

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

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 11th APRIL 2023 AT KINGSKNOWE GOLF CLUB, 326 LANARK ROAD, EDINBURGH EH14 2JD.**

#### **In attendance:**

David Cunningham (SIAE), John Steven (Currie and Balerno), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord), Tom Jarvis (Bank of Scotland), Douglas Goddard (Heriot's FP), Iain Scott (Penicuik), Colin Beesley (Corstorphine), Robin Copland (Currie and Balerno), Mike Williamson (37 Club), Dan Lean (Watsonian), Basil Baird (Midcalder), Niall Gunn (Currie and Balerno), Sean Murphy (Gogar Park), Ian Keron (Gogar Park), Malcolm Wright (Dalkeith), Stewart Cairns (Corstorphine).

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

Apologies for absence were received from Vicky Gumley (Stewart's Melville FP), Ruth Addinall (SIAE), Kath Murray (Corstorphine Ladies), James Scott (Clydesdale Bank), Paul Stevenson (Stray Dogs), Jean Noble (Penicuik), John Waterlow (Holyrood), David Murgatroyd (Boswall), Catherine Dodds (Carrington), Stuart Dodds (Carrington), Alan Chalmers (Musketees), Robert Stewart (Oxenfoord), Malcolm Patrick (Watsonian), Lois Copland (Currie and Balerno), Iain Copland (Gogar Park).

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

President Ian Keron welcomed all the attendees and asked the meeting to stand for a minute's silence to mark the passing of the following Province members since the last AGM:

Ronnie Hope (Penicuik), Jimmy Sanderson (Oxenfoord), Dennis Howell (Heriot's FP), Andrew Morrison (Oxenfoord), Ernie Prior (Corstorphine), Val Govan (Watsonian) and Drew Wightman (Heriot's FP & 37 Club).

2022-23 was a full season of normal curling, although slightly shorter. This allowed work to start this week on the balcony, which will continue until August.

This season had three divisions in the Province League and finals night included a near 8. The Bonspiel was down in numbers but good under the circumstances. However, the raffle raised £835 which was a good result.

The KG IV prize presentation was brief as the President was playing a game at the time!

A highlight of the season was the incoming USA Tour – a great day and evening. Playing with our future World Champion made the day. Bruce Mouat had a brilliant Worlds and I'd like to minute our congratulations.

Midlothian Province won the Area Bonspiel by a considerable margin.

### **3. Minutes of the 2022 AGM.**

One matter arising was that Midlothian Province did win the Waldie-Griffith Inter Province Cup for the third competition in a row, as we thought we had at the time of the AGM.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Trevor Dodds, seconded by Robin Copland and carried by the meeting.

### **4. Secretary's Report.**

Secretary David Cunningham outlined the season's competitions.

In Stray Dogs' absence, Barbarians represented Midlothian Province at the Scottish Province Championships.

In the Midlothian Province League Div 1, Stray Dogs won the Salver by finishing top of the league and beat 37 Club in the play-off final, thereby qualifying for next season's Scottish Province Championships.

The MPL Div 2 play-off was won by Midcalder over Corstorphine. The Div 3 play-off was won by Penicuik over Clydesdale Bank.

The Midlothian Province Bonspiel was won by Carrington with +8<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> shots, ahead of Barbarians on +7. Edinburgh Ladies won the Colin Black Trophy with +14 shots.

The KG IV Trophy was won by Merchiston over SIAE.

Our Waldie-Griffith Inter Province Cup match against Ayrshire Province was cancelled at short notice due to our opposition not being able to raise four teams. We tried to reschedule but they were not interested. That brings our winning streak to an end.

Border Province was also short of a few teams for our agreed Pate Trophy date but we were able to rearrange three games, meaning that the full seven took place over a couple of visits to Murrayfield. President's rink, DAFS, Penicuik, SIAE, Clydesdale Bank, Corstorphine Ladies and Merchiston ably represented us and won 60-40 overall.

Midlothian took part in the delayed Edinburgh Area Bonspiel, inviting entries from the whole Province membership as usual. Winning with a combined +29 shots from six 4-end games was quite an achievement!

Midlothian Province sponsored the ECC Monday League, with prizes going to first (Jill Florence), second (Joan Simpson) and third (Barbara Watt).

