

# DALCROSS CURLING CLUB

Minutes of A.G.M. held on 22nd April 2009  
at the Inverness Ice Centre

**Present:** Neil Anderson, Bill Fraser, Mike Hulse, Ian McPhail, Margaret McPhail, John Smart, Dawson Lamont, Ronnie Baird, Mike Halley

**1) Apologies:** Murray Johnstone, Fraser Johnstone, Mark Fraser, Maureen Fraser, Ellie Fraser, Alistair Bennie, Ellis Allan, Morag Bramwell, Roddy Cormack, Alan Duncan, Wilma Halley, Neil Hampton, Colin Mansfield, Murray Menzies, Wilma Halley, Thomas Pendreigh

**2) Last Year's Minutes:** The minutes of the 2008 AGM were taken as read and proposed and adopted by general consent of the meeting

**3) President's Report:** President Ian gave an interesting history of the Club and highlighted that this is the Club's 48<sup>th</sup> AGM, with our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary falling in the 2011/12 Season. Ian congratulated Blair Fraser on skipping his under-17 rink to win 3 out of 4 national slams. Bill Fraser was also congratulated for representing the Club against 3 American and 3 Canadian tourist teams over the course of the year.

Ian's Report was proposed and adopted by general consent.

**4) Match Secretary's Report:** The Match Secretary's Report was taken as read and proposed and adopted by general consent. Results over the season were as follows;

## Moray Province

Division 1 - Mark Fraser 3<sup>rd</sup>; Division 2 - Murray Johnstone retained place in league;  
Division 3 – No promotions for Ian Thomson, Alan Duncan or Michael Hulse

## Moray Province KO

Mark Fraser lost in last end of final in Elgin

## Torness Friendly

Torness won

## Bonspiels

No wins

## Club

Points – Ian McPhail

Ellis Allan – Bill Fraser

Christmas Bonspiel – Janet Brodie, Brian Spence, Colin Mansfield, John Malone

George Philip – Janet Brodie, Alan Duncan, Alex Fraser, Ann Jackson

## 5) Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

John Smart reported that his first year as Secretary had gone smoothly, correspondence being routine with the RCCC and neighbouring Clubs. We had been able to send teams to the majority of the bonspiels we have been invited to.

John presented the annual accounts as verified by Dawson Lamont, highlighting our year end bank balance of £846.30. These were approved and adopted by general consent of the meeting.

John also produced a budget for the forthcoming year. The subscription take does not cover the Club's costs and the Club is reliant on raffle proceeds for its surplus, prizes being donated for bonspiels rather than paid for and office bearers claiming less than the full extent of their expenses. Juniors only pay £1, which means the Club is subsidising most of their costs. The fact that the Ice Centre has been charging the full rate of £10 for our junior members has not helped. Ian McPhail undertook to investigate with the Ice Centre whether or not this charge for juniors is appropriate.

It was agreed by general consent of the meeting that pending no increase in RCCC subscriptions, the annual subscription would remain at £35.00 for the forthcoming year, but we would increase the Junior Subscription to £10.00. John was authorised to increase the subscription beyond £35 by the same amount of any increase in RCCC subscriptions.

**6) Election of Office Bearers:** The following office bearers were proposed, seconded and elected:

|                      |  | <b>Proposed</b> | <b>Seconded</b> |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| President            | Ian McPhail  | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Vice President       | Neil Anderson  | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Secretary/Treasurer  | John Smart   | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Match Secretary      | Margaret MacPhail  | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Management Committee | Ian McPhail, Neil Anderson, John Smart, Margaret McPhail, Alan Duncan, Bill Fraser, Murray Johnstone, Dawson Lamont, Ian Thomson | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Independent Verifier | Dawson Lamont  | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |

## 7) Election of Representatives to RCCC/Moray Province/NCL

|   |                                   | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| RCCC  | Ian McPhail/Neil<br>Anderson      | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |
| Moray Province<br>Northern County<br>Ladies | Ian MacPhail<br>No representation | Ian Thomson     | Michael Halley  |

## 8) Election of Skips

### Moray Province League

| <b>Division</b> | <b>Nominated Skip</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1               | Mark Fraser           |
| 2               | Bill Fraser           |
| 3               | Michael Hulse         |
| 3               | Ian Thomson           |
| 3               | Alan Duncan           |

