



**Annual Members Assembly Business Meeting  
Hilton Ft. Wayne Grand Wayne Convention Center  
October 16, 2015  
Fort Wayne, Indiana**

Approved October 14, 2016

**1. Convene Members Meeting**

Chair Rich Lepping convenes the meeting at 1:19pm. Chair asks for those present Delegates, Staff, and Guests to introduce themselves.

**2. Roll call**

**Present** – Catherine Persinger (Delegate, Alaska, 362 votes), Lon Peper (Delegate, St. Louis, 28), Jeff Hannon (Delegate, Grand National, 4,414), Ben Levy (President, Great Lakes, 1,126), Cindy Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87), Sean Silver (Delegate, Illinois 618), Carl Schaeper (Delegate, Mid-America, 753), Cyndee Johnson (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Nick Wellen (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Brian Patrick (President, Mountain Pacific, 1,252), Chris Sjue (Delegate, North Dakota, 870), Doug Potter (Delegate, Washington, 471), Rich Lepping (Chair) (President, Wisconsin, 4,316).

**Absent** – Craig Brown (AAC, 902.7), Joe Polo (AAC, 902.7), Allison Pottinger (AAC, 902.7), Doug Pottinger (AAC, 902.7), Jessica Schultz (AAC, 902.7), Leland Rich (Delegate, Colorado, 133), Andrew Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87).

**Guests** – Rick Patzke, Kim Nawyn, Jonathon Penney, Darrell Brown, Paul Badgero, Sam Williams, Curtis Mullen, Julie Taliaferro, Stephen Grant, Craig Fischer, Kathy Busch, Charlotte Macartney, Dick Macartney, Russ Lemcke, Matthew Urbaniak, Beau Welling, Vic Huebner, Vietta Kampen, Adam Derringer, Joel Dietz, Bret Jackson, Steve O’Keefe, Mary Max, Steven Lines, Anthony Cover, Hawley MacLean, Jesse Warwick, Kevin Madsen, Jillian Riecke, Mark Swandby, Tom Doherty, Jennifer Stannard, Shawn Gunst, Terry Davis, Christy Herring, Jenny Biadasz, Derek Brown.

**3. Appointment of parliamentarian**

Chair appoints Jeff Hannon as Parliamentarian.

**4. Certification of votes and proxies**

Treasurer presents certification of the vote allocation as accurate and the proxies as authentic.

**5. Determination of quorum**

- a. Quorum for actions not requiring Athlete presence being 9,027 votes and with 17,834 non-athlete votes being present, we have a quorum for all non-athlete participation activities.
- b. Quorum for actions requiring Athlete participation being 11,283.75 votes and with 17,834 votes including Athletes being present, we have a quorum for actions requiring athlete participation.

## 6. Rules of Session

- a. Chair indicates that Guests with questions should write those on paper provided and pass that to their Delegate(s). The Delegates will be recognized by the Chair to ask the question.
- b. Chair reminds all present that there will be a Town Hall session later in the meeting and all are free to ask questions at that time.
- c. Chair reminds everyone that there will be a move into Special Session at about 3:15pm to allow for the establishment of a teleconference link to accommodate athletes who are competing this weekend to take part in the By-Laws Amendment votes.

## 7. Approval of minutes of last Members Meeting

Motion to accept Minutes of Members Meeting of Oct. 10, 2014 as presented by Jeff Hannon, second by Nick Wellen. Motion carries unanimously on voice vote.

## 8. Reports from USCA:

### a. Report from the Chair of Board of Directors – Rich Lepping

- i. Rich Lepping, Chair, comments that it is time to right the ship and get things moving by improving communication and transparency.
- ii. Notes the great work being done by our Members Services program under the leadership of Kim Nawyn and that we need to improve communicating what is available to USCA members. The Chair also notes the great work that has been done by Rick and his staff.
- iii. Key elements for upcoming year are revenue development, sponsorship and branding.
- iv. Commendations to Kathy Busch, Kim Nawyn, and Lon Peper for the work that they have done recently to promote the sport of curling.

