McPherson, Joe Cox and Marc Cote taking on Ormstown's crew of Simon Rember, Jeff Rember, Eric Houle and Mike Greig. On sheet 2 it was Matt McCrea, Josh Bronson, Dan Camber and John McCrea representing the hosts while Scott McClintok, Taylor Lamb, Tim Rember and Tyler Waller wore the Ormstown colours.



North Hatley came out firing on all cylinders and were not ready to see the cup depart. Over the course of the defenses, the anticipation and excitement has brought a pride into the small two-sheet club in the little village.

On Sheet 1, Ormstown made a hit for one in the first before North Hatley blanked the second and scored 3 in 3. A draw to the 4-foot gave the visitors another single in 4 then North Hatley scored 2 in 5 to head to the break up 5-2.

There was a bit more action on sheet 2. North Hatley opened with 4 then Ormstown scored 3 on a tricky little double takeout. North Hatley got a deuce in 3 then stole a single in 4 but the visitors refused to back down as they scored another 3 in 5. At the break North Hatley was up 7-6 and 12-8 overall.



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The sixth end proved to be the turning point as on Sheet 1 Rourke's team made a beautiful little through-the-port tap back to set up a steal of 2. McCrea's team blanked the sixth then took a 3 in seven while Rourke stole another 2 in 7. Ormstown got a single on each side in 8 and North Hatley responded with singles of their own in both 9 and 10 to make the final 23-10 and a successful defense of the cup.

Another standing ovation of a packed club greeted the players as they exited the ice.

Following the game the groups exchanged libations, caught up on old stories and started making new ones. The traditional Rusty Nail was once again served Covid style to many smiles and cringes.

Homemade pizza and Caesar salad filled the players up and the festivities continued into the evening.

Once again a big thank you to all who came to watch and especially the volunteers who helped prepare the club, make snacks and serve in the kitchen and at the bar. Until next time...