



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

September 14, 2020, via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM on Monday, September 14, 2020, by Jeff Wright.

In attendance: Jeff Wright (President), Jim Wilson (VP), Russ Brown (USCA), Shannon Brown (Media/Communications), Sherryanne Porter (Secretary), Phil Burian (Cedar Rapids), Steve Young (St. Louis), Aaron DeGagne (Windy City), Sara Gaum (Chicago), Steve Parke (Waltham)

June Meeting Minutes, prepared by Sherryanne Porter were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report by Jeff Warner**

- Financial report was distributed to all board members via email for review

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

- USCA Meeting held in June via Zoom to approve budget, next meeting in September
  - Russ will inform MCA of USCA decision regarding dues
- USCA decides the fate of events 45-60 days out, all November events cancelled
- COVID resources can be found on the USCA website
- Steven's Point office lease will not be renewed. Offices will be virtual for the duration.

### **USWCA Report continuously via email by Michelle Rane**

- Annual meeting to be held in two weeks (online)
- Scots Tour moved to 2021; Friendship Tour in 2022
- USWCA Senior and National Bonspiels during the 2020-2021 have been canceled

### **MCA Calendar Report by Russ Brown and Shannon Brown**

- MCA Calendar is being continuously updated by S. Brown
- Playdowns will be held, even if Nationals are canceled, for:
  - U18 at Exmoor CC – November 21-20, 2020
  - Club at Chicago CC – January 8-10, 2021
  - Mixed at Exmoor CC – February 5-7, 2021
- Prairie State Challenge (Nov 7-8) canceled due to large number of participants
- 5 Year & Under location undetermined, though Windy City and Waltham given priority

### **Club Reports**

Cedar Rapids CC Report by Phil Burian

- August storm damaged arena resulting in cancellation of fall season (open in Jan)
- Working with Coralville Mall to establish second curling arena, but likely won't have logistics figured out (e.g., paint, Zamboni use) for another year

- Planning for Cedar Rapids 2021 National Championships, as long as COVID permits
- Interested in online training for Level 1 Officiating

#### Chicago CC Report by Sara Guam

- Construction finished, plan to open in October (ice making is underway)
- Windy City Open and Old Boys' Bonspiel cancelled, Mixed postponed
- Gloamin' Gaels and Men's Bonspiel are still awaiting decision
- Committee established to deal with COVID-restrictions, plan to use 3-sheets

#### Des Moines CC by email from Kate Ross

- Following USCA guidelines for COVID; decision to continue based on sign-up
- Rink is having trouble combating the virus and is not offering refunds on ice time
- Plan to host a 4-week league in October

#### Exmoor CC Report by Russ Brown

- 83% interested in curling in the 2020-2021 season with COVID restrictions
- Began the ice making process, plan to open Oct 12
- New scrapper purchased, hoping to get one sheet with webstreaming
- Three sheets, with broomstacking and social distancing
- Planning for Exmoor 2021 Senior National Championships, as long as COVID permits

#### Northwestern CC Report by email from Andrew Wolek

- Applied for annual funding through University, will get the decision in a few week

#### St. Louis CC Report by Steve Young

- Information regarding COVID and curling communicated via mass emails
- Begin 6-week league in late September, 3-on-3 (16 curlers, 4 sheets)
- Canceled 4 regular leagues and moved supplies to storage facility until Nov
- Only 2 people allowed into rink to set-up sheets, arena fees raised (\$25 to \$35)
- Updated their website

#### Waltham CC Report by Steve Parke

- 50% of curlers likely to curl, 30% uncertain, and 20% not interested
- Decisions regarding upcoming season will be made at the Board Meeting (Sept)

#### Wilmette CC by Walter Burns

- Membership letter recently sent out, interested in using Chicago CC ice

#### Windy City CC by Aaron DeGagne

- Ice went down in late August and is much improved since last year
- Food Truck Spiel had 15 teams (< 50 curlers) – tables outside for broomstacking, several teams traveled from far distances, one positive case afterwards (all participants notified)

- Leagues began in mid-Sept (masks required, one sweeper, no sweeping in the house)
- Have 3.5 leagues compared to the 7 leagues hosted in the spring season

### **Old Business**

- Local clubs should follow USCA Guidelines, within the constraints of local health guidelines
- MCA Officiating Clinics – potential early January; needed to support Cedar Rapids' National Championship and Exmoor's Senior Nationals
- Combined GLCA and MCA Director will begin in October, bylaws to be updated to reflect new nominating procedure

### **New Business**

- Slate of directors for 2020-2021 elected (Motion: J. Wright, Seconded: R. Brown)
  - Jeff Wright – President
  - Jim Wilson – Vice President
  - Jeff Warner – Treasurer
- MCA Dues Reduction from \$14 per person (\$5 youth) to \$7 per person (\$2 youth)
  - Motion: S. Young, Seconded: A. DeGagne, voted and passed
  - Only applies to the 2020-2021 season
  - None of the MCA dues are distributed to the USCA
- MCA Grant awards clubs 25% of their previously season's dues.
  - Discussion regarding the 2021-2022 MCA Grant percentage tabled
  - Application for current season to be released in September and decisions to be made regarding applications at November meeting
- MCA Bylaws
  - S. Brown working to update bylaws to reflect the combined USCA direct position, will be voting on new bylaws at the November meeting
- USCA 2020-2021 Media Guide: Every club needs to fill out the form (link sent via email)

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM. (Motion: P. Burian, Seconded: S. Guam)

The next meeting is November 9 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.