



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MAY 24, 2023 7pm

Knights of Columbus, 252 Cobequid Rd

Attendees:

Cathy Paget – President	Stew Slauenwhite
Josef Zwanziger – Vice-President	Brenda Landry
Jolena Rafuse – Treasurer	Bob Green
Mike Strang – Jr. Program Director	Dianne Green
Stephen Melanson – Social Media Director	Steve Paget
Paul Landry – Bar Director	Kathleen Munro
Lynne Strang – Day Curling Director	Grant Warner
Curt Stephens – General Manager	Laura Napke
Nolan Landry – Facilities Director	Peter Johnson
Keith Bennett – Past President	Frank Sutherland
Laughie Rutt – Sponsorship Director	Mike Howell
Ian Patrick – Social Director	Shelley MacKay
John Chisholm – Social Event Co-Director (acting Secretary)	Les Reid

Regrets:

Les Macey – Secretary	Kourtney Rogers – Membership Director
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The Meeting was called to order by President Cathy Paget at 7:00pm.

Cathy thanked all who are participating in tonight's AGM.

Approval of Agenda – Added to Agenda were “Spirit of the Game” Awards by Cathy and “Event Programming/Scheduling” by Laura Napke. The agenda was APPROVED as circulated and amended.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting from May 25th, 2022 were read by Cathy and presented for approval. It was noted by Dianne Green that her first name was incorrectly spelled in those minutes. Moved by Keith, seconded by Josef, that these Minutes be approved as distributed. APPROVED.

REPORTS:

Presidents Report

Cathy's Report was read and is submitted as an attachment. From it, Cathy thanked Curt Stephens, Club GM and Graham Conrad, Club Head Ice Tech, for their work this past season. She noted that although membership numbers were up since the past "Covid Years" they are not back to pre-Covid numbers. Cathy pointed out that the loss of the Lakeshore Cashspiel due to the power loss from Storm Fiona hindered that revenue generating event. Noted too, was the other power failures and that meetings were held with she/Curt and Wendy, the Sports Stadium Manager, to convey our displeasure with the reason for losing our ice and that this needed to be remedied. Wendy advised a work requisition has been implemented to address the power plant issues and specifically an alarm to notify Sports Stadium staff of a "Ice Plant Failure". Cathy was pleased to advise membership that with Keith/Paul and HRM/Sports Stadium, a new 10 year lease with an additional 5 yr option was signed. This bodes well for longevity and planning with our Curling Club. Further, Cathy mentioned successful events hosted by Lakeshore included the U18 NS Championships, the U16/U19 Mixed NS Championships, the Strathcona Cup to mention a few. She thanked John for his role in these events as well as all volunteers who assisted with many events this year.

Questions from her report: John asked the procedure for when the alarm on the power plant is installed. Curt advised that the Sports Stadium staff are to contact Lakeshore CC with a contact that we provide (Curt/Graham).

Treasurer's Report:

Jolena's reports were reviewed and are submitted as an attachment. She noted a few items/events that were not known for the budget and costing the Club. A couple of these were the Strathcona Cup costing \$1,500 and increasing credit card fees associated with and specifically in the payment of members fees.

Questions were brought forward by Dianne Green on the Jr. Curling revenue and Ice Rentals which were explained. Bob Green questioned the HST amounts paid on our Lease where Jolena explained we get the difference (between paid and collected) back at years end which was approximately \$48 this year. John noted that our 'old rocks' have value since being relinquished to us from HRM and our bookkeeping methods will allow for this to show once they are sold/traded (approx. \$9,000).

2023/2024 Budget (approved separately from reports):

Jolena went over the new Budget for the 2023/2024 curling year. Questions from Dianne Green regarding the number of Jr. Curlers where Cathy advised the past year's number of Junior Curlers and that some Junior Curlers actually participated in Adult League curling as well. Dianne also asked about an audit of Lakeshore Bookkeeping. Jolena advised that an audit was being performed presently by a Chartered Accountant but that it was not a Full Audit that would be approximately \$5,000.00 to \$8,000.00 to have completed. She explained the difference between the two audits. Laughie thanked Jolena for her work as treasurer these past number of years!

**** This Budget was separated from reports.** Moved by Laughie R and seconded by Paul Landry that the 2023/2024 Budget be APPROVED. PASSED.

