

2015 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Held Tuesday 24th May 2016 as a Conference call

(AGM "attendees" joined the conference call using Microsoft Lync software or
by Phone: +1800553229 or +61 2 98702923 Conference ID: 84357751)

Minutes

1. Attendance / Apologies

Meeting chaired by ACF President Kim Forge and opened at 20:36 hrs AEST

Attendance:

From NSW: Ian Palangio and Steve Johns

From QLD: Dave Thomas, Dave Imlah and Laurie Weeden

From VIC: Kim Forge, Matt Panoussi

From WA: Elliott Douglas, Gary Faulkner

Apologies: Hugh Millikin

2. Identification of Delegates of State Curling Associations

Delegates:

From NSW: Ian Palangio and Steve Johns

From QLD: Dave Thomas and Dave Imlah

From VIC: Matt Panoussi

From WA: Elliott Douglas and Gary Faulkner

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of 2014 Annual General Meeting

Motion to accept the 2014 Annual General Meeting minutes (held in 26 May 2015) by Elliott Douglas. Seconded by Ian Palangio. Minutes unanimously accepted.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising.

5. Reports:

President's Report (K.Forge)

Curling received a lot of visibility this year for a number of reasons; mixed doubles was officially accepted as a third Olympic discipline of curling for the Winter Olympic program, the WCF turned 50 and brush head technology and sweeping techniques saga featured prominently within the playing circles.

The ACF executive remained the same this AGM year with Kim Forge as president, Ian Palangio Vice-President, Steve Johns (NSW), Elliott Douglas (WA), Rob Gagnon (Vic) and Dave Thomas (Qld). Laurie Weeden serves as the secretary and treasurer.

Curling continues to be played by our just over 100+ members and I am pleased to announce that curling is now up and running in WA. Curling in Australia is played in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. The Sydney facility did not operate this year.

This year's DAP committee had their busiest season to date. The ACF was successful in obtaining 7 of 8 funding requests with a value of nearly \$11,000 US. The bulk of the funding went to WA and \$6800US was used as the first payment towards the stone purchase. Funding was also directed to Vic (come and try nights, brochures) and Qld (equipment and junior camps overseas).

With the guidance of Ian Palangio we were able to start an ACF Facebook page. It seems to be a good way to get messages out to the community. Data from this website is helpful to see how many people are actually reached with our posts.

With the hard work of Dave Thomas and Laurie Weeden and the assistance of Matt Panoussi, the Australian Sports Commission officially recognised curling as a National Sporting Organization. This announcement was a long time coming and an important goal for the ACF to achieve this year.

The Australian Curling Federation hosted two National Championships this year.

Nationals for men and mixed fours were held in Dunedin, NZ in June of 2015. There was only one team for men's as one team withdrew at the last minute. There were two mixed teams and the Palangio rink successful. There were no ladies teams entered.

Nationals for mixed doubles, seniors and juniors were held in Naseby, NZ in October. Only mixed doubles had competition and the Palangio/Weeden team were the champions.

In September I travelled to Belgrade, Serbia for the 4th annual World Curling Federation Congress and AGM. I participated in many roundtable discussions and lobbied for votes to change the Playoff and qualification system for the Pacific-Asia region. We were successful and the playoff system has changed to the Olympic semi-final system of play from the Page playoff system. We were also successful in gaining qualification for the third place team from the Pacific-Asia region to participate at the WCF qualification event for the Winter Olympics. This is extremely beneficial for Australia. Lastly, Australia, led by Hugh Millikin, initiated rule changes for the Mixed Doubles discipline and three rule changes were passed at the AGM.

In November I was invited to attend the Annual Gala Dinner hosted by the Olympians Club of Victoria at the Sofitel in Melbourne. This was a great evening meeting the athletes on the "Road to Rio" for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games. I was fortunate to be seated next to Kitty Chiller, the Chef de Mission for Australia.

The World Curling Federation added a new event this year, the World Mixed Curling Championships. The World Junior program has been modified, deleting the Pacific-Asia Junior Curling Championships and adding the World Junior-B Curling Championships.

Australia was represented internationally at the following events:

Date	Location	Event	Discipline	Result
August, 2015	Naseby, NZ	NZWG	Test event for new rules MD	2 teams entered
7-14 November	Almaty, Kaz	Pacific-Asian Curling Championships	Men, No Australian women team	5th
12-19 September	Berne, Switzerland	1st World Mixed Curling Championships	Mixed	29th
3-9 January	Lohja, Finland	1st World Junior-B Curling Championships	Women Men	18th 14th
16-23 April	Karlstad, Sweden	Senior World Curling Championships	Women Men	14th 15th
16-23 April	Karlstad, Sweden	World Mixed Doubles Curling Championships	Mixed	31st

I would like to thank all of the players and coaches for their dedication to curling in Australia and for their participation at these international events. Nearly 30 different athletes and coaches have represented Australia at International Curling Events this year.

Thank you to the State reps and members at the ACF for their efforts this year. In particular I would like to thank Laurie for her efforts to keep us all informed. She also does an outstanding job with the finances. Lastly, thank you to Jay Merchant for his legal advice, which he provides pro bono.

WCF Report (H.Millikin)

This past season of competition has been a challenge with the controversy over the new brush technology and techniques being used. The WCF implemented a number of moratoriums over the season however the current rules were quite restrictive as to what actions could be taken. The WCF will be holding a Sweeping Summit in Ottawa from May 23-27 where elite athletes, high performance coaches, administrators and observers will come together to investigate options. The recommendation from the summit will be forwarded to the WCF Rules and Competitions Commission(R&C) The R&C will provide a recommendation to the Members for a vote at the upcoming congress in Stockholm this September. John Anderson and Kim Forge are the WCF representatives who will attend the congress and vote on the ACF's behalf. Those recommendations will be provided to the ACF on or before July 7th.

