

# 2017 SPRING BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Saturday, May 6, 2017 @ 1:00 PM  
Bowling Green Curling Club, Black Swamp Curling Center  
19901 N. Dixie Highway, Bowling Green, OH 43402  
Conference Line: 877-636-9498, passcode 1174273667

## **Attendees:**

Detroit - Ben Levy, Adam Rivera, Josh Lopez  
Columbus - Karen Hamilton, Steven Imes  
Fort Wayne - Martha Lemert, Kerry Sharpe  
Circle City Curling Club - Tammy Hoffman  
Great Smoky Curling Club - Sandra Takata  
Bowling Green Curling Club - Scott Piroth, Jay Clark  
Mayfield Curling Club - Russ Moore, Courtney Schmidt  
Midland Curling Club - John Zimmerman  
Lansing Curling Club - Mark McElwee  
Cleveland Skating Club - Kara Girvin

## **Attending via phone:**

Cincinnati Curling Club - Jonathan Penney, Brody White  
Copper Country Curling Club - Paul Eisenman, Gordon Maclean  
Curl Troy - Mike Harwat  
Lewiston - Jeff Michael

## **Proxies:**

John Zimmerman held for Michael Graves (Midland Curling Club)  
Ben Levy held for Dave Eggli (Traverse City Curling Club)  
Tammy Hoffman held for Steven Straiger (Circle City Curling Club)  
Ben Levy held for Marcus Gleaton (Kalamazoo Curling Club)

Proxy submitted by Kathy Kohtala. Delta Rocks held by Gordon Maclean but no voting rights attach due to last census.

## **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at Bowling Green Black Swamp Curling Center.

A quorum was established.

## **Minutes of Previous Meeting – October 1<sup>st</sup>, Cincinnati Curling Club**

Minutes with two minor revisions were approved.

### **Region and Region Updates and Club Updates/Commentary**

Executive Committee approved expenditure of selling GLCA pins to the men for their Scott's Tour at cost, as we did for the women last year. This Executive Committee action was approved by the full board.

23 bonspiels were held, 3 were canceled. We had 8 teams at national events and our U-18 program was very successful with 3 teams going and Team Willertz winning bronze.

#### **Bowling Green**

Opened later than scheduled but held a successful bonspiel over St. Patrick's Day. Will open in October. Bonspiels are: a ladies in October, mixed doubles in November, the Groundhog Spiel and a USWCA Five and Under. It will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a club in January of next year. It also has May 20-21 bonspiel still available this season with some openings.

#### **Cincinnati**

Held 5 leagues this year. It plans on doing more fundraising for dedicated ice this summer. Had good turn out on its Tuesday night league with 40 curlers. Its teams did well competitively at Arena Nationals with the Women's Team winning silver.

#### **Circle City**

Moved facilities this year and is gearing up for additional fundraising for dedicated ice including planning for the upcoming olympics cycle and had two teams competing at Arena Nationals.

#### **Cleveland Skating Club**

The Club has seen a 25% increase in curling membership among their regular members. Recently purchased five new sets of rocks and have seen improved ice with their new ice maker. Their Mixed International Spiel is set for January 25-28, 2018. They will home host teams. They do have a used set of rocks to sell.

#### **Columbus**

Columbus is looking at a 5-year plan on whether to expand in their current space or move to a different location. Their bonspiel schedule is Women's – October 20-22; The Beers of the World, December 1-3, and the March 16-18, St. Patty's Day Men's Sliderspiel. Registration for the women's event opens June 1. This past season they successfully hosted the Great Lakes Curling Association club championships, which had three men's and women's teams competing.

#### **Copper Country**

Experienced several thaws which interrupted their season and had to cancel their spiel in January due to lack of sign ups but they're enjoying the improved warm room space and other improvements made in the clubhouse area.

### **Curl Troy**

Has continued to work on its Build Our House Campaign with fundraising including a friendly at the Chiller on May 20. It sent two teams to Arena Nationals. Is continuing to move its curling around sometimes outdoors and sometimes at the Chiller in the fall and spring.

### **Detroit**

Detroit will be holding Junior Nationals next season January 27–February 3. It will be offering an officiating course in preparation for that. Last season it successfully held the U-18 play downs as well as the mixed play downs. Membership is the highest in ten years. Club is still discussing floor plans and possible engineering solutions to some floor issues.

### **Rocky Top**

Using an arena for one night a week but had 40 members for league play. Rocky Top Open is being reinstated this year and is full, set for June 8.

### **Kalamazoo**

Successfully held a cashspiel event in October. Its craft beer festival spiel in early November sold out and will be held the first weekend of November next season. Kalamazoo will also be hosting the Club GLCA Championships for Men's and Women's for 2018.

### **Lansing**

Reports that it rented space from Kalamazoo for Sunday afternoons, which was very successful, but is negotiating with a new arena to do Learn To Curl's during the olympics in the upcoming year.

### **Lewiston**

Reports membership is down by eight people, but that everyone is a member of the GLCA and USCA. Its International Bonspiel in February was very successful with lots of GLCA clubs present. The club is discussing whether to move to cement floor as opposed to dirt.

### **Mayfield**

Reports of its new compressor is working well and will have new rocks in October and will have three sets of outgoing stones and should be hosting its similar schedule of bonspiels as last year.

### **Midland**

Reports two teams competed at U-18 Nationals with Team Willertz winning bronze and also had its team, including some juniors, compete at mixed nationals. Midland introduced Alex Schroeder, our web page volunteer. Midland will continue to hold its spiel October 20–22. It also will be continuing a Welcome the World program with curlers from abroad will curl here in the U.S.

