

**Border Ice Rink Club**  
**Minutes of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**Held in the Clubrooms at Border Ice Rink on Thursday 20 September 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** John Stevenson (Greenlaw), Neil McLain (Coldstream), Peter Bowyer (Greenlaw), Nina Clancy (St Boswells), P Colebrook (Greenlaw), George Whiteford (Duns), RA Forrest (Ayton), Gwen Prentice (Ayton), Rhona Fleming (Ayton), Lucy Tile (Jedburgh), Judith Dixon (Swinton), Fiona Hodge (Ayton), Liz Martin (Ayton), Colin Martin (Ayton), Peter Brewis (Ayton), Angus McMillan (Lammermuir), Alistair Lindsay (Lammermuir), Michael Frost (Jedburgh), Robert Walker (Coldstream), Oliver Stark (Roxburgh), Cameron Martin (Foulden), Harry Dodds (St Boswells), Rob Mathison (Greenlaw), Helen Mathieson (Greenlaw/Eildon), DM Sutherland (Foulden), Sheila Macnab (Kelso), Colin Macnab (Kelso), Colin Stirling (Lauderdale), Keith Prentice (Ayton), Liz Cullen (Earlston), Jim Cullen (Earlston), David Mitchell (Earlston), Andrew Wemyss (Roxburgh), Lewis McCann (St Boswells), Graeme Baxter (Manager), Chris Noble (Assistant Manager), Amanda Young (minutes). In Attendance – Gill Adamson of Rennie Welch LLP.

**Apologies:** Malcolm Ross, David Kerr, Glynnice Lauder, Dorothy Silver, Roddy McLean, Bill Cleghorn, Bob Robertson, June Swan, John Hodge, Stuart Craig, Hilary Bowyer, Christine McLean, Fiona Turnbull, Wendy Frost, Gordon Low

Border Ice Rink President Colin Stirling welcomed everyone to the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, opening the meeting at 7.32pm.

**In Memoriam:** The President announced that the following members had died during the year: Sandy Boggon (Yester and Past Secretary), Gerald Crichton (Earlston), Chick Bruce (St Boswells), Andrew Pate (Lammermuir) and Anne Baird (Roxburgh). The members present then stood in silent tribute.

**Minutes of the 53rd AGM:** The minutes of the 53rd AGM were approved with no matters arising. The minutes were adopted by George Whiteford and Seconded by Colin Martin

**Auditor's Report:** Gill Adamson of Rennie Welch LLP presented the accounts to the meeting. Paper copies of the Financial Statements were distributed to all present and GA guided everyone present through each of the reports, giving concise explanations of the figures therein. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions or for further explanations. CM queried the rise in income from ice-skating. GB confirmed more people had attended the skated sessions. Another member asked if the 200 Club had any 'vacant' numbers, and wanted clarity over the payment of numbers. LM stated that there were plans to move payment to Direct Debit. The member stated that he hoped unpaid numbers were deleted from the Draw and the unpaid 'numbers' were not being paid from winnings. The accounts were then approved. The accounts were adopted by Cameron Martin and seconded by Gwen Prentice.

**Chairman's Report:** CS delivered his report, noting the highlight of the past year was the visit of the Canadian Curlers and thank Bill Cleghorn for his excellent organization of the event. CS also thanked Robert Walker for his help delivering the Curl Fest event last October. Thanks were given to coaches and volunteers whose time and effort is appreciated. CS then presented Jim Cullen with The Ice Diamond Award for his services to the RCCC and BIR. CS thanked GB and staff, the Committee and then wished KP best wishes for the coming year.

**Election of Office Bearers and Committee:** CS has now served two years as President and now stands down. CS nominated Keith Prentice to the Presidents position. Oliver Stark seconded this. CS congratulated KP and presented him with the Presidents medal. KP thanked CS for all of his work over the past two years and presented CS with a 'retiring President's medal'. KP then took charge of the AGM and moved onto electing the Vice President into post. It was noted that Liz Martin would be the first female Vice President and future President of BIR. KP nominated LM and this was seconded by JD. There was one nomination for the Committee. HB nominated Colin Macnab. KP explained that with a view to the new 'Trust' set up in the future, the Committee present at the AGM were co-opting 4 members to the committee: Jim Cullen, Harry Dodds, Bob Robertson and Peter Bowyer. CS proposed these members and they seconded LM.

