

**Middleton Curling Club**  
**Annual General Meeting , Wednesday, May 24, 2017**

**1) Call to order**

President Ian Reesor called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m. with 20 voting members in attendance. NSCA Regional Rep, Kathy Siddal, also was in attendance.

**2) Moment of Silence for past members, friends and family**

**3) Approval of Annual Meeting May 18, 2016 Minutes** – Moved by Bob Clattenburg and seconded by Dave Acker. All were in favor.

**Approval of minutes for the Special Resolution General meeting Wed. Nov. 23, 2016** re new flooring in viewing room – Moved by Ernie Killen and seconded by Cody Spidle. All were in favor.

**4) Business Arising from the Minutes**

Maintenance accomplished/not accomplished re recommendations by Efficiency NS and members:

1. Correct gutter deficiencies and to provide leaf/debris accumulation on front and side gutters *Done*
2. Install snow stop brackets on front roof line above parking area *Not done but rain diversions were installed.*
3. Install drain in ice shed floor to facilitate ice removal *Not done*
4. Insulate hot water pipes leading to bar sink *Done*
5. Double insulate hot water tank *Not done*
6. Upgrade Ice Plant belts *Done*
7. Insulate brine system exposed piping Test *Done*
8. Additional raccoon proofing in attic and vents *Done*
9. Mesh rings for the ice shed *Done*
10. Rings installed on sheet #1 (half way) for use by Little Rockers *Done*
11. Curtain wall for photo taking *Done*
12. New flooring/ base boards/painting in viewing room *Done*

**5) Annual Report of MCC Activities** in brief: Attached

**6) Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** a) Graham circulated his report including the FY 2016-2017 Budget Status, concluded on April 30, 2017; Balances & Event Summary; Comparative Power, Furnace Oil and Water Consumption Charts and a Financial Projection 2017-2018 report. Graham noted MCC did better than expected this past fiscal year with revenues exceeding expenditures by about \$10,000, putting MCC in a good position for some maintenance items.

*Revenues :* Membership dues exceeded budget expectations (accounting for approx. 30% of operational costs). There is still a significant requirement for other funding (bar, fund raising, sign space rental, donations, etc.) to make up the other 70% of the Club's operational costs.

The Commercial League fees were lower than expected due to having 7 teams (lower than expected 9) Sign space rentals were up slightly – lost Greenwood Rent-All and West Nova Fuels (Gates Petroleum) and did not receive payment from Cinnamon Creek this year but they suggested they would pay for sign space next year. Payments by MP Colin Fraser and Gates Landing (no sign yet) offset the lost sign space rentals.

There were significant donations of \$1000 from Emera (NS Power) arranged by Peter Ritcey and \$1,554.19 from the Nova Scotia Curling Association ( a portion of the proceeds from the Ford Worlds held in early 2016).

Fundraising did better than projected largely due to the Auction held last May and the Chase the Ace that went until the end of July 2016.

*Expenses:* The Ice Plant Operations expenses were higher than projected primarily due to two additional visits by Acadia Refrigeration to address problems that occurred during the curling season.

The viewing room floor replacement was the major cost element in building maintenance for the past year.

*NetGain/Loss:* Fund Raising for the past year was much better than expected – primarily consisting of an Auction, Chase the Ace, Canteen, the Christmas Fete and Big Breakfasts. Club Funspiels and a Provincial Championship masters Bonspiel added to the revenue pot.

The bar did better than expected with bonspiels and the weekly Chase the Ace. In regards to the Youth Programs, there are no significant items in the Income Statement or Balance Sheet as the items are included in other line items. On the revenue side \$4,842.36 was received in support of Youth Programs with Chase the Ace being the major contributor, while \$5,313.37 was charged as expenses with ice time being the primary expense. Note- The income from Chase the Ace must be accounted for in terms of Youth Programs expenditures.

*Debentures:* As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, the Club has a liability of 102 outstanding Debentures worth \$10,200 held by members and former members. The Club has a \$10,769.74 GIC to cover this. In addition, partially paid debentures are a potential liability but with By-Law 7.3.4, partially paid debentures on which no payments have been made in the past seven years, are treated as donations to the Club. As of the end of the fiscal year, there were 9 more persons who have made partial payments totaling \$370 towards debentures on which no payments have been made in the past seven years.

