

MINUTE OF LADIES STANDING COMMITTEE

HELD ON: TUESDAY 9 AUGUST 2022

VIA: ZOOM AT: 10.00 AM



Present

Alison Taylor (President), Maureen Parker (Vice President), Ann Johnstone (Junior Vice President), Janine Wilson (Treasurer), Kate Caithness (Honorary President), Layla Al-Saffar (Aberdeen), Mara Lindsay (Ayr), Lucy Tile (Border), Jane Patterson (Dumfries), Rona Craig (Edinburgh), Sheilagh Macfarlane (Forfar), Clare McCormick (Greenacres), Debbie Weir (Kinross), Pamela Craigie (Kirkcaldy), Lillias Hyslop (Lanarkshire), Isla Kinnear (Perth), Michele Hartley (Stirling), Karen Jack (Waterfront), Eilidh McCall-Lawrie (SC Head of Development)

Apologies

Marion Malcolm (Aberdeen), Liz Paul (Glasgow), Fiona McLaren (Inverness), Marion Murdoch (Lockerbie),

1. Welcome

President Alison welcomed everyone to the meeting. She also welcomed Eilidh, who has just taken on her role as Head of Development at Scottish Curling having joined July 2022. Eilidh's background is swimming development and safeguarding in gymnastics and will give the meeting an oversight and the plans ahead for the development team later in the meeting.

2. Apologies

As above.

3. Previous Minutes (16 June 2022)

Minutes of previous meeting had been circulated to all reps and were - *Proposed*: Maureen Parker (VP) *Seconded*: Debbie Weir (Kinross)

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. President's Report (Alison Taylor)

President Alison, VP Maureen, JVP Ann and Honorary VP Gail recently met at SC offices at Cairnie House to do the Henderson Bishop draw. There were a lot of entries this year and Kinross and Forfar both have seven entries and entitled to two teams qualifying for the Final. However, there is only space for one additional team, so with approval from the meeting attendees Alison tossed a coin to decide whether it was Kinross or Forfar who would have two teams qualifying to the Final. Kinross won the toss and apologies to Forfar. Regarding HB badges, Mara (Ayr), Lucy (Borders) and Maureen will get quotes from their contacts and Alison will advise the quantity of badges required, based on four-man teams plus a few extras.

Alison attended Sandra McIver's funeral in July in Forres. Sandra was an active member of the LSC until recently. The funeral service was a very fitting tribute to a committed and passionate lady, who was a well-known curling coach and someone who was very involved in curling in the Inverness-shire area. Sandra's family are appreciative that so many RCCC representatives attended the funeral.

6. Treasurer Report (Janine Wilson)

There has been very little movement since start of year with the bank account balance of £6,356.35. There is one item of expenditure of £417.18 for brooches for winners of last year's Scottish Championships. Income has come from Ayr for their contribution towards the International Fund and £70 income from miscellaneous merchandise, so the closing balance as at 08/08/22 is £6,074.17. An email will be sent at the end of September, along with bank account details, requesting International Fund contributions.

Alison showed the meeting the brooches which should have been presented to the winners of the Scottish Championship, Rebecca Morrison and her team. However, due to delay in brooches arriving, the team still have not received these. Alison will check to see if the team can attend the LSC Opening Bonspiel on 4 October at Lanarkshire Ice Rink. The cost of the brooches has doubled, so the Executive will be meeting to discuss how sustainable it is to continue providing brooches in the future.

7. Report from Head of Development (Eilidh McCall-Lawrie)

Alison firstly introduced Eilidh and invited herself and Catriona Morton to the LSC Opening Bonspiel on 4 October

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and to join at future meetings. Alison reported that following all the press coverage of the Women's football and Commonwealth Games that 47% of women in UK are inactive and we need to find some initiative to promote curling to increase participation in our sport and welcomed Eilidh's response to this.

