

Minutes
Great Lakes Curling Association

Date: May 7, 2016

Time: 1:15 -3:45 pm

Location: Boji Tower, Lansing, MI

Attendees: Karen Hamilton (CCC), Ben Levy (Detroit CC), Paul Badgero (DCC), Mike Graves (Midland CC), John Zimmerman (Midland CC); Martha Lemert (Fort Wayne CC), Jonathon Penney (Cincinnati CC), Tammy Hoffman (Circle City CC); Dave Eggli (Traverse City CC), Courtney Schmidt (Mayfield CC), Sandra Takata (Great Smoky CC), Mark McElwee (Lansing CC), Steve Imes (Columbus CC), Jay Clark (Bowling Green CC), Scott Piroth (Bowling Green CC), Rick Patzke (CEO of USA Curling)

Phone: Adam Rivera (Detroit CC), Mike Harwat (Curl Troy), Paul Eisenman (Copper Country), Jennifer Gassman (Cleveland Skating Club), Marcus Gleaton (Kalamazoo CC), Steve Straiger, (Circle City CC)

Proxies: Courtney Schmidt held for Michael Moore (Mayfield), Paul Badgero held for Jeff Michael (Lewiston), Sandra Takata held for Kathy Kohtala (Delta Rocks), Paul Eisenman held for Gordon MacLean (Copper Country), Tammy Hoffman held for Steve Straiger (Circle City CC)

A quorum was established.

1. Call to Order: 1:15 p.m.:
2. Discussion held regarding the member status and voting rights for Curl Troy and the issue of the fact that the by-laws had been changed in the interim such that their failure to pay USCA dues in 2015 because of the way the old by-laws were written should not have invalidated them from having a voting director position for the next two years. Motion made to allow Troy to have a director position that is voting for the next two-year period. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention.
3. Minutes from the previous meeting: September 26, 2015 (Circle City Curling Club) were reviewed and approved.
4. Audit/Finance
 - a. Financial Update - Treasurer Mark McElwee passed out financial documents reflecting the financial position of the GLCA. He indicated there's an additional \$800 in stone rentals that is not reflected on the balance sheet from Traverse City for total income of just under \$9,000. The organizations expenses were around \$7,200 for this fiscal year. The budget statement was accepted and passed by the Board.

- b. 501(c)(3) update - Treasurer McElwee reported that they should have this in place and finalized by August 1st for the GLCA.
- c. USCA Rep stipend - Discussion held regarding whether or not to cap the stipend to the USCA Representative at \$500/year. Discussion regarding the number of meetings that are in person (2) and the total number of meetings four (4) and that \$250/meeting was not significant but only defrayed some of the cost for attending the in person meetings. Courtney Schmidt, our current USCA Rep, asked to account for what it costs to attend the meetings to give the Board an idea of what a fair stipend and cap amount could look like.
- d. Bonding Requirements – Mark McElwee discussed the investigation into bonding and D&O coverage, that some issues had developed regarding whether or not the GLCA was a multi-state organization or whether it was only a Michigan organization as it was only incorporated in Michigan. This impacts the level and type of coverage required and its cost. Some discussion held regarding whether we really need bonding or whether simply D&O coverage would be sufficient. The Audit Finance Committee is going to continue to investigate this and come up with a low cost recommendation for this given the organization’s relative size and limited resources.

5. Membership

- a. Stone Rental Update – Discussion held regarding charging Traverse City \$500 per set next year for the new rocks that they have. Motion for this rental amount passed. Discussion held regarding Petoskey and the fact that they only got to use their stones three or four times given the warm winter and their outdoor curling situation. Decision made to hold the rental of those stones at \$100/set.
- b. Bonspiel Promotion/Pins Program – Karen Hamilton discussed the number of pins we had available (10) and the need to order new ones. Discussion held regarding some clubs having pins but not having paid for them, such as FWCC. Karen authorized to order the GLCA pins. Discussion held regarding Scot Tour and the three GLCA women that are going on that needing 25 pins each. Motion made and passed to sell them pins at \$2/pin for cost. Bonspiel Program Schedule from last year passed out and reviewed and some discussion held regarding dates for various Bonspiels.
- c. Clinics – Jonathan Penney discussed the Ice Maintenance Clinic in Kalamazoo and how it was not well attended except for Kalamazoo individuals. Discussion held regarding additional clinics needed such as another officiating clinic as the Arena Nationals are coming to Notre Dame. Discussion regarding having Level 3 & 4 GLCA officials do the training to avoid scheduling issues with USCA trainer. Mike Graves discussed the Jr. camp in Wisconsin, how it filled up in 12 hours and that GLCA should consider doing a junior camp over next summer as they had 11 juniors at Junior Nationals this year from our region.