### Other MP Competitions

| <b>Competition</b> | <b>Skip(s)</b>                 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| R.C.C.C. Knockout  | To be decided at skips meeting |
| MP Ladies Knockout | No entry                       |
| MP Knockout        | Ian McPhail                    |
| Mixed Knockout     | No entry                       |
| Mixed Pairs        | No entry                       |
| Torness Friendly   | To be decided at skips meeting |

### Area Bonspiels

It was agreed that Dalcross should enter one team in each of the area bonspiels

| <b>Bonspiel</b>        | <b>Nominated Skip(s)</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Waldie - Griffiths     | Mike Hulse               |
| Johnstone - Carmichael | Murray Johnstone         |
| Dennis Ice Bowl        | Mike Hulse               |
| Bookless Quaich        | Murray Johnstone         |
| Macgregor Kettle       | Ian McPhail              |

### Coaches

Tom Pendreigh,

Neil Hampton

## RCCC Competitions

John smart indicated that he had received entry forms for certain competitions being run by the RCCC and it was agreed to enter teams for the following;

**Grand Match 2009/2010** (if played)

**Indoor Grand Match – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010** – Bill Fraser and Mike Hulse will each take a team

**Rink Championship 2009/2010** – Ian McPhail

**Club Curling (Ellis Allan):** John Smart and Neil Anderson indicated a willingness to skip rinks. A full decision will be taken at the Skips Meeting

### 9) NEW MEMBERS AND PROPOSERS:

Ian McPhail indicated that Tom Pendreigh has proposed two new junior members, Amy MacKay and Anya Fraser

### 10) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION:

Confirmed as follows subject to no increase in RCCC dues (see 5 above)

|                                    |  |        |
|------------------------------------|--|--------|
| Full Membership                    |  | £35    |
| Junior Membership                  |  | £10    |
| Reduced membership for new members |  | £17.50 |
| Associate Membership               |  | £10    |
| Social membership                  |  | £0     |
| Honorary Membership                |  | £0     |

### 11) Social Events

It was recognised that the Club should organise a purely social event in the forthcoming year, and also anticipate a major social event in the season 2011/12 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Ian McPhail confirmed that he will convene a Management Committee Meeting to take matters forward.

### 12) AOCB

The following issues were noted:

1. Mike Halley complained about the variable quality of the ice at Inverness Ice Centre. Ian McPhail advised that the Ice Centre is looking to improve matters. Financial constraints and staffing challenges had given the Ice Centre a difficult year. The appointment of a commercial manager for the Ice Centre should help.
2. It was agreed that the Club Pairs Competition would be resurrected for the forthcoming season
3. It was agreed we would continue with the Club's website and renew our subscription for the next two years. Ian Thomson will continue to run this and

it was acknowledged that office bearers would make greater efforts to supply Ian with information to place on the web-site. John Smart indicated that placing information on the web-site could over time lessen the amount of correspondence which needs to be sent to members

4. Bill Fraser mentioned that Blair Fraser has been nominated as “Young Curler of the Year” and suggested that members consider tendering votes for him

### **13) Prize Giving**

No trophies were presented as Bill Fraser and Ian McPhail already had the Ellis Allan/Points trophies in their possession.

### **14) Skips Meeting**

Ian McPhail will fix a date for the Skips Meeting shortly

**John D Smart**  
**Secretary**

## Dalcross Curling Club-Presidents Report for season 2008/9

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I would like to start by welcoming all to this meeting which I believe is the 48<sup>th</sup> AGM of our Club. As you will know many of the local clubs started along with Inverness Ice centre in 1968 but our club predates that by 6 years.

I understand that some Nairn Curlers were so unhappy at the amount of whisky drunk at Nairn Curling events that they decided to start the Dalcross Club. Most of these however found that the consumption at Dalcross was if anything greater and went back to Nairn leaving a hard core of farmers to carry on. When we started the club was very much a farmers club and until 1968 we curled either outside at our own curling pond (we sold the floodlights in 1967 for £90) or at Aviemore Ice Rink. Membership was a maximum of about 20 members and there were no internal club competitions until 1967.

I am advised that Tom Pendreigh our current member and coach of the national Disabled Curlers team was as a boy often put out on a ladder to retrieve stones which had gone under the ice on the pond –so a different sort of Ice Problem to what we can have now

So we have an anniversary coming up in 2012

Meanwhile John and Margaret will advise you how the year has gone in their reports so I will avoid repetition and concentrate on a few other things

We have continued with the programme we have had for some years now and it is fair I think to say that matters have gone smoothly. However we are like many clubs in the area in that we have an aging profile and while we have had some good youngsters coming in we do need to see more new members.

