

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the West of Fife Curling Province on
29 March 2012 in the Lounge, Fife Ice Arena at 7.30 p.m.**

Present:

Bob Smith	Inverkeithing	Bill Linton	Bank of Scotland
Colin Campbell	Inverkeithing	Mike Hudspeth	Dalgety Bay
Robin Park,	Boreland/Dunfermline	Karen McDonald	Dalgety Bay
Ian Borland	Dunfermline	Lizy Mills	Dunfermline Ladies
Brian Duncan	Boreland	Liz Smith	Dunfermline Ladies
Mike Caffyn	Boreland	Kevin Thomson	Kirkcaldy Ice Rink
Harry Mitchell	Raith & Abbotshall/ Aberdour	Ann Mitchell	Raith & Abbotshall Ladies
Iain Brown	Raith & Abbotshall	Anne Buchan	Raith & Abbotshall Ladies
Bill Creevy	Kirkcaldy Curling School	Bill Arnott	Area 7 President
Willie Nicoll	Bank of Scotland	Alan Muirhead	Area 7 Vice President
Margo Nicoll	Bank of Scotland	Hector Snoddy	Area 7 Secretary
Neil Anderson	Bank of Scotland	(23)	

President Robin welcomed the representatives of the Clubs in attendance and called for any apologies for absence to be intimated.

1. Apologies:

Elinor Ritchie, Wendy Smith, Bank of Scotland, Bob Tait, Inverkeithing/ Boreland, Drew Gordon, Helen Gordon, Aberdour, David Jones, Area Development Officer Kinross;

2. Minutes of last AGM

The President asked if the Minute of the previous year's AGM could be taken as read, asking for it to be approved and seconded.

Adoption proposed by Bill Linton and seconded by Ian Boreland. The minutes were duly approved. Thereafter the President and Secretary signed the Minute.

3. Matters Arising

a. Badges

The purchase of badges from Image Printers, Edinburgh, approved at the 2011 AGM had duly been ordered and received by the secretary. The cost was £120.00 for the origination and £175.00 for 100 badges plus VAT.

Robin proposed the following charges should be made for the badges: -

RCCC tours: - £2 per badge to a maximum of 5 and £5 per badge thereafter.

Rotarian tours: - £4 per badge to a maximum of 5 and £5 per badge thereafter.

The proposal was accepted by the meeting.

4. President's Remarks

Robin again welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the clubs for attending. Hopefully the clubs all enjoyed their season.

He intimated early his grateful thanks for the support of the committee during the year and in particular to Colin who has taken to Secretary/Treasurer job like 'a duck to water'.

The League consisted of only 9 teams out of 12 in the Province (Broomhall sadly withdrawing). Notwithstanding that a very competitive and enjoyable season was had by all. This withdrawal was

disappointing as Kirkcaldy ice is generally accepted as improving year on year and we need support to keep it going. It was quoted last year in the minutes that *“the slippiness is apparently caused by lack of the ionised water – very expensive – but there are plans confirmed to upgrade the plant and we look forward to next season.”* Robin intimated that as far as he knew nothing had happened.

Robin expressed disappointment at the apparent demise of the ‘curling academy’ at Kinross. It is understood that all possibilities for a scaled down project are again being revisited. Unfortunately Bob Tait was unable to attend tonight’s meeting and further information is available from the Kinross Curling Trust web site. It is understood that there is no progress to report on the Cupar Ice Rink project.

Robin apologised for the demise of relevant information being posted to the Province web site but as was sure that most of you will be aware much of this was out with our control. It seemed ill advised for a web site transition to take place at a time when information to club members was most needed. It was also noted in RCCC Board minutes that migration and population of the ‘micro sites’ would be undertaken by the new web master – which of course did not happen. Given all the work undertaken by our West Fife clubs to use and populate the micro sites the ridiculous need to do it all again was taken up to RCCC through Area Standing Committee but to date it’s not felt that a satisfactory response has been received.

Our Clubs and their members playing in prestigious competitions have yet again done well. Particular congratulations were conveyed to Bill Linton (S), Willie Nicoll both Bank of Scotland Fife, Ron Mathewson and Alastair McCabe in reaching the final of the National Masters in only Bill’s second attempt. Unfortunately, the rink lost a really tight game by only 1 shot (5-4) to Sandy Nelson’s Kinross rink. Alan Barr, Dunfermline CC played 2 to Sandy – well done Alan!

