

BOARD MEETING  
POTOMAC CURLING CLUB  
September 21, 2004

Board members in attendance: Dominique Banville (President), George Shirk, Rich Collins (Treasurer), Barry Nichols, FL Ettl (Secretary), Michael Fry, Barry Bass (VP), Anne Drummie

Board members absent: Kate Monagan, John Bittner, Nick Datlowe

Other members present: Brian Galebach, Rebecca Baxter

I. Call to Order @ 7:39pm

II. Secretary's Report

Motion: Approve modified minutes (Bass, Collins)

Vote: Motion Passed

III. Treasurer's Report

IV. Old Business

A. Final Budget - Discussion of proposed figures for the budget, including pointing up that the budget presented in June did not take into account the tax liability of 17k. Fund raising target was raised up to 47k from 30k to reflect this difference. Anne doesn't see much difference between having the fund raising target stay at 30k or raising it to 47k, but didn't seem thrilled about taking on the higher target. Discussion with Rich/Nichols regarding tax liabilities - Jay Davis looking into the possibility of reducing our tax liability, although Barry Nichols councils against optimisim. Baxter mentioned that she noticed on the maryland website that we might be able to get out of property tax if we aren't considered a social club, but we might be able to if we are billed as an educational group. Banville points out that we may need to revisit "social membership" and change it to something else. Bass suggested making the fund raising target a round 40k. Anne felt that 40k, or 47k are similarly out of reach. Proposal: Put Fund Raising at 40k, no objections.

Motion: Accept budget as modified to reflect 40k fundraising instead of 47k, results in net income 24,650 (Nichols, Bass)

Vote: Motion Passed

(side discussion - how much does it cost the club when a check bounces?

**\*\*\*ACTION ITEM - Collins to determine how much it costs the club when a check bounces, and where the \$ for returned checks came from\*\*\*)**

side discussion - look at credit card fees.. is it worth it? (most agree it is but wonder if we should skip amex/discover because of their higher fees)

B. Via phone with Nick Datlowe... League nights status/Poll - 24 responses - 11 in favor, 9 indifferent, 4 opposed.(including Nick's response.) No one said they had to have the change in order to curl. Barry Bass says the only info he has is from those who replied to preferred Mon/Wed - only 1 preferred Wednesday for Capital league, where most of the people who signed up for Men's preferred Wednesday. Collins mentioned the late date for this change. Bass likes the idea of making the change, but wonders if it might be better to leave well enough alone this year and put into place a process for making changes for the future. 2 people said they cannot play if the change is made this year, the other 2 simply preferred that things stay the same. Discussion about mid-season switch ensued. Fry doesn't feel that the change at this late date is worth alienating anyone. General feeling is that we should wait until next year to make any changes, and should advertise those changes BEFORE the end of the current season. Shirk asks why is it something that the Board decides, instead of the membership. Board agrees that the membership should give input, however the Board must eventually make the choice about how to change the schedule in the future. George should like to have us tell the membership that the Board recommends a change, and would like your input. Anne does not wish us to use the word "Late" in regards to the lack of a change this year.

C. Insurance Status/Liability form - Collins, we have not changed insurance and will still need liability forms. Neil C mentioned that USCA is out of the insurance business. We may need to find insurance for this season, recommends we call Paul Mort to find out the information on the insurance some other GNCC clubs are using.  
\*\*\*\*\***Collins to ask Bittner about Insurance**\*\*\* Baxter recommends you fill out a new liability form each year, if forms are required.

D. Organizational Chart - Updated version passed out by Banville.

E. Operation - Status: Doug Andrew sent an update via email. He also agreed to take the "house" box (aka: Building) on the organizational chart. ***The Board recognizes the great investment of time and energy that Doug Andrew has donated to the Potomac Curling Club in the 2004 off-season. Thank you!*** Kitchen fund has 10k in hand, 1k in stock, plus another 10k cash pledged and should have enough money to complete the Kitchen project. Banville asked Collins if there is a timeline in mind for the kitchen, and what the status will be for the Inaugural. Collins hopes to have sinks, cabinets and maybe some counters installed in time. Ovens and Stove will likely not be in place as they may require a permit. Bittner is checking on the permit requirements. Kitchen will be usable for the Inaugural, but kitchen will not be complete until likely over the Christmas break.

F. "CORE" Curling Camp - Shirk: We now stand at 31 yes, 20 no, 9 maybe. George has been reluctant to push at other clubs until the Board tells him he can push at other clubs. Deadline for payment will be sometime around the 8th of October, but checks will be held until November 1st.

The Deal - we agreed that the first 45 people, we get \$5 per head. She reserves the right not to do the clinic if we don't reach 40 participants. She wants to

know what the number is after the membership meeting this weekend. They have agreed to take \$145 for the first 45 people, giving us \$5 per person. after 45 participants we get \$25 per head. We have the potential to make \$700 in fees. Costs are likely to be in the \$200 to \$300 range for the cost of reception and misc. costs. With donations for drinks, we may net up to 1k. 64 people is the maximum number of participants. Michael Fry will advertise at In the Hack, USCA and Pittsburg. Visa/MC accepted. Shirk will buy 10 spots if necessary to make sure the clinic will take place.

