# RCCC Board meeting minutes

*26th May 2026 - online via Zoom*
Adopted on: **2026.07.20**
Last reviewed on: **2026.06.04**

| Attendee | Initials | Role | Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fraser Montgomery | FM | Chair | Online |
| Janine Wilson | JW | Director | Online |
| Keith Prentice | KP | Director | Online |
| Mairi Milne | MM | Director | Online |
| Alan Hannah | AH | Co-opted Director | Online |
| Keith Wilson | KW | Director | Online |
| John Slater | JS | Senior Independent Director | Online |
| Lorna Hyslop | LH | Independent Director | Online |
| Wendy Loudon | WL | 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 |
| Isla Kinnear | IK | Observer, Ladies' Branch President | Online |
| Kyle Waddell | KW | Observer, Athlete Representative | Apologies |
| Robert Anderson | RA | Observer, RCCC Vice President | Online |
| Sarah Lean | SL | Observer | Online |
| Chloe Buchanan | CB | Observer, Governance Support | Online |

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Kyle Waddell. FM welcomed Sarah Lean and Isla Kinnear to the meeting.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

No updates to declarations of interest were noted. It was noted that a new company named 'GB Curling' would soon be established, with FM, VB, KW and JW as directors. There was no conflict of interest was identified at this stage, as the company had not yet been formed.

## 3. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April were approved.

The minutes of extraordinary board meeting held on 7th May at which FM was ratified as Chair of Scottish Curling for a further three years, were approved.

## 4. Matters Arising

FM reiterated a British curling entity to be known as 'GB Curling' would soon be incorporated. It would provide a mechanism for receiving future funds for GB level Curling programmes within the UK, from the likes of the British Olympic Association, or UK Sport. Two independent directors would be recruited to join the new Board in due course, and FM would Chair. Scottish Wheelchair currently did not form a part of this relationship, however are in need of support. FM and VB are in talks with Alison Hopkins regarding the potential for Scottish Wheelchair to rejoin Scottish Curling, as 'The Wheelchair programme'.

There were no further matters arising.

## 5. Items for Discussion and Approval

5.1 Membership Fee 2026 AGM - JS

JS presented the proposal for a £5 increase to adult membership fees, moving from £34 a year to £39, which represented a 14.7% increase. This increase would incorporate inflationary increases, an anticipated World Curling levy forecast at £1, costs to facilitate new legislation around PVG, and increased social media and marketing, to grow visibility of Scottish Curling. The Board considered the feasibility of freezing membership following any increase, however unanimously agreed to raise the adult membership fee by £5 without imposing a membership freeze thereafter.

***D. The board approved a £5 increase in adult membership fees ahead of the 2026/27 Season.***

The board would provide a breakdown to members to illustrate what the full £39 membership fee would contribute towards and would make it clear that Scottish Curling remained committed to keeping the membership as low as possible.

5.2 Student Membership Subscription Fee - EML

The first University student club (University of Dundee Students Curling Club) had become affiliated with Scottish Curling, in March. EML explained the Articles of Association currently provided for a student membership category, however no subscription fee structure had been established thus far given no educational institution had affiliated with Scottish Curling prior to March of this year. A consultation had taken place which included Scottish student sports and student curlers. This established that student unions often covered the costs of student sports club fees. Curling membership would likely be dealt with similarly. The intention would be that other university clubs are onboarded too going forward, and positive take up was anticipated given many universities have clubs. The board approved EML's recommendation to introduce an annual subscription fee of £150 per affiliated student club.

***D. The board approved the introduction of an annual subscription fee for affiliated student clubs for 2026/27.***

**6. Items for Discussion**

6.1 Sponsorship - FM

FM noted a new sponsorship team had been set up, which would work towards building a sponsorship portfolio, including seeking renewal of the Ambassador agreement.

**7. Reports and Updates**

7.1 CEO Flash Report - VB

VB reported the ‘Summer of Sport’ sportscotland new monies application had been submitted. Two further applications would follow - one relating to pathways, and the other club support. FL acknowledged the significant amount of work the team had put in to reach this stage, and the board expressed their gratitude for their commitment toward securing funding for Scottish Curling, noting any money secured would represent an important investment into the sport.

7.2 Facilities Update - VB

In terms of estates, sportscotland planned to tender for a piece of work which would seek to produce low cost solutions to extend the life of the current ice rink estate. Scottish Curling would be included within discussions but not be the project owner as such.

7.3 Strategy and Structures Update - VB

VB intended to deliver a briefing during the AGM around strategy, which would be circulated to the board in advance.

7.4 Technical Development Update - AH

AH reported the committee had met on 13$^{th}$ of May. Discussions included the ‘single hack’ motion. AH noted the committee didn’t support its adoption at this time.

7.5 Project 2026 Update - EML

EML noted there were no updates to report.