Congratulations were also conveyed to Enid Brown, Irene Baillie, Helen Gordon and Morag Wellman in reaching the final of the Ladies Seniors but sadly lost – well done nevertheless. Mary Barr’s rink of Wilma Brownlie, Pat McFarlane and Ena Stevenson lost in the quarter final stages. Another Mary Barr rink of Lorna Rennie, Jane Barr and Ena Stevenson lost in the low road semi-final of the Henderson Bishop.

A junior Dunfermline member, Drew Thomson, son of David, was be congratulated in being part of the winning rink in the inaugural Asham U14 Slam. 22 teams competed with games played at both Braehead and Aberdeen.

The Province won our Waldie Griffiths away match against Dundee District but only by 5 shots and not enough to win the overall competition. Thanks and well done to the clubs which participated.

The highlight of any Province season could be competing against an incoming touring team. This was the case this season with the visit of USA. West Fife put out 4 rinks in the morning of Friday 10 February at Kirkcaldy. Unfortunately, West Fife did not fair too well and allowed USA to increase their shots up total by 14 shots. On the same evening Area 7 organised a Ceilidh in the Windlestrae Hotel which was well attended and was an enjoyable evening. The Province also provided home hosting – thanks to Mike Hudspeth, Phil Barton and Alan Barr for volunteering. Also our thanks go to the representative curlers and their wives/partners for their participation.

Pen ultimately, although emails were sent on behalf of the Province to the successful applicants for the outgoing men’s tour to Canada next year, Robin asked to formally record our congratulations to Willie Nicoll, Bank of Scotland Fife, Bob Tait and Phil Barton both Inverkeithing and Ian Borland, Dunfermline. Speaking as a past Canada tourist Robin noted that it should be the curling experience of a lifetime and wished them all success on behalf of the Province in winning the Strathcona Cup again – 3 on the trot in Canada – no pressure!!

Finally Robin turned to Area 7 matters, and the confusion over rules for a couple of the annual competitions (Inter Province Bonspiel and North Vs South Bonspiel) organised by them. The Area 7

committee has agreed that these rules will be discussed, revisited and revised if necessary at the forthcoming Area 7 AGM. Thereafter it is important as far as West Fife is concerned that these rules are known by participants, communicated to the clubs involved and preferably also posted to the Area 7 web site as a permanent reference point. If therefore you guys have views on this the opportunity will be provided at the Area AGM.

5. Kirkcaldy Curling School

Bill Creevy reported on the season's activities.

This season we have had quite a varied programme. K.C.S. ran 2 try curling sessions at which 39 attended, down on last year but a higher % attending coaching course and coaching. Bill felt it would be great if each club in the province could bring someone along to the try curling events.

Curling's cool programme 188 attended, would have been more but transport problems prevented 1 school attending. All the Monday sessions were filled. K.C.S. also had 8 special needs pupils, who all had a great time. Next season the curling's cool programme will be held on Friday mornings. This move will allow the ice men more time to prepare the curling ice after the weekend skating and hockey.

The regular **evening coaching sessions** also attracted a fairly regular group of improvers as well as some new curlers. There were regular wheelchair sessions on Thursday morning. Bill thanked Harry Mitchell, John Brown and all their assistants for all his work.

The **virtual club** continues to flourish. Currently 24 members and more people keen to sign up for next season. K.C.S. will be losing 12 people from the virtual club – membership is limited to 2 years, but they have all joined other clubs, which is the main aim of the club. Also 6 others from coaching have joined the virtual club. This year teams from the virtual club have played in a District Medal game at Perth, the North v South game and the West of Fife Closing Bonspiel.

There were 3 teams from the virtual club playing in the National Virtual Club Bonspiel at Kinross and considering they were playing against established teams they all played very well. One team finished 3rd in the high road from 20 teams.

The **curling school** has had a few meeting with Fife Council and the active schools co-ordinators this year and funding has been confirmed for next season. Leading on from that there have been 2 groups from active schools at the ice rink recently and the feedback from them is very positive. K.C.S. may have some interest from secondary schools next season. It ran come and try sessions for 2 groups of scouts and cubs – 50 over the 2 evenings. There may be a winter sports week in the October school holidays - curling ,skating and ice hockey.

Next Season K.C.S. plans to run the same programme plus another couple of initiatives. The scouts are looking to adopt curling as a sport in their junior leader award, basically they would complete a level 1 coaching qualification.

Secondary schools were going to implement a Curriculum for Excellence scheme. They choose a sport or an interest and it is built into their weekly timetable. Bill has still to speak to the 4 Kirkcaldy schools, but is hopeful there may be some positive feedback.

