

Minutes
Great Lakes Curling Association

Date: September 26th, 2015

Time: 1:00 -4:00pm

Location: Embassy Suites, North - Indianapolis

Attendees: Karen Hamilton (CCC), Ben Levy (Detroit CC), Paul Badgero (DCC), Adam Rivera (Detroit CC), Mike Graves (Midland CC), John Zimmerman (Midland CC); Martha Lemert (Fort Wayne CC), Jonathon Penney (Cincinnati CC), Tammy Hoffman (Circle City CC); Steve Straiger, (Circle City CC) Dave Egli (Traverse City CC), Courtney Schmidt (Mayfield CC)

Phone: Sandra Takata (Great Smoky CC), Mark McElwee (Lansing CC), Bruce Clingan (Curl Troy CC); Jeff Michael (Lewiston CC)

Proxies: Karen Hamilton held for Bob Baroni (Columbus CC), Martha Lemert held for Gordon MacLean (Copper City CC), Sandra Takata held for Leanne Smith (Great Smoky CC) and Kathy Kohtala (Delta Rocks), Courtney Schmidt held two proxies from Mayfield, Michael Moore and Matt Holtwick (Mayfield CC)

There were no representatives from Cleveland, Kalamazoo or Bowling Green

1. Call to Order: 1:15 p.m.:
2. Minutes of previous meeting: May 2, 2015 (Fort Wayne Curling Club)
 - Secretary: Bob Baroni
 - Motion to approve minutes-Paul Badgero
 - Approved: Majority
3. Actions of the President/Executive Committee
 - a. President Levy reported that St. Louis had requested to join the Illinois region and the Executive Committee approved that on behalf of the GLCA
 - b. Mayfield had requested the option to choose the fourth weekend in January for hosting the GLCA Club Championship and that request was approved
 - c. Request was made to change the GLCA Mixed Championship to Fort Wayne from Lewiston and allowing them the option to choose the third weekend in February, to not conflict with Nationals – this too was approved by the Executive Committee
 - d. Alexis Schroeder from Midland has taken over webmaster duties from Gordon for the GLCA and is doing an excellent job with it.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Financial Update - Treasurer Mark McElwee reported that the finances looked good. A copy of the Treasurer's Report will be attached to these minutes that show a positive balance of almost \$8,000.
 - b. 501(c)(3) update - Treasurer McElwee reported that 501(c)(3) forms are being put together and should be filed as soon as the financial history is put together within the next couple of weeks.

Clubs were asked to please attach a summary of the membership when they are paying and submitting their dues to submit the GLCA in this process.

The Audit Finance Subcommittee to be formed will be tasked with putting together the information needed to submit the 501(c)(3) information.

