



**TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
182ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB
WHICH WAS HELD VIRTUALLY ONLINE USING ZOOM'S VIDEO WEBINAR PLATFORM
ON SATURDAY 27 JUNE 2020 AT 2PM**

Present on the Virtual Top Table:

President	Brian McArtney (Letham Grange)
Chairman of the Board	Graham Lindsay (Forret)
Chief Executive Officer	Bruce Crawford (Abbotsford)

AGENDA

- a) Welcome
- b) In Memoriam
- c) Apologies
- d) Letter from the Royal Patron
- e) President's Report
- f) Approval of the Minute of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 June 2019
- g) Annual Report of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club
- h) Special and Ordinary Resolutions to amend the Memorandum and Articles of Association and By Laws
- i) Resolutions to amend the Royal Caledonian Curling Club's Rules of the Game
- j) Special Resolutions submitted by Member clubs
- k) Submission and approval of the Annual Accounts appropriately certified
- l) Appointment of the Independent Financial Examiner
- m) Approve the Annual Subscriptions for 2020-2021 – to remain unchanged
(£20 Full Member/ Full Honorary Playing Member and £7 Full Junior Member (under 21 years of age))
- n) Appointment of President
- o) Appointment of Vice-President
- p) Appointment of Directors
- q) Appointment of Chaplain
- r) Authorise the publication of the Annual
- s) Fixing of the place and date of the next Annual General Meeting
- t) Presentation of Trophies
 - Eight-Ender Awards
 - Sir Richard Waldie-Griffith Trophy
 - 150 Year Medals (Club)
 - 100 Year Medals (Club)
 - 50 Year Medals (Member)
- u) Presentation of Scottish Curling Awards

- Young Curler of the Year
 - Grassroots Coach of the Year
 - Team of the Year
 - Ice Diamond Award
- v) Any other competent business (notified before the AGM, in accordance with Article 5.3)
- w) Address by the Incoming President

RECORDED ATTENDANCE

In alphabetical order by club:

Past Presidents: Bill Duncan (Bank of Scotland (Perth & District)), Patrick Edington (Boswall), Billy Howat (Cumnock & District), Jim Murdoch (Dundonald), Robbie Scott (Dunkeld), Jim Cullen (Earlston), Clive Thomson (Glasgow Academicals), David J Henderson (New Abbey)

Board: Keith Prentice (Ayton Castle), David Hardie (Crocketford), Susan Kesley (Currie & Balerno), Jim Cullen (Earlston), Hugh Templeton (Kirkcowan), Liz Burton-King (Reform), Kevin Troup (Independent Director), Louise Burke (Independent Director)

Areas Standing Committee: Harry Brodie (Abercorn), Christine Cheape (Blair Atholl), Rod Mickel (Crieff & Ochertyre), Robin Copland (Currie & Balerno), Ian Mackay (Dornoch), John Fingland (Drystaness), John Hodge (Duns), Jim Inglis (Glasgow Academicals), John Ferguson (Limekiln Loch), Robert Caruthers (New Abbey), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord), Liz Burton-King (Reform), Andrew Kerr (Troon Portland), David McIntyre (Troon Portland)

Individuals Members: Moira Sefor (Abbotsford Curling Society), Isla Kinnear (Abdie Ladies), Paul Cromey (Abdie), Michele Brodie (Abercorn), Shelagh Arkley (Abercorn), Ian Gerrie (Aberdeen & District Rotary), Joy Exton (Aberdeen Grammar School FP), Alison Troup (Aberdeen Ladies), Alistair Oag (Aberdeen Petroleum), Brian Yeats (Aberdeen), Fiona Glascodine (Aberdeen), Mark Coutts (Aberdeen), Norman Bruce (Aberdeen), Ann Mitchell (Aberdour), Dorothy Browse (Aberdour), Helen Gordon (Aberdour), Catherine Maclean (Aberlady), Jill Grieve (Airleywight Ladies), Derek Brown (Airleywight), Michael Queen (Airthrey Castle), William Strang (Airthrey Castle), Fiona Brown (Angus Glen), Lesley Joiner (Angus Glen), John Wilson (Auchterarder), Gary Rutherford (Auchterarder), James Davidson (Auchterarder), Sean Clemie (Auchterarder), Lynne MacKenzie (Avondale Heather), Richard Lynch (AWW Curling Club), Ronnie Wilson (Ayr & Alloway), Robert Forrest (Ayr), Graeme Prentice (Ayton Castle), Keith Prentice (Ayton Castle), Roberta Forrest (Ayton Castle), Tommy Fleming (Ayton Castle), Gordon Gray (Balfron), Lauren Gray (Balfron), Lindsay Gray (Balfron), Ailsa Anderson (Banchory), David Fell (Bank of Scotland (Edinburgh)), Susan Tarvet (Bank of Scotland (Edinburgh)), Bill Linton (Bank of Scotland (Fife)), Wendy Smith (Bank of Scotland (Fife)), Willie Nicoll (Bank of Scotland (Fife)), George Delgaty (Bank of Scotland (Perth & District)), Kenneth Miller (Bank of Scotland), Eoin McCrossan (Barbarians), Iain Dick (Barbarians), Margaret Robertson (Bathgate), Alison Barr (Bearsden), Alison Wilson (Beith Morishill), Gillian Haggart (Bellshill), Iain Buchanan (Bellshill), Sarah Lean (Bellshill), Brenda Macintyre (Belmaduthy), Sarah Macintyre (Belmaduthy), Corrie Lawrence (Beresford Ladies), Isla Robison (Beresford Ladies), Jacqui Taylor (Between the Sheets), Jacqui Byers (Blair Atholl), Nigel Holl (Blairdrummond), Alyson Brooker (Borders Virtual), Mike Caffyn (Boreland), Robin Park (Boreland), Derek Young (Borestone & Stirling), Alison Hopkins (Braehead WCC), Aileen Neilson (Braehead Wheelchair), Michael McCreadie (Braehead Wheelchair), Ken Mackay (Broomhall), Jennifer Taylor (Buchan), Alan Donaldson (Cadder), Alan Hannah (Cadder), Gordon Nicholl (Carmunnock & Rutherglen), John Brown (Carmunnock & Rutherglen), Ken Horton (Carmunnock & Rutherglen), Robin Shand (Carmunnock & Rutherglen), Alison Dick (Carrington), Donald Doull (Carrington), Fiona Spain (Carrington), Jennifer Dodds

