



MINUTE OF THE LADIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON: TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2021

AT: FORFAR SPORTS ARENA (AND VIA ZOOM) AT:10.00

(MEETING HELD PRIOR TO THE LB OPENING BONSPIEL)

Present

Lillian Carnegie (President)-part, Alison Taylor (Vice President), Kate Caithness (Honorary President)-part, Janine Wilson (Treasurer)

Marion Malcolm (Aberdeen), Corrie Lawrence (Ayr), Sheilagh Macfarlane (Forfar), Madeleine Sharp (Glasgow), Fiona McLaren (Inverness), Debbie Weir (Kinross), Jennifer Kubrycht (Kirkcaldy), Marion Murdoch (Lockerbie), Rona Craig (Murrayfield), Janet Lynch (Perth), Karen Jack (Waterfront), Michele Hartley (Minutes), Bruce Crawford (CEO Scottish Curling),

Guests of LSC Reps: Kay Gibb (Aberdeen), Anne Shaw (Inverness), Lizzie Glennie (Kinross), Joan Simpson (Murrayfield), Angela Watt (Waterfront)

Apologies

Maureen Parker (Junior Vice President), Corrie Lawrence (Ayr), Madeleine Sharp (Braehead), Lucy Tile (Border), Jane Patterson (Dumfries), Claire McCormick (Greenacres), Lillias Hyslop (Lanarkshire), Michele Brodie (Stirling); Mary-Anne McWilliam (Stranraer)

1. Welcome

President Lillian welcomed everyone to Forfar Ice Rink and to those joining via Zoom. She thanked Mike and his team from Forfar Ice Rink for all the arrangements and especially for her throne "a regal chair for a regal meeting".

2. Apologies

Apologies were read as listed above.

3. Previous Minutes

No matters arising.

4. Matters Arising

Vote for LP (*Bruce Crawford*) – I'm pleased to announce that President Lillian has been invited to join the Board as a Co-opted Director until the AGM in August 2022. This announcement will be published on the SC website today. There was a round of applause at the meeting for President Lillian and congratulations from Bruce Crawford.

Operating Manual (*Corrie Lawrence*) - Those who were LSC reps last year will remember that a working group was set up to look at updating our Operating Manual. The working group consisted of Corrie Lawrence, Kay Gibb, Alison Taylor and Jayne Stirling (Competitions Manager for SC). Review of the manual was completed between September and November 2020 and significant changes were made to update information, which was either out of date or inaccurate, to reflect current working practices. Following consultation with LSC reps last year, many of the changes in the new manual reflect suggestions made by the LSC, e.g., an extra column has been added to the Henderson Bishop winners page to show which rinks have hosted the competition and a paragraph has been added about the new Cherrystone Bowl trophy, which is for the runners up in the Low Road of the competition. The manual has been with the SC office since early 2021 awaiting all the changes to be uploaded to the SC website. Unfortunately, workload issues and changes in personnel in SC office have meant that the manual has moved further down the office priority list and is still to be finalised. Corrie apologised as she had promised the LSC and the Board that it would be available for the start of the season. For those new reps, please be aware that the original manual is still on the website and can be found under Ladies Branch in the dropdown menu. It contains current info on LSC reps, the role of LSC reps, info on remits and the Ladies Branch Executive and information on format and rules for the Henderson Bishop and Morton competitions, all of which are of value to each of us. Please find time to read the manual and refer to it if you haven't already done so. We sincerely hope, with Bruce Crawford's help, we will have access to the new Operating Manual in the very near future.



Rona Craig (Murrayfield) is unhappy about the delay to the publication of the completely updated Operating Manual and that it seems that Ladies Branch business seems to get put down the priority list within Scottish Curling. President Lillian confirmed that it has been frustrating to all those on the working group, as a lot of work was involved in updating this document and disappointing that it has not yet been fully approved for publication.

