



COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 7 July 2022 at 6pm | Zoom Meeting

Meeting Notes

Members present:

Keith Prentice (Convenor, Director), John McGowan (Umpire Convenor), Kaye Paterson (Umpire Rep), Tom Kirk (Member Rep), Gail Munro (Member Rep), Graham Lindsay (RCCC Chair)

In attendance:

Elaine Mills (Scottish Curling), Suzy Wakefield (Scottish Curling)

1. Apologies

Susan Kesley (RCCC President) and Bruce Crawford (Scottish Curling, CEO)

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (4 May 2022)

Keith updated saying minutes were not produced for the meeting held on 4 May 2022 and referred to a set of rough notes circulated prior to the meeting. The committee went through the notes and the following was noted:

Scottish Mixed Doubles communication

Bad communication from British Curling in relation to the Scottish Mixed Doubles to relevant teams. Issues with disseminating information have since been addressed.

Item 3. Matters Arising

Junior Club Challenge Division

Following email correspondence the committee agreed none of the teams who played in the Division 1 (5) would be relegated.

Concerns were raised about the cost of junior competitions. John asked if we could access funding/grants to subsidised junior competitions and development. This was not fed back to Bruce or Elaine after the meeting.

ACTION:

Suzy to raise with the CEO and new Head of Development when in post.

Item 4. Potential Rule Changes

Rule changes submitted by the Rules Committee were approved.

Item 5. Scottish Championship Pre-Season Discussions

Rachel updated on the issues encountered at the championships and highlighted areas for improvement e.g. better project management around roles and responsibilities, appointing an ice maker well in advance, opening tickets sales in early December, increasing the amateur prize or changing to a trip abroad.

ACTION:

Suzy to raise with Competitions Officer when appointed.

Item 6. Entry Forms

Rachel updated saying entries are due to open on 16 May 2022. The following closing dates were noted: 30 June – Rink Championship, Henderson Bishop, Maxwell, Morton, Waldie-Griffith. 16 January – Junior Mixed Doubles, Mixed, Funspiel.

Item 7. Bidding 2023-24 Timeline

The committee discussed returning to the original bidding timeline, for example releasing bidding forms in July for submission by end of August.

The bidding document is also to be reviewed to include maximum number of sheets required and whether price is per sheet or per team.

ACTION:

Suzy to raise with Competitions Officer when appointed.

Item 8. Committee Makeup

Graham updated saying the terms of reference states you can do a maximum of two 4-year terms, thereafter you must stand down for one year before being eligible to stand again.

The committee agreed to advertise for a male member representative and a player representative to replace Tom (August 2022) and Gavin (2021). Advert to go up next week and close on 31 July 2022.

ACTION:

Suzy to post advert, track applicants and keep Keith updated

Graham to circulate Terms of Reference once finalised

Item 9. AOCB

Henderson Bishop

The committee agreed to add details of how the Finals Day draw is done (at the dinner the evening before) to the TIS.

ACTION:

Suzy to ensure the TIS is updated for 2023.

The committee agreed to appoint one umpire to the competition in 2023, as umpire allocations are taking place on Saturday 16 July, and would review level of support nearer the time.

ACTION:

John to action at Umpires Allocation meeting.

Rule Book

John updated saying that a digital version of the Rule Book will be available online at the beginning of the season and will be followed later with the hardcopy.

3. Matters Arising

4. Junior Club Challenge

a. Appeal received from Gogar Park Young Curlers

The committee discussed the appeal from Gogar Park Young Curlers, who challenged the decision to relegate them to Division 2 because they couldn't participate in the rescheduled competition. The committee acknowledged the rescheduled date to Easter weekend wasn't ideal, however its original decision to relegate teams would stand.

b. Confirm how sixth team in Division 1 will be determined

The committee discussed various options to determine the last place in Division 1. They agreed to a playoff between the three teams (Gogar Park Young Curlers, Greenacres Young Curlers and Kinross Juniors) affected by the decision to relegate them to Division 2. It was agreed this would take the form of a double round robin for three teams, a triple round robin if only two teams entered, and automatic promotion to Division 1 should only one team enter. The logistics around arranging the playoff, if required, will be discussed and confirmed once the number of entries is known.

