

D/FW Curling Club Meeting Minutes

Date: October 26, 2010
Start Time: 7:40 P.M.
End Time: 9:03 P.M.
Board members present: S. Healer, N. Myers, J. Willingham, T. Dick, A. Buckner
Board members absent: M. Hunter, D. Kleppe
Observers:
Mtg. Type: Board Meeting
Location: Dr. Pepper StarsCenter
Prepared by: Shana Healer

The following is a summary of the topics of discussion, decisions, and action items from the meeting. It is not meant to be a transcript of what was said and by whom. Please notify the author immediately upon finding any discrepancies.

1. Judy called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.
2. The next board meeting will be set at a later time.
3. **Review Minutes**—We just about broke even on the Red River Shootout. It was a wonderful event, and it was great that Oklahoma won in the last two ends. The minutes from September 15 were approved unanimously.
4. **Financial Update**—Andrew is in the process of switching our bank account to Comerica. This process should be complete by the end of the week. Our balance is at about \$22,000. We paid an invoice to the USCA to pay for the Level I certifications this summer. Andrew will reimburse dues to Lisa Jenson.
5. **Website/Communications** – Alguire is no longer VP of communications. Judy is looking for someone for communications, who also will manage marketing needs like shirts. We need to put shirts on the website. We'd like Mike to have an assistant for when he's out of town. We'd like more pictures of the club on the website. The history of the club could be updated.
6. **Becoming a USCA Region**—This is very important for us. You must have 350 members for 3 years running. We don't currently have that, but there is no way we can advocate for ourselves to the Board of the USCA unless we are a recognized region. We also can't get a grant from the WCF without being a region. We can, however, be a "preliminary region" and claim other areas, too. Jonathan Havercroft also sent out an email to Austin, Houston, and Kansas City, who are all on board. A motion was made to move forward in forming our own region within the USCA. This motion was approved unanimously. We will nominate a representative from our club at a later time. In the mean time, Judy will be the representative.
7. **Fall League Draws**—Andrew will generate a monthly letter to people who are paying in installments. Judy called 65 members today from the spring/summer classes. Many of them did not realize curling was upon us, and some said they had sent money that has not been received. We currently have 30 members committed for Wednesdays, 18 for Sunday afternoon, and 29 for Sunday night. Judy probably has 2 more teams for sure coming. We reviewed people who had still not responded.
8. **Competition Committee Update**—The competition committee is meeting on October 28 at 8:00 to review any known issues with the rules and to form teams.
9. **Rock Handle Fix**—Nick Myers is ordering a new handle.
10. **Rock Freezer/Carts**—We were given a refrigerated unit by the Cape Cod Curling Club. We may still have to upgrade it to a freezer unit, but we're going to see how it works first. We have saved costs in transporting it thanks to donations by John Lambert and Redhawk Transportation. It will be put in the same spot as our rocks are in now. The board approved \$8,000 for a rock freezer, but it has only cost us about \$900 so far. We're not sure what energy costs we're going to incur, if any. The StarsCenter is very excited about us getting it.
11. **TOB**—What we learned this year is that there are tons of people in the club who want to get involved and just don't know how. The Poissants handled all of the details last time and have a plan already in place. There are more people now to help. Nick Myers would like to be more involved and will form a committee as VP of Special Projects. We'd like to have more people involved than last time.
12. **Dedicated Ice**—Everything has been included in Cec's proposal. It is very complete for a 4-sheet club. We may be able to get breaks with volunteer work and fewer sheets. If we don't get the \$120,000 from the WCF, none of it will be possible. If we can find a working ice plant for \$40,000 and start out with 2 sheets of ice, we could make it work. Cec's plan makes us interesting to bankers. We might need Cec to scale back the plan and make it seem more viable sooner.

