



## **Midwest Curling Association: Meeting Minutes**

March 27, 2017 @ Chicago Curling Club

David Jamros called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Attending were Walter Burns, Julie Denten, David Jamros, Paul Lange, Colin Rittgers, Michele Rittger, Jeff Sampson, and Mark Striblen. Peiyao Chen, Lon Peper, Mike Sible, and Everett Wilson attended by phone.

### **Treasurer's Report by Mark Striblen**

The MCA went from 631 members to 616 (2.5% decrease). Anticipating a big year next year with the Olympics coming up. All expenses are as usual, and all dues have not yet been collected.

### **USWCA Report by Michele Rittgers**

Illinae trophy was found, but the event has not been held in several years due to low numbers. Now that there are more clubs to host but need to continue looking into it. Put this into new business. The USWCA Annual meeting and bonspiel was held from February 12-18 in Milwaukee, WI. A lot of discussions were had about the handling of the USWCA Bonspiel as curling continues to grow, and membership/interest increases. It was determined that moving forward the following guidelines will be supplied to the member clubs:

- Teams must enter the USWCA bonspiel through their club representative
- Club entries must be submitted to USWCA no later than Dec 1, 2017, for the 2018 Spiel
- If more than one team is entering from any one club, those teams should be ranked by entry preference before the December 1 deadline
- For ranking purposes, the procedure shall be at the discretion of the representative. Chicago CC's heather's board has voted to make the deciding factor a playdown

### **ICA Event/Club Report**

The Dar Curtis had 16 teams, and Chicago CC won. Who is adding the additional ring to the bottom of the trophy, Chicago CC or Exmoor CC? Aim to keep the bottom as another ring verse a square base as image specialties won't do a square base. Money needs to be allotted for this. Cedar Rapid CC is working with United Way or a charity event, and the Cedar Spiel details are being ironed out. Their season is officially over. Chicago CC is hosting their last event on April 9<sup>th</sup> (one-on-one) and their annual meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>. ALS is coming to visit them this coming weekend. Des Moines CC season is over. They are working to buy stones from Omaha with a down payment now and balance next year once they are received their dues. Exmoor CC's March Madness tournament has ended. They hosted some open ice in the past week, but ice is shutting down this weekend. Their Thursday night open curling was by far the most popular, and they are hoping to get new lights (LED) on the ice. Northwestern curling does not have many of their own events; however, they have sent people to spiels elsewhere, especially in the area. Their president and treasurer are graduating soon, so they are looking for replacements. Northwestern's last day is April 6<sup>th</sup>. St. Louis CC continues to grow with seven leagues for members with mostly weekend play. They sent two men's teams and one women's team to Arena Nationals. St. Louis CC has made over \$4000 for dedicated ice and is doing a lot of funding solicitation. They hope to have their own space this

summer and their own facility with ice in the fall. Asked whether the ICA would be willing to loan St. Louis CC money for dedicated ice. ICA stated that if St. Louis returns with a proposal (how much, repayment terms, interest rates, etc.) then it can be discussed and reviewed. Waltham CC closes this week and has an awards banquet on the 28<sup>th</sup>. They had two bonspiels: men's and mixed spiel. They are interested in hosting more events such as the Ray Finley, Dar Curtis, and State Playdowns. Wilmette CC hosted the Ray Finley with 16 teams (a mix from Waltham CC, Windy City CC, Chicago CC, etc.). Membership went down mainly because most went to Chicago CC because they wanted league play. Last ice time is April 7. Windy City CC finished their last league on Sunday and have a bonspiel on the following weekend. It was a diverse group with 10 of 16 teams from different clubs. Windy City CC is hosting a Top Golf year-end fundraising event (April 23<sup>rd</sup>), everyone is welcome. The goal is to raise \$500K for three sheets.

### **Old Business**

A simple website is in the works, but it is not interactive. It will have a directory available to members. There are three different URLs for the ICA, and all of them are active, but no one has the login information to make changes. Paul Lange will look into getting that info. Michele moved to change the official name to curlica.com. Seconded by Jamros and approved. Walter Burns wrote a letter for the Dar Curtis trust and sent it to David and Paul. He feels strongly about moving forward to get funding and thinks the ICA should make this a priority. Would like the ICA support to make the petition for funding. The Aksarban stones are a moot point.

### **New Business**

Jamros moved to have the Illinae resurrected, and Michele Rittgers seconded. Waltham CC has agreed to host the event, and Michele will email Everett Wilson with details and information. Tracy Lawless is going to Senior Worlds (only ICA member on the team). Discussed interest in supporting team and the amount for one person. Denton received \$500 for her team (3 ICA members) and Brown received \$500 (4 out of 5), so \$200 was proposed by Striblen. Julie Denton moved, and Russ Brown seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Russ Brown discussed ICA curling pins and whether there was interest to make more. Michele Rittgers suggested the pins say ICA verse Illinois Curling Association. A discussion ensued on the shape of the pin and the logo design.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM by Paul Lange.