Also, it was mentioned that Ladies Branch information is not prominent in the SC website and difficult for new curlers to find out information on women's curling. Vice President Alison mentioned that this has been raised and minuted at various LSC meetings in the past and President Lillian requested Bruce Crawford to give comment. Bruce was not aware that the manual was awaiting upload to the website and that this should be straightforward, as long as the document has gone through the appropriate channels for approval first. Corrie confirmed that it was agreed that reps would have the manual by the start of the season and during discussion at the meeting between Bruce and herself it seems that some email communications seem to have gone amiss. Bruce Crawford will look into this. Regarding the location of Ladies Branch information on SC website, President Lillian asks that this should be more prominent and easily found. Bruce Crawford agreed that this would be better under Clubs and Members section and he will speak to the appropriate personnel in SC.

5. Updates

USA Tour (*Janine Wilson*) - The tour has once again been deferred and revised dates are to be confirmed, but the likelihood is that it will now take place around Oct/Nov 2022. The tour members have been keeping busy and have organised a few trips out to Aberdeen, Ayr, Stranraer and Forfar, all before December 2021. Individual teams have been holding monthly catchups and have been on holiday together. Great fun has been had by everyone. There is lots of team bonding and enthusiasm.

International Fund (*Janine Wilson*) - We started the year with a balance of £6,654.50. There is approx £155 of income and thanks to Kinross for their contribution. Income has been boosted by £115 income from tea towels to the tour. President Lillian also showed the greeting cards, in 6 different styles, which are available for purchase at £10 for 6. There has been some expenditure of £88 on balance on secretary's honorarium and engraving costs. Balance as at today is £6,721.50.

Janine did send out an email to all reps as a gentle reminder about contributions to the International Fund and how to pay. If reps pay direct into the bank, they are requested to let Janine know as she requires to complete documentation to SC. Janine confirmed that contributions are voluntary and not compulsory. Centres tend to contribute anything between £30-£100 and it is up to each centre to define their payment, usually depending on how many members they have and some centres do not contribute at all. As well as supporting outgoing tours, the income received also supports expenditure with incoming women's tours to Scotland.

6. Opening Bonspiel (*Alison Taylor*)

We are looking forward to getting on the ice and it may be the first time that some of the ladies have curled this season. We are indebted to the ladies from Forfar who have stepped into curl as there were a couple of call offs at the last minute and there is now a full complement of teams. We also welcome the guests from other centres. Rather than moving on after each end, there is a rule for each end which all teams will play to make the game more fun and challenging.

7. Competitions

Morton (*Lillian Carnegie*) - There was a Morton Secretaries meeting last Tuesday morning. Some centres are struggling with player numbers and one of the suggestions raised at the meeting was that if you can't field 3 teams to play, then you go with 2, but the opposition will be awarded 2 points. No definite decisions were made and therefore there is to be a further meeting on 2 November when hopefully centres are all open and will have more of an idea of numbers. Corrie Lawrence said that it is important that we keep it going in some format this year and not abandon the competition for another year. Some centres' day-time ice availability has been reduced to only a few days a week for ladies' clubs and so there is difficulty in getting them to commit to playing a game in the Morton on the same day they play for their club. An email was sent out from SC to all ladies registered with RCCC, which is far fewer than the numbers that curl, so we need to find another way to contact other ladies to encourage them to register, or re-register, with RCCC and then sign them up to play in the Morton. Reps are asked to support their Morton Secretary and help promote the competition within their clubs.



Four Nations (*Lillian Carnegie*) - There is still time to enter this competition, closing date is 31st October 2021.

Henderson Bishop (*Lillian Carnegie*) - All arrangements are now in place and everyone should have their draws and getting excited at the Henderson Bishop coming to Forfar.

(At this point in the meeting President Lillian left meeting to attend an appointment. Vice President Alison Taylor took over the chair of the meeting)

8. AOCB

Seniors (*Alison Taylor & Bruce Crawford*) - Rachel Ireland, Competitions Manager, only has 5 entries for this competition and is looking for one other team. Reps are asked to spread the word. This is the National Senior Ladies Competition which is open to a team of ladies over 50 yrs. This will be held in Hamilton Ice Rink on 16-20 February 2022. If you win the competition, you must be prepared to represent Scotland in the World's Seniors Final and the venue may be North America in mid-late April 2022, although there is still some question whether this will go ahead. Entry form for the competition is available on the SC website. Details of teams will be available from Rachel Ireland at SC.

