

MINUTE OF THE AREA STANDING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 14TH APRIL 2022

VIA: ZOOM AT: 10.00

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>apologies</i>

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

1. Welcome

Susan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

As noted above

3. Minutes of last Meeting

The minutes from ASC meeting 26th August 2021 are passed with no matters arising

4. Presidents Update

Since our last meeting I have attended the Scottish Championships in Dumfries. Where Lillian and I presented the prizes to Team Morrison and Team Paterson, congratulations to both teams.

My heart goes out to the women's team as covid took its toll in Prince George and they were unable to continue.

We tried to have our joint meeting and drinks reception in Dumfries, again unfortunately due to many factors not everyone could make it. Hopefully this is something that can continue though for the future to help the communication.

I have also attended the Henderson Bishop dinner and presented at the Maxwell in Murrayfield. Presented at the Mixed Doubles Championships to Eve and Bobbie, congratulations to them and good luck in Geneva.

Four Nations in Ayr where Scotland hosted, with Scotland winning the Connie Miller, the Ballantyne and the Big Bertha. It was a great competition and I would recommend anyone not played in the Four Nations to apply; it is a good weekend. Thank you to all the committee involved they really did work hard.

I am just back from Las Vegas, team Paterson managed to qualify for play-offs stages, unfortunately lost out in a close game to the USA.

5. Board Update *(Bruce Crawford)*

Following board meeting this week we have gone over the first stages of proposals for the AGM on 20th August on the RCCC Memorandum and Articles. with the intention to have open meetings going forward.

Discussion took place regarding the various topics, AGM date and membership payments/entitlements regarding voting.

As things have moved on considerably since and the RCCC has set the membership categories; it was agreed to re-visit the membership fee structure to consider a one member one vote option going forward.

We are going to put two adverts out one for a new independent director as Steven has left the board, the other for nominations for RCCC Chair.

The new selection policy will also be looked at going forward to cover 2022-2026, with a view to having it in place before the entries close for the championship next season

Strategic plan is 2019-2023 and we are reviewing the drafting for the next strategy with surveys going out for this.

6. Tours

Strathcona Cup 2023 (*Mike Ferguson*) – it is progressing very well with the first on ice gathering at Greenacres last week with an excellent turnout of fifty-eight tourists. Various committees have been created for this tour and things are progressing well with a lot of working going on for it. I will be attending the tour in various stages however will not be going for the full tour, predominantly as the USA tour comes in at the same time. I will also be speaking with the USA tour organisers for this in due course.

7. Area Updates

Edinburgh (*Trevor Dodds*) – our Province AGM and area on 28th which may be my last meeting as we are looking for nominations for the areas. The ice rink is now closed and are busy de-icing. Thanks to all of our coaches and ice staff for the huge amount of work getting TryCurling done. The amount season they covered was unbelievable. We are also holding a Gala Dinner for Jen and Bruce 20th May and we are all looking forward to this.

Fife & Kinross (*Nigel Forrest*) – we managed to get through the competitions this season however a number of our clubs are struggling for numbers. We are looking at numbers for next season and establish the best way forward for the competitions. AGMs for provinces are coming up in the next few weeks.

TryCurling (*Mike Ferguson*) – It would also be good to get feedback from the success of this and numbers that have come through, not only from TryCurling but also through word of mouth for new curlers that have come along. I know Scottish Curling are working on this but would be good to get a feel from everyone on that locally.

Greater Glasgow (*John McGowan*) – we had our AGM and prize giving last week and managed to hold all of our competitions this season, albeit on a reduced entry level than normal. We are discussing various proposals for changing format and looking at venues, with possibility of splitting across both rinks. This will hopefully help entries. Glasgow ice centre has a further meeting in a few weeks with Glasgow Life/City Council and will have a clearer picture on the viability of going forward.

