

# Andorran Reformer

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## REFORM'S BIG BIRTHDAY IDEA

**R**EFORM Curling Club was born in 1980, a whole new concept in club curling in Scotland. Reform Club would play at the newly opened Greenacres rink, the founding members fed up with playing on twisted ice at Crossmyloof in Glasgow.

Entry to the various club competitions would be by skip's entry. In Reform, teams would not be picked out of a hat by a committee.

In 2005 Reform reached its 25th birthday, very young by the standards of many Scottish curling clubs, but nonetheless a birthday that had to be celebrated in style.

Ideas for the celebration were bandied about for some eighteen months before the big event.

Should it be a dinner, or perhaps a bonspiel, or maybe even both?

But finally the BIG idea was proposed. Reform should celebrate 25 glorious years by going on tour. There was no problem persuading the members this was the ideal way to mark the occasion. And there was no problem deciding the venue. As a young club Reform would visit one of the youngest curling countries in Europe, and a weekend bonspiel was arranged in Andorra, deep in the Pyrenees.

Just over 50 curlers and their travelling support signed up for the weekend, October 13 to 17, 2005, just a few days ahead of the inaugural European Mixed Championship. The Reform 25th Anniversary would be the test event for the Championship.

It couldn't have been better for four Reform members, Derek Brown, Cathryn Guthrie, Greig Smith and Rhona Brown. As Scottish Mixed Champions, they would be playing in the European Mixed Championship, and the Reform weekend would give them plenty of time to get acclimatized!



Above left: First view of the Pyrenees. Left: Meeting at Girona Airport. L-R Cathryn Guthrie, Michael Burton, Mary Robertson, Helen Burton, Elaine Semple, Colin Semple, Jan Howard, David Howard.

*Photos by David Robertson*