

MINUTE OF THE AREA STANDING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 26TH AUGUST 2021

VIA: ZOOM

Position	Name	
President	Susan Kesley	<i>Present</i>
Vice President	Mike Ferguson	<i>Present</i>
Chief Executive Officer	Bruce Crawford	<i>Present</i>
Board Chairman	Graham Lindsay	<i>Present</i>
Immediate Past President	Andrew Kerr	<i>Present</i>

Area (no.)	Area Rep (1)		Area Rep (2)	
Ayrshire (1)	David McIntyre	<i>Present</i>		
Galloway (2)	<i>vacant</i>	<i>n/a</i>		
South (3)	Robert Carruthers	<i>Present</i>		
Border (4)	<i>vacant</i>	<i>n/a</i>		
Inverclyde (5)	Jean Cousar	<i>Present</i>	John McDermott	<i>apologies</i>
Lanarkshire (6)	David Haggart	<i>Present</i>	Louise McCutcheon	<i>Present</i>
Greater Glasgow (7)	John McGowan	<i>Present</i>	<i>vacant</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Edinburgh (8)	Trevor Dodds	<i>Present</i>	Robin Copland	<i>Present</i>
Forth Valley (9)	Harry Brodie	<i>Present</i>	Norman Ainslie	<i>apologies</i>
Fife & Kinross (10)	Nigel Forrest	<i>apologies</i>	Mike Caffyn	<i>Present</i>
Perthshire (11)	Alan Chalmers	<i>apologies</i>	<i>vacant</i>	<i>n/a</i>
North East (12)	Tom Kirk	<i>Present</i>	Philip Ross	<i>Present</i>
Highlands & Moray (13)	Brenda Macintyre	<i>apologies</i>	Ann Gibb	<i>apologies</i>

1. Welcome

Susan, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Can I just start with the sad news losing Clive Thomson, the funeral will be held on September 3rd at Greenbank Parish Church, Clarkston at 11.30. Just contact myself or Bruce for more information.

2. Apologies

As noted above

3. Minutes of last Meeting

The minutes from 8th July have been proposed by John McGowan and Seconded by David McIntyre.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Presidents Update

There hasn't been much to report on since last meeting, I've been at various WCF meetings and the board meeting which Graham will give us an update on in the absence of Bruce today.

The Return to Curling Guidelines have been updated and are available on the Scottish Curling [website](#), hopefully we will be able to get back on the ice for more games this season.

6. Matters Arising

None

7. Board Update (Graham Lindsay)

The board met on August 10th the minutes will follow so I will just to cover a couple of items.

There was a long discussion on the recovery from covid and we have arranged an addition board meeting on Tuesday 31st August to discuss this in full; following this further meeting information will be cascaded to all.

We had new board members and observers that joined us for this meeting. We also interviewed and have issued offers for two independent directors, which we are awaiting replies.

With few reports as it was over the summer period. Discussion on the budgets and a budget has been put together to April 2022.

YourCurler has also gone out with communications to keep all members up to date and we will continue using this format to cascade information going forward. Does anyone have any questions

Mike Ferguson asked if there was any comments regarding the question that he had raised to the board on the Vice President attending any committee meetings going forward to keep aid the communications.

Graham advised that some discussion had taken place regarding this. Susan mentioned that discussion had taken place and believes that will be the case going forward, in that the President or Vice President can attend as an observer to committee meetings. It was also mentioned to obtain minutes for the meetings as well in the event that they were unable to attend.

Mike mentioned that it was important that ASC members are aware of that discussion and that we are trying to ensure the true continuity between the board, and carry out our duties on an informed basis.

Graham stated that this will be confirmed following the approval and issue of the minutes.

Mike thanked Graham for including the letter in the meeting for discussion.

8. Archers Match / December Meeting / Priestfield / Tamnavulin *(Susan Kesley)*

The Archers Match has been arranged for 1st December at Murrayfield which is preceded by lunch.

Historically there has usually been an ASC meeting in the morning followed by the Archers in the afternoon.

As there has been an ASC meeting scheduled for the following day, and following discussion, it has been decided to cancel the zoom meeting on 2nd December and have a zoom (hybrid) meeting on the morning of the game at 10am on the 1st December. Allowing all to attend the meeting in the event that anything should change.

Susan will look at room availability in Edinburgh and speak to the office for the hybrid option. It was agreed that hybrid was the best option allowing all to attend the meeting, as this also seems to be the way other companies/businesses are moving forward.

