

MIDLOTHIAN PROVINCE OF THE ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 13th APRIL 2017 IN THE EDINBURGH CURLING CLUB ROOMS AT MURRAYFIELD.

In attendance:

Calder Benzies (Corstorphine), Dan Lean (Watsonian), Lauchlan MacLean (Chartered Surveyors), Stanley Howard (Boswall), Patrick Edington (Boswall), Gordon Moodie (Sweepers), Don Mockett (Sweepers), Scott Dakers (Carrington), Jenny Barr (Currie and Balerno), Ken Hunter (Penicuik, DAFS), Ian Seath (Duddingston), Dave Munro (Currie and Balerno), Callum Harvey (Oxenfoord), Anne Liddle (RBS, Lothian Wheelchair), Mike Wilkinson (37 Club, Gogar Park), Mike Williamson (37 Club, Gogar Park), Archie Smith (Merchiston), Morgan Nicoll (Oxenfoord), Martin Hall (Chartered Surveyors), David Cunningham (SIAE), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord), David Edwards (Merchiston).
Neil Calvert was also in attendance as Edinburgh Area Representative.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Elaine Lewis (Edinburgh Ladies), Donald Doull (Edinburgh Medical), Andrew Hepburn (Corstorphine), James Scott (Clydesdale Bank), Sonja Dyer (Barbarians), Kath Murray (Corstorphine Ladies, Colinton Ladies), Alan Chalmers (Musketeers), Malcolm Patrick (Watsonian), Stuart Dodds (Carrington), Sean Murphy (Gogar Park), Catherine Dodds (Carrington), Wilson Heatlie (Boswall).

2. President's remarks and In Memoriam.

The President welcomed all the attendees and asked the meeting to stand for a minute's silence to mark the passing of the following Province members during the 2016-17 season:

Cathie Russell (Edinburgh Ladies), Fred Prain (Corstorphine) and Alistair Brown (Oxenfoord).

He thanked all of the committee for their work and support throughout the year. It had been a busy season and, thanks to the efforts of MCL, we were still throwing stones despite the circumstances with the rink.

Unfortunately, we lost in the Pate Trophy and Waldie-Griffith and didn't get far in the Province Championships. On the plus side, there were excellent achievements from a number of individuals, particularly Bruce Mouat, Naomi Brown and Sophie Sinclair, and a Currie & Balerno double in the Henderson Bishop.

3. Minutes of the 2016 AGM.

Draft minutes were available to read at the meeting. With no matters arising, approval of the minutes was proposed by Lauchlan MacLean, seconded by Ken Hunter and carried by the meeting.

4. Secretary's Report.

Stray Dogs went to the Scottish Province Championships. We hope to enter two teams next season – Gogar Park (this season's winners of MPL Div 1 and the play-off cup) and Stray Dogs (runners-up).

The MPL Div 2 play-off was won by Midcalder over Carrington. Both will be promoted to Div 1. Div 3 play-off was won by RBS over Watsonian. Both will be promoted to Div 2.

A very close Province Bonspiel was won by Midcalder with +6.67 shots, ahead of SIAE on +6. Edinburgh Ladies won the Colin Black Trophy with +11 shots.

The Bridge Investments competition for the KG IV Trophy was won by Dominies, overcoming 37 Club in the final.

We fared less well in our Province representative competitions than last season but they were enjoyed by all. In the Pate Trophy match against Border Province in Kelso, our teams (DAFS, Sweepers, Midcalder, Penicuik, Carrington, Gogar Park and two "Select" teams) put up a good fight to go down 66-54. Coincidentally, we were drawn against Border Province in the Waldie-Griffith, this time at Murrayfield. Carrington, DAFS, Midcalder and Penicuik lost by an average of 2 shots.

It proved difficult to recruit players for the Edinburgh Area Bonspiel, despite opening up the process to the whole membership by approaching all club secretaries. We came third in this annual contest against East Lothian Province, Peeblesshire Province and the RCCC.

Roll of Honour.

World Junior Women silver medals, B-Division gold medals: Sophie Sinclair, Naomi Brown and Laura Barr (alternate)

Winter Universiade gold medal and Scottish Men runner-up: Bruce Mouat

Scottish Mixed Doubles winners: Bruce Mouat and Gina Aitken

Scottish Women runner-up: Jennifer Dodds

Scottish Junior Women winners: Sophie Sinclair and Naomi Brown

Scottish Junior Women runners-up: Karina Aitken and Laura Barr

Scottish Mixed runner-up: Sophie Sinclair

Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles runner-up: Naomi Brown

Henderson Bishop Trophy and Cherrystone Trophy winners: Currie and Balerno

5. Treasurer's Report.

(a) The committee had agreed that the Tour Levy Fund should be disclosed separately to other reserves. This is now shown in the accounts as £2,922.50, built up over the years from the £0.50 levy per male member of Province clubs. The annual subscription returns give us an idea of the number of male players in the Province, although many play for more than one club. An exercise will be carried out to ascertain the number of female players in the Province.

Bridge Investment Partners continued to sponsor the KG IV competition and the Bonspiel raffle was a great success, raising £933. Engraving costs were back to normal levels and ice fees were down because of a deal on introducing an advertiser.

Pat Edington asked whether we reclaim the Scottish Province Championship entry fee from the club involved. We don't, this is treated as part of the prize for representing the Province.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Dan Lean, seconded by Calder Benzies, and carried by the meeting.

(b) Further to the explanation printed on the back of the agenda, David Edwards proposed that the Province annual subscription would be reduced from £19 (set at the 2002 AGM) to £10 per club, on the condition that clubs would accept a £10 entry fee to the Midlothian Province League. Province income would reduce by £137, which is affordable, and a portion of the running costs of the MPL would be recovered from those participating in it. The "Men's Tour Levy" remained unchanged at £0.50 per male player. Stan Howard seconded the proposal and it was carried by the meeting.

The Treasurer announced that Midlothian Province would sponsor the ECC Monday League in 2017-18. This gives support to members who otherwise would encounter the Province only through the annual Bonspiel because other competitions are played in the evenings or at weekends. A team entry fee of £10 will be charged, to match the MPL, and the Secretary will provide administrative assistance.

6. Election of Office Bearers.

Calder Benzies had fulfilled his term as ordinary member on the committee. All other committee members were willing to continue in their roles. There being no nominations to replace them, the following were re-elected:

President – Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord);
Vice President – Basil Baird (Midcalder);
Secretary – David Cunningham (SIAE);
Treasurer – David Edwards (Merchiston);
Ordinary Member – Stanley Howard (Boswall).

Kath Murray (Corstorphine Ladies) was nominated for the role of ordinary member on the committee by David Edwards, seconded by Stan Howard. There being no other nominations, Kath was 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.

7. 2018 Incoming Canadian Tour.

Edinburgh Area has asked Midlothian Province to provide 10 teams of a good playing standard for the Strathcona Cup over three days, from 30th January to 1st February 2018. There will be a local dinner. 40 Canadians will be split into two groups of 20. Edinburgh is a “North” venue but the “South” tourists will also play here because it is the final venue for them all.

8. Any other competent business.

A Province Medal was presented to Midcalder as winner of the Province Bonspiel.

There being no other business, the President closed the meeting and Lauchlan MacLean proposed a vote of thanks to the chair.