### b. Report from the CEO – Rick Patzke

- i. Revenue development, communications and high performance are key areas
  1. Revenue Development –
    - Reviewed revenue development efforts centered on production of “Curling Night in America” with NBC, the 2016 Continental Cup and the potential with hosting the 2018 World Men’s Championship.
    - A cooperative program is in the works with global Olympic sponsor Dow Chemical Co. to develop water conditioning systems that can help improve ice quality at our championships as well as provide a cost efficient solution for curling clubs and ice arenas to improve ice quality.
    - The third annual charity fundraising event was held in Hawaii, raising \$25,000 for the USCA, and we are looking at expanding this event concept and its potential expansion into other markets.
  2. Communications –
 

Tapas published twice monthly to states/regions/clubs and weekly version to directors. Town Hall at this meeting and by teleconference throughout the year. Plans to attend state/regional and club meetings throughout the year.

## 8.b. Report from the CEO (cont.)

3. Ten things have to happen in the next 5 years to meet the Strategic Plan. Some are responsibility of the staff, many need to be a collaboration with states/regions:
  - Enhance communications.
  - Television programming expansion.
  - Continue national media attention.
  - Fan growth and engagement.
  - Revenue Development.
  - Need to consistently win medals internationally.
  - Athlete curler development program (aspiring curler, a path for curlers to get better).
  - Coaching development (including instructor development, “club pro model”).
  - Consistently host international events.
  - Unifying the curling community.
- c. **Reports of Operational Committee Groups:** full reports available at [http://www.teamusa.org/~media/USA\\_Curling/Images/2015%20Assembly/Presentations/Member%20Business%20%20NawynDavisBiadasz%20Staff%20Report.pdf](http://www.teamusa.org/~media/USA_Curling/Images/2015%20Assembly/Presentations/Member%20Business%20%20NawynDavisBiadasz%20Staff%20Report.pdf)
  - i. **Member Development – Kim Nawyn**
    - Summarized activities of the Membership Development Group. Made special note of the “What Does the USCA Do for Me?” document that was distributed to attendees.
    - Noted ways that Member Development is using the Strategic Plans to focus its efforts, especially long term growth.
    - Highlighted resources and activities available to members such as the Members Assembly, the “Business of Curling” seminar, the Darwin-Curtis Grant Program, the stone purchase program, the long term athlete development program based on the American Development Model and the Safe Sport program.
  - ii. **Communication – Kim Nawyn (for Terry Davis)**
    - The first U.S. Curling News edition of the season and the 2015-16 Media Guide have been published.
    - Developing a mobile app to go along with website; Curling Night in America promotions; 12<sup>th</sup> End Sport Network will live stream the U.S. Men’s and Women’s National Championships, and parts of the U.S. Mixed Doubles National Championship will also be streamed.
    - The sixth ESPN Monday Night Football “Cheesehead Curling Classic” took place at the Green Bay CC.
  - iii. **Competition – Jenny Biadasz**
    - The list of events that are coming up through the season was summarized.
    - Events needing sites for the 2016-17 season were listed. Advantages to hosting events were covered.
    - A new registration system (Blue Sombrero) is now set up through Dicks Sporting Goods. This system can be used for local events at no charge. Information for local club use is available.

9. **Motion to Suspend Meeting and Reconvene in Special Session**

Motion to suspend the regular Members Assembly session and reconvene in Special Session as requested in a duly signed petition certified as representing more than 10% (ten percent) of the total votes as last certified, per USCA By-Laws Section 10.8 by Lon Peper seconded by Nick Wellen. Motion carries on unanimous voice vote.

10. **Convene Members Meeting in Special Session**

18. **Reconvene from Special Session**

19. **Roll call**

**Present** – Catherine Persinger (Delegate, Alaska, 362 votes), Lon Peper (Delegate, St. Louis, 28), Jeff Hannon (Delegate, Grand National, 4,414), Ben Levy (President, Great Lakes, 1,126), Cindy Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87), Sean Silver (Delegate, Illinois 618), Carl Schaeper (Delegate, Mid-America, 753), Cyndee Johnson (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Nick Wellen (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Brian Patrick (President, Mountain Pacific, 1,252), Chris Sjue (Delegate, North Dakota, 870), Doug Potter (Delegate, Washington, 471), Rich Lepping (Chair) (President, Wisconsin, 4,316).

