

5/8/10

WISCONSIN STATE CURLING ASSOCIATION
MEMBERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Date: May 8, 2010

Place: Poynette Curling Club, Poynette, WI

MEMBERS' MEETING:

Members' meeting called to order at 9:30 A.M. by President, Jeremy Roe.

ROLL CALL & CLUB REPORTS:

Roll call was taken of the clubs with updates from various clubs present.

The following clubs were present at the meeting: Appleton, Arlington, Blackhawk (Janesville), Centerville, Clintonville, Green Bay, Kettle Moraine, La Crosse, Madison, Milwaukee, Portage, Poynette, Racine, Rice Lake, Stevens Point, Tri-City, Waukesha, Waupaca, Wausau and Wauwatosa. The following clubs were absent. The number in parentheses represents the consecutive meetings missed: Alpine (10), Loch Wissota (20), Lodi (5), Marshfield (1), Milwaukee (1)*, Medford (11), Pardeeville (1)*. (* indicates report emailed to President)

Appleton - Jim O'Neill reported. Had spring meeting 5/7. Profit is up, increased rental income some \$1000+. Learn to curl program had 52 members during 5 weeks in late Feb. - March. Don't know how many will stick. Started remodeling interior on both floors including replacing dark paneling, kitchen wiring and painting the locker area. Effort is to make the area attractive to new curlers.

Arlington - Bernie Dushek reported. It was a successful season. Club was part of the 60 team senior Nationals. Got a new ice floor & chiller a year ago.

Blackhawk (Janesville)- Aaron Richards reported. Had 24 teams for the Men's. Will be re-insulating and looking at dehumidification. Will host USWCA Senior National next year. Open houses after Olympics brought in 150 people. Club had 4 week spring league.

Centerville - Dan Lilla reported. Membership is up last 2 years. Lots of interest after Olympics. Bonspiels went well. Heat recovery system is credited with \$400 natural gas savings.

Clintonville - John Williamson reported. Have a new roof with no leaks. City doubled the price of water. Club is looking at geothermal.

Green Bay - Bill Wilberg reported. The Green Bay Curling Club had another Great Year with many things to be excited and proud of:
Hosted Summer Olympic Camps (Men, Women's and Paralympics)
Hosted the USCA Fall Meeting
29 New/returning members this year/15 student or Sunday only (lost 26/10 Student or Sunday only)
College kids at UWGB started a curling club and curled on Tuesday afternoons as well as in Monday; Tuesday & Thursday leagues (Women did a Battle of the Babes with Appleton's women & club held an intra club
Hangover bonspiel on January 1st.
Club fun night was very successful with many guests
Badger State Games last summer and again this summer (growing)
Successful Bonspiels - Tailgate Open, Men's, Shamrock (women's), junior and mixed about \$14,300 total.
Spring & Fall beginner's leagues - 4 teams in the spring and 6 teams in the fall
Spring & Fall Open Leagues - 9 teams in the spring (2 leagues) and 8 teams in the fall
John Gruden & ESPN fun night - out of that we had coverage on the Monday night football game (Dec 7), Garmin GPS has curling segment in their ads, Fox 11 came in one morning (Jan 12)
Open houses - Fall 6 Open houses and Spring 7 post Olympic Open houses (513 people through the doors for the first 5 days of the spring.
Are working on a Senior Men's Spiel for the first weekend in August
Are looking at the possibility of hosting a fall (September) 5 year and under bonspiel
Are planning additional fall beginner leagues and open houses to capitalize on the Olympic curling hype.

Kettle Moraine - Dave Lewis reported. Golf outing dates will be set at annual meeting. Bonspiels went well. Deciding what to do with ice house (dehumidify? Seal/insulate?) Had successful Olympic programs. Changing from card to number code access,

Madison - Mark Hartman reported. It was a successful season for the Madison Club. Highlights were hosting the Club Team Nationals, and hosting 600 prospective new curlers after the Olympics. Both of those events contributed to Madison having a slight gain financially.

Milwaukee - Jeremy Roe reported for Matt Goelzer. We are looking at two more years at Ozaukee, minimum. If we can raise the

required money by next January, the project will move forward, but we would not be in the new club until the Fall of 2012.