(Carrington), Lindsay Scotland (Carrington), Scott Dakers (Carrington), Gail Munro (Castle Kennedy), Gwendoline Highet (Cathcart Castle), Kirstie Meikle (Cawder House), Madeleine Sharp (Cawder House), Colin Spence (Clydesdale Bank (Aberdeen)), Ann Tait (Coldstream & Hirsell), Neil McLain (Coldstream & Hirsell), Robert Walker (Coldstream & Hirsell), Debbie Higgins (Coldstream), Jane Sinclair (Colinton Ladies), Linsey Spence (Corrie), Isobel Edwards (Corstorphine Ladies), Kath Murray (Corstorphine Ladies), Neil Wilson (Corstorphine), Calder Benzies (Corstorphine), David Edwards (Corstorphine), John Dignan (Corstorphine), Karen Tomczynski (Corstorphine), Mr J P Davis (Corstorphine), Stewart Cairns (Corstorphine), Alastair Fyfe (Coulter), Stewart Riddick (Craigie Hill), Kenneth Murray (Crocketford), Robin Halliday (Crocketford), Michael Wood (Currie & Balerno), James Law (Currie & Balerno), Jennifer Marshall (Currie & Balerno), Jenny Barr (Currie & Balerno), Norman Nicol (Currie & Balerno), Alistair Henry (DAFS), Ryan Carson (Dalbeattie), Neil Anderson (Dalcross), Tom Pendreigh (Dalcross), Jessica Skelton (Dalgety Bay), Kate Caithness CBE (Dalhousie Ladies), Margaret White (Dalmellington Craigengillan), William Nicol (Darnaway), Jim Wyllie (Delvine), Michael Niven (Delvine), Rob Niven (Delvine), Alex Duncan (Denny), David Murdoch (Dryfesdale), Robin Turner (Drystaness), Carolyn Tough (Duddingston), Stewart Syme (Duddingston), James MacDonald (Dumbarton), Peter Baird (Dumbarton), Fiona Telfer (Dumfries), Iain Jamieson (Dumfries), Lorna Brown (Dunblane), David Jones (Dundee Junior), Bill Rae (Dundonald), Eila MacLennan (Dundonald), Morag Evans (Dundonald), Ena Stevenson (Dunfermline Ladies), Lynne Stevenson (Dunfermline Ladies), Derek Laird (Dunfermline), Doug Ritchie (Dunfermline), James Stevenson (Dunfermline), Eve Muirhead (Dunkeld), Kathleen Scott (Dunkeld), Lyn Muirhead (Dunkeld), David Hay (Dunning), Iain Watt (Dunning), Peter Loudon (Dunning), Rona Agnew (Duntocher), John Burns (Earlston), Liz Cullen (Earlston), Wendy Henderson (Earlston), Archie Craig (East Kilbride & Haremyres), Nikolas Litsardopoulos (East Kilbride), Senga Hair (East Kilbride), David Affleck (East Linton), Alan Nisbet (East Linton), Gael Pollitt (East Linton), Ian Donald (East Linton), Sandy Ross (East Linton), Malcolm Punler (East Lothian), Peter Watson (Edinburgh Academicals), Avril Glencross (Edinburgh Medical), Anthea Lints (Edinburgh Medical), Michael Murray (Edinburgh Medical), Steven Laurie (Edinburgh Veterans), Janice Rankin (Edinburgh), I. Gordon Craik (Edzell), Michael Ferguson (Edzell), Michael Pickthall (Elgin), Ian Wallace (Falkland), Neil Millar (Falkland), Mike Watt (Fochabers), Neil Alexander (Fordoun), Ann Hutchison (Forest Hills Trossachs), Ian Mackin (Forest Hills Trossachs), Joyce White (Forfar Ladies), Lillian Carnegie (Forfar Ladies), Kirstina Fairweather (Forfar Virtual), Alan Joiner (Forfar), George Paterson (Forfar), James Craik (Forfar Young Curlers), Sandra MacIver (Forres), Craig Lindsay (Forret), Alison Smith (Fossoway Ladies), Dottie (Doreen) Burt (Fossoway Ladies), David Parry (Fossoway), John Taylor (Fossoway), Morag Wellman (Fossoway Ladies), Carolyn Nicoll (Fotheringham), Martin Gregory (Fotheringham), Alison Young (Fullarton), Mara Lindsay (Fullarton), Scott Andrews (Galston Haymouth), Ali Cunningham (Galston Haymouth), Jim Boswell (Galston Haymouth), John Davers (Galston Haymouth), Euan Lawrence (Gangrels), Robert Boyd (Gangrels), Judy Mackenzie OBE (Glasgow Ladies), Liz Jamieson (Glasgow Ladies), Liz Paul (Glasgow Ladies), Roni Gray (Glasgow Ladies), Yvonne Chalmers (Glasgow Ladies), Kerr Sands (Glendoick), Sheila Swan (Glenfarg Ladies), Sheona Reid (Glenfarg Ladies), David Rutherford (Glenfarg), Holly Davis (Gogar Park Young Curlers), Cron Mackay (Gogar Park), David Niall Gunn (Gogar Park), Fran Stretton (Gogar Park), John Hogarth (Gogar Park), Lesley Arrowsmith (Gogar Park), Mike Wilkinson (Gogar Park), Rona Craig (Gogar Park), Sean Murphy (Gogar Park), Norman Campbell (Gourock), Elma Mitchell (Greenacres Young Curlers), Clare McCormick (Greenacres), Rachael Halliday (Greenacres), William Mitchell (Greenlaw), Graeme Maguire (Haddington), Graham Russell (Haddo House), Katherine Howes (Hamilton & Thornyhill), Laura Ritchie (Hamilton & Thornyhill), Robert Kirkland (Hamilton & Thornyhill), Jesme Brown (Hamilton Ladies), Michael Barr (Hamilton Young Curlers), William Wilson (Hercules), Fiona McLaren

(Highland Ladies), Alex Bryden (Holywood), Tom Ross (Holywood), Rae Graham (Hutton), Bob Smith (Inverkeithing), David Scott (Inverkeithing), Ian Paxton (Inverkeithing), Robert Tait (Inverkeithing), Margaret Hastie (Inverness), Lucy Tile (Jedburgh), Gavin Fleming (Keir), Stuart Brand (Keir), Stuart Taylor (Kelvinside Academicals), Jim Stott (Kenmore), Martin Priestley (Kilgraston), Neil Murray (Kilsyth), Alison Milne (Kinfauns), Mary Radcliffe (Kinfauns), Elaine Spain (Kinross Ladies), Kathryn Spain (Kinross Ladies), Allister Simms (Kinross), Dougald Rodge (Kinross), Stuart Easson (Kinross), James Galloway (Kirkoswald), David McMiken (Kirkpatrick Durham), Marnie Ewart (Kirriemuir & District Ladies), Barbara Sherriff (Kirriemuir Ladies), Philip Ross (Kirriemuir), Bill Creevy (Largo), Janie McKenzie (Largs), Laura Mutch (Laurencekirk), Sandra Hughes (Lennie Ladies), Alison Taylor (Lesmahagow Ladies), James Stewart (Lesmahagow), John Duncan (Lesmahagow), Victoria Wright (Leswalt), Doug Wilson (Letham Grange), Janine Wilson (Letham Grange), Claire Milne (Letham Grange), David Piggot (Letham Grange), Duncan Menzies (Letham Grange), Gordon Law (Letham Grange), James Keillor (Letham Grange), James Menzies (Letham Grange), Jane McArtney (Letham Grange), Mairi Milne (Letham Grange), Sandra Menzies (Letham Grange), Steve McKenzie (Linlithgow), Joseph Barry (Livingston), Eilidh Yeats (Loch Ness), Neil Gallacher (Loch Ness), Lynne Longmore (Lochmaben Castle), Susan Fleming (Lochmaben Castle), Gordon Farries (Lochrutton), Clive Heap (Lockerbie Virtual), John McClelland (Lockerbie), Jenny Arbuckle (Lundie & Auchterhouse), Karen Smith (Lundie & Auchterhouse), Helen Pirnie (Lynedoch Ladies), Shelagh Fulton (Lynedoch Ladies), Bert Ward (Markinch), David Beck (Markinch), Ian Sankey (Markinch), James Gibb (Markinch), Ronnie Wilson (Markinch), Maggie Wilson (Meldrum & Daviot), Rory Byers (Meldrum & Daviot), Scott Macleod (Meldrum & Daviot), Stuart McLachlan (Meldrum & Daviot), Basil Baird (Midcalder), Alex Forrest (Millport), Alan Chalmers (Musketeers), Andrew Penker (Musketeers), Hamish Lorrain-Smith (Musketeers), Iain Cormack (Musketeers), Johnnie Munro (Musketeers), Raymond Denholm (Musselburgh), Alan Stanfield (Nairn), David Harold Forrester (Nairn), Michael McInnes (Nairn), Margaret Pottie (Nairn Ladies), David Kingan (New Abbey), Fraser Kingan (New Abbey), Jayne Stirling (New Abbey), Stewart Robertson (New Abbey), William Holland (New Abbey), Robert Wallace (New Monkland), Ian Rose (Newlands & Tarthwater), Douglas Wyles (Newport), Nancy Gallacher (Nithsdale Ladies), Neil Ward (Northern Lights), Elizabeth Glennie (Orwell Ladies), Jane Drysdale (Orwell Ladies), William Young (Orwell), Sandy Hay (Orwell), John Jeans (Panmure), John Macfarlane (Panmure), Sheila Macfarlane (Panmure), Maureen Sim (Partick), Roger Scott (Peebles), Harold Haggart (Pitkerro), Sarah Millar (Pitkerro), Morag Erskine (Pitlessie), Norman Johnstone (Port Glasgow), Kate Adams (Portpatrick), Brendan Todd (Portpatrick), Mary Anne McWilliam (Portpatrick), Harry Mitchell (Raith & Abbotshall), Carolyn Hibberd (Reform), Frazer Erskine (Reform), Gillian King (Reform), Greig Smith (Reform), Ian Gillespie (Reform), Jean Cousar (Reform), Margarita Sweeney-Baird (Reform), Rhona Howie (Reform), Robert Kelly (Reform), Robin McCall (Reform), Ronnie Peat (Reform), Ian Drysdale (Rothes), John Paul (Rothes), James Hogg (Ruthwell), Roy Broatch (Ruthwell), Norman Ainslie (Sauchie & Bannockburn), Ian Mackie (Sauchie & Bannockburn), Ann-Maree Davidson (Scheihallion Ladies), Aileen Pirret (Selkirk), Chris Parry (SIAE), David Cunningham (SIAE), Ruth Addinall (SIAE), Beverley Brown (St Andrews), Fred McKenzie (St Andrews), Graham Clelland (St Andrews), Jackie McQueen (St Andrews), Barry McKenzie (St Martins), Graham Cormack (St Martins), Mark Brass (St Martins), Russell Keiller (St Martins), Richard Smith (St Ronans), Larry Perras (St Andrews Curling Club), Vicky Gumley (Stewart's Melville FP), Douglas Paton (Stewarton Heather), Nancy Smith (Stewarton Heather), Hew Chalmers (Stoneykirk), Ian Archer (Strathaven Golf Club), Alan Muirhead (Stratheden), Isabel Robertson (Strathendrick), Blair Fraser (Stray Dogs), Charles Sutherland (Symington), Ernest Mutter (Symington), Janice Sutherland (Symington), Ian Watson (Toberargan), Aileen McCorkell (Troon Portland), Alan Caldwell (Troon Portland), Alastair Fyall (Troon Portland), Ewan