**Absent** – Craig Brown (AAC, 902.7), Joe Polo (AAC, 902.7), Allison Pottinger (AAC, 902.7), Doug Pottinger (AAC, 902.7), Jessica Schultz (AAC, 902.7), Leland Rich (Delegate, Colorado, 133), Andrew Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87).

**Determination of quorum**

- a. Quorum for actions not requiring Athlete presence being 9,027 votes and with 17,834 non-athlete votes being present, we have a quorum for all non-athlete participation activities.
- b. Quorum for actions requiring Athlete participation being 11,283.75 votes and with 17,834 votes including Athletes being present, we have a quorum for actions requiring athlete participation.

20. **Reports of Operational Committee Groups (continuation of Agenda Item 8.c)**

iii. **Competition (cont.) – Sam Williams**

- Review of events that have a High Performance component and which do not. Everything that leads to World play or Olympics falls under high performance (Men's, Women's, Junior's, World University Games, Mixed Doubles, Youth Olympic Games).
- Review of Competition's Committees - Officiating, Request for Ruling, Rules and Site Selection.
- Summarized potential format changes in the "regional" aspect of the Junior National's.
- Question- Was there anything in WCF rules that were not accepted? Yes, WCF rule policy of only holding one tie-breaker draw and using DSC to break additional ties was not adopted.

iv. **Report of Director of High Performance – Derek Brown** (full report available at [http://www.teamusa.org/~media/USA\\_Curling/Images/2015%20Assembly/Prese ntations/Member%20Business%20%20Brown%20Staff%20Report.pdf](http://www.teamusa.org/~media/USA_Curling/Images/2015%20Assembly/Prese ntations/Member%20Business%20%20Brown%20Staff%20Report.pdf))

- Outlined what the HPP "is" and what it "is not."
- Reviewed the process for those wishing to participate in the HPP and the objective and subjective criteria used in the selection process.
- Emphasized the philosophy that we are now "Team USA" not "Team Shuster" (or Brown, etc.)

## 20.iv Competitions Report (cont.)

- Review of the coaching staff its structure and the training staff.
- Expectations and commitments for athletes reviewed. Some athletes have relocated to the Minneapolis-St. Paul area to be able to train at the U.S. Olympic Training site in Blaine, MN.
- Athletes developed a values statement for the program summarized by the acronym:  
“UNITED” accoUntability, resilieNce, passlon, dedicaTion. intEgrity and confiDence.

### v. **Organizational Development – Rick Patzke**

- In the process of hiring a Deputy Manager to assist the CEO, currently reviewing applicants.
- Suspended the Fund Raising position as of June 30; this position is important and may be restaffed at a later date.
- Diversity and Inclusion Committee working to bring by-law amendments forward covering that subject. Also working on a transgender policy. These should be available for consideration in time for the February Directors meeting.

### vi. **Treasurer Report – Vic Huebner**

- Auditors will be active in November and the audited finances for last year will be posted in early 2016.
- Preliminary FY 2015 (ending June 30, 2015) showed a surplus of \$75,000
- FY 2016 is budgeted surplus of \$19,400.
- Current cash position of \$480,000. Overall financial position is good.
- Reminder that USCA is 501c3, so donations may be tax deductible.

## 21. **USCA Membership Action**

Motion for consideration to accept the following club into full USCA membership (Club/State or Region): Traverse City CC/GLCA, Hartford CC/GNCC, Jersey Pinelands CC/GNCC, Panther CC/GNCC, Pine Tree/GNCC, Des Moines/Illinois, Poudre Valley/MACA, Hallock/Minnesota by Silver, seconded by Wellen. No discussion. Motion carries on unanimous voice vote.

## 22. **New business - Lepping**

- Chair welcomes all to participate in the upcoming town hall meeting teleconference which occurs two weeks after every board meeting.
- Announces the dates of the 2016 Board meetings: February (conference call), April in Colorado Springs, July (conference call, budget related), and in October in conjunction with the next Members’ Assembly, tentatively in Charlotte, NC.
- Expresses thanks to the Fort Wayne Curling Club for hosting this event.
- Darryl Horsman, (Coyotes CC) presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award.
- Jeff Hannon indicated that he will present the Member Sponsored Amendment to Section 3 to add “Arena and College” at the Board of Director’s meeting tomorrow for proper consideration by the Governance Committee and presentation at the February Board meeting.