Pardeeville - Vicki Griepentrog provided a written report that was clearly the wrong document.

Poynette - Dave Carlson reported. Steady through the year. 70 curlers in spring league. Hosted Senior Nationals. Fall/Spring spiel will be curl-golf-curl.

Racine - Mike Dry reported. Had 164 new people on the ice for Olympic Open House. 64 of those people participated in four week post-Olympic League. Don't know how many will stick around in the fall, but entry fee from this league applies to fall beginners dues.

Rice Lake - Larry Sharp reported. Membership steady until end of year when it picked up. Added 12 members from WITC classes. Fixed up viewing area - replaced the bleachers with tables. Club is installing on-ice closed circuit TV with flat panels. The heat exchanger has worked out well. The dehumidifier saves money and results in better ice. There are four new bonspiels.

Stevens Point - David Garber reported. Good year! Post Olympic league brought in 30 new members. Sitting at 130 members. Thursday men now have to curl Monday as well. Club has new emissivity barrier and fluorescent lighting. Men's spiel was full. The reground rocks are working out well. Hosted a class from UWSP

Tri-City - Jon Neidhold reported. Hosted Senior Men's. Had 70 to 80 try curling during Olympics. Men's bonspiel went well. Had a Valentine's Day Curlers' Dinner. Membership is stable.

Waukesha, Greg Dunlop reported. Nothing new.

Waupaca - Dennis Girard reported. Membership and finances are stable. We have no major projects for the upcoming curling season. Will be concentrating on paying down the debt. We will be removing the dividers between our sheets of ice. This will gain more width to each sheet, but, will still be short of regulation. Our newly formed membership committee for the 2009-2010 curling season was very successful. We had a gain of 16 new members. That is a 15% increase for the club. We hope to have the same success next year.

Wausau - Howie Fisher reported. The Wausau Curling Club has approximately 300 curlers. We were down around 20 this past season. We have 3 High Schools curling in our club. We host the Tietge High School Bonspiel every January. Wausau West Boy's won State and our girls came in 2nd. We are very proud of them!

We host a 1st Chance Bonspiel every November. It is always the 2nd weekend of the month. We have been trying to get this bonspiel to grow a bit more, so please help us by agreeing to consider sending a team to Wausau for this 6-end, 2-day, event.

We host a 2-day Women's Bonspiel in January, too. This weekend may get switched around a little this year as we are trying a few new things.

For the last 60 years, we have had the very successful Wausau Men's Invitational Bonspiel in February. I don't need to elaborate too much on this one... a few of you here today may have had the good fortune to participate and if so, I am sure you agree that this is an event you won't want to miss.

Badger State Games is in flux as of right now... we are trying to determine whether we will continue our Association with them as the rest of the games will no longer be hosted in our community.

We are still planning on a new curling facility, but at this time, I have nothing to report on our timetable.

We had a tremendously successful Olympic Open House with over 300 people coming to our club over 2 days, for free on-ice instruction and lunch. We were able to sign up 40 new curlers for a 3-week mini league. We are very encouraged with that turnout and expect our membership to grow in the coming seasons.

Wauwatosa - Greg Dunlop reported. Not much new. Gained membership with the Olympics,

La Crosse - Dave Russell reported. About 5 to 10 curl at Centerville. About 15 former members are in discussion with the city about sharing a chiller with hockey ice.

Upon a motion from Dave Carlson, which was duly seconded by Greg Dunlop and carried unanimously, the Members' meeting was adjourned at 10:22 AM.

DIRECTORS' MEETING:

Directors' meeting called to order at 10:38 A.M. by President, Jeremy Roe.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Mike Dry reported:

Secretary Michael Dry presented the minutes of the October 3, 2009 meeting. It was noted that Paul Pustovar's name was misspelled. Upon a motion from Dave Carlson, which was duly seconded

by Dave Lewis and carried unanimously, the minutes, as corrected, were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Greg Dunlop reported:

The Treasurer's Report was distributed. Dues were steady for prior 9 years, but reserves went down 5 of last 6. Balance is \$7500 but was \$12,000 in 2001 to 2004. Playdown expenses are 95% of the dues collected. 80% of our members were reported by 1/31. We need to look at playdown financing to control expenses. We receive \$40 per playdown team and reimburse winners expenses for entry fees. USCA gets \$290 per team. A Committee consisting of Bill Wilberg, Dave Carlson, Mark Hartman, Dave Lewis, Greg Dunlop and Mike Dry will meet to discuss our options and make recommendations. Upon a motion from Jim O'Neill, which was duly seconded by John Stolp and carried unanimously, the Treasurers report was accepted.