Junior curling in Fife needs to be encouraged and one of our aims next season is to get more teenagers on the ice by working closely with the active schools co-ordinators. Bill believes it is possible to make this happen.

At this point on behalf of K.C.S. Bill thanked all the coaches and helpers for their tireless work throughout the season. At the moment they have 18 volunteer coaches and helpers and at times our resources are stretched to cover all our programmes. Bill intimated that If anyone has some free time and was able to assist occasionally to help introduce curling to the masses and get Clubs some new members to let him know.

Finally Bill reminded everyone that the coaching school is not there just for the beginners. It are also there to assist any curler whatever their level.

6. Kinross Curling School

The following report was submitted by David Jones, Area Development Officer Kinross;

Season 2011-12 has been an extremely successful year for curling at Kinross. Over 95% of the targets of the 'Curling Development Action Plan' were achieved during the season.

The success of meeting all these targets would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Kinross Curling School (KCS) and volunteer coaches who have given their own time during the season. Thanks go to everyone involved but especially to Maureen Aitken, Lorna Rennie Diane Bell and the rest of the curling school committee. Also, many thanks must go to Steven Kerr for his support and making ice available throughout the season and allowing all these sessions to happen.

Two **Try Curling** events were held during the season with 136 people trying curling for the first time. 'Come back' rates have been good and 31 of these people went on to attend the two Beginners Courses and from these 27 became members of the Virtual and/or other clubs.

Kinross Virtual Club ended the season with an amazing 54 members and had increased its membership from 38 in the previous season. The Virtual Club have operated by its own committee and took part in many competitions including playing in The Green Hotel league Division 3 and running their own inter-club games. At the time of writing Kinross Virtual Club are sitting in a very credible mid table position in the league and the club won the province 'Christmas Potty' in December. They also became the Royal Club's National Virtual Club champions for a second year in a row in early March when they hosted the 2012 National Virtual Club Bonspiel.

Curling Clinics KCS held 4 sessions this year. Attendance was generally low and work will have to be done to either improve what is offered or to get the message out to clubs that these sessions are designed specifically for their club members.

The schools '**Curling's Cool**' programme attracted 251 pupils from 13 Primary schools - 6 schools from Fife and 7 from Perth and Kinross. A few of these children have joined the After Schools Clubs and feedback from schools and parents has been very positive. Numbers are expected to remain similar next year with no increases in numbers due to limited ice availability and obtaining coaches during the day.

Primary after School Clubs The Monday after School Club was full this season with 32 children on the register and most of these in regular attendance. Thursday had approximately 10 regular attendees. Anne Porter retired on the 15th March from organising the Thursday after School Club after 19 years of coaching at Kinross. David thanked to Anne for all her hard work with developing curling for children over this time at Kinross and good luck in the future. The U-12 league continued successfully this season with Stirling and Murrayfield giving selected children a chance to get some good experience of competitive curling and friendship.

Secondary after School Clubs All Secondary after School Clubs (Beath, Bell Baxter, Kinross and Dollar) were merged together this season to give better opportunities for all children and to encourage participation and friendships between different High Schools. This seems to have worked well and feedback has been good from children and numbers have been generally higher with around 30 children in attendance each week. Only Dollar Academy has struggled to maintain a membership compared to last year with only 4 active members during this curling year.

Kinross now has 98 Royal Club affiliated 'juniors'

Scottish Schools Five teams from four High Schools' played a round robin competition at Kinross with Dollar Academy and one of the Kinross High School team qualifying for the Scottish High

Schools final at Murrayfield in early March. Many congratulations go to Kinross High School who eventually got knocked out at the quarter final stage.

Skills Awards Lots of Royal Club Skills Awards have been taking place over the last month! Thanks to all coaches who have been coaching and assessing and well done to all children who have completed the awards this season.

Kinross Open Kinross Curling Rink will be host to the 'Kinross Open' which is taking place on the 14th/15th and 16th December 2012. The Kinross Open is a new 20 team event which is an official round on the 'Goldline' Scottish Curling Tour - <http://scottishcurlingtour.blogspot.co.uk/> The Kinross Open will be open to any teams of any four curlers - male, female, junior, mixed, wheelchairs etc. and local entries will be encouraged from the surrounding area. Competition costs and sponsors are yet to be confirmed but pre team registrations are already being accepted by emailing team details by return to kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org An events organising committee has been formed to ensure the competition runs as smoothly as possible and any further volunteers would be well received.

