

MINUTES



Meeting: Esquimalt Curling Club Board of Directors
Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023
Location: Archie Browning Lounge

Attendees: Al Teasdale – ECC President/Senior Men’s; Karen Hoban- ECC Secretary/Sunday Funday; Len Hanischuk – Director of Advertising; Brenda Byrne – Rebels; Yvonne Leach – Senior Mixed; Brenda Joynson – Tuesday Evening Ladies; Dianna McIntosh – Monday Afternoon Ladies; Lu Neilson – Golden Girls; Janet Bell – Friday Afternoon Ladies; Brad Walsh – Monday/Wednesday Men’s; Bob Herbert – Senior Select; Rachelle Perry – Youth League

1. Call to Order

President, Al Teasdale called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. *Quorum was not achieved, so no voting took place during the meeting.*

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was distributed by email on October 18, 2023.

Additions to agenda:

- i. Lounge Furniture
- ii. Buzzers

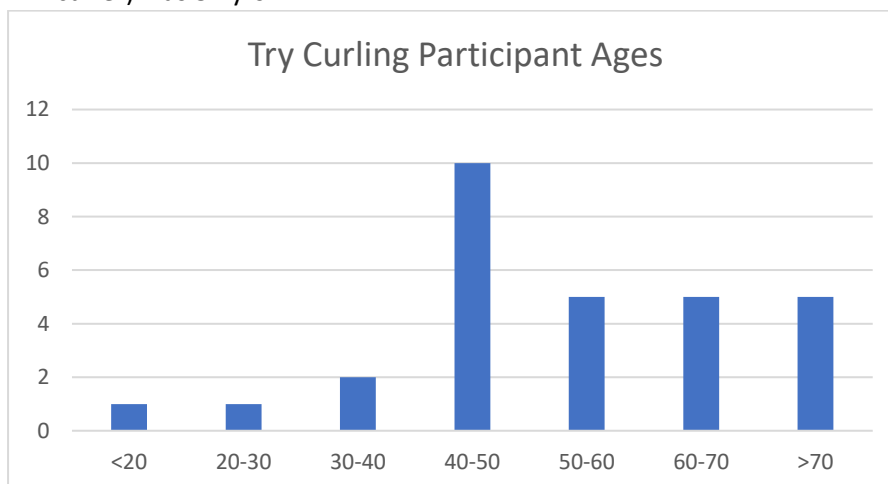
3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the August 29, 2023 Board of Director’s Meeting were distributed by email on October 18, 2023.

4. Old Business

4.1. Open House/Learn to Curl

- Try Curling Clinic went well, had approximately 33 participants
- Youngest curler was 7 yrs old, oldest participant was 80yrs, and average age (excluding jr curler) was 54 yrs.



Note that some curlers arrived late and did not sign in, so their ages were not collected.

MINUTES



- Some participants asked about further lessons, but were not ready to join a league, so advised them about VCC's learn to curl program.
- A number of league curlers also came out to use the practice ice.

4.2. Ice rental rates

- Al met with Steve Knoke the week after the open house to discuss normalizing ice rental rates, rates for Doubles league, and learn to curl program.
- Al compared ECC rates with VCC's rates and calculated the cost per curler:
 - ECC Day time ~ \$6, Evening ~\$10, Weekend ~\$12
 - VCC's rates are ~ 2x higher than ECC's daytime price
- The club wants/needs to attract younger curlers, and the times they are able to curl are the more expensive ones.
- When the ice rental rates increase, there is more of an effect on the more expensive rates than the lower price ones.
- Al would like to see the prices evened out over about 5 years.
- When Al spoke of the per curler cost, Steve compared the cost to swimming and skating and saw that the per person cost for curlers is higher than for other activities.
- Steve will discuss the pricing structure with Esquimalt staff.
- New rates are presented to council in July and implemented in January.
- Steve agreed that it makes sense to have the club involved with Esquimalt's learn to curl program, but was called away from the meeting so they did not discuss further

4.3. Provincial Championships

- Committee Members from ECC: Pei Mei Chia – Co-Chair; Len Hanischuk – Sponsorship; Len Bosch – Staging, ticket sales, 50/50; Mavis Smith - Treasurer
- School Program
 - Senior Select, Senior Mixed, and Senior Men asked to move their draws to the afternoon or later in the season to allow the school program to use the ice in the morning. All leagues agreed.
 - Will bring in at least 48 kids for 1hr of instruction on the ice, then into the arena to watch curling for an hour. The kids will all be sent home with a ticket to bring their families back in the evening.
 - Notice went to local schools last week and have already had 2 or 3 schools sign up.
 - If there is a lot of response, will split the groups so that half are on the ice while the others are in the arena and then will switch after an hour.
 - Kids have been instructed to bring a helmet and clean shoes.
 - Program will take place from 9:30-11:30 am on 3 days.
 - **Looking for volunteers to help with on-ice instruction.** Registration via link sent to league contacts and posted on ECC website.
 - Program is a Curl BC venture, not being organized by the host committee, so don't know who is going to run the program.
- Al and Len met with Mark de Fries from Curl BC. Mark has offered to do some free work which will have spin offs for the club (any excess fundraising will be split)
- Site tour was conducted with Curl BC, Esquimalt, and Broadcast partners
- Crowsnest will be the hospitality suite for volunteers, officials, sponsors, and curlers