### **Traverse City**

Successfully held its third annual Cherry Bombspiel. Registration for next year's Cherry Bombspiel will be open up to the general curling community rather than only returning teams. Traverse City's women's team Julie Riecke made the quarter finals at Arena Nationals in their first ever trip to a national event.

## **Audit/Finance**

### **Financial Update**

Treasurer Mark McElwee reports that we are in very good financial shape with only two more payments on the new stones we had purchased through USCA. GLCA was able to support eight regional teams going to national events. The Finance Audit Committee is to look at setting new guidelines for compensating clubs for hosting play down regional championship events with perhaps some base minimum rather than an amount per team as the host-club has no control over sign ups. The Finance Committee will make some recommendations 30 days in advance of the fall meeting. It was reported that one club was not on time – 10 days late in dues, but that the non-provisional member clubs were current. Discussion held regarding the purchase of patches for \$429 for last season and the next two seasons for regional play downs. Motion was made to approve this expenditure for regional winners going to national events. Motion was passed.

### **501(c)3 Update**

Discussion held regarding the need for a budget going forward for 501(c)3 status. The Finance Committee to work with Executive Committee on a budget for the GLCA.

## **Membership**

### **Stone Rental**

Two sets of new stones are with Traverse City at \$500 each. Traverse City has indicated it would still like to hold onto at least one of the sets of stones on a year-to-year basis. Motion made to guarantee one set to Traverse City and allow them to have the other set for next season unless we hear from another club that needs it by August 1.

### **Bonspiel Promotion/Pin Program**

Pins for 2016-2017 Bonspiel incentive program are available. Discussion held regarding doing the patches moving forward. Bonspiel poster should be ready in August. Clubs should submit their dates for all of their bonspiels by July 1 to Scott Piroth for compilation purposes.

### **Clinics**

Detroit will be holding a Level One instructor class this season and an officiating class, which is a two-day course. Bowling Green is having a Business of Curling symposium in July being put on by USCA. Discussion held regarding holding an Ice Tech Clinic during the ice installs occurring at one or more clubs.

### **New Clubs**

South Bend Regional Curling Club had been granted admission status at a special meeting held by the GLCA in February, but has not yet submitted their dues as requested. South Bend to submit their dues no later than June 1, 2017 or a letter will be sent to the USCA indicating that they are not in good standing and their admission status will be reassessed. Final approval of their membership will have to await the fall meeting.

Petoskey – We have also not received dues payment from Petoskey or payment for their set of used GLCA rocks. Petoskey also needs to submit an application to the USCA in order to be considered by the GLCA. As with the South Bend Regional Curling Club, Petoskey will be sent a reminder and notice regarding these payments.

## **Championship Rules**

### **Event Hosts for 2018**

The date for the Mens/Womens Club Championships will be January 19–21, 2018 in Kalamazoo. And for Mixed at Midland, February 16–18. U-18 Championship will be held between Christmas and New Year's. A location to be determined. U-18 Nationals will be held in Bemidji, Minnesota February 20–25, 2018.

### **Rotation as Approved at Fall 2016 Meeting**

Lewiston indicated it was interested in being included in the rotation schedule and it is currently not on it. Discussion held regarding the rotation schedule and updating it to incorporate the U-18 championship as part of that rotation and Lewiston.

### **Review of Round Robin Format**

Discussion held regarding the Round Robin trial format and that the format generally seemed to work well. Individuals discussed balancing the ice time the clubs needed to give up with and also providing value to those teams signing up looking for experience playing more qualified teams. Reminder that USCA and World Curling Federation approved broom heads must be used at these events. Discussion held regarding sending a survey to the participants in club and mixed championships to assess their interest in the number of games they want to play and the qualification format.

## **New Business**

### **Business of Curling Symposium**

Curling Symposium is to be held July 29–30, 2017 by the USCA hosted by the Bowling Green Curling Club. Everyone in the GLCA region is encouraged to attend.

### **Members Assembly**

The Members Assembly this year will be moved up to September 28–October 1, 2017 at St. Paul, Minnesota. The goal of the USCA is to have at least 150 members attending. All members of the USCA are welcome.

### **Standing Committees and Committee Members**

Finance is composed to Adam Rivera, Tammy Hoffman and Mark McElwee and this committee will continue to work on 501(c)3 status and the monetary reasons for play downs as well as possible additional stone purchases.

Governance is Sandra Takata, Gordon Maclean and Martha Lemert. Looked at proxies and whether or not to make changes and determined no changes were needed at this time, but will

look at whether or not to change the language barring members of the Executive Committee from chairing the standing committees.

Rules Committee is comprised of Ben Levy, Paul Badgero, Mike Graves and Adam Rivera. They will continue to look at whether any format changes need to be made to the club championships and other championship events.

Membership Committee is made up of Karen Hamilton, Sandra Takata, Dave Eggli and Courtney Schmidt. They will be looking at evaluating whether we move from pins to patches and other incentives as part of the GLCA bonspiel programs as well as other programs designed to increase membership. If other board members wish to join one of these committees they should contact GLCA Secretary Martha Lemert.

### **Additional New Business**

Discussion held regarding keeping the GLCA website updated with meeting information, bonspiels and contact information for members. Clubs are to forward information to Alexis Schroeder for placing event on the GLCA website.

### **Next Meeting**

Will be held in Fort Wayne on Saturday, September 23, as September 30 conflicts with the Members Assembly. Time of the meeting will be 1:00 p.m. Exact location will be determined. It will be close to the Fort Wayne Curling Club.

### **Officer Nominations and Elections**

Nominations:

President, Ben Levy

Vice President, Sandra Takata

Secretary, Martha Lemert

Treasurer, Tammy Hoffman

At-Large, John Zimmerman

No other nominations were received from the floor. Motion made to accept that slate of officers and motion seconded and approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.