*Financial Projection FY 2017-2018* - Graham projected that the Club is starting off in good shape for the next FY curling season, largely due to the \$3,790 raised at the Award's Night Auction (May 13, 2017) and a drop in the property taxes. An effective balanced budget is being proposed.

Membership and club rental fees remain the same.

Furnace oil consumption remains fairly consistent at about 4,000 litres per year.

Given the increased insurance payout (Fort McMurray forest fire and flooding this year) another increase may be seen, so the budgeted amount allows up to a 6% increase in the premium. Note- There is no Club insurance for injuries while curling.

The Chase the Ace lottery currently requires the income be devoted to youth programs. A good portion of this income is used to cover a pro-rated portion of basic club operating costs based on the amount of scheduled ice time used by the various youth programs. Should youth program income exceed what the Club can account for, there may be a need to look at supporting youth programs of other organizations.

Based on the current financial situation, it is estimated that \$10,000 could be allocated to Potential Work Projects. These expenses are not included in the proposed FY 2017-2018 budget – e.g. replace our existing Ice King and other identified projects as stated under New Business. Jim Sotvedt is looking into grant opportunities which may pay half the costs.

Graham stated that Allen Morris submitted his Audit Report and found everything in good order. (Audit Report kept on file). Graham's complete report is held on file.

The Treasurer's Report was moved by Graham Bell and seconded by Les Smith. All were in favor

**Bar:** Manager Les Smith read and submitted his report (on file). Key points were that the bar sales came in at 26% above the budgeted amount, largely attributed to the NS masters and the January Thaw. Bar prices remain unchanged for this fiscal year. The bar will continue to operate over the summer months, until the Ace of Hearts is drawn for Chase the Ace on Fridays. Les thanked all those who were bar tenders, especially for the Commercial League on Wed. evenings and during any bonspiels.

**Membership:** Graham Bell reported the paid numbers for membership – 26 Regular, 1 Dual, 17 Associate, 10 New, 1 mature Student, 4 Open League only, 2 Western League Only, 3 mixed League Only, 4 Social, 28 Little Rocks, 4 Juniors.

**Ice:** Ernie Killen read and submitted a written report. The ice was ready by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2016, with new mesh circles on sheets 1 and 3 plus a set on sheet 1 at the half mark for Little Rocks. The rocks were sanded before the start of curling and again before the NS Masters Championships., giving more curl to the rocks. Another sanding will be done before curling begins in November. Allen and Ernie removed the scraper blade from the Ice king for sharpening. This was done and returned yesterday (May 23). There are 5 sheets of puck board to be cut and fitted around the edge of the ice rink, hopefully helping to stop leakage of water during the freezing process. Allen Morris and Ernie "rolled up" the ice for summer and the ice will be "unrolled" in October 2017 for the next curling season.

**Social/ Big Breakfast:** Bonnie Morine noted that the six breakfasts (October 2016 to March 2017) remained positive, with somewhat lower numbers of people than the exceptional last year. Free will offerings were an average of \$7.93 per person. The Big Breakfasts, after expenses, realized \$2,426.89 as a Fundraiser for MCC. Bonnie thanked all the faithful helpers who worked the breakfasts. Karen commented on the success of the Funspiels and the Fete, thanking all the volunteers and coordinators.

#### **Leagues:**

•**Monday Open:** Cody Spidle submitted his written report. There were 7 teams resulting in a Bye per week. In February the playdowns began, resulting in A winner- the Bill Eaton team, B winner – the Erwin Banks team, and the Overall winner- the Les Smith team. Awards were given out to the winners at the Potluck Banquet on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Cody thanked the ice makers and bartenders for making the season a success.

•**Tuesday Western Draw:** Bob Clattenburg spoke on behalf of Tom MacNeil and reported a successful year. His main concern was not quite enough curlers on a regular basis, resulting in reshuffling to teams - three curlers per team at times. The season ended with a social and Bob is willing to help again when Tom intends to return for the 2017-2018 season.

•**Thursday Mixed:** Bill submitted his written report and reported on the Mixed League. There were 6 teams. The B winner was the Bill Eaton team, the A winner was the Rick Greene team and the Overall winner was the Les Smith team. Bill gave a special thanks to the ice makers and the volunteer bar tenders.

