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Meeting: **Esquimalt Curling Club Annual General Meeting**
Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023, 12:30 pm
Location: Curling Lounge, Archie Browning Sports Centre

1. Call to Order

President, Al Teasdale called the meeting to order at 12:28 pm. Quorum was achieved.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was posted on the Club's website and distributed by email on March 4, 2023. There were no additions brought forward.

Motion: [Accept the March 12, 2023 Annual General Meeting Agenda as circulated.](#)

Moved/2nd: Barry Sparkes/Samantha Sherman

Results: Approved without dissent

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the April 10, 2022 Annual General Meeting were distributed to league reps and club executive members via email on March 11, 2023.

Motion: [Accept the Minutes of April 10, 2022 Annual General Meeting be adopted as circulated.](#)

Moved/2nd: Torben Wilson/ Bob Pope

Results: Approved without dissent

4. Reports

4.1. President's Report

- Al expressed his thanks to a number of groups and individuals:
 - To the Club executive and all the league reps who attended board meetings throughout the year.
 - To the New League Presidents for "stepping up" and volunteering for the role
 - To All Sutherland and the ice making crew for good ice again this year. It was Al's suggestion to remove the ropes between the sheets, which Al T. feels has made it safer for everyone on the ice.
 - To Doug Muir for maintaining the Club's website. It is an invaluable asset to the club.
 - To the Township of Esquimalt for always being responsive to any issues or concerns, and for keeping the ice rental affordable.
- This was Al's first year as president and his job started in August when he received a call from Victoria Curling Club regarding ECC taking over hosting the senior games.
 - Al put VCC in touch with Esquimalt and they were able to get the ice in early so the games could go ahead.
 - Other events from VCC came to ECC as a result of problems at the VCC facility.
- An open house was held on the last weekend of September.

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- The club's executive had decided not to include a learn-to-curl clinic because league play starts the same week as the open house and most leagues have their rosters and schedules set by then, so there is nowhere for new curlers to go (i.e. no novice league, many other leagues full)
- Planned to assist Esquimalt with their learn-to-curl and drop-in sessions in the new year, but they did not run due to staffing issues.
- Al has had discussions with Esquimalt staff about partnering for learn-to-curl, and will look for future opportunities (e.g. private group rentals that require a coach)
- ECC should do more to recruit new curlers, including collecting email addresses of learn-to-curl participants so we can follow up with them, advertise on the club's website leagues that have openings
- Bonspiels started up again, but participation was down for many of them.
- There were four board meetings this season, mostly dealing with "housekeeping" items.
 - Aligned the spare policy with Curl BC's policy (may curl up to 3 times before becoming a club member)
 - Decided to maintain a club email list to get information out to club members faster than having to relay it through the leagues. (e.g. facility shut downs)
 - At the last board meeting, a motion was approved to reinstate league support and to increase bonspiel sponsorship contingent on the budget being able to support it.
- Al reminded leagues to give back to the community when they can (e.g. the senior men's league donated surplus funds to the Rainbow Kitchen).

4.2. Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's report and financial statements were distributed to league reps and club executives via email on March 11, 2023. Hard copies were also handed out to those in attendance prior to the start of the AGM.
- Cheryl provided a "2022-23 By the Numbers" info graphic outlining the club's reserve funds, sponsorship income, receipts, and number of club members (the number of curlers was relatively unchanged from last year).
- Mavis Smith, Matt Broughton and Bill Morrison met with the ECC treasurer on March 5, 2023 to conduct a financial review. Based on that review, the financial statements are recommended for approval.

Motion: [Approve Esquimalt Curling Club's financial statements as at January 31, 2023.](#)

Moved/2nd: Brad Walsh/ Dianna McIntosh

Results: Approved without dissent

- Cheryl thanked all the leagues for getting their deposits in and providing the required Curl BC info in a timely manner.
- Thank you to Len Hanishuk for all his work obtaining and maintaining sponsors. Reminder to club members to support our sponsors.
 - Cheryl will draft a thank-you letter on behalf of the club to be sent to sponsors.
 - 2022-23 season was the first time sponsorship revenue exceeded what was budgeted.
- The club is in a healthy financial position. The current year-end bank balance meets the operating reserve requirements. Excess over the operating reserve are retained as



equipment reserves (e.g. a new measuring stick is required and rock refurbishment is likely due in about another year. ECC contributes half the cost.)