Disability Curling The wheelchair and Visually Impaired Clubs continue to meet every week throughout the season. Numbers at the Wheelchair club have been good with 23 members and VICKS having 7 members. Stirling has recently had two Visually Impaired taster session so it is hoped that a club will be set up there giving Kinross members the opportunity to play against other rinks in the future.

David reported that this will be his last season as Development Officer at Kinross. After two very enjoyable seasons at Kinross he is moving to Dundee Ice Arena in August. He is really looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that this will bring. Claire Milne will be taking over as Development Officer at Kinross and David wished her and everyone at Kinross every success and the best of luck in the future.

7. Season's Results and Presentation of Trophies

The Secretary gave the results of the various competitions the Province had organised or taken part in throughout the season.

- **Dunfermline** represented the Province at the **National Province Championships:**

They won 2 games out of 4 but did not progress from the section. The winners of their section, Stirlingshire, went on to win the main competition.

- **North v South Fife Bonspiel:**

The North had 102 shots to the South's 119, meaning the South won by 17 shots.

Winning teams were: -

Highest up club on winning side was Dalgety Bay with plus 5 shots over 2 games.

Highest up rink is also Kirkcaldy Ice Rink with plus 10 shots.

Second highest up club is Dalgety Bay with plus 7 shots

Highest up rink on the losing side is Ceres with plus 15 shots.

- **Fife & Kinross v Perth Bonspiel.**

Perth won by 44 shots with Errol being the highest up rink on the winning side + 14 shots. Ceres were highest up rink on the losing side +10.

- **Inter-Province Bonspiel.** Cupar were the winning Province with +13. West of Fife was second with +11.

- **Inter-Province League**

This competition was won by West of Fife with +89. Cupar was runners up with +33.

- In the **Zermatt** competition versus East Fife Province on 12 January, East Fife triumphed this year by 7 shots. Highest up rink for West Fife was Bank of Scotland + 15 shots. Balcaskie were the highest up rink on the winning side with +8 shots
- **George Sinclair**: Boreland were winners with +12. Dunfermline Ladies were close behind with +11.
- In the **Waldie Griffiths** fixture against Dundee and District Province, West Fife won by only 5 shots averaging +1.25 and therefore 3rd in their section. Thanks go to the clubs of Bank of Scotland, Boreland, Inverkeithing and Dunfermline who participated. The committee will continue to select according to those balloted out in previous season being given priority in following season.

Moving on to the domestic scene, the Secretary reported that: -

- **Dunfermline** returned to the top of the pile in the **Province League** with 14 points. **Bank of Scotland** finished runners up on 10 points. In third place was Aberdour 9 points. It was again a very closely contested competition. The trophy was presented to Ian Boreland.
- **The Mixed Knock-out** final was contested between **Dunfermline & Inverkeithing 2**. The **Dunfermline** rink of Jamie Stevenson, J. Barr, H. Geyer and F. Thomson won by 5 shots. The trophy and glasses were taken by Ian Boreland.
- The **Ladies' Knock-out** competition was competed for again this season with 4 teams entering. The result was that **Dunfermline Ladies 1** beat **Dunfermline Ladies 2** on ends 5 to 3. The winning rink was A Malcolm, L Smith, L. Mills and I Lloyd. The trophy was presented to Lizy Mills and Liz Smith. Clubs were reminded up to three rinks per club can be entered into this competition.
- A good turnout was in evidence for the **Province Bonspiel** with the undisputed winning club being **Dunfermline** which won 18 shots up. The Province Medal was presented to Ian Boreland.
- Last but not least, in the **Province Pairs** competition Bank of Scotland narrowly beat R & A Ladies in what was a very close contest. The final between Neil Anderson and Margo Nicoll from Bank of Scotland and Anne Buchan and Dorothy Peterson from R & A Ladies was excellent. It went down to the last stone with Neil drawing the shot against 2 in the wings to win 7 to 5. The Trophy and glasses were presented by Bill Linton.

8. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

This has been a busy year primarily due to the need to reconstruct the Province website and the incoming USA tour. The Province website is now largely rebuilt with some items still to be added such coaching arrangements and competition rules. Any other request for information that members feel should be on the website should be advised to the secretary or members of the committee.

The clubs members this season numbered 561.

Everyone was reminded that the RCCC AGM takes place Saturday 9 June 2012 at Murrayfield Ice Rink at 2pm.