•**Seniors (Mon. & Wed. afternoon):** Jean Fry read and submitted a written report. Jean reported that this was the best year in some time for numbers of participants. Teams were made up with the usual draw of cards on the day of play and people rotated positions if they wished. The play is free to regular paid curlers while others played the Associate fee. This year, the "drop in" fee was reduced to \$7.00 for those who only played a few times.

Key spiels: Home-and-Home with Berwick and Bridgetown (MCC "eluded the wins").

Frank West memorial on 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. in Feb. – full house – played six ends in morning, had a soup lunch, played six ends in afternoon. The winner (by point count) was the Mike MacKinnon team with

Alfred Clark, Jim Sotvedt and Joan Kuyp. Frank's son, Karl West, presented the trophy. Jean thanked Heather Reid for the delicious soup.

Year End Funspiel on March 29<sup>th</sup> – full sheets with six ends in morning. Pizza lunch and cakes (Lucille Whynot and Sue Coulter), and six ends in the afternoon. Jean thanked those who helped set up and clean up after the tea time and also the accommodating ice makers. The cost of tea/coffee and treats remained at \$2 per person. The tea and treats pot minus expenses, including some treats, the pizza and engraving on the trophy, allowed a donation of \$390 to the Club coffers. Jean retained \$20 for the coming season from which she has purchased three sympathy cards.

**\*(Light) Little Rocks/Juniors:** Dawn Spidle submitted her written report and stated that the year was a very successful one, with practices held on Mondays following the afternoon curling. The first afternoon group saw 20 Little Rockers, followed by the second group with 12 curlers. There were many returning kids for the older group plus 3 first year curlers and many first time curlers (13) in the younger group.

There were 4 teams (3 under 12 and 1 under 14) that played in two tournaments - the Earl MacKinnon Classic (Jan.) in Kentville and the Spring is Here spiel in Berwick ( March). In the Berwick spiel, Middleton placed first and second in the under 12 division. The winning team was Team Sawler with Cole Sawler, Adam and Matthew Newman and Bryce Smith. Second place went to the Team Bezanson with Tess Bezanson, Chaya Diggins, Hannah Johnson and Wyatt Boyd. Dawn commented on the good sportsmanship of both teams, representing Middleton well. The junior curlers also were in Berwick for a fun evening of curling.

Middleton held a Family Funspiel in February with curlers from age 7 to 70 – the winner being the Ian Reesor team with Karen Sotvedt, CASH and Dayton Harris. Everyone had fun curling with both adult rocks and the half weight little rocks.

Another Family Funspiel was held in March with a full slate of curlers. The families played short games as well as a full game where the young curlers showed the skills they learned this year. The season ended with a fun afternoon of curling where the kids could try stick curling, bowling with rocks, and a game, followed by pizza and snacks.

Dawn noted that there were 5 of the little rockers who played in the regular club funspiels and also in the Western Draw on Tuesday evenings. They proved to be a challenging group in play against the adult curlers.

Dawn thanked Ian Reesor for helping with the younger group of curlers and Bonnie Morine for helping with both groups.

**\*Commercial:** There was no submitted report but President Ian Reesor reported that the Commercial League had 7 teams for one draw at 7:00 pm. They anticipate the same for the new season.

**Maintenance:** Bob Clattenburg reported that several maintenance repairs were done on as needed during the curling season. He and Ian are prepared to look after similar maintenance for the coming season.

**Equipment:** Karen Sotvedt issued a letter to be kept on file, resigning from the position. She commented the position was difficult to maintain as she was not always at the Club when most purchases were made which involved the Treasurer and she was not one to go to Halifax for pickup once orders were made. The position remains open.

#### **7) Nominations for Vacancies:**

Nominations for the Vice-President vacancy were called three times.

Susan Coulter put her name forth to fill the resulting vacancy as Member-at-Large.

Allen Morris has also put his name forth for Member-at-Large.

The motion to accept the proposed 2017-18 Executive and Members-at-Large was moved by Dawn Spidle and seconded by Bill Eaton. All were in favor, motion passed.

