

World Crokinole championship attracts players from around the globe

TAVISTOCK - The Tavistock and District Recreation Centre might be going where no recreation centre has ever gone before.

The executive of the World Crokinole Championship are planning to install a permanent crokinole board in the main lobby of the recreation centre.

Tavistock residents and out-of-town guests will be able to hone their crokinole skills in between hockey games or while spending time in the lobby.

The crokinole executive feels it will be a unique feature for their arena and will help to promote the game of crokinole.

The 7th annual World Crokinole championships are being held in the Tavistock Rec. Centre this Saturday, June 4. Registration is going very well, with registration numbers climbing again this year.

Past participants have come from coast to coast in Canada,

from British Columbia to Prince Edward Island. They have also travelled from as far north as the Yukon and as far south as Texas. Players have also come from Germany and England.

Crokinole has its roots in Tavistock. Historians believe that the game developed in southern Ontario during the 1860s. That notion is confirmed with the fact that the oldest-known crokinole board in the world was made in Sebastopol (one concession north of Tavistock) in 1876 by a local craftsman, Eckhardt Wettlaufer, as a birthday present for his five-year-old son, Adam.

At Kitchener museum
The board now resides at The Joseph Schneider Haus Museum in Kitchener, Ont.

At this year's annual Crokinole championship, there is \$5,000 in cash and prizes to be won, with the top prize of

\$1,000 being awarded to the champion adult single. Last year's adult singles winner was Joe Fulop, of Exeter.

The recently-introduced Recreational Division, with a top prize of \$200, has been well received and will again be a category for those wishing to play in the tournament at a recreational level. It's one of the goals of the WCC executive to promote crokinole as fun for all ages and skill levels. There are categories for ages 6 and up.

Early-bird registration winners this year are: Vanessa Taylor, of Fort Erie, and Noreen Switzer, of Lakeside.

They both won a jacket with the WCC logo embroidered on it.

Registrations are available at the Tavistock and District Recreation Centre, 655-2102, or by visiting the website at www.worldcrokinole.com

ished 25th.

In the afternoon, Switzer and Evelyn King played in the recreational singles event.

Switzer had 55 wins, plus 52 20s, finishing a strong sixth out of 42 players. She played against competitors from Texas, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island. She was the lone woman to advance to the semi-finals.

King, meanwhile, had 23 wins, plus 18 20s. She finished 34th out of 42 players.

Don King also competed in Pool 'B' singles.

"It's just a really fun day," said Noreen Switzer, who also won a crokinole jacket as an early-bird prize. In a raffle, Don King won a crokinole hat.

LAKESIDE WOMAN SIXTH IN CROKINOLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

TAVISTOCK - Noreen Switzer, of RR1 Lakeside, reached the semi-finals in the singles competition at the recent World Crokinole championships. It was her second time competing in the event.

Switzer's uncle Don King, of RR2 Lakeside, was playing in the event for the fifth time. King's wife Evelyn competed in the event for the second time.

Noreen Switzer and Don King also competed in the doubles event in the morning. Out of 96 teams, they fin-

Golf for choir



Vanessa Triemstra, 8, practices her putting on the No. 9 green at River Valley Golf Resort to kick off the third annual St. Marys Children's Choir and Festival Youth Singers Golf Tournament on Sunday, June 12, with lots of prizes up for grabs. Proceeds go to the St. Marys Children's Choir and Festival Youth Singers. Registration forms are available at Douglas Decorating Centre, from Wendy Triemstra, 393-5039, or visit the choir's website: www.stmaryschildrenschoir.ca.

Joyce West Granddaughter



Sean Darling was presented the Mark Perrier Memorial Award by Ingrid Newberry of Stratford Special Olympics for consistent attendance, effort, enjoyment and sportsmanship. Sean participated in 7 sports last year.