

**MIDLOTHIAN PROVINCE OF THE ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB.
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1st
APRIL, 2015 IN THE EDINBURGH CURLING CLUB ROOMS AT MURRAYFIELD.**

In attendance:

David Cunningham (SIAE), Sean Murphy, Ian Keron (Gogar Park), Trevor Dodds (Oxenfoord), Alistair Beattie (Edinburgh Rotary), Andrew Hepburn, Colin Baxter, Kenneth Sinclair, Calder Benzies (Corstorphine), David Edwards, Archie Smith (Merchiston), Gordon Moodie (Sweepers), Chris Mitchell (Chartered Surveyors), Stanley Howard (Boswall), Alan Chalmers (Musketeers), Dan Lean (Watsonians), Tom Jarvis (Carrington and Bank of Scotland), Alison Marr (Barbarians), Dave Munro (Currie and Balerno).

John Good and Neil Calvert were also in attendance as Area 5 Representatives.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Pat Edington, Malcolm Patrick, Donald Doull, Martin Hall and Paul Stevenson.

2. Introductory remarks and In Memoriam.

After his introductory remarks, President Sean asked the meeting to stand for a minute's silence to mark the passing of the following Province members during the 2014-15 season:

Harry Holmes (Gogar Park)

Mac Harvey (Oxenfoord)

Tommy Kerr (Corstorphine)

3. Minutes of the 2014 AGM.

No minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting were available, as the Secretary's computer had crashed, unfortunately without back-up, so there were also no matters arising in that respect.

4. President's Report.

It has been a busy year for the province and it has not been without its challenges.

Starting in October, North Shore Winter Club visited from Vancouver and played a fixture against Area 5 on 1st October. 4 teams played with 1 team from Midlothian who won 9-4.

The Incoming Swiss Tour arrived at Murrayfield on 20th November to play Area 5. Midlothian had 2 teams. It resulted in an overall peel 27 shots each. This was followed by the RCCC tie then the final banquet. The Swiss were well looked after and I would like to thank John Good and Neil Calvert for all their hard work.

Now we come to the Area 5 Bonspiel on 5th December which had its controversies. Midlothian was represented by two teams. We were presented with the trophy, the Black Bull, but on reviewing scores and adjusting an incorrect scorecard, by general consensus, it was decided to share the honours with Peebleshire.

We then come to the Pate on 17th January (first played 1962) which was held at Borders Ice Rink this year and I have to thank Penicuik, Musselburgh, DAFS, Sweepers, Carrington, Boswall and a Murrayfield team for playing. The Murrayfield team was arranged by Iain Baxter with Graeme Baxter playing, raising some eyebrows at Kelso!

Unfortunately it was not our finest hour and we ended up -27.

Hopefully we can do better when we host next season.

The Province Bonspiel was on Monday 26th January. Currie and Balerno retained the trophy with an average of 8.33. Stewarts Melville were second with 8.00, winning the Colin Black trophy.

In January Margaret Miller our secretary was taken ill and decided for the good of her health to resign. She has since got better and we wish her a continued recovery. I want to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work. We have been working away at finding a suitable replacement for Margaret and the committee has a candidate which we hope will meet with your approval, but we'll come to that later.

The Waldie-Griffith tie was played on 9th February v Ayrshire. Midlothian won 27-21 with an average of 1.50.

The KGIV final was played on 27th February, 2015 between Clydesdale Bank and Duddingston. It was won by Clydesdale Bank. I believe there was some confusion in the earlier rounds in interpreting the draw. The committee will endeavour to make it clearer next season.

The Glenfarclas Province League ran through the season and Division 1 was won by Midcalder. The finals were played on the 17th of March and a close final with three blank ends resulted in Musketeers winning and they will go on to represent the Province in the finals in November. Division 2 was won by Stray Dogs and Division 3 by Penicuik.

There was some confusion and a lack of communication on our part with Glenfarclas which resulted in a lack of prizes for the finals night. Some kind donors helped with this and I'm now in discussions with George Grant at Glenfarclas moving forward for next season.

Regarding promotion/relegation the committee has had a slightly unusual request from a club asking not to be promoted although they rightfully earned it. The committee will meet shortly to take a view on this. The Police have intimated their decision to withdraw from the league and 37 Club are considering withdrawal.

That concludes the resume of the season.

We now come to the roll of honour.

Scottish Junior Championship

Women: Gina Aitken, Naomi Brown and Rowena Kerr with fifth player Karina Aitken and coach David Aitken. They went on to win silver at World Juniors in Tallinn.

Men: Bruce Mouat and team who went on to win bronze at World Juniors.

Scottish Ladies

Abi Brown and Hannah Fleming were runners up.

Henderson Bishop finals were won by Currie and Balerno with Jenny Barr as skip, Susan Kesley, Fran Stretton and Morna Aitken.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee, the ice and bar staff for their support through the season, and all those clubs and individuals that have played for and supported the province.

5. Treasurer's Report.

Copies of the Accounts had been previously circulated via Club Secretaries. Treasurer David said that one more Club (Heriot's FP) had been admitted to the Province ranks, but that there would be two fewer individual members.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Dan Lean, seconded by Alan Chalmers, and carried by the meeting.

David also proposed that there should be no change in the subscription levels, either Club or individual, for season 2015-16; this was carried by the meeting.

6. Election of Office Bearers.

President Sean indicated that he was willing to continue as President for season 2015-16; there being no other nominations, Sean was duly elected.

Trevor Dodds was nominated for the position of Vice President; there being no other nominations, Trevor was duly elected.

For health reasons, Margaret Millar had tendered her resignation as Secretary. This was accepted, and Margaret was thanked heartily for all her hard work during her term in office, and the meeting sends good wishes for her speedy return to full health and fitness.

David Cunningham was proposed for the position of Secretary by Sean Murphy and seconded by Trevor Dodds. There being no other nominations, David was duly elected.

Having indicated his willingness to continue as Treasurer, David Edwards was proposed by Sean Murphy and seconded by Ian Keron. There being no other nominations, David was duly elected.

Stanley Howard was proposed by Sean Murphy and seconded by Trevor Dodds for a position on the Province Committee. Calder Benzie had indicated his willingness to continue as a Committee member; his retention in that post was proposed by Sean Murphy and seconded by Dan Lean. 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 and proposed him to the meeting; Sean Murphy seconded this and, there being no other nominations, Malcolm was elected.

7. Any other business.

David Edwards reported that, while the Province Constitution requires the election of an Auditor, it does not currently contain a requirement that the accounts be “audited.” He proposed a change to the Constitution to say that “accounts must be **audited.**” (Exact wording to be decided in due course.) This was accepted by the meeting. The changed wording will be submitted to the 2016 A.G.M for approval.

Ian Keron asked for clarification of the rules regarding eligibility of players in Province competitions which then led on to national competition. Trevor Dodds reported that the Royal Club is very keen to encourage Province participation, but that it has to apply strict rules where Province competition acts as a qualifier for national competition. That particular section of the Royal Club rule book is not totally clear and is to be taken apart and re-written for future editions of the rule book.

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