ACTION:

Suzy to write to Gogar Park Young Curlers (including outcome of appeal), Greenacres Young Curlers and Kinross Juniors offering option of a playoff for the vacant spot in Division 1

5. Proposed changes to the Rules

John gave background to the three proposed changes to the Rules which were circulated prior to the meeting. The committee agreed with all changes and requested that proposal 1 be extended to the Scottish Senior Mixed.

ACTION:

Keith to inform Alan Stanfield (Rules Committee Convenor)

6. Umpires update

New appointment

John informed the committee that Colin Melrose will step down after the AGM and will be replaced by Harry Brodie.

Role of the Chief Umpire

John raised his concerns about a situation that occurred at the Masters in which it was agreed to be flexible with the application of the rules. The committee agreed with John's understanding of the role of the Chief Umpire, which is: 'To implement the rules as laid out in the Rule Book and not to vary them or flex from them. If an issue arises the Chief Umpire is not sure of, they should seek advice from the Competitions Manager/Competitions Committee'. John asked if he could circulate a statement to that affect to all umpires and the committee agreed.

ACTION:

John to circulate statement as noted above to all umpires.

Issue at Henderson Bishop

Following a discussion about the validity of team line ups at the Henderson Bishop final, it was suggested one way to mitigate the problem in future was to require all scorecards from qualifying events be submitted to Scottish Curling. These would then be made available to the Chief Umpire at the finals.

As the Henderson Bishop falls under the remit of the Ladies Branch, Gail said she would raise with the LSC. It was also noted that only the name of the skip/team should be published on the website in future.

7. Entries update

Elaine gave an update on the entries received so far – see Annex 1 for full breakdown. Emails sent to previous entrants, ASC and LSC and published on the website and socials to generate more interest.

8. Draws

a. Maxwell

The committee agreed to approach Kinross and Waterfront for entries before carrying out the draw.

ACTION:

Graham to approach Kinross

John to approach Waterfront

b. Scottish Curling Senior Mixed

The committee agreed to extend the closing date to 31 July 2022 in the hope of getting more entries but would close once 16 were received.

ACTION:

Elaine to update online entry form and ask Marketing to promote via website and socials.

9. New committee members

Covered until Item 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (4 May 2022) > Item 8. Committee Makeup

10. AOCB

Lockerbie Under 17 Slam

The committee discussed an email received from Lockerbie Ice Rink, who have requested a minimum of 20 entries be set for the slam event. After careful consideration the committee agreed to set the minimum to 16 on the basis that the slam had not met 20 entries in the last two seasons (14 in 2022 and 17 in 2020).

ACTION:

Suzy to take to Lockerbie and update committee as required.

Closing dates for Scottish Mixed Doubles and Scottish Championships

Keith asked, on behalf of the Selection Policy working group, if the closing date for the Scottish Mixed Doubles and Scottish Championships could be extended to accommodate for the ongoing review of the draft Selection Policy. The committee agreed to extend the closing date to 31 August 2022.

ACTION:

Elaine to update entry forms on website

Keith to inform the committee overseeing the review of the Selection Policy

11. Date of next meeting

- 23 August 2022 via Zoom at 6pm

- Separate meetings to carry out Draws to be held as required via Zoom

Annex 1 - Breakdown of Entries received to-date

Competition		Team entries received T/D
Asham U14		5
Asham U17		9
Asham U21 Boys (overall)		3
Asham U21 Girls (overall)		3
Curlability Bonspiel		0
District Medal		28
Funspiel Under 13's		1
Funspiel Under 15's		1
Henderson Bishop		84
Junior Club Challenge Div.1		0
Junior Club Challenge Div.2		0
Maxwell Trophy	CLOSED @	10
Morton Trophy	CLOSED @	16
National Masters Women Champs		6
National Masters Men Champs		6
National Virtual Club Challenge		0
Newcomers Trophy		0
Province Championship		15
Rink Championship		50
SC Junior Women Championship		1
SC Junior Mens Championship		3
SC Junior Mixed Doubles		1
SC Womens Championship		0
SC Mens Championship		0
SC Mixed Championship		0
SC Mixed Doubles Championship		0
SC Senior Women Championship		1
SC Senior Mens Championship		4
SC Senior Mixed Championship	CLOSED @	14
SC Pairs Championship		0
Scottish Schools Championships		0
Skills Award Challenge		1
Waldie Griffith Inter Province Cup		9
TOTALs		266