RCCC Board meeting minute

29 September 2025 – online via Zoom

Adopted:

Last reviewed on: 21.10.2025

Attendee		Role	Attendance
Fraser Montgomery	FM	Chair	Online
Janine Wilson	JW	Director	Online
Keith Prentice	KP	Director, RCCC President	Online
Mairi Milne	MM	Director	Online
Alan Hannah	AH	Director	Online
Keith Wilson	KW	Director	Online
Wendy Loudon	WL	Director	Apologies
John Slater	JS	Senior Independent Director	Online
Lorna Hyslop	LH	Independent Director	Online
Vincent Bryson	VB	Observer, CEO	Online
Eilidh McCall-Lawrie	EML	Observer, Head of Sport & Communities	Online
Suzy Wakefield	SW	Observer, Head of Operations	Online
Fiona Lilley	FL	Observer, sportscotland	Online
Ann Gibb	AG	Observer, Ladies Branch President	Online
Kyle Waddell	KWa	Observer, Athlete Representative	Apologies
Robert Anderson	RA	Observer, RCCC Vice President	Apologies
Catriona Morton	CM	Observer, Development Manager South West	Online
Rob Niven	RN	Observer, World Curling Board Member	Online
Chloe Buchanan	CB	Observer, Governance Support	Online

1. Welcome, Apologies - FM

FM welcomed the Board to the meeting. Apologies were received from Wendy Loudon and Robert Anderson.

2. Declarations of Interest - FM

No updates to declarations of interest were noted.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes - FM

The minutes from the meetings held on 22 July 2025 were approved and would be uploaded to the website.

4. Matters arising – FM

There were no matters arising.

5. Finance Report – JW

JW reported the Audit Committee had considered the quarter one management accounts, which showed the finances to be in a break-even position. Finances would continue to be monitored monthly. The Committee also reviewed the international competitions budget in view of the new relationship with Sport Org. The accounts for the World Wheelchairs are being reviewed by independent auditors and would be lodged with UK Sport in due course.

World Curling Update

Rob Niven fed back on the latest WC congress, including feedback positive contributions from Scotland. The Chair thanked RN for his work.

RN provided an update on the financial position of World Curling, which had reported losses of $590k, primarily due to a drop in broadcast income and increased fixed costs. The Board noted its unwillingness to support any additional membership-based charges but agreed to await and review the range of solutions World Curling proposes to address its financial losses.

6. Items for Discussion and Approval

6.1 Rule C12 (a) and (b) International Representation

The board agreed that Scottish Curling's ruling around international representation (Rule C12) ought to mirror the equivalent World Curling rule. Achieving this would require the removal of Rule C12(b) from the rulebook, which appeared to contradict C12(a). KP would handle having the appropriate amendment made and arrange for members to be informed.

A. KP to organise removing Rule C12(b) from the Rulebook and arrange for members to be informed about the amendment.

7. Items for Decision

7.1 Strategy Development Plan for 2027 - 2031

VB advised that a funding request would be submitted to sportscotland in the coming year to support the implementation of Scottish Curling's strategic plan. The potential cost of engaging external support was considered manageable and could be accommodated within the existing budget. VB will consult with the Audit Committee to assess the feasibility of allocating funds for this purpose and will provide an update at the next meeting before a decision is taken on whether to proceed.

A. VB to consult with the Audit Committee on the potential allocation of funds to secure external support for the rollout of the strategic plan and report back to the Board for decision.

7.2 Equality Policy

EML reported that the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Group, established earlier in the year, had reviewed and updated the Equality Policy. The Board approved the proposed updates and discussed how best to implement the policy across clubs. It was suggested that the policy be circulated alongside a set of FAQs to help members understand its scope and intent.

EML will discuss with the EDI Working Group whether there is capacity to review clubs' existing equality policies, where these exist, before requiring adoption of the revised Scottish Curling policy. This could help identify clubs whose existing policies already meet the necessary standards and avoid unnecessary amendments to club constitutions. EML will bring an update to the Board before wider rollout.

D. The Board approved the updates to the Equality Policy.
A. EML to assess whether clubs' existing equality policies can be reviewed prior to implementing the revised Scottish Curling Equality Policy, and to report findings to the Board.

8. Staff Presentations

8.1 Safeguarding - Catriona Morton

CM provided an update on current and completed safeguarding initiatives, including:

- The launch of new guidance linked to the updated PVG legislation: Choosing the Right Coach guidance, Online Safety and Social Media Policy, and Guidance for Parents Managing a Junior Curling Team;
- A review of the Social Media Policy;
- Completion of Social Media Safeguarding workshops by all Academy athletes;
- Consideration of a new Reporting a Concern form for the website;
- Review and update of head injury guidance;
- Full review of Adult and Child Protection Policies;
- Positive feedback received from the Children 1st Project Worker following recent policy health checks.