- c. USCA Rep stipend - Discussion held regarding the previously agreed upon stipend of \$250/meeting for our USCA Rep, currently Courtney Schmidt. Discussion held regarding the number of meetings required per year and how many of those meetings require attendance in person. The Finance Committee again was tasked with reviewing that stipend and whether or not adjustment should be made to it.
 - d. Bonding Requirements - Discussion held regarding the bonding requirements for the Treasurer and whether the bonding should be an old style of an individual nature or more of an insurance based bonding. D&O coverage for all members of the Board and the cost of that also discussed. The Executive Committee tasked with analyzing D&O and bonding issues to make sure we have something in place by yearend.
5. Regional Services and Support
- a. Stone Rental Update – Discussion held regarding the cost of the two new sets rental for Traverse City being \$400/set for their second season. Payment of \$300.00 per set due in the next week for first years’ rental. More discussion held regarding insurance for those sets at \$8,000/set almost being in place. Additional discussion regarding the two older sets in Petoskey and setting those prices at \$100/set because of their general rough condition.
 - b. Bonspiel promotion/pins - Hamilton reported on the success of the Bonspiel promotion and pin program, and to continue it next year. If curlers attended three or more out of town spiels or went more than 500 miles for a spiel, they would obtain an engraved pin from the GLCA. A copy of the Bonspiel calendar was distributed and passed out and is available for members. Comments about great updating job being done by Alexis Schroeder who took over GLCA website duties from Gordon.
 - c. Clinics - Kalamazoo will be holding an Ice Making Clinic on October 10th and 11th – fee is \$100 and \$50 for one extra person from your Club. Canadian Ice Technician Don Powell will be coming down to teach. Discussion held regarding lack of official certification for ice technicians and that USCA was working on such a certification program. There will also be a Wheelchair Coaching Clinic at the Members Assembly Meeting in Fort Wayne the weekend of October 16th. Traverse City is hosting a Level 1 Instructor Course on October 5th. Columbus will be hosting an Officiating Clinic to for Level 1 and Level 2 in preparation for Senior Women’s Nationals later this year. A date is not set yet.
 - d. USCA Senior Women’s Nationals in Columbus - will be held January 28th through 31st. It will be a Round Robin and is expected to draw between six and eight teams. Motion was made to buy a full-page ad at a cost of \$250 in the Program for USCA Senior Women’s Nationals for the GLCA. Motion approved.
6. Formation of Standing Committees
- a. Audit/Finance – Mark McElwee, Treasurer; Adam Rivera; and Tammy Hoffman have agreed to serve on the Finance Committee. Their initial tasks will be to put together

financial history and prepare that material for 501(c)(3) application and reviewing the reimbursement of USCA rep stipend.

- b. Governance/Nominating – Gordon MacLean will chair it and Sandra Takata and Marty Lemert will serve on it. This group will be tasked with nominating a new USCA rep when Courtney’s time is up. Revisiting the proxy language and the bylaws and researching state laws in Michigan, regarding proxy use. All Board members reminded also to fill out and send in their Conflict of Interest forms by the Annual meeting.
- c. Championship/Rules – Paul Badgero, Mike Graves, Ben Levy and Adam Rivera agreed to serve on this. The Committee will be tasked with discussing and reviewing sponsorship and branding of the championships and codifying the rules that have been approved at the last meeting regarding the championship play down guidelines.
- d. Membership – Sandra Takata, Dave Eggli, Karen Hamilton and Courtney Schmidt will serve on this. They will be tasked with assisting with the Finance Committee on getting 501(c)(3) status filed, promoting the Bonspiel calendar and assisting clubs with club growth and operating their clubs and the business of curling and promoting the Darwin Curtis Grant opportunities.

7. USCA Members Assembly

- a. Members Meeting agenda – President Levy went over the Members Meeting agenda and the proposed changes to the USCA Bylaws that will be voted on at the Members Assembly.
 - 1. The first amendment included adding a vice-chair to the USCA Board to stand in if the chair was unavailable but would not swell the board total. No objection to the approval of that bylaw amendment by the GLCA.
 - 2. The bylaws are to be amended to establish an executive committee with the powers act on time sensitive issues. This too was approved by the GLCA Board.
 - 3. The bylaws are being amended to change the term of replacement for the chair, in the event that the chair is replaced. The bylaws currently provide two consecutive terms. No objections were lodged to this amendment.
 - 4. Bylaws are being amended to allow the Nominating Committee to nominate a chair and a vice-chair – again no objection to this.
 - 5. An amendment is proposed to allow elections electronically at meetings and to be submitted via electronic vote – again no objections to this.
 - 6. There are miscellaneous cleanups, some typos and other changes to clean up the bylaws – no objection to this.
 - 7. There’s been an adoption of format change to the bylaws – no objections to this.

b. Members Meeting Representation

GLCA currently has 1,300 votes.

Discussion held regarding whether Ben should vote on behalf of the GLCA for all of these changes and represent all of those. Motion held to allow Ben to vote on behalf of all of the GLCA – motion approved. If any individual

clubs wish to vote separately outside the GLCA, they need to let the USCA and the GLCA know before October 6th.

