



LADIES STANDING COMMITTEE (LSC)

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 19th August 2026

via Zoom at 7.00pm



Present - Isla Kinnear, President, Jane Drysdale VP, Fiona Moffat JVP, Christine Hall Treasurer/ Minute Secretary, Kate Caithness Hon President, Alison Troup; Aberdeen, Elizabeth Shaw; Ayr, Mary Shaw; Ayr, Sheila Macnab; Border, Janice Craig; Dumfries, Jane Bruce; Edinburgh, Marion Duthie; Forfar, Helen Jamieson; Greenacres, Elaine Semple; Inverness, Kim Dalland; Kinross, Lynda Blackwood; Lanarkshire, Christine Ross; Lockerbie, Gillian McKee; Perth, Karen Jack; Waterfront, Judith Strachan; Dundee, Margaret Breadon; Stranraer & Vincent Bryson (CEO Scottish Curling) for part of the meeting)

Apologies Fiona Glascodine; Aberdeen, Moira Forman; Stirling, Jackie McQueen; Dundee, Dorothy Browse; Kirkcaldy & Jane Weir; Stirling.

1. President Welcome

Isla welcomed everyone to the meeting and checked everyone could hear and be heard over this first meeting on Zoom

2. Apologies

These were noted as above.

3. Minutes of last meeting

This was the AGM Pre Meeting 13th May at Inverness Highland Rugby Club. These Minutes are available on Ladies Branch web page but have also been circulated.

These were proposed by Jane Drysdale and seconded by Jane Bruce.

4. Business arising from the Minutes

At Point 6 – USA Tour in Nov 26 – Shirley will be in touch as there may be an opportunity for LSC reps to form a team against USA in Stranraer on 31st Oct/ 1st Nov

Point 7 – The Proposer was Isla Kinnear, not Grant

Point 7 under AOCB – The updated Operating Manual has a piece about Tour Guidelines and the application procedure though this document is still ‘work in progress’ and is ongoing.

Point 5 Henderson Bishop bids – the figures against Hamilton Ice Rink have been misquoted but an updated bid has been circulated since anyway.

5. President’s report – Isla Kinnear

I can’t believe how busy it was after the AGM in May, we seemed to get straight down to business. Jane, Fiona Christine and I have worked hard to put preparations in place for the new season. This is a list of what I and the Exec have been up to in the last few weeks: :

Meeting with Fraser (RCCC Board Chair) and Vinny (CEO) to discuss the role of LB

Board meetings - Two in May prior to the RCCC AGM, one in July (only attended part as I was away from home and technology didn’t work too well!)

Producing new LSC and Morton Secretary contact list, setting up contact lists and whatsapp groups. Agreeing dates for presentations at SC competitions. Agreeing dates for LSC meetings and the opening bonspiel and the AGM. Agreeing the date for the Priestfield Cup v ASC.

Collating dates for as many local open competitions as we could and publishing them on SC website.

Meeting with Suzy Wakefield to discuss operations and who does what and pays for what with LSC and SC.

Meeting with Charlene Graham to discuss the role of LSC in competitions and how we can manage the process so that we are in line with SC formats eg team line up sheets, submitting results etc. Communicating with Eilidh McCall -Lawrie re. key activities for the year – the number of female curlers at each ice rink, the Sport Scotland Summer of Sport grants being made to some ice rink development groups; the Club Accreditation scheme and encouraging all clubs to consider become part of this scheme .

Mammoth meeting with the LSC Exec in July . Discussing our commitment to working with the female membership and the SC staff; developing our role, USAWCA tour and encouraging female participation at all levels. Henderson Bishop and Morton competitions – a fantastic number of entries submitted on time which allowed draws made. Thank you very much to Gail Munro and Charlene Graham for their help with these – and John McGowan new VP.

The LSC Operating manual has been updated and we are on the final proof look on the SC website very soon.

Robert Anderson and I have been asked to be the IGM (Indoor Grand Match) committee for 2029. The proposed date is 11 November 2029, which is 4 years on from 2025, where the event raised a huge amount of publicity for local curling. Having an IGM in the same season as the Olympics, gives a huge opportunity to recruit people to Try Curling

A huge thank you to Jane, Fiona and Christine who have willingly given of their time and expertise to prepare for the new season. I look forward to working with you all and I wish you every success for you, your centres and our sport in 2026/27 season.

