

**ELGIN CURLING CLUB**

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND GENERAL MEETING**

**Held in the Elgin Museum Hall**

**on**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2011 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT**

J Downey (President), M Pickthall (Secretary), E Dodson (Treasurer), D Howie (Match Secretary), M McKenzie, M Cumming, S Pilkington, M Pilkington, A Pickthall, B Ford, G Grant, A Allardyce, J Main, J Farquhar, B King, R Tyson, H Fulton, C Sword, A Grant.

**1. APOLOGIES**

G Johnston, C Taylor, C Milne, B Milne, B Duncan, D Duncan, R Stuart, I Yeats, B Cameron, J Grigor, J Barron, M Kemp, J-P Downey, G More, H Grant, A Strang

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were approved; proposed by Douglas Howie and seconded by Barbara King.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Letters were received from Oonah Grigor and Hilda Fulton thanking the Club for granting them honorary membership.
- b. A letter was received from the Moray Province Development Group offering Members coaching from Les Morgan and Campbell Ross who are both RCCC qualified technical coaches. The letter had previously been forwarded by email to all Members.

**5. ICE CHARGES**

The meeting was informed that MLC had finally agreed the ice charges for the coming season which were to remain the same at £10 for evening and £8 for daytime curling. The cost of practice ice, however, was to increase by 5% to £6.30.

**6. PROGRAMME**

The Match Secretary thanked Graham Grant for his hard work in arranging the Province fixtures in good time so that they could be incorporated into the Club

programme prior to the publishing of the Booklet. He then went on to outline the curling programme for the coming season which was set out in the Club Booklet and reminded those present which members of the Committee were responsible for organising the various Club competitions and Bonspiels. An anomaly had been spotted in the SMD Competition which Douglas undertook to correct and publicise.

#### **7. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Nominations were required to fill the vacancy of Vice-President. Morag Cumming was nominated and proposed by John Downey and seconded by Barbara King. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

#### **8. TRUST STATUS**

Callum Sword, who had been processing the change of status of the Club to that of a CASC and liaising with HMRC was able to report that the process was now satisfactorily complete.

#### **9. KEAN KENNEDY QUAICH**

Mike Pickthall informed the meeting that the Kean Kennedy Quaich had been mislaid. He stated that it was his belief that it was in all probability somewhere in the Moray Leisure Centre and that it was possible that it would reappear at some time in the future. In the meantime, the Committee had decided to award the Urquhart Trophy for the Pairs Competition in 2010. The Meeting agreed, after some discussion, that the Urquhart Trophy should continue to be awarded and that if, after a suitable timescale, the Kean Kennedy Quaich was not found then a replacement should be purchased. The value of the missing trophy did not make an insurance claim a worthwhile option. The Secretary stated that he had a record of all the previous holders as well as photographs and dimensions of the missing Quaich.

#### **10. AREA 10 BONSPIELS**

The Match Secretary informed the Meeting that nominations were required to enter teams for the Area 10 Bonspiels, all of which would be held in Inverness. Mike Pickthall and John Downey agreed to enter a rink for the Bookless Quaich and Morag Cumming agreed to enter one for the Dennis Ice Bowl. Entries were still required for the Johnston Carmichael and the McGregor Kettle.

#### **11. COACHING**

Morag Cumming, in her capacity as Convener of the MPDG, updated Members on the MPDG involvement with coaching and development of adult and junior curlers, school curling and "come and try" events aimed at attracting new curlers to the sport. She appraised everyone on the successes that had been achieved by the junior curlers and that they had now formed their own junior curling club that had

recently achieved RCCC affiliation. She highlighted the fact that there was an ongoing requirement for volunteers to assist with coaching and to that end recommended a course in Aberdeen, run by the RCCC, in October 2011 for prospective new coaches. Reference was also made to the letter which she had sent to all the local clubs in which she extended an invite to all club curlers to receive coaching from Les Morgan and Campbell Ross to improve individual skills.

## **12. SOCIAL EVENT**

Helen Downey and Mike Kemp had previously agreed to organise a social event on a date to be decided towards the end of January 2012 if there was sufficient interest from Club Members. It was decided on a show of hands that this should go ahead.

## **13. LEES PAINTING RESTORATION FUND**

The Secretary briefly reminded the Meeting that the RCCC had made an appeal for donations towards the £50,000 cost of restoring the Lees Painting and explained that a suggestion had been made that a suitable single donation from the Club might be appropriate. The Treasurer confirmed that the Club's finances were healthy and that a donation was affordable. Mark Pilkington proposed a donation of £50 seconded by Ashleen Pickthall. Andrew Allardyce proposed a donation of £100 which was seconded by Callum Sword. The proposal to make a single donation of £100 was carried by a show of hands.

## **14. MEETING DATES AND VENUES**

Meeting dates and venues would take place as published in the Club Booklet.

## **15. AOB**

- a. The Treasurer informed the Meeting that there were still some subscriptions outstanding and that he would undertake to send a reminder to those Members concerned.
- b. John Downey informed the Meeting that he was compiling a Year Book of photographs recording events that the Club was involved in throughout the year and asked Members to contribute photographs for the album.
- c. John Downey announced that Club Clothing which had been ordered was now available for collection.
- d. Rob Tyson suggested that in view of the healthy state of the Club's finances and the pressing need to recruit, the Club might benefit from a dedicated advertising campaign to attract new members. He also asked whether the Club should consider trying to form a junior section. Morag Cumming pointed out that the juniors were already catered for through the MPDG. John Downey suggested that the local press should be encouraged to cover Club events such as the Club and the Macallan

Bonspiels. Sue Pilkington, who had previously worked for the Northern Scot, offered to make an approach to the paper. Douglas Howie suggested that juniors from the MPDG junior club as well as adults from the Adult Development Group could be invited to participate in the Club Points competition and the Club and Macallan Bonspiels. The President announced that in view of the suggestions that had been put forward they merited further discussion and that he would call a Committee meeting in the near future to explore these ideas in more depth.

As there was no further business the President thanked all those present for attending and the meeting closed at 8.55pm.