



## Berwick Curling Club

### Annual Meeting

Date: April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

In Attendance: See attached list

Mike Larsen called the meeting to order at 7pm.

- 1) **Approval of minutes** from the Semi-Annual Meeting: Michelle motioned that the minutes of the Semi-Annual General Meeting be approved as posted on the website, seconded by Hartley.
- 2) **Business Arising from the Minutes**: Sale of the Curling Club. The formal offer on the Club has turned into a conditional sale. The property will need to be re-zoned for the Purchaser. There are clauses in the contract in the interest of both the Purchaser and the Curling Club should either party decide to back out. The contract was designed to ensure that the members are never without a Curling Club.
- 3) **Old Business**:
- 4) **Committee Reports**:
  - a) **Scheduling** – Danny Vaughn reported that he feels the scheduling went well this past season, he has not heard anything negative. A note of advice for the upcoming season, the members need to make sure that they sign up before schedules are created.
  - b) **Bookings / Rentals** – Curt Palmer reported that there were a few rentals
  - c) **Bar**- Joseph MacGillivray reported the bar had an exceptionally good year. There were a few new products added to try. The Sunday night rotation had more bartenders added for a total of nine with each person covering two Sundays each.
  - d) **Building** – Hartley MacArthur reported that the building is in good shape. The outside parking lot light on the East side had burnt out and Berwick Electric replaced it with an LED. An exhaust fan was installed in the men's washroom. There were other minor repairs; stair nosing on the ice shed steps and a floor tile in the club room. The leak in the kitchen will be monitored over the summer.
  - e) **Ice** – Brad Schurman reported that they had a good year and nothing broke. The members commented that they felt the ice was "really good this year!"
  - f) **Learn To Curl /Bonspiels** – Claude LeBlanc reported that a couple of spiels were cancelled due to lack of sign-up. Two Learn to Curl sessions were held this past season. There were 15 participants in the first session of which 6 signed up as members in January. There were 20 participants in the second session for a total of 35 new people into our Club for the year. Hopefully many will sign up for next season. A closing spiel of full sheets was held March 31<sup>st</sup> for the Learn To Curlers from session one and session two. Mike Larsen mentioned that there was a lot of hard work that went into the Murray Spiel in December which resulted in a successful and first ever full house.

- g) **Juniors** – Alice McNeil reported that there were 24 Junior curlers registered, with 4 coaches and 2 Junior coaches.

The Berwick Juniors attended the Earl McKinnon Classic (3 teams), U13 Provincials (2 teams) and U11 Provincials (1 team). The Team at the U11 Provincials finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall and also got an 8 ender! Curling Canada has sent 8-ends pins which will be presented to them at the Berwick Sports Hall of Fame June 10<sup>th</sup>.

The Berwick Juniors hosted a spiel with 15 teams from across the Province with 4 Berwick teams in attendance; one of which made it to the playoffs. Local businesses donated tons of prizes for this event and the curlers also enjoyed a town wide scavenger hunt. They couldn't have done it without the support of the Club and look forward to next years! Thanks to the ice makers, officials, canteen helpers and bakers.

- h) **Day Curling** – Connie Milne reported that there were 15-26 curlers each draw with new people joining them this past season. There were two away games, Middletown & Bridgetown and they hope to do more next year. They held a year end dinner and bonspiel.
- i) **Publicity** – Arlene MacArthur thanked Dan Keddy for maintaining our website and Claude for creating our posters and helping to update the Facebook page.
- j) **Fundraising** – Raise The Rings is now at \$50,000+. The fourth installment from members' contributions will be due this year. There are five more deals open with presentations. The closing auction proceeds were rounded up to \$4000 and donated from the Club to the KMCC at their dinner and auction.
- k) **Stick Curling** – Deb Hubbert noted that the Stick Curling league was held Monday afternoons with 4-12 curlers each week. They all enjoyed a great day of curling on Mondays.

Gwen questioned if the RBC would be supporting the Lobster Boil this year as they had last year. There has not been any contact with the RBC to date.

- 5) **Financial Report:** Brad Schurman reported that the net bank balance is at \$29,680 and should net \$12,000 just over last years net of \$10,000. We should start the 2017 season at about \$26,000; \$5000 over last year. The auction funds were topped up to \$4000 and donated to the KMCC.
- 6) **President's Report:** Mike Larsen's report is attached
- 7) **Election of New Officers / Board Members:** Greg Hubbert will be stepping down from the Executive and Vice-President position. Danny Vaughn will be filling this vacant position. Michelle Larsen will remain as Past President. Arlene MacArthur will remain as Secretary. Brad Schurman will be stepping down from the executive and Treasurer position and move to a board member. Beth Easson will assume the Treasurer position. Board members returning for 2017-2018, Beth Easson, Bryan Illsley, Claude LeBlanc, Curt Palmer, Deb Hubbert, Hartley MacArthur, and Joseph MacGillivray. The Board has suggested that Matt Redden and Tammy West join the Board. After calling for additional nominations 3 times from the floor, and hearing none, Mike called for a motion to approve the proposed slate of officers as presented to the membership. Bryan Illsley motioned, seconded by Linda Evans.
- 8) **New Business / Roundtable:**
- a) **KMCC Update** – The KMCC is still waiting for the government paperwork for the grants and are hopeful that they will be received by the end of April. The plans can go to tender right away so that they can break ground June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be in the old Club one more year.
- b) **Sale of Club** – As noted in the beginning of the meeting.

