

# MINUTES



Meeting: Esquimalt Curling Club Board of Directors

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Location: Archie Browning Lounge

**Attendees:** Al Teasdale – ECC President/Senior Men’s; Karen Hoban- ECC Secretary/Sunday Funday; Len Hanishuk – Director of Advertising; Torben Wilson – ECC Doubles; Denise Forsberg – Golden Girls; Barb Carr – Friday Afternoon Ladies; Brenda Byrne – Rebels; Bob Herbert – Senior Select; MaryAnne Erickson – Monday Afternoon Ladies; Ken O’Connor – Sportsmen; Graeme McLaren – Senior Mixed; Brad Walsh – Monday/Wednesday Men’s; Rachele Perry – Youth; Brenda Joynson – Tuesday Evening Ladies; Travis Shaw – White Ensign

## 1. Call to Order

- President, Al Teasdale called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. There was a quorum present.

## 2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was distributed by email on August

Additions:

- Reappointment of Len as Director of Advertising
- Acceptance of Wheelchair League into ECC

**Motion:** [Accept the August 20, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Agenda with the noted additions.](#)

**Moved/2nd:** Brad Walsh/ Len Hanishuk

**Results:** Approved without dissent

## 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the two previous Board of Director’s Meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting.

**Motion:** [Accept the Minutes of February 8, 2024 Board of Director’s Meeting be adopted.](#)

**Moved/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Bob Herbert / Denise Forsberg

**Results:** Approved without dissent

**Motion:** [Accept the Minutes of March 6, 2024 Board of Director’s Extraordinary Meeting be adopted.](#)

**Moved/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Brenda Joynson / Rachele Perry

**Results:** Approved without dissent

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## 4. Old Business

### 4.1. Scoreboard Donation

- Only 5 scoreboards have been sold (1 sponsor dropped out) (\$500 value)
- Len suggested that the space could be donated to a charity
- Bob suggested that we advertise the club instead and include a statement such as "ECC supports local charities"
- Cost to get a sign made would be \$200-250

**Motion:** To approve the expenditure of funds to have a sign made for the empty scoreboard that promotes ECC and advertises its support of local charities.

**Moved/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Len Hanishuk / Torben Wilson

**Results:** Approved without dissent

*Action item: Ken to draft a design for the sign board*

## 5. New Business

### 9.1. Appointed Directors need to be approved by the board

**Motion:** To approve the appointment of Len Hanishuk as Director of Advertising for the 2024-2025 season.

**Moved/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Brad Walsh / Brenda Joynson

**Results:** Approved without dissent

### 9.2. Victoria Wheelchair Curling Club

- Small, but enthusiastic group of wheelchair curlers have requested to join ECC.
- Some of the ECC executive members worked with them on ice about 5-6 times last season, will likely need ongoing help.
- Intend to run ongoing "try curling" and skills development, aim is to be a social club
- Probably about 2 teams worth of curlers with enough experience to play games right now
- Al suggested leagues could send teams to play against the wheelchair curlers throughout the year to help them advance their game
- Consider designating unused sheets for practice ice for other ECC members? (to help build the atmosphere)
- Ramp needs to be installed (screwed into backboard) and removed for each wheelchair session. Consensus was that for liability reasons, Esquimalt maintenance staff should be the ones to do this.
- ECC policy manual states that new leagues must provide
  - a. Rules concerning eligibility of members to participate in league  
→ "Significant mobility impairment that requires a mobility device"
  - b. The days and time of play  
→ Saturdays, 1:30-3:30pm

**Motion:** To accept the Victoria Wheelchair Curling Club as members of the Esquimalt Curling Club.

**Moved/2<sup>nd</sup>:** Al Teasdale / Torben Wilson

**Results:** Approved without dissent



## 9.3. Ice Rental Fees and Contracts

- Tatum has sent ice rental contracts to all leagues.
  - a. Fall rental fees are the same as the 2024 winter fees.
  - b. Winter rates will be increased.
- There are currently 3 adult price classes (evening, weekend, and daytime), so leagues are all paying different rates. (Traditionally, the evening leagues were full, so reduced daytime & weekend rates were implemented to entice curlers to those times)
- Rates were held constant for 12 years, but have gone up by percentages each year since COVID, therefore the gaps between leagues were increasing.
- Esquimalt council has approved the equalization of rental rates, beginning *January 1, 2025*. (2025 rate sheet distributed to board members at meeting)
  - a. **Primetime (weekday evenings 6:30-11pm) = rate will be held for 3 years**
  - b. **Weekends = 13% increase to equal primetime rate**
  - c. **Daytime = move to primetime rate over 3 years**
- Al supports the fee increase – to show the club is succeeding. The mayor has been a long-time supporter of the club, but if she leaves office, there may not be as much support for curling in Esquimalt.
- Al was not successful in negotiating a reduced rate for the Doubles league. (Doubles may want to consider curling at same time as Wheelchair curlers so it is not so “lonely” in the rink with only 1-2 sheets in use).
- **Bonspiels:**
  - a. Proposed 4% increase in hourly rate or 10% of entry fees, whichever is greater.
  - b. A per game rate would hit bonspiels hard – effects would vary based on number of teams and entry fees charged.
  - c. Al negotiated 15% of entry fees instead of a per game rate. Esquimalt reluctantly agreed on the understanding that leagues don’t reduce entry fees to compensate.
- Travis asked if leagues can approach Esquimalt to try to negotiate a better rate for their bonspiels. This is allowed according to club bylaws.