6. Treasurer's report – Christine Hall

Transactions since the AGM:

Bank Charges amounting to £12.75 to date (£4.25 per month)

Donations to Edinburgh and Lanarkshire Ice Rinks. £300 each towards Banquets for the USA Tour in Nov 2026

Donation to Dundee Ice Rink of £200 towards Tour Costs

Current Balance is £7993.25

I now have full visibility of the LSC account and can see income receipts and make payments which is a good step forward.

7. Ladies' Branch Competitions Update

(a) LSC Opening Bonspiel – Tues 6th October @Perth

All LSC Reps are invited and encouraged to bring a friend to play. Fiona Moffat will co-ordinate the fun bonspiel and will be in touch soon with invite and details.

(b) USA Incoming Tour Nov 2026

Arrangements are all in hand via Shirley Jeans and the reps are being kept fully informed. Lynda and Jane to liaise with Shirley re guests at the Banquets. It is expected anyone who wishes to attend either banquet can do so but speak to Lynda and Jane as numbers may be limited.

It was noted that time will be quite tight between Stranraer and Greenacres games as Greenacres can only offer 3pm ice so teams may need to play to the bell rather than the

full 8 ends; Stranraer has been very accommodating and have moved their morning game earlier to assist.

A question was asked if a Guide could be circulated as to what is expected of Ice Rinks with regards to a Tour – this has already been circulated to Tour reps and a copy will be appended to these Minutes for reference (Appendix 1).

There is a USA Tour logo and a request has been made to get this in jpeg format for ice rinks use.

(c) Henderson Bishop 2028 Bids

2 bids have been received from Dumfries and Lanarkshire and these have been circulated to all Reps. These will be decided upon at the LSC 2nd September meeting. Dumfries was asked to provide some estimated costings alongside their submitted bid. (These bids are contained in Appendix 2)

(d) Morton Update

The Morton Secretaries will meet by Zoom tomorrow night (20h August) to discuss arrangements. The new groups are in place and we look forward to seeing how this works out.

(e) Competition Dates

This comprehensive list has been circulated and all members are asked to support (where they can) each others Competitions. When your Ice Rink has Posters for up and coming Open events, please include on the whatsapp group for circulation.

8. RCCC Business

Report from Vincent Bryson (CEO Scottish Curling)

Vinnie joined the Meeting at 7.15pm and gave a brief update:

Staffing Changes – A new Development Manager for the South West has been appointed. Michaela (Development manager Central) is currently on Maternity Leave but her role is being covered by a contact from Aberdeen

The Digital Creative Lead Role vacancy closes in 5 days and a flurry of applications is expected with interviews taking place shortly after that.

Scottish Curling have successfully been awarded several grants recently to further the development of curling at all levels. 5 Ice Rinks were successful in bids but unfortunately there was not enough funds to ensure all Ice Rinks were successful with their proposals.

Vincent will attend World Congress next week with Susan Wyllie, Tom Brewster and Mairi Milne. There are exciting opportunities again for funding to be tapped into.

Vincent confirmed that hopefully alongside the appointment of the Digital lead Role and more funding that the website will be able to be updated and made more user friendly for all, in the near future.

9. Any Other Competent Business

(a) Timing of Minutes.

It was confirmed that Board Meeting Minutes are on the Scottish Curling Website but will not usually be published till after they have been approved. It was also agreed LSC Meeting Minutes would be circulated in draft form and published on the website after they had been approved at the next meeting.

(b) Ayr Ice Rink Update

Ayr have secured a site near the football ground and plans will be submitted in due course for a 4 sheet curling rink.

10. Next Meeting

This will be at Kinross Ice Rink at 11am on Wednesday 2nd September.

11. Vote of Thanks

Isla thanked everyone for adapting so well to Zoom and anticipates this could be a useful medium for some meetings through the Winter for a catch up of business.

HOST RINKS GUIDELINES FOR USA INCOMING TOUR



The USA Women will arrive in Edinburgh at 6.55am on the morning of the 26th October and will be our guests until they depart on Sunday 15th November at 9.25am.

The tour Planning Committee are

Shirley Jeans , Chair (Captain of the outgoing tour to USA in 2022)

Ann Gibb , Vice Chair (Vice Captain of the 2022 tour and current ladies President)

Dr Val Saville , Treasurer (Treasurer for the 2022 tour and current LSC Treasurer))

Morag Erskine, Secretary (Secretary for the 2022 tour)

The dates for the tour are now confirmed and the route is a work in progress. There may be some changes so please give feedback as soon as possible if you find there is something that does not fit in with your plans. The route has been based on data provided from questionnaires completed by LSC reps in 2025 and is now available to view on a spreadsheet, which all centres should now have received.

