



SCOTTISH WHEELCHAIR CURLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting held on Saturday, 24th June, 2017 at Route 74, Lesmahagow

Present	Rosemary Lenton	RL	Chair
	Alison Hopkins	AH	Acting Vice-chair
	Rosemary Miller	RM	Treasurer
	Jacky McLaren	JMcL	North Clubs Rep
	Brian Park	BP	South Clubs Rep
	Harry Brodie	HB	Comp co-ordinator
	Maureen Griffiths	MG	Minutes Secretary

The chair (RL) welcomed everyone.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Sheila Swan, Gavin McLeod, Helen Kallow and Gill Keith.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting were approved - proposed by JMcL and seconded by BP.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Chairman's Report RL

INTRODUCTION Saddened to hear of the untimely death of Beatrice Kerr one of our newer curlers who started last season. She was a member of South Lanarkshire and had already made her mark not just because of her playing ability but also for her effervescent and contagious personality. We send our heartfelt condolences to her husband John and the family. On behalf of SWCA I attended the funeral.

On a more positive note Congratulations go to Angie Malone on receiving an honour in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

MEETINGS Along with Brian we met with Ted Bidgood and other representatives of Clubs for the inaugural meeting of the new Inter Club League. A number of points were thrashed out and all clubs were very positive (Stranraer/Lockerbie/Northern Ice/South Lanarkshire/Stirling). Clubs will now host both "Home & Away" games on the same day thereby reducing travel and

costs. In addition some games may be played on “Neutral Ice” to further reduce travel costs. This would be to the mutual satisfaction of the Clubs involved. It was agreed that all Clubs entering this League competition would be members of SWCA, as a result Northern Ice have agreed to join SWCA using Borders Ice Rink as their operating base and mother club for RCCC purposes.

Rosemary Miller, Jacky McLaren and I met with Bruce Crawford and others from RCCC regarding Competitions for the forthcoming and future seasons. This proved to be a very fruitful meeting and the final outcome was that they have already booked ice at the various venues and the dates are very similar to our proposed dates. We will take back complete control of these events forthwith and manage them as previously. RCCC will notify the Ice Rinks involved of this action and will correspond with SWCA directly.

Meeting also included a presentation from RCCC on Try Curling Initiative with a request to submit dates for sessions to RCCC for addition to www.trycurling.com. The cost of specific wheelchair TC promotional material (pop-up banners, posters etc) would be approx. £1700-2000; it was decided that SWCA would decline this and utilise generic, inclusive material.

There was also a mention of the Disability Officer Post and SWCA contribution which RCCC say we had agreed to of £3000 per annum for 3 years. We were unaware of this. They said they would forward the details regarding this. To date we have not received any further communication. However I have checked back on correspondence we received last year at the time of the “Proposed Transfer of SWCA Funds” due to the possible cessation of SWCA. This made reference to the Disability Officer post. The Proposal was not accepted as SWCA has continued and not been transferred as the original proposal suggested.

GRANTS

I have applied to a number of Grant Making Trusts (12) for funding to help with the Competitions for the coming season. I do not expect to receive replies for several weeks/months.

COMPETITIONS

I have circulated to the Committee Entry Forms for the various competitions together with the drills for the Points Competition discussed at the last meeting.

We will come back to these later in the Agenda

Sheila Swan contacted myself/Jacky/Rosemary Miller regarding participation in Competitions by International Teams, I responded accordingly.

5. Financial Report RM

The closing balance was £24,782.79 with travel expenses for 29th April meeting (£87) and auditor’s honorarium for year ending Feb 2017 (£40) still to be paid.

The committee agreed that club badges should be written off.

Committee agreed funding of £500 towards Stirling Wheelchair Curling International Invitation (SWCII). (Stirling Wheelchair Curling International Invitation)

BP noted that most umpires do not expect/want to be paid but out of pocket expenses are generally covered.

It was also agreed that during the Pairs Competition at Stranraer umpires and helpers who were there all day would have lunch supplied.

6. Competitions

Update re RCCC see above

Entry Forms These are posted on the website – secretaries please let members know

Points competition

The following disciplines were agreed:- 1) Striking, 2) Drawing, 3) Guarding, 4) Raising, 5) Chipping Winner and 6) Drawing thro' a Port.

Inter Club League see above

7. Action Plan RL

See 4 & 9

8. SDS Representative No Report but G McL would like to inform members of the following events:-

SDS Summer Sports Camp, Young People with Physical & Sensory Impairments – National Sports Centre Inverclyde, Largs, 5-7 July 2017.

Around 40 young people expected to attend.

Wheelchair Curling Talent Identification / Transfer Day, Saturday 9th September, 2017, The National Performance Curling Centre, Stirling Sports Village, Stirling, 12.00 noon – 3.30 pm (14 years - 50 years)

SDS Annual General Meeting 2017, Stirling Court Hotel, Stirling, Sunday 17 September, 15.00-18.00.