General Manager's Report:

Curt's report was read as submitted as attached. Curt noted Lakeshore successes with this being our first post-covid year. He noted Adult memberships were at 328 with Junior Curling Memberships at 70. The junior Program with was strong under the leadership of Mike Strang. Ice rentals as a whole were increasingly strong as the year progressed. He thanked all members who volunteered as instructors for ice rentals requiring their skills and assistance. Some negatives included the power outages we experienced, leaks in the roof, the IWK Charity Spiel being cancelled and of course the CashSpiel.

Curt was excited to share how so many members, outside curlers and guests commented on our Lakeshore ice conditions. He thanked Graham, Paul, Stew and all those helping with the ice making procedures. In addition, he thanked the great cooperation he had from Paul and all the Lakeshore bar staff. He also noted the use of our facility for the WICK, Intra Club Stick and Metro Masters leagues. Curt ended with thanking all members for their assistance and cooperation in making his first year easier. A special thank you to Samantha Wentzell, former GM, for her input and assistance. Dianne Green questioned the leaky roof and if a rebate from the SSS/HRM was received. It was advised by Curt and Cathy that no rebate was received and that a consecutive 7 day period would warrant a rebate procedure. Bob Green asked if the lease could be revised to allow for a better compensation when we lose use of the ice for such things. It was noted that a 10yr lease has already been signed and in place therefore not possible at this time. Bob Green stressed the importance of constant membership updates to our website, Facebook Page, emails and in-house. He added that League reps are important for these such updates. He recommended that each Board member be a league Rep. John responded that he and some were league reps and that he was busy enough. Steve Paget commented on the news that a 30 million renovation to the Sports Stadium is in the works for 2026/2027. A few comments were discussed to make the Sports Stadium aware of our “wish list” and club adding space.

Junior Curling Program:

Mike submitted his report as attached and was read. From it, he advised that they had 70 Junior members. The U18 league was strong with 10 teams and that the U13 only had 2 teams. They decided to fold the U13 league and add some of those players to the U18 league and added a Junior Mixed league. This brought 10 teams forward which generated \$500.00 to the Lakeshore funds. Mike noted the Junior Cashspiel last year generated \$2,000.00 and that interest for this year’s Junior Spiel shows good interest. Our Junior teams have had great success including Junior Team Bonspiels won or medalled in with teams Reagan and Strang. Our very own Brody Coughlan, grandson of Barb Ehler, won the U10 “Hit, Tap n Draw” event held at Lakeshore in conjunction with the U16/U19 NS Mixed Championships. Mike thanked all Junior Instructors and commended them on a great job! A final note from Mike that regularly there is an online/live curling camera to tune in to our Junior curlers on YouTube - search “Lakeshore Junior Curling”. John thanked Mike for all his years of volunteering in his role as Junior Program, Director, Coach and serving on the NSCA Executive.

Social Event Director’s Report:

John submitted a report as attached. From it he listed most of the events held at Lakeshore through the curling year. He advised the success of each event. The NS Championships garnered good funds for the Club and that although the Strathcona Cup cost the Club \$1500.00 of expenses, it was an extremely worthwhile event for our Club to host, enjoy the 20 Scottish Curlers visit and participate in once every 10 years. Bob Green commented that there should be more events for the Club membership-as-a-whole. Laura Napke noted that she and many spectators enjoyed watching these events and acknowledged the smoothness and good organization of these events. It was here that Laura brought up the unfortunate situation where a team properly registered for the “Family FunSpiel” and were left off the Spiel’s Draw. Curt advised he took full responsibility for this oversight and that it will have a procedure going forward so it doesn’t happen again.

It was MOVED by Ian Patrick and SECONDED by Steve Paget, that the above reports be accepted as read and submitted. Motion APPROVED.

New Business:

Dues:

Cathy advised that the Board has approved an increase in Membership Dues and fees. Increases include Adult Membership up from \$250 to \$300 base fee; Junior Development Program fees increasing by \$25, Wheelchair Dues up

from \$99 to \$125; Junior Practice ice up from \$150 to \$200; Adult Practice ice up from \$175 to \$250; and our Club ice rental up from \$100/hr to \$125/hr.

