



New Brunswick Curling Association/Association de Curling du Nouveau-Brunswick

**NBCA Business Session
May 7 2017, 1:00 PM @ Curl Moncton**

Curling Centres Represented: Carleton, Curl Moncton, Gage Golf & Curling Club, Capital Winter Club, Gladstone Curling Club, Grand Falls Curling Club, Harvey Curling Club, Heather Curling Club, Rexton Curling Club, Riverside Country Club, Sportek Curling Inc., St. Stephen Curling Club, Sussex Golf & Curling Club, Thistle St. Andrews Curling Club.

Meeting Minutes

- **Report on Credentials/NBCA Order of Business:** NBCA Executive Director, Marg Maranda recited the Report on Credentials and the NBCA Order of Business.
- **Welcome & Introductions:** NBCA President, Catherine MacLean extended a welcome from the NBCA Board of Directors and invited all meeting participants to introduce themselves.
- **Centre for Curling Excellence (CCE) Update:** Rick Perron provided an update from the NBCA Training Centre-the Centre for Curling Excellence. Rick reported that all 2017 summer camps are full and listed the confirmed celebrity guests. Physical Literacy has been rolled out to two curling centres and arrangements made for the next two. Rick stated his concern regarding the number of NB Juniors participating in Provincial Events. The vast majority are U16. As such, we need to look at ways to keep these kids involved beyond that age group. The CCE is still working with U de M to find programs that will assist in further developing our athletes & coaches.
- **Curling Canada IMF & National Registry Update:** Catherine reported that although Curling Canada claims they are ready to implement the national registry system, Curling IO, for the 2017-18 season, we have yet to see the site/registrations forms nor has a formal pilot taken place. (The approved Motion to implement this system was subject to a pilot during the 2016-17 season.) As such, the NBCA Board feels this is much too rushed and would be irresponsible of us to assume that we and our affiliated curling centres will have ample time to prepare. As such, it is the decision of the NBCA Board to continue with our existing method of affiliation until such time that we are certain Curling IO is up and running smoothly. (We expect will be as early as 2018-19)
- **Curling Canada Championships Travel Cuts:** As per the attached document received from Curling Canada, cutbacks to travel costs for National Championships will require teams to assume the difference. Adib Samaan asked what this means as a \$ figure to our teams. Ron Hutton of Curling Canada stated that it would depend on number of teams playing and where event is held. Ron also reminded those present that curling is currently the only sport to have the National body fully fund travel expenses to Provincial Championship teams. This has been a long time coming.
- **Proposed Headgear Policy:** Marg reported that Curling Canada and the Operations Council have developed a committee to investigate a Concussion Policy, which would include required headgear use, potentially for U12, new curlers and others at risk. The initial results of this committee's findings will be presented at the 2017 National Curling Congress. More information will be provided as it becomes available. Ron congratulated NB for being among the first to address this subject at the National level.

- **TSN/Sportsnet:** It has come to the attention of Curling Canada that curling centres will experience significant increases to cable packages that include TSN and/or Sportsnet. It is their understanding that the intent of the increased pricing was intended to his "sports bars" but has been blanketed to apply to any establishment serving alcoholic beverages. Curling Canada will be reaching out to both Bell and Rogers to argue that curling centres ARE NOT sports bars and should not be treated as such. It has been suggested that we (Curling Canada, Member Associations, Curling Centres, Curling Athletes and Curling Fans) may need to ban together and forge a National Media Campaign. Marg will keep Curling Centres updated through e-mail and, if applicable, will communicate with our athletes and other followers through our Facebook page.
- **Review of New Seniors Format:** As per the motion approved at the 2016 AGM to amend the format of the NB Seniors Championship and the requirement to review the amended format following the 2016-17 season, a request has been received to make a few changes to the new format. As required, the NBCA Board of Directors will review the new format, now that the 2016-17 NB Seniors Championship has been held, and will take into consideration the recommendation. This will be handled in time for the November 2017 SAGM.
- **Revised NBCA Registration Deadline Dates/Draw Release Dates:** Catherine informed meeting attendees of some feedback the NBCA has received from competitors and host committees regarding the lack of time between receiving event draws and the beginning of the event. For the competitors, this can cause issues with booking time off from their jobs and in securing accommodations. For the host committees, they find themselves with little time to schedule required volunteers. After consultation with our Provincial Draw Master, it has been decided that event deadline dates will now be three weeks prior to the beginning of the event and never on a Friday. Jerry McCann is not in favour of this as he feels this will hinder numbers. Is this change for NBCA executive or for the betterment of curling in NB. Mike Flannery agrees with Jerry. Marg reiterated that this change is the result of feedback from stakeholders and was not initiated by the Board or NBCA staff. Peter asked if it is possible to register "team intent". Marg responded that that is not possible as eligibility & membership verifications needs to be determined and all player names are needed for this. Catherine stated that in view of these comments, the Board will re-visit this item at 2017 Board Planning Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Juniors Update:** John Corbin & Catherine addressed the issues brought up at the November 2016 NBCA Business Session. (It had been suggested that the NBCA, as the governing body, does not assume responsibility for decisions made regarding Junior events, etc.) The Junior Committee is looking at developing a more functionally based model rather than the current zone based model. This is something that will take time to initiate. Ellery stated that he still feels that all things "Juniors" should be part of the NBCA. Catherine reminded the audience that the NB Junior Development Director does sit on the NBCA Board of Directors and that decisions made by the Junior Committee are made as a committee and not by a single individual.
- **Adjourn:** Joan Christie moved the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Marg Maranda

