

## **MIDLOTHIAN PROVINCE OF THE ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB.**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 14th APRIL 2016 IN THE EDINBURGH CURLING CLUB ROOMS AT MURRAYFIELD.**

#### **In attendance:**

David Cunningham (SIAE), Sean Murphy (Gogar Park), David Edwards (Merchiston), Paul Davis (St George's School), Malcolm Winning (Lothian Wheelchair), Anne Liddle (RBS), Marie McKenna (RBS), Douglas Goddard (Heriot's FP), Stanley Howard (Boswall), James Scott (Clydesdale Bank), Wilson Heatlie (Boswall), Archie Smith (Merchiston), Mike Williamson (37 Club), Dan Lean (Watsonian), Robert Stewart (Oxenfoord, Bank of Scotland), Jon Pickup (DAFS), Ken Hunter (Penicuik, DAFS), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord, Carrington), Elizabeth Sharp (DAFS), Colin Baxter (Corstorphine), Ian Seath (Musselburgh), Malcolm Patrick (Watsonian), Gary Wilkie (Duddingston), Lauchlan MacLean (Chartered Surveyors), Don Mockett (Sweepers), Gordon Moodie (Sweepers), Patrick Edington (Boswall), Calder Benzies (Corstorphine), Martin Hall (Chartered Surveyors), Dave Munro (Currie and Balerno), Ruth Addinall (Corstorphine Ladies) and David Morrison (Holyrood). Neil Calvert was also in attendance as Area 5 Representative.

#### **1. Apologies.**

Apologies for absence were received from Kath Murray (Colinton Ladies), Kate Macsween (Edinburgh BMA Ladies), Audrey Hendry (Musselburgh), Donald Doull (Edinburgh Medical), Elaine Lewis (Edinburgh Ladies), Alistair Beattie (Edinburgh Rotary), Bill Barr (Edinburgh Rotary) and Jane Sinclair (Corstorphine Ladies).

#### **2. & 3. President's remarks and In Memoriam.**

This has been a very good and successful season of Province competitions which will be detailed later. Thank you to all the clubs who put teams forward to represent the Province and to take part in the Bonspiel, MPL and KG IV. The Pate Trophy was a highlight, as always, and it gave us an opportunity to meet, or meet again, Robert Forsyth, the Border Province President, who was to pass away a few weeks later.

I ask the meeting to stand for a minute's silence to mark the passing of Robert and the following Province members during the 2015-16 season:

Iain Baxter, Ian Taylor, Tom MacLean, David Smith and Jim Napier.

Glenfarclas withdrew from its sponsorship of the Midlothian Province League after many years. A sub-committee was set up to look for a replacement, as well as promote the other competitions. This led to the KG IV being sponsored by Bridge Investments Partners Ltd. Any contacts to potential sponsors would be much appreciated.

The Province website will be relaunched this summer. This will ease communication between the Province committee and clubs (cutting down the size and frequency of David's

emails!) and will provide a reference point for information about the Province, including competition results.

#### **4. Minutes of the 2015 AGM.**

Draft minutes had been sent out with the notice of meeting and copies were available to read. The amendment to the constitution regarding the audit of the accounts would be considered during agenda item no.8. With no other matters arising, approval of the minutes was proposed by Calder Benzies, seconded by Dan Lean and carried by the meeting.

#### **5. Secretary's Report.**

We have 49 clubs and 5 active schools in the Province, all of which are based at Murrayfield.

The winners of last season's Midlothian Province League Cup play-off, Musketeers, represented us in the Scottish Province Championship from 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Greenacres. There was a very late request from the RCCC for other clubs to join in but it was too close to the date to be able to put teams together.

Unlike last year, there were no controversies in this season's Area 5 Bonspiel, played between Midlothian, East Lothian and Peeblesshire Provinces and the Royal Club on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015. Winning all 6 four-end matches by a cumulative 30 shots up made us the clear victors of the Black Bull trophy.

The annual contest against Border Province for the Pate Trophy took place at Murrayfield on 23<sup>rd</sup> January. We were represented by teams from 37 Club, Boswall, Carrington, DAFS, Penicuik, Sweepers and a President's/Gogar rink. A cumulative score of 55-43 meant that we regained the trophy.

Midlothian was drawn to play West of Fife Province at Kirkcaldy in the Waldie-Griffith Inter Province Cup. Up stepped Carrington, DAFS, Midcalder and Penicuik to provide the four rinks required on 2nd March 2016. We won by 30 shots to 23, an average margin of 1.75. A very good win but not enough to lift the trophy.