New Rocks:

Laughie submitted a report from the New Rock Committee, it is attached. From it, Laughie advised the Club had a Motion and commitment over a year ago to acquire New Curling Rocks for the Club in 2 years time using the Lakeshore Club's funds to that end. He reported that a New Rock Committee had been convened that includes Chair - Laughie Rutt, Steve Galloway, Dan Leslie and John Chisholm. They have had advice from Graham Conrad, Cathy Paget, Josef Zwanziger and Mike Strang. With that, and the current rocks at life's end, a new set of 96 New Curling Stones have been ordered through Kays of Scotland. Kays of Scotland required a first installment of half the invoice to begin our order. This first installment has been sent and received by Kays. They will be double insert rocks. There were only 2 options for companies manufacturing professional Curling Stones and the Canada Curling Stone Company was currently not taking orders due to lack of a supply of granite. The approximate price will be \$91,000.00. A few fees that have been approximated are Import Fees, HST, Handles/Bolts/Washers and handle engraving. The New Curling Stones are to arrive before the end of October 2023. Laughie reported that the New Rock Committee has been working on New Rock Sponsorship through both Businesses (both Corporate and Private) and our membership. Also, that many grants are being sought out and completed to help defray the cost of the New Rocks. He noted that all membership should be invested in this challenge to assist in getting the New Rock Funds raised. Rock Handle Sponsorship is one of the main ways we are addressing to recoup some of the cost of the New Rocks/Handles. Members will have an opportunity to "Sponsor" a rock (or more). However, there will be a limit of 40 rocks that will be set aside for Membership sponsors. The other 56 will be for Businesses and Corporate advertising to get greater remuneration. This Rock Sponsorship would be for at least 10 years and names/businesses engraved directly on the Rock Handles. John reported that the old rocks do have a value albeit unknown at this time - it is approximated at \$9,000.00. Questions Arising: Nolan Landry asked if our New Rocks can now be used for Provincial Championships rather than the NSCA Provincial Rocks. Mike Strang advised that query would be a question for the NSCA Competitions Director to answer. Steve Paget praised the efficiency and speed with which the New Rocks are being acquired! Frank Sullivan asked if a "Capital Fund" could be started to ensure the future funds for rock refurbishing or replacement. Josef advised that it had been discussed and approved but that with membership dues increasing this year, it would be a supplement to the following year's membership fees.

League Format:

Josef reported on the current software package being used for our Curling leagues. He noted, although comparatively very cheap, it has many bugs that have been and continue to be a time consuming part of the league programming. He is working on a "Google Calendar" of all the Lakeshore Club's events and Leagues. Also, he made mention of all club events to be posted in-house at the club. He looks to get the program to show updates for draws and get league reps to look for member suggestions for the year's end format and otherwise. Bob Green commented that the club in past years had regular or monthly events for the membership to participate. He questioned the use of a "bye" in league play and how it is unfair in the league stats and standings. John, Joe, Curt and Steve all had some discussion on this point. It was decided to leave it for actual leagues to be polled as to what they would prefer on the "Bye" in standings/results. The issue of actual "Byes" was brought up by Lynne Strang and a discussion followed on how to remedy or help the number of team "Byes" encountered. Steve M asked if it were possible to pause registrations on a full league until other leagues filled up. It was noted that members have certain days they are available or desire to curl and that restricting registration in this "Pause" would negatively affect registration numbers considerably!

Spirit of the Game Awards:

Curt reported that nominations had been received during the "open window" for a female and male "Spirit of the Game" Award as in past years. Barb Ehler was awarded for Female, John Chisholm was awarded for Male.

Elections:

Cathy thanked all those who are leaving or fulfilled their 2 yr role (or more) on the Board or Executive. Vacancies now open are Treasurer, Secretary, Junior Program Director, Social Media Director, Social Event Co-Director, and Membership Director.

Nominations:

Treasurer – Nomination brought forward and agreed upon was for Grant Warner. Cathy asked the members in attendance three times for further nominations for Treasurer. Where none were announced, Grant Warner was pronounced the new Treasurer by acclamation.

Secretary – Nomination brought forward and agreed upon was for Les Reid. Cathy asked the members in attendance three times for further nominations for Secretary. Where none were announced, Les Reid was pronounced Secretary by acclamation.

Junior Program Director - Nomination brought forward and agreed upon was for Daniel Bonner. Cathy asked the members in attendance three times for further nominations for Junior Program Director. Where none were announced, Daniel Bonner was pronounced Junior Program Director by acclamation.

Social Media Director – No nominations were brought forward.

Membership Director – No nominations were brought forward.

Social Event Co-Director - No nominations were brought forward.

Cathy advised these positions will be addressed in the future months.

Moved by Keith Bennett at 9:02pm that this AGM meeting be adjourned, seconded by Cathy Paget. **Meeting Adjourned.**