Anyone interested in attending please let me know and I can arrange an invitation.

9. RCCC Report HK

Coaching

The revamp of the wheelchair curling coaching course is well under way and the dates have been released on the website. Please encourage coaches both from within your clubs and those outwith current wheelchair curling clubs to attend these courses. Depending on demand, it may be possible to hold another course. I am also keen to encourage wheelchair curlers to get started on the coaching pathway with the UKCC level 1 course. This would then enable them to do the Intro to wheelchair curling course. There are two level 1 courses being held before this course for those keen to get going. It may be possible to provide additional practical support on the level 1 course for coaches with additional needs. This might be a scribe or other similar help. Please get in touch with me asap if this is something which would be of use to your members.

For those volunteers who just want a taste of getting more involved, the Ready, Steady, Curl will be a 2 hour course, launched at the coaching and development conference which will be offered around the country this season for on-ice volunteers to help them feel more confident at helping in sessions. Whilst the delivery focussed on is the standard sliding delivery, the rest of the material on child protection and inclusion is still very relevant and we hope that there will be good support for this initiative.

The date for the Mixed Doubles Curling seminar is confirmed for Thursday 28th September. This will be at the Peak during the daytime and will be coached by Judith McCleary. This will focus on the mixed doubles format strategy and tactics as opposed to the mechanics of wheelchair curling delivery. I hope that it will be well supported and that the format might be taken back to clubs to try out with a view to increasing opportunities.

A Talent ID/transfer Day is being held at the Peak, more details here <http://www.scottishdisabilitysport.com/wheelchair-curling-opportunity/>

The Wheelchair Club Recruitment Seminar will be held on Saturday 19th August at Hamilton Ice Rink from 10-1pm.

Skills Awards

Any revamp of this award scheme would be a very big job and not one that I have planned time in for this coming season. My feeling is that the best thing to do would be to encourage clubs to use them as widely as possible this season to see how they are working and to note down what works and what doesn't. This will then give an idea of whether there is an appetite for them to be updated and I am then perfectly happy to do that, with the help of a working group.

Publicity

I am still keen to get profiles of wheelchair curlers with a wide range of impairments and disabilities to use for training and publicity. This would be to send to various disability magazines as well as to use on the RCCC website. Please can you encourage you members to send me some information, I still have not had any and really want to get things to magazines so that it will be timed for the start of the season. I am keen to hear from those with spinal injuries, MS, spina bifida and those with a limb loss in particular but am also happy to hear from anyone who wants to share their story. Here are some questions to think about

- ☐ How did you first get started in curling?
- ☐ Was it easy to pick up?
- ☐ How does (your impairment) affect you when on the ice?
- ☐ Did you curl prior to (your impairment)
- ☐ What do you find most challenging about it?
- ☐ What for you is the best thing about curling?
- ☐ Why should people come and try curling?
- ☐ What would you like coaches to know about working with you?
- ☐ What would you like other curlers to be aware of?

Competitions

I am planning to run a 'Curlability' competition at the end of the season. This will be aimed at curlers with any form of disability or impairment and wheelchair curlers will

be very welcome. It will be accessible to those with very little experience, who may take up curling as part of any of the initiatives this year, and also those who may be short curling or have additional needs such as a learning disability. I know some clubs have members who would not ordinarily be able to take part in a competition, so this will be ideal for these curlers. More details will follow, but any questions welcome.

Development

Curling Festival

This will be taking place at rinks in October and it is hoped that wheelchair rinks will support rinks in making this a success.

Try curling

Please can you have your dates to the RCC by 26th July to be included on the trycurling website? These sessions will be eligible for both the SWCA incentive and an additional RCCC trycurling incentive. Please also think about what you might be doing around the time of the Paralympics as the RCCC is encouraging clubs to hold sessions around the time between the games as a focus.

10. Club Representatives

It was agreed to re-allocate the division line of Clubs/Players for the Friendship Trophy and also for the Players Reps to communicate with, in order to have a more even distribution.

Outcome:-	North	South
	Braehead	Kelso
	Kinross	Lockerbie
	Lothian	South Lanarkshire
	Stirling	Stranraer

South Club Rep Report BP

BP will contact Braehead and Lothian to inform them of the above changes.

Congratulations to Angie on the award of her MBE

North Club Rep Report JMCL

Nothing to report

11. AOCB

The WCF are currently debating the legitimacy of the new design of cue heads – are they mechanically aided?

It is anticipated that a decision will be made in November.

12. DONM

The next meeting is to be held on Sat 2nd Sept at either Route 74 or Hamilton Ice Rink. RL to confirm.

There being no other business RL closed the meeting at 12.00 hrs.