**Annual Membership Subscription for 2017 – 2018:** KP proposed that the Membership Fee increases to £30.00 for 2018/19 as agreed and minuted at last years AGM. There were no objections therefore the Fee increases to £30.00.

**Appointment of Auditor:** KP proposed that Rennie Welch should remain as an auditor for BIR and CM seconded this.

**Directors Report:** Nina Clancy delivered a report on behalf of the directors, thanking CS for his support during the past year. Members and shareholders were thanked too for their patience and support. NC stated that the Directors were close to submitting the OSCR application, and have proposed the following people as trustees: Lucy Tile, Keith Prentice, Liz Martin, Jim Cullen, David Mitchell, Lewis McCran, Peter Bowyer, Harry Dodds, Bob Robertson, Peter Brewis (Co-opted) and herself (Nina Clancy). The proposed Trustees have already held a meeting to discuss the transition from BIR Club to BIR Trustees and reassured all present that the Directors were mindful of conflicts of interest and will closely monitor all actions.

NC highlighted that the proposed structural works were unlikely to start in 2019 and more likely to commence in 2020.

Chris Noble has reviewed the plant and equipment. Legislation relating to refrigeration gas means the gas in use currently is to be phased out of use. The Directors are investigating other options. A new air handling system is in the process of being installed and will be operational in the near future. There has been investment in a new Ice Boss with the Ice King being demoted to reserve. In light of the impending gas issues, a Gas Leak Detection system has been purchased along with an Eye on the Ice system. This should improve monitoring and increase energy efficiency.

NC paid tribute to Browns Caterers, with everyone agreeing their first season was a success.

On Staffing, NC let everyone know that Chris Noble was leaving to work with Elite curlers in Austria, and although sad to see him go, wished him well for the future. Josh Hogarth has been employed as Trainee Ice Technician, and under GB careful guidance feels sure he will be an asset to the team.

On a final note NC noted that advertising income from the boards displayed around the rink is an important source of income. The Directors have proposed that any Club successfully referring a business to advertise will receive the first year's fee toward their club.

**Ladies Report:** JD reported that the Ladies were preparing for the Swedish Tour.

**BCDG Report:** John Stevenson delivered the Borders Curling Development Group report. JS noted that the winter Olympics had a positive effect on the two Come and Try Curling sessions. The Junior Curling is facing some challenges with the Kelso Junior Curlers relegated to 3rd Division. Liz Cullen has stepped in to organize the Cool for School curling after Ruairaidh Whyte left and has agreed to carry on this coming season. The BCDG is communicating with Kelso High School with a view to making ice available to interested pupils. Fundraising has gone well with £300 from Aviva, £500 from Charity Begins at Home, £1000 from Scottish Curling with an additional £186 for the Try Curlers who had registered with them. JS drew attention to Scottish Curling web page that is promoting various coaching courses.

KP thanked JS for his report and noted that BCDG and John Stevenson work hard to attract young and new curlers to the rink and checked that all attendees had signed the attendance sheets.

### **Any Other Competent Business**

There was suggestion that the Bar should close at 10pm every night unless specially requested to be open later, in an effort to reduce costs. LC noted that the Bar Staff are often the only trained First Aiders in the evening so this would need to be taken into consideration.

RW stated there was a big decline in entries for competitions and suggested this was because of restrictions around the criteria for entries. There followed a discussion around the mixed doubles and what could be done to make it more attractive to players. CM suggested that more publicity for the BIR was needed and that a local event magazine may be a useful tool in raising awareness. Various members contributed to the discussion and suggests such as Radio Borders, other event magazines and Social Media as publicity tools. KP noted that Curling is a sport that needs to be 'learned' as opposed to skating where you turn up and have a go. It was agreed the BIR Committee with look at improving communication and publicity.

A member asked if the rink would be adopting the 5 Rock Rule. It was stated that this would be advantageous for all to play 'First 5 stones in the free guard zone'. RCCC will adopt this rule; as of The 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 therefore all curlers should be familiar with the rule.

KP thanked everyone for attending the AGM and stated he was looking forward to seeing everyone on the ice and closed the meeting at 8.28pm