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**SCOTTISH WHEELCHAIR CURLING ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of Meeting Monday 15 November 2021, 10.00am via Microsoft Teams

**Present**

John McLelland (Chair) (JohnMcL)

Carlyne McCluskey (Vice Chair) (CMcC)

Gavin McLeod, (GM)

Catrina Morton (CM)

Harry Brodie, (HB)

Rosemary Lenton (RL)

1. **Apologies** Sheila Swan (SS)Alison Hopkins (AH) Alan Mills (AM)

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes approved - Carlyne McCluskey (CMcC)

Seconded – Harry Brodie (HB)

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

4. **Chairman's Report**

Good morning everyone and thank you for attending this meeting.

The first thing I would like to do is pass on my condolences to South Lanarkshire Wheelchair Curling Club. Who recently have lost 3 of their members; David Pollock , Brian Douglas and David Morgan.

Our thoughts go out to their families, teammates and friends respectively.

I would also like to pass on my condolences to Jock Allison from Stranraer wheelchair Curling Club on the passing of his wife Elaine. Elaine was a great supporter of the SWCA and raised funds for us by the way of raffles and hampers. Her bubbly personality will be sadly missed.

I would like to congratulate Sheila and team Scotland/ GB on their performance in Beijing.

As members have started to curl again everyone, I have spoken to seem to be happy to be back to some sort of normality albeit with some restrictions.

Numbers are down and I think some people are still reluctant to be out and about but hopefully through time things will improve.

Some of our clubs and members have been back on the ice now for a couple of months and are looking forward to getting back to some competition.

With the Pairs coming off at the end of the month at Kinross I think this will be a good gauge of things to come and hopefully improve confidence amongst others.

Today being National Curling Day and with the coverage it is getting through all the media platforms it will hopefully get more people interested in the sport that we all love.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the ice face to face in the foreseeable future. Hoping everyone has a great Curling season.

5. **Financial Report**

The Current Balance is **£26,729.57**

However, Ring fenced for Competitions is £4650, this being Competition Entry Fees.

The Ice costs for the British Open has previously been paid and the Pairs ice costs at Kinross have also been paid.

Invoices have been prepared and issued to all Club Secretaries for their Annual Subscriptions of £25, to date we have 7 Clubs who have paid.

Team Entries for the Pairs currently we have 15 confirmed and paid.

British Open we have 8 teams and 1 individual entry.

Scottish Championships we have 8 Teams entered and 1 individual entry. Players are reminded that the cut-off date for these competitions are, Scottish 26 November.

6. **Competitions Conveners Report**

Preparations for the Pairs at Kinross are well underway, we do need on-ice helpers any offers of assistance would be welcomed, any supporters who will be accompanying players would be welcome to come and assist on ice.

The Draw has been made and has been distributed to all Skips together with a copy of the rules. Meals will be soup and sandwiches which will be charged to the players and any other supporters at £5 per person per day.

A temperature probe will be purchased, and all players temperatures taken on arrival each day.

7. **National Coach Report**

No report was submitted

8. **SDS Report**

5 National Events have taken place to date, however there is a 50% player participation to date, these are mainly children or care groups. There is still a nervousness about returning amongst participants.

SDS are giving support in helping groups return to sport after such a lengthy lay off due to Covid.

They have 1 swimming gala planned prior to Christmas and Highland are holding a Passport Event this weekend.

SDS will be giving evidence to the Health & Social Care Committee. Gavin will be having a meeting later this week with Sheila and others regarding the Paralympics and Come & Try events to promote the sport.

9. **Scottish Curling Report**

Recent focus has been on building up to Ice Rinks re-opening – all ice rinks

are or are about to re-open which is a great success. The focus now is to recruit new curlers and reduce any hesitancy amongst existing curlers.

Today is National Curling Day and there is a big push towards this as many clubs are holding a variety of events both today and also ongoing.

ParaSport Festival on 22nd October was held at Murrayfield and was very successful.

Try Curling has a new website part of this is a safety video, Scottish Curling are driving a project to get more school involvement with the sport, they are also developing a webinar and a number of courses are also being offered.

10. **Club Representative Report**

**South Report –**

No report

**North Report –**

No report

11. **AOCB**

A reminder that the closing date for entries for the Scottish Competitions is at the end of November 2021.

There is a possibility that the Wheelchair Worlds in China may be being streamed by Scottish Curling.

The North West Castle in Stranraer along with 2 of their sister hotels are currently up for sale, it is not known yet how this will impact the Curling Rink and all the Curlers who are based there. Scottish Curling as well as ourselves are monitoring the situation.

12. **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting date – Wednesday 12 January @ **10.00am**

Meeting was closed at 10.40 with thanks to the chair.