



SCOTTISH WHEELCHAIR CURLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 1st July at Scottish Curling at 11am

Present	Rosemary Lenton	RL	Chair
	Rosemary Miller	RM	Treasurer (Late arrival)
	Harry Brodie	HB	Comp Co-ordinator
	Jacky McLaren	JM	North Rep
	John McClelland	JMc	South Rep
	Sheila Swan	SW	National Coach

RL welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Maureen Griffiths, Ted Bidgood, Gavin McLeod, Helen Kallow and Alison Hopkins.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting were approved - proposed by HB and seconded by JM.

3. Matters arising

None

4. SWCA Chairman's Report

Brian Park

We were saddened at the death of Brian Park, SWCA Committee Member and Founding Member of Stranraer Wheelchair Curling Club. I have passed the organisation's condolences to Ilene and Family and also attended the Funeral.

Stranraer Wheelchair Curling Club – Following Brian Park's death Carlyne McCluskey and Douglas Dewar will be the contact for the club.

Kinross Curling

Following our donation to Kinross Curling last season we were approached regarding continued sponsorship of a set of stones. Sponsorship and donations will be considered on an individual basis and at this time the committee decided that we would not donate to Kinross Curling this season.

Judy's Jug (Braehead)

The requested ice for this competition at Braehead has been declined as Braehead are no longer opening on Saturdays, discussions ensued regarding possible venues and dates. HB will investigate alternative dates and/or venues.

Competitions

RL had amended Entry Forms and discussion regarding entry fees was had.

Northern Ice 10th Anniversary Bonspiel

Norther Ice are hosting a bonspiel to celebrate their 10th anniversary from 17th – 19th January at Stranraer, entries close end of July. Please see Northern Ice Facebook page for further information.

Stranraer Ice Rink Correspondence

Gail Munro was disappointed that the SWCA National Pairs were not returning to North West Castle this coming season.

5. Financial Report

Balance in current account £3701.67 – Paid donation to RCCC/Scottish Curling towards Disability Officer Post and also balance of catering to Kinross Curling which was not included in the entry fee.

Balance in deposit account £20150

RM received correspondence from bank offering better deals with other banks. She will consult AH before making any changes.

Clubs required to pay SWCA Membership of £25 by 30 September.

6. Competitions

Season 2019-20 Competition Dates

- National Pairs – Kinross Curling – 16-17 November (TBC)
- British Open – Hamilton Ice Rink – 9-11 February
- Friendship Trophy – TBC – TBC
- Scottish Wheelchair Curling Championship – The Peak (Stirling) - 7-19 March

Inter Club League

I am pleased to say that all 5 clubs from the last two seasons have elected to play in the league for the coming season 2019/20. With no new clubs joining so the mechanics of the league will be largely as last season.

The League will be restricted to one team per club in the interest of generating a competitive element to representing your club.

It is proposed that each current member club play both their home and away fixtures against each other on the same day to mitigate travelling time and cost as per last season. The home/away fixtures between member clubs have been drawn on Sunday 30th June and are listed at the end.

Clubs must commit to meeting the costs of competing in the League matches although some funding has already been secured to mitigate these costs.

- Mechanics of the League
 - Each club will play each other club in two matches on the same day in each season. This will entail 5 rounds (with 2 matches in each round)
 - Each club will play at least two home and two away fixtures in the season.
 - There are 5 clubs in the league so each Club will have a bye round in the season.
 - The host club for each fixture will be the first mentioned in the draw.
 - There will be no obligation for host club to provide hospitality for the visiting team.
 - Clubs may host their “home” fixture at another mutually agreed venue other than their own to further mitigate travel expenses for either or both clubs.
 - The time windows for each fixture to be played will be divided up into 5 time windows through the season. As far as possible each club will play 2 fixtures before and two fixtures after Christmas. (Two clubs will have to play 1 before/3 after and 3 before/1 after respectively but this will be mitigated by the 3rd round dates spanning the Christmas period)
 - 2019/20 Season Fixture List showing time window for each round is attached below.
 - Ted Bidgood will be the League secretary and point of contact for administration of the League for 2019/20. Tel. 07770 567132 email:- tedbid@aol.com
 - Club secretaries will submit lists of paid up members who wish to play in the League prior to September 30th 2019
- Rules
 - The rules below will be used for the 2019/20 season.
 - The first rule is that the rules are simple and flexible!
 - Each club should submit a list of playing members who will be taking part in the league for their club. This may be added to during the season.
 - Players may only be nominated to play for a club of which they are a fully paid up member.
 - Players may only play for one club in a season (unless exceptional circumstances such as a permanent house move or similar)
 - Matches will be played under RCCC rules except as below (under R11 j) i) special tournament arrangements can be made)
 - In the event that a club are unable to raise a full team for a fixture there will be the following 3 options:
 - Each club may “guest” a player from non-league club (i.e. a player who is not a member of one of the League member clubs). Each “guest” player may only guest for any club once in a season and may not Skip. Guest players may play for as many different clubs as they wish.
 - The club may play with 3 players where the stones will be thrown - Lead 3, Second 3, Skip 2. The team will forfeit 3 shots at the start of the match to be counted in the score.
 - The match will be forfeited and the non-offending club will claim the League Points, 4 ends and a shots difference of +3 shots. The offending team will be awarded no ends and a shots difference of -5 shots.
- Scoring
 - A win in either match of the fixture will score 2 league points
 - A peeled match will score 1 league point for each club.
 - The score in each match will be recorded on the score sheet and the cumulative league points will decide the league standings.
 - In the event of two or more teams having the same league points the cumulative ends won then shots difference will be used to separate the teams.
 - After each match, score cards are filled in, agreed by both skips and sent to the League secretary to keep the League table up to date.