USCA DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Mark Swandby reported.

Distributed and discussed the USCA Member Services Report. The USCA has new officers. They are interested in setting up an ice maker program. We need a new High Performance Plan (HPP) every four years per the USOC. The teams obviously didn't do so well and that is a large topic of discussion. However, there will probably be no change to the selection format. To deal with the problem of alcohol at Junior events, they used random testing at Nationals. Kellie Krake noted that this intent is that the competitors are dry; not the clubs. USCA dues will increase for all categories currently at or above \$20. This is everything except "Youth" and "Other."

At the WCF Officer elections resulted in the sitting President, Les Harrison of Canada being defeated by Kate Caithness of Scotland. This is the first time a sitting President has been defeated. People thought Les was not proactive enough dealing with the problem the IOC has with marketing in Canada. WCF say that InFront is to be in charge of worldwide marketing and Canada does not yet have an agreement. The WCF has a 7 person Management Committee and a 3 person Executive Committee. Traditionally, the US has had one of these spots and that continues with Andy Anderson from Chicago.

Rules that affect playdowns and continue are: games will stay at 10 ends; tiebreaker games will continue as will extra ends. Timeouts are eliminated. Now, each team has 73 minutes of clock time with one minute long coaches interaction, during which the clock runs. In an extra end there is 8 minutes per team with a similar coach's interaction. Dress code specifies matched uniform. Yes, the Norwegian men's pants were OK.

In 2012 Seniors will be in Nov.

US brought up the stick rule. WCF says it stays; the US, Canada & Scotland are still ignoring the new rule. The question was posed whether this affects the Scots Tour. Mark was unsure but stated the WCF has nothing to do with the event. He will check.

Larry Sharp asked about the 2/23 article in the WSJ that says Rick Patzke said we expected to lose. The article was untruthful. Rick said we changed the way we trained. According to Rick they took his statements and took portions out of context to fit their preset agenda. The regular curling press is upset with the WSJ. We need to change our image from hard partying, anybody can do it and make it clear that our top athletes ARE athletes.

Dave Carlson reported.

28 sets of stones are coming and 22 sets are spoken for. 4 sets are going to Hayward. Eau Claire got 5 sets from Edina. Clubs can make an application, but established clubs are not the target. Cost is \$460/stone.

Dues were last raised three seasons ago.

Question what to do about Regions who don't fully pay. This includes Wisconsin. If we don't correct it, we lose our votes.

Regarding the donation program: A special thank you to Aaron Richards. Instead of direct sales, try raffling shirts and pins.

USCA is exploring non-dues sources of revenue.

Promotion videos were out there.

Dave Lewis went to Green bay to discuss the issue of \$25k to the Pettit. Neil Does said it was a USOC effort to expose inner-city kids to ice sports. USCA's only involvement was providing stones. Dave Lewis: "Why didn't the clubs know about the Milwaukee bid?"

Kelly Krake reported.

Stones are WCF program; USCA is just the conduit.

She is not busy as the Regional Coordinator. Please use her as a resource. We need more sites for Level I and II Programs. Using her provides consistency.

The Ice Maker Certification is an effort by the USCA to provide value.

We will submit a team to the World University Games Jan 27 to Feb 6. We need playdown sites with 4 sheets for Nov 18 - 21. USCA will pay for ice time and provide umpire. Local interested people can apply to officiate.

The youth committee is rewriting the guidelines for camps.

NBC worked hard on the Olympic coverage and got high ratings. They are happy with the sport, the organization and the people.

Richard Maskel reported.

Richard represents the athletes at the USCA. He just happens to curl at 3 Wisconsin clubs.

NBC did great game coverage going to three or more complete games a day. We would probably not do as well if a different network gets it. The Olympics is a train that stops every 4 years. Start planning now! Let's learn from ourselves.

If you want, bid on new rocks and sell your old ones to an arena club.

John Williamson is willing to help with ice making training.

Youth Olympics will be in 2012. Limited to those born 1/1/94 to 12/31/95. One team - 2 boys & 2 girls. Playdowns will be Nov 2011.

Some refer to the HPP as the "Hidden Performance Plan." It is a 221 page document created without athlete input. Athletes feel like they are in the line of fire for finger pointing. The COO of the USCA says, "We have a Warren Buffett plan in a Jimmy Buffett culture." Our top athletes are top athletes and that kind of talk from the head of the organization is a problem!

A Break was taken from 12:35 to 12:56.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Jeremy Roe reported:

The Olympics were at the same time as the Club Nationals in Madison. There were hundreds of volunteers. It was a great experience with great camaraderie and great exposure for the sport. Dave Carlson worked with an advertising group, got 3 sponsors and raised \$27k for billboards, radio and TV. The Olympics were shown on a 50" flat screen in the clubhouse. Two small clubs in close proximity should consider hosting this event in the future.

Jeremy was copied on two letters from the USCA to individuals in Hayward and Wausau interested in starting clubs. We also received,

through the website an inquiry from David Sorenson in Rice Lake about starting a club in New Richmond. He has a building, is interested in the stone purchase program. He is putting together a financial plan and is interested if there is "stimulus" money available. According to Mark Swandby: WCF is opening loan program of \$30k/sheet. (Potomac got \$50k/sheet for 4 sheets and is 75% paid off. They will be paid off in 2 more years) The money flows through the USCA as guarantor so they would want collateral.

Jeremy was contacted by Doug Runnoe, Superior CC President. They would like to rejoin. He has also contacted the USCA. He has questions: What are reporting options? What is a member? Mark Swandby will clarify. How long before members can compete in USCA events after club joins? Two years. This may be waived.

The Chinese Women's Skip will be studying at Madison for six months with 10 other Chinese athletes.

Jeremy expressed that it has been an honor to serve as President. He has been coming to meetings for ten years, but some have been doing it for much longer. He has made many new friendships. Decisions of this organization must consider the needs of all. Clubs must be the main consideration

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

RULES - Richard Maskel reported.

Mark Swandby gave a good summary. Apparently the plan is to tweak rules instead of major changes

DIRECTORY/WEBSITE - Mark Hartman reported:

There have been lots of contacts. It was a proud moment when we got an inquiry about a new club! Mark will now coordinate the collection of data on officers and bonspiels - relieving the secretary of these duties. As a reminder, the website is at www.wi-curling.com.

Bonspiel Calendar - Jeremy Roe reported:

He provide copies of a draft. Please provide correction or confirmation ASAP.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - Mark Hartman reported:

The Wisconsin Junior Championship was hosted by the Eau Claire Curling Club, on Dec. 27-30, 2009. Eau Claire Club Manager, Rich Defriend was the local chair, and he along with the rest of the Eau Claire Club put on a first class event. Eight boy's teams and four

girls teams competed in the event, with two teams of each qualifying for the Nationals in Bemidji. On the girls side, the champion was the Becca Hamilton team from Madison, and taking second place was the Erin Wallace team from Green Bay. The Hamilton team went on to take the Silver Medals in the Nationals.

On the boys side, we ended up with a three way tie after the round robin between the Blake Morton team from Madison, The Tom Gabower team from Madison, and the defending champions, Brad Caldwell from Centerville. We had to design a special playoff, in order to award two spots at Nationals along with the state championship. In the first playoff game, Blake Morton defeated the Tom Gabower team to win both the state championship and the first national qualifier. In the Second qualifier game, Tom Gabower defeated the Caldwell team. Tom is an eighth grader, while the Caldwell team was playing in their last year of junior eligibility, and are all attending college.

Next season the Madison Curling Club will be hosting the 2010-11 Junior Championship, and the Nationals is scheduled for Fairbanks, AK.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S STATE CLUB PLAYDOWNS - Jeremy Roe reported:

Events were held concurrently during Week 2. Medford had a conflict so they were held at Tri City and Stevens Point. Our Men ended up 4th at Nationals and our Women took Bronze!

Need sites for these events next year in week 3. Milwaukee is postponing their participation. Jeremy encourages two small clubs in close proximity to consider it.

