

## Congratulations to MAHCP Member Jill Thurston!

Jill and her team from the Deer Lodge Curling Club won the 2010 Manitoba Women's title in the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

Jill is an MAHCP Union member and a Pharmacy Technician at St. Boniface General Hospital, where she has worked in the Pharmacy Department for a little over 10 years.

She began curling at age 11, and fell in love with the game, in part because of her father, World Champion Don Duguid, and her many brothers who also enjoyed the game.

She was a Manitoba Junior Champion as a skip in 1991, losing the Canadian final in an extra end to New Brunswick. She then played third for many years, winning the province in 2000, and 2006 before deciding to take a couple of years off from the game.



Jill Thurston (far left) with her team-mates Kristen Phillips, Leslie Wilson, and Raunora Westcott

After spending time with her husband and dog, enjoying a couple of much needed vacations, she was lured back to curling to skip Kristen Phillips, Leslie Wilson and Raunora Westcott.

In their first year together, and Jill's first year skipping since 1996, they had some moderate success on the cash spiel circuit, but came out victorious at the 2010 Manitoba Scotties Tournament of Hearts. With an extra end win in the

semi finals, they advanced to the final, where they played Thurston's former team-mate, Janet Harvey, and won, again in an extra end.

**At the National Scotties Tournament of Hearts, they battled through the round robin, finishing in a tie breaker for fourth place.**

Unfortunately, they lost that tie break game to Ontario, missing the final weekend.

Jill is no stranger to the Nationals; this was the third time as a member of rink playing at that highly competitive level. This was Jill's first time as skip.

Jill and her team are proud of their accomplishments this season and look forward to trying to repeat as Manitoba Champions in 2011.

We wish Jill and her rink every success in 2011!