

**MINUTES**  
**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**  
**NEW BRUNSWICK CURLING ASSOCIATION**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009 – 1:00 PM**  
**BEAVER CURLING CLUB**  
**73 Capital Ave, Moncton NB**

**CLUBS REPRESENTED:**

Beaver	Gladstone
Campbellton	Grand Falls
Capital Winter Club	Harvey
Carleton	Heather
Club de Curling de Tracadie	Moncton Curlers Assoc
Curling Beausejour	Miramichi
Fredericton Curling Club	Riverside
Gage	Sussex
Thistle St. Andrews	

**PRESENT:**

President:	Nicole McCann
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Roland Fraser
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Yves Maillet
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Anna Brinson
Treasurer	Catherine MacLean
Interim Executive Director	Debbie McCann
Central Zone Director	Karen Langille
South East Zone Director	Alistair Syme
North East Zone Director	Maxine Craig
South	Valerie Laing
Master Course Conductor	Brian Rice
Provincial Ice Technician	Chris Tapley
Junior Development Director	Kevin Kyle
Players Committee Rep	Denise Nowlan
CCA Governor	Ron Hutton
WCO	Les Harrison
Jeff LeBlanc	Culture, Sport & Wellness

**ABSENT:**

Technical director	John Larsen
NW Zone Director	Angie Pelkey

1. **Call to Order:**

The Meeting was called to order by President Nicole McCann at 1:10 p.m. Nicole welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for coming.

2. **Ratification of Agenda and Appointment of Scrutineers:**

No additions added to the Semi Annual General Meeting agenda.

Scrutineers are Don Gemmell and Dave Burpee. Moved by Maxine Craig, seconded by Alistair Syme. **Motion carried**

3. **Credentials:**

There are 24 voting delegates representing 17 curling clubs. Each Club is entitled to two accredited delegates and two observers. No proxies.

4. **Moment of silence for departed members:**

A moment of silence was taken for departed members.

5. **Adoption of Minutes from the Semi Annual Meeting of November 2, 2008 and the Annual General Meeting of May 3, 2009:**

Copies of minutes were circulated and asked if there were any errors or omissions. Moved by Alex Craig, seconded by Dave Burpee. **Motion carried.**

6. **Business Arising from Minutes:**

- a) **Strategic Planning Meeting update:** Nicole gave a verbal report updating everyone about the June 2010 planning meeting. As part of the planning process going forward, the NBCA has developed a survey that will gather information and opinions from NBCA affiliated clubs as to the direction the NBCA should take in the coming years. The deadline for completion of this survey is January 4, 2010. Nicole encouraged all clubs complete this survey to give the NBCA the most accurate data possible. The survey will be available on the NBCA website at [www.nbcurling.nb.ca](http://www.nbcurling.nb.ca). The Interim Executive Director will send clubs a notice and link to the survey site when it becomes available. A Committee will be formed to collect and analyze the data received from the club survey and recommendations from the results will be brought to the AGM in May 2010.
- b) **Player Representative on NBCA Board:** Nicole explained that there is a Players Association Representative that is now part of the NBCA Board. She explained how the Players Association works and that it is made up of a group of competitive curlers. The intent of this group is to bring the needs, issues and concerns to the attention of the NBCA and have any issues resolved in a co-operative manner. Trevor Hanson is the Representative sitting on the NBCA as an Ex-Officio Board Member and Denise Nowlan is representing him today at the SAGM in his absence. She will give a report later in the meeting.

7. **Correspondence:**

All correspondence is being dealt with in a timely manner.

8. **Report from Board of Directors Meeting 10:00 a.m. November 1, 2009:**

Nicole reported that the NBCA examining all of its revenue and expenses and is cutting back where possible to weather the economic storm. Not all items on the Board meeting agenda was covered but will be addressed at a later date. Nicole noted that the Board did pass a motion that the NBCA Board will be able to pass motions by email. This will make workings of the Board much more cost efficient and time effective.