Next JVP for Ladies Standing Committee (*Alison Taylor*) - Reps asked to see if they have a willing candidate to take on the role of Junior Vice President and to let President Lillian or Vice President Alison know. The position is a 3 years' commitment to LSC, which is open to any lady and it is not necessary for that person to have held a position on Ladies Branch. The Reps are asked to spread the word in their centre and promote the position through Ladies Branch Facebook page.

Notices for Ladies Branch Page (*Alison Taylor*) - Please contact Elaine at SC at elaine@scottishcurling.org if any reps have notices to be posted on to the Ladies Branch page. Also, President Lillian is able to post information to the Facebook page and reps asked to share any information that is posted on the Facebook page. We should look at putting the Morton on the Ladies Branch page, as many ladies don't know what the Morton is. We need to promote our competitions and advertise at centres. There is a suggestion that we should advertise in 'Your Curler' magazine and to have a page dedicated to Ladies Branch. Bruce Crawford said this could probably be done and will action within SC.

National Curling Day –15 November (*Alison Taylor*) - This is a nationwide campaign in the press and radio promoting curling. It is not a Try Curling session, just an awareness to publicise the enjoyment of curling. Centres should contact their Development Officer to see if they can get local celebrities to come into their ice rink on that date to get more press coverage. Centres should encourage people to go on to the SC website and sign up for a Try Curling session. The use of street curling is also a good way to attract new curlers, which was held at The Gyle shopping centre.

This Girl Can Curl (*Alison Taylor & Bruce Crawford*) - This is being held in Dumfries Ice Bowl on 23 October and Hannah Miley will be speaking about her experience with curling. It is Sophie Jackson who is spearheading this, who applied for funding through the Ann Malcolm foundation and was successful. Bruce Crawford confirmed that this is for girls and young women who already do curling to try and encourage them to remain in the sport and should be a positive experience for all those who get involved. More information on this will be posted on the SC website and reps asked to share this information within your own network, i.e., personal Facebook pages, so it reaches as many people as possible.

Try Curling - This has already been covered in the minutes in the National Curling Day information.

Cards (*Alison Taylor*) - As mentioned previously in the meeting, there are 6 different design cards available for purchase at £10 for 6.

New Competitions Manager (*Alison Taylor*) - The new Competitions Manager is now Rachel Ireland. Rachel curls at Ayr Ice Rink.

Curling Trust (*Kay Gibb*) - Kay (Aberdeen) is Chair of the Curling Trust and she updated the meeting on the work of the Trust which had its first physical meeting last month since Covid. They are continuing the financial support of the Future Leaders programme and support Disability, hopefully more information on progress will follow after the next meeting. Details of various collections are now on the website, the link of which is at the bottom of the SC website page. The Trust would love to have a museum but this is on the back burner for now and they are focusing



on the website. They have lots of pictures and photography to analyse and collect and they are looking for someone with historical art expertise to help them. Reps are asked to contact Kay if they know of anyone who can help with art. If any ice rink would like a small exhibition, then let also let Kay know.

Recipe Book (*Janine Wilson*) - Janine Wilson is selling Tour Recipe book at £5 each. Please contact Janine if you would like to copy.

WCF Rep (*Bruce Crawford*) - Rob Niven was elected on to the Board of the World Curling Federation in September. This creates a vacancy for a new International Rep for Scotland. The WCF has now changed its structure and there needs to be an equal number of male and female reps for countries like Scotland who has 4 votes. Current reps for Scotland are Susan Kesley, Bruce Crawford and Bob Kelly, so they are looking for another rep to join them and that rep needs to be a woman. SC is promoting that position on the SC website today. Please pass on that to whoever you think would be a suitable international rep to promote Scotland's place and involvement in the world of curling politics. If anyone has any queries, please speak to either Bruce Crawford or Susan Kesley.

VP for Scottish Curling Board 2022 (*Alison Taylor*) - With Susan Kesley as this year's President and Mike Ferguson taking over as President in 2022, it would be good to have a female as Vice President for 2022. Reps are asked to advertise this within their centres.

9. Future Meetings

26 October – Joint meeting with ASC & Priestfield Cup bonspiel, Perth - time tbc.