8. New Clubs

- a. Petoskey – Paul Badgero discussed Petoskey struggling with dues and affording to be able to pay dues to the USCA and GLCA to discuss whether having an associate membership class with non-voting rights for new club. Discussion held regarding transitioning non-GLCA member clubs to member club and trying to streamline that process. A possible future issue for both Membership and Governance to consider.
- b. Memphis – Memphis is apparently an active club but is not a member of the GLCA. It does send curlers to various Bonspiels.
- c. Others – the club at Notre Dame in South Bend was discussed because they have been awarded the 2017 Arena Club Championship. Contact person to be located there to talk to them about trying to join the GLCA and USCA because otherwise they will not be able to field any team for the Arena Club Championships in 2017 unless they become a member by 2016.

No new business reported.

9. Club Commentary –

- a. Bowling Green is working on a loan and raising \$175,000 to couple with the loan from the World Curling Federation of \$200,000 to move to a new location and dedicated ice. It will be voting on this on October 10th. It held a great spiel two weeks ago.
- b. Cincinnati is curling five times a week, Saturdays, Sundays and Thursdays. Had a great event with Science and Sport involving floor curling recently, getting floor curling stones from the USCA which can be borrowed.
- c. Lewiston reported that it has concerns about the \$8,000 operating budget and \$2,000 of which goes to the USCA and it will be holding its spiel on the third weekend in February.
- d. No report from the Cleveland Skating Club.
- e. Circle City moved to a new facility and is in its second week of league play.
- f. Columbus is looking into building out a new facility with four sheets and expandable to six sheets. Has its Beers of the World Spiel almost full and the Women's Spiel is full for the third week in October. Reports 190 members. They are hosting Senior Nationals for Women the end of January.
- g. The Great Smoky Curling Club is in the second week of league play, has 46 members; and the Rocky Top Open Spiel was a great success but because of ice re-construction at their facility may be held a couple of weeks later towards the end of June next year instead of early June.
- h. Delta Rock should be curling between December and February.
- i. Lansing had great success at the Arena Nationals winning a consolation event. Held a successful spiel in June.
- j. Copper Country – no report but they are in the midst of working on their renovations, had successful fundraising and will be reinstating their Copperspiel January 15th thru January 17th.

- k. Detroit plans to hire a paid icemaker fell through but a consultant is being hired to assist in ice making and ice technician. Spiels are set for next year and leagues will be starting up in a few weeks.
- l. Fort Wayne has similar membership to last year and leagues will be starting up next week. We're getting ready for the Members meeting and may be able to build out and obtain additional warm room space including two additional restrooms. Spiels are on the calendar and end of Summerspiel is under way.
- m. Mayfield will be starting up October 30th. Its mixed, women's and men's events are scheduled.
- n. Kalamazoo is holding its first ever spiel the first weekend in November – about four or five spots left – is working on having the ice technician clinic and is working on its dedicated ice initiative.
- o. Midland reported it will have its open Bonspiel October 16-18. It's also hosting junior playdowns December 29-30 and will be hosting the USWCA 5 and Under January 23-24. It also will be hosting a Can-Am Challenge for juniors December 5-6 and this will be a good opportunity for any junior teams in the region to get practice on the Midland ice before the juniors playdown.
- p. Traverse City reported that it survived its first year successfully and will start in another week. We will be curling Tuesday and Wednesday night. It has 70-80 members and is gearing up sponsorships for its spiel in April again. It is hosting an instructor clinic next weekend and is working with a consultant on getting grants towards its dedicated ice initiative.
- q. Curl Troy indicated it will be curling in two different places, including the new location at Springfield with four sheets, Hobart and Dayton. It will be hosting its first spiel May 13-15 at the Springfield location.

A reminder to everyone that dues with the GLCA are due by January 31, 2016 in order to be able to vote at the next meeting.

