



Australian Curling Federation Inc.

c/o 14 LYNDEN GROVE, MOUNT WAVERLY VIC 3149
www.curling.org.au ABN: 77 047-617-608

Australian Curling Federation 2018 Annual General Meeting

2000 AEST Tuesday 28 May 2019

Note: Held as Conference Call

.....

Minutes

1. Attendance / Apologies:

Meeting chaired by ACF President Kim Forge and opened at 2002 hrs AEST

Attendance:

- a. From NSW: Ian Palangio, Steve Johns
- b. From QLD: Jim Hansen, Tahli Gill
- c. From VIC: Kim Forge, Dean Hewitt, Rob Gagnon, Ian Gagnon
- d. From WA: James Boyd and Dustin Armstrong

2. Identification of Delegates of State Curling Associations:

From NSW: Steve Johns and Ian Palangio

From QLD: Jim Hansen and Tahli Gill

From VIC: Ian Gagnon and Dean Hewitt

From WA: Dustin Armstrong and James Boyd

- ##### **3. Acceptance of the Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting:**
- Motion to accept the 2017 Annual General Meeting minutes (held on 22 May 2018) by Jim Hansen. Seconded by Dustin Armstrong. Minutes unanimously accepted.

- ##### **4. Business Arising from the Minutes:**
- No business arising.

5. Reports:

President's Report (K. Forge):

Curling continues to grow within Australia and throughout the world, there are now 48 countries competing at World Championship events including nations from Africa, the middle east and South America. Australia attended all WCF sanctioned events this year.

The ACF executive membership changed this year with Kim Forge serving as President, Ian Palangio Vice-President, Steve Johns (NSW) and Dustin Armstrong (WA), Dean Hewitt (Vic) and Jim Hansen (Qld). Robert Gagnon has successfully taken on the role of secretary and treasurer.

Curling is played by nearly 1000 people within Australia, about 800 unregistered and 250 registered within the 4 various states. Curling on arena ice occurs in Erina, NSW,

in Melbourne, Brisbane, and Perth. There appears to be a strong corporate community of curlers in Melbourne reaching almost 5000 curlers in an 18th month period.

In August of 2018 Western Australia hosted Bill Tschirhart from Canada to deliver a Learning to Coach and Learning to Instruct camp. Not only was it available for their state members, two individuals from Victoria made the journey west to participate. Thank you to Curling WA for organising this valuable activity.

This year's DAP committee had a very busy season again using all of the allocated \$12000 US money allocated to us. We were able to completely pay off the stones in Western Australia and make a substantial payment towards the Ice King that is also housed in WA. There is approximately \$3700US owing on the Ice King. Four Floor Curling Kits were purchased from Rock Solid Productions in Canada. Rock Solid is fully endorsed by the WCF. These kits were used for promotional demonstrations at the Gold Coast during Sport Accord by the QCA. These floor curling kits can be shipped and used nationwide when required. Two will reside in Melbourne and two on the Gold Coast.

This year we continued to provide a travel/medical insurance policy for athletes competing abroad. This initiative is funded directly by entry fees from national competitors.

Early in the new year we revised and voted in our Current Eligibility document. Thank you to Dean Hewitt, Jay Merchant and Laurie Weeden for your time on this project.

Kim and Rob continue to work on the documentation required by Sport Australia to ensure that curling is a Nationally Recognised Sport. This title is crucial for potential funding and development opportunities for our sport.

The number of entries for our National Championships are steady. This year was the second year that we had a qualified umpire at each of our national events. It is essential that we maintain this mandate.

Nationals for men, women and mixed fours were held in Naseby, NZ in June of 2018. There were four mixed teams and the Panoussi rink was successful. There were four ladies' teams entered and the Gill team proved successful. The men's division had eight teams entered and the Palangio team won the championship.

Three teams from Australia competed in the NZWG in August. Hewitt/Hewitt, Forge/Merchant and Gill/Williams.

Nationals for mixed doubles, seniors and juniors were held in Naseby in September, 2018. Mixed doubles saw 9 doubles teams at the competition. The Hewitt/Gill team were champions. A best of 5 series saw two senior men's teams go head to head with the Millikin rink winning. There was no competition for the senior women's division with only one team entered, team Gagnon.

