# DUMFRIES ICE BOWL CURLING ASSOCIATION

# MEETING: 14th December 2010

**Present: Mike Baird, Derek Archibald, John Graham, Councillor McKie, Anne Templeton, Hazel Wales, Andrew Whyte, Robert Sommerville, Graham Black, Ruariadh Whyte**

**Apologies:** Fiona Hardie, David Hardie, David Owen, David Henderson, Colin Freeman, Caroline Donaldson, Jim Hogg, Eleanor Haining, Alex Dickson, Alex Bryden, Andy McLean.

Mi**nutes:** Graham Sloan

| **Item** | Action |
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| **Mike Baird acting as Chair for the night welcomed Anne Templeton – DIBCA Ladies Representative and Derek Archibald – Facility Manager to the meeting.**  **2. Minutes of previous meeting**  Minutes were approved  **3. Matters Arising**  Lockerbie were holding a presidents day on the 28th January 2011 and had invited Dumfries Ice Bowl Curling Association to enter a team of 4 players.  **4. Treasures Report**  Previous seasons Development Officers contribution was paid at the end of each season. The Royal Club in the new contract for the full time Development Officer had stipulated that this would be required at the start of each season. Therefore DIBCA had had to pay 2 amounts but would not need to pay again until September 2011. This had taken up a significant amount of the club reserves.  More fundraising was required to ensure sufficient funds brought in for the remainder of the season.  RS also asked if the council could release the Ice Levy on a monthly basis rather than waiting to get the final payment over the summer months to help with the cash flow.  Derek Archibald would look into this.  RS had also put an application together for the Sports council for the sum of £500 this application had to be sent before 20th December 2010.  A raffle would be held at the Christmas Cracker and prizes were requested and could be handed in at reception. All members of the Association were asked to help out where possible on the night.  **5. Competitions Report**  Nithsdale Trophy had been won by team skipped by Jim Hogg  Open Pairs had been won by Grant Hardie & Ruariadh Whyte  Wednesday night leagues had started scores were being displayed on wall until notice boards were made available. It had been noticed that several scores were missing and the Ice Bowl were asked to check for missing score cards and Skips were asked to be vigilant in remembering to hand them in after the games.  **6. Coaching & Development**  Graham Sloan reminded the Association that the Christmas Cracker would be held on the 23rd December at 6.30pm and that there were still a few spaces left. Graham thanked the Curling Association for their continued support in providing the prizes and encouraged people to come along on the night.  At the beginning of the new year the Ladder Curling would be advertised and anyone looking to have a game of curling on a Saturday morning was welcome to come along. Open to all beginners, intermediate and experienced players who were just looking for a morning of activity. Played over 3 separate Saturdays 22nd January, 19th February, 26th March 10am – 12noon.  Graham also thanked the coaches for their continue support.  **7. Ladies Section Report**  Canadian Tour: This turned out a very successful day. The Ice Bowl looked great and the ice was excellent. Dumfries Ladies played well, but were beaten 35-25. Brenda McIntyre, President of Ladies Branch, was particularly pleased we had included juniors in our rinks. The Canadian ladies were very friendly & most appreciative of our hospitality.  Fun League is running smoothly and Committee are preparing for Inaugural President’s Bonspiel on Friday 14th January and the Barbours Bonspiel on Wednesday 26th January.  Anne Templeton also added that Dumfries Ice Bowl was the 13th stop on the Canadian tour out of 21 visits and comments from the Canadians were that Dumfries Ice Bowl had been the nicest Ice to play on. Graham Black was congratulated on the efforts to produce the ice and asked to report this back to the rest of the ice staff.  Derek Archibald thanked Anne for here comments.  **8. Junior Section**  Ruariadh Whyte informed the committee that the Junior Club would be taking 2 teams to Ayr for Division 2 in January  Currently the club was running a League, Doubles, Rolling Stones competitions locally and would start knockout pairs and speed pairs in the New Year.   1. **9. Council Business**   **The following points were asked to be raised and covered by the council. Derek Archibald facility manager gave comments on the points listed below.**  1)    Cameras – an update and a straight answer as to whether or not the council will pay for them or how the viewing can be resolved if cameras are not possible. It had been suggested that a small business plan be put into place to send to area committee seeking support on the camera system to improve viewing and the plan should also include other areas to help give the new facility a standard of excellence. Mike Baird asked that the Cameras and New Stones be priority within this plan and that it was looked at urgently.  2)    Changing rooms – needs carpets to stop dirt being carried on to ice. Hooks on the wall and shelves would help create more space. This point would be raised with the Health & Safety Officer and perhaps a solution would be to have better mats at the entrance to the facility. This point would be looked into further.  3)    A board for what sheet you’re on and general notice boards for advertisement of club. A meeting had taken place with the graphics team and several boards had been requested. Development, Curling Association, general clubs, Ettiquette/Rules. This would be resolved early in the New Year.  4)    Comments from SAC that the facility looked industrial – white paint on breeze block walls would solve this. (Not a suggestion – just a comment) Also signs, people did not have a clue where they were going! This point was noted and it was hoped that once sponsorship boards and notice boards were in place this would also add more colour.  5) What is the position re looking after the new lounge – tonight I watched three children of primary and below primary school age left unattended in the lounge for about an hour – initially they were sitting at a high table drawing but then it deteriorated and they were wrestling – pushing and pulling and running about and then they eventually were using the new lounge seats as a plaything with shoes up on it etc. Took on board the comment and staff would be asked to be more vigilant and monitor the situation more closely. If users of the facility were mistreating the building they would be asked to leave or reported to parents or teachers if it was a school group.  