



Midwest Curling Association: Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2018 @ Russ Brown's Home

David Jamros called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Attending were Jeff Sampson, Dave Jamros, Russ Brown, Sarah, Peiyao Chen, Mark Striblen, Walter Burns. Steve Parke, Tonya Henderson, and Phil Burian were attending by phone.

Treasurer's Report by Mark Striblen

The USA Men's Seniors team received a \$100 donation from the MCA. The MCA has paid \$900 for insurance and has spent \$1548.96 on pins and the annual meeting.

USCA Report by Russ Brown

On July 27th, there is a call in to finalize the USCA fiscal budget. The fee was raised to \$34. The USA Men's Olympic Team winning helped bring in more money. There is an assembly in Albany, NY on the 2nd weekend of October. All are welcome to attend. The association has officially changed from the Illinois Curling Association to Midwest Curling Association. And finally, the 5-rock rule will begin in October.

MCA Event/Club Reports

Chicago CC is working on an ice schedule. 2nd City Curling received a Dar Curtis Grant and introduced 320+ kids to curling last season with 10-20 a week (age range: 8-15). Planned two junior level Learn2Curls and hoping to have a three-week league. Jim suggested that the MCA host a golf outing to introduce curling to a new market. Des Moines CC tried to do early summer curling, but the ice conditions and interest did not support it. With the fall and winter season approaching, there are 2x more members than in previous years. Exmoor CC had new lights installed, and they still plan on hosting the interleague open night, but they would like to publicize the opportunity more and earlier (even on the MCA website). Northwestern curling submitted a funding request to the graduate school for more funds and are looking for more officers and a new MCA representative. St. Louis CC finished the season with 71 members, 13 leagues, and six instructional leagues. The rink was unfortunately closed from April to June for unexpected repairs, and the club had to cancel some instructional leagues. St. Louis CC bought some property in Hazelwood and are closing soon. They are trying to secure a loan for the building. In addition, the Arch City Spiel is coming up. Waltham CC has a club golfing outing coming up. The club had 6-8 kids attend a recent curling camp in Arizona, and they are working with local schools to offer in school programs. Waltham CC has arranged with USCA to use two of their gym curling sets at these schools. They hope to build up their junior program. Wilmette CC hopes to recruit people from Northshore this next year and has spoken with Chicago CC about ice time. Windy City CC is moving forward with their building and hope to be operational by January but will reside at 7B until the new space is available. They are looking to host more Learn2Curls and attract more new curlers. Windy City CC has also reached out to Willowbrook high school about the possibility of a juniors league.

Old Business

Discussed purchasing conference call equipment and software as free services often limit the number of people who can join a call. GoToMeeting service is \$25 a month, and you can pay monthly and disable when not used. Hardware has been approved, but the software is still needed. Call in etiquette will be discussed at a future date.

New Business

Tonya Henderson is the new secretary. GoToMeeting (conference call service) allows a free, two-week trial. Russ moved to go forward with hardware and software purchase. Previously approved up to \$300. Sarah seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously passed. In terms of future meetings, they will be held on the second Monday of odd months. In November, the meeting will be held on the Sunday of the Prairie State. The 2018-2019 event calendar was discussed as the USCA has been asking about state events. On December 27-28, Men's and Women's Club Playdowns and the Mixed Playdowns will be held at Exmoor CC on the last weekend of January. The MCA needs to do better at publicizing these to members. This year, the Club Nationals is in St. Paul, the Mixed Nationals is in Denver, and the Junior Nationals is in Two Harbors. Poster with USCA dates, MCA bonspiels, and club bonspiels was suggested. Sarah will put together. The MCA 5 and Under will be hosted from November 17-18 at Exmoor CC. The Dar Curtis proposed dates are February 22-24 with either Waltham or Windy City as a host. An update regarding dates will be sent for review. In regards to the Wrigley Learn2Curl, we are under the impression that they are still interested. Chicago CC is reaching out and will keep the MCA posted. Survey feedback found that if there were a place to curl in Chicago, then participants would do it. David and Steve said that numbers for club golf outings are low, but if Jim Wilson wants to organize, it is a go. Otherwise, it will be passed on this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM. Next meeting is Monday, September 2, 2018.