The USA Men's Tour ended in Edinburgh in January. Midlothian Province contributed three full teams out of the five who played plus a couple of Edinburgh Area reps. Everyone who wanted to play was accommodated. Although our score was reflective of the tour as a whole

(USA winning), a good time was enjoyed and four of our visitors can say that they lost to the soon-to-become World Champion skip!

### **Roll of Honour.**

World Men gold medal, European Men gold medal, Scottish Men winner and Scottish Mixed Doubles winner: Bruce Mouat.

European Women bronze medals and Scottish Women winners: Gina Aitken and Sophie Sinclair.

Scottish Mixed Doubles winner: Jennifer Dodds.

National Masters Women winner: Catherine Dodds.

Scottish Women runners-up: Jennifer Marshall and Eilidh Yeats.

Scottish Seniors Women runners-up: Susan Wylie, Katie Wood, Vicky Gumley and Morna Aitken.

National Masters Men runners-up: Mike Dick, Trevor Dodds and Robin Copland.

### **5. Treasurer's Report.**

(a) Treasurer Malcolm Wright explained that the Province subsidised the Province players against the US Tourists from the Levies reserve. This is the purpose of this reserve.

A stock of badges was purchased from an online supplier for around £1 per badge. The previous supplier had gone out of business and another local supplier quoted over £6 per badge.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Dan Lean, seconded by Basil Baird and carried by the meeting.

(b) The Treasurer advised keeping the Province annual subscriptions, competition entry fees and levies the same. This was proposed by Trevor Dodds, seconded by Tom Jarvis and carried by the meeting.

### **6. Election of Office Bearers.**

All Committee Members expressed their willingness to continue; there being no other nominations, they were duly elected.

The continuing Committee is:

President - Ian Keron (Gogar Park)

Vice President - John Steven (Currie and Balerno)

Immediate Past President - Basil Baird (Midcalder)

Secretary - David Cunningham (SIAE)

Treasurer - Malcolm Wright (Dalkeith)

Committee Members - Kath Murray (Corstorphine Ladies), Tom Jarvis (Bank of Scotland), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord)

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

### **7. Clarification of and proposed changes to competition rules.**

In the Province League, two people agreed to help out more than one club, incurring a forfeiture penalty for their second appearance. In order to clarify the penalty, bye-law 3 will be changed to:

“A player shall be eligible to play for any Club of which they are a member but for only one Club in any one competition in any one season. All divisions of the Midlothian Province League are counted as one competition. The penalty for playing for a second (or subsequent) Club is forfeiture of the second (or subsequent) Club’s game.”

This has always been the penalty but it is being spelt out to differentiate it from playing with three players. We have also taken the opportunity to clarify the MPL divisions situation and make the bye-law gender neutral.

The proposed new rule regarding conceded games was discussed. Niall Gunn said there was a need to clarify how you decide how many extra ends could have been played. Iain Scott suggested making it up to eight ends, which would make it the biggest penalty. Dan Lean was in favour of relying on the skips to agree.

In a vote, 2 members wished the number of ends to be made up to eight and 11 members wished it to be agreed by the skips. The wording will be:

“All games should be played to the session bell. In the Midlothian Province League, if a team concedes before the end of the game, the remaining ends that could have been played within the remaining session time, as agreed by the skips, may be credited to the other team but only when the scorecard clearly indicates this. No additional shots may be claimed.”

The other proposed new rule, regarding rearranged games, was agreed without a vote, once the phrase “declared cancelled” was replaced. The wording will be:

“All games should be played at their scheduled times, even if this requires playing with three players. As a last resort, a game may be rearranged, provided it takes place before the final round of fixtures (in a league) or the next game due for the winning Club (in a knockout competition). Any game not played by the deadline date will be forfeited by Club which requested the rearrangement. The Province Secretary must be informed of the rearranged date at the earliest opportunity.”

### **8. Any other competent business.**

Kath Murray had asked the Secretary to thank the Province for sponsoring the Monday League.

Sean Murphy mentioned that with the balcony building work starting, the ECC Treasurer was encouraging members to fulfil their pledges of donations.

A Province Medal was presented to Trevor Dodds, representing Carrington, as winner of the Province Bonspiel.

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