ACTION -  
DONE

9. **Report from Treasurer a) 2008-2009 Audited Financial Statements b) 2009-2010 Proposed Budget:**

a) **2008-09 audited Financial Statements:** Catherine advised that David Stewart, CA completed the 2008-09 audited financial statements. Catherine reviewed the audited statements with those present. She reported that all 2008-09 expenses were reviewed to see where money is being spent and where the NBCA can be more cost effective.

b) **2009-10 Proposed Budget:** Catherine gave her report on the 2009-10 Proposed Budget. She also reviewed the Junior and Technical Budget and advised that the Technical budget will be further reviewed. Catherine advised those present that the NBCA is looking for new sponsors and asked for ideas on generating revenue and how to be more cost effective.

She explained that the Staffing Assistant Program (SAP) is a salary budget received from PNB Wellness, Culture & Sport for the Executive Director Position. The NBCA has to complete a comprehensive application each year to see if the NBCA meets the specific criteria required by the government to be eligible for funding. She explained the importance of this form and that the NBCA needs to collect certain data from clubs, committees, etc each year to complete this application including clubs reporting their membership totals.

Catherine moved the adoption of her report. Seconded by George Caissie of Curling Beausejour Club. **Motion Carried.**

10. **Other Reports:**

a) **CCA – Ron Hutton 2009 CCA NCC Summary:** Ron gave a verbal report and thanked Nicole McCann & Debbie McCann for supporting him at the National Curling Congress Meetings (NCC) and also thanked Brian Rice for campaigning on his behalf.

Ron reported that the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) is making many changes to run like a business using the Policy Governance Model. The CCA is now in great financial shape using this model. The CCA has an open door policy and discussions through regular conference calls with the Member Associations across Canada and are discussing with them where they want to be in the next five years. Ron encouraged New Brunswick Clubs to complete the NBCA questionnaire that was sent out to clubs earlier this year. Nicole encouraged clubs to give us information on what they want us to do at the NCC.

Finally, Ron also reported it is expected to be the largest attendance recorded for the Roar of the Rings in Edmonton this season for the Olympics.

b) **Technical Director:** Brian Rice reported that the new competition coach course was given 2 weeks ago and will be replacing the current level 1 & 2 course. Brian advised of future events and that there will be a number of competition and club coach courses this season. He advised that if clubs are interested in taking any courses to contact John Larsen. He encouraged clubs to take advantage of these courses to retain membership.

c) **Junior Development Director – Kevin Kyle:** Kevin reported that Online registration will up and running for all the events this season and it will be the last season for paper entry forms. The Junior Program will be introducing four new events for non competitive curlers and junior clinics will be held in each zone this season.

Paper Participant cards will be eliminated this season but clubs will still be asked to charge the \$8 Junior Participant Fee. The Executive director will be sending all clubs instructions on how the NBCA will be collecting the junior fees of \$8.

Paul Brayshaw spearheaded the So Go program this past spring which is an interactive program to get kids active. The Junior Program will get \$10 for each Junior Curler that signs up.

The junior committee is made up of one person from each zone. Mike Babin has retired so the Junior Committee is looking for new zone director. Kevin asked for volunteer for this.

d) **Officials:** Nicole gave a verbal report and advised that Officials are desperately needed. She reported that there will be two Official's courses this season, one for the Moncton area and the other to be announced. These courses will take place in January 2010. She advised everyone present to Contact Lorne Boulter if they wish to participant in an Official's course this season.

e) **Ice Tech - Chris Tapley:** Chris reported that he started the season with level 1 & 2 Clinic October 9-11 2009 at Gage and thanked Gage for hosting. All participants were successful in passing the course. Chris advised that ice tech training is continuous and people need to keep up to date.

It takes about a week to get ice ready for an event and Chris advised that ice tech's are welcome to work with him at any of the events he works at. The Brier is in Halifax Nova Scotia in 2010 and ice tech's level 1 or higher can volunteer for this event; it is the best experience one can get as an ice maker. Chris recommended that ice techs go to these types of events to get more experience.

