

**Stettler Curling Club Annual General Meeting
Stettler Curling Club Lounge - September 28, 2020**

Attendance: Neil Morrow, Jamie Devnich, Sue Strandquist, Lynda Wesselman, Randy & Linda Jones, Leah Watts, Maureen Mailer, Peggy Hearonemus, Terry Nixon, Joe Schieble, Gail Millard, Dale Nixon, Ron Senft, Harvey McNeil, Helen Neal, Deb Hiller, Andy Birch, Fred and Janie Von Krogh, Pam Connon, Neil Connor, Jerome Hagel, Blaine Chapman, Jamie, Shelby and Gordie Kobi

Regrets: Wanda Niehaus

1. Call to Order: Neil called meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Agenda approved
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Insurance update
 - c. League commitment survey
 - d. Discussion and decision to open rink for upcoming season
3. Financial Report - Treasurer Gail Millard
Gail provided a summary of financial report from September 9 meeting.
4. Insurance update
Neil contacted Cooperators Insurance and reported there may be a small reduction in premiums if rink does open for the season. If rink does open, the rates will remain the same.
5. League commitment survey
Peggy, Maureen and Christine developed a phone script to contact league members and shared with board.

Ladies: Maureen sent email to all previous teams registered last year as well as previous curlers asking for their commitment to curling this season and agreement to no membership refund in event curling is suspended due to COVID outbreak or plant failure. Of 9 teams registered last year, 5 ½ teams committed to curling this year.

Wednesdays Open: Maureen sent email to several skips of teams registered last year. To date no one confirmed curling next season.

Afternoon League: Sue and Lynda contacted approximately 90% of curlers registered last year. Overall majority were very positive and approximately 35 committed to curling this season. A few were opposed to no membership refund.

Juniors: Wanda Niehaus reported 25 committed junior curling. Learn to curl program has been discontinued as per board decision last year.

Sponsorships: Gail and Maureen contacted previous sponsors to assess if willing to continue sponsorship if rink opened. Majority were willing to continue sponsorship but at a lesser amount. Estimate about 50% of total sponsor funds from last year.

6. Discussion Summary:

SCC have been in need of replacing the out-dated and 'multiple repaired' ice plant for a number of years. Hence the decision to host the Masters in 2018 and Scotties in 2019. Although we had a very successful Scotties and amazing support from Stettler and surrounding communities, the funds raised fell short of our initial goal. Last fall, SCC had unexpected expenses required to comply with government's new safety regulations regarding ammonia ice plants. The Board totally agree with the new safety guidelines but did cost the club money.

Insurance claim to repair the rink roof due to last year's hailstorm was approximately \$160,000. Clint Kneeland inspected the roof and provided club with a written quote of \$80,000. to repair.(provided there was no further hidden damage found during repair) The Board choose to take an insurance payout, have Clint repair the roof and remainder would be set aside for replacing the ice plant. Steve Gerlitz submitted SCC application for a Community Facility Enhancement (CFE) grant last March. The replacement of the ice plant met the grant criteria. If club was a successful recipient, the club had to show it had the matching funds were readily available - hence the \$50,000. was set aside. The club had a really good chance of receiving this grant and successful applicants were to be announced September 2020. The Board felt we had everything lined up to have roof repaired and replace the ice plant by fall of 2020. A quote was obtained for an used ice plant (from curling club up north that had only been used for a few years) and for installation. Then COVID hit. The CFE grant criteria was changed and postponed to March 2021. Current situation is SCC does not have total funds to replace ice plant without grants, added expense to comply with new guidelines to minimize risk of transmission of COVID and decreased membership.

In our September meeting, the board felt if we could confirm similar membership as last year, (total of 160 curlers in all leagues) we could possibly open knowing that we would run a slight deficit due to decreased funds usually raised from bonspiels and lounge. There would be increased expense for implementation of Alberta Health Services and Curling Alberta COVID return to play guidelines such as social distancing and enhanced hygiene and sanitation as well as additional record keeping (eg. document all person entering the building for tracking purposes in event of a reported COVID exposure and waiver forms). It will take good communication of the guidelines and collaboration of curlers to meet these guidelines.

Terry moved the Stettler Curling Club not open for the 2020/21 season. Leah seconded. According to club bylaws, only current board members are allowed to vote . 4 in favour and 3 opposed. Motion passed.

Terry amended previous motion to have a meeting the end of November to assess situation (increased membership, COVID status, possible grants, update on ice plant) for a possible January opening. Peggy seconded. Carried.

Actions:

1. Terry to contact Clint regarding schedule to repair roof.
2. Neil to contact Co-operator's Insurance regarding checking building to comply with insurance as rink will not be opened this fall.
3. Peggy and Maureen to develop a letter/information bulletin of SCC Board decision not to open this fall and will be reassessed at November meeting for a possible January opening. This will be shared with the following:
 - a. Town of Stettler - website and newsletter distributed with monthly power bills
 - b. County of Stettler - website and newsletter
 - c. Stettler Independent and East Central Review newspapers
 - d. Stettler Radio station
 - e. Stettler Chamber of Commerce
 - f. Local TV - appointment set for October 5
 - g. Leah to post on SCC website
4. All members to actively promote curling and encourage people to register prior to November meeting.

7. Next meeting: Monday November 23, 2020 at 7 pm.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm