

Minutes 2015 Spring Meeting of the USCA

Date: April 11, 2015

Place: Arlington Curling Club, Arlington WI

State Officers: Rich Lepping, Mike Dry, Aaron Richards, Jim O'Neill, Nicole Atkinson.

USCA Members: Dave Carlson, Rich Lepping

Roll Call: Appleton, Arlington, Blackhawk, Centerville, Clintonville, LaCrosse, Kettle Moraine, Madison, Milwaukee, Portage, Poynette, Racine, Stevens Point, Tri-City, Waukesha

Absent: Eau Claire, Green Bay, Loch Wissota, Lodi, Marshfield, Medford, Pardeeville, Rice Lake, Waupaca, Wauwatosa, Wausau,

Call to order: 9:05 A.M. by President Rich Lepping.

Approval of minutes;

Motion by David Russell, seconded by Michael Dry to approve as printed. Unanimous vote of approval.

Treasurer's report; Greg Dunlop

Greg reported on the current financial position of the Association, indicating the balance of \$18,684. All clubs have paid their dues with the exception of Loch Wissota and Eau Claire. Eau Claire is expected to pay shortly. A balance sheet was submitted.

USCA Director's Report

There will be changes to the governance structure. The board is getting out of operations and are turning it over to the hired staff. There are 19 directors, two are new. There is a need for better communications on expectations of the USCA board of directors. As a director, there is a responsibility to contribute to the USCA. The focus is on competitive excellence and high performance curlers.

Also:

Developing curlers

Membership development

Aspiring athlete program

Coach development

There is a task force to find a CEO. There were 60 applicants, it was reduced to 11, then to 7. There are a couple of candidates that look promising. The candidate must be a leader, dynamic, strategic, analytical, be able to raise money, deal with the board and staff and have sports leadership experience. Two individuals will be interviewed in a closed board meeting.

Iowa will be combined with Illinois to form one territory.

Rich reminded the directors of the Darwin Curtis Grant.

President's report

There is a dues increase for the USCA members.

There are currently 20,000 members.

Rich mentioned the Volunteer of the Year nominations, the Hall of Fame nominations and the WSCA Service Award nominations.

A request for sponsorship from the Cedar Rapids Curling club was received to support their new club. They are hosting the 2015 Arena Club Championships. It was decided to send them \$150.00.

There is a hosting fee increase of \$50.00 for hosting the State play downs. It went from \$250.00 to \$300.00 per day. It is a 3-4 day commitment.

Announcement: The Members Assembly meeting is in Fort Wayne, Indiana on October 15 - 18th. The board will decide if they will financially support attendance by WSCA members.

In the past, the WSCA have paid \$300.00 each year for the pins for the Wisconsin Badger Women's Bonspiel. It was agreed to pay it again this year and to discuss future support.

Rich Lepping currently is serving both as President of the State Association and as a Director from Wisconsin on the USCA Board of Directors. Rich's term as a USCA Director will expire at the end of July, 2015. Rich wishes to be reelected. However, to address the issue of nominees to the position of Wisconsin Director to the USCA Board, Rich appointed Jim O'Neill as the Chair of Nominating Committee to select a nominee for Wisconsin Director to the USCA. The Nominating Committee does nominate Rich Lepping to succeed himself for an additional 2 year term.

Upon a motion made by Michael Dry and seconded by Karen Trench, to cast a unanimous ballot electing Rich Lepping as Wisconsin Director to the USCA Board of Directors was made and carried.

Committee Report:

Rules:

There were no major changes to the rules.

By Laws

No Report

Competition

Mixed Doubles

Juniors

Kettle Moraine December 27th - 30th.
The 2016 Wisconsin Junior Championships were hosted by the Kettle Moraine Curling Club, Dec. 27-29. 5 boys' teams and 4 girl's teams competed for the state championship trophies, and the opportunity to play in the Junior national Championships at Devils Lake, ND. The Cody Falk rink from Poynette was undefeated, easily winning the boys' championship. Curling with Falk were Rob Shlimovitz, and Brothers Alex and Ben Vorpahl from Portage and Ben Miller from Wausau. Also qualifying for Nationals was the Wausau based team skipped by Matt Sandquist.