In September I travelled to Budapest, Hungary for the 7th annual World Curling Federation Congress and AGM. I participated in many roundtable discussions and was part of the discussions leading to the voting to split the World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships into two events. I was minuted as stating I was concerned for the "Middle of the pack" countries on how this would affect the ability to compete and the negative impact this could have on results and participation. John Anderson remains an active member of the finance commission of the WCF and attended congress as well. Australia is well positioned on the WCF with three positions of stature, including High Millikin as the Vice President (Pacific Asia).

Australia was represented internationally at the following events:

Date	Location	Event	Discipline	Result
August	Naseby, NZ	NZWG	Mixed doubles	Hewitt/Hewitt 5th
November 3-10	Gangneung, South Korea	Pacific-Asian Curling Championships	Men Women	7th (down 3) 6th (unchanged)
October 13-20	Kelowna, Canada	World Mixed Curling Championships	Mixed	19th (up7)
January 3-10	Lohja, Finland	World Junior "B" championships	Women Men	16th (up 4) 22nd (down2)
January 18-23	Naseby, NZ	World Qualification Event	Men	6 th
April 20-27	Stavanger, Norway	Senior World Curling Championships	Women Men	15th ((down 3) 5th (same)
April 20-27	Stavanger, Norway	World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships	Mixed	4th (up 14)

Australia's results at the international level were impressive from our mixed gender disciplines. Mixed doubles making it to the semi-finals of a field of 48 countries and mixed fours up 7 places. Unfortunately, the men's team weren't able to capitalise at the World Qualification event co-hosted in NZ to gain entry into the Men's World Curling Championships.

I would like to thank all of the players and coaches for their dedication to curling in Australia and for their participation at international events. Nearly 50 different athletes and coaches have represented Australia at International Curling Events this year.

Thank you to the State representatives and members at the ACF for their efforts this year.

WCF Report (H. Millikin presented by K. Forge):

This past season of competition has been another full one with the start of the Curling World Cup plus the usual 1-2 events per month. The World Men's were disappointing for the region with Korea finishing in last place. That means that only the winner of the PACC 2019 for Men will qualify directly to the 2020 WMCC. The 2nd and 3rd place teams will qualify for the World Challenge which will be held in the Dec/Jan time frame. Two teams qualify out of that event for the WMCC. Better news for the Women with the top 2 teams in the Women's division qualifying directly to the WWCC and the 3rd and 4th place teams qualify for the World Challenge.

The WCF held a Delivery Stick Summit in Canada May 2018 and investigated the options for certifying the delivery sticks used in Wheelchair curling. The event produced a new set of rules which were incorporated into the rule book at the 2018 AGM. Australia was represented well with Carlee Millikin organizing and conducting the scientific testing which formed the basis for the new Delivery Stick Policy. The major achievement was to determine that NO certification should be undertaken at this time as the discipline is still new and needs innovation to advance. Carlee's thesis on the

delivery stick project was presented to President Kate Caithness at the WCF board meeting.

The 2019 PACC will be held in the Shenzhen China. The dates are still flexible but expected to be the first week of November.

The WCF annual congress in September will be held in Cancun Mexico. The voting will be for the Vice-President of Europe and a Director role currently held by Toyo. We wish Toyo all the success in his re-election. The other votes will be around various rule changes. Notices will be sent to all Member Associations in mid-July.

The most significant issues are around the changes to MD with the introduction of a 20 team World Championship starting in 2020. There will be a new event, a MD World Challenge plus the introduction of a MD Olympic qualification event for the top 16 teams which have not already qualified directly for the OWG 2022. The other change will be to introduce an open event for Women and Men. The Pre-Olympic Qualification event will qualify two teams to the OQE.

Discussions and detailed investigations are ongoing with regards to 8 vs 10 ends for the Women's and Men's competition. No change is expected to be voted on in Cancun.

Hugh Millikin
Vice President - Pacific-Asia
Chair - Competitions and Rules Commission
World Curling Federation

AOC Report K. Forge)

The Australian Olympic Committee has hired a consultant for those winter Olympic Sports that do not fall under the OWIA funding model, curling is included. Nikki Burger has been instrumental in working with the President moving forward to creating a meaningful strategic plan for our organisation. For the first time the OWIA, in conjunction with the ACF, surveyed the board and national athletes regarding a number of topics. We will work together with the OWIA in the next year to build on our objectives.

