

**Berwick Curling Club Executive Meeting**  
**2015-2016 Season**

**Date:** March 14, 2016

**Time:** 7:15pm

**In Attendance:**

Mike Larsen	Sandy MacDonald	Melissa Reeves
Michelle Larsen	Joseph MacGillvary	Debbie Hubbert
Joy Parker	Claude LeBlanc	Gloria Berezowski
Brian Illsley	Shelly LeBlanc	

**Missing:** Mike Trombley, Gwen Boyd, Greg Hubbert, Pat Jodrie, and Brad Schurman

Mike Larsen called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm.

An error in the February 2016 minutes was brought to the attention of the Board by Joseph McGillvray, who noted that he was not in attendance, as stated in the minutes.

The minutes were amended to reflect this.

**Motion: Claude Leblanc motioned to approve the February 2016 minutes as amended. Sandy MacDonald seconded. Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

None. Will be addressed in new business.

**New Business:**

- 1. Apple Spiel Debrief:** Shelley and Claude said that they would put together a formal report on the Apple Spiel, which just ended the previous day. The Board agreed that the date for next year's Apple Spiel would be March 10-12, 2017. Shelley and Claude are considering forming a committee with sub-chairs to split the workload up more. They will consider ways to include more teams, as this year, we turned down 7 teams who wanted entry. It was also brought to their attention that the order that prizes are awarded may need to be looked at.
- 2. End of Season Events:** The final weeks of curling are coming up. For the week of March 28<sup>th</sup>, we will do a Western Draw on Tuesday and Thursday nights. There will be no regular curling that Wednesday night, which will allow the Juniors to have additional ice time. Melissa reported that they were thinking of having a kids vs. parents/grandparents game.

- 3. KMCC Dinner:** Michelle reported (for Greg) that the Club had purchased 3 tables at the dinner on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Greg will look after selling 1, Mike and Michelle will look after selling 1, and Joy will see if she can help to get the third looked after. Michelle also reported that the Club has offered to purchase tickets to the dinner for Hartt MacKinlay and Janice Lutz, in recognition of the donation that the Western Kings Memorial Health Society made to the construction of the new club.
- 4. Sport Equipment Fund:** Mike reported that he had sent in a grant application to Sport Nova Scotia through their Support 4 Sport Equipment Fund. We have been awarded \$1,200, with 80% coming now, and the final 20% paid when we show what we have done with the money. The money is to be used to replace equipment around the Club. In the Fall, the Club purchased new pull-on sliders for the Learn to Curl program, which cost around \$600, and which Mike and Michelle had paid for at the time due to the Club's precarious financial situation. Mike stated that he drafted the grant around the idea of providing additional equipment for the Learn to Curl program, as well as new delivery sticks for the Club to be used for stick curling. Joy stressed that if new sticks are being looked at, they should be of high quality, as they seem to break easily. It was also noted that one of our measuring devices is broken. Mike said he would look into whether it could be repaired, as they cost roughly \$600 new. We have a year to decide what we want to purchase with the grant money, but the general consensus was that we should focus on replacing brooms and sticks.
- 5. Ovens:** Over the weekend, both of our ovens stopped working. Michelle will send out an e-mail to the membership to see if anyone is capable of looking at them to determine if they can be repaired. Failing that, we may look into getting a used stove, as we aren't sure yet what we will be able to have in the new Club. Sandy suggested getting this done before Spring clean-up, so that the stoves can be thrown out if they are not salvageable. It was noted that Larry Morse would be coming in to look at some of the light ballasts; we will get him to look at the ovens at the same time.
- 6. Cover for Well Top:** The top for the well has been pushed off by snow plowing. The Board discussed the issue, and decided that it needs a proper cap to eliminate the hazard of someone falling in. Mike will contact Dave Palmer to see what is necessary.
- 7. Juniors update:** Melissa reported that Berwick teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in their respective divisions at the recent Under 11's in Yarmouth. The Board offered its congratulations to all the coaches involved in this.
- 8. Bathroom smell:** Dave Palmer was called in, and the venting in the washroom has been fixed to eliminate the odour. Cost was around \$200.
- 9. Closing Auction:** This is scheduled for Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Michelle will send out reminders to the membership, including where to bring items for auction. Mike will send Greg a list of members and their phone numbers so that he can call and remind them.

**10. Day Curling/ Seniors Club:** Mike stated that he had received a great deal of feedback this year from the membership about the rate that the Day Curling group pays. Historically, this has been 50% of the regular rate, and the Seniors have operated their own club, with their own rules. About a month ago, Mike took the concerns to Joy, feeling that the matter could be handled best in a discreet manner. Over the course of several discussions, they have put together a proposal that they feel will address the issue. The elements of the proposal are:

- a. Create a new membership category for members who are 65 or older on October 1<sup>st</sup> (start of the curling membership season).
- b. This membership category would be set at 80% of the regular membership rate.
- c. People in this category would be full club members, enjoying all the privileges afforded regular members.
- d. The current Senior Club would be eliminated. Day Curling would continue to be offered, open to any member that wanted to curl in it.
- e. The drop-in fee would have to match the current drop-in fee of the regular club, which is currently \$10 per game, a maximum number of 5 times for non-members.
- f. To lessen the effect of the price increase, the price increase would take place over 2 years. For the 2016/17 season, the rate would be 65% of the regular rate, and for the following season, it would move to 80%. This would only be in effect for those who were regulars in the Day Curling program this past season. New curlers coming in, who were 65 or older, would pay the 80% rate from the start. As well, current regular club members, who now qualify for the reduced rate, would pay the 80% rate.

Mike stated that they had researched what is done in other clubs. Neither Kentville nor Wolfville have a separate rate for Seniors or Day Curlers...they pay the full membership rate, which is over \$300 in both Clubs. In Greenwood, curlers pay by the number of leagues they are in. In Middleton, day Curlers are considered associate members, and can only curl days, at a cost of \$160. In Bridgetown, the rate is \$218.50 for Day Curling.

Based on the current regular membership rate of \$286, next season this rate would be set at \$228.80 for those 65 and older, with a further reduced rate (for one season only) of \$185.90 for those who had been in the Seniors Club.

Following a good discussion, this approach was endorsed by the Board. Joy agreed to formalize the proposal and present to the Seniors group at their meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup>. It was also agreed that the membership would be asked to endorse this new fees category at the Annual meeting in April, so that we would have time to promote it prior to the start of next season.

It was also agreed that the drop-in fee should be looked at, to determine if the frequency is right, but this discussion will be put off until regular membership fees are looked at during the summer.

**11.** Next meeting is scheduled for April 4, at 7:00 pm.

**12.** The Annual meeting will be scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm. Mike will send out notice.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Sandy and Claude seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Larsen on behalf of Gwen Boyd, Secretary