

SCOTTISH WHEELCHAIR CURLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting 22nd June 2022, 10.00am via Microsoft Teams

Present

John McLelland (Chair) (JohnMcL)
Carlyne McCluskey (Vice Chair) (CMcC)
Alison Hopkins (AH)
Rosemary Lenton (RL)
Mo Simpson (MS)
Isla McLennan (IMcL)
Sheila Swan (SS)
Harry Brodie (HB)

1. **Apologies** Keith Thom (KT) Gavin McLeod, (GM)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes approved - Mo Simpson (MS)
Seconded Rosemary Lenton (RL)

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. Chairman's Report

Good morning everyone and thank you for attending the meeting today.

Hope you are all enjoying the summer .

It won't be long until we are getting ready to return back to the ice and hopefully this season will be a good success.

At the end of last season we had a lot of additional interest in our sport with the success of team GB Curling squad's doing so well .

Going forward I hope we can get more people interested in the sport and grow after the last couple of years of COVID.

COVID has had a big impact on the sport along with most things and I hope we can move forward with care and get back to some sort of normality.

My concerns are now with the massive increase in fuel and energy costs and I think we are going to see a large increase in costs throughout.

I hope that this doesn't cause too many problems for our members and the sport and I look forward to seeing you all on the ice throughout the season.

5. Financial Report

The current balance is £24,864.90

Scottish Championships at Dumfries Ice Fees Paid £1456.00

6. Competitions Conveners Report

Confirmation of dates and venues for next seasons competitions :

Friendship - Kinross - 29th October

Pairs - Kinross - 26th - 27th November

British - Stranraer - 22nd - 24th February 2023

Scottish Dumfries - 19th - 21st March 2023

7. National Coach Report

Focus just now on Funding Application - waiting on outcome should know circa 22/7

Hoping to move from medal support plan back into world class programme - should be better if can get back to world class programme

push Yourself initiative will run all year long - video been produced to support this and will focus on talent ID days - probably these will be held quarterly but may be more frequent. Looking to work closer going forward with Scottish Curling and SWCA to promote wheelchair curling.

Mo asked where the talent days would be held, she wondered if clubs would be visited - Sheila confirmed that at the moment expect it to be held at NCA.

John confirmed that recent come and try sessions had been popular and there had been a lot of interest from various areas.

Rosemary asked if the talent ID days were for existing curlers or for those transitioning from other sports - Sheila confirmed it will be both and is happy to be contacted with anyone who shows potential.

Mo asked if advanced wheelchair training is planned - Sheila confirmed Fiona Harfield is in charge of this.

8. SDS Report

No report was submitted

9. Scottish Curling Report

-Looking at recruitment ideas - funding applications submitted for floor curling kits to be used in ASM schools to encourage younger players
-Applied for funding for performance enhancement - applicants can apply if they are looking to improve their game but not looking to go into British Curling programme
-Attending SDS day on 8th July in Aviemore for Summer Camp - floor curling being taken, there will be a mix of disabilities at this event.
-SDS junior committee have asked her to go to their Grangemouth event and will again take floor curling - focus on floor curling during summer to be used as opportunity for on ice in winter
-Coaching Conference 10th-11th September - based around disability sport and disability coaching, John asked where the conference was being held and queried it being over two days - he had received email advising it was only the 10th - Harry advised that the 11th is the umpiring day. Isla to clarify

10. Club Representative Report

South Report –

Nothing really to report back to committee. Invites have went out to players asking if they wish to be involved in the Nations Cup on 21st August at Dumfries. Scotland team is captained by Martin Sutherland with Keith Thom vice. This is a new event being set up by Stewart Pimblett and formats have yet to be decided. It will be based on a Scotland vs England We need a team of 16 and we have had around 20 players showing interest throughout Scotland. So far the following clubs are being represented Dumfries, Lockerbie, Stranraer, Hamilton Murrayfield Stirling.

The Scotland team need a shirt sponsor if possible as team shirts will cost around £8 each. If anyone knows of someone who could sponsor us please let Martin or myself know. Martin is setting up a WhatsApp group so please ensure you text your number to ensure you get up to date information

I have had no other items of interest to pass on.

North Report –

KINROSS

- Nothing to report

ABERDEEN

The answers in **bold** were discussed at the last meeting, the ones in **red** are from Scottish Curling.

- Club officially dissolved in 2016 but is still on the Scottish Curling Database. Why is this?
Need to advise Scottish Curling officially that Aberdeen Wheelchairs had been dissolved.

Spoke with SC and as there are no registered playing members, there is no affiliation. They also said that they require written confirmation (email will

suffice) that the club has been dissolved. Once they receive the letter the club will be removed from the database.

STIRLING

- Query regarding the Friendship being so close to the Wheelchair Triples.

Is it hoped that those travelling to Inverness will stop at Stirling on their way home?

Some people couldn't afford it, as it means another 2 night's accommodation.

Not sure if ice has been booked. - ***22/6 Discussion - both of these competitions would focus on different groups of players - friendship is now being held at Kinross***

MORAY

- Nothing to report.

HIGHLAND

- Highland Wheelchair Club hoping to arrange another Try Wheelchair Curling event at start of season.
- Attended Highland Disability Sport 40th Anniversary Civic Dinner.
- Wheelchair Triples scheduled for Tuesday 25th - Thursday 27th October 2022. This year will be a special as it is our 10th anniversary. As other competitions it is dependent on Sponsorship

11. AOCB

Invitation has been received for wheelchair curlers to join a competition in Prague from 13-16th October - Isla has link with entry form which she will send out - entries to be in by 1st September. This competition clashes with another in Wexican and is the weekend before Stirling International.

Rosemary thinks that members and clubs will struggle this year due to increased cost of living - John agreed that we will have to be mindful around costs for our competitions

Alison asked if there was an update on the Trust applications discussed previously to assist clubs - this has not yet been progressed but will be looked at.

Rosemary confirms that SWCA will help members as much as possible by keeping costs down - discussion around other places clubs can apply to for funding, a lot of these grants are regional dependant. Cash for Clubs have a Covid fund and Isla has a list of places that clubs can apply to and will send this out - Rosemary advised that Arnold Clark Community Fund is open for applications at the moment as is Aldi's.

Various funds were mentioned that will support "specific events"

12. Date of next meeting

Suggestion that meetings be changed to a Friday to accommodate Keith.

Next meeting date – Friday 12th August @ **10.00am**

Meeting was closed with thanks to the chair.