



Midwest Curling Association: Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2019 @ Exmoor CC Oakhouse (Highland Park, IL)

Jeff Wright called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Attending Jim Wilson, Sara Gaum, Walter Burns, Dave Jamros, Steve Wright, Jeff Wright and via phone Phil Burian, Steve Young, Kerry Meyers, and Shannon Brown. A motion to accept the meeting minutes prepared by Steve Wright was approved by Jamros and seconded by Russ Brown.

Treasurer's Report by Mark Striblen:

Mark Striblen presented the report, and it was approved. A motion was called by Russ Brown and seconded by Jim Wilson. We need to update stone lease agreement with Windy City CC (3 sets) and St Louis CC (2 sets).

USCA Report by Russ Brown:

The interim CEO is Rich Lepping as Rick Patzke resigned on September 9, and the USCA is currently searching for a new CEO. USCA's Sixth Members' Assembly will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from October 13-15, 2019. We encourage MCA members to attend as the assembly is so close. Votes will take place on three new amendments at the assembly. As mentioned previously, one of the amendments will reduce board size, and the MCA will share a board position with Great Lakes Curling Association after October 2020. Details on how the region will share the position will be worked out early next year. There has been a 12% curling membership increase this past year to 25,500+ at 188 clubs in 43 states. Lastly, USCA's new corporate sponsor is Jagermeister, and Goldline is the new curling equipment sponsor.

MCA Events Report by Russ Brown:

All events for the season have been scheduled, and the one-page flyer showing [Regional Events and Club Events](#) has been distributed. Upcoming events include the [Prairie State](#) (Nov 2-3) at Chicago CC/Exmoor CC and the [MCA 5 Year & Under](#) (Nov 16-17) at Windy City CC. The Prairie State currently has 21 teams signed up which is high compared to recent years, and the 5 Year & Under has 10 teams registered.

USWCA Report by Russ Brown:

No representatives present. Leslie Earls will be the future VP for the USWCA. The USWCA will be holding a 5 Year & Under at Exmoor CC for Women only from Feb 29 to March 1. In January 2021, the Ladies Scots Tour will be traveling through Chicago. In past years, the scots tour has requested some financial backing to host the 20 ladies in the MCA region. Request and details will be forthcoming.

MCA Club Reports:

Cedar Rapids CC has been awarded the 2021 US Nationals from the USCA. This is a great opportunity to grow curling in Cedar Rapids and the Iowa region in conjunction with promoting the sport throughout the MCA region. Curling at Cedar Rapids CC has been doing well with Learn2Curls on Tuesday nights from 6:30-9:00 pm. Some of their curling is now taking place at a facility in Waterloo, Iowa. Chicago CC has installed new LED lights throughout the facility, and ice will be up by the Windy City Open on Oct 17-20. Fundraising is ongoing, and hopefully, more work will be done this next season. Exmoor CC will install new carpet for the cold area later this year, and ice is planned for the week of October 10. In addition, Exmoor CC will continue hosting the Wednesday interclub event this fall and dates will be released via a flyer shortly. Northwestern CC is still waiting to learn if their club has been granted funding for the 2019-2020 season. If so, they hope to continue renting ice at Chicago CC and participate in Exmoor's interclub league. Wilmette CC has 15 members and is currently working with Chicago CC to get ice time and is planning on another season serving the public curling sector. They believe they can continue to build their membership this year by picking up some stragglers from North Shore Curling. Windy City CC has three nights of fall league (Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday) with Learn2Curls on Fridays and group outings on Saturday. They look to add additional nights of curling and plan to host their annual spring bonspiel from April 2-5, 2020. St. Louis CC had a successful Arch Spiel in late August with 20 teams (13 visiting). They are ramping up their curling season with the use of three arenas. They purchased 2 sets of extra stones and are also leasing 2 sets of stones from the MCA. In the spring, St. Louis CC plans to host a spiel at Waltham CC and host a Level I Instructors Clinic.

Old Business:

Association email has been set up, while individual association emails are in progress. Two sets of stones were transferred from St. Louis CC to Windy City CC this summer. A new lease needs to be set up for St. Louis CC and Windy City CC in regards to their MCA-owned stones. There is no new information regarding the Wilmette Park District stones. Purchasing more stones has been tabled at this time until we can get verification of the quality of the stones and storage needs going forward. An [MCA volunteer flyer](#) will be sent out again in October, and the MCA secretary position is still open. A motion to officially operate the ICA as the Midwest Curling Association (MCA) was called by David Jamros and seconded by Russ Brown (approved). This DBA will be sent to the Secretary of State by Mark Striblen.

New Business:

Exmoor CC presented for board approval the use of the MCA Grant (\$236) to buy a practice aid, specifically a weight delivery device (e.g., Chronocurl). Steve Wright made a motion to accept which was seconded by David Jamros. Mark Striblen mentioned that appropriate receipt of purchase must be submitted for the release of the funds. Russ Brown and Shannon Brown presented a sample of the banner that will be purchasing from Vistaprint for display at MCA clubs. The suggestion was made to add a border to distinguish banner when displayed, but approval was given to move forward. A \$1000 was allocated for the banners at the last meeting, but the expense will be under \$500. As mentioned previously, sign-ups are open for

the Prairie State and MCA 5 Year & Under through the MCA website. In addition, information about [Chicago CC's Level I Instructor Clinic](#) and the USCA's Sixth Member's Assembly can be found on the MCA's website and Facebook page.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M. Next meeting will take place on Sunday, November 3rd, during the Prairie State Challenge. Time to be determined.