Winning the girls championship with a 5-1 record was the Tina Persinger team. While most of the members of the team are not from Wisconsin, the team was assigned Wisconsin as their play down region by the USCA. Playing on the team was Kathleen Dubberstein from Portage.

Mike and Helen Bera from Kettle Moraine served as the Local Chairs, and Mary Pat Shandor, also from the Kettle Moraine area was the Head Official. Mark Hartman wishes to thank all the members of the Kettle Moraine Club for the well run event. Medford is next up to host the event.

Teams are assembled with players from multiple states. A discussion about regionalism was discussed. Dave Carlson suggested it is brought up to the USCA.

Men's and Women's

The site for the Men's and Women's 2015 play down will be Eau Claire, the Mixed will be in Tri Cities, The Juniors in Medford and the Badger Women's in Appleton. December 2016, Madison will host the Men's and Women's. We need to encourage more women's club teams.

Mixed

4 teams at Waupaca

Senior Curling

Senior National Bonspiel
Wauwatosa / Kettle Moraine 2016,
Columbia Co 2017

The Wisconsin State Seniors continues to have a great curling season. Wausau hosted the Wisconsin State Senior Curling Bonspiel held January 23-25.

There was a record 36 team-144 curlers, ranging in age from 55-87.

Two divisions: Seniors and 8 oldest teams Masters.

Next season the 2016 WSSCA Bonspiel will be held in Milwaukee January 22-24. This bonspiel is scheduled out to 2020.

WISCA which is part of the senior's organization in South Eastern Wisconsin continues to excel.

The National Seniors Bonspiel was held in St. Paul in February and was well represented by Wisconsin teams.

The senior curlers continue to make their presence known throughout the state and country as well, we are looking forward to the 2015-2016 season. Good Curling Jack Baker Wisconsin State Senior Director.

High School

No report.

Old Business

The current website manager is stepping down. Brian Lore will take over. His fee will be \$1452.00 to redo the site and \$200.00 to maintain the site each year. He will start by improving the calendar. Rich recommended that we accept this. Jim O'Neill suggested that we budget to update the website every five years. David Russell motioned to accept this, Dan Lila seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

There is a \$20.00 payment that has been paid over the years to maintain the site address. It was suggested that this responsibility be moved to the WSCA. The motion carried. Below is an outline of the work.

Web hosting monthly fees will vary

Development Phase

Setting up the site structure

Migrate data from old database to the newly developed database

Creating the general site design

Redesign calendar functionality so it's more user-friendly

Implementing responsive web design

Creating specific page designs per specialty pages such as

"Club Directory" pages

Test all of the pages to ensure that all of the information is still intact.

Production Phase

Moving the site plus database from the development environment to the _____

Maintenance Fee Per Year (est. at 20 hours, i.e. security fixes, module updates, core updates, broken functionality, etc.)

Post-production

updates (i.e. new functionality, non-maintenance support, etc

Dan Lila motioned to accept cost, Aaron Richards seconded it. Motion carried.

New Business:

Only one applicant was submitted for the WSCA Service Award. They asked for more applicants. A second applicant Arnold "Arnie" Brost was submitted at the meeting.

It was suggested that the fall meeting be held in Wausau. Rich Lepping will ask them if it is available. The date would be October 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Stevens Point 2015 Report

Stevens Point Curling Club had a very successful year. Our total membership grew to 166+ broken down by

Head of Household ... 112
Add'l Head of House ... 14
Junior's w/curl news ... 20
Juniors w/o c news ... 3
Youth w/curl news ... 2
Youth w/o c news ... 9
Social w/o curl news ... 6