A team of 20 curlers will be travelling and we intend to give them a fantastic time as they travel around Scotland. A separate sheet will be sent out with all the names and details you will need for the tourists including food sensitivities and allergies.

The tourists will be paying for their flights, transport on the tour (coach), hotels and any meals or activities not being funded by the host rink.

Rinks will be responsible for the entertainment and wellbeing of their guests from the time they arrive in the Tour Coach until they leave. This includes travel to and from rinks and venues when being home hosted.

Each LSC rep has been asked to form a committee to make arrangements for the tourists while they are in their care including organising hotels and home hosts where appropriate. This includes the arrangements for the couriers (committee as named above) and the coach driver.

Host centres are responsible for -

- Ice bookings - check with your rink asap that they have suitable availability for the time and number of sheets required. All games will be 8 ends or the bell. Arrange two cards per game. Couriers are responsible for collecting the cards and keeping a tally of the scores. Tourists should retain one set of cards and couriers the other set. Cumulative scores will be announced at each venue after the game.
- Arrange for local curlers to take part in the competition and ensure they are members of the RCCC.
- Arrange for a piper (or piped music) to lead the curlers on to the ice and perhaps also welcome them at the door on arrival along with a welcome broom arch.
- Tourists are to be given last stone advantage in the first end and the top of the scoreboard.
- An opening ceremony is expected at each rink before every game. A piper and two flag bearers should lead all the players out to the far end of the ice, then step onto the ice and lead the teams down to the hog line where they will line up for the welcome address. Then the piper and flag bearers should take a dram and make a toast. There is an option for the other curlers to also have a small tiple if desired.
- The curlers then move to make two lines along a central sheet of ice for the throwing of the first stone. This could be thrown by a local 'celebrity' and swept by one Scottish and one American player.
- Tourists are not expected to buy their own drinks after a game
- Arrange suitable meals when they are in your rink and co-ordinate menus with the TOUR Committee in the effort to balance menus.
- There will be a Tour Booklet provided by RCCC for all players but you may wish to do a personal one from your own rink as a reminder of the special day they spend with you.
- RCCC will provide badges for all Scottish players to exchange with the tourists along with any other club or province badges your players would like to present. These should be exchanged at the meal following the game.
- Place cards, flowers and flags are a nice touch on the dining table and if there is a top table they could be led in by your piper.

HOST RINKS GUIDELINES FOR USA INCOMING TOUR



- The LSC will present a gift to all the American players on the completion of the tour at the closing Banquet but each Centre should give a small gift as a memory of your Centres involvement. Again please consult the TOUR committee before purchasing this in order to avoid duplication. Gifts should be light and easily packable.
- Allow time after lunch or dinner to enjoy the entertainment, as the tourists will have something planned.
- If time allows arrange visits to local attractions but be aware of the timescale as we must try to keep to the route plan.
- If you inform your local council there may be opportunities for some grant funding or civic receptions.
- Invitations to parties at private homes, visits to distilleries, local shops or centres with a Scottish theme are also popular. Please keep the TOUR committee updated if any of these events are being included.
- Encourage any past tourists to be involved in your committee as they have knowledge of tours that will be helpful.
- Encourage as many people as possible to take part and also to attend the Opening and Closing Banquets.
- Opening Banquet - Tuesday 27th October in Edinburgh - Venue Unknown at present
- Closing Banquet - Friday 13th November - Hamilton Ice Rink
- Canadian and Scottish flags will be on the coach to be paraded at each venue - Please make sure these are returned to the coach after the game
- Publicity and photographs will be good publicity for your rink and appreciated by the tourists. Invite local radio or TV stations to attend if available. Your rink may also have streaming services that could be utilised.
- Be mindful that there are appropriate facilities for changing for everyone - you may have to commandeer the gents area for a short time !
- If there is a team with a bye at your rink try to plan something for them if they are not keen to just stay and watch for two hours.
- Be prepared for the worst - should there be an unfortunate accident have details to hand of local health services as well as a first aid kit.
- Advise the Tour committee of anything that will necessitate a change of plan.