MINUTES



- Original 16 Beer (Great Western Brewing) will have a bar in the Crowsnest and will be served in the arena
 - Curler's luncheon will be held in the curling lounge on Jan, 23. Approximately 120 people expected.
 - Can use "Raffle Box" for 50/50, therefore don't need a gaming license for the club.
- 4.4. Policy Manual
- Board members were asked to review up to pg. 16 (end at "Curler of the Year") of the draft Policy Manual prior to the meeting.
 - Note that formatting (e.g., section numbering) is in need of correction.
 - Suggested edits include removing specific dollar amounts, and minor changes to wording in some sections
 - Facilities – states that the President is responsible for allocating keys.
 - It has been an ongoing concern that we don't know who has keys for the closet under the stairs. Esquimalt does not have a list.
 - We need a better way to keep track of who has keys. Perhaps a key sign-out?

5. New Business

5.1. Dehumidifier

- Friday leagues lost one day when a fan belt on the dehumidifier broke.
- Part was replaced and the ice was good the next day.
- Leagues were refunded for missed day.

5.2. Buzzers

- Clock inside the rink and the buzzers are out of sync. AI has sent a message to facilities requesting that they be reset.

5.3. Lounge Furniture

- Bob Herbert requested that AI ask Esquimalt to fix the chairs in the lounge. Some chairs are ripped and tables are stained.
- Bob also noted that every bonspiel could use a whiteboard to post notices, 50/50 winners, etc.

6. Curl BC Report

- *Curl BC Rep was not at the meeting, but information was provided via email both before and after the meeting.*
- Curl BC fees will increase beginning next season.
 - Increase \$2 in the 2024/25 season and \$1 in each of the subsequent two seasons.
- BC Winter Games zone qualifiers for junior curlers -register by Nov 19.

7. Advertising and Sponsorship

- All sponsors have been invoiced.
- Signs and logos are finished, waiting for AlleyKat invoice
- One score board is without sponsor, Len suggests gifting it to a local charity (ECC to cover the cost of a sign, ~\$250). *Unable to vote, so will add to agenda for next meeting

MINUTES



- Anniversary in-ice logo missing (cost ~\$400). Suggestion to replace with “Welcome to Esquimalt Curling Club”. Logo was designed at no cost by a friend of Len’s, would be nice to offer a small token of thanks (i.e., gift card).
- Asham sales are low or nothing so profit sharing will end, but club can maintain discount code.

8. Treasurer’s Report

- *Treasurer’s report was distributed by email prior to the meeting because Cheryl was unable to attend in person.*
- Only 5 of 15 leagues have submitted rosters. Rosters are due Oct. 31.
- Club fees are due November 15th.

9. League Updates

9.1. Senior Select

- Bonspiel will break even. 16 teams registered.
- 10 teams each day of league play (lost 2 teams per day)

9.2. Monday/Wednesday Men

- Up one team on Monday, therefore have a bye because uneven number of teams.
- Wednesday = 1 full draw + 1 sheet
- Less than a month until bonspiel, 13 or 14 teams registered, but usually have a number of last-minute registrations.

9.3. Friday Ladies

- Up one team = 11 teams, therefore 1 bye
- Lost Oct 6 due to dehumidifier being broken

9.4. Golden Girls

- 13 teams = 1 bye
- New president starting in December

9.5. Monday Afternoon Ladies

- 7 teams
- Started on Oct 16, will continue until Dec 1

9.6. Tuesday Evening Ladies

- Bonspiel Dec 1-3
- 13 teams registered so far
- 10 team in league (9 teams last year)

9.7. Rebels

- 12 teams
- 1 team is short a lady so has been using spares

9.8. Senior Mixed

- 9 teams
- Includes 7 new people to the league

9.9. Youth

- Total of 8 kids in program

MINUTES



- lost 3 kids (jobs, etc.) but gained 5 new ones
- recruitment mostly by word of mouth

9.10. Doubles

- 5 teams, therefore 1 bye per week
- Due to pricing, only one game on the ice at a time. Back-to-back draws 1.5hr each.

9.11. Sunday Funday

- 14 teams, therefore have gone to 2 draws (3 games in 1st draw, 4 games in 2nd draw)

9.12. Senior Men

- Similar numbers to last year
- Started with 9 teams and a bye, will move to 10 teams in a couple of weeks as curlers return from vacation, etc.

10. Next Meeting

- *Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00pm.*

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.