



**The Board of Directors of
The Potomac Curling Club of the National Capital Area, Inc.
MINUTES: Season 2008-09 Meeting 8
January 11, 2009 2:30pm Lundin Room**

Board Members Present:

Lisa Andrew
Susan Armiger
Michael Fry
Emily Morris
Barry Nichols
Rachel Sethi
George Shirk

Board Members Not Present:

Bruce Black
Ann Drummie
Sandra McMakin
Richard Warner

Members Present:

Chris Barth
Ken Wray

1) Call to order

2:40pm

Fry

2) Approve minutes of November 23, 2008 Meeting

Motion – Nichols

Second – Armiger

Vote – Approved

Drummie

3) Special Issues

a) Board of Directors Nominating Committee

Michael Fry will ask Rich Warner to contact Bob Pelletier to ask if he will coordinate again and to highlight the timing outlined in the by-laws. There will be four positions to fill.

The Board reflected on how last year there was a tie for a position. It was generally agreed that an amendment to the bylaws was not the appropriate vehicle for outlining procedures in the event of a tie. The Nominating Committee will be asked to consider the issue, and present a recommendation for the Board to initiate as a policy.

b) Awards Nominations Committee

Michael Fry will ask Rich Warner to contact Bob Pelletier to ask if he will coordinate this piece again within the same committee.

4) Committee Reports

a) Finance Committee:

Nichols, Armiger

i) Financial report

Susan Armiger distributed a report and summarized that the club is in good shape. The shortage on the revenue side is in fundraising.

ii) USCA/GNCC dues and USWCA dues

Paid.

iii) Insurance

The USCA/GNCC insurance is in place, including the liability. The details of the Directors and Officers piece are still being discussed, but we are essentially covered.

iv) Fundraising chair

Rachel Sethi suggested some members to Barry Nichols, who will pursue contacting them to hopefully identified two co-chairs or create a full committee which can self-select chairs.

v) Refunds on membership fees

In light of some recent requests for refunds on membership fees from members who unexpectedly will not be able to participate in the second half, the Board discussed if a refund policy should be developed. Issues raised included the following:

- Integrity of the value of membership
- Voting privileges
- Fixed costs per member ex. USCA/GNCC dues
- Reference point for proration
- Public relations / customer service

The Board agreed to continue on a case-by-case basis and discuss again at future meetings.

b) Events Committee:

Fry

i) Hangover Spiel

Only due to cancellations was the event not at full capacity. The first round went well. The second round was cancelled due to ice conditions (too warm) which have since been addressed.

ii) Junior Bonspiel

Harvey Chalmers has reported that the event is on track with an expected 9 teams.

iii) Maryland Senior Olympics

No report.

iv) GNCC Mixed Playdowns

The entry deadline is this week. Once number of teams is known, final plans such as liquor licence paperwork can be completed.

v) MACAs

The Board acknowledged Rachel Beyerle's note about low participation to date in the MACA events. It was understood that the dates haven't been convenient. The Board will be supportive in encouraging all members, particularly new, to participate.

vi) Cherry Blossom

Michael Fry will be chairing the bonspiel.

c) Ice Committee:

Nichols

i) General update

The committee is continuing with scraping and routine maintenance schedule. Ken Wray continues to be amazing.

Issues about the chiller were discussed.

- The knowledge base on how the outside weather and the various data available from gauges and thermometers is growing. Ken Wray and Barry Nichols are monitoring and are making adjustments as needed. When asked, it was suggested that players need not be alerted to this level of detail as any appropriate changes should not be noticeable to players. This will be tested during the GNCC Mixed as this practice occurs through the event.
- The expected life of the chiller is 15 years. It's probable that power surges caused the recent performance issues (like the Hangover Spiel). More attention will be given to maintain the chiller (ex. test run it for a day in the summer). It generally understood

that the capital cost of new chiller will eventually be wiser than extended maintenance costs, and that it will be a priority candidate for the operating reserve.

- d) **Membership Committee:** *Black, Sethi*
- i) **General update (January OH/LTC)**
24 people attended the Thursday Open House, and 55 on Saturday.
25 people were registered for Sunday LTC but only 4 were registered for Thursday.
The capture rate from OH and LTC is low. It wasn't clear if any rookies signed up versus people who had curled before. It was suggested that perhaps we need to think more about a structured, strategic approach to the off-ice/end portion of OH and LTC, and how we create that broomstacking environment. (ex. did sharing the warm room with juniors make it harder to close a membership deal? Were there enough members around to talk to?)
- e) **Training Committee:** *McMakin, Shirk*
- i) **General update (wheelchair clinic, officiating clinic)**
An officiating clinic is scheduled for January 31.
No report re wheelchair clinic.
- f) **Leagues Committee:** *Andrew, Morris*
- i) **General update**
Electronic sign-up is progressing, and some problems are being fixed. The message to sign-up and do so before the deadline will be pushed this week.
- g) **Outreach Committee:** *Warner, Black*
- i) **General update**
Chris Barth shared his ideas for further publicizing curling toward youths (students, scouts, etc.). He is conducting a scout session on January 24. He was encouraged to coordinate with the Outreach Committee, Junior League Coordinators, and Membership Committee on plans for contacting school principals, encouraging junior drop-in on Sundays, and developing a Junior specific open house
- h) **Operations Committee:** *Wray, Shirk*
- i) **General update**
Ken Wray shared that lights on the house end have been replaced and a box of 30 is on its way. Everything is going smoothly.
- i) **Vision Committee:** *Drummie*
No report.
- j) **Communications Committee:** *Drummie*
No report.
- k) **GNCC:** *Warner, Christenson*
No report.
- l) **By-laws Committee:** *Fry*
No report.
- m) **Ad hoc Committee re Age in Bonspiels:** *Nichols*
No report.

5) Other Business

None.

6) Next Meeting

Sunday, February 15, 2009 2:30pm (without Lisa Andrew, Susan Armiger, and possibly Sandra McMakin)

4:15pm