



CANADIAN STICK CURLING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 23, 2017 NEW GLASGOW, NOVA SCOTIA

The annual meeting of the provincial reps of the Canadian Stick Curling Association was moved from the Bluenose Curling Club to the Holiday Inn Express – New Glasgow due to a major snow storm that struck the area.

At the request of Ernie Oliver, President of CSCA who was unable to attend for personal reasons, asked Warren Johnson of Manitoba to serve as the meeting chairperson and Chris Sobkowicz to serve as secretary for this meeting. Both the chair and the secretary are from the Manitoba Stick Curling Association.

CHAIR Manitoba - Warren Johnson - warren.johnson45@shaw.ca
REC. SEC. Manitoba – Chris Sobkowicz – csobkowicz@winnipeg.ca

Meeting Protocol

The Chair reviewed the meeting protocol for this year's meeting will be that each Province may have two representatives at the table for discussion purposes but each province will have only one vote on any issue requiring a vote. It was also noted that others attending may be present but will not have the floor at any time during the discussions or vote:

It was agreed that the Chair did not have a vote, and that all votes can be ratified by a majority only.

Call to order – 8:14am with Warren Johnson serving as Chair

Provincial Attendance (Voting Delegate (*))

*Nova Scotia - Keith Bennett - grampieb@hotmail.com
Nova Scotia – Dave McDougall – dvdmcgdgl@bestlink.ca

*Prince Edward Island - Audrey Callaghan - audrey@callaghanfarms.com
Prince Edward Island – Ernie Stavert – eandrstavert@gmail.com

*New Brunswick – Frank Armstrong – frank.thetank.armstrong@gmail.com

*British Columbia - Tim Smith - 4171 Swanson Mtn. Armstrong, BC, VOE 1B0
Phone - 1- 250-546-3993
British Columbia – Chris Pieper – cpieper@telus.net



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*Alberta - Randy Olson – randyolson@shaw.ca
Alberta – Ruby Olson – randyolson@shaw.ca

*Manitoba – Harold Cook – hcook@mymts.net

Regrets:

Alberta - Bob McKenzie - McKenzie.bob2@gmail.com
Alberta – Milt McDougall – 62 Forest Grove, St Albert. Alberta, T8N 3K6

Saskatchewan - Mat Ring - mat.ring@curlsask.ca
Marketing and Member Services CURLSASK
Saskatchewan –Gord Garratt – gord.garratt@sasktel.net

New Brunswick - Sherril Minns - sherril506@gmail.com

British Columbia – Phil Culbert - philculbert@shaw.ca

Manitoba - Ernie Oliver - ernie.oliver@icloud.com
Manitoba – Rae Campbell – liveforthelake@live.com

The Chair noted that Rae Campbell from Manitoba is presently overseeing the Canadian Stick Curling Association Website but will not be attending this year's championship.

Website and Communication Purposes

Manitoba – Rae Campbell – liveforthelake@live.com

Review of Prior Minutes – March 22, 2016 – Vernon, BC

Motion to approve - Alberta (Olsen) Motion seconded – BC (Smith)



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Business Arising From Minutes

1. Website maintenance –

- The Chair reviewed the history of having the Website for everyone across the country to access and the difficulty to ask each province to participate financially as each province is organized differently. Over the years, Manitoba has footed the cost to host the site, with the support of a couple of Provinces once.
- It is all agreed that the website is a needed service to inform the provinces of all the new events, information, contacts, provincial and national championships and CSCA communications.
- The cost to run the website is estimated at \$500 for hard costs, and approximately \$700 for maintenance costs to keep the site updated.
- The cost of providing this service is entirely footed by Manitoba at the present time, and the chair indicated that this should not continue and that a plan needs to be developed for the future.
 - i. Nova Scotia indicated that starting next season they would be willing to add a fee to their Provincial Championships and forward this collected fee to the cost of hosting the website. (it was suggested that they could consider \$10/team as a starting spot)
 - ii. BC indicated that was a good suggestion, and that they would consider adding \$5/player in the same manner starting with next year.
 - iii. **MOTION: Alberta (Olson) SECONDED: BC (Smith)** That the Host of the National Stick Curling Championship starting in 2018 donate \$500 toward the Website Operational Costs from the proceeds of hosting the event, and that this be continued for all concurrent National Stick Curling Championships and that the Hosting Guidelines be amended to include this. **CARRIED**

