

MINUTES



Meeting: **Esquimalt Curling Club Board of Directors**

Date: Tuesday, Dec 03, 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; Joanne Bilodeau – Golden Girls; Darleen Warburton – Friday Ladies; Bob Herbert – Senior Select; Brad Walsh – Monday/Wednesday Men’s; Rachelle Perry - Youth

1. Call to Order

- President, Al Teasdale called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
Quorum was not met, so no voting took place.

2. Old Business

2.1. Treasurer Position

- The name of someone willing to step into the role of Treasurer has been put forward, but they are unable to start right now.
- Al will continue to fill the position of treasurer until the new person can take over. Fiscal year-end is in January, so makes sense to turn over duties then.

2.2. Charity Bonspiel

- Set for March 6/7th. Any leagues that lose a day can swap for another day in the week, contracts will be adjusted. Al will get in touch with those leagues to discuss.
- Country Grocer has agreed to sponsor the event.
- Last year, donations from the bonspiel went to Macaulay Schol, Rainbow Kitchen, and Camp Shawnigan. Would like to sponsor multiple charities again this year. The organizing committee is looking for Esquimalt based charities to sponsor – suggestions are welcome.

2.3. Men’s League letter re: rocks

- Al met with representatives from Esquimalt Parks and Recreation to discuss the need to replace the rocks and to voice the opinion that some members are concerned that Esquimalt is not committed to curling.
- The representatives from Esquimalt Recreation assured Al that they are committed to curling and understand that the rocks are at the end of their lifespan.
 - Esquimalt Rec will look into pricing of new vs used rocks and talk to suppliers.
 - Building is in good shape, and Esquimalt continues to put money into it.
- ECC is willing to do fundraising to help offset some of the cost.

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3. President's Report

3.1. Sheet 6 – wall damage

- A board has been installed on the base of the wall for the length of sheet 6. This should prevent drywall from falling onto the ice.

3.2. Winter session Learn to Curl

- Esquimalt offered space in the winter brochure for a blurb about Learn to Curl.
- Al provided general information about the club because we are not likely to run a full Learn to Curl session in the winter. Looking to run a rookie league for Learn to Curl participants to continue curling in the new year (*See New Business*).

4. Treasurer's Report

- Curl BC report sent Nov. 16. Fees due Dec 15 (may have to be couriered over due to postal strike)
- Numbers from the report:
 - 677 ECC members (+98 from last year) – includes Spares and Learn to Curl participants
 - 4 curlers under 13 years old (no Curl BC fees charged)
 - 177 curlers play in multiple leagues
 - 86 curlers paid dues in another club
 - 18 leagues + 1 program (Learn to Curl)
 - Approximately 204 teams
 - 105 sheets in use per week
- Need to standardize how the form is filled out, some players paying dues in each league they play in
- Have received payment from 73% of sponsors
- Interim Budget – overbudget a bit because have spent more on equipment (sticky mats, rock mapping, learn to curl equipment, name tags)

5. Advertising and Sponsorship

- Have some good leads for next year. Hopefully all sponsors renew.

6. New Business

7.1. Rookie League

- 2 wks remaining in Learn to Curl program. Number of participants has dropped from first few weeks, but 14 participants have said they would like to continue in the new year.
- Looking to run a “rookie league” for club members with less than 3 years curling experience.
- Will likely have some volunteers on hand to provide equipment and give advice.
- Al will send a note to league reps for distribution to their league members
- Sundays, 1-3pm, starting second Sunday in January. Will run for 7 weeks, with some weeks off for bonspiels.



7.2. Insurance Contract

- A copy of the liability insurance policy was distributed with the meeting agenda prior to the meeting.
- Similar to policies from past seasons. Policy runs November to November.
- Rate has gone up, in part due to close to 100 more curlers than last year.

7.3. Volunteers compensation/discount

- Need an incentive to recruit more volunteers for ECC events & programs (e.g. Learn to Curl). The same group of volunteers (mostly executive members) help at most events.
- Other clubs pay an hourly wage or offer refunds at the end of the season for a minimum number of volunteer hours.
- Suggestion to have a draw for a gift basket for volunteers – name is entered into draw after a minimum number of volunteer hours

7.4. Pacific Coast Masters Curling Association

- Bob Herbert outlined the history of the PCMCA and explained how it currently operates. Aim is to provide a venue for curlers 60+ to compete. (See attachment)
- PCMCA would like to see more leagues from the lower island join the association. (Note: for leagues that join, all members over 60yrs must pay the PCMCA dues.)

7. League Updates

8.1. Senior Men

- 10 teams
- Bonspiel in first week of January – competitive & funspiel

8.2. Senior Select

- Fewer curlers are going south on vacation this season

8.3. Mon/Wed Men

- Bonspiel in November had 22 teams (+2 from last year)
- Entry fee was increased, but gave out more prize money to break even
- Recommend booking the lounge an hour early to allow for set-up/decorating because other groups may be booked right up to the start of the curling booking and may run over their allotted time.

8.4. Doubles

- 6 teams
- Have been contacted by Les Wise from VCC stick league (Doubles) to discuss a cross-club funspiel

8.5. Friday Ladies

- 10 teams, no problems

8.6. Golden Girls

- 12 teams
- Bonspiel in January. Last year had a waitlist.

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8.7. Youth League

- Nothing new to report, 8 kids in league

8.8. Sunday Funday

- 18 teams, many new players
- New players have commented on how welcoming and encouraging the league is

Next Meeting

- Thursday, January 16 at 7:00pm.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at *8:15 pm*.