This year I have to advise that Grant Ferguson a long term stalwart of the club is giving up- at least for the short term-regular curling. Grant has an ankle problem which is being aggravated by curling and is hoping a rest will sort matters out. Also Ellis Allan has intimated that while he hopes to be able to curl next year he is reducing his curling. Murray Johnstone has also had to reduce his curling commitments next year as he will be working in Skye till next April. These 3 are all solid supporters of the club and show how much we need replacements

I am conscious that for some time now our social events have been limited to the Christmas Bonspiel and that we have been remiss in terms of management and social committee meetings. It is intended to remedy both of these in the coming year.

In terms of achievements by club members I would like to put on record our congratulations to Blair Fraser for his achievements last year. As well as skipping his under 17 rink to win 3 out of 4 National Slams Blair also was selected for the Junior Olympic Festival in Poland where the team won a silver medal and he also reached the Semis of the National Junior Championships.

Sticking to the Fraser family Bill represented the club at Elgin against the Canadian Tourists and I think enjoyed the event very much.

On a broader front some comment on the Ice Rink. At Elgin the Ice has been very mixed this year but it is hoped to improve in the coming year. At Inverness the Ice has been reasonably consistent but we are always looking to improve on this. As you will see the entrance to the rink is being rebuilt and

## Dalcross Curling Club-Presidents Report for season 2008/9

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–with the appointment of a commercial manager at the Ice Rink to strengthen the management team to make it more professional –it is hoped to improve the quality of the product on offer. There should be a web site facility in place for the new season which will be readily accessible for clubs and allow league tables etc to be posted

I will close by thanking all the team for their support in the coming year particularly to John and Margaret who have done all the hard work and made life easy for me.

# **Dalcross Curling Club**

Match Secretary Report for Season 2008=9

## **1) Moray Province Leagues**

### **Division 1**

Mark Fraser and his rink started the season poorly but rallied after Christmas ending up in third

### **Division 2**

Murray Johnstone and his team had mixed fortunes and after a nail biting last match managed to hold on to their Division two status. Well done Murray

### **Division 3**

In Division 3 the drop out of other teams meant that we make up half the league. Ian Thomson almost made it up to Division 2 but didn't quite get there while Mike and Alan enjoyed their year lower down the league

## **2) Moray Province K.O.Competitions,**

Mark Fraser and his rink were looking for their 3<sup>rd</sup> open KO on the run and came very close-losing in the last end of the final at Elgin.

## **4) Torness Friendly League**

Two teams took part in the Torness friendly league which was won by Torness

## **5) Bonspiels**

We have taken part in all the area 10 Bonspeils this year as well as a number of others hosted by neighbouring clubs. I have no reports of wins but I know we were close on various occasions

## **Club Competitions**

### **Points**

This year Points were won by Ian McPhail just one point ahead of another 3 of our member Blair Fraser, Bill Fraser and Ian Thomson.

### 1) Ellis Allan League

Our own league has gone well this year and was won again by Bill Fraser and his rink who did very well in the last half of the season

| Team            | Played | Won | Lost | Peel | Points |
|-----------------|--------|-----|------|------|--------|
| Bill Fraser     | 8      | 6   | 1    | 1    | 13     |
| Alistair Bennie | 8      | 3   | 4    | 1    | 7      |
| Ronnie Baird    | 8      | 2   | 6    | 0    | 4      |
| Ian McPhail     | 7      | 5   | 2    | 0    | 10     |
| Neil Anderson   | 7      | 2   | 5    | 0    | 4      |

Congratulations to Bill and his team

### 2) Christmas Bonspiel

Went very well with a full house of members and guests. Winners were Janet Brodie with Brian Spence, Colin Mansfield and John Malone. Runners up were Bill Fraser's rink with the neeps going to Alistair Bennie and Cot hanks to all who took part and those who helped with the set up which was enjoyed greatly by everyone.

### 3) George Philip Bonspiel

The George Philip Memorial Trophy was won again by guest skip Janet Brodie whose team was Alan Duncan, Alex Fraser and Ann Jackson. Runners up were Bill Fraser and co while Mike Macpherson took the booby. Good to see lots of guests and thanks to members for their donations of raffle prizes .Particular thanks to George Philip Jnr who provided the whisky yet again

4) Finally thanks to all for their help this year in keeping things running smoothly especially in getting Bonspiel numbers and for substitutes filling in when required.

Margaret McPhail –Match Secretary