13. Fundraising— The shuffleboard tournament got 11 people, but they were going for 32. This means we have to look closely at future fundraising opportunities. However, we did curl all summer long. Maybe it would be more successful if we had not been constantly asking for money for a variety of events. Maybe fundraising events would be more successful if we missed each other or if we had been curling for a while and remembered how much we enjoyed hanging out. We ARE in a fundraising phase, but we've been asking money every month for the past 6 months. Now we're asking for league dues.

14. Other Items—Nick Myers would like us to have club shirts in addition to shirts that are generated for a specific event.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03.

15. Plan for Fall Leagues—

- a. **Sundays**--We will have 2 Sunday draws (4:00-6:00, and 6:00-8:00) for 15 weeks, and each draw will be limited to 8 teams. It will be important for curlers to send in their registration early if they have a strong preference as to which Sunday draw they play in since this year we will not be adding extra teams or byes to the Sunday schedule. For playoffs, Sunday teams will compete for the Cardy Cup, and we will have a 1-week play-off between the top 4 teams of the first and second draws. The cost for Sundays will be \$400 (which does not include USCA dues and/or the one-time equipment fee.)
- b. **Wednesdays**--Based on the survey results, the club likes the idea of having two short seasons on Wednesday nights. We will curl on the 5-sheet rink from 6:45-8:45 and have 10 weeks per season. The cost of each 10-week season is \$275 (which does not include USCA dues and/or the one-time equipment fee). Wednesday curling will be for the President's Cup—awarded twice a year, one for each season.
- c. **Registration**—Registration will be available soon. Keep an eye out for that. See below for some specifics:
 - i. On the registration form, each item will be delineated—specific draws, yearly USCA membership fees (\$28.50), and the one-time equipment fee (\$50). If a player curls in multiple draws, the USCA membership fee (and the one-time equipment fee) would only be charged once. If curling on Wednesdays, a curler may register now for the spring season, whether or not he or she is playing in the fall. Substitutes will need to register as social members (see below.)
 - ii. Substitutes will be included on the membership roster, and must join the DFW Curling Club as social members. This type of membership will cost \$125 per year and allows the member to sub in any draw all season. We will not be charging per game as we have done in the past. Any member who wishes to bring a non-member out to try curling should make arrangements with Judy, Jason, or Tyler.
 - iii. Teams of four may register together. For those who do not register a complete team, curlers may make requests regarding whom they would like to play with (or who they would prefer not to play with), and the competition committee will assemble teams.

The board voted to approve these arrangements for the 2010-2011 season.

16. **Dedicated Ice**—Cec gave us an update on dedicated facilities for a 4-sheet club. We will have to have people to sign up to be guarantors on the loan we will need. We reviewed a schedule for finances for year one and two, based on ice costs, money from draws, and existing costs. He presented 5 lease options. He has looked at all five options and has been told to disregard what they're asking for lease rate. It will probably take 3 rounds of negotiations, and the market could change. We are considering locations in Addison, Mesquite, the Dallas Medical District, Garland, Irving, and Shady Trail (a location near I-35 and Walnut Hill, not far from where we are now). All of the following have adequate power and parking. Cec is leaning towards Shady Trail or Vanco. We're going to have to check on zoning, and we'll have to run our own bar. The real estate agents say we will not need a liquor license if it's a "private" club. Cec will make sure the dimensions are adequate. He will then get quotes on leasing rates, taxes, etc. Some locations will do the improvements for us, and others we'd have to do on our own. The length of the leases he's considering is up to 20 years. He did not ask about minimums, but the shortest amount of time he'd ask for is 5 years. He also updated the revenue pages. He's assuming 5 draws/year (paying per draw instead of charging a flat membership fee for unlimited curling). To repay the loans, we'd need to go from 150 curlers to 200 after year three years to get us paid off in 10 years. We do need to find out what the electrical costs will be for the chiller, but that will depend upon which facility we lease.

17. **Adjourn Meeting**—The meeting was adjourned at 2:17.

Accepted and approved by the undersigned on the date set forth below:

Signature: _____
Title: _____

Name: _____
Date: _____, 2010