Marr (Troon Portland), Jamie Mason (Troon Portland), Kirsty Letton (Troon Portland), Lisa Mason (Troon Portland), Robert McKay (Troon Portland), Janette Kennedy (Tullymet), Ian Mennie (Turriff), Graeme Prophet (University of Dundee), David Owen (Waterbeck), Malcolm Patrick (Watsonian), John Glascodine (Westhill Rotary), Robert Parry (Wishaw), Tom Roche (Wishaw), Walter Scott (Yester)

Staff: Scott Andrews (Development Manager-South West), Heather Bennie (Marketing Officer), Nicola Glencross (Administrator & Finance), Fiona Harfield (Workforce Development Manager), Helen Kallow (Disability Development Officer), Elaine Mills (Administrator), Nick Rennie (Head of Development), Iain Stewart (Development Manager-East & North), Jayne Stirling (Competition Manager), Suzy Wakefield (Office Manager), Maggie Wilson (Development Manager-Central)

INTRODUCTION

Bruce Crawford (CEO): Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, I would just like to make a few announcements before the meeting starts. We have chosen to use the Zoom Webinar platform as it allows the right level of security whilst making the meeting accessible to all of our members. When the meeting starts you will hear from the President, Chairman, CEO, new President and new Vice President like a normal AGM however no other presenters are planned for this meeting. As with all meetings attendees may ask questions, today this can be either via the Q&A section or by the raised hand function as we go along, which appears at the bottom of your screen; with all questions not addressed throughout being answered at the end in AOCB.

It is now my pleasure to hand over to the RCCC President Brian McArtney to formally open the meeting. Thank you

A) WELCOME

Brian McArtney (President): Sister and Brother Curlers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

May I extend a very warm welcome to you as we meet for the 182nd Annual General Meeting of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club in the most exceptional circumstances. Today's virtual AGM will be a bit different due to the technology and everyone not being in the same place. Can I ask that you bear with us if there are any glitches and hopefully we will manage to successfully navigate our way through this meeting.

B) IN MEMORIAM

Brian McArtney (President): We will start with the In Memoriam

At this time I would ask you to show respect in your own way and observe a minutes silence while remembering those members who have sadly passed away over the last year. I would also like you to think of all those families who have lost someone due to the Coronavirus as a means of support to them.

A list of departed members will now appear on screen. Thank you.

C) RECEIVED APOLOGIES

Brian McArtney (President): A list of apologies from Clubs and Members were available to view on the website prior to the meeting. However if anyone needs to be added to the list can I ask that they contact Suzy or Elaine in the office on Monday.

In alphabetical order by club:

Past Presidents: Arthur Beattie (Banchory), Rt Hon Earl of Elgin (Broomhall), Leslie Ingram-Brown (Carmunnock & Rutherglen), Andrew Stevenson (Cawder House), Matt Brown (Cumnock & District), Kenneth Scott (Dunkeld), Malcolm Richardson (Erskine), Inglis McAulay (Falkirk), Clive Thomson (Glasgow Academicals), William Muirhead (Glenfarg),

Alex F Torrance (Hamilton & Thornyhill), William Sanderson (Oxenfoord), Jan Howard (Reform)

Areas Standing Committee: John Hodge (Duns), Jim Inglis (Glasgow Academicals), John McCall (Gourock), Gordon Gilchrist (Lesmahagow), John Ferguson (Limekiln Loch), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord), Joe Kincaid (Sauchie & Bannockburn)

Staff: Lindsay Booth (Welfare Officer), Emma Lynch (Events Executive), Jamie Fleming (Marketing & Communications Officer), David Ramsay (Performance Development Coach)

Clubs: None received

Individuals: Matthew Brown (Cumnock & District), Robert McKenzie (Dalry Union), Ian Keron (Oatridge), Lyn Walby (Kirkcudbright Country)

D) LETTER FROM THE ROYAL PATRON

Brian McArtney (President): Like everyone following Coronavirus guidelines Her Majesty the Queen has been shielding at Windsor Castle where she received our loyal greetings as our Patron. I have received a letter to read to you from our Royal Patron, Her Majesty the Queen.

Letter from the Queen: Addressed to Brian McArtney, President, Royal Caledonian Curling Club. "Please convey my warm thanks to the Members of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for their loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of their One Hundred and Eighty-Second Annual General Meeting which is being held today.

At this increasingly challenge time I was interested to learn of your international achievements during the 2019-2020 Season.

As your patron I much appreciate your thoughtful message and in return, send my best wishes to you all concerned for a successful and memorable virtual gathering.

Elizabeth R. 27th June 2020."

As well as wishing Her Majesty well for the coming year, I feel this should also be extended to one of our two Honorary Members His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh as he is in his hundredth year.

E) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brian McArtney (President): Sister and Brother Curlers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Little did I know when I addressed you in Perth last year, as the new incoming President, what lay ahead. I was expecting today to be addressing you from Forfar Indoor Sports and I know that Mike Ferguson, had as usual, planned to make it a special AGM. Can I thank Mike for taking the time to think and make these plans and perhaps they can be used at some other Annual General Meeting of the RCCC in the future.

How things have changed. Rather than meeting up with old friends and going through past memories of the great shots being played over the past season, or in some cases many decades ago, instead we are today sitting at home and are taking part in a webinar. (Who knew that name a year ago)

The love of curling and the sharing with people who are of a like mind cannot be replaced on the end of a computer or phone screen. Curling after all is about communication with some skill elements thrown in while enjoying and having fun at the same time. However, we will do our best today.

It is customary that the President in his report re-lives every moment of their year of office at some length allowing Members of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club to share in the privilege that they bestowed upon them. I am going to be briefer than normal, just due to the type of AGM this year.

Firstly, I have to thank Andrew Kerr for agreeing to become my Vice President. He has been a constant support to me over the year and has deputised for me in chairing the Area Standing Committee, leading the successful Home Nations team with Corrie Lawrence, the new Ladies Branch President, standing in for me at the Nairn Dinner and presenting trophies to competition winners when I was double booked. Andrew has been a great Vice President and I know he will continue to look after the interests of the members of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, as your new President.

One of the first meetings I had was with Ladies' Branch President, Morag Wellman and Bruce where we discussed the year's calendar and who was going to present at the various competitions throughout the year. In some cases neither of us could attend and we called upon Andrew or Corrie, as well as ASC and LSC members to help. I thank them all for doing a wonderful job.

Presenting awards is not as easy as you may think as you have many considerations to think about, for example: the age of the competitors, are they Junior or Senior? Juniors, when you call them 'athletes,' stand up straight and stick out their chests in pride. Seniors, when you call them 'athletes,' usually fall about laughing although they are as competitive as anybody. At the European Championship, when presenting the medals, I was thanked by one player saying, 'Thanks Dad'. I suppose I should be thankful it was not 'Grandpa'. The President is there for all players of any age or ability and I hope I have made them all feel special whether they have been on the podium or not. Getting it right is important and I have met with many umpires, officials and spectators over the course of the year. They let you know what requires fixing whether it's the game times, the rules, the publicity materials, even the name of the competition. I would like to thank all the ice rinks I have visited for their hospitality, the athletes and supporters for their skill and enthusiastic support, the Umpires, time clock operators, line scorers and any other officials; the Competition Committee and office staff for supporting all the different competitions over the past year.

I mentioned meeting with Morag early in my Presidency and at that meeting it was decided, as with tradition, that the Ladies' Branch President attend the World Junior Curling and the World Women's Curling Championships while the President attend the European Curling Championships and the World Men's Curling Championships. Morag was anxious about her visit to Russia for the Junior Worlds with the long journey and not being able to speak any Russian. However, from what I have heard she and Corrie were treated like royalty and they had the bonus of presenting a medal to Team Craik. Morag can I thank you very much for all that you have done as Ladies Branch President in supporting me and the RCCC over the past year. Thank you and I look forward to our retirement lunch.