The annual Accounts for the period from 16 April 2011 to 15 March 2012 were presented. The Accounts showed a surplus of £268.67 on the Ordinary account. This compared with a deficit of £209.52 from the previous year. There was a deficit on the Tour Fund due to an under recovery

from clubs i.e. 30p instead of 50p per male member. This will be recovered from clubs next season and clubs should budget accordingly.

For many years the annual Accounts have shown a separate account for the Tour Fund. In practice there is only one account and therefore from next year the Tour Fund will be subsumed into the Ordinary Account.

Although Province funds show a healthy balance of £593.25 compared to £403.38 the previous year, there are outstanding payments for badges of £354.00 and other costs such as engraving. The current value of badges in stock is £35.

The accounts were self-explanatory and the financial report was duly adopted. Proposed by Bob Smith and seconded by Mike Hudspeth.

9. Annual Subscriptions

Given the current financial position, the committee is recommending that the club subscriptions continue but that there is no need for a Province badge levy next season.

10. Election of Office Bearers

	Proposed by:	Seconded by:
Patron:		
Earl of Elgin	Committee	Unanimous

As Alan Mitchell had agreed to continue as independent examiner he too was unanimously re-appointed.

11. RCCC/Area 7 Representative's Report.

Bill Arnott reported for Area 7.

He congratulated Hannah Fleming and her team who kept the junior women's flag flying, since Eve won her 4 junior gold medals and is now too old for the juniors. Hannah has taken over her mantle by winning gold earlier this year. Kyle Smith and his team also did pretty well, coming back with the bronze medal. Eve was not able to come home with any medals in the worlds but she did get the Francis Brodie trophy for showing the best sportsmanship and ability, so well done to Eve. The men's get under way this week in Basle where Tom Brewster will be hoping to go one better than last year when he won silver at the men's worlds.

Following on from Sports Scotland's decision to walk away from the proposed **curling academy** in Kinross the board are going to be looking to see if we do actually need a curling academy. Sports Scotland would like all sports to have an academy but it will be looked into if we really do need an academy.

Membership fees won't rise till the end of September as it was set to be status quo at last year's AGM and it will be at this year's AGM when the membership fees will be decided for the year afterwards. There has been a suggestion that any clubs that don't pay by the end of September will pay an additional fee. 2 years ago the membership fee went up for anyone who had not paid by the end of September but due to there being no increase last year then there was no incentive to pay on time. Cash flow relies on fees being paid on time and if clubs continue to be late with payments then there could be a late payment tariff. Only 2 clubs did not pay on time when the fees went up. That changed a lot last year.

With **Your Curler** being sent out by email, the Royal Club would still like more email addresses. There are about 6,000 out of 13,500 and also for any contact with members it is much easier and cheaper to send emails rather than postage with the prices for that due to escalate soon.

It has been suggested that the ASC representation from provinces is not working in all areas and a suggestion that we move to ice rink reps may be looked at. This has not been done yet but watch this space.

Bobs Blog is going to be stopping soon and it is being looked at to see if something can take its place. It maybe did not always meet with everyone's approval but it was an independent view of what was happening in the Royal Club and read by a lot of people.

Bill thanked all that West of Fife did for the Area when the USA were here, especially helping with the hosting. He was not here but things seemed to go very smoothly, even if we didn't win. The Canadian tour teams have had 2 meetings about the forthcoming tour and congrats must go to the Curlers in West of Fife who were successful in being picked to represent Scotland next year. It has been suggested by a few at one of the meetings that the Blue Blazer was not needed but Bill thought they were in a very small minority. The Swiss curlers will be invited to take part in a tour to Scotland in November 2014. It is a bit shorter than the Canadian and USA tour so we will need to wait and see what the format is. Bill thought that last time it was 4 teams from Area 7 as opposed to 4 full sessions as happens with the bigger tours.

The **Lees painting** is still looking for donations to restore it. So far just over £17,000 has been raised out of a total of £50,000 that is needed. When it was muted that the board might want to sell it, Bill was inundated with emails telling him that it should not be sold as it was part of the history of the Royal Club. He had no idea of all the mailers had put their hands in their pockets to help with the restoration. About 500 in total have done so.

The **Royal Club AGM** will be held at Murrayfield this year. Bill Duncan from Perth will be the new President and Alan Durno from Elgin the new VP. There are 3 places on the board available and there are 4 nominees - Catherine McLean, Bob Kelly, Graham McWiggan and Leslie Ingram-Brown. All paid up members are allowed to vote, either in person on the day but anyone attending will need their membership card or members can vote beforehand if you can't be there on the day. All information about the AGM will either be posted or emailed to the members.

