

A Special Event: the Jim Sullivan Curling Classic

Every year in December, Thistle-St. Andrews hosts the Jim Sullivan Curling Classic. This tournament is now on the men's and women's World Curling Tour. It attracts many of the top teams in Eastern Canada and some international teams as well. In fact in 2019 the women's pool was won by a team from South Korea! This is the first time it was won by a team outside of Canada.

It is run by dedicated volunteers from TSA Curling Club and 2019 was the 8th year.

This tournament is very special to TSA. It is in memory of Jim Sullivan, a former World Junior Curling Champion and Silver Medalist at the Labatt Brier, who took his own life in 2011 after suffering from mental illness. We partner with the Canadian Mental Health Association of New Brunswick, Saint John office, to raise awareness and foster support for those in our community affected by mental illness.

Throughout the spiel there are speeches by David and Carol Sullivan (Jim's parents) and speakers from the CMHA (Saint John Office) to talk about Jim. It is not easy for Jim's family and friends to share their stories and memories, but they do it to dispel the stigmas and stereotypes associated with mental health issues. And to raise money. To date, the spiel has raised over \$10,000 for the CMHA (Saint John).

TSA is happy to share the story behind The Jim Sullivan Curling Classic to celebrate the spirit of curling on Curling Day in Canada.