- #### 2. Experimental rule change for blank ends. At last year's meeting this rule change was discussed, and the provinces agreed to try this concept over the next year to see if there was any merit to make the rule change.
- The consensus of the delegates was that their provinces did not feel there was any urgency to change the rule. It was noted that there are different game strategies across the country and that in some locales this might be an important consideration.
 - It was decided to leave the rule as listed.



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New Business

1. Guidelines for awarding and hosting Canadian Stick Championships
 - a. Manitoba motioned to adopt the draft guidelines that were distributed earlier with the meeting agenda package with the intent of having a hosting guideline package adopted effective immediately.
 - b. Discussion and points brought forward for consideration included:
 - i. Entry Fees to be discussed and approved by the CSCA at their AGM held yearly.
 - ii. Financial support for maintaining the website
 - iii. On-line Registration Options complete with on-line fee payments.
 - iv. Financial Reports need to be submitted to the CSCA
 - c. It was agreed that the CSCA will consider the above additions when completing the next draft for the Hosting Guidelines. The amended guidelines are being distributed as an addendum to these minutes and should be subject to review on an annual basis at the Canadian Championship.
 - d. **MOTION: Nova Scotia (Barrett) SECONDED: Manitoba.** That we accept the efforts of Manitoba's first draft of the Hosting Guidelines, and continue to amend this draft for formal presentation to the 2018 AGM in St. Albert. **CARRIED**
2. Curl Canada moratorium on brush heads.
 - a. Manitoba believes it would not be in the best interest of 2-person stick curling to require sweeping equipment that conforms to WCF specifications.
 - b. **MOTION: Manitoba (Cook) SECONDED: NS (Barrett)** That we do not conform to the World Curling Federation and the Curl Canada moratorium on Brush Heads to participate in Stick Curling in Canada. **CARRIED**
3. Proposed amendment to rule 7 regarding changing the free guard number of rocks from 3 rocks to 4 rocks.
 - a. Alberta proposed that to inspire more offensive opportunities that the free guard number of stones should be increased from 3 rocks to 4 rocks.
 - b. Nova Scotia felt that there needs more time to discuss this back in their provinces, and that we might bring this back at a later time.
 - c. PEI stated that strategies have appeared to be different in some parts of the country, and would like further time to consider this.
 - d. **MOTION: Alberta (Olson) SECONDED: None DEFEATED**



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4. Proposed amendment to rule 5 regarding the mandatory use of the hack when delivering a stone.
 - a. Manitoba proposed to eliminate the rule that is presently listed as part of the Canadian Stick Curling Association rules and incorporate the rules as listed with Curl Canada instead.
 - b. Manitoba feels that there is no advantage of standing in front of the hack, and feels that the descriptions of the Curl Canada rules make more sense. By not eliminating our rule as listed, creates a problem with compliance and interpretation and should be struck.
 - c. **MOTION Nova Scotia SECONDED:** Manitoba. That we strike Rule 5 in our existing set of Rules, and follow the Curl Canada rule on delivery.
CARRIED.
5. Approval for 2018 Canadian Championship in St Albert on April 2, 3, 4 & 5, 2018
 - a. Unanimous approval for the Alberta plans to host the Canadian Stick Curling Association Championships as outlined.
 - b. Approved the new registration fee of \$160 in lieu of the verbal report from Alberta reps Randy and Ruby Olson.
 - c. Alberta proposed to change the National Stick Curling Championship game format from a 48 team progressive draw to Pool System involving 8 pools of 6 teams.
 - d. Benefits of a Pool System include:
 - i. 5 games guaranteed
 - ii. Actual Scheduled times for all 5 games is finite.
 - iii. Top 2 teams proceed to the Qualifier
 - iv. Tie Breaking formulas including a pre-game draw to the button exercise to determine hammer and accumulative measure amounts to determine ties will be announced prior to the event.
 - e. Downside to the Pool System included:
 - i. Seeding Issues
 - ii. Tie Breaking Formulas may be unfair or complicated and do not eliminate teams without playing



