



The 1019th Challenge Summary
Bel-Aire at North Hatley
March 19, 2023



In what is becoming a Sunday tradition at the North Hatley Curling Club, they hosted Bel-Aire on March 19, 2023 for the 1019th challenge in the Quebec Challenge Cup.

Gametime was set for noon and the players arrived early for a snack and to get a feel for the club. The NHCC juniors once again brought energy as their practice ended before the start of the challenge.

After the rules were explained and photos taken, the teams shook hands and the games started.



On sheet 1 it was the team of Matt McCrea, Josh Bronson, Dan Camber and John McCrea taking on Pier-Olivier Dumont, Rémi Gauthier, Yvon Désilets and Daniel Dubrulle. The hosts applied pressure early, but Dumont made game savers in the first few ends and Bel-Aire jumped out to a 3-1 lead through three. McCrea scored a big 3 points in the fourth while Bel-Aire got a single in 5 to head to the break tied at 4's. After the break it was all North Hatley as they blanked 6 then took three in each of 7 and 9 to put the game away by a final of 10-6.

On sheet two Marty Rourke, Steve McPherson, Christian Lupien and Marc Cote jumped out to an early lead over their opponents. Guy Lanoue, Richard Miville, Vincent Bernier and J-F Tanguay represented Bel-Aire and struggled to catch on to the ice. The hosts drew the four-foot for a single in the first then stole two in two. North Hatley added two more in 4 sandwiched in between Bel-Aire singles. At the break NHCC was up 5-2. Seemingly in control, North Hatley gave up a steal of 2 in six but answered back with 2 in seven, forced Bel-Aire in 8 then took 3 in nine. The 10th was blanked for a 10-5 North Hatley win.

North Hatley retained the cup with a 20-11 overall final. The teams exited the ice to the applause of the spectators, who have come to welcome and embrace this event. It adds a fun atmosphere for everyone involved.



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After the game, stories were shared and the tradition of filling the Challenge Cup with a Rusty Nail continued. As the teams took turns filling their cups covid-style the guests lamented how much they enjoyed the concoction, something not frequently murmured in the previous challenges. Congratulations to J-F Tanguay from Bel-Aire who finished it off!



A chicken and biscuits dinner was prepared and served, thanks to all the volunteers who made it yet again a successful day at the North Hatley Curling Club!

Next up North Hatley will attempt to win the cup for an 8th consecutive time when Royal Montreal visits.