## 23. **Old business - None**

## 24. **Chair calls for Motion to Adjourn, moved by Potter. Meeting adjourns at 4:33pm.**



**Annual Members Assembly Business Meeting  
Special Session  
Hilton Ft. Wayne Grand Wayne Convention Center  
October 16, 2015  
Fort Wayne, Indiana**

Approved October 14, 2016

10. **Convene Members Meeting in Special Session** - Chair Rich Lepping convenes the Meeting in Special Session at 3:15 pm.
11. **Roll call** (Maclean)
 

**Present** - Catherine Persinger (Delegate, Alaska, 362 votes), Lon Peper (Delegate, St. Louis, 28), Jeff Hannon (Delegate, Grand National, 4,414), Ben Levy (President, Great Lakes, 1,126), Cindy Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87), Sean Silver (Delegate, Illinois 618), Carl Schaeper (Delegate, Mid-America, 753), Cyndee Johnson (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Nick Wellen (Delegate, Minnesota, 1,768.5), Brian Patrick (President, Mountain Pacific, 1,252), Chris Sjue (Delegate, North Dakota, 870), Doug Potter (Delegate, Washington, 471), Rich Lepping (Chair) (President, Wisconsin, 4,316).

**Present by Teleconference** - Allison Pottinger (AAC, 1,504.5), Doug Pottinger (AAC, 1,504.5), Jessica Schultz (AAC, 1,504.5).

**Absent** - Craig Brown (AAC, 902.7 votes assigned equally to A. Pottinger, D. Pottinger, and J Schultz), Joe Polo (AAC, 902.7 assigned equally to A. Pottinger, D. Pottinger, and J Schultz), Leland Rich (Delegate, Colorado, 133), Andrew Riehl (Delegate, Mayfield CC, 87).
12. **Certification of votes and proxies**  
Treasurer presents certification of the vote allocation as accurate and the proxies as authentic.
13. **Appointment of parliamentarian**  
Chair appoints Jeff Hannon as Parliamentarian for the Special Session.
14. **Determination of quorum**
  - a. Quorum for actions not requiring Athlete presence being 9,027 votes and with 17,834 non-athlete votes being present, we have a quorum for all non-athlete participation activities.
  - b. Quorum for actions requiring Athlete participation being 11,283.75 votes and with 22,347.5 votes including Athletes being present, we have a quorum for actions requiring athlete participation.
15. **Motion to Waive 30 Day Notice to introduce Member Sponsored Amendment**
  - a. Motion to waive the proper notice requirement in USCA By-Laws Section 22.2.a to allow a Member Sponsored Amendment to be brought forward for consideration in addition to those Amendments already published and distributed by Ben Levy seconded by Jeff Hannon.
  - b. Discussion to suspend the 30 day notice. Potter not in favor due to lack of urgency of the amendment and specificity of wording and miswording. Favor for motion from Hannon who offers a friendly amendment to alter wording to reflect participants rather than specific events.
  - c. Motion requires unanimity from all Members represented. Motion fails.

- d. Proposed Member Sponsored Amendment will be brought back for consideration at either a Board Meeting or Member's Assembly.
- 16. By-Laws Amendments**
- a. Motion to introduce proposed amendments recommended by Governance committee and published in accordance with USCA By-Laws Section 22.2.a by Doug Potter seconded by Carl Scheaper.
  - b. Potter offers an amendment to his motion for collective approval of all the proposed amendments, second by Carl Scheaper. Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.
  - c. Governance Committee member Russ Lemcke provided summaries of the separate amendments and why each was recommended by the Committee.
  - d. Motion to adopt the Amendments approved on a unanimous roll call vote of those present and voting. Yes – 22,347.5, No – 0, Not Present – 220.
- 17. Motion to adjourn Special Session and Reconvene in Regular Session**
- Motion to adjourn the Special Session and reconvene in Regular Session by Doug Potter seconded by Nick Wellen. Motion carries unanimously on a voice vote. Special Session adjourns at 3:28pm.

DRAFT