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- f. It was generally agreed not to change to a POOL System at this time, and suggest that each province consider this type of event in the individual provinces during the next year and provide more detailed feedback at the next AGM. If approved to allow the hosting to change the game format at the national event, the hosting package should reflect this in detail. Otherwise we will leave this open for discussion at the next event.
- 6. 2019 Championship site proposed for PEI .
 - a. The representatives from PEI have indicated that we leave them as a tentative host for the 2019 championship as they have not yet confirmed a host curling club at this time. They are excited and prepared to host, but would like to defer the announcement until they get a contract signed with a host club.
- 7. 2020 Championship site open.
 - a. Potential sites may be Manitoba or Saskatchewan for hosting the 2020 championship pending approval at the annual meeting and the eagerness of the Host Province.
- 8. CSCA lobbying efforts with Curling Canada to promote growth and sustainability.
 - a. There were a number of initiatives discussed generally on how to promote the game of stick curling and grow the sports to the other non-participating provinces.
 - b. It looks like we may have some future support from the Curl Canada administrative staff to include stick curling as a legitimate program, and potentially a realistic support from some of the Curl Canada governance.
 - c. Each province was encouraged to continue their individual lobbying to align stick curling with the main stream curling programs provincially, and that continued lobby and discussion will result in stick curling being recognized and sustainable at a National Level.



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- d. The Chair expressed his kudos to all the provinces for their efforts in promoting the game, and that a truly national championship with representation from each province and territory may be in sight in our lifetimes..... Well done everyone.
- 9. Discussion to add a ladies event as part of the Canadian Stick Curling Championship.
 - a. PEI proposed that we consider establishing a Ladies Division as part of the National Championship in the future.
 - b. After some discussion the following should be considered to move this concept option forward;
 - i. In order to host a National Championship for Ladies, it was thought that there should be a minimum number of teams playing in the event in order to be sustainable on a long term basis. This number will have to be determined by the AGM in St. Albert in order to be considered to be a National Event.
 - ii. In order to qualify to be a National Championship for Ladies there should be a minimum number of Provinces represented in order to be sustainable on a long term basis. This number will have to be determined by the AGM in St. Albert in order to be considered to be a National Event.
 - iii. That if a National Championship for Ladies is desired the following questions were brought forward by the meeting and summarized by the recording secretary for further discussion by the provinces to bring back to the next meeting at the AGM in St. Albert.(Note....With apologies for bouncing around on the comments as it was difficult to focus in on any one point.....but that is what brainstorming is all about):
 - 1. Should that event be held at the same time as the Open Championship?
 - 2. Should that event be held as a separate event:
 - a. At a separate Club?
 - b. On a different Date?
 - c. Or by a separate governing body?
 - 3. What Minimum Number of Teams Needs to be reached in order to qualify as a National?
 - 4. Is the demand presently regional and should it be run as a Recreational Event by the Host Committee?



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5. If a National Ladies event is held at the same time and same venue, does the number of participating teams in the Open Event need to be reduced to accommodate a Ladies Division. As an example: 32 Open and 16 Ladies? Or does the host province be responsible to accommodate the 48 teams in the open, and ??? teams for the Ladies Division.
 6. If a National Ladies Event is agreed on, then they would be supplied with a National Trophy, Crests, and awards presently offered in the Open Division.
 7. Some Provinces are experiencing a decline in women only events, and a rise in mixed or open events.
- c. It was generally agreed that there may not be a need for a ladies division any time soon, but there certainly should be further discussion at the next AGM to determine how it could be incorporated and transitioned into a National Event if and when the numbers merited it.
 - d. Regardless of the discussion, there will not be a Ladies Division planned for the 2018 National Stick Curling Championship in St. Albert.

The Chair thanked all the people attending the meeting, and wished everyone a successful bonspiel weather permitting.....

Motion to Adjourn 10:00am