

MINUTES – CHILLIWACK CURLING CLUB – Annual General Meeting – October 1, 2020

Directors Present: Jody Castle, Shirley Christison, Lisa Deputan, Leslie Holtby, Doreen Jones, Kemal Khan, Bobby Neid, Wendi Prinse, Mike Veenbaas Manager: Bruce Renwick

General Membership: 50 in attendance (Maximum allowed as per Covid meeting rules)

5.0 **Meeting** called to order by Mike Veenbaas at 7:06 pm

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2.0 The **minutes** of the 2019 Annual General Meeting held on June 13, 2019. It was moved by Steph Prinse and 2nd by Neil Long to accept the minutes as presented. CARRIED

3.0 **President's Remarks:** Mike Veenbaas highlighted items from his report displayed on screen.

4.0 **Financial Report:** This had been distributed via email prior to the meeting. Doreen presented the highlights and responded to questions.

5.0 **Manager's Report:**

Wow! What a start for this building. We are now entering our third curling season in this new facility and at the end of it we will still have not completed a full season. The Club was heading to a very strong second season heading for a break even or slight profit year before we were abruptly shut due to the Covid 19 Crisis. I will however provide an overview of last curling season.

1. Most leagues were about the same numbers with some up and some down with the end result being a few more actual curlers. Our dues increased year over year \$43,500 due to charging for a full season.
2. As it is now a requirement of the Board that all members both day and night must hold a valid member share to curl, our number of memberships rose from 40 in 2018 to 127 in 2019.
3. Pro shop sales increased 20% year over year with \$11,500 more sales.
4. Kitchen sales increase \$167,000 or 120% over the previous year. This is due to an abbreviated year in 2018, but it can mostly be attributed to the steady increase in our 9th End sales and very large increase in the number of functions we were catering compared to our first year. Like any new restaurant it will take a few years to establish itself, but with all four catering functions booking we would have been close to being profitable this year and once we get back to normal we will easily show a profit from the kitchen. I have started a new executive chef which will run a more efficient kitchen which will result in a better bottom line, increase sales and the ability for us to step our catering up a notch from the start.
5. Our sign rental increased \$10,000 and we have hung chains this summer as we have now started on our fourth row of signage in the rink area. I will continue to grow this portion of our revenues stream.
6. We hosted 6 bonspiels, 2 playdowns, 20 school field trips, 3 clinics, 2 sessions of our 6 week Learn to Curl program which has resulted in 16 teams playing in our new Sunday Night novice league. We also hosted 144 non curling community events and unfortunately we have had 85 non curling events cancel since March 15. The estimated lost room rental, bar and catering revenue associated with these 85 events is \$200,000. To put that into perspective we collect \$198,600 dues from our curlers last season. We need this building to be busy year round in order to generate enough revenue to cover our expenses and we were definitely heading in the right direction when Covid hit.
7. I would like to thank the Board of directors for volunteering their time, all the volunteers that helped with school groups, the bar, opened on Sundays for practice but most of all my staff that does everything and more that is asked of them by myself as well as the members.

The club has many great members and will survive this current crisis and I have every confidence that we will continue to thrive as we head back into the "new Normal". I will continue to reach out to the business community for support in advertising, catering as well as event sponsorship and continue to build the membership of the curling club through new programs and events. The curling world is changing and I hope to bring our club along with it by continuing to be on the forefront.

3.0 President's Remarks - Wendi Prinse

Another short year. Another challenging year. Yet we are still here and still standing. There are many acknowledgments that need to be made and the first is to the membership. Thank you to those who came out and curled this year. I know it was a difficult decision with Covid looming in the background. Some chose not to curl, and we respect your decisions. We look forward to seeing EVERYONE back in the fall of 2021. The members are the most important asset of our Club.

The City of Chilliwack continues to support us and kindly deferred our loan payment this year.

Thank you to Scott for the new and delicious menu and keeping the kitchen going with new options throughout the ever-changing restrictions. Thank you to staff for all the work they do, especially the behind the scenes stuff.

We are fortunate to have a manager with many years of experience. Bruce stepped up again this year and filled in for many of the staff positions that were terminated when we were forced to close down the ice shed. He worked hard to get Government Covid funding to cover remaining payroll costs, Government Business loan. He has also been diligent in securing other revenue streams, such as Plant Sales, Sponsorship and booking events. He continues to promote our kitchen and facility. Thank you.

Also a thank you to Larry Legault who provided our audio & visual tonight and who has kindly agreed to run our elections tonight.

Thank you to Board of Directors who continued to give of their time and their expertise all year long. We were able to develop and implement a number of policies. We also adopted a Strategic Functional Team format this year which replaces the Committees of previous years. Teams and their respective chairpersons are to be appointed by the Board of Directors of the curling club on an annual basis. Each chairperson has the authority to add individuals to their Team from the membership at large and from the community as appropriate. There will be a member of the Board of Directors on each Team, for policy interpretation and reporting purposes" This can be found on our website. Click on the ABOUT US tab and then Board Info. I would encourage all members to see where they might like to help out going forward. Our club has the best volunteers I have come across.