d. New Clubs

The GLCA has received some interest and inquiries from people around Holland/Muskegon and the Grand Rapids area. Some discussion regarding Notre Dame and how they need to become a member of the GLCA and the USCA in light of their hosting the Arena Nationals. Discussion regarding Memphis and the need to reach out to curlers in the Memphis area.

6. Championship/Rules

- a. A review of past season and the use of the Round Robin format generally perceived as successful. Decision was made to leave current format/rules in place with the Championship Rules Committee to make recommendations for the fall in terms of any tweaks to the Round Robin format and present those recommendations in a format that can be understood by the rest of the Board such as a spreadsheet showing a draw layout so others can visualize it easily for approval at the fall meeting.
- b. Discussion held regarding the Round Robin format with three or four teams and the need to try and get more than two games in if teams are traveling to the Great Lakes Curling Championships for Mens and Womens.
- c. Host club rotation for GLCA Championships. Columbus Curling Club will hold the championship for Club Nationals, Mens and Womens, January 20th through the 22nd of 2017. Detroit will hold the mixed championship for the GLCA the weekend of February 17th through the 19th. Junior championships for the GLCA will be held and that will be held at Detroit December 27th through the 29th 2016. This is a Tuesday through Thursday, but because of the holidays this is the only viable time for that event. Motion made and passed to approve these locations and dates for the GLCA Championships.

7. Governance/Nominating

Courtney Schmidt reelected as USCA Director

8. New Business

- a. Promoting Inter-Club and Competitive Curling
- b. Discussion held regarding the need for clubs to reduce their fees for having visiting teams practice for arena nationals or other events with other curlers. Some discussion held regarding the need for local clubs to be able to control their ice cost and fee structures to be consistent with what they charge outside guests and what they charge club members with guests for the use of the ice.
- c. Stick Delivery – New Curling Federation Rules

Discussion held regarding whether or not to accept stick delivery for purposes of arena nationals, club nationals as well as some juniors competitions. Such delivery would be in accordance with the World Curling Federation Rules, which means you have to release before your feet cross the near T line. Rick Patzke indicated that on or about July 28th the USCA Board of Directors will be discussing this proposed change and it will also be discussed and voted on for approval at the Members Assembly in October in Tempe, AZ. Some discussion held regarding whether it was within the spirit of curling to allow on the stick delivery for events that do not lead to a world championship.

- d. Paul Badgero recognized for his long service to the GLCA Board and thanked for his tenure on it by then Ben Levy and the rest of the board.
 - e. Question held regarding the status of proxies, and the use of proxies and whether or not those should be limited to X number per person. Governance Committee will review and make recommendations for the next meeting.
9. Next meeting scheduled to occur on Saturday, October 1, 2016, tentative location is Cincinnati but the specific location to be determined.

Great Lakes Curling Association**Balance Sheet****Assets**

Current assets:	2016	2017
Checking Account	8,811.06	-
Championship Fees	900.00	-
Total current assets	9,711.06	-

Liabilities

Current liabilities:	2016	2017
Accounts payable-USCA Stone Purchase	2,784.00	2,784.00
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total current liabilities	2,784.00	2,784.00

Income Statement

Great Lakes Curling Association
July 5, 2015 thru May 6, 2016

Revenue

2015-16 Club Dues	7251	
GLCA Ice Clinic Attendance	200	
GLCA Stone Rentals	700	
Total Income		8151

Expenses

Teleconference	289	
State of Michigan Fees	20	
Championship patch embroidery	314	
2015 Ice Clinic Expenses	939	
Trophy Engraving and Maintenance	240	
USCA Stone Purchase Payment	2784	
GLCA Champion Team Travel Stipend	1500	
GLCA Championship Host Club Regional Fee Prepayment	900	
Senior Nationals Program Ad	250	
Total Expenses		7236

Net Income

915