Kim and Rob met with Jeff Lipshut (OWIA) and Matt Carroll (CEO of AOC) in Melbourne to discuss how those organisations can help the ACF in their quest for Olympic participation. \$26000 in funding was directed to our mens (\$10K), womens (\$10K) and mixed doubles teams (\$6K).

Future funding from the AOC will be a collaborative approach.

Financial Report (R. Gagnon)

The current status of the bank accounts has been circulated to all members. As in the past few years, this financial year follows the calendar year so runs from January to December 2018. Unfortunately, the MYOB software used in past years was not supported from 1 Jan 2019 so the Treasurer has reverted to using an Excel workbook to track the accounts.

The activities on all bank accounts showed:

Opening balance 1 Jan 2018: \$6783.82

Income in 2018: \$93,333.87

Liabilities in 2018: \$82,366.69

Closing balance Dec 31 2018: \$17751.51

At 31 December we had no outstanding debtors.

Outstanding income: The AOC contributed 90% (\$23,400) of the planned \$26,000 that was earmarked for Men, Women and MD Team support. The ACF paid out the

entire \$26,000 and will recoup from the AOC the remaining \$2,600 now that the 2019 MD Worlds is completed and receipts should be available.

Income over the course of 2018 consisted of State membership dues and insurance payments, World Curling Federation (WCF) Development and Assistance Programme (DAP) funds and Travel Reimbursements, Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) funding, bank interest and competition fees for Nationals entries.

Expenses related to ACF insurance costs, DAP funds, Victorian Consumer Affairs, WCF membership fees, junior travel reimbursement from WCF, National's competitions, support for National Men's, Women's and MD teams, and general administration costs (postage, etc). It was a typical year for the ACF.

A quick thank you to Kim Forge and Ian Palangio for always making themselves available to process electronic funds transfers. I'd also like to recognise the entire Executive Committee for being highly responsive when approvals are required to reimburse or invoice individuals/companies.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Appointment of President: One nomination for President: Kim Forge (Vic)

Vote: Not required as Kim Forge declared President by acclamation.

Next year there will only be a vote for Vice-President to maintain continuity on the executive committee per the constitution as the Vice-President is intended to serve a 2-year term.

- a. Appointment of State Curling Representatives and Committee Membership:
The ACF Executive will consist of the following individuals for the 2019 curling season:

President	Kim Forge (by acclamation)
Vice-President	Ian Palangio
NSW Representative	Steve Johns
QLD Representative	Tahli Gill
VIC Representative	Dean Hewitt
WA Representative	Dustin Armstrong
Treasurer/Secretary*	Rob Gagnon

*See Other Business

7. Membership

- a. Membership Reports from State Curling Associations:
QLD:

- i. the number of members; 31
- ii. list of officers;
President - Jim Hansen
Vice President - Dave Thomas
Treasurer - Dave Imlah
Secretary - vacant
- iii. date of last AGM: 22 May 2019

VIC:

- i. the number of members; 76
- ii. list of officers;
Ian Gagnon – President
Bruce Freshwater – Vice President

Lauren Wagner – Secretary

Gerald Chick – Treasurer

- iii. date of last AGM: 13 May 2019

WA

- i. the number of members; 59

- ii. list of officers;

Chairperson – James Boyd

Co-Chairperson – Mitch Artus

Secretary – Keswick Pearson

Treasurer - Michelle Fredericks-Armstrong

- iii. date of last AGM: 28 Oct 2018

NSW

- i. the number of members; 9

- ii. list of officers;

Steve Johns – President

Ian Palangio – Vice President

Lisa Bow – Secretary/Treasurer

Ellis Southee – Special Projects

- iii. date of last AGM: 30 Mar 2019

b. Membership Fees: Membership fees for 2019 to remain at \$100.

8. Other Business: The position of Secretary/Treasurer will be split into two separate positions on the advice of the OWIA. Rob Gagnon will maintain the Treasurer position while Laurie Weeden will take over as ACF Secretary in June 2019. Both of the positions on the ACF Executive are non-voting.

9. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed at 2023 hrs AEST

Minutes by R. Gagnon

Signed as a Correct Record



Kim Forge

President

Date 29 May 2019