CM noted a significant increase in PVG applications this season. A social media campaign may be developed to highlight members' commitment to making curling a safer sport. In cases where an applicant is deemed ineligible, external legal advice could be sought if necessary. A safeguarding budget is in place.

9. Reports and Updates

9.1 CEO Flash Report
VB reported that the sport is in a strong position ahead of the upcoming Olympic season. He recently met with the Ministers for Sport and for Innovation to discuss several key topics, including the reopening of Moray Leisure Centre, ice rink sustainability, the 2029 World Championships, and broader investment in the sector. Ambassador sales currently stand at around 40%.

JS suggested reviewing whether the risk associated with not generating additional commercial income should be escalated from an amber rating. VB confirmed that mitigations are being explored to address this.

A. VB to review whether the risk of not generating sufficient commercial income should be raised above an amber rating.

9.2 Facilities Update
Perth and Kinross Council had expressed interest in reconsidering the reopening of the Dewars Centre in partnership with Scottish Curling. The official reopening of Moray Leisure Centre will take place on Sunday, which VB will attend to celebrate the community's success in reopening the facility. Discussions around the future of Ayr Ice Rink will be revisited when the local authority is in a stronger position to engage.

9.3 Technical Committee Update

AH confirmed that the next Technical Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday.

9.4 Member Acquisition - Project 2026 Update

EML reported that Project 2026 remains in its delivery phase, with several initiatives ongoing and supported by the Development Fund, including the Try Curling partnership with Rock Solid.

9.5 ASC Update

The Board and ASC meeting scheduled for 30 September 2025.

9.6 CEO Congress Report

VB and RN attended the recent World Curling Congress. RN reported that the event provided an important platform for constructive dialogue and collaboration on shared strategic priorities among Member Associations. Discussions focused on promoting the global growth of curling, including opportunities to build on the sport's visibility and popularity during the Olympic Games.

9.7 Member Retention - 2025 Indoor Grand Match Update

SW reported that the 2025 Indoor Grand Match is scheduled for Saturday, 15 November, to be played across 12 ice rinks.

The draw was published on 17 September. Keith Prentice and Ann Gibb were confirmed as the South and North captains respectively. It was decided that Lord Elgin's cannon would not be fired.

The board agreed with regret that Moray would not be added to the draw despite news of its reopening, as doing so would require a full re-draw, a complex and time-consuming process that would also disrupt teams' existing travel and accommodation plans.

10. Governance

10.1 Anti-doping Update

AH noted there were no updates to report in respect of anti-doping.

The Chair re-emphasised the responsibility of elite athletes representing Scotland to ensure maximum compliance to anti-doping protocols, including whereabouts.

10.2 Nominations Update

FM reported that a review had been carried out of the positions due to become vacant this year, along with the associated recruitment processes. Recruitment activity is progressing as planned. A salary review has also been completed and will be shared in due course.

11. AOB

In principle, the board would support sending more delegates to Congress in future where the location permitted. VB would review the budget and costs of this and revert back to the board to consider further.

A. VB to consider the budget and costs associated with sending a greater cohort of delegates to Congress in future and revert back to the board with an update.

In terms of the relationship between the organisations associated with SportOrg, VB would arrange for a MOU to be put in place between them and Scottish Curling, building on the AGM agreement.

A. VB to arrange for an MOU to be put in place between Scottish Curling and SportOrg members.

The Board noted David Owen's passing with great sadness.

There being no further business, FM closed the meeting.

A. Action Summary

A. MM to organise the removal of Rule C12(b) from the Rulebook and arrange for members to be informed about the amendment.

A. VB to determine with the audit committee whether funds could be allocated to obtaining seeking external support with the roll out of Scottish Curling's strategic plan

A. EML to consider whether there was capacity to review clubs' existing equality policies (if they had one) prior to rolling out the recently revised Scottish Curling equality policy, in case clubs had something sufficient in place already. EML to then bring back to the board for consideration.

A. VB to consider whether the risk around not generating additional commercial income should be increased to higher than an amber rating.

A. VB to consider the budget and costs associated with sending a greater cohort of delegates to Congress in future and revert back to the board with an update.

A. VB to arrange for an MOU to be put in place between Scottish Curling and SportOrg members.

D. Decision Summary

D. The board agreed that Scottish Curling's ruling around international representation (Rule C12) should mirror World Curling rule

D. The board approved the updates to the Equality Policy