Fixture List and Dates for 2019/20

Round	Host		Away	Bye	Start	Finish
1	South Lanarkshire	v	Lockerbie	Northern Ice	30/09/19	10/11/19
	Stranraer	v	Stirling			
2	Stirling	v	South Lanarkshire	Stranraer	11/11/19	15/12/19
	Lockerbie	v	Northern Ice			
3	South Lanarkshire	v	Stranraer	Lockerbie	16/12/19	19/1/20
	Northern Ice	v	Stirling			
4	Stirling	v	Lockerbie	South Lanarkshire	20/1/20	9/2/20
	Stranraer	v	Northern Ice			
5	Northern Ice	v	South Lanarkshire	Stirling	10/2/20	8/3/20
	Lockerbie	v	Stranraer			

7. Strategy

A working group will be formed to develop the SWCA Strategy to direct the work the organisation moving forward. SS, JMc, HK and RL will form the initial group, meeting date to be set asap.

8. Fundraising

Discussion ensued regarding fundraising ideas and the need to involve curlers more rather than relying on grant awards. It was decided that a raffle would be held at each competition and the possibility of establishing SWCA Merchandise.

Raffle would require donations from participants or local companies.

If any members had links with companies who would like to donate prizes and/or sponsor any elements of any competition (ie. Full competition, a session, lunch, prizes, etc) all contacts would be gratefully received.

9. National Coach Report

Selections – Selections have taken place for the British Curling (BC) Performance Squad.

- Performance
 - Hugh Nibloe, Robert McPherson, David Melrose, Gary Logan, Gary Smith and Charlotte McKenna.
- Performance Foundation
 - Rebekah Nimmo

Funding – BC have been successful in securing UK Sport Medal Support Plan funding. This plan only supports named Performance Squad athletes and cannot be used for Pathway activities.

Scottish Curling WC Academy – There is a need to develop a pathway for future Team Scotland Members and possible Paralympians. Historically this has been in various guises but moving forward there must be a consistent pathway provided. Plans are developing and the application process for the Academy will be published when funding is confirmed.

Coaches Day – It is proposed that we will hold a Coaches Day in September where topics such as Fault Analysis, Technology and Skill Shots Launch will take place. Further information will be available in the near future.

Coaching Sessions – This season there will be provision for non-funded athletes to receive technical coaching for their deliveries. These will be based at NCA and must be booked in advance. Further details available soon.

Club Day Visits – If you would like Coaching and Club Development input for your club myself and Helen would be happy to travel to your club day. Further details available soon.

10. SDS Report

No report

11. Scottish Curling Report

It has been a great year with a special end in Stirling with the World Championships, thanks to everyone who helped in whatever capacity. We have had good numbers of people trying wheelchair curling over the year, we just need to encourage people to come back and experience playing in a club, benefit from our coaches and progress to taking part in competitions if they want to. If anyone has any ideas for organisations which might want to take part in wheelchair curling across the country, like the MS society, please let me know.

These are some plans for next season, I'm happy to accept suggestions as well:

- Working to get the Scottish Curling website more up to date with resources and information, that will go up by the start of the season.
- Working with Sheila to develop coaching opportunities
- Planning to visit clubs during the season
- Continuing to offer support to disabled curlers who want to volunteer, particularly as coaches, look out for new course dates end of July – happy to fund extra small group coaching on the slide delivery for those who are nervous about coaching this
- Continuing to encourage partnerships with organisations such as MS society to encourage more people to try curling
- A real focus on converting participants to members

12. Club Rep Reports

Both reps will get the names of people wishing to participate for the upcoming Friendship Trophy in 2020. North – Nothing to report

South

- Stranraer – Club EGM following the sad loss of Brian Park (Chairman)
- Lockerbie – Pick & Wick Competition provisionally booked for Tuesday 10th December
- Northern Ice – 10th Anniversary Bonspiel, entries close end of July
- Communication from Michael McCreadie
 - Why has the SWCA website no been updated? – RL will correspond with the Webmaster regarding this matter.
 - Lack of advertising for upcoming Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Tournament – No correspondence has been received from organisers.
 - Can Mixed Doubles be promoted more with the introduction of a Mixed Doubles Competition – For future discussion.

13. AOCB

None

14. DONM

Monday 2nd September 10.00am at Hamilton Ice Rink

There being no other business RL closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.