Ellery Robichaud from Curling Beausejour asked Chris what NB clubs need to do to ensure that NB Provincial Teams have similar ice conditions that are at the national level, so they are better prepared for nationals.

Chris reported that he tries to get the ice as smooth and flat as possible. Stones are also looked at and maintained and corrected on a regular basis. He said that the most important feature for hosting a provincial event is the ice and rock conditions and if competitive curlers don't have a good product, they will do something else with their time. Chris said that the ice and rock conditions in NB are 10 years behind other provinces. Clubs need to provide their members with a good product with rocks and ice conditions. Chris advised that ice doesn't curl; rocks curl and he made a list of requirements for hosting events a couple of years ago.

Ellery advised that Curling Beausejour sands their own rocks and it is a simple process but he feels it is made to look difficult. Ellery would like to see the NBCA require clubs that are hosting a provincial to sand rocks before the event and requested that the NBCA

Site Selection Committee only award provincials to clubs that are willing to sand their rocks.

Ellery moved that to meet the guidelines clubs must sand their rocks for provincial final 8's in order to prepare the competitive curlers for national events. Ed Haggerty seconded the motion. Don Gemmell, representing Capital Winter Club opposed this motion.

**Motion Carried.**

Lively discussion was held on the question on both pros and cons of this motion. Valerie Laing, South Zone Director, asked where the guidelines for sanding rocks are located in the hosting guidelines.

Dave Burpee of Carleton Curling Club feels that the benefit of sanding rocks is an opinion not a fact. He was concerned that if rock maintenance is not mentioned in the ice tech course, how would clubs know what they should be doing. He feels it needs to be part of the ice tech training process. Chris advised that if clubs want training on sanding rocks they should ask for it and that Curl Atlantic will be addressing this issue further at their symposium in May.

Question was asked on who should enforce sanding rocks and it was discussed that it should be the provincial ice tech. Chris said that rocks need to be sanded after he sees what the rocks are doing on his ice. He advised that sanded rocks need to be used the day before an event by the club curlers.

Action

Dave Burpee moved that the NBCA put together a training course for Rock Maintenance for the 2010-11 season; seconded by Bill Ayles. **Motion Carried.**

f) **Strategic Planning Report:** Nicole already report in previous mentioned in 6 a.

g) **Curl Atlantic – Brian Rice:** Brian Rice advised that the purpose of Curl Atlantic is to improve curling in Atlantic Canada. Curl Atlantic will be hosting the 2010 Symposium in Sackville in May. The NBCA will also be having their AGM in Sackville to coincide with this event. Brian encouraged clubs to attend the symposium to take advantage of the Business of Curling presentation, coaching, and ice tech training. Danny Lamoureux, of the CCA, is presently working on the new business of curling presentation.

Brian reported that Nova Scotia Curling Association is back in the Curl Atlantic organization and things are going well. Curl Atlantic oversees the Joyce Myers Trust fund and will be distributing \$18,000 among the four Atlantic provinces each year to be used in three difference categories.

h) **Sponsors – Jeff LeBlanc:** Jeff thanked the NBCA Board Members for their participation and cooperation with his department. He talked about the funding model 1 and how to get the most out of the funding model and how important it is for clubs to feed participation numbers back to the NBCA so NBCA can report to the Province. He explained that only the top 13 sport organizations get an opportunity to participate in funding for the SAP program. The NBCA is currently in 11<sup>th</sup> (up from 14<sup>th</sup>) position right now due to Jeff revisiting the NBCA previous funding model form. He said that provincial budgets for next year are unpredictable and the government is tabling a budget

in December 2009 this year. The Province does look at sports as very important and Jeff's department is trying to ensure that sports are maintaining this.

Go NB grants for little rocks will renew in April 2010 and Jeff advised everyone to check the Government website for the Regional Consultants in Club's areas and to contact them for more information.

Sports Forum will be held November 26 and 27, 2010 and will cover such things as maximizing membership; importance of sports; maxing funding, etc.

Jeff stressed the importance for clubs to give feedback from NBCA questionnaire that will be online and encouraged clubs to answer this survey.

