

Manitoba Stick Curling Association (MSCA)

September 27, 2022

Minutes of 2021-22 MSCA Annual General Meeting

Place: Meeting held at Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club

Attendance: MSCA Executive

President: Britta Spiring
Secretary: Resby Coutts
Treasurer: Bev Schick (also Marquette delegate)
Events Director: Warren Johnson
Communications Director: Paul Batchelor

Attendance: Club Delegates

Assiniboine Memorial: Leroy Clarke
Carman: Charlie McCullough
Fort Garry: Dan Namba
Fort Rouge: Norm Magnusson
Killarney: Rae Campbell
Thistle: Bill Reid
St. Vital: Jean Pattyn
Swan River: Brian Cotton

Attendance: Curlers and other Guests

Carman: Wayne Johnston
Thistle: Pat Reid
Swan River: Mildred Cotton

CALL TO ORDER: President B. Spiring called the meeting to order at 3:12PM and reported that the quorum requirement of eight clubs being represented had been met.

- She opened the meeting with “out of respect”, an aboriginal treaty lands acknowledgement.
- She advised agenda, 2021 minutes, and all reports had been circulated in advance.
- She advised that no further motions or items of new business had been received.

Agenda: M/S: B. Cotton-L. Clarke ... That the agenda be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

Minutes: M/S: R. Coutts-R. Campbell ... That the 2021 minutes be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

President's Report: B. Spiring highlighted her report as circulated and expressed the sympathies of MSCA and all curlers at the passing of Stick Curling pioneer Harold Cook in the past year. She also advised of the deteriorating health condition of Ernie Oliver, pioneer and namesake of the fall bonspiel.

- As a highlight addition to her President's report, B. Spiring announced that the 2023 MSCA Championship in Morris will come under the new title sponsorship of SunLife Financial/Jim Anton. She reported that Mr. Anton has expanded his much appreciated sponsorship and the event will be known as the SunLife Financial Manitoba Open Stick Championship presented by Jim Anton. Details of a logo are being finalized.
- The announcement was met by enthusiastic applause from the meeting attendees and delegates.

M/S: B. Spiring-B. Cotton ... That the President's report be accepted. CARRIED

Treasurer's Report: B. Schick highlighted the financial report as circulated.

- She emphasized the primary operating mandate of MSCA as being 'to run a break-even operation'.
- She noted the bank balance was down approximately \$1,200, the amount of website development expense during the year but that modest positive results on the MSCA Championship and Ernie Oliver Bonspiel had offset most other expenses.

M/S: B. Schick-L. Clarke ... That the Financial report be accepted. CARRIED

Budget: B. Spiring highlighted the budget as circulated, noting that the budget showed a modest positive position before today's announcement of the Sun Life/Jim Anton sponsorship. She also acknowledged the new sponsorship of thecurler.com

M/S: B. Spiring-C. McCullough ... That the budget be accepted. CARRIED

Communications Report: P. Batchelor highlighted the Communications report as circulated. He acknowledged the dedicated work in the past by Rae Campbell in this role. He noted that E-mail blasts and the website continue to be the primary information vehicles. He asked for prompt information when 6-Enders are scored so they can be celebrated.

M/S: P. Batchelor – L. Clarke ... That the Communications report be accepted. CARRIED

Events Report: W. Johnson highlighted the Events report as circulated. He emphasized it is intended to be a historical record and statistical summary of the MSCA's events and clinics for the prior year.

M/S: W. Johnson – N. Magnusson ... That the Events report be accepted. CARRIED

Election of Officers: B. Spiring handed off responsibility for chairing the meeting to R. Coutts to conduct elections for two positions.

- **Treasurer:** Bev Schick`s two year term is expiring. She has been re-nominated.
 - There were no additional nominations received in response to three calls for further nominations.

M/S: B. Cotton – N. Magnusson ... That Bev Schick be appointed Treasurer. CARRIED

- **President:** Britta Spiring`s two year term is expiring. She has been re-nominated.
 - There were no additional nominations received in response to three calls for further nominations.

M/S: C. McCullough – B. Reid ... That Britta Spiring be appointed President. CARRIED

The elections being completed, R. Coutts returned responsibility for chairing the meeting to B. Spiring

New Business: The MSCA Executive had circulated a ‘discussion-starter’ paper which asked if gender-representation should be incorporated into MSACA Bylaws.

- **CONSENSUS:** There was general agreement in the meeting that mandated gender representation is not a concern of MSCA’s members at this time.

New Business: The MSCA Executive had circulated a ‘discussion-starter’ paper which asked if regional-representation should be incorporated into MSCA Bylaws.

- **CONSENSUS:** There was general agreement in the meeting that mandated regional representation is not a concern of MSCA’s members at this time.

New Business: The MSCA Executive had circulated a ‘discussion-starter’ paper which asked if hogline violations are an issue which should be dealt with through enforcement by volunteer or more likely paid umpires.

- **CONSENSUS:** There was general agreement in the meeting that hogline violations at the events within MSCA jurisdiction should be dealt with in the traditional manner by self-policing and ‘friendly reminders’ from the opposing team. Further, there was general agreement that MSCA should not be utilizing umpires (paid or volunteer) for enforcement of the hogline rule.

New Business: The MSCA Executive had circulated a ‘discussion-starter’ paper which asked if it is appropriate for the MSCA to consider amending bylaws to allow the Board to elect its own Chair (MSCA President). The current bylaw calls for all five Directors to be elected to fill the specific role. This presents a possible future challenge when it may not be possible to identify a nominee for President but others on the Board might be willing to fill the role.

- **CONSENSUS:** There was general agreement in the meeting that amendment to the bylaws should be considered by the Executive and that Executive should bring an amendment proposal to the next AGM, if they deem it appropriate.

New Business: W. Johnson highlighted the report which the MSCA Executive had circulated detailing plans for the 2023 MSCA Championship event, notably:

- Location – Curl Morris on February 17-19 weekend.
- Two events will run simultaneously – a 24 Team Open (4 pools of 6) and a 12 Team Women's (2 pools of 6)
- If there are insufficient Women's teams for at least one pool, they will be incorporated into the Open event if interested.
- If either champion is unable to attend the National event at Nanaimo, BC in late March, a replacement team will receive the travel subsidy and will receive CurlManitoba 'wildcard' jackets.

The report was presented for information – no approval motion was required.

Final Notes: B. Spiring asked if there were any news items of interest to the meeting.

- B. Cotton advised Swan River's 2 day bonspiel will run Saturday & Sunday November 25 & 26
- B. Cotton also reported on interest in Roblin and possibly Russell. Roblin has a curling rink while Russell no longer does. He believes there is potential for a clinic to be held there and will also obtain contact information to be included on the email list.
- N. Magnusson advised he has become aware of a stick league in Arborg and perhaps other clubs and asked if these can be included on the MSCA website. He will get contact information to allow MSCA to reach out for details.
- R. Coutts advised of the new bonspiel, November 11-13, at Curl Morris.

In response to remarks from several in attendance, there was a sincere round of applause of appreciation for the MSCA Board's efforts and leadership.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:56PM

M/S: Bill Reid - Norm Magnusson-Leroy Clarke – Dan Namba