

# Farmers and Friends Bonspiel

Our project is about the biggest curling bonspiel under one roof! We will tell you what town has the world's largest curling broom and how it is tied in with the Farmers and Friends bonspiel!

Who started the Farmers and Friends Bonspiel?

The people that started the Farmers and Friends are Jennalee Beutler, Chad Kelly, Scott Mannle, Warren Delmage, Rhett Parks, Lisa Istace, Braeden Restau, and Jason Krupski. The Farmers and Friends Bonspiel started after a curling game on the second floor of the Whitewood rink. They started to talk about curling, then Kelly brought up this big idea and told the mayor about it.

What is the Farmers and Friends Bonspiel?

The Farmer and Friends Bonspiel is a curling bonspiel for people to play in and have fun. It's also meant to raise money for

the town, to bring more attractions to our town, and also to build what the town is planning for the future of the community.

Where and when does it happen?

For the last eight years, the Farmers and Friends Bonspiel has been held in the Whitewood Community Center. The Bonspiel happens every year on last weekend of March. Every year there are 64 senior teams, and 16 junior teams that participate.

Why did Whitewood get the largest curling broom?

They decided to get the world's largest curling broom to celebrate the town's curling heritage. It is also a tourist attraction. In the summer, people might want to stay for a couple of nights, then they might come some time again. The curling broom is 63 feet tall, the head is 10 by 4 feet. The broom handle is made of a HSS (High Speed Steel) pipe with a 12 inch diameter and wall thickness of 0.375”.

How do they organize the bonspiel?

They have multiple members on the committee that have specific roles each year. Everyone does their roles and contributes to the team to make everything run efficiently.

They start planning processing early and spread the work out throughout the year.

## How do they decide where the money goes?

Everyone involved in the bonspiel, either as a curler, sponsor, or volunteer is able to submit a grant application to our committee. They then review all grants and distribute the money to the applications as they determine who needs it most. They give priority to youth sport groups. The bonspiel started in 2017 and over 8 years we have raised over \$890,000 for our community center, town and surrounding communities around us.

