

**Location:** Uno's Smithfield

**Board Attendees:** Dave Rosler, Mike Morin, Brianne Straus, Howard Taylor, (online) Gordon Walsh, Christine DeLuca  
Other attendees: Kathy Ervin, Jonathan Dell, Keri Saccoia-Beggs

## Agenda

1. **Call to order:** 6:47pm
2. **Good and Welfare:**
3. **Review of minutes – Review prior month Minutes**
  - a. Approved. Motion by Rosler. Second by Morin.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a. Total balances: \$49,299.31
    - i. Checking - \$24,830.65
    - ii. Savings - \$4,993.72
    - iii. PayPal - \$14,387.08
    - iv. CD - \$5,087.86
  - b. Significant Transactions:
    - i. (No invoices for ice received since mid-December)
5. **President / Vice-President Reports**
  - a. Media report -
    - i. Christian Science Monitor photo article being released in early March
    - ii. Simply New England video will be released on 2/7/23 on Facebook and YouTube later this week.
  - b. Upcoming LTCs and possible Clinic
    - i. 2/26 @ 5:30pm; 3/5 @ 5:30pm; 3/23 @ 7pm
      1. Need more volunteers, particularly lead trainers for the first couple. Currently 13 volunteers for 2/26, but less than half those are experienced lead trainers.
      2. 8 Gift Certificates were sold during the holidays and have been used for these LTCs. Note that the fees on the GCs are less than if purchasing from Eventbrite.
    - ii. 3/30 @ 7pm - TBD use
      1. May opt to use this date for a friendly and invite teams from Blackstone Valley, South Shore, and Westerly curling.
      2. Howard volunteered to organize it, though he cannot attend.
  - c. COVID protocols review
    - i. Discussed possible updates to COVID protocols pending federal end to Emergency Declaration. Group noted that some curlers would consider stopping curling if they knew folks on the ice were not vaccinated, in part out of concern for them.
    - ii. We determined that we would revisit the protocol over the summer.
  - d. TJ called today to ask if we could cancel our first Sunday on 3/19. They have a regional hockey tournament. We could move the date to 3/12 at 5pm or cancel the date. The board decided to cancel the date and make the first mini league 5 weeks from 3/26 to 4/23, and the second mini league a 4 week league from 4/30 to 5/21.
  - e. TJ told Dave there's renewed interest in building a  $\frac{3}{4}$  length (150' x 85') rink onsite that would provide a home and more ice time for us. Plus houses in the ice and better storage. Architect updating things this week based on the new budget.
6. **Facilities and Equipment Report (Gordon / Howard)**
  - a. Ice conditions update
    - i. This week the rink will change the blade on the Zamboni on Wednesday rather than Friday. This will have a fresher blade for us and depending on how the ice is for high school hockey on the weekend, we may or may not be able to continue this through their season. Once they're done (early March) then this will be no problem.



## **7. Membership and Leagues Report (Mike)**

- a. Update on League Signups
  - i. League numbers update -
    - 1. Winter 2 is full (good amount of new curlers) - 4 social curlers
    - 2. Spring Thursday - 31 currently signed up
    - 3. Spring Mini 1 - 12 currently signed up (changing to 5-week league 3/26 to 4/23)
    - 4. Spring Mini 2 - 5 currently signed up (changing to 4-week league 4/30 to 5/21)
- b. Team signups - accommodating grouping requests
  - i. Discussed not allowing teams of 4 in most cases. Some exceptions may include a group of 4 planning to curl in a competitive bonspiel.
  - ii. Mike and Dave will add language to the rules for leagues 2023-24 that will clarify limits on teammate requests.
    - 1. Possibility of a skips lottery and/or draft for teams.
    - 2. May want to allow selection of 1 teammate
    - 3. Especially important for new people who still need to learn the sport.
- c. Dave will ask TJ about summer ice time for 6 consecutive weeks of weeknight curling.

## **8. Member Engagement (Howard)**

- a. Report on “Yoga for Curlers” on morning of 1/22 (Sunday). May do another one in the spring or summer
- b. Westerly update
  - i. Have had good crowds. About 6-8 regulars
- c. Member featurettes update - Brianne had the questions and will work with Howard

## **9. Communications and Social Media Report (Brianne / Christine)**

- a. Brianne is going to do a “this week's sweepisode”
  - i. Going to post on etiquette tips
- b. Will create etiquette signs for attaching to the scoreboards each week

## **10. Marketing Report (Dave / Kyle)**

- a. Sign for Smithfield – design review
  - i. Dave will ask Mike C. to iterate the design to add imagery of curling to it.

## **Old Business**

- Re-apply for sales license.

## **New Business**

- Dedicated Ice Committee charge review
  - Presented the dedicated ice committee with the charge for data to be gathered. Pasted the charge to the end of these minutes.
  - Dave will establish [dedicatedice@oceanstatecurling.org](mailto:dedicatedice@oceanstatecurling.org) as an account for the committee to use.
  - Discussed hope for the committee to spend time collecting the information and presenting to the board for consideration of go-forward plans.
- Planning for the banquet - aim to have it in June. Should begin planning next month.

