COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
20th April 11:00
Zoom Meeting

Meeting Notes

1. **Apologies**

Alan Hannah

2. **Notes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by JM seconded by JH

3. **Matters Arising**

Few spellings errors on previous minutes CG needs to amend.

4. **Competition draws** **CG**

As the competition season has now ended for Scottish Curling there were no draws that needed to be discussed, therefore VB provided an update in relation to the allocation for the Scottish Champs, Mixed Doubles and the remaining U21 slam.

VB explained that the charges we paid for Scottish Champs in Dumfries for the last two season were an 'introductory' rate that was honoured by Dumfries for 2022/23 season and as such the new price quoted is the standard venue hire price for the arena which has increased significantly. This increase would therefore make hosting the champs at Dumfries not financially viable without additional support and the delay in announcing the venues is due to us liaising with British Curling to see how they can help / support in this event being delivered. A meeting was already scheduled with BC for Tuesday 25th April.

JM asked about where we are at in relation to sponsorship for the event and VB explained there have been continued and positive chats with the BBC around streaming rights for Broadcast rather than sponsorship at this current time with the hope of agreeing to a multi-year partnership. Conversation also took place around moving the mixed doubles to tag onto the back of the champs to add value to the athlete experience at that champs but that would not be possible for the 2023/24 season.

It was also noted that SC were aiming to deliver more development work in relation to spectator experience and added value experiences that can be added to these competitions.

The discussion lead back to the outstanding competition bids and whether these allocations should be made by the same committee. For example, if audit is making and approving entry fee charges should they also be the committee who approves competition allocations as they have full oversight of budgetary challenges.

GL noted that the audit committee is new to SC and the SW agreed that the decisions should made by the one committee. If the audit committee are making the allocation decision, we need to make sure that SC feed into this to ensure all comps are affordable for all entrants not just supported athletes.

ACTION – CG to liaise with VB

GM asked about the status of bidding process for 2024/25 season and CG responded saying the process is being reviewed and we are looking to have it out as soon as possible. We have previously talked about competitions review as a whole and how this should look.

ACTION – CG to confirm format of this review

5. **Four Nations** – should it be organised by President or comps committee? **KP**

There was discussion around should this be a competition that is bid for in line with current bid process. GL said it was the President and SC that completed the organisation and as Scotland only host it every four years a bidding process should be put in place for those years. SC need to ensure that all rinks are communicated too, and the allocation process is fair for all rinks to be offered to opportunity to host. This brought around discussion in relation to the Indoor Grand Match also and the process for bidding for this needs to be confirmed and rinks communicated with if available for bidding.

ACTION – CG and SW to look at bidding process and update where necessary

6. **Gateway competition –** clarification of rules, in line with AGM update **CG**

KP discussed Kirty Letton's email which had previously been shared with comps committee stating the entry cost per game was quite expensive and discussions arose regards the price and the additional items added to the competition i.e., food being supplied by host venue. It was discussed that this was a nice addition but as is not part of the bidding doc is not a requirement of the host venue and does not need to be added to bidding document.

ACTION – CG to get back to Kirsty regards this

Entry rules were agreed to fall in line with the change from last year's AGM motion in that you can be a member of the Gateway club from 2 years to 4 years therefore if you are in a gateway club you can enter the gateway competition regardless of time in club.

ACTION – CG & EM to ensure these are clear on entry form information

Rules need to be established by comps committee and then ratified by rules committee JM and DR agreed make the rule simple

ACTION – CG to take to Alan Stansfield

7. **Uniforms discussions, hoods etc do we start enforcing. JM**

The rules in the rule book C3 (g) all team sponsors logos must have the approval of Scottish curling. All requests must be submitted to Scottish Curling Competitions Officer at least 7 days before the event to give time for the required uniform change. It was discussed that this had not been enforced or challenged throughout the 2022/223 season and it was acknowledged that is difficult for teams to secure sponsors so committee agreed that section (g) should be removed all together.

ACTION – CG to take to Alan Stansfield

8. **Ice tech –** general guidelines for timelines for general competitions **JM**

JH suggested a general template / guideline for competition draws should be put together as to how much time as a guide ice tech need when preparing ice and could we pull together a handbook or guide. JM said to look at WCF handbook and share with Frazer Shaw and Tom Brewster for their input.

ACTION – CG to speak to ice techs

9. **Scottish Mixed format GM**

There were only 3 teams in this year's Scottish Mixed and it was suggested that as each team had played each other there was no need to host a final. The format for this needs to be looked at going forward and as much done as possible to promote this event for 2023/24 season. One team had gone undefeated throughout the competition and as such a final should not have been needed.

ACTION – SW to note this on entries format for next season

10. Junior Mixed Doubles – 37 entries in the end introduction of qualifiers? **CG**

Due to the high number of entries into the competition this year it was suggested could we look at potential qualifiers for this competition. However, after discussion it was thought this would be an additional strain on an already busy calendar and umpire requirement and we cap entries at 24 and the first 24 entries are in, and the rest go on a reserve list.

GM also asked about the selection process for the Junior Nordic Tour this year and how was it determined, should the winners of the Junior Mixed doubles not qualify for this tour or is there a selection procedure in place.

ACTION – GM to email Sophie Sinclair to confirm

11. Suggested changes to U14 slam - Scott's email suggestions. **CG**

Committee happy for Scott to trial in his area.

ACTION – CG to confirm approval to Scott Andrews

12. Asham rules and prizes **CG**

Discussions took place around the points allocations, and it was decided CG and DR would look at this separately and then feedback to the committee their suggestions for the coming season

ACTION – CG and DR to meet and discuss these CG to issue to committee when complete For approval

13. Pairs / doubles ruling – Kaye and Alans email **KP**

KP raised an issue she had while umpiring at a competition. There was a request for a specific rule to be confirmed and added to rule book around pairs where both partners need to be on the ice the way it is for mixed doubles.

ACTION – CG to take to Alan Stansfield

14. AOCB **KP**

Email from Alan Hannah – EJCT (European Junior Curling Tour) tour KP read out email

KP shared the email that AH had sent over to him for consideration and CG also forwarded it too the committee whilst on the call. There was a lot of discussion around how this could work in the calendar and CG noted she needed to check contractual obligations with Asham also to see if an EJCT could replace an U21 slam.

ACTION – CG to action and feedback to committee

GM asked to clarify date of world juniors and CG confirmed it would stay in November

15. Date of next meeting

8^{th} August 10:00 to 11:30

KP	**Keith Prentice**	**Convenor, Director**
JM	**John McGowan**	**Umpire Convenor**
Ka.P	**Kaye Paterson**	**Umpire Rep**
GL	**Graham Lindsay**	**RCCC Chair**
GM	**Gail Munro**	**Representative**
VB	**Vincent Bryson**	**CEO, SC**
SW	**Suzy Wakefield**	**Office Manager, SC**
EM	**Elaine Mills**	**Administrator, SC**
CG	**Charlene Graham**	**Competitions Officer, SC**
JH	**Jim Hogg**	**Representative**
DR	**David Ramsay**	**Representative**
AH	**Alan Hannah**	**Director**