- c) **Lobster Boil** – Help is needed to distribute the tickets. The cost of the dinner increased this year to \$25 due to the increased cost of lobster. This is the first increase in many years. We have two months to sell 250 tickets. Beth and Linda both have food handling courses as does Shelley Peters. George will apply for one.
  - d) **Nova Scotia Curling Association (NSCA)** - Kathy Siddall spoke to the membership on behalf of the NSCA. She welcomed members to join the Provincial Table. As well, the (unofficial) Head of Provincial Stick Curling, Keith Bennett will be holding some daytime and evening stick curling clinics in the Fall. She commended the Berwick Club for the Learn to Curl program and asked if we had considered offering a daytime session. The Glooscap Club found that there is quite an interest for those who are unable to attend evening classes. Kathy also suggested that we offer the coaching clinic to members each Fall so that more coaches are trained to alleviate the duties from only a few. Lastly, the NSCA is looking for Club members to serve on their committee to give feedback on what has worked in their Club/clubs in our area.
  - e) **Membership Fees** – Pat Jodrey questioned if the Club has considered a membership fee for those people who go South for the Winter. Kathy Siddall noted that the Glooscap Club offers an 11 week Fall/Winter membership with the cost being a little more than half of the full membership.
  - f) **Member Telephone Numbers** - George Boyd questioned if the curlers telephone numbers could be listed. As this falls under the confidentiality agreement, the curlers would have to check the box on the registration form to allow the Club to distribute their phone number. This will be addressed for 2017 registration so that members realize it is there, the importance of the box being checked and not leaving the options blank as most were last year.
  - g) **Membership Numbers** - Tammy West asked what the membership numbers were last year. There were approximately 175 members from all groups; 24 juniors and 20-25 day curlers included.
  - h) **Ice Shed Mirrors:** Faith wondered if there would be mirrors in the ice shed at the new Club as they have in Kentville. The mirrors are quite expensive but we could be look at this option.
  - i) **Centre Rings for Juniors** – Alice asked if the center rings would be available next season. The rings are painted on the floor.
  - j) **Kitchen Help For Lobster Dinner** – Gwen asked about kitchen help for the lobster dinner. Mike would send out an email requesting help.
  - k) **New Rocks** – A new set of stones is approximately \$20,000. Codiac Curling has located a full set off matching stones for four sheets. They will be reconditioned before we trade our set of three in for the set of four. The cost of a set of Little Rock stones is approximately \$4200.
- 9) **Adjournment:** Carol Hampsey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Seconded by George Boyd.

Attendance:

George Boyd	Joseph MacGillivray
Gwen Boyd	Alice McNeil
Linda Evans	Connie Milne
Carol Hampsey	Curt Palmer
Deb Hubbert	Joy Parker
Greg Hubbert	Matt Redden
Bryan Illsley	Rick Roosenboom
Pat Joudry	Brad Schurman
Michelle Larsen	Kathy Siddall
Mike Larsen	Faith Smith
Claude LeBlanc	Eric Sturk
Arlene MacArthur	Bev Vaughn
Hartley MacArthur	Danny Vaughn
Steve MacDonald	Tammy West
	Andrew Willsley

## **President's Report**

### **Annual Meeting, Berwick Curling Club**

**April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

We're coming off another great year, which does not come without a lot of hard work by a lot of people. At this time, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the contributions made by the many folks who donated their time, effort, and energy to help make our curling season successful (in no particular order):

- Donnie Smith and Brad Schurman- Ice.
- Beth Easson- Social Committee
- Arlene MacArthur- Publicity
- Dan Keddy- Website
- Tammy West- Club 200.
- Hartley MacArthur- Building
- Danny Vaughan- Scheduling
- Tony Berezowski and Joe MacGillvray- Bar
- Curt Palmer- Bookings and Rentals
- Michelle Larsen- Corporate Rec League
- Deb Hubbert- Stick Curling
- Claude LeBlanc- Learn to Curl and Bonspiels

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge someone who is stepping off the Board after more than 10 years as a Director and an Officer, Greg Hubbert. Greg has consistently infused us with his energy over the years, and his contributions will be missed.

Additionally, after more than 10 years of looking after our financial statements, Lori Dorey will be handing those responsibilities off to Beth as she begins her new role as Club Treasurer. We owe Lori many thanks for her help over the years, and will be doing something to acknowledge her contributions in the not-too-distant future.

Our Club is in great shape...financially we are debt free, and well positioned for our upcoming move to our new home, the Larsen Curling Centre. Our membership is on the rise, something which is not the general trend in other Clubs, and so we will continue to focus on two main pillars as we move forward:

- 1) We need to keep up our focus on recruitment. As we have seen in years past, and are certainly seeing in other Clubs, if you aren't doing anything to try and bring new people through the doors, you are dying a slow death. Lower membership means higher rates to curl, and higher rates make it less attractive for newcomers, so it is a vicious circle. Recruitment doesn't happen by itself...it takes a well-organized effort to go out and convince people to come through the door, and you have to be prepared to offer them something of value right away. It's why we will

continue to place great emphasis on, and continue to invest in, our Learn to Curl program, which I feel is our single most important initiative in the Club at this time. It is our future.

- 2) There is much work to be done around the Club through the year, and while we noticed a small uptick in volunteer participation this year, we still have a long way to go. The majority of the load is still being carried by a few, instead of the many, and we will focus on the steps that are necessary to have all members and groups actively engaged in helping the Club. While it is understood that not everyone has the same amount of time to be able to give, it must also be understood by everyone who curls in our Club that volunteerism is an expectation, not an option, and so we look forward to continuing to build that base of volunteers that will allow the old axiom 'many hands make light work' to become a reality here at the Club.

It's been a pleasure to serve as your President this year, and I look forward to facing the challenges of the coming year together with you. We are well positioned to be able to take any challenge on that is thrown our way.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Larsen  
President