## **Action Items (Other)**

## **Closing**

- Adjourn at 9:32 pm
  - o Motion: Dave                      Second: Howard



## Annual Calendar of Club Documents and requirement dates

Date	Item	Cost	Notes
5/15	Tax Form 990	TBD	Due to IRS by May 15th (15th day of 5th month after end of annual accounting period).
5/31	Certificate of Incorporation - RI	\$20.00	Also requires Annual Report to be filed. Notice comes early May.
9/1	Stone Insurance (Sylvia Group: Liberty Mutual)	\$450.00	\$200 increase from 2019 to 2020
9/30	Directors and Officers Insurance (Sylvia: PHLI)	\$1,310.00	Covers Period renewing October 3. Invoices comes mid-September.
12/1	GNCC insurance payment due (effective 12/1)	≥ \$350	Receive email from USCA mid-November. \$11 per Member. \$0.50 per One-Day Curler. \$5 per Multi-Day (2-5) Curler. ** \$350 minimum.
12/1	GNCC member roster and dues	TBD	\$15 per adult. \$10 per "other" (second club). \$10 per Social.

## Charge for Dedicated Ice Committee

At the January meeting (1/9/23) of the Ocean State Curling Club Board of Directors, voted to form the Dedicated Ice Investigative Committee. The selected members of the committee, who later accepted their appointments, include Kathy Ervin (Co-Chair), Howard Taylor (Co-Chair), Kyle Averill, Brad Caetano, Jonathan Dell, and Keri Saccoia-Beggs.

The Committee will be charged with collecting data to consider the feasibility of creating a dedicated curling facility for Ocean State Curling Club. The Committee should share their collected data with the board so that discussions on a go-forward path, if determined feasible, may advance.

1. Information to be gathered from dedicated clubs (or clubs currently building). Some clubs may not be relevant to our situation for some questions but may be for others. (e.g. Country Club curling facilities won't be as helpful for revenue, but will provide good info on sheets, leagues, etc.).
  - a. What months do you have curling?
  - b. What days/times do you have curling?
  - c. How many members in a typical year? Do you have a waitlist?
  - d. How many people curl in more than one league?
  - e. Do you have youth Curling? Juniors? Seniors?
  - f. Annual dues?
  - g. League cost?
  - h. How many bonspiels do you host?
  - i. How many learn to curls?
  - j. What do you serve? (Mixed drinks, beer, food, snacks?)



- k. How many employees?
  - l. How many core volunteers?
  - m. Cost to build facility? (if relevant)
  - n. Annual or monthly energy costs?
  - o. Number of sheets?
  - p. Size of facility? Ice? Warm room? Lockers? Other?
  - q. Maintenance costs - anticipated and unanticipated.
  - r. Size of your board?
  - s. Other unanticipated costs?
  - t. How much parking?
  - u. Kitchen facilities?
  - v. Size of catchment area?
  - w. Live video? When do you use it? Cost?
  - x. Non profit or for profit?
  - y. What is your major regular fundraising? (Banquet, apparel, LTCs, etc.)
  - z. How did you raise funds for dedicated ice? (Revenue sources)
    - i. Donations vs. Loans
    - ii. Banks vs. Members
    - iii. Typical size?
    - iv. Percentage raised when they went all-in.
  - aa. General thoughts on what was/is critical to:
    - i. Commit to building their dedicated club?
    - ii. Keep their dedicated club running?
2. Survey of possibilities in Rhode Island area
- a. Cost to “build” - different scenarios. Consider different areas of RI and RI-adjacent towns and cities. Consider current cost of materials, etc. plus 20%.
    - i. New build – curling specific. Lease and Own costs.
    - ii. New build – mixed use. Lease and Own costs.
    - iii. Repurpose existing non-ice facility (warehouse, other). Lease and Own costs.
      - 1. Just the dimensions we need
      - 2. Using only a portion of the space we have to rent
    - iv. Possible second rink at Smithfield (work with Dave - in contact with TJ)
    - v. Other
  - b. Number of sheets?
    - i. Relative cost to build 4 sheets vs 3 sheets vs 2 sheets
    - ii. Cost per sheet calculation
    - iii. Return on Investment of each scenario?
      - 1. Consider the time that a single league takes with fewer sheets. (i.e. multiple draws vs. one draw per league)
      - 2. May have fewer/more members.
  - c. Upfront equipment needs – list and cost
  - d. Annual or monthly energy costs?
  - e. Property taxes?
  - f. Insurance (renters vs. owners) – independent from insurance for curlers (from GNCC)
  - g. Catchment area?
    - i. Current.
    - ii. Expected with different locations (consider those locations)
      - 1. Do we overlap with other club’s catchment?



- h. Potential revenue sources (loans, members, sponsorships, GNCC, leagues, lessons, corporate events, bar, etc.)?
    - i. For build process?
    - ii. For ongoing operations?
- 3. Key questions using information above and survey(s) – Feasibility...
  - a. Building and Maintaining Operations:
    - i. Enough person-power? (Volunteers, skills, etc.)
      - 1. Daily ice work, custodial, bar management, membership, leagues, events, LTCs, bonspiel management, etc.
    - ii. Enough financial health?