Home hosting

This is an important part of any tour and provides opportunities for building friendships across the pond that can be life lasting. We rely on this to keep the costs of touring down on both our incoming and outgoing tours.

Please check that those who have offered can provide what is required and understand what is involved.

Accommodation for two or more guests. individual bedrooms would be excellent but shared twin rooms are also OK.

A light supper or breakfast are all that may be required.

Transport by car to and from the rink or venue where they are meeting up. Make sure the home hosts have a copy of your programme.

Clean towels and some toiletries should be available.

Offer to do some laundry for your guests.

Check the list of allergies and food sensitivities for your guest.

Enjoy their company and have fun !

Appendix 2 Henderson Bishop 2028 Bids



Lanarkshire Ice Rink would like to submit a bid to Scottish Curling for hosting the Henderson Bishop Competition Finals in 2028.

Below are details pertaining to the bid:

- Lanarkshire Ice Rink in Hamilton is very central to Transport links to the North and South and is very accessible, being located immediately off Junction 6 of M74 motorway. The Ice Rink has plenty free safe parking within its private grounds.
- Lanarkshire ice Rink are investing in new plant which should be in place for the start of the 2026-27 season and will help insure good and consistent ice. We also invested in new stones for the start of last season. All related ice making equipment and measures are to a good standard and well maintained.
- Umpires and scorers will have access to printing, photocopying and computer facilities on our newly installed wi-fi.
- Our ice rink is fully accessible by all and we host a number of wheelchair curling events.
- Our catering facilities, which are the envy of many ice rinks will be open and available throughout the event.
- The cost per participant of £125 will include ice fees for round robin (4 games) plus semi finals and finals. This fee will also include a drinks reception and gala dinner on the Wednesday evening as well as events/ entertainment and suppers on the Monday and Tuesday evenings.
- There are a number of reasonably priced local hotels within walking distance of the ice rink. Rates can't be guaranteed at this point but they are in line with normal costs.
- Our ladies section will undertake fundraising ahead of the event which will ensure that there are sufficient funds to cover the cost of all prizes and any other costs. The Ladies Committee is also fully supportive of the bid and will make all the arrangements alongside Ice Rink management for the competition, decoration, entertainment and dinners.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lanarkshire Ice Rink via info@lanarkshireice.co.uk or any of the Management Team for more detail if required.

Henderson Bishop Finals Bid – 2027-28

Dumfries Ice Bowl Curling Association - Ladies Section

Bidding Requirements	Comments
General	
Sheet layout as per RCCC Rules of the Game	
Name boards for scoreboards	
Measuring equipment	
Access to printer/photocopier	
Unrestricted internet access for Scottish Curling staff and representatives	
Sufficient changing areas	
Space for Scottish Curling and partner branding (eg. pop ups)	
Catering facilities; open from 30 minutes before the first draw of each day, until 30 minutes after the last draw.	All requirements will be available/provided and /adhered to
Space and/or a room allocated for warm ups	
Ability for Scottish Curling to cancel any sheets of ice that are not required without charge, provided notice is given at least two months prior to the start of each stage of the competition.	
Coaches, Officials & Line Scorers	
Room/Area for umpires and time clock officials	
Requirements specific to Henderson Bishop Trophy Finals	All requirements will be provided during and following the event
Space for displaying scores and standings	
Provide a photograph from the event	
Provide a report from the event	
Prizes	Prizes for both the Henderson Bishop Winners and Runners Up and the Cherrystone Trophy Winners and Runners Up will be provided by Dumfries Ladies Section

Accommodation

Various suitable local accommodation i.e. Hotels, AirBnB etc are available - costs for 2028 not yet known.

Our Main Hotel if Successful would be the Woodlands as this worked well the last time Dumfries Hosted the event.

Penultimate Evening

We will arrange an evening meal for competitors and guest on the penultimate evening of the competition

Social Programme

We will arrange events for participants and guests - Costs TBC

Ice Costs

Cost per sheet will be £TBC

Signatures -

Ladies Section Representative

Janice Craig

Lead contact for Dumfries Curling

Graham Sloan

Provision for the requirements noted above.

Cost per sheet of ice. *(Please note that there will be no charge to Scottish Curling for any sheets of ice cancelled at least two months prior to the start of each stage of the competition)*

Details of any additional provision beyond the stated requirements.

The signature of both the Ladies Centre representative, and the lead contact for the ice rink.