7.6 ASC Update - KP

KP reported the committee had met on the 11$^{th}$ of May. He noted the ‘Try Curling’ resource was not being used by a few sites, and the team would investigate whether there was a reason behind this.

There was scope for Sera Energy and the ice rink community to better align, by owning operations of ice rinks under a collegiate banner and exploring the most cost-effective energy rate. Scottish Curling could support Sera, however they would be best place to lead.

7.7 sportscotland New Monies Report - EML

EML was pleased to report that Scottish Curling had secured an investment from sportscotland’s ‘Summer of Sport’ campaign of £50,000. This meant the ‘Curling 360’ Community project would be fully funded. The team would submit a proposal to sportscotland detailing what the remainder of the funds would be allocated towards. The board commended EML and the team on their efforts to secure this injection of cash, noting the impact it would have on clubs. In terms of the club support programme, ten business cases had been submitted in total. These continued to be developed with sportscotland and outcomes were anticipated to be received by the end of June.

7.8 Review of the Year and Beyond Report - VB

VB shared the engagement results relating to people and culture, which showed the journey of levels of engagement and Net Promoter Scores (NPS), both of which had increased on an upward trajectory from November 2023 to September 2024, remaining constant since.

The organisation's culture, which took account of the likes of wellness, personal growth and recognition was tracking as above average in the industry. In terms of satisfaction with salary, this was low, however competing with other roles in the industry was a challenge. There was an opportunity to lobby, in order to attempt to close the gap.

The board acknowledged the positive engagement results indicated the successful journey the organisation had been on. Suggestions to consider included exploring a summer working policy – e.g early finishes on a Friday. The arrangement of one-to-ones with the team on a confidential basis to understand what was driving the lower scores around the fairness indicator, and what could lead to a potential increase would be considered. VB would ensure the risk registered was kept updated in terms of any key man dependencies and actions to mitigate against those. VB noted a 9 day fortnight had been trialled last year, however it was not felt viable in light of the leave options already on offer, and the large holiday quota in existence.

VB presented the dashboard stats around 'Try Curling', which could be filtered by season. These allowed analysis around bookings in each rinks to be considered, which illustrated how successfully the programme was across the nation. Similar stats may be collated for floor curling in the future. The stats helped build a picture of how engaged each rink was. VB was considering posting the results on the website, for awareness purposes.

VB shared the results of the Membership survey, which identified stats around responses, the member profile, and overall satisfaction with Scottish Curling - which was sitting at 53% currently. The neutral quota was tracking at 43% and would be targeted going forward. Other notable stats included: 93% of members would recommend curling to their peers, and 72% would rate their experience as good or excellent. The biggest perceived challenges facing curling were seen as aging member demographics and the cost of participation.

**8. Governance**

8.1 Finance Report - JW / JS

JW explained Audit Committee meetings would take place in the coming week to review the draft audited accounts. The board would be updated on the year-end results thereafter.

JS mentioned the biggest shift in expenditure in the last year related to staffing costs. A small saving in international competitions had been built into the 2025/26 budget and would be again in 2026/27's budget. He noted that since being incurred by Sport Org, international competition expenses had subsequently reduced.

8.2 EDI Update - EML

EML noted there were no updates to report in terms of EDI.

8.3 Safeguarding Update - EML

EML noted there were no updates to report in terms of safeguarding.

8.4 UKAD Report - AH

AH noted there were no updates to report in terms of UKAD.

8.5 Nominations Update - FM / JS

The board indicated they'd like to reappoint JS as an independent director, and JS was keen to remain in the role. The board therefore unanimously approved the reappointment of JS as independent director for a further 3-year term.

The board considered who the four directors to join new entity 'GB curling' ought to be. They would join two from England and two from Wales. The board approved FM, KW, VB and JW be put forward for appointment as directors of GB Curling.

***D. FM, KW, VB and JW were approved for appointment as directors of GB Curling.***

8.6 Risks Update - VB

VB noted there were no updates to report in terms of risk. A fuller update would be provided at a future board meeting (post the AGM).

**9. AOB**

The board noted the initiative to award Caps to players who had played for Scotland at international level had not progressed, due to lack of resources. JW, VB and WL would speak to the Trust representatives to establish whether they'd be keen to support with the rollout.

***A. JW, VB and WL would discuss the proposed initiative to award Caps to Scottish players who had played for Scotland at international level with the Trust representatives, to establish whether they'd have the resource to support it financially.***

There being no further business, FM closed the meeting.

*A. Action Summary*

***A. JW, VB, WL would discuss the proposed initiative to award Caps to Scottish players who had played for Scotland at international level with the Trust representatives, to establish whether they'd have the resource to support it financially.***

*D. Decision Summary*

***D. The board approved a £5 increase in adult membership fees ahead of the 2026/27 Season.***

***D. The board approved the introduction of an annual subscription fee for affiliated student clubs for 2026/27.***

***D. FM, KW, VB and JW were approved for appointment as directors of GB Curling.***