3 open houses, 2 LTCs. Who are the level 1 and 2 instructors? Volunteers wanted for both OHs and LTCs.

G. Wireless Internet - Bass: It works, Network Nation is the provider. Bass signed up for 300 min a month plan for \$10/ month.

H. Membership Meeting - Banville sent out an agenda via email, but forgot to make copies. **\*\*\*Banville to send out reminder email mentioning membership meeting and that it is a Potlock\*\*\*** Bass will bring extra volunteer surveys. Banville will present Organizational Chart and ask for volunteers. Membership/Dues, Events/Scheduling - Calendar & Leagues & New Nationals, Training (core, etc, suggestions for other special training classes welcome) Volunteers welcome, Finance/Fundraising **\*\*\*\*Nichols to call Jay Davis to ask him to present regarding Fund Raising \*\*\***, Kitchen/Bar/Operations, Mixed Nationals, Inaugural, Open Questions.

V. New Business

A. GNCC Meeting - Neil C: 2 Daves were doing a good job pimping the club last Sunday. GNCC meeting on 18th. Highlights: Looking for volunteers for 2006 Men's Worlds but please coordinate each club's volunteers, Ann went over stuff from USCA mtg - there is a strategy plan.. after the summer olympics, 5.5million was given to World Curling to run operations for next 4 years. NBC lost money on ICE. USCA pin sales are down. USCA is out of the insurance biz - so we need to find new insurance. USCA went to canada to see new approach to training. USCA is developing drills booklet to be available online, hopefully this year. Are thinking about making a resource center (brooms, stones, etc.. to be shipped to arena ice for demos). Still looking for stones. Interest in linking open houses to tv coverage. Dec 11/12 from 4 to 6pm and Feb 27, and worlds in April. USCA Youth Coordinator needed. Youth will be split into under and over 18 crowds. Faith from Plainfield is much involved. USCA: looking for hosts for events in 2006 and 2007. GNCC awards: nomination for awards is done with a form provided. On track to have Dykes in 2006 and the Women's Challenge in 2007. **\*\*\*Neil C. to check with Rotten if Women's Challenge is available in 2008 instead?\*\*\*** Senior Mixed scheduled first weekend in January at Chesapeake. Goldline is giving a club discount and has a New Hampshire warehouse to avoid duty at the border. **\*\*\*Neil C. to follow up with Harvey\*\*\*** Florida has gone kapoot, GNCC to get their stones back. GNCC has had trouble holding USCA accountable for their actions, Past President of GNCC is going to go around and ask for opinions about what is wrong with the USCA and how we could improve our relationship with them? Nominating committee for

GNCC Board can be found by asking Neil C. USCA Level 1 Instructors Nov 6/7 in Cape Cod. Will ask USCA for agenda 30 days ahead so we can be proactive and have time to react to problems at the USCA level.

USCA came up with plan in the spring regarding playdowns.. brought it to the meeting and the athletes were able to present an alternate plan: Men's have been changed to a plan that allows: You can go to Rd. 1, can go to Rd. 2 and be 9th place and still go onto Rd. 3. Please look at USCA website for most recent proposal. Club championship will be called USCA National teams - you can be from any country but you must be in the same league at a club to play together.

GNCC Spring Mtg 13-15 May in Nashua/Lowell

B. Recognition for Donators - Escrow Sandy Spring Bank: Collins - we had 2 people come up with 25k each 4 or 5 years ago when we needed it to get the club going. That was the final financial hurdle to get the club built. We are now able to get their money back from Sandy Spring and give it back to them. Collins suggests we give them a Thank You on top of that. Suggestions welcome. (Collins mentioned maybe a rink entry in a bonspiel?) Baxter asked about lifetime membership? Banville asked about prior donation thanks. Nichols doesn't feel that we have a precedence for this category of assistance, but thinks that perhaps lifetime membership would be more appropriate than a bonspiel donation. Neil C. worries about publicizing their names. Agreed to offer letter of thanks, return of their money, and lifetime membership.

C. Ice - Status. Working to level ice now, will probably wait to scrape on Thursday. Plan on paint Friday night & colors Saturday afternoon starting at 1pm. (Ice Committee to lay out circles, etc.. Saturday morning.)

D. Equipment request: Harvey wished to modify the ice equipment order. Nichols says Board does not need to touch.

E. Saturday morning league: Yes, in theory. Saturday morning Drop In is what is currently listed. Brian G. asked about listing it as competitive drop-in. Ettlin suggested he network to arrange competitive teams. Brian G. offered to coordinate the Saturday drop-in league.

F. Sign: Please power it up! (agreed) Shirk suggested both that we fire it up, and also add a daylight sensor so it doesn't run 24/7.

G. Brian G. thanks that the 3x in half season for non-members is great. Social members have same status as non-members, but he thinks that social members should not have to pay the \$10. Suggests that it seems cheap to make social members pay \$10 to play.

VI. Next Meeting: Monday October 18th @ 7:30pm

VII. Credit Card Training

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjour (bass, shirk)

Motion passed. meeting adjoured at 10:17pm