10. Next Meeting - The next annual meeting set for May 7th at Lansing.

A reminder to everyone that dues with the GLCA are due by January 31, 2016 in order to be able to vote at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4 pm.

Attachment – Treasurer's report

Fall 2015 GLCA Treasurer's Report

Date	Description	Memo	Amount Debit	Amount Credit	Balance
8/20/2015	Deposit	2014-15 Stone Rental-Petoskey Curling Club		200.00	7537.27
8/3/2015		545 State of Michigan- Fees	-20.00		7337.27
7/15/2015		544 Copper Services- Conference Call	-288.68		7357.27
6/4/2015		543 USCA rep Courtney Smith- 3 meetings expenses	-750.00		7645.95
5/20/2015		542 Donation, 2015 Arena Nationals	-600.00		8395.95
5/11/2015	Deposit	Pin Sales, 2015 Playdown Regional Fees		1060.00	8995.95
5/7/2015		541 Martha Lemert- Spring Meeting Expenses	-70.00		7935.95

Accounts receivable- \$600 from Traverse City Curling club for 2014-15 stone rental (2 sheets)

Accounts payable-\$2,784 to USCA for stone purchase, due in December

Projected spending- approximately \$1,000 for 2015 Ice Clinic in Kalamazoo; Approximately \$900 for regional championship banners.

Once again the region is in solid financial shape. Income from regional dues was \$6,732 for the 2014-15 season, and is expected to grow again this year.

Form 990-N and 2015 Michigan Non-Profit forms are filed.

2015-16 Dues: The deadline for GLCA and USCA membership reporting and corresponding dues is **January 31, 2015**. GLCA dues are **\$5 per adult curler, \$3 per junior**. USCA dues are determined by the attached table- a \$2 increase from 2013 rates (there was no increase last year.) ** Please do not wait until the last minute, especially where the USCA is concerned. Get your membership reporting completed in a timely fashion. A regional dues notice will be sent by the USCA along with the member reporting packet. It is up to each club to make sure that the USCA has all of the current officer contact information for their club.



**USA CURLING DUES
2015-16**

Curler is defined as an individual member of a member club or an individual using a member club facility on a regular basis (at least 6 times per year).

Membership Categories	Fee Type	Dues Price	Playdown Eligible
Adult (22-49)	HH (Household Head)	\$31	YES
	AHM (Additional Household Member)	\$27	YES
Senior (50+)	HH (Household Head)	\$31	YES
	AHM (Additional Household Member)	\$21	YES
Junior (14-21)	JR (No Curling News)	\$24	YES
	JRC (With Curling News)	\$28	YES
Youth (13 and under)	Y (No Curling News)	\$8	YES
	YC (With Curling News)	\$12	YES
Social (Non-curling club member)	SNC (No Curling News)	\$8	NO
	SC (With Curling News)	\$28	NO
Other (primary membership w/another club)	ONC	\$8	YES - if primary membership is not Social

USCA dues are based on membership category and whether or not a member receives the *US Curling News*, which is mailed one per household. The Household Head (HH) receives the News; their dues are \$31. Youth, Juniors, and Social members (who may or may not be household heads), may receive the *Curling News* at their option, but their dues are then increased accordingly. The default for Youth, Junior, and Social Memberships is "no *Curling News*."

NOTES ON THE "NO CURLING NEWS" CATEGORY:

The purpose of this category is to indicate which household heads, IF ANY, are not to receive the *Curling News* as part of their membership in your club. Such members MUST fall into one of the following categories:

- SOCIAL with no *Curling News*** (\$8 dues without *Curling News*)
- JUNIOR with no *Curling News*** (\$24 dues without *Curling News*)
- YOUTH with no *Curling News*** (\$8 without *Curling News*)

OTHER is by definition a "no *Curling News*" category (\$8 dues; a member of more than one club, electing to receive the *Curling News* through their primary club membership; your club is not their primary club)