On the international scene I would like to thank the Women's Team Muirhead and the Men's Team Paterson for performing so well, thus allowing the President of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club to present Silver and Bronze Medals to the respective teams at the European Curling Championships in Sweden. All the elite athletes are a credit to our sport. Also, a big thank you to the members of RCCC and parents of the teams who travelled to Sweden and provided such vocal support and atmosphere.

Curlers worldwide will share my regrets that the international competitions were curtailed because of the lockdown and RCCC members were especially disappointed that we could not welcome curlers from all over the world, to the home of curling. I was disappointed also that I could not present a Gold medal to Scottish Champions, Team Mouat in front of a home crowd. I am also sure that Morag would have been hoping to present the Gold medal to Team Muirhead at the World Women's Championship in Canada.

Mid-January took me to Switzerland with another nineteen fellow tourists for the 2020 Tour led by Captain Robin Copland. Little did we know what was just around the corner and we

managed to complete a fantastic tour before the complete lockdown due to the Coronavirus. Like all tours what is 'said' and what 'happens' on tour stays on tour. However, I would like to thank personally some people, in particular Harry Brodie for being my guardian angel during the night when I was thought to be having a heart attack. Harry, I don't think the Rennies did much good! Thanks also to Trevor Dodds and David Hardie for accompanying me to the emergency doctor and hospital and for paying for the medication and ambulance fees of nearly 2000 Swiss Francs. I would also like to express my appreciation to the Swiss Curling Federation, in particular Freddy and his colleague Alfred, our Tour Guides, for arranging the collection of Jane, at a distant airport and delivering her to my bedside, as well as arranging her accommodation during the remainder of the Tour. To every one of the nineteen tourists thank you for allowing Jane to share in your special tour experience. If ever you have to be in hospital abroad, I can thoroughly recommend the Swiss medical service but, be warned, it is a bit expensive!

Chairing the ASC is another privilege that the President has and it brings together the Women and Men from across Scotland, raising issues of concern while reporting back to local committees in their Area. As President I raised these concerns with those who should know about them and reported back to the ASC any answers. The ASC members were also able to highlight the work being carried out in their Area, sharing this with the other members. Meetings included reports from some of the main committees of the RCCC giving a greater insight to the workings of our organisation. Communication could have been improved if the Minutes of the ASC Meetings had been timeously made available to members.

The joint Meetings with the LSC were always worthwhile and vibrant with good discussion and points to be taken forward. I would not like to think that the experience provided by these two groups might be lost but rather that they be used to a greater effect in the future. I would like to thank the ASC and LSC members for their candid views and support throughout the year.

As President, I sat on committees as an ex-officio member and this has given me a greater understanding of and insight into how much work is done on behalf of RCCC Members by these groups. If it were not for the dedication of these volunteers and the paid staff on these committees, curling would not have not a future. Thanks to all those who serve on all of these committees.

I also attend the Board as a Director looking to the future planning of the sport. This has sometimes given me a dilemma as I feel that, as President, I should look at issues from both sides, one from the membership and one from the Board. The nature of RCCC as a company with over 11,000 members ensures that there will be many different ideas and opinions over even the smallest of issues, never mind larger ones. I think this is an asset and we have to continue to encourage a good, open, two-way dialogue perhaps with improved communications. My thanks to all the Board members for their work over the past year and to David and Hugh on completing their terms of office.

The office in Stirling offers many great levels of expertise and support whether it's the most up to date information on coaching, competitions, development, inclusiveness, safeguarding and social media; or keeping me right with my expenses, knowing the answers to my questions before I have even asked them, or just helping me find the right place to get a cup of tea in Ochil House. Thanks to you all for making my life easier this past year.

To the members of Letham Grange Curling Club I thank them for their forbearance in having to 'sub' for me on the many occasions I called off to go somewhere for a meeting or event. I also hope to do more coaching with schools and Forfar Virtual Club than I have managed this past year.

Thanks go also to Jane, my wife, who has travelled with me to events at home and abroad, shared some of my thoughts and generally kept me going during the past year. She has been my greatest supporter and I thank her for being there whenever I have needed her. Happy Birthday and we will enjoy what remains of the day after the AGM.

My thanks also are extended to the members and clubs that I have met over the past year. I thank you for your hospitality at the many Dinners I have attended giving me confidence that curling is in safe hands for the future and what is even better is that you are enjoying yourself amongst friends.

There are worries about curling in Glasgow with the closure of Braehead, but I am sure the Glaswegian curlers out there will bounce back even stronger than before.

To those members, who like me are in the 'vulnerable group' and who may be looking forward to next year's curling with some trepidation. I can only confirm to you that there is a lot of great work being done to make sure that your safety is paramount and to allow you to curl next season.

Finally, it was a great honour that you, the members of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, allowed me to be your President over the past year. I have fully appreciated your support and have had a wonderful time doing this great job, even although the end was not what I expected.

Thank you very much and I look forward to us all curling next season.

I now hand the meeting over to Graham Lindsay Chairman of the RCCC to go over the business part of the meeting. Thank you

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Good afternoon everybody, thank you Brian for delivering the Presidents report. It has certainly been an interesting and active year and I would like to thank you for the way that you have contributed to the organisation this year as our 182nd President. I would also like to thank Morag Wellman for all her contributions as Ladies Branch President over the last year. Thank you both.

Now to the business elements of the meeting.

For all motions and resolutions voted by members. The online and postal voting closed on Thursday 25th June 2020 at 2pm.

All online and postal votes were checked and verified; there were no spoiled ballots.

The results were given to the Chair and CEO in the office this morning to allow us to prepare for this meeting. All figures have been added to the slides but not disclosed to anyone before the meeting.

F) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 15 JUNE 2019

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): The first item on the agenda today is to approve the Minute of the AGM held on 15th June 2019 in Perth.

429 members voted by post and online. This requires a simple majority.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
414	15	96.5%

The minute is approved. Thank you

I would now like to invite Chief Executive Bruce Crawford to present the Annual report. Thank you

G) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB

Bruce Crawford (CEO): Thank you Graham, Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen. I will try keep this brief, given that the Annual Report has been published on the website and provides a great deal of information that I hope you found interesting.

As you will be aware the Royal Caledonian Curling Club is a membership organisation and I am delighted that so many of our members have voted online or by post this year. Significant numbers have also registered to attend this AGM using the online Zoom platform. Of the 580 who registered I am delighted to see that 429 have joined us virtually today. The use of technology like this during Covid-19 has allowed businesses like ours to continue operating and has given our board and staff the ability to continue meeting, planning for the future and serving the membership. The recent Ladies Branch AGM provided an opportunity to test this technology and I would like to thank all those involved as speakers but also all the people who used the question area to ask good questions during the meeting, thank you. The 2019-2020 season was the first in our current four-year strategic planning cycle. This year there was a drive to raise the profile of curling on the back of hosting the World Men's Curling Championship in Glasgow. The partnership with Glasgow Life and other agencies was very positive but challenging at times. Ticket sales were strong, the venue was undergoing a transformation to a curling arena, and the mascot Sweep was busy appearing in shopping centres in Inverness, Perth, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The legacy plan was well organised with many schools involved but at two weeks' notice the event was cancelled. Unfortunately, the closure of the curling rink in Braehead and the Covid-19 pandemic put paid to our ambitions but have not dampened the enthusiasm of our volunteers and staff to attract new people to the sport in future and find a replacement facility in Glasgow.

It is too early to determine the full impact that the coronavirus has had on curling in Scotland, we have some short-term facts and figures but will be doing a more in-depth evaluation in the coming months. The cancellation of events at the tail end of the 2019-2020 was hugely disappointing for everyone and those feelings are shared among all of us involved in planning, preparing and participating in each of the competitions.

Covid-19 has affected all of us in some way. We learned of the passing of WCF umpire Christian Leibbrandt, who contracted the virus soon after returning from being an umpire at World Junior Championships in February, our thoughts go out to his family and all those affected by the pandemic.

We have spent a huge amount of time since March in meetings with Scottish Government officials, our ice rink partners in Scotland as well as the rest of the UK. The guidance that we have published is called "Return to Curling" and has an ambition that we all share. It has been welcomed by many and is a document that will evolve as new guidance and regulations are set by Scottish Government. It places safety and wellbeing of our members and community at the heart of the plans we make.

