



Victoria Curling Club

Board of Directors Meeting

March 12th, 2019 5:30-7PM

Minutes

Attendees: Neil Campbell, Paul Dixon, Marlene Jeffries, Mariah Coulombe, Mark Stefanson, Stu Fraser, Colin Coughlin, Donna Somer, Harold Trenchard, Kristine Dobell, Andrew Komlodi

1) Call to order

With quorum present, President Neil Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

2) Approval of the agenda

Motion: Move to approve the agenda for the March 12th, 2019 VCC Board Meeting.

Moved by: Mark Stefanson

Seconded by: Colin Coughlin

APPROVED

3) Approval of minutes from January 15th, 2019 meeting

Motion: Move to approve the minutes from the January 15th, 2019 VCC Board Meeting.

Moved by: Mark Stefanson

Seconded by: Colin Coughlin

APPROVED

4) Business arising from previous minutes

- a) Volunteer event - April 11th
- b) Lounge renovation proposal
- c) Membership in Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission

5) Correspondence

- a) No correspondence

6) President's Report: N. Campbell

- a) On behalf of the Board, Neil Campbell has been attending meetings and acting as a liaison with the organizing committees for the following upcoming bonspiels:
 - a) The Pacific Coast Masters Curling Association – March 19th to the 23rd
 - b) Soo Long Bonspiel – March 28th to the 31st
- b) Neil Campbell, Cody Hall, and many VCC members are helping out at the provincial U18 championships being held this week at Juan de Fuca Curling Club – the support of VCC has

been recognized by the outgoing President of JDF, Todd Jones, and others in the CRD curling community and Neil thinks this is helping to establish a benchmark of leadership and regional cooperation.

- c) To this end, Neil has had discussion with Len Stewart, from the Greater Victoria Curling Academy, as well as with Quenton Lehman to begin planning a club and regional strategy for the growth of youth curling and coach development. His goal is to set up a planning meeting sometime in April after the end of the curling season.
- d) On behalf of VCC, Neil Campbell attended the open house at the Victoria Mosque on Saturday, February 16th.
- e) Neil Campbell has been helping with coaching for club rentals as needed, as well as with the learn to curl program Sunday nights. Neil is pleased to so say that during one of the daytime rental sessions in February we had a group from the International Cultural Association, so congratulations to Donna for her work in reaching out to our community partners.
- f) There was a serious privacy issue during the Daffodil bonspiel. The matter was resolved, but there were a number of follow-up actions required:
 - a) A letter or apology and statement of action taken will be sent by the President to the individuals involved.
 - b) We will review the procedures and protocols around privacy and maintenance of the club washrooms and change room.
 - c) We will look at possible renovation over the summer to improve the privacy in the women's change room
- g) There is still no word yet from either Curl BC or Curling Canada about the possibility of VCC hosting a major championship (e.g. Canadian mixed) in the next 5 years.
- h) Neil Campbell has talked to the City of Victoria about a sister club relationship with the City of Morioka curling club, and they are giving their support and have provided with contacts – Neil will be drafting a letter to send off to Morioka CC within the week.
- i) The 2019 Curl BC AGM and business of curling seminar will be held in Kamloops from June 7th to the 9th.

7) Treasurer's Update: S. Fraser

- a) Revenues up, expenses down - seems like we're in good shape for the rest of the year. Currently \$50k ahead of budget compared with last year as well.
- b) Thunderbird expenses are not posted yet
- c) From Revenue Generation committee via Colin - if there is extra money, we can put it into the Capital Fund as a way to show the membership that we have not forgotten about this.

8) General Manager's Report: P. Dixon

- a) **Bonspiels and Events:**
 - a) The **Can MidWest Bonspiel** (rental) occurred over 3 days in mid-February, with 22 teams participating from as far east as Thunder Bay. Bar sales over the weekend were \$5,000.