## 9.4. Victoria Curling Club Fees

- VCC rates have increased substantially for the 2024-25 season
- No longer offering multi-league discounts
- May see some curlers move to ECC this season

## 9.5. Learn to Curl

- ECC to partner with Esquimalt to run a 7-week adult learn to curl course Saturdays, 1-3pm, beginning October 20<sup>th</sup>. Cost \$130 per person.
- Esquimalt Recreation will handle advertising, registration & payment
- Esquimalt’s take = 40%, includes ice rental
- ECC’s take = 60% from which Curl BC, Curling Canada, ECC club fees will be paid (\$32/person)
- Need someone to administer the program (organize volunteers); Al would like to appoint a Learn to Curl Director

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- Pei Mei Chi had previously expressed interest
- Rachelle would be willing to do it with someone else
- Brenda willing to help on ice.
- A lot of club members have expressed willingness to help
- Will use Curling Canada's training module
- Torben suggested setting up a Gmail address for the Learn to Curl program
- 5 people already registered (max 24 participants)
- Need to purchase some more equipment (e.g. sliders)
- Club Coach course
  - Al put in an application to Curl BC but has not heard back yet
  - Duncan also requested course
- There have been a number of inquiries about Youth Learn to Curl lessons. Al will advise Esquimalt Recreation to pass on information about the Youth league to anyone that inquires.

## 9.6. Treasurer Position

- Cheryl Eason stepped down as treasurer at the AGM, no one came forward to fill the position.
- The board cannot function without a treasurer
- Cheryl sent Al a brief financial update.
  - Current bank balance is healthy – includes revenue from the Curl BC championships and Raffle Box
  - 3 sponsors did not pay last season
  - Money spent for rock mapping during offseason
- Cheryl has said that she will create the Curl BC report spreadsheets to aid whoever takes over the position

*Action Item: League reps to send notice to all league members seeking someone to volunteer as club treasurer.*

## 9.7. Ice Dates/Open House

- Ice going in starting September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Open house set for September 22
  - Club members: 11:30-1pm (*pending approval*)
  - Try Curing: 1-3pm (*registration via website*)
- Need volunteers to help on ice. Send names of volunteers to Al.
- Action items:
  - Al to confirm that ice will be available for members to practice
  - Al to ask if bar will be open
  - Al to put out a call to see if anyone with stick curing experience is available to volunteer at open house
  - Karen to create information sheets to hand out

## 9.8. Rock Mapping

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- Al Sutherland weighed & measured all rocks over the summer (report distributed with the agenda & past minutes prior to the meeting)
- Most rocks barely meet the minimum weight and the running bands are wider too wide. Should last another couple of years.
- Al S has matched rocks based on the mapping results. (the “worst” rocks have been placed in the second position)
- Al S has requested two new rocks from Thompson Curing Equipment for demonstration purposes.
- Esquimalt has been informed, but no discussions with the club have taken place yet.

## 9.9. Curling Club Pins

- Two ECC members participated in international curling tours and were required to provide club pins.
- Pins were purchased directly from the manufacturer in China to reduce the cost (200 pins @ \$1.56 each).
- ECC paid for the pins
- 55 pins were given away, remainder to be given away at the club president’s discretion (e.g. to visiting teams)

## 9.10. Charity Bonspiel

- Last year’s event (held the weekend before the AGM) was successful
- Limited to club members, held during the daytime
- Would like to continue the spiel this year, but be more inclusive to entire membership and move to February or late January
  - Require blocks of time
  - Could split the event over multiple days
  - Travis said there may be a week where the White Ensign league is not playing that could be available
  - Karen said there is a week (maybe two) in February that Sunday Funday does not play

## 6. Curl BC Report

- n/a

## 7. Sponsorship/Advertising

- *Note: late addition to agenda*
- 23 sponsors (13 confirmed)
- Al asked Len to try to drum up some sponsorship money for the wheelchair group

## 8. League Updates

### 10.1. Rebels

- 13 teams (+1 from last year)

### 10.2. Senior Select

- 9-10 teams in each league (down a couple from last year)

### 10.3. White Ensign

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- 21 of 22 teams from last year confirmed
- Looking for one more team to bring up to 22 teams
- 10.4. Monday Afternoon Ladies
  - about the same as last year (7 teams)
  - would like to have 8 teams
- 10.5. Youth League
  - Have had a few inquiries but haven't started registration yet
- 10.6. Monday/Wednesday Men
  - Numbers up in both leagues, will have 2 draws in both leagues
  - Mondays = 2-3 more teams than last year
- 10.7. Sportsmen
  - Have booked 6 sheets, hope to back to 12 teams
- 10.8. Tuesday Evening Ladies
  - 11 teams (+1 from last year)
  - 2 curlers needed to make 12<sup>th</sup> team
- 10.9. Senior Mixed
  - 8 teams
- 10.10. Friday Ladies
  - 10 teams (-1 from last year)
  - Some people looking for teams
- 10.11. Golden Girls
  - 13 teams (same as last year)
- 10.12. Doubles
  - 5 teams (same as last year)
  - Looking for more players
- 10.13. Sunday Funday
  - 16 teams confirmed, probably up to 18 teams, *maybe* 20 teams (14 last year)
- 10.14. Senior Men
  - Anticipate 8-10 teams

## 9. Next Meeting

- *Thursday, October 17th at 7:00pm.*

## 10. Adjournment

[Motion to adjourn assumed.](#)