We recognise that this is a public health matter and we must play our part in planning how we can resume safely after lockdown. The government publishes new guidance at least every three weeks as part of its route-map to ease restrictions and we will update our guidance in line with that. We issued version 2 of our guidance after the government's announcement indicating the start of Phase Two on the 18th of June. Curling is scheduled to be allowed at Phase Three, along with other indoor sports. We hope that the downward trends in infections and fatalities in Scotland continue and that it will be safe to resume more of our normal activity in the coming months.

In September 2018 the board set up a group to review the structure of the organisation, looking at making sure that it is appropriate for the present time and will be relevant and fit for the future. This group looked at models from other organisations in curling, other sports and from other sectors. The abrupt end to the season meant that the final phase of consultation did not happen, so the proposals that were taking shape will be put off till a future General Meeting and this may need to reflect the way we can reach more members

in consultations by holding more roadshows and online meetings like this AGM virtually today.

In April we announced the outcomes of the competition bidding process for the 2020-2021 season. There were some changes and I have been asked to explain the process and rationale by some of our members. The Competitions Committee work with the staff to prepare the bidding guidelines and invite all ice rinks to bid for hosting Scottish Curling competitions every year. The guidelines include the criteria for each competition. Ice rinks submit sealed bids and these are all opened after the closing date has passed.

The bids are evaluated on a range of criteria that include:

- Ice quality (inc. amount of curl, consistency & speed) clean and free from debris
- Stone quality, suitably matched and serviced.
- Player feedback from previous competitions
- Umpire feedback
- Spectator provision
- Catering provision
- Host venue objectives – why they want to host one of our competitions
- and cost

And for the highest profile events the criteria also includes:

- Provision of warm up areas
- Facilities for Broadcast and Web-streaming
- Event hosting capability
- Experience of hosting other Scottish and World championships and Tour events

The competitions committee also considers geographical spread, to ensure competitions are distributed across the country where possible. For the three championships that lead to the Worlds, we also have a group that specifically works with performance staff and partners to ensure our ambitions to replicate conditions that athletes will experience when representing Team Scotland and play at the Worlds is created as much as possible.

On a subsequent question regarding future consultation, we are committed to do more consultation and communication that can be fed into the decision-making process that ultimately rests with the board and our competitions committee.

In a recent announcement by the World Curling Federation I am delighted to advise you that John McGowan has been appointed as a Game Umpire for the 2022 Winter Olympic Games and David Imlay has been named as the Deputy Chief Umpire at the Paralympic Games in Beijing.

The financial position of the RCCC is stable, as seen through the Annual Accounts which have been independently inspected by Drummond Laurie Chartered Accountants and approved by the board of directors. The headline figure is a small surplus of £5,439.

Income and expenditure are both lower than last year, principally due to the fact we did not organise a World Championships as we did in the previous two years. The World Men's Championships was organised by Glasgow Life and they had responsibility for all aspects of the budget.

Our VAT revenue was lower than the previous year, so our partial exemption and an historic review of the VAT status resulted in a higher level of irrecoverable VAT.

I mention in the Annual report that there is a figure of £240,000 on both sides of the debtors and creditors statements which relates to interest-free loans from the World Curling Federation, that we have secured for ice rinks purchasing curling stones or upgrading facilities to make them more energy efficient. We are happy to provide this financial support to ice rinks and the scheme is currently closed but we expect it to re-open in 2021.

We welcomed Jayne Stirling as our new Competitions Manager and appointed Scott Andrews and Maggie Wilson in new Development Manager posts. We are currently planning for the recruitment of an Academy Manager to replace David Ramsay in a slightly amended role.

The largest event in the Scottish Curling calendar is the Indoor Grand Match, held every 5 years. It was due to be held in October 2020 but having 2,000 curlers criss-crossing the country was considered as a potential risk by the organising committee and we plan to re-schedule the Indoor Grand Match for October 2021.

I would like to thank our sponsors and investors, including **sportscotland** whose funding allows us to deliver programmes that bring new people to the sport and grow the game for our members. We are fortunate to have a great staff team who are dedicated to support our members and grow the sport at every level.

Lastly I would like to finish by thanking all of the volunteers across the country, for the work they all do in keeping the sport alive and I am sure we will all work together in the next year as we face unprecedented challenges in the realm of public health as we find the new normal.

Thank you and I am happy to answer any questions, if there are any.

Q: Michael Wood (Currie & Balerno): Can I ask what steps Scottish Curling are taking on World Health Organisation guidance on the wearing of facemasks while exercising, is adopted by the Scottish Government. Currently the Scottish Government and Return to Curling Guidance requires the wearing of facemasks on the ice. WHO advice states expressly people should not wear face masks when exercising, as masks may reduce the ability to breath comfortably. I understand that Scottish Curling have stated that in the event of any disparity between Scottish Curling guidance and the Governments advice that the Governments advise will prevail. While I understand that what concerns me is what steps we are taking to influence, and in my view change, the guidance that currently the government is giving to us and Scottish Curling appears content to adopt. Thank you

A: Bruce Crawford (CEO): Good question, thank you Mike. We are obviously not yet back to the sport and every three weeks the government's stated review will be published. We will be updating our guidance and I have recently received an enquiry from a member asking us to confirm and clarify within our policy, that the wearing of face coverings for those individual for whom it is not appropriate due to a breathing condition or other reason why they should not wear a face mask, should be provided for in our guidance. We will be providing that in the next draft. I can certainly take your feedback as I have a meeting on Monday with representatives of **sportscotland** and Scottish Government will be in attendance, so I will put your question to them for their express view and consideration on the point you have raised. Thank you very much for that.

Q: Janine Wilson (Letham Grange): My question is about the independent examination of the accounts. My understanding from the certificate is that the accountants have prepared the account, but they specifically provide no opinion on it, or no opinion on the accounts, which is a slightly different thing.

A: Bruce Crawford (CEO): They are independently verified by Drummond Laurie who have had scrutiny over all financial transactions. It is the level that is appropriate for the turnover that we have, the board are satisfied that that is the right type of assessments to take place. They are provided with the information and prepare that in

line with the standards in Financial Regulations 102, which is the latest guidance for production of accounts

Thank you for your questions and I will now pass you back to the Chairman, Graham.

H) SPECIAL AND ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Thank you Bruce.

We now come to approve changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Bye Laws proposed by Member Clubs, as set out in the Notice of the General Meeting posted on the Scottish Curling's website and prescribed in Articles 4.1 and 4.3.

Resolution 1 – (Special Resolution)

Proposal from Cumnock & District Curling Club to amend Article 5.3 to allow for items under Any Other Competent Business to be submitted after the Agenda has been issued. This requires a 75% majority. 598 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
534	64	89.3%

The special resolution has been passed. Thank you

Resolution 2 – (Ordinary Resolution)

Proposal from Moray Province to amend Byelaw 5.11 to allow Provinces to determine the most effective way to operate and run its annual meeting.

This requires a simple majority. 581 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
544	37	93.6%

This resolution has also been passed. Thank you

I) APPROVE RESOLUTIONS TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE GAME

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Next we move to the approval of the amendments to the Rules of the Game proposed by the Competitions Committee, supported by the Rules Committee and the Board, as set out in the Notice of the General Meeting posted on the Scottish Curling website and prescribed in Article 4.2.

Resolution 3 - (Resolution)

To delete **Rule R5 Delivering Team (b)(iii)**

This requires a simple majority. 531 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
497	34	93.6%

This resolution has been passed. Thank you

Resolution 4 - (Resolution)

To add a new part to **Rule R7 Sweeping**

All players may clean the playing surface prior to the delivery of the next stone

This requires a simple majority. 547 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
522	25	95.4%

This resolution has been passed. Thank you

Resolution 5 - (Resolution)

To add an additional part to **Rule R11 Scoring (j) (i)**

For doubles curling the following penalties shall apply:

- (a) 5 minutes 1 end 1 shot
- (b) 10 minutes 1 end 2 shots
- (c) 15 minutes 2 ends 3 shots

(d) 20 minutes forfeiture of game

This requires a simple majority. 517 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
495	22	95.7%

This resolution has been passed. Thank you

Resolution 6 - (Resolution)

Lastly, to add a new part to **Rule R11 Scoring (j) (i)**

(ii) If the delay of the start of play is 15:01-30:00 minutes (10:01-20:00 minutes for Mixed Doubles), then the non-offending team receives one additional shot and two ends are considered completed

This requires a simple majority. 504 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
485	19	96.2%

This resolution has also been passed. Thank you

J) APPROVE, BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION, MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBER CLUBS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): We now move onto the next item, to approve, by Special Resolution, motions submitted by Member Clubs as set out in the Notice of the General Meeting posted on the Scottish Curling's website and prescribed in Article 5.3

Resolution 7 – (Special Resolution)

The motion from New Abbey Curling Club to overturn the Board decision to use selection to determine teams to represent Scotland at World Championships (World Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles) and for future decisions on this to be reserved for General Meetings.

