

LADIES STANDING COMMITTEE
HELD ON: TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 7PM
ON ZOOM



Minutes

Present Ann Gibb, President; Isla Kinnear, VP; Jane Drysdale JVP; Eilidh McCall-Lawrie SC, Head of Sport and Communities; Kate Caithness CBE, Hon President; Gail Munro MBE, Hon Vice President; Alison Troup, Aberdeen; Elizabeth Shaw, Ayr; Mary Shaw Ayr; Carolyn McClymont, Border; Jane Bruce, Edinburgh; Liz Carnie, Forfar; Kim Dalland, Kinross; Lynda Blackwood, Lanarkshire; Trish Kennedy, Perth; Moira Forman, Stirling; Kate Adams, Stranraer; Shirley Jeans Minute Secretary

1. Welcome - President Ann

Good evening ladies and welcome to Eilidh who has joined us tonight. I have my fingers crossed that everything will go smoothly as this is our first Zoom meeting. Can you all turn off your microphone and if you wish to speak indicate with the hand up icon.

2. Apologies - Elaine Semple, Inverness; Helen Jamieson, Greenacres; Fiona Glascodine, Aberdeen; Sheilagh Macfarlane, Dundee; Val Saville, Treasurer; Marion Duthie, Forfar; Christine Ross, Lockerbie; Janice Craig, Dumfries; Karen Jack, Waterfront; Vincent Bryson, CEO.

3. Minutes of the LSC Meeting Tuesday 25th October 2025. Minutes are available to download on RCCC Ladies Branch page.

Minutes were proposed by Isla Kinnear Seconded by Trish Kennedy

4. Matters Arising - None

5. Treasurer's Report - No report as Val was not available

6. President's Update

It has been an exciting time, with the ladies going off on their tour to the west side of Canada, we were able to keep in touch through facebook posts, lots of pictures and updates. Very well done to them returning with the trophy. Kate Adams is going to give a brief report on their exploits.

The Indoor Grand Match was held in 13 ice rinks on National Curling Day, 15th November. As captain of the North I congratulate the South on their win, but the shots up total was a lot less than in previous matches, maybe in 2030 the North might be successful. A good time was had by all, and one team did not get home until Monday 17th, I think you can guess which side they were on. The spirit of the Grand Match lives on although a journey to Aberdeen or Inverness should not deter clubs from taking part unless under exceptional circumstances. For anyone interested a member of my club has circulated to the club a video of the 1979 Grand Match which was a BBC production and was very interesting as it brought back memories of fathers and grandfathers taking part.

I went to Aberdeen for the Scottish Junior Championship, I had intended going on the Thursday but weather meant I didn't get down until Friday. The competition in both sections was fierce. Scottish Curling is in good hands, not just on the ice but in the friendly manner in which they all conducted themselves. The winning teams were Team Archibald for the girls and Team Carson for the boys. Good Luck to them in Denmark in March.

Last week I was juggling my curling with watching the Europeans, great comeback from the girls to make it all the way to the final and come away with a silver medal. It was a gripping match right up to the last end. Team Mouat also did amazingly well bringing home a bronze medal. Congratulations to them all.

I attended a board meeting last Monday when Project 2026 was discussed and I had hoped Vinny would be able to tell us all how it is progressing and what the board are expecting from ASC and Ladies Branch. Unfortunately Vinny is unwell and Eilidh will step in today to update us.

7. Competitions

Both the Henderson Bishop and the Morton are well underway around the rinks and winners for the HB are being sent in with the qualifying HB teams being displayed on Facebook and Whatsapp. Can reps please send details of finalists to Charlene at Scottish Curling [competitions.org](https://www.scottishcurling.org/competitions.org)

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Bids are not yet in for the Morton 2027. This will be discussed in April.

8. Henderson Bishop (Bids) Update

We have 2 bids to host the HB in 2027 - Hamilton and Stranraer. The information from both centres will be sent out to all centre reps so they can look at the information. A vote to decide which will win the bid will be taken at the next LSC meeting in February.

There was a discussion on the lack of rinks applying to host the competition and if a weekend event could be more desirable.

9. Tour Updates

Incoming USA Tour to Scotland 2026 - Shirley Jeans. My planning group are meeting with Lisa Johnson and Linda Christensen (USA Tour Organisers) to hopefully get some more confirmation of dates and timings and team members. There has been one change to the route and Kinross will now be Monday 9th November and Perth will be Wednesday 11th Nov. I will update the spreadsheet and send it out with any further information from USA when available. In Stranraer, the tourists are happy to be part of the qualifying rounds of the weekend competition then play a Tour game on the Monday morning before leaving for Greenacres

I also plan to set up a specific WhatsApp group to deal with the US 2026 tour only.

Outgoing Scottish Tour to Canada 2025 - Kate Adams.