6)   Should / can the DIBCA contract not include control over the access to the lounge and the ice hall just as the ice hockey contract / ice skating comps obviously covers access to the hall when a game is being played? A meeting was to take place with the buildings control officer to look at the issue of locking the door when not in use into the viewing lounge. As this was fire escape route guidance was required regarding this area. All members were urged to report and damages or improper conduct to the staff immediately.  8) At Stranraer they have a fixed fee which you can pay for the season and it allows *individuals* to go and practice when they wish to do so and then the ice is free.   Is this possible at Dumfries .e.g. £20 -30 adults half for kids. As this was a financial matter Derek would take this point back to the relevant people  9) Any chance of having pre-paid books of curling available for advance purchase and possibly an incentive to buy e.g. reduction on the overall cost. As this was a financial matter Derek would take this point back to the relevant people  10) Was any consideration given to the Management Rules document that I forwarded earlier this year! It was a draft for thoughts only. Derek thanked the committee for the document and would look into it more closely  11) Ice Preparations record and results document would be useful to assist staff ensuring correct methods for different user groups. Also records of speed of ice, amount of curl at start middle and end of game for 2/3 different sheets per session. Graham Black reported that currently the ice staff was keeping a record of cutting patterns and pebble used. It was suggested that at this time the Curlers would be more understanding with Ice conditions until the best preparation techniques were found to ensure the game surface would maintain the same from 6.30pm – 10.30pm. Currently if heavy sweepers were playing the ice would drop in consistency at around 9.30pm. This comment was not meant as a criticism in any way as the ice conditions had been quiet clearly at a very high standard but if were are looking at becoming a centre of excellence small experiments and adjustments could still be made to get an even higher standard of playing surface. Graham Black agreed and would work with other ice staff to find the best combination of preparation to ensure the last session was as good as the morning session and 6.30pm session.  12) Litter Bins required for around general area of Curling Hall. These had been put in place around the Curling Hall  13) New Brushes could do to be cleaned every morning within cleaning schedule to maintain clean ice. Hand brushes would be useful with sign stating please clean brush after use to help maintain equipment. It was asked that the casual staff cleaned the brush pads every morning before the first session of play to help maintain the pads and help with cleanliness within the Curling Hall and on the Ice. Small hand brushes would be available to clean the brushes once fittings had been put in place to hold brushes on the walls.   1. **10. AOCB**   Graham Sloan reported that during the Corporate session with the SAC on 10th December foot prints had been found up two rinks which looked like someone had walked up without any shoes on leaving foot marks on the ice. Access to the Curling Hall would be monitored and doors locked when not in use.  John Graham asked if the facility would consider allowing DIBCA to hold weekend competitions as a way of fundraising for the Association and perhaps the only expense incurred would be the staff time rather than the Ice Hire on special occasions. Derek Archibald would discuss this with colleagues and get back to the group for further discussion if it was felt possible.  Mike Baird pointed out that the excellent quality of Ice was now highlighting what had previously been stated regarding the poor quality of stones. It was even more noticeable that different stone had different running speeds and curl ability on the new improved ice surface. It was stressed that if the facility were looking to become a centre of excellence they would need to improve the quality and consistency of the stones along with improving the viewing lounge visibility at the near end by introducing the camera system.  Graham Sloan asked the facility to confirm that they were happy to allow sponsorship funds established by the curling association to remain within the Association to help them with running costs. This would include finding sponsors for Bumpers, Wall Space Adverts, and Competitions etc. This was agreed. It was also suggested that a sponsorship package be produced for all 3 sports to prevent any embarrassment by targeting the same company on 3 separate occasions. This was felt to be a good idea. Graham Sloan had put together a package for potential sponsors and would present this to the sub development group in the new year and thanked Kenneth Green for his input in the document.  A Sub Development Group would be formally formed meeting up at 6pm each month prior to the full committee meeting. This group would be tasked with developing ideas and resolving issues and then report back to the full committee for approval or re-thinking. A space on the agenda each month would be made available for a quick update. Graham Sloan was asked to form this group with relevant people for 11th January.  Mike Baird asked for clarification on a rumour that there were plans in place to hold the opening or launch of the new Curling Hall on the 7th January by way of a Primary Tournament with Rhona Martin invited to the proceedings? The Curling Association had not been involved in this decision making and felt that it would be a huge mistake if it was factual and allowed to continue as the opening. None of the local players or members would be involved in this type of opening / launch and there was in fact a Ladies Presidents Day at Stranraer where our own Curling Association Chairperson would be attending on that every day. The committee felt they should have been involved in this process and suggested that these plans be looked at very carefully if they wanted to keep the support of the Curling Association on side. Derek Archibald said he would look into the details as he had a meeting the following morning where it could be addressed. The committee requested a quick response on the matter.  Mike Baird thanked everyone for their attendance and comments.  **Date of next meeting – 11th January 2011 - 7pm @ Ice Bowl** |  |