



Berwick Curling Club Annual General Meeting September 15th, 2022

Attendance:

Anne Banks (Valley RD)	Claude LeBlanc	Lynn Charlton	Rob Houston
Arlene MacArthur	Curt Palmer	Matt Redden	Sanday MacDonald
Bill Coldwell	Dan Keddy	Megan White	Shannon Cooper
Bill Milne	Danny Vaughan	Michelle Larsen	Shelley LeBlanc
Brad Schurman	Dave MacNeill	Mike Larsen	Todd Dempsey
Bryan Illsley	David Lonergan	Murray Peterson	Toshi Imai
Cathi Devine	Greg Marr	Rick Rooseboom	Tracy Tate

President Mike Larsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

- 1) **Approval of the September 16th, 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the September 16th, 2021 Annual General Meeting were read. Dan Keddy motioned to accept the minutes from the Annual General Meeting on September 16th, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Sandy MacDonald. Motion passed.
- 2) **Business Arising From The Minutes:**
 - a) **Lobster Supper** – The Lobster Supper did not happen in June due to the cost of the lobster, which would have put the per plate cost over \$30. It was determined it was not a feasible endeavor.
 - b) **Scotties** – The Scotties were a success. It was so wonderful to see all the volunteers from across the club. There were many comments from the curlers that it went very well. The profit from hosting the event was approximately \$2500.
- 3) **Financial Report** – Mike/Arlene
 - a) **Bank Balance** – The bank balance as of September 15th is \$18,447.62 + there is \$90,000 in invested funds.
 - b) **Budget** – The budgeted income for the 2021/2022 season was \$4200, and the actual was \$7200. There were a lot of unknowns with budgeted due to covid, and we also had an 8 week closure. Overall for the season, membership numbers were good, similar to the 2019 season, the bar tab usage was strong, and the advertising signage was strong despite not offering a discount this year. The biggest hit to the expenses was due to the 8-week closure.

The objective for the budget for this coming year and any upcoming years is to break even. The Finance Committee has put together policies: Annual Operating Budget, Capital Reserve Fund, Investment Policy. The Capital Reserve Fund puts away \$15,000 annually to have for future capital expenses such as refurbishing rocks, roof repair, replacing ice king, etc.

The Investment Policy states that we will not invest any club money unless there is a guaranteed rate of return. We currently have \$15,000 in an Emergency Fund (cash), \$25,000 in a one-year GIC, \$25,000 in a 2-year GIC with a 4.5% guaranteed rate of return and \$25,000 in a three year GIC with 7.5-20% rate of return guaranteed. It is recommended by the Board of Directors to keep the 2022/2023 Membership Fees the same. Bill Coldwell motioned to keep the 2022/2023 Membership Fees the same. Bill Milne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

We looked at bar prices and the increases of costs over the past year and have decided to increase bar prices by \$0.25.

4) Nominating Committee/Election of Board Members:

Toshi Imai, chair of the Nominating Committee shared that all 3rd year officers will be re-offering. Beth Easson, a second-year officer will not reoffer. It is recommended from the nomination committee to have Megan White join the board. Three calls for additional nominations from the members in attendance went unanswered, and hearing none, Mike called for a motion to approve the proposed slate of officers as presented to the membership. Shannon Cooper motioned to accept, Sandy MacDonald seconded. The proposed slate of officers is acclaimed.

5) President's Report: Hope to have a good year without any Covid disruptions. Although the last two years were difficult, the club came out in great shape.

The club has curling booked for every weekday evening and afternoons, which is great. Mornings are open. The coming year we are focusing on getting back to having fun and will not be hosting any provincial events, we want to have club events again for our members.

We are looking forward to the return of the Learn to Curl program. Cathi and Rob Devine will be taking over this program. After only one week of registration being open, the fall session is already 60% full. There will be a second session offered in the winter.

Would like to extend thanks to the people volunteering their time to the board, ice, website, signs, bar, kitchen. This is my 8th year as president, and I am fortunate to have lots of support.

6) New Business/ Questions:

- Registration - Will be done online again and will be open next week.
- Learn to Curl is back. Thanks to Claude and Shelley for their time and passing on their knowledge and information to Rob and Cathi. We are looking for new and returning coaches. We will be hosting a coaching clinic at the end of October, which will be limited to 30 people.
- Sunday Night Recreational League has all 12 teams returning, and are looking for four more teams to fill the league. The name has been changed from the Corporate Rec League to the Sunday Night Recreational League to encourage teams that are not from businesses to join. The cost this year is \$484 for a team.
- Bar is ready to go, and are looking for some more bartenders to volunteer their time.
- Building- There are a few signs to change and some paint to be touched up prior to the start of the season.
- Juniors – Still in planning mode. Last year there were 10-12 new curlers, and are expecting more this year. There's an increase in younger curlers where the older ones are dwindling off. Are looking for more coaches. Are contemplating purchasing another set of light rocks. Alice is looking for a co-director, as she would prefer to coach and not direct the program.
- Day Curling – Head, Bill Milne is hoping for another good year. Last year they were turning people away. Day curling is Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, playing 8 end games. The curlers would draw positions. Hopefully this year with the decrease of covid and public health measures, there will be more socialization after the draws.
- Rentals – Curt reported that we have two rentals already scheduled. On December 9 there will be a stick curling event and the Strathcona Cup will be hosted in January. The Strathcona cup is a tour of Canada by Scottish curlers, there are four clubs in Nova Scotia taking part.
- Ice will start to be made in the first of October. The first week of curling is slated for October 24th.
- Scheduling – there has been a change this year to officially allow non-couple curlers to curl together. We will trial it the first session. We are anticipating the return of the Murray Spiel in November, the Apple Spiel in March, the Edie Spiel. We are also having a Wednesday and Friday afternoon league

where teams are pre-determined. Having the colour and hammer pre-determined for the draws will be discussed.

- We would like to express our thanks and acknowledge the leadership of Mike, particularly the last few years as we navigated through Covid, it truly was unbelievable all the work he has done behind the scenes.
- Anne Banks introduced herself as the Valley Regional Director. She curls out of Windsor. She noted that NSCA divides the province into zones, with the Vally being the largest zone, made up of 7 clubs from Windsor to Bridgetown. The Valley has gone 5 years without a director. She would like to promote Valley events, with a Valley Curling Calendar, increase communication from the curling clubs to NSCA. NSCA has recently hired Jill Brothers as technical director, who will put more focus on grass root curling.
- We have received grant money to put in a key fob system, old keys still work, but the intent is for the people who may need access outside the prograded times, to have key fobs. If you require a fob, please ask.

7) Adjournment: Matt Redden motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Smith, Secretary