- Receipts were higher than budgeted mainly due to the receipt of a Curl BC surplus distribution.

5. Budget 2023-24

- The 2023-24 budget represents a break-even financial position and maintains a bank balance that meets operating reserve requirements.
- ECC membership projected to be slightly higher than in 2022-23 (still lower than pre-COVID)
- Club fee increased to \$10 to cover administrative costs.
- Forecast Curl BC and Curling Canada dues to remain unchanged (\$20).
- Sponsorship revenue budgeted to increase.
 - Sponsorship revenue covers league support and bonspiel sponsorships. Up to \$500 per bonspiel and up to \$200 for those leagues not receiving bonspiel funds
 - Amount available to leagues & bonspiels will be decreased if sponsorship revenue is not achieved
- Forecast insurance fees to increase.
- ECC pays a portion of the cost of sticky mats and Jet Ice.
- Floor was opened to questions about the proposed budget. No questions were put forward.

Motion: [Accept the budget for the 2023-2024 season as presented](#)

Moved/2nd: Torben Wilson/ Will Lamb

Results: Approved without dissent

6. Elections

- Al Teasdale asked Past President Torben Wilson to conduct the election for the club executive for the 2023-24 season.
- Two positions up for re-election: Secretary and Treasurer, both incumbents stated that they are willing to stand if no other volunteers step forward for the positions.
- 2023-2024 Executive:
 - President – Al Teasdale (continuing into 2nd year of two year term, no challenges)
 - Vice President- Randy Tonks (continuing into 2nd year of two year term, no challenges)
 - Secretary – Karen Hoban (no challenges, approved by acclamation)
 - Treasurer- Cheryl Eason (no challenges, approved by acclamation)

7. Questions and Answers

- Brenda Byrne suggested that it is hard for new curlers to know where to go to sign up and asked if there could be something on the website.

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- Al T. responded that it would be good to get a group of volunteers to help at private events, learn-to-curl, etc. who could promote ECC and hand out brochures.
- Suggested that leagues looking for more curlers could post on the ECC website, perhaps under "News"?
- Al T. will be speaking about ECC to the "graduating" curlers from Victoria Curling Club's learn-to-curl program.
- Al stated that there is one community of curlers on the lower island split between two clubs and we should not be in competition with each other.
- ECC has blocks of ice time available, needs volunteers to help set up a novice program

8. Curler of the Year

- The Pat Kennedy Memorial Curler of the Year Award was presented to Karen Hoban for her contributions to the Esquimalt Curling Club (write-up attached).
- Karen thanked everyone for the award and stated that she felt she was simply giving back to curling an equivalent to what she receives.

9. Adjournment

[Motion to adjourn meeting assumed.](#)

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

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Attachment 1 – Curler of the Year

Karen has been Club Secretary and a member of the club's executive since 2015.

She served as secretary of the Sunday Funday league from 2013 to 2015, and has been the league president (and sometimes treasurer) ever since.

During her long tenure as Club Secretary, she has been an invaluable resource for the four Club Presidents she has worked with. She is motivated, organized and volunteers for extra work.

At the beginning of COVID she put in long hours working with the executive to put together and format the Club's COVID Safety Plan. Last year it was the Return to Curl Policy. This year she put together the Club's Safety Policy. Through all of this, she has continued to run the Sunday Funday league as well as ever and has also worked behind the scenes to help with the Doubles league.

Additionally, she volunteers outside of the club for curling events when they come to town.

During the past 8 or so years she has taken the minutes of every Board meeting and all the Annual General meetings. She has also helped out at most of the 'Learn to curl / open house' events. Her thoroughness and dedication have remained at the highest level throughout.