**2017-18 Board of Directors is as follows:**

**Executive:**

President – Cody Spidle	Secretary – Bonnie Morine
Vice-President – vacant	Treasurer – Graham Bell
Past-President – Ian Reesor	Bar Manager – Les Smith
	Ice Manager – Ernie Killen

**Members-at-Large:**

Dawn Spidle	Bob Clattenburg	Susan Coulter
Tom MacNeil,	Emily Neily	Allen Morris

**Other duty vacancies**

Equipment Store Manager – vacant

Ian Reesor took this opportunity to say a few words before he handed the reins over to incoming President Cody Spidle. Ian thanked the executive and the volunteers for making his second round of presidency of two years a pleasure. He had a special thank you to his wife, Heather, for handling his computer work. The members gave Ian a sound round of applause for a job well done. New President Cody Spidle chaired the remainder of the meeting.

8) A motion was made by Graham Bell to accept the following Signing Officers - President Cody Spidle, Treasurer Graham Bell, Bar Manager Les Smith and Secretary Bonnie Morine. The motion was moved by Ian Reesor and seconded by Barbara Eaton. All were in favor, motion passed. Cheques will be processed following the signing by the above at the Middleton Credit Union as soon as possible.

**9) New Business**

1) Treasurer Graham Bell presented a Financial Projection for the 2017-18 Fiscal Year. His report stated that there is adequate funding for this FY startup. The proposed budget is primarily based on an extension of revenues and expenses, with adjustments to account for unexpected changes.

A promising start with an effective balanced proposed budget was achieved with the bar revenue, the \$3,790 raised at the Award's Night Auction and a drop in the assessed value of the Club resulting in a moderate reduction of property taxes.

2) Graham proposed and made a motion for a Special Resolution to authorize the Board to be allowed to spend up to \$7,500 for the purchase of a new replacement for the Ice King. The motion was moved by Graham Bell and seconded by Ian Reesor, All were in favor. Motion was passed. Other identified maintenance items were estimated to be under \$2,500, so could be decided upon by the Board as stipulated in the By-Laws.

3) Other:

- a) **Dues Structure:** The 2017-2018 Dues Structure and Rental Fees remains unchanged. Graham also cautioned that the agreement/waiver requirement be signed (curl at own risk) as MCC has no insurance to cover personal injury.
- b) **Fundraising** will continue as in the past fiscal year with the Breakfasts, Christmas Fete, Club Canteen, Auction ... The current Chase the Ace lottery will continue until the Ace of Hearts is drawn for the Jackpot. Other events generating smaller funds include the Provincial Spiel and Funspiels.

c) **Recruiting new members** is encouraged by members. Dawn Spidle commented on the proposed free Open NS Learn to Curl Day set for Sun. Feb. 18, 2018 due to Olympic interest. Dawn volunteered to coordinate the event at MCC. Kathy Siddal added that Andrew Perry will be conducting Provincial PR for curling and our Club should help by distributing posters to advertise the event.

d) **Maintenance items** were identified in order of importance:

1. Upgrade and check electrical system in attic
2. Upgrade insulation over dining hall
3. Necessary plant updates
4. Lighting changed to LED's or as replacements required for general lighting and in the ice shed
5. Replacement of dining room flooring
6. Painting in ice shed

e) **Fees re TSN and Sports Net channels** – Treasurer Graham Bell reported our Cable TV costs would increase by over \$200 a month if we kept TSN and SportsNet because TSN and SportsNet pricing is now based on our liquor license occupancy as they assume we are a Sports Bar. Kathy Siddal also commented on the issue. This concern is being looked into by the NSCA and possibly at the national level. Nothing conclusive has resulted at this time. Kathy encouraged two people from our Club to attend the NSCA Annual General Meeting to be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Eastern Passage. Meanwhile Graham, upon recommendation by the Board and members, will only be purchasing the Eastlink basic package plus the monthly payment for the Golf channel. Once the Chase the Ace concludes, the mentioned service will be stopped until startup in the Fall.

f) Kathy Siddal announced her “retirement” from her position as NSCA Valley Director. She served in this position for five years. MCC executive and members gave her a round of applause for being such a positive director for the valley. Sue Reid , Windsor, will be the new NSCA Valley Director.

10) Other Business from the Floor: *None*

**Adjournment:** The AGM meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm Moved by Dawn Spidle, seconded by Dave Acker.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Bonnie Morine MCC Secretary Hm 902-825-2695 Club 902-825-3225