Outgoing Scottish Tour to Canada 2025 - Kate Adams. We met at Glasgow airport on Friday 31st October and were ready to depart on Sat 1st November - very early. Terry Paterson, Captain of the last outgoing Tour to Sweden came to see us off and wish us good luck, and presented us all with a spray of lucky white heather. We flew with KLM and our first flight took us to Schiphol where we boarded our next flight with KLM to Vancouver. Liz Carnie had a birthday on the Saturday we left which seemed to be celebrated for a good few days. We were met by couriers Roxy Giles and Laura Rampton. We had some great games on tour but most of the team were affected by illness at times so visits to doctors were needed. We spent the first Sunday sightseeing in Vancouver and attended the opening banquet at night, at the University of British Columbia Golf Clubhouse, where we wore our dress kit and were entertained by a pianist and a jazz singer. We stayed our first three nights in the same hotel. Our first game was in Vancouver, in the ice rink where the 2010 Winter Olympics were held, and I had the honour of being the flag bearer for that game and giving the vote of thanks. The tour bible was invaluable, with everything set out to inform us of what to do and wear every day. We visited 19 ice rinks and played 18 games. I felt the tour gained momentum as we progressed. All the games were nip and tuck! One ice rink, Howe Sound, was a 4 sheeter and two teams did not play. We had decided if we were behind on points we would rejig the teams and that resulted in us making back shots and getting to a point where we were back in contention with 4 games left to play. At this point, despite illness, we got better and better. We saw a lot of Ice Rinks and lovely people but not a lot of British Columbia which is a beautiful place to visit. We finished 40 shots up and brought back the Muriel Fage trophy.

10. Vincent Bryson - Presentation: Vinny not available so Eilidh stepped in to update us on the Project 2026

11. Eilidh McColl-Lawrie - Project 2026. There is a Project 2026 meeting every few weeks. The street rink is causing an issue in finding spaces where it can be used. If anyone has ideas of where it could be used please contact Scottish Curling. Workshops are in place and can be found on the website. After the Olympics these will stay in place. Other ideas for workshops; Grow the Game; Welcoming the future; Grassroots Pathway. If you have any other suggestions for workshops please send them in and

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encourage your curlers to investigate what is available and get involved. National Lottery are funding some projects with an Open Week during the Paralympics, with some discounted or free sessions if you have bought a lottery ticket. The usual problems are - in March it is the end of the season so how do you keep people interested, Some programmes applied for funding. Case studies on how this was used could be shared to show success and extend the funding applied for by clubs. Watch parties; Bring a buddy; Family sessions; are some examples.

Heath Survey - Eilidh - What was the purpose of this and what was the associated cost? (a Question raised by LSC Reps)

There was no additional cost - only staff time. At the beginning of the season a target was set to develop a suite of information on female health.

- Raising awareness
- Educate coaches
- Find out from the curling communities any health issues relating to curling

The responses were collated and there was a gender split 56% female and 42% male responded. The responses will inform a briefing on the health survey which SC will circulate.

Some issues identified were; aging demographic; lifelong participation; menopause; brain function; pelvic health; safe spaces; bone health.

The survey hopes to identify resources to support these issues with something specific to curling. Outsourcing these support mechanisms will incur a cost.

There were 709 responses overall - 33% aged 61 - 70; 11% under 30; remainder 31 - 60.

As a governing body we need to be seen to provide the best experience possible for all participants. We need to shape this to get it right for the whole curling community.

12. AOCB

- Lynda Blackwood asked about the money collected from each of her ladies centre members. Should it all be sent to the Ladies Branch? Ann explained that this money should be used in your own centre for things like prizes and to fund the tour visits to your rink . An amount that you can afford is then sent to the Ladies Branch to cover similar outgoings, including Tours. Gail explained that this is now called a General Fund, not an International Fund, and can also be used for prizes and pins and supporting the president in her year of office.
- Liz Carnie asked if the 'Name Change' was to be discussed today as she had her responses from Forfar. Ann replied that as there had been so many apologies for the meeting the discussion will be delayed until the meeting on the 3rd February.
- Kate Adams commented that as there were so many apologies, could reps not have asked someone to attend in their place?
- Kate Caithness asked if the "Kate's" could be identified on the Zoom as Kate A and Kate C ?

13. Ladies AGM for 2026

President Ann - I have been looking for venues for the 2026 Ladies Branch AGM. The AGM will be in Highland Rugby Club, which is very close to the ice rink, on Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 2pm. Reps meeting will be held at 10.30 in a smaller meeting room. Further details will be circulated nearer to the event.

14. Dates for future meetings

- Tuesday 3rd February 10.30 - Dunblane Golf Club
- Tuesday 7th April 10.30 - Joint Meeting, venue tbc
- Ladies Branch AGM, Inverness - Date tbc