On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 80 teams from 37 clubs played in the Province Bonspiel. Carrington had a high average winning margin of 14.33 shots to win the trophy. Barbarians were second with an average of 10 shots and took the Colin Black trophy with the rink which won by 15 shots.

19 clubs took part in the Bridge Investments Partners Ltd Competition for the King George IV Trophy. The final was played on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016 between Sweepers and Royal Bank of Scotland. Sweepers won 7-1 in a match which was much closer than the score line suggests.

The Midlothian Province League was contested by 24 clubs, split evenly into 3 divisions. Stray Dogs topped division 1 with a 100% record, winning the Province Salver. They also

won the play-off against Musketeers, taking the league cup and becoming our representatives in next season's Scottish Province Championship. Division 2 was topped by SIAE and they won the play-off against Oxenfoord - both clubs will play in division 1 next season. 37 Club finished top of division 3 but were defeated by Bank of Scotland in the play-off match – both clubs are promoted.

Edinburgh Rotary will join the MPL next season, meaning that more than 50% of Province clubs play in the competition, which isn't bad for matches played at 9.30pm!

#### Roll of Honour

Bruce Mouat – Scottish Junior Men and World Junior Men gold.

Bruce Mouat and Gina Aitken – Scottish Mixed Doubles winners.

Lindsay Scotland – Scottish Masters Men winner.

Trevor Dodds, Catherine Dodds, Robin Copland and Lois Copland – Scottish Senior Mixed winners.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report.**

There has been a surplus of £139 for the year with a number of changes compared to the previous year. Bridge Investments Partners Ltd has come in as sponsor of the KG IV Trophy and has indicated a willingness to continue next season. Entry fees relate to a £2 per head charge for the Province Bonspiel.

Donations were made to Bruce Mouat, Gina Aitken and the Iain Baxter Memorial Fund. Engraving costs are up because the Bonspiel trophy required a new band and a change to old engraving. Ice fees include £288 for the MPL play-off finals and a prior year adjustment has been made for the same costs in 2015.

The Indoor Grand Match Reserve has been requested by Area 5 because it does not hold any funds.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Lauchlan MacLean, seconded by Stan Howard, and carried by the meeting.

The Treasurer proposed that there should be no change in the subscription levels, either Club (at £19) or individual male levy (at £0.50), for season 2016-17; this was carried by the meeting.

#### **7. Election of Office Bearers.**

Vice President Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord) was nominated for the role of President by outgoing President Sean Murphy, seconded by David Edwards; there being no other nominations, Trevor was duly elected.

Basil Baird (Midcalder) was nominated for the position of Vice President by Trevor Dodds, seconded by Sean Murphy; there being no other nominations, Basil was duly elected.

David Cunningham (SIAE) indicated his willingness to continue as Secretary. There being no other nominations, David was duly elected.

David Edwards (Merchiston) indicated his willingness to continue as Treasurer. There being no other nominations, David was duly elected.

Stanley Howard (Boswall) and Calder Benzie (Corstorphine) indicated their willingness to continue as Committee Members. There being no other nominations, Stanley and Calder were duly elected.

David Edwards said that Malcolm Patrick had indicated his willingness to continue as Honorary Auditor. There being no other nominations, Malcolm was duly elected.

### **8. Constitution and Bye-Laws**

Secretary David Cunningham explained he had been looking at the Province Constitution and Bye-Laws in relation to the change of wording discussed at last year's AGM. It had also become apparent that clubs had different interpretations of the bye-law surrounding eligibility to play in the KG IV Trophy. These different interpretations had not been helped by former committee members giving out incorrect advice! He then referred to the proposed changes which had been circulated to club secretaries and were available to read on a separate sheet.

Following an explanation of the origins of the KG IV competition and why the restrictions exist, the meeting discussed what would be a suitable, up-to-date restriction. The meeting decided to exclude, except in the role of a substitute playing at lead, anyone who had played, during that season, in any RCCC Championship or the Midlothian Province League Division One.

The proposed change to the Constitution paragraph 5 regarding the Committee and the Independent Auditor or Examiner was accepted by the meeting.

The proposed change to the Constitution paragraphs 2 and 3 was accepted by the meeting while adding the words "also in" before "Midlothian" in each case.

### **9. Any other competent business.**

A Province Medal was presented to Scott Dakers of Carrington as winner of the Province Bonsel.

There being no other business, Ex-President Sean closed the meeting, and President Trevor proposed a vote of thanks to the chair.