

MINUTES OF THE GLCA MEETING
September 29, 2018
Location: Cleveland Skate Club

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 1:00 pm.

The Attendees were:

Detroit: Ben Levy, Paul Badgero
Columbus: Steven Imes, Mike Coulter
Mayfield: Courtney Schmidt, Mike Moore
Bowling Green: Scott Piroth
Curl Troy: Paul Robinson
Great Smoky Mountains: Sandra Takata
Midland: John Zimmerman
Circle City: Tammy Hoffman
Cleveland: Kara Girvin
Fort Wayne: Kerry Sharpe

Attending via phone: Josh Lopez, Detroit; Jonathan Penney, Cincinnati; Michael Graves, Midland; Bret Jackson, Detroit.

Proxies: Martha Lemert proxy to Ben Levy; Dave Eggli, Traverse City to Paul Badgero; Phil Gohr proxy to Scott Piroth; and Jeff Michael, Lewiston, proxy to John Zimmerman.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting from April 28, 2018, in Detroit were approved with one spelling correction on a name.

2. Regional Updates

a. The Regional Bonspiel Schedule was circulated and the clubs requested to update it accordingly.

b. Bowling Green

Ice will go in on October 19th. The club has more new members than old members. Total membership currently is at 195.

c. Circle City

The leagues began two weeks ago. The current arena relationship is working out better and area colleges are beginning to participate. Discussions are being held with an entity on a dedicated facility. There is a possible bid on USWCA Nationals in 2023.

d. Cincinnati

The arena had several repairs over the summer. The season will begin October 7th. Outdoor arena play will take place this year. One set of stones being used belong to Fort Wayne and they have asked for them back. In discussions with Mayfield about purchasing a set from them.

e. Cleveland Skating Club

New rocks have been purchased and they will have curling every weekend plus alternate weeks. They are holding successful LTCs.

f. Columbus

211 members for leagues and 28 first time curlers. They voted to stay and expand in their current facility. They hosted a Team Shuster LTC fundraiser this summer. Their lease is up this year and they will sign a 3-year lease renewal. They are looking to buy a building before the next 3-year lease is up.

g. Curl Troy

They had a summer league with 20 plus attendees for clinics. Most of the membership is new. They are expanding their footprint into Kettering, Ohio and setting up new Saturday morning leagues. They are curling in three different facilities this year.

h. Delta Rocks

They loaned all of the equipment they had to a club starting up in Marquette. Their equipment will be returned this year.

i. Detroit

Their off-season building improvements include insulating and sealing outer walls and updating warm rooms. Ice will be put in mid-October. They are getting the ice a month longer than in previous years. They have five bonspiels planned.

j. Fort Wayne

They lost some members but they are looking to build membership from clinics and rookie leagues. They are closing in on their new building soon and will have four sheets for the 2019-2020 season. They will also get to keep the current ice during the winter. They will start the build-out during the winter while continuing to curl.

k. Great Smoky Mountains

Leagues are currently two nights per week with 14 teams. There are 40 rookies reported. The Rocky Top Bonspiel will be held again on June 7th.

l. Kalamazoo

US Nationals are being held in February, 2019. Volunteers will be needed. There are 140 signed up for leagues. They have 40 new curlers.

m. Lansing

They moved to a new arena and have been curling through the summer. They have two to three sheets once per week. Curling will continue through November and then they will be off ice through March.

n. Lewiston

They are putting in a concrete floor. They will be holding an International Bonspiel in February.

o. Mayfield

They are hosting the USWCA 5 and Under next year. The same year Mayfield is hosting the Regional Playdowns and asked them to switch with Detroit. Mayfield is installing a dehumidifier. Mayfield will auction off one of its old set of rocks and is undetermined in terms of sales for the other set. Courtney will be stepping down from the GLCA Board because she is serving as the new chairwoman for the USCA Board of Directors.

p. Midland

They will start making ice on Monday. John Zimmerman will be leaving the GLCA Board with a new rep for the next meeting. There is a skills clinic scheduled for November 10th. The club is anticipating membership growth due to interest from the Olympics.

q. Petoskey

They have all their own rocks and leagues have started.

r. South Bend Regional

This is a small group and they are currently sharing ice time with Notre Dame College group of curlers.

s. Traverse City

No new updates.

3. Audit/Finance Report

- a. The income statement was provided. The income statement shows expenses of \$3,315.35. The balance in the checking account is over \$14,000. Club dues, revenue and stone rental monies should be coming in during January.

b. 501(c)(3) Update

Discussion was held regarding the importance of pursuing this and getting this finalized and ready for fundraising purposes and otherwise. Ben and Sandra will have a plan to present to the Board at the spring meeting regarding getting this finalized. An attorney associated with Rocky Top Club will assist with this process.

4. Membership

- a. New Clubs. Louisville sold out three Learn-To-Curls and is filling up a fourth. Lexington has stalled in terms of their membership initiatives. USCA new club kits are being developed per Courtney and Bret Jackson. An ad-hoc committee to the USCA is working on a template with financial models for arena and transition to dedicated. Louisville is also signed up as an at-large club at the USCA.

Alpena. There is possible interest in a GLCA set of rocks up in Alpena, which is looking to start a new club with 40-50 people. Alpena is looking to install five sheets. Nothing is officially set up with the USCA.

- b. Stone Rental Update. The Traverse City Curling Club continues to rent one set of GLCA stones at \$500. Petoskey has no need for any GLCA stones and needs them picked up. Discussion was held regarding the rock report graph and adding categories to include other types of equipment such as hacks, brooms, sliders, etc.
- c. Bonspiel Promotion Pin Program. The bonspiel pins go to curlers who go to three GLCA events outside their home club. A motion was made to purchase new pins was made by John Zimmerman and seconded by Mike Coulter. All were in favor. Discussion was also held regarding ways to improve membership in the game of curling. Suggestions were made to start a GLCA Five and Under with a rolling schedule. Representatives were to check with their respective clubs and get back with Ben Levy.

5. Championship/Rules

- a. All clubs have adopted for club use the 5-rock free guard zone rule.
- b. On Subpart 6b, Regional Championship guidelines missed a June deadline but updated for approval. Directors received a draft of championship rules. Discussion was held regarding seeding for play-downs. A motion was made to adopt the guidelines by John Zimmerman and seconded by Scott Piroth. All were in favor and the guidelines were approved.
- c. On Subpart 6c, discussion was held regarding player/team eligibility for club regional play-downs. It was resolved to ask USCA for clarification of the residency rule.
- d. On Subpart 6d, discussion was held regarding hosting rotation which was updated as approved at the spring meeting. Men's and women's clubs December 14-16 at the Fort Wayne Curling Club and You-18 on December 28-30 at Midland and mixed January 18-20 at Bowling Green Curling Club.
- e. In 2019 and 2020, clubs in Mayfield mixed in Columbus.

6. **Governance.** No report.
7. **New Business.** USCA members' assembly is set for October 13. USCA bylaws amendment was distributed regarding safe sport compliance. No objection to adopting this Bylaw amendment. A motion was made to adopt it and approve it. Motion passed.
8. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting date is May 11, 2019, at Bowling Green.