

Fergus Curling Club
185th Annual General Meeting
September 9, 2020

Chair: Bonnie Talbot, President

Secretary: Deb Wilson

Meeting called to order: 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot of the Fergus Curling Club.

A moment of silence for members passed.

Attendance: 78 members in attendance constituted a quorum.

The minutes of the 184th AGM (2019) were distributed.

Motion to Accept: Bruce Hawkins

Seconded: Dean Dunbar Carried.

President's Report – Bonnie Talbot

I am sure that the AGM is always a bittersweet time for the President of the Fergus Curling Club. It is for me for sure. It's my last night as President and I do feel proud to join the elite group of past presidents of this historic club. As I write this, I reflect on the past season – the fun times we have had with friends, the competition on the ice, the all important refreshments off the ice and the countless hours spent by many people to ensure a great curling season. The memories are fond but It is also sad because my year as president has come to an end, although I was gifted with a few extra months thanks to COVID-19! In some ways it has been a challenging year for our board but we also finish the year with feelings of accomplishment. We had a good season (even if it was shortened a bit), we had great ice and new rocks, we are in okay financial shape, the clubroom looks fantastic with the fresh paint and our membership is steady. We welcomed lots of new curlers this year and we hope to see everyone back in the near future.

I want to start with a special thank you to the Directors of this board – Mark Cripps, Bob Hook, Brian Gibbon, Debbie Burt, Calum McGeachie, and Kiril Rashev. We have had to make some difficult decisions this year and all of you have been supportive, responsible and dedicated to the best interests of this club. I also appreciate the guidance of our past President, Avon Giddings, the conscientious leadership of our Treasurer, Steve Graham and the friendly and dependable work of our Secretary and Keeper of the Fobs, Deb Wilson. The three of you made the job of President doable and I sincerely appreciate your support.

Thank you to our incredible ice team, as without ice, we do not have a sport! We appreciate you Andy Maine, Ken Bancroft, Jim Carter and Barry March, along with all of your ice volunteers. Thank you Jorja for keeping our club so clean and with a friendly smile so early in the morning!

The Board is also very appreciative to have had the assistance of the following folks:

Volunteer Hours – Dora Hook

Cashiers – Sue Otto, Shannon Brinkman

Webmaster – George Loney

Newsletter (Hack and Back) and Photographer – Bill Longshaw

Pro Shop – Gary Waterhouse

Private Rentals – Bonnie Talbot, Jim Carter

OCA Rep – Shannon Curran

Directory – Graham Parsons

Communication – Janet Tolton

50/50 Draw – Gloria Laythorpe

Curling 101 Coordinator – Chris Taylor

School Curling – Paul Rombeek

Fergus Pipe Band – Sue Baker

Lawn Maintenance – Marc Jagt and Bob Hook

Speaking of memories, a couple of highlights of the year include:

- ✓ An updated website (check it out if you haven't already – thanks George Loney)
- ✓ May 2019 Home Show and Fish Fry – We raised \$1174 (thanks Gary and Lynda Waterhouse)
- ✓ June Euchre Night (thanks Greg Moulton)
- ✓ New paint in the club room (thanks Brian Gibbon, Bob and Dora Hook, Lorne and Deb Wilson, Bonnie Talbot, Greg Moulton, Diana and Malcom Malloy, Avon and Joyce Giddings, Steve Graham, Liz Magee and Kiril Rashev)
- ✓ September Golf Tournament (thanks Shelley and Kyle Powell)
- ✓ New Doubles league on Sunday evenings
- ✓ Implemented the Rowan's Law Concussion Code of Conduct for all athletes under 26 years of age and coaches

✓ Hosted the week long Home Hardware Spiel in October (thanks Scott Hall and Tania Elliott for organizing the snacks and Sheri Smeltzer for being our Home Hardware Rep) and the OCA Masters Spiel at the end of November (thanks Shannon Curran)

✓ Christmas Basket Raffle – this was a fun event and raised \$2695 for the club

✓ Christmas float for Little Rocks and Juniors (thanks Lynda Waterhouse for organizing this and Scott and Katrina Gordon for the tractor and trailer)

And, the most exciting highlight of all – the new rocks!! Thanks to the committee of Andy Maine, John Ferguson, Tim Hitchcock, Calum McGeachie, Tania Elliott and Bob Grant for all of your work on raising the funds and to our sponsors and members who supported the new rocks.

At this point, we don't know for sure what our next season will look like, but I look forward to seeing you all again soon either on the ice or off.

Bonnie, Past President (WHEW, that sounds good!)

Financial Report: Steve Graham: The financial report was distributed online to all members. This statement was reviewed by Gary Waterhouse and George Loney.

Motion to Accept: Joyce Giddings

Seconded: Linda Waterhouse. Carried.

Linda Waterhouse motioned to appoint Gary Waterhouse and Graham Parsons as financial reviewers.

Motion to Accept: Krista Pedersen

Seconded: Greg Moulton. Carried.

Committee Reports: Each Director reported on their committee and these reports were emailed to all members. There were no questions regarding the reports.

Nominations: Avon Giddings reported.

In order to organize a full slate of candidates for Director, the Board authorized a Nominating Committee. The Committee was made up of Avon Giddings, Steve Graham, Janet Tolton and Carl Gray.

The Board reached out to the Membership on at least 3 occasions in the spring and over the summer seeking interested members to put their names forward. These requests were through regular emails and Hack and Back. The Nominating Committee took these names and went looking for others. After speaking to a number of members we compiled a list of candidates and presented them to the Board for approval. The Board has approved the slate.

I am pleased to say we have a full slate of candidate to nominate. In addition, David Aoki has agreed to serve as special advisor to the Board to help with our reopening efforts. David works with Public Health in Waterloo and was immensely helpful when we were working through whether to close the Club in March and also, more recently with the reopening Committee. Thank you David. It's good to have you with us!

The Nominees are (please stand if you're here)

- Dale Beirnes
- Richard Booy
- John Ferguson
- Bob Grant
- Neil Miller
- Chris Taylor

The Nominating moves that this slate of candidate be acclaimed to serve as directors of the Board of Fergus Curling Club.

Seconded: Paul Rombeek. Carried.

OCA Representative: Shannon Curran has agreed to stay on in this role.

Chaplin: Marc Jagt has volunteered to stand as Chaplin.

Honorary Life Members: Donna Bessey and Bill Longshaw were introduced into the Fergus Club's Life Members Club. Congratulations and they were thanked for their years of dedication and service.

New Business:

Reopening Committee: Mark Cripps reported that the committee recommendations will be made to the new Board. The plan to reopen will be made upon these recommendations. The new plan will then be sent electronically to members before registration. There were no questions from the members.

50/50 Draw: Gloria Laythorpe announced there was \$900.00 from the last night of curling. The winner pulled was #224 Chris Williams.

Adjournment: 6:50 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Sue Graham

Seconded: Krista Pedersen. Carried.