Highland & Moray (*Brenda Macintyre*) – again like the other rinks thanks to our coaches and staff who worked really hard with TryCurling at both ice centres. We now have a gateway club with thirty members and a new young curlers club in Inverness and taking off in Elgin as well, everyone is so keen. We are always looking for more coaches and helpers and will be working on that going forward.

We also struggle with curlers for the numbers required for leagues in some provinces. Last year we introduced an ice rink league, where you can be a member of any club/province. Which is for any curler to play in a team and we had three leagues this year and will be looking to continue this.

Inverclyde (*John McDermott*) – Waterfront similar to Hamilton had an ice plant failure, we have done a quick recovery to continue into the next season. TryCurling which was very successful and will hopefully bring new curlers for the start of the season. Our Province AGM will be held 6th May at Greenacres.

Lanarkshire (*David Haggart*) – as you may know our season came to an abrupt stop due to a plant failure. This will be hopefully up and running to allow us to finish leagues from this season and get next season started as well. Also our prize giving is in a couple of weeks time.

North East (*Tom Kirk*) – we have got through our competitions this year and now have our third area rep Albert Middler on board. Ready for the area AGM and will have a number of medalists from the area including Hailey Duff, Olympic Gold. We are also looking to improve communication and feedback with one of them being a management committee which includes two reps from each province onboard. We became aware of this recently as under the byelaws of the RCCC we should have a management committee. We're looking forward to a complete season with less issues.

Susan - Thank you and listening to everyone we do have to thank all our coaches and staff for all the very hard work that has been done over last season. With some good ideas to keep and get people playing, which we need to promote.

8. AOCB

Carrington CC (*Susan Kesley*) – I have received another letter from Carrington asking if we have dealt with their letter. I have advised them that the board will discuss this when structure review is being discussed and will take all points into account. There has not been a discussion on structure review as we have been concentrating on getting everyone back on the ice.

RCCC Fees (*Philip Ross*) – “Can you ask at your ASC meeting what the proposed £5.00 (25%) increase in RCCC fees are being used for and if this can be sent out to clubs.”

Bruce – This was discussed prior to last years AGM and brings us back into line to of where we should have been, as there had been no increase over the past five years. The increase will be used for our core business supporting the membership to sustain the sport, running development and more activities to bring new people in, like TryCurling. Working with the ice rinks to support in a sustainable way giving us ability to provide loans etc throughout for equipment.

Graham Lindsay – There has been break downs sent out for income and expenditure. Membership does not fund/support elite curling as the elite curling is covered and funded by UK Sport and sportscotland, not from Scottish Curling/RCCC.

Philip – Thank you it would be good if Scottish Curling could communicate this description to members and clubs in this way to let everyone know what it is used for, this would be helpful for everyone.

Coaching (*Philip Ross*) – “Also, since it is compulsory that coaches have to have a PVG (no fee) and a CWPS (£20 or £25) certificate; why is there no funding to cover this in the coaching budget. Coaches are paying to develop the game rather than the governing body.”

Bruce – We do receive some financial support from sportscotland but not all costs. Across the industry there is a requirement for suitably trained qualified coaches. Grants are also available to help clubs with the costs of training through the Enterprise Trusts/Local Sports Councils/[Awards for All](#) etc. This is something that a club can apply for and not an individual to cover more than just the training aspect for club(s), as the funding can be up to ten thousand pounds. Should any club require help with this they can contact our development team.

Philip – Thank you Bruce, I will go back with this.

Board Directors (*Bruce Crawford*) – The nominations have closed for the directors going forward. As we had two vacancies on the board and received two nominations, we will not require this to go to a vote this year.

9. Close

Susan - thank you everyone for attending and we will see you in June for the joint meeting. I will get this sorted and the details sent out.

FUTURE MEETING

- Joint Meeting - Thursday 16th June – preference for an in-person meeting - venue TBC (poss Dunblane)
- RCCC AGM – Saturday 20th August 2022 – Curl Edinburgh