



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

May 13, 2019 @ Windy City Curling Club

David Jamros called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Attending were Dave Jamros, Sara Gaum, Jeff Wright, Steve Wright, Russ Brown, Jim Wilson, and Jeff Sampson. The minutes from the last meeting were accepted and approved by Jeff Wright and Russ Brown. Before the meeting started, we had a tour of the new club and facility.

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

The Treasurer's report (attached) indicates dues revenue increased by 15%, and the note for stones was paid off. All clubs have paid their dues except for Northwestern. They lost their funding, so it's not certain they will continue to function. The treasurer's report was approved and accepted.

### **USCA Report by Russ Brown**

Russ Brown attended the USCA meeting at the Olympic training headquarters in Colorado Springs. He reported the USCA had grown 12%, but that doesn't include five curling clubs who have yet to report. New dedicated facilities include Lake Tahoe, San Francisco, and Ft. Wayne, who virtually moved across the street to a better facility. Curling Night in the US will be taped over three days/nights in Raleigh, NC, in late August. It won't appear until some time in 2020 again on Friday nights. The USCA members assembly will be held Oct 12-13, 2019 at the Milwaukee CC. All clubs are encouraged to send a rep from their club to learn about subjects such as ice making and all things important to any club. Toyota will now become a sponsor, 3-year commitment and will fund high-performance teams. The USCA has hired a company to help target the best and appropriate sponsors for the USCA. A committee is trying to find within each region what is doing well and best for that region. A report will then be shared with the USCA to develop best practices and best ideas. In regards to Safe Sport, each club must complete a form and accept the new regulations.

### **MCA Event/Club Reports**

Cedar Rapids CC continues their construction, see Phil Burian's report. Chicago CC is looking to hear from the MCA as to event dates for next season. Their bonspiels for next season include the Windy City (Oct 17-20), Mixed @ Exmoor, Old Boys (Dec 6-8), Gloamin's Gaels (Jan 4-5), and the Chicago Men's International (Jan 16-19). There no longer are equity members at Chicago CC due to the new non-profit status of Second City Curling Club. Fundraising continues but is slowing. The goal is 1 million. Des Moines CC has 59 members but no feedback. Exmoor CC's Wednesday night event will continue in the fall, and very exciting news, new carpet around the sheets will be installed hopefully by fall. St. Louis CC had 115 members at year-end. Their high school league has eight teams with seven different schools which is amazing! The club is interested in new stones, five sets. Also, there are two cities (within approximately 35 miles) that are interested in getting involved. There is a possibility that Hazelwood MO would like a dedicated club. Windy City CC will begin their Sunday beginners league when the facility is ready for the summer. They currently have 92 members and expect that to double as their new facility opens.

### **Old Business**

Jeff Wright has tracked down the location of the old Wilmette CC stones, likely last used in 1981. They are in fact at the Wilmette Park District, but their condition is unknown. Jeff did offer to check them

out. Interestingly, after Jeff offered to take them off their hands, he was told that Wilmette is considering starting up curling, perhaps at an ice hockey arena. Stay tuned for updates.

The board meeting was suspended at 8:19 PM and the annual meeting was called to order by David Jamros at 8:20 PM.

A new slate of officers to become effective after the end of this meeting have been nominated by Dave Jamros and second by Sara Gaum. Slate as follows Jeff Wright (President), Jim Wilson (VP), Treasurer (Mark Striblen), Empty (Secretary). The vote passed.

The meeting was concluded at 8:24 PM, and the MCA meeting resumed at 8:25 PM.

### **New Business**

A resolution was presented "To authorize the Illinois Curling Association to begin doing business as the Midwest Curling Association." The resolution was voted on and approved by the board unanimously. David Jamros reported that he learned that on January 18, 2018, our non-profit ICA entity was dissolved by the State of IL due to a non-renewal issue which we assume our agent (i.e., attorney) not following up. This situation came to light when we wanted to get the MCA as a DBA. We will endeavor to reinstate the ICA via the office of the IL Secretary of State so we can change it to MCA. We are asking Mark Striblen to follow up on this problem. The playdown schedule problem was discussed due to complaints that deadline issues conflict with playdown sign-up choices (men's, ladies, and mixed). Russ Brown will review. In regards to pins, there are currently enough for upcoming events. We continue to need information uploaded to the MCA website. MCA also has a Facebook page, and we need to keep that updated as well. Shannon Brown has been leading both efforts. Yea Shannon!

As his last act as President, Dave Jamros asked to move meeting adjournment which was moved and seconded at 9:01 PM.