MIXED CHAMPIONSHIP - Jeremy Roe reported:

Was held in Marshfield. Our team finished 4th.

The 5th end break has been eliminated to speed up play, but there are still complaints about slowness. Teams would like clocks, but it's labor intensive. The WSCA chose not to purchase laptops for timing.

SENIOR CURLING - Jack Baker reported:

This year saw another great year for Wisconsin Seniors that participated in various bonspiels. A good job is being done at many curling clubs to keep the seniors participating in events. Thank you.

The Wisconsin State Senior Bonspiel was held this past January at Kettle Moraine Curling Club. The hospitality and bonspiel was well attended and all had a great time. We are moving to get this went in

the "new age" by having guidelines drawn up and passing them on to the next year's State Sr. Bonspiel host curling club. This includes a mailing list, draw sheet, where patches are purchased, who gets what for each event winner, what is an approximate cost, to include a minimum of # of teams for a Super Sr. draw, etc. all done on the computer to have a record so the next years hosting club can use. Many thanks to Terry Ball from Kettle who was the chairman and recording everything to pass along to the next event chairman. I will always have a copy and will put this on a disc to pass along.

We have set the schedule for the next five years as follows:

- 2011 Medford
- 2012 Appleton
- 2013 Wauwatosa
- 2014 Rice Lake
- 2015 Wausau

I look forward to next seasons bonspiel(s) and continue to help in any way to keep us "old farts" curling.

HIGH SCHOOL CURLING: - Vicki Griepentrog reported in writing:

The 2010 Wisconsin High School Curling Championships were held at the Madison Curling Club on February 12 & 13. Winners were:

PORTAGE HIGH SCHOOL
Alexandra Schieber
Jennifer Behnke
Kathleen Dubberstein
Keagon Garrigan
Coach - Jim Shlimovitz

WAUSAU WEST HIGH SCHOOL
Matthew Sanquist
Jeremy Stubbe
Andy Summers
Ethan Massey
Evan Brauer
Coach - James Wendling

Joel Caulum and Vicki Griepentrog are the co-chairs of the Wisconsin High School Curling Championships. The 2011 Wisconsin High School Curling Championships will tentatively be held at the Medford Curling Club on February 11 & 12. It has been agreed that if Wausau Curling Club does build a new eight-sheet club, the High School Championships will be moved permanently to that site.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

WSCA was notified that kettle Moraine only paid 75% of dues required for members reported. Reason was "Hurry Hard" product. Dave Garber reports that USCA has backed off from the program. Dave Lewis believes that his

club will now pay the remainder of their dues. The drop dead date is June 30.

ELECTION OF USCA DIRECTOR:

David Carlson was nominated to continue in his position as USCA Director by Dan Lilla. David stated that he was willing to continue as Director Upon a motion duly made by Bill Wilberg and seconded by Dave Lewis, the nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast in favor of David Carlson as USCA Director. Said motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF WSCA OFFICERS:

The Nominating Committee nominated the following slate as Officers for the 2010 to 2012 term:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| President: | David Carlson |
| Vice President: | Michael Dry |
| Vice President Championships: | Richard Lepping |
| Treasurer: | Greg Dunlop |
| Secretary: | Dave Lewis |

Upon a motion duly made by Larry Sharp and seconded by Dave Garber, the nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast in favor of the slate of Officers above. Said motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

It was proposed that the following be members of the Executive Committee, Dave Carlson, Jeremy Roe, Jim O'Neill, Greg Dunlop, Michael Dry, Rich Lepping and Dave Lewis. Upon a motion duly made by Dave Garber and seconded by Mark Hartman, the nominations were deemed closed and a unanimous ballot cast in favor of the Executive Committee as proposed. The motion carried unanimously.

David Carlson thanked Jeremy Roe for serving as President. A President's pin was presented to Jeremy Roe.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the WSCA shall be on Saturday, October 2 commencing at 9:30 A.M. at the Stevens Point Curling Club.

Upon a motion duly made by Larry Sharp, seconded by Dave Lewis, and thereafter carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:34 P.M.

Prepared by Michael Dry, Past Secretary
Submitted by Dave Lewis, Secretary