The recent changes to the Mixed Doubles rules have been well received by the players and fans. Our Australian team at the MD Worlds had a number of very tough games but competed with great effort and in the spirit of curling. They unfortunately did create a new World Record with being the first team to run out of time in the 7th end. The Seniors Teams also competed valiantly but did not make the playoffs.

The WCF President is very keen to have Australia host the PACC in 2017. I met with Mike Haggerty who is a journalist from Scotland that lives part-time in Perth, WA. We spent a considerable time going over a potential budget and plan on how Perth could host next year. Mike and Elliot have now been tasked to take the project forward. I can provide additional assistance in the coming months on budget and funding options as well as ideas on the local marketing of the event. Australia is long overdue to host the Pacific's. Although we are restricted due to our player numbers and funding opportunities it is feasible. The WCF will be flexible with a host fee, contribution of umpires and ice makers as well as assisting in the lobbying of City and State organizations that will benefit by the hosting of an international event.

AOC Report (H.Millikin)

Ian Palangio and I attended the reception prior to the Annual General Meeting of the AOC on May 6th and then I attended the AGM the following day. At the reception we met with representatives from other sports, James Tompkins an IOC member, other athletes and sports marketing representatives. John Coates came by for a chat and we discussed the potential hosting of the PACC in Perth.

The following day at the AGM, Mr Coates and Ms Chiller (the Chef de Mission for Rio) gave us an update on the preparations for the Rio Olympics. The team for Rio will be around 350-400 and at this point 135 have been selected. The remaining athletes will be decided in the coming weeks. After the official part of the AGM the summer and winter sports broke into two groups and I attended a briefing on Korea 2018 from the OWIA. The preparations are well underway but it will be a challenging travel location with the two clusters similar to Sochi, quite a distance apart. The curling rink will be slightly further away than the other coastal cluster arenas.

I provided an update to Mr Coates and Geoff Lipshut (OWIA) on our teams trying to qualify for Korea and mentioned again our desire to have a dedicated facility to develop greater depth.

6. Financial Report (Treasurer, L.Weeden)

The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement have been circulated to all members and. This financial year follows the calendar year so runs from January to December 2015.

In 2015, the ACF again maintained a positive balance with \$22,220.90 in the bank account. At the end of the year a WCF Junior travel reimbursement came through for \$15,206.54 which wasn't paid out until 2016. So without the travel funds there would have been \$7,014.36 in the ACF account.

Income over the course of 2015 consisted of State membership dues (including WA) and insurance payments, World Curling Federation (WCF) Development and Assistance Programme (DAP) funds and Travel Reimbursements, bank interest and competition fees for Nationals entries.

Historical earnings update: Late last year advice was sought from an accountant friend regarding the Historical Earnings Amount that has appeared on previous balance sheets. The ACF was advised to enter the Historical Earnings Amt of \$6,253.43 into Retained Earnings to zero out the Historical Earnings amount. The amount came from the money sitting in the bank account when the MYOB accounting software was created a few years ago and it was incorrectly placed into the Chequing Account in MYOB at this time. In summary – the money was just allocated to the wrong account in MYOB originally. I hope this clarifies this transaction.

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

A quick thank you to Kim Forge for always making herself 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.

Matt Panoussi moved to adopt the financials and seconded by Dave Imlah. Financials adopted.

7. Election Of Officers and Committee Members

a. Appointment of State Curling Representatives

Election of President

One nomination for Vice-President: Ian Palangio (NSW)

Vote: Not required as Ian Palangio declared Vice-President by acclamation.

Next year there will only be a vote for President to maintain continuity on the executive committee per the constitution as the Vice-President is intended to serve a 2 year term without requiring nomination and voting in 2017.

The ACF Executive will consist of the following individuals for the 2016/17 curling season:

President	Kim Forge
Vice-President	Ian Palangio (by acclamation)
NSW Representative	Steve Johns
QLD Representative	Jim Hansen
VIC Representative	Matt Panoussi
WA Representative	Elliott Douglas
Treasurer	Laurie Weeden

8. Membership

a. Membership Reports from State Curling Associations

Each State must report

i. the number of members

Total Curlers in Australia 121: NSW 12; QLD 33; VIC 37 and WA 39

ii. list of officers

NSW: President Steve Johns and Lisa Bow is both Secretary and Treasurer

QLD: President and Secretary Dave Thomas, Vice President Jim Hansen, Treasurer Dave Imlah

VIC: President Andrew Collins, Vice President Bruce Freshwater, Secretary Ian Gagnon, Treasurer Gerald Chick

WA: President Elliott Douglas, Vice President Jason Boyce, Secretary Gary Faulkner, Treasurer Steve Will

iii. date of last AGM

NSW: 8th February 2016

QLD: 18th May 2016

VIC: 27th April 2016

WA: 5th September 2015

b. Membership Fees

i. Proposed membership fees for 2016

D.Thomas put a motion to have membership fees remain the same at \$100/vote,

E.Douglas seconded the motion. Membership fee of \$100/vote unanimously accepted.

9. Other Business

10. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed at 21:08hrs AEST

Minutes by L. Weeden

Signed as a Correct Record



Kim Forge

President

Date 25 May 2016