Eilidh is only in her 4th week in her role and is still getting to grips with what the development team have been doing, the workings of various committees and how all inter-link with the Development team of; Catriona Morton (Regional Manager/Safeguarding), Scott Andrews (Regional Manager), Sophie Jackson (Academy Manager) and Fiona Harfield (Workforce Manager). They are currently advertising for a part-time Academy Coach. Eilidh is keen to have a good working relationship with Ladies Branch. Her team have been looking at working with schools, perhaps linking with Active Schools programme specifically with regards to girls' initiatives. Eilidh will be meeting with Sport Scotland and other governing bodies to see what National initiatives there are across all sports and, after the success of lawn bowls in Commonwealth Games, will look at possible links with them to promote these seasonal sports. Eilidh also intends to sit down with LB Executive to find out what has worked in past and what has not, with regards to coaching and encouraging pathways into the sport for women. Eilidh will email LSC members with her contact details. Eilidh curled in the past, but not for some time so Alison looks forward to welcoming Eilidh back on to the ice.

Discussion points at meeting:

- Look at the possibility of an area on SC website to share ideas – Eilidh will action.
- Kate Caithness (Honorary President) sending Eilidh contact details for Scott Arnold, HoD-WCF.
- "If you can't see it, you can't be it" current buzz phrase. We need to get profile out to local communities to compete along with other sports. Eilidh will be meeting to discuss this with sportscotland.
- 'This Girl Can Curl' initiative has been postponed. Eilidh will find out if this will be re-instated in the future.
- Active Schools – look at how to get state schools involved and help with transport costs to get to ice rinks, also to reduce ice fees for schools coaching sessions. Eilidh will be discussing funding with sportscotland.
- Will there be a National Curling Day event this year? Eilidh to advise.
- Promote the career of Ice Technicians – Scottish Curling need to do more to class this as a profession or ice rinks will struggle in the future. Eilidh not sure if this fits into Development Manager remit, will check and advise.

8. Competitions

Swedish Tour 2023 – team has been announced. It was a difficult decision with so many great candidates. Alison has a meeting with Tour Captain, Terry Paterson and her committee this week. Congratulations to the LSC reps; Isla Kinnear (Perth) and Karen Jack (Waterfront) who are part of the Tour committee.

USA Tour 2022 – tour members have continued to meet on a regular basis and preparations are nearing conclusion for departure to USA in October 2022.

Morton Trophy – this is progressing with dates being organised with ice centres. Alison agreed to look at organising a Morton Secretaries meeting sometime soon.

Henderson Bishop – the draw carried out by the LSC Executive has been emailed out to LSC reps for their centre. There was a query whether ice centres can make changes to the team order in qualifying games at their own ice centre. This was discussed by the LSC Executive and it was agreed that as this may set a precedence for other ice centres to do the same which may result in issues arising, all ice centres asked to keep the draws done by Executive.

Ladies Local Competitions – reminder to LSC reps to advise SC about any open days and competitions they would like publicised on the SC website to elaine@scottishcurling.org.

9. AOCB

AGM – LSC reps are encouraged to attend. There are a couple of motions online with name changes and dates/days of when AGM should be announced, these are detailed on the SC website. There are also two special resolutions from Carrington CC and Crocketford CC and Alison has asked that LSC read these carefully before deciding. Any problems with voting, or how to vote, please let Alison know and reps also to help their Centre be informed about the AGM, as this is an ideal opportunity for members to ask questions.

Memorial Service for Marjory McLachlan - Kate Caithness (Honorary President) attended the service at the Kirk of Holyrood on 30 June. Marjory was a past LSC President and Captain of the 1991 US Tour, which Kate was part of. Marjory was also Lord Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk. Some of her other 1991 tour members attended, all proud to wear their blue blazer and represent RCCC.

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10.Future Meetings

20 August – RCCC AGM at 14.00, Curl Edinburgh (In person AGM and on Zoom).

6 September – LSC Meeting at 10.00, (venue tbc)

4 October – LSC meeting, bonspiel and lunch at Lanarkshire Ice rink (TBC).

Involves LSC Rep & one other. Please could LSC reps confirm attendance to VP Maureen

25 October – Joint Meeting (ASC/LSC) & Priestfield Cup at Lanarkshire Ice Rink – Alison will send details

The meeting closed at 11.08hrs.