

NOTE OF AREA STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON: WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023

AT CURL EDINBURGH - 10.30 AM

(FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AND THE ARCHERS MATCH)



Present

Jim Raeburn (RCCC President), Alister Asher (RCCC Vice President), Robin Copland (Edinburgh), Trevor Dodds (Edinburgh), Norman Ainslie (Forth Valley), Derek Young (Forth Valley), Mike Caffyn (Fife & Kinross)

Also: Paul Davis and Frank Ross who will be taking over Edinburgh area.

Apologies

Jamie Mason (Ayrshire), Liz Cullen (Border), John Taylor (Fife & Kinross), Mary Anne McWilliam (Galloway), John McGowan (Greater Glasgow), Ann Gibb (Highland & Moray), Andy Cowan (Highland & Moray), Tom Kirk (North East), Philip Ross (North East), Louise McCutcheon (Lanarkshire), Alan Chalmers (Perthshire), Mike Ferguson (RCCC Immediate Past President),

1. Welcome (RCCC President)

Jim welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming along today.

2. Apologies

As noted above.

3. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

Jim will obtain previous minutes.

4. Discussions

Communication: lines of communication and structure of committees, discussed at length. At present it is only as good as the personnel/secretaries in the different Areas or Provinces. A sub-group has been formed to look at this and take it forward.

Curling Calendar / Diary: to be sent out soon to all rinks for feedback, prior to being finalised for season 2024-2025.

Archers Match: following a discussion it was felt that the annual match v Royal Archers would be better in the first week of December. Archers have offered to host the 2024 lunch (and potentially the ASC meeting) at Archer's House in town. This will be confirmed accordingly.

5. Reports

President: Jim reported on the various activities and attendance at various events that he had been to including Scottish Juniors and Europeans in Aberdeen. Along with the various dinners he had attended so far. A busy start anticipated to 2024.

Areas: the importance of getting reports submitted prior to the meetings was emphasised; so that any issues can be highlighted and discussed at the meetings.

Area 1 (Ayrshire): continue to find feet at new venues. Most clubs have found ice allocations and enjoying their curling. Some parochial clubs have fallen by the wayside. Ayr is the umbrella club for all of the twenty-four parochial clubs some of whom who have mothballed in the short term. *(Not every club answered the survey)*. Greenacres have been wonderful in allocating ice to Ayrshire clubs, some curling goes on at Auchenharvie and The Galleon. Competitions continue to be held; intercity matches have been well attended.

Area 8 (Edinburgh): Edinburgh International Seniors competitions went well and the competitors seemed to enjoy the new club rooms and the ice. Province knock-out and league competitions continue in the background and are well subscribed. January 2024, the club will host a centenary competition for the Jackson Trophy *(perhaps the finest curler of his generation, famous for skipping the 1924 Olympic Gold Medal team)*.

Trevor and Robin are delighted to announce that the new Edinburgh ASC Reps will be *(subject to an EGM approval)* Frank Ross (Athelstaneford) and Paul Davis (Corstorphine).

Area 9 (Forth Valley): have had a large uptake to the Gateway Club following three different groups of Adult Beginners, enrolled twenty-four new members. Stirling Young Curlers have a healthy number with fifty registered and more to come and also competing in the Asham U14/U17 slams. Stirling Curling Group are trying to organize a quick Curling league and Doubles League in the New Year. Two teams in the semi-finals of the Province championship. Stirling Curling Group set up a governance committee with a view to run all Curling activities. Meetings have been held with the Provinces, to attract more curlers. A lot of work in progress there first priority is to set up Curl Stirling.

Area 10 (Fife & Kinross): Kinross continues to be very busy, now up to approx. 98% bookings for peak ice. Several international rinks have recently booked ice with very positive feedback about ice quality. "Apres Curl" popular, bar busy most days. Very successful first half of the season with forty-six coaching sessions held. Approx 90% of Try Curlers have signed up for beginner coaching/started playing. Beginner Bonus has taken off. 'Curlability' event at Kinross. Dottie Burt led a strong team of coaches for a very successful afternoon of Try Curling. Fife & Kinross v Perthshire Match proved to be successful, despite a few late issues with communications, being reviewed. Further fixture in 2024.

NOTE OF AREA STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON: WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023

AT CURL EDINBURGH - 10.30 AM

(FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AND THE ARCHERS MATCH)



Area 12 (North East): competitions are continuing as programmed as are the four Provinces competition calendars. Dundee has closed for curling 5th December, reopening 8th January. The new ice plant has been brought online, *couple of minor teething issues*. Hopefully this will improve the ice conditions. Try Curling have seen approximately seventy-five new curlers looking to join local clubs and the newly reformed Gateway club. A SPOND system is in place which allows these beginners to keep in contact/book places on beginner sessions. Forfar has had a busy season. Storm Babette closed rink for a few days but all rescheduled.

6. Tours *(Robin Copland)*

Incoming Swiss 2025: Robin gave an update on the incoming 2025 Swiss Tour which he is starting to organise in conjunction with the Area Reps.

7. AOB

Community Asset Transfers: given the difficulty facing many ice rinks SC must be up to speed with the mechanics of Community Asset Transfers. SCIO's need to be in place. SC should ideally have a blueprint in place to assist in advising rinks faced with such situations. The Scottish Land Fund may be able to assist financially.

Seniors and Masters Championships: Trevor emphasised the need to look at whether qualifiers were necessary for the Seniors and Masters Championships. With lower entry numbers, one slightly longer event would be better financially than two qualifiers and a final. Time and money for teams.

Royal Patronage: postscript discussion with Archers – *where are we with our Royal Patronage?*

8. Future Meetings

ASC Meeting – February 2024 – Inverness *(Meeting/Lunch/Tamnavulin Trophy)*

Joint Meeting (ASC/LSC) – 16th April 2024 at 10:30*(tbc)* – Lanarkshire Ice Rink

ASC Meeting – 11th June 2024 at 11:00 – Lanarkshire Ice Rink

RCCC AGM – 29th June 2024 at 14:00 – *venue TBC*

9. Close

Thanks to everyone for today.

The meeting closed at 12:15