On the Priestfield (26th October) this is with the LSC, with a joint meeting prior to the game. I did attend the previous LSC meeting and all are very keen to move forward with greater communications and establish how we can go forward together. Confirmation that the Priestfield is due to take place at Perth this season and ice has been pencilled in for this. Susan and Lillian will get together to arrange the finer points and let everyone know.

The Tamnavulin will also take place in Perth this season, ice to be confirmed.

If you can email Elaine with an update of all/any of the games (*Priestfield/Archers/Tamnavulin and Dumfries*) that you intend to play in. I do encourage everyone if they can to sign up and come along to them.

(A list of those that have signed up to date was circulated during the meeting – please confirm by email)

9. Area Updates

Ayrshire *(David McIntyre)* - Curling is due to restart 27th September.

Ice demand has also fallen and Ayr CC committee have been organising various incentives including, social media, local radio, leafleting campaigns. Full report has been circulated to ASC.

Edinburgh *(Trevor Dodds)* - We open on 25th September which is a week later.

On the first weekend we will be having practice slots free of charge. We will also be holding an opening bonspiel to encourage curlers to return.

Forth Valley *(Harry Brodie)* - The Peak are having a bounce back to curling this week which is free, well received with good attendance. Over the next weeks they have international competitions with Wheelchair International in February 2022. Report also circulated.

Greater Glasgow *(John McGowan)*

Just to let you know that Jim Steele (Gourock CC) passed away on Saturday morning, I don't have any further details as yet.

Inverclyde *(John McDermott)* - Greenacres resumes on 16th September. Auchenhavie to be confirmed and Waterfront should hopefully be October. Friendly bonspiel has been planned for 25th September. Report has also been circulated

Fife & Kinross *(Mike Caffyn)* - Kinross is starting back on 13th September

Club numbers seem to be holding up well. We will find out more following their AGM tonight

Kirkcaldy are having their ice pad replaced and it is running late. However only have ice on Mondays & possible Tuesdays now.

Lanarkshire (*David Haggart*) - We start curling on 6th Sept which is a little earlier than normal.

The ice is down from 2nd September and you can call the office to book a hour practice slot, free of charge.

Some ice has been returned to us with some clubs not curling and Juniors will also be starting back.

North East (*Tom Kirk*) - Aberdeen and Forfar are opening later in September, Dundee will be at start of October.

Philip & I have been at all Province AGMs this year. Provinces are entering area competitions. With Aberdeen appearing to have changed contacts/committee members, we are having to contact clubs directly which slowed the process up and are now getting responses. Things are progressing and trying to get back to normal as well.

South (*Robert Carruthers*) - Attending Kirkcubright CC AGM to update on the changes within Scottish Curling.

Nothing else as yet to report on from the South.

10. AOCB

Susan advised that the email received regarding competitions for the Asham, for the juniors, has gone onto the competitions committee to be discussed. It was also mentioned at the rules committee. The email was querying the ruling allowing teams to play with three in light of covid – there is going to be a ruling and it is likely that the emergency rule will be allowed again. Susan will get this circulated as the competition is just round the corner.

Canadian Tour (23rd January) - More information is still awaited from Canada

Four Nations (30th January) - You can still sign up for this weekend [online](#).

Member Benefits/Discounts – these are now being updated, contact [Elaine](#) for information, or if you know of a company that would be interested. Details can be found on the website under Clubs and Members.

USA Incoming tour - This was being organised by Clive however the mantle has now been taken up with Alan Dickson, Vice-Captain of the tour, so all is in hand.

National Curling Day (15th November) (*Mike Ferguson*) - Plans are moving forward rapidly with this, this is not a curl fest/try curling style event, it is to raise awareness of curling Scotland and nationwide. It is being promoted heavily through the Scotland wide radio campaign that the board had given approval for.

If you haven't heard about this then please contact [Iain Stewart](#), the development officer, who is looking after this and he can give you further information.

The key thing is that local ice rinks and development groups should be involved in and looking after local publicity around the event, along with the national publicity for the awareness of curling.

I'm representing this through SIRA and it is being managed and lead through the development officers who will be contacting the ice rinks.

Mike would also like to re-iterate that they're aware of a bit of disjoint with the Board, ASC & LSC and there is a full commitment going forward to remove any barriers. I know Susan feels as strongly about this as I do, we want to ensure we represent you as best we possibly can at the Board

11. Close

Susan re-iterated what Mike said and you can call any time. Hopefully I will Thank you for all coming along today and let's hope that we can have as normal a season as possible.

Thank you

FUTURE MEETING

- Tuesday 26th October in Perth - *Joint Meeting with LSC, Lunch & Priestfield Cup, final details to be confirmed by Susan and, where this minute will be ratified.*