- b) The **Ladies Daffodil** took place March 1-3, with 30 teams total (down from 32 last season), but was a success in all other aspects. Kudos to first year organiser, Caryl Buchanan, who did a fantastic job in conjunction with some committee members both old and new. \$4,000 was spent in the bar over the weekend, making it a lucrative bonspiel for the club from that aspect. Generally speaking, everything during the weekend went according to plan.
- b) **League Reps Meeting:**
 - a) A meeting of the League Reps was held on February 24 - the last day of the Adult Learn To Curl and Getting Started Leagues. Reps were able to “pitch” their leagues to the new curlers, which went well. During the meeting discussions were held about the upcoming **Inter-League Club Championship**, which we have allocated ice time for between March 24 - 27, prior to the Sooo Long Bonspiel.
 - b) The format of this event is still TBD, but the initial thought is to throw every league into one pool, try to promote camaraderie between leagues, and try to give this inaugural event as high a profile as possible. It was decided to try to cobble together one team from each of the leagues in the Club - as many as 16 - to compete in this event. Since this “doesn’t mean anything”, it is for Club bragging rights more than prizes or trophies.
 - c) Also discussed during the League Reps Meeting, was a plan to put **Rental Shoes** in place for next season, using seed money from the PCMCA, and two intermediate curling clinics held at the Club this year. We will start up a new **NSTF** charitable donation program to help fund this from Club members and donors as well.
- c) **ALTC Wrap:**
 - a) The 2nd season of the ALTC (Adult Learn to Curl) wrapped up, and has, in the process, birthed a new league - at the moment called “Getting Started”, we will run this league on Sundays from 5pm - 7pm, and follow this with the proper Adult Learn To Curl Program, running from 7pm - 9pm. This has been an unqualified success this year, and many kudos go to Paul Addison for helping to keep this program thriving
- d) **UPCOMING**
 - a) **Bonspiels and Events:**
 - a) The **Men’s Thunderbird** is this weekend - 42 teams confirmed. Expecting a good weekend of curling and entertainment - Arf The Dog is playing Friday night at the Stone’s Throw Lounge.
 - b) The **Western Canada Dental Society Bonspiel** (rental) is taking place in mid-March. We have applied for and received an extension of our bar hours, allowing us to open at 9am on the three days of the bonspiel.
 - c) **PCMCA/BCIMCA Combined Championships** are getting closer. Everything seems to be going well, and the sponsors they have recruited have been easy to work with from a club perspective as well. Connect Hearing may do something for the Club in terms of a donation that is outside their contractual agreement with PCMCA. Fantastic. A VCC advertisement has been placed in the program (full page) at no cost to the club.

- d) **Soo Long Bonspiel** is also getting closer...to wrap the season on the last week of March. Entries coming in on schedule.
- e) Miscellaneous
 - a) The representative of the Sportsman League, currently playing at JDF has approached the Club to see about playing here (again) next season - this is Saturday mornings at 9:30am, with bar afterwards...it's a full league, so there is potential to see a sizeable chunk of revenue as a result if we can accommodate them. It looks good, but we would need to move our Junior League to the afternoons on Saturday, which would then impact some sheets of practice ice... Still worth it to the Club as a whole.
 - b) The General Manager intends to raise, at the next league reps meeting, a couple of changes/clarifications for our leagues at the Club, as strong suggestions:
 - c) Daytime leagues that currently cater to seniors, starting at 10am rather than 9:30am. This will allow curlers commuting from the West Shore or the Peninsula a better opportunity to get to the Club without spending 45 minutes to an hour in their cars, possibly increasing the number of curlers willing to make the trek into the city.
 - d) Nighttime leagues that are on the "late" draw should have a posted start time of 2hrs15min after the early draw, to allow a proper scrape and pebble of the ice by the ice crew. This is a worker safety issue, as players will occasionally start to throw stones while the crew is still working.
 - e) Further, all "early" draw leagues that have a league following them, should play to a buzzer mandated by the Club, rather than on a league by league basis.
 - f) VCC hosting 2019 BC Junior Provincials
 - a) December - during Christmas and New Years
 - b) Alex Horvath/Melissa Soligo co-chairing
- f) Contracts
 - a) Food Services
 - a) There is no contract in place other than the continuation of the previous contract (month to month).
 - b) The Food Service Committee will be meeting to review the options and recommend a plan of action
 - b) Icemaker contract is under review by the committee.
 - a) Up in the air due to the maintenance situation
 - b) Should add training of new ice makers into his contract

9) Committee/Team Reports

- a) Communication and Marketing Team - M. Jeffries
- b) Finance Committee - Stu Fraser
- c) Management Team - N. Campbell
- d) Membership Recruitment and Retention Team - K. Dobell



- a) Volunteer of the year award
- e) Revenue Generation Team - Colin Coughlin
- f) Strategic Planning Team - A. Komlodi
- g) Lease renewal - Colin Coughlin

10) Other Reports

11) New Business

- a) Celebratory event for Alex Horvath/Melissa Soligo will be held concurrently with the volunteers/sponsors event on April 11th.
- b) Gold Shield award for club volunteers - the board agreed on the recipients of this award to be awarded on April 11th.
- c) Nomination Committee - the AGM will be held again in September and the President asked Mark Stefanson to form a Nominating Committee to put together a slate of candidates for election to the Board.

12) Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 9th, 5:30 to 7:00 pm

13) Adjournment