Before we move to the results, I would like to say a few words: I wrote this last night before I was made aware of the results today of the voting on the New Abbey Curling Club motion, so it is made without prejudice.

No matter the result, I put this to our membership. As Chair of the Board of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, the Governing Body of Scottish Curling, I recognise that we need to change.

We must do all that we can to properly engage with our members, we will improve our communications, we need to consult with our members as never before and we need to keep you all informed; so that you are fully aware of the consequences of our actions.

I believe we have a greater number of voters taking part today, than at any previous AGM.

This is a positive outcome whatever the result and we must try to retain that interest and involvement and increase it. We need to listen and learn, and we will.

Whichever way this vote goes, we will honour the decision made and work for the best of Scottish Curling.

This requires a 75% majority. 854 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
587	267	68.7%

This resolution has not been passed.

The board accepts and respects the decision of our members, but nothing changes from what I said previously. The board are mindful of the result so selection will only apply for 2021 and I will commit the board to revisit this decision, for future years, in the coming months. We will engage, we will communicate, we will consult, and the board will serve the members of the RCCC to the best of our abilities and in the best interest of Curling in Scotland

Q: David Cunningham (FIAE): Can you explain why the New Abbey Curling Club Resolution was a Special Resolution, as opposed to just Resolution and thereby requiring a 75% majority rather than a 50% majority. Cause from where I've read in the rules Special Resolutions are only required for alterations to the Mem and Arts of Association and after all the rules of the games that have been changed in a previous resolutions, that you have just read out the results for, were all done on a 50% majority and the rule for sending the Scottish Champions to the World Championships is in the rules of the game; so why did that not require just a 50% majority?

A: Bruce Crawford (CEO): The articles describe that within the responsibilities of the board, it's article 6.1, states that "the affairs of the RCCC shall be under the management of the Board of Directors". Our legal advisors Harper Macleod determine that the change to this decision made by the board was a variation from something that was specified in the article 6.1 that effectively took away the authority of the board and would have created a condition where the decision of the board was overturned and therefore 6.1 would not be followed. So their advice to us in determination is that it was a special resolution on that front and that is the advice we have followed. Thank you

Q: Stuart Easson (Kinross): Can I also ask why the original change to a selection criteria has not been brought forward as a resolution to the AGM. Rather than this having to be brought forward to a change, to the change?

A: Bruce Crawford (CEO): This is because the board has the responsibility for the Scottish Curling competition rules, which are the operational rules that only apply to the competitions that are organised by Scottish Curling. Whereas the Rules of the Game are the rules that apply to all members in all games that they play. So the board discussed the proposal for the adoption of selection as a way forward and did consider whether to put this as a vote to the members, but felt that given all of the evidence, and information that they had received on the advantages and disadvantages of the decision, that it would be the best interests for the selection to be used particularly in the forthcoming season. As Graham previously stated the board are respectful of the significant number of members who voted for the resolution and will be meeting in the next week, they will consider what steps need to be taken to consult with members and review this for future years. Thank you

Q: Bill Creevy (Largo): Will the decision to not approve the changes affect your funding for the following season and pre-Olympics?

A: Graham Lindsay (Chairman): The funding is in place the motion has not been successful therefor selection will go ahead next year. In the next few months we will review it all and have further discussions with British Curling regarding funding in the future. Next year Olympic points are at stake and the following year Olympic points are not at stake, so UK sport will certainly be looking much more closely at Team GB at the Olympics. Thank you

Q: Gail Munro (Castle Kennedy): How many chairman proxy votes were used.

A: Graham Lindsay (Chairman): There were 73 proxy votes. Thank you

Thank you for all of your questions.

K) SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): We now go to the submission and approval of the annual accounts. These accounts were independently prepared by Drummond Laurie Chartered Accountants and have been approved by the Board of Directors.

This requires a simple majority. 428 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
418	10	97.7%

The accounts have been approved.

L) APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL EXAMINER

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Now to the appointment of the Independent Financial Examiner.

RCCC entered a five-year agreement with Drummond Laurie Chartered Accountants, Grangemouth as the Independent Financial Examiner and this is the fourth year. We will continue to use them in the year ahead and open a tendering process next year for the following five-year period.

M) FIXING OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Now to the proposal for annual subscriptions for 2020/2021 to remain unchanged, that being:

Hon. Members (playing)	- £20.00
Ordinary Members	- £20.00
Junior Members (U21)	- £ 7.00
Hon. Members (non-playing)	- Nil

766 members voted by post and online. This requires a simple majority.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
673	3	99.6%

This has been approved. Thank you

N) APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): It gives me great pleasure to confirm the appointment of the new President for the Royal Caledonian Curling Club; Andrew Kerr of Troon Portland Curling Club.

At this point we would normally do the traditional presentation to exchange the badges and flashes of office, however we will arrange for them to be posted as soon as possible following this meeting.

Andrew didn't start curling until he was nearly 40 but he has gained a great deal of personal satisfaction from curling not only here in Scotland but also on Tour in Canada. He has certainly put a lot back into the game, particularly in Ayr, where he is involved in running the ice rink.

Andrew has been President of the Ayr Curling Club and Ayrshire Province, as well as Secretary and Treasurer at Dundonald Curling Club and President of his mother club Troon Portland.

Congratulations Andrew, we will hear from Andrew at the end of the meeting in his closing address.

At this time, I would also like to congratulate Corrie Lawrence as the new Ladies Branch President of the RCCC.

O) APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Next to the appointment of our Vice President, Today's appointment of the vice president is a ground breaking moment, it is my pleasure to confirm the appointment of Susan Kesley of Currie & Balerno Curling Club as our incoming Vice

President. This is the first time in the one hundred and eight two-year history of the RCCC that a woman has held this office. Congratulations Susan and I invite Susan to say a few words.

Susan Kesley (Vice-President): Sister and Brother Curlers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great honour to be nominated as Vice President of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, something that I never dreamt of, it's a fantastic step in the modernisation of our sport.

I started curling at the grand old age of 8 at Haymarket Ice Rink, and I fell for the game with a passion that is still there today. My Mother Club is Currie and Balerno in Edinburgh, although I am a member of Gogar Park and since moving to Perthshire have joined Airleywright Ladies.

I have been lucky enough to win the Scottish Juniors in 1984 and Scottish Seniors in 2018 and 2019, representing Scotland at both these levels and loved every moment.

I enjoyed several years of coaching junior curlers, from complete beginners to teams and on ice coaching for the National Academy. I found it rewarding to see young players develop their skills, abilities and love of curling.

Because I have gained so much from Curling over the years, I try to give back to the sport where I can. I have been Treasurer and President of my mother club, been on Ladies Branch and I am currently finishing my 3rd year on the Board and I am also a Scottish Representative on the World Curling Federation.

I have been following the discussions online and listening to fellow members with interest. I am aware that one of the main issues has been communication, consultation and transparency. I will therefore strive to help Scottish Curling improve communication to members, to consult where we need to and be as transparent as possible.

I look forward to working with the ASC and LSC and to help them shape themselves, whether that is together or apart.

I would like to congratulate Brian on his busy year in office and Andrew on becoming our President, Good Luck Andrew, I'm sure you will do a great job.

I am delighted to be elected as your Vice President and will do all that I can to support President Andrew during his term of office and to do my best to represent you, the members and your views, to the Board.

Let's hope that we will get back to curling sooner rather than later and that next year's AGM will be in person rather than only on Zoom. Thank you all

Now I'd like to hand back to Chairman Graham to continue with the business of the meeting.

P) APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Thank you very much Susan, we now move to the appointment of Directors to the Board.

Before we move onto the election, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the current directors and board for their invaluable assistance over the past year, it is greatly appreciated, many thanks to you all. I would also say a special thanks to Hugh Templeton and David Hardie for their respective three, and six-year terms on the board. Thank you both.

I am really pleased that we have four worthy curlers who have stepped up to mark and chosen to put their names on the ballot paper, to volunteer to serve on the board of directors for the next three years.

Sadly, we are unable to accept them all, with only two spaces available. I would like to thank them all for standing before we announce the result.

The candidates and votes received for each are:

Rachel Dakers (Carrington) - 255

Trevor Dodds	(Oxenfoord)	- 278
Keith Prentice	(Ayton Castle)	- 588
Janine Wilson	(Letham Grange)	- 386

Congratulations Keith and Janine. We look forward to working with you both in the coming years and I know that you will be valued members of the board.

