



Tuesday 7th June 2016

Dumfries Ice Bowl Curling Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

King Street, Dumfries

- 1. Present :** Kenny Murray, John Graham, Jim Hogg, Rosemary Lenton, Graham Sloan, Iain Gallacher, Nancy Gallacher, Fiona Hardie, Alastair Wallace, Craig Sloan, Billy Green, David McKie, Marion Mathers.
- 2. Apologies :** Gillian Graham, John Smith, Callum Ruddick.
- 3. Minutes of Last Meeting :** Proposed by Rosemary Lenton
Seconded by John Graham
- 4. Agenda Items :**
 - **RCCC – Changes being imposed to Development Officer Post at Dumfries.**

After distributing a summary of the issues, written by John Graham, the main points are that the Development Officer at Dumfries, Graham Sloan, has been asked to sign a new contract of work from the RCCC, which has conflicting interests. Graham's 'employer' is a partnership of four groups : the Ice Bowl, the RCCC, the D&G Council and DIBCA. His current work pattern is of 'compressed hours' – working extra hours throughout the main curling season to maximise his job specification of developing curling in the D&G area, and lesser hours to compensate through the summer. This has proved a successful and beneficial to all arrangement over the past years.

However, a new dedicated RCCC line manager has been appointed, who views Graham as more of an RCCC employee and is questioning the compressed hours situation, indicating a preference to a 37 hour week agreement. She is also requesting Graham to work outside the region for various tournaments – with time off in lieu at Dumfries's expense. Also his expenses claim was queried.

Graham's contract (which is an annual contract running to 31st March each year) has not been given to him for this year until now, has been running under last year's conditions from April 1 to June 2016. His new contract – back dated to April 1st 2016 contains many errors, and cannot be signed as it

stands. An argument was also raised that this contract should have been agreed, signed and in situ before March 31st – retrospective contracts are undesirable if major, undiscussed, changes are implicated. These changes were not mentioned when the four ‘partners’ signed into their contract – for which they all contribute towards Graham’s salary - and the DIBCA members present all agreed that this new vision was detrimental to curling development at Dumfries. It was agreed that a meeting with the Ice Bowl and D&G Council was necessary to decide how to take matters in hand and have an agreement from all four partners.

Currently, curling development is increasing in Dumfries, the coaches are confident and working well with Graham’s presence – if compressed hours was dispensed with, this could be very detrimental to all. Graham was not opposed to working either set of hours – however, he showed concern over his future productivity – and possible decrease in curling development, should a constant 37 hour week be enforced.

- RCCC – Competitions - RCCC repeatedly overlaying their competition dates over those at Dumfries Ice Bowl

There has recently been occasion where DIBCA has put in four 5 competitions in – 4 of which have had to be re entered on different dates, following the overlapping of events by the RCCC. This has successfully been done and the new dates confirmed. The Junior Club has also had problems and complained about the situation. The World Championship events for the next four years are now insitu and confirmed. This situation needs to be addressed.

- Scuba system and DIBCA levy.

Prior to the AGM, meetings with the Facility showed that many members were on the system twice, particularly if they were members of two clubs. It was decided a definitive single list of curlers was the optimum result for all, and more information was to be made available, as part of the ice agreement. To eliminate duplicate memberships the facility was recommended that a member’s date of birth would prove conclusive.

However, since that decision, the result has been that two clubs – Twynholm and Kirkcudbright, are declining to add this extra information. A follow up with them will commence – data protection rules will be observed with all information given as always, but without the information it will be harder to discern an accurate data base for curling, and in turn in collecting the levy.

Guest members are also hard to identify. A letter sent out to clubs earlier in the season with the Ice Application for clubs may not have been as clear and informative as it could have been, this needs attention to obtain the curling member details required.

AOCB

- **There has been a change in the hours the Facility is to be open – the dates it is closed are now the 13th June to the 24th July.**
- **Dates of Monthly meetings – Changed to the last Monday of each Month – The next Meeting of the DIBCA Committee is now Monday 25th July at 7.00pm. Sub Committees will be set up during this meeting.**
- **The Treasurers position - Rosemary Lenton was proposed by Kenny Murray and seconded by Billy Green.**
- **Vice Chair position – carried forward to next meeting.**
- **Plant progress – it is currently working to maximum capacity – but not to the level DIBCA require. Tests have proved that the optimum air temperature in the rink is 10 – 16 degrees, this providing fast curling ice. This can be achieved with dehumidifiers etc . Also, the less ‘air space’ available makes it easier to manage air temperatures. If the seating area was raised, additional changing rooms added, meeting rooms added the amount of air space could be permanently reduced. The dividers are going to be replaced with firmer dividers. The main problem with the plant has been fixed but the larger picture needs to be on going.**
- **The Manager from the local Dulux store in Dumfries is coming on Monday to see what he would suggest with regard to the painting of the walls etc to assist with temperature control, heat loss etc.**
- **Ian Barr from the council, who visited the Committee at an earlier meeting in the year, explaining then that they had missed the deadline for a grant, has been in touch to say that other money has not been claimed, DIBCA need to be alert for any opportunities in the future**

- **Meeting closed at 8.40pm.**