4.0 * Financial Report **** - Separate Document**

5.0 - Manager Report – Presented by Bruce

6.0 STRATEGIC FUNCTIONAL TEAMS (Formerly Committees)

MANAGEMENT TEAM – Consists of the Executive & Manager

- Me once to work on possible Director Candidates.
- Will have further more scheduled meetings in the future to discuss a variety of operational functions

- Policies Committee – Kemal Kahn Chair

The Policy Committee of the Chilliwack Curling Club was able to develop and approve several new policies as well as develop draft policies for the board's approval at further Board Meetings. The Approved Polices are:

- Board of Directors Applications form
- Conduct Policy for Members and Guests
- New Board members Orientation Policy
- Refund Policy
- Honourary Lifetime Membership Policy

The Draft policies which are in the final development stage are:

- Board of member position Descriptions
- Membership and Fees Policy
- Harassment and Discrimination Policy

BUILDING & FACILITIES ENHANCEMENT

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

A dedicated group has put together a new website this year.

FINANCE

Fundraising – Leslie Holtby Chair

Fundraising efforts were basically curtailed due to Covid restrictions. Any efforts this past year have been initiated by our Manager, Bruce Renwick and supported by a loyal group of club members. Plant sales, grant applications and Takeout menus for special occasions have generated some additional funds. Some exploration has been undertaken to host a major fundraising event in the future. Consideration is also being given to raising money by selling the engraving of rock handles. Club members are encouraged to become a part of the Fundraising team.

Grants – Bruce & Mike Veenbaas

We were successfully able to get the Government grants for a \$40,000 interest free loan of which \$10,000 is forgiven if the loan portion is paid back with the required terms. There were also Successful in getting the Government payroll subsidy program which offsets our payroll. The BC Gaming grant has been applied for. Unfortunately, there were a few grants that were explored that we did not qualify for.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

LEAGUES – Larry Legault – Chair

Number of Teams. While day leagues were somewhat affected by COVID concerns, the night leagues experienced a huge impact. Day league numbers dropped from 268 curlers on 96 teams to 207 curlers on 92 teams. Night leagues dropped from 451 curlers on 142 teams to 262 curlers on 81 teams. The Thursday Ladies Dinner League did not have enough teams to run.

The number of teams in the Monday Dinner League decreased from 12 to 11 teams, Monday Rec decreased from 17 to 10, Competitive from 16 to 10, Wednesday Night Open from 28 to 20, Thursday Men 20 to 12, Friday Social from 24 to 13 and Sunday Novice from 16 to 5.

Friday Afternoon Triples League. We are trying this new league which features teams with 3 players. Games are six end long with 6 stones per end and each player plays 2 ends at each position. This fast paced game is usually played in just over 1 hour. Games begin at 5 pm on Friday afternoons and are subject to cancellations due to bonspiels.

AWARDS – Shirley Christison – Chair

John Roberts Bursary was awarded to Naomi Britz. Congratulations. The Frank Jamieson Bursary was not awarded as there were no applications submitted

BONSPIELS – Steph Prinse – Chair

Sadly due to our Covid shutdown, we were not able to host any bonspiels this year. Working on our upcoming Summer spiel and the others Bonspiels coming during the rest of the season.

CLINICS

JUNIORS – Lisa Deputan - Chair

We were able to run both programs this year but like everything else, came to an early end. Thank you to Maria Mailloux and her volunteers for running this program. Maria is leaving our Club and Chilliwack to start a new adventure with her family. Thank you for you many years of dedication volunteerism and we wish you well in this new chapter of your life.

SOCIAL – Leslie Holtby – Chair

Due to circumstances beyond our control ie. a worldwide pandemic there are few activities to report. The Fall season began with some anticipation that whilst adhering to strict Covid guidelines that we might manage a semblance of a curling season . However in spite of our best efforts the season ended presumptively and all social activities were canceled. It is hoped that with due diligence we will be able to resume normal activities this year.

A modified version of the annual Curling Club Golf Tournament was held on June 6/ 2021 at the Cheam Golf Course. A total of 31 foursomes attended the event.

A Summer Bonspiel is currently planned for the end of August.

The Annual "Top Dog Contest " and a Halloween Dance are also tentatively scheduled events.

Club members are encouraged to become part of the Social Team.

STRATEGIC PLANNING REVIEW – Executive & Manager

Adopted the Strategic Functional Teams this year and all Teams will continue to developed and implemented, We encourage all members to consider being a part of one or more teams if their time and interest permits. All skill sets welcome.

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