Q) APPOINTMENT OF A CHAPLAIN

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): I am delighted that Rev. Alan Donaldson (Cadder) has indicated that he is happy to continue as our chaplain and is therefore appointed once again as chaplain, thank you again Alan.

R) AUTHORISATION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE ANNUAL

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Now to the last vote of today's proceedings, the Authorisation of the Publication of the Annual.

This requires a simple majority. 584 members voted by post and online.

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Majority</u>
547	3	93.7%

This has also been approved. Thank you

S) NEXT AGM

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): I can confirm that the 183rd AGM will take place on Saturday 26th June 2021. The venue is still to be confirmed, although Greenacres Curling Rink is the preferred option.

T) PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): We now move onto the presentation of trophies and awards. As today's meeting is a virtual meeting, we are unable to present any trophies or medals, we will arrange to have them sent to the recipients as soon as possible.

- **Eight Ender Awards**

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): The first one is the Eight Ender awards, there were nine teams awarded during this season (2019-20).

They were: Aberdeen (Richard Morrison, Nick Marshall, Moira Morrison, Carol Ross), Airleywight Ladies (Mairi Milne, Claire Milne, Karen Stephen, Rachael Hotchkiss), Forret (Craig Lindsay, Peter Lang (Jnr), David Laird, Graham Lindsay), Pentland Ladies (Maureen McCulloch, Sandra Renton, Gill Fagan, Hilary Hutton), Edinburgh Ladies (Lorna Scott, Christine Smellie, Kate Abbot, Lindsey Wilson), Gogar Park Young Curlers (Adam Keron, Holly Davis, Joanna Sutherland, Emily Broadwood), Fochabers (Tony Duncan, Mike Watt, Raymond Boyd, Alistair Wood), Colinton Ladies (Kath Murray, Jane Browitt, Frieda Macrae, Ros Trail), Corstorphine Ladies (Ruth Addinall, Kath Murray, Tricia Hastie, Marjorie Beaumont)

Thanks again to Miller, Beckett and Jackson, J.B Souter Son & Main Solicitors (Glasgow, Hamilton & Lenzie) for their ongoing sponsorship of the Eight-Ender awards.

- **Sir Richard Waldie Griffith**

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Moving on to the Sir Richard Waldie-Griffith Trophy. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, there is no winner as not all of the games were played this year.

- **150 Year Club Medals**

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Lochaber Curling Club reached the milestone of 150 years membership of the RCCC, having been admitted in 1870

- **100 Year Club Medals**

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Troon Portland Curling Club although founded in 1830 only joined the RCCC in 1920.

- **50 Year Medals**

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): Next the 50 Year Medals these are awarded to members who have been affiliated to the RCCC for 50 years, with 22 medals having been awarded this season to: David Steel (Biggar), Patrick Edington (Boswall), Craig Hutcheson (Broomhall), Douglas Walls (Crawford Priory), Ian Whiteford (Crawford Priory), Tom Neilson (Dippool), Alison Allison (East Kilbride & Haremyres), Oonah Grigor (Elgin), Inglis McAulay (Falkirk), Jeanette Johnston (Falkirk Ladies), Margaret Ramsay (Glasserton), Anne Brook (Kennoway), Charles Gibb (Kilmahoe), John Duncan (Lesmahagow), John Veitch (Lesmahagow), Jean Veitch (Lesmahagow Ladies), Norma Lammie (Leswalt), James Wyllie (Midcalder), Jim Cowper (Penicuik), Jane Paton (Penninghame), Jack Kennedy (Sorn), Kate Dykes (West Linton)

U) SCOTTISH CURLING AWARDS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): We now come to the Scottish Curling Awards, again winners will receive their awards as soon as we can get them to each winner. Members were given the opportunity to read about the achievements and contributions made by some great curlers and volunteers within our membership; with the opportunity to cast your votes and the winners were announced on the Scottish Curling website and social media on 2nd June 2020.

Young Curler of the Year

The nominees were - Emma Barr, James Craik and Blair Haswell.

The winner is James Craik. Congratulations James.

James has had a strong season both at home and abroad. He retained the Scottish Curling Junior Championship title – this time as skip with a new team. He also went on to win the bronze medal at the World Junior Curling Championships in Krasnoyarsk, Russia in February and won the Asham U21 Slam Men's Tour. James was also the second top scoring athlete in the end of season academy assessment.

Grassroots Coach of the Year

The nominees were – Robert Forrest and Alison Milne

The winner is Robert Forrest. Congratulations Robert

Robert (Bob), a qualified RCCC Level 2 coach, is one of the most dedicated, hardworking and unassuming coaches in Ayr. He has adapted and improved courses for local Primary schools, ensuring they are efficiently run and enjoyable for P6 and P7 children. He has also developed the content of the program and composed excellent guidelines for the coaches who assist him. This has ensured a moment is never wasted with a lack of understanding of the content or delivery and makes it easier for new coaches to adapt and enjoy the experience as much as the children. In addition to the Schools programme Bob helps with Try-Curling and Beginners courses, corporate groups, drop-in sessions and those needing additional assistance.

Ice Diamond Award

This was awarded to Peter Loudon for his outstanding contribution to curling.

Pete has chaired the Perth Masters for the last ten years and has been a committee member for around twenty. He is an outstanding leader overseeing all facets of the organising committee. His organisational skills and attention to detail are unsurpassed, which is evident in how successful the Perth Masters have become. He has been instrumental in fund raising to realise a budget exceeding sixty thousand pounds a year to operate the event, which has become the second largest cash spiel outside the grand slams in Canada.

Pete has overseen many changes during his time as chair including the introduction of a Women's event which ran alongside the Men's bonspiel over the same weekend. The new format received overwhelming support from athletes, sponsor, media outlets and curling fans who came to watch, and those who viewed online. Whilst the Perth Masters has received some television coverage over the past forty-four years, it has recently had national coverage on BBC Alba and online streaming through the World Curling TV YouTube platform, all driven by Pete. The competition has had incredible support from some of the World's best players over the years, including multi Olympic and European winners and medallist, not forgetting attracting some of Scotland's strongest teams and young up and coming talent, wishing to pit their skills against the best.

In addition to the above Pete was a member of the organising committee for World Junior Championship held in Perth 2011. In which he was responsible for ticketing and the closing banquet. He is currently the Vice Chair of Perth Curling Club 1988 formerly the Board of Directors of Perth Ice Rink Ltd. The committee support and advised the current management of Live Active Leisure, who operate the Dewar's Centre and helps organise various curling competitions.

Pete was also a top athlete winning the World Men's Curling Championship in 1999, the Europeans in 1996, 1999, 2007 and the Scottish Championship in 1995, 1999, 2001, 2004. He has also competed in the 2002 Salt Lake Winter Olympics for Great Britain. Pete was also involved in coaching and coached Gillian Barr and Julia Ewart, to World Junior Championship titles in 1992 and 1997 respectively.

Scottish Curling is delighted to recognise Pete's contribution to the development and promotion of the sport by awarding him with this year's Ice Diamond Award.

Congratulations Pete and thank you for your dedication to sport.

Team of the Year

The nominees are: Team Craik, Tam Mouat and Team Wilson

The winners are Team Mouat – Bruce Mouat, Grant Hardie, Bobby Lammie, Hammy McMillan and coach Alan Hannah

Team Mouat won their third consecutive Scottish Curling Championship title this year. Unfortunately, they were unable to represent Scotland at the World Men's Curling Championships in Glasgow this year, as the championship was cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to all winners and again we will arrange to have all awards delivered to them as soon as we can.

V) ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): We now come to any other competent business. We have not received other business in advance of the meeting. We will now answer questions from members that have been raised through the Q&A section.

I will now hand over to Bruce.

Bruce Crawford (CEO): Thank you Graham.

William Nicol (Bank of Scotland (Fife)): Reports from nearly all committee meetings have been very poorly shown online for the information of all curlers. The President has just stated they are available, I can assure you they have not been for the last two or three years.

Bruce Crawford (CEO): We do endeavour to get the committee minutes/reports posted on our website as soon as possible following meetings. Some committees do wish to wait until the next meeting to get them approved and they are then posted. There is sometimes a delay in getting them posted. We will endeavour going forward to ensure that these are posted and up to date and will take responsibility for this improving going forward.

Philip Ross (Kirriemuir): I note Graham said this AGM has one of the highest participation, in terms of voting. A remote meeting via video conference may not be suitable for all, but can I ask that the Board might consider future AGMs might be of a hybrid model, so that more members may attend than could travel in person.