The **annual awards** lunch will be held on Sat 26th of May. There will be no speaker this year. Forms for entering players/teams etc. are available for anyone wanting to nominate anyone for the Annual awards, a list of which will be on the website

Bill has been at a few West of Fife AGMs and this was his last as he am due to step down from Area 7 President and the ASC rep next month, with Alan Muirhead from Cupar province taking his place and West of Fife supplying the Junior rep for the next 2 years. He thanked West of Fife for all their help in his time as Area 7 rep. In that time there have been Canadian and USA tours, an indoor Grand Match and the many competitions that Area 7 run for the 4 provinces. West of Fife have always been well represented and while we have not always agreed with each other's opinions, that's how democracy works. It is not an onerous task being the ASC rep but its needs to be taken seriously as has not always been the case. Bill has enjoyed most of my time in the post. He wished West of Fife all the best in the future and thanks for your help over the past few years especially Trish, Bob, Robin and Colin.

Area 7 business After a few of the competition had problems this year, they will be looking at the rules and making a recommendation at the Area 7 AGM as to how they work next year. The North V South is either a single or a double rink competition. If any club enters 2 rinks then the same curlers can't play in both games. In any Area 7 competition Area 7 are proposing that any team that turns up without a full complement of players will forfeit 6 shots but the game will still go ahead and the score will count. Inter Province Bonspiel will be 3 teams, no specification as to the makeup due to Cupar having problems getting a ladies team. Area 7 still hopes that this will remain as previous but will be decided at the AGM. The stock of Area 7 ties have all gone now and they will need to decide if we re-order or not.

12. Motions Arising

Committee motion (1): It is proposed to change the constitution in respect of the term of office served by the President and by implication the terms of office of the Vice and Past Presidents. Currently this term is 2 years. In light of the difficulties experienced in attracting volunteers to serve in this post the proposal is to reduce this term to only one year. This, if approved, will effectively halve the commitment of Vice President through to Past President from 6 years to three years. Support for this proposal is sought from the floor.

The motion was approved by the meeting.

Committee motion (2): In light of receiving no nominations from the Clubs for the post of Vice President of Area 7 the committee proposes nominating Bob Smith, long serving member of the Province and Inverkeithing Curling Club where he is a past President. Again endorsement is sought from the floor to put this proposal to the Area 7 AGM.

The motion was approved by the meeting.

13. RCCC 'in memoriam':

Deaths intimated were: Robin McComb, Dalgety Bay, Tom Jack and Harry Gray, Raith and Abbotshall, Ian McLeod, Inverkeithing, Jean Sheddon, Raith and Abbotshall Ladies. A 30 second standing silence was observed.

14. Any other Competent Business

a. West Fife Representative Clubs for next season:

RCCC SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dunfermline CC as winners of the Province Mixed Knock Out competition

Inverkeithing CC as an additional rink if required.

AREA 7 INTER PROVINCE BONSPIEL

- i **Inverkeithing CC** as runners up in the Mixed Knockout
- ii **Dunfermline Ladies CC** as winners in the Ladies Knock Out
- iii **Bank of Scotland CC** as runners up in the League

b. Competition entries and insurance papers

Clubs were reminded to return them to the secretary no later than 14 May 2012.

c. Fife Ice Arena

Ronnie Herd, General Manager, had asked for the opportunity to address the meeting to update those present on future developments at the Fife Ice Arena. He was aware that there were problems with the quality of ice and ways were being looked at to improve the situation within the budget available. Ronnie's view was that the type of air conditioning system contributed to the problems but it was not clear how this could be resolved.

The schools sessions will move from a Monday to a Friday to allow the ice men more time to prepare the curling ice after the weekend skating and hockey.

An application for a 50% grant for new plant has been submitted to the Sports Council. This requires a commitment for the Arena to stay open for 20 years to avoid financial penalties.

The ladies toilets are to be changed and the lounge will be refurbished over the summer period. A way of putting a door in the screen is being considered and will be installed if a suitable design can be agreed. New curling handles will also be provided before next season.

In response to a question from Robin, Ronnie confirmed that the Arena would fund the framing of curling pictures similar to those which used to hang in the lounge if the pictures were supplied by the Province.

d. Insurance

Bill Creevy referred to the situation whereby the RCCC no longer provided insurance. After discussion it was agreed that Area 7 would consider a policy for all 4 provinces. The West of Fife Province's insurance policy provider is Bruce Stephenson who could be contacted for advice on this matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

CNC Secretary/Treasurer

April 2012