**i) Other Reports – Les Harrison (WCF President):** Les spoke on behalf of the WCF and advised he is completing fourth year term. Les would like to stand for this position again. He reported that it is good to hear what is going on at the curling club/grass root level.

He advised that the World event in Moncton was a big success; however, renting the cooling system did cost the event a lot of money.

**j) PLAYERS ASSOCIATION** – Denise Nowlan gave Trevor Hanson's written report and gave everyone an idea of how the competitive curlers deal with their issues with the NBCA. She mentioned that a contingency plan is needed for Provincials events and acknowledged that the NBCA has a steering committee that is currently working on this plan.

The Players Association would like to see more participation from around the province for Juniors, Wheel Chair Curling, and Stick Curling.

Denise is currently sitting on a rules committee that is working on providing more consistency for provincial events. Denise feels that the NBCA provincials should have the same guidelines as the CCA to make the NBCA rules more aligned with the CCA rules.

She also reported that the Players Association is working on building an email distribution list for players.

## 11. **Old Business:**

**a) Wheel Chair Curling:** Fredericton Curling Club is trying to organize something this season. Ed Haggerty reported that they are trying to work with the Paraplegic Association and working with Easter Seals. There may be a half NB Team and half PEI team to go to the Nationals this season.

**b) Property Tax:** Debbie McCann gave a written report from Samuel D. Mersereau, Chairperson Assessment Reduction / Tax Exemption Committee. Don Gemmell reported that Ice Curling Rinks will be eligible for rink funding as long as clubs are a non-profit organization.

c) **Provincial & Maritime Stick Curling Championship:** Nicole gave a report that Gage is hosting the Stick Curling Provincial this season and the winner will go onto a Maritime Championship. Information will be on the NBCA website when dates become available.

d) **Les Harrison Volunteer of the Year Award:** Nicole gave a report that there is a link on the NBCA website for forms for the Les Harrison Volunteer of the Year Award. Nicole showed how to access this form through a power point presentation of the NBCA website.

e) **NBCA Board Vacancies:** Nicole reported that the NBCA needs someone to fill this vacancy. NBCA is open to have a commission based salary to fill this position. Also the NBCA would like to have a new webmaster as it is too much work for Kevin Kyle to do both the Junior Development Director and the Webmaster. French portion will be helped out by Quebec.

## 12. **New Business:**

a) **Notices for Consideration:** Kevin Kyle moved and Don Gemmell seconded that notices for consideration be accepted as printed. **Motion Carried.**

b) **Online Registration:** Kevin gave a step by step power point presentation on how to operate the online registration website to all those present. Host committees will be able to have access to their individual provincial events to track who has registered, paid entry fees, etc. NBCA can offer clubs the service of the online registration for individual club events for a small fee.

c) **Site Selection:** Nicole reported that 2009 – 2012 are already selected and will be extending to future dates soon.

d) **Curling Club Survey – Nicole:** Nicole encourage everyone to complete this form.

13. **Appointment of Nominating Committee:** Nicole reported that the Nominating Committee will be appointed at the January 2010 Board meeting.

14. **Dominion Yves Maillet:** Yves updated the clubs on new dominion rules. Hotels will be paid for this year with the increase entry fee. Eligibility – Yves reported that if someone competed in a national event last season like Firefighters, Police, etc, they cannot compete as a team in the Dominion. Dominion wants to keep this as a team in their clubs.

**Off the Agenda:** Nicole introduced Sue Lankisch, South West Zone Director, Karen Langille, Central Zone Director and Anna Brinson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President as the newest members of the NBCA.

Nicole advised clubs that Jerry McCann is interested in helping clubs with fund raising ideas and helping clubs find where to go when applying for grants.

Nicole thanked the Beaver club for hosting the AGM today.

15. **NBCA Annual General Meeting**: May 2, 2010 – Sackville, Mount Allison 1pm.

16. **Adjournment**: Maxine moved the meeting adjourned.

17. **Social time**

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