Bruce Crawford (CEO): Philip I think that this is a really good suggestion and I hope that we will be able to embrace the Zoom technology in the future. It is also really useful and important to try and facilitate face to face meetings as well. I think we may try some other meetings during the year, as we go ahead and do consultations with members, where we can combine face to face with the ability to stream it live. As it gives us the opportunity, as here today, to react to the questions and discuss openly with people online and in the room. I think that is a really good suggestion, thank you

Gordon Craik (Edzell): I'd like to ask who approved CSE a non ATOL company to run the packages for the Men's Worlds Championships in Glasgow. There are a lot of foreign travellers who didn't get any refunds from the hotels claiming it wasn't a package & hotels were still available.

Bruce Crawford (CEO): The responsibility for all of the financial and operational matters for the World Men's was resting with Glasgow Life, the leisure trust in Glasgow that operates the Emirates Arena, and who were in charge of the budget and the strategic decision making. Scottish Curling was part of the group however it was Glasgow Life that approved CSE as the provider. We have represented our members views, as a number of members came to us. I am aware of the all of the members that we sought redress with were refunded and I was not aware that there were foreign travellers who did not get a refund. I will take that up personally and come back to Gordon with the response from Glasgow Life. Thank you

Ian Donald (East Linton): Why did the Annual Report take so long to be available on the website whilst other papers were available. When it was posted why was members not alerted to its availability?

Bruce Crawford (CEO): I am not sure why the Annual Report was not made available sooner. I know the collation and cross checking of it may have had an impact. It is right that we look at trying to get the report out further in advance in the future.

Anonymous Attendee: What is being done to improve TV coverage of our main curling events? A couple of hours a day is not great for our Scottish Men's Champs.

Bruce Crawford (CEO): We do all that we can in the current circumstances and we are at the mercy of the television channels for what they are prepared to broadcast. We have developed a good working relationship with the BBC and in this last year we increased the output from the Scottish Men's and Women's Championships, from just covering the finals to covering the play-off and the semi-finals. So, we had two days covered instead of the one, four games instead of two, two men's and two women's. There is further work to be done on that and we will be working with our media team to try and increase that as far as possible.

Doug Wilson (Letham Grange): Can I ask what specific actions Scottish Curling is taking to promote the game and build membership, and will you report on progress quarterly via your Facebook feed?

Bruce Crawford (CEO): We have outlined in our annual report a number of initiatives that are being planned currently. These include some of the campaigns that have been running for a few years, TryCurling and Curling's Cool. We also have some new concepts that our new development team are working on. We have a 50+ campaign and various other elements that are being worked on and will be rolled out in the coming months. Obviously, there is a huge amount of work to rebuild the confidence within our membership that curling is a safe activity to participate in, therefore our first priority is to work with government and partners on ensuring that we and ice rinks can do all that we can to satisfy the concerns that members have on the safety of the sport. That will be our first priority and the other items that are being worked on will be presented in the coming months.

Neil Wilson (Corstorphine): Will the selected teams be playing at the Scottish Championships?

Bruce Crawford (CEO): I believe that all teams that are selected into the performance programme are required to compete within the Scottish Championships.

I think that covers all questions, thank you. I will now pass back to Graham

W) ADDRESS BY INCOMING PRESIDENT

Graham Lindsay (Chairman): I would now like to ask our new President Andrew Kerr to address the meeting and offer a vote of thanks.

Andrew Kerr (New President): Thank you Graham

Good afternoon brother and sister curlers, ladies and gentlemen. It seems more than a little strange sitting here in Troon, looking at a screen all decked out complete with jacket rather than being at a proper AGM in Forfar; but hopefully life will return to normal or something close to normal, before too much longer.

This virtual AGM has been less than ideal, particularly given the contentious matter of selection but what has struck me, as I scanned through the social media posts over the last few weeks were. Firstly, how passionately so many feel about our sport which has to be encouraging for the future and secondly, how poorly we have managed to engage with the members.

This lack of communication has been the cry for just about as long as I can remember and you'd think, with all the improvements in technology over the years, we might have cracked it by now. The report card will not say "could do better". It will be a case of "must do better".

I would remind you, however, that the Board are, like you and I, just ordinary members who put in many hours for the good of the game without a penny recompense. I have been able, over the last year, to sit in on the Board meetings and I would like to thank Chairman Graham and his fellow Directors for all their commitment to the sport.

One Director deserves special mention. Immediate Past President Brian has been like a dog with a bone in ensuring that the voice of the ASC and the members is heard. He has been a stickler for ensuring that things are done correctly and in the best interest of the members at all times.

He had a difficult year health wise and has been "shielded" since the lockdown started. In a situation I know only too well, he thought it a good idea to try out the Swiss health service during the Men's Tour this year but thankfully, he got over that and hopefully, he has put his ill health behind him now.

Thank you, Brian, for all that you have done, not just during your year as President, but for all the commitment you have shown on the ASC and especially as a coach over the years.

Of course, behind every good man there is a good woman and Brian has had two. His wife Jane, naturally, who had the unique distinction of joining the Men's Tour to Switzerland and is looking forward to being able to use the phone again. For those who don't know, when Brian phones you, you can be on for an hour easily!

The other woman in his life this year has been Ladies Branch Immediate Past President Morag Wellman. Now Morag, like me, went to school in Edinburgh and I found out early on in the year that she had something of a "thing" about a number of guys I went to school with. However, mum's the word, Morag!

Seriously, Morag and Brian have served the Royal Caledonian Curling Club with distinction at home and abroad this past year and I thank you both.

We go forward now and it's obviously a great honour, not only for myself, but also for my Mother Club, Troon Portland, my other club Dundonald and Ayr Ice Rink to be your new President. I can only promise that I will do my best at all times to uphold all that is good about the game of curling.

I will, of course, be joined by my friend from Ayr, Corrie Lawrence as Ladies Branch President and I have no doubt that we will be even better friends by this time next year. Congratulations on your election, Corrie and I'm looking forward to that gin and tonic you promised!

Brian had two good women behind him, but I felt the need to go one better. My wife Aileen doesn't curl but she's not slow in telling me what to do!

Corrie, of course is my second woman but that proverbial glass ceiling was well and truly broken earlier this afternoon with the election of Susan Kesley, as my Vice President. It's about time that the Royal Club had a woman President and I am looking forward to working with Susan who has, amongst her many attributes, so much competitive curling experience and WCF knowledge.

Who knows how the new season will look. It was extremely disappointing to have to postpone the Indoor Grand Match, which should have been taking place in October, but we thought it best to make the decision when we did rather than have to do it later. It wasn't cancelled however, just postponed and it will now happen in October 2021, all being well.

You should have received guidelines produced by the office in consultation with government and ice rinks on the safe return to curling. These will change as we move through the relaxation of lockdown but I have been encouraged by the results of the survey carried out by Murrayfield, where most want to get back on the ice at the start of the season and even those in the at risk over 70 category expressed a keenness to get back.

I would also just like to share with you the thoughts of one of Ayr's Virtual Club members, Andrew McElwee – he sent me a note which said,

“Missing curling during the summer is hard enough as it is, although I suppose it keeps us keen, but having the season cut short was extra disappointing. I'll just be happy to get back out whether we have to play by different rules or not.”

I am optimistic that we will be back on the ice come September or maybe October and I know that all the ice rinks will be doing all they can to ensure that is possible; by following the guidelines and providing a safe environment for everyone, curlers and staff.

The pandemic and lockdown has caused havoc but curling issues are mere inconveniences when people were, and still are, losing their lives. It is difficult to plan ahead and we will just have to deal with the changing circumstances as they arise.

For instance, I would normally have liked to thank those Area Reps who were standing down at this time and welcomed the new Reps but most clubs, Provinces and Areas have not had AGMs. Hopefully, things will become a bit clearer over the summer.

I can however, thank Hugh Templeton and David Hardie who are stepping down from the Board at this time. I have a great deal of respect for both gentlemen and their input to future Board meetings will be much missed. However, I would also like to congratulate our two new Directors, Janine and Keith. They'll bring different skills and new ideas to the Board meetings.

Thanks also to Graham for chairing today's meeting and to Suzy and her team from the office handling the technical aspects.

I would have liked to have hosted next year's AGM at Ayr Ice Rink but we are, I think, the only rink left in Scotland with a sand base which makes it impossible. However, we're only going a mile or so over the Ayrshire boundary to Greenacres where Richard will, I have no doubt, be an excellent host.

To finish, may I wish you all good curling next season but, more importantly, I hope that you all stay safe and well and I can get a haircut!

Thank you all for Zooming in and I now declare the meeting closed.

Thank you very much everybody.

The meeting was closed