

United States Curling Association

**Executive Committee Special Meeting
via Conference Call
February 4, 2004**

Minutes

Present

Bob Fenson, in the chair
Grayland Cousins
Warren Lowe
Richard Maskel
Jack McNelly
Chris Moore
Donna Purkey (after 1:12 p.m.)
Mark Swandby
Jane Thompson

Not present

Phill Drobnick
Pam Finch
Ann Silver

Also present

David Garber, Executive Director
Rick Patzke, Director of Communications
Bev Schroeder, Member Services Manager

1. Call to order; parliamentarian; approve prior minutes; correspondence. **Fenson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Fenson appointed Lowe as meeting Parliamentarian. Motion by Lowe, Thompson second, to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2004, meeting. Approved.**

2. Ratify actions of Working Group on changes for Open Championships. Fenson appointed a new "new format implementation team" including himself, Cousins, Silver, Swandby and Borland to review the new formats for Open and Nationals. As a result of their study, they suggest several changes to the procedures. Cousins had distributed a paper with the details.
 - a. Define "west", "east." **Motion by Moore, Lowe second, that Qualifier Round 1 venue site "West" is defined as "west of North Dakota." Qualifier Round 1 site "East" is defined as "the GNCC region." Therefore "Midwest" is all other venues. Approved with Maskel opposed.**

 - b. Site change window. **Motion by Cousins, Lowe second, to remove the team ability to change their choice of site for Qualifier Round 1 during a 5-day window after the entry deadline. Approved, with Maskel abstaining.** Discussion of maximum field size and handling overages, which is an open issue to be determined.

 - c. Entry fees. **Motion by Cousins, Swandby second, to establish a one-time playdown entry fee for the Open of \$450 per team. Approved.** This deletes the former two-tier fee of \$400 plus an added \$200 for teams that reached the 2nd round.

 - d. Site rental payments. **Motion by Cousins, Swandby second, to approve a payment of \$250 per day to the Qualifier Round Sites. Motion by Lowe, Moore second, to amend the**

main motion to add, “with a cap of \$1,000 per site per event.” Amendment approved. Moore requested clarification, which Cousins confirmed, that the revenue source for the site rental payment fees will be the Open team entry fees. Cousins noted that there is a minimum number of teams that must participate to cover all expenses of the Open format, roughly estimated at 72 teams in total for men’s and women’s. **Main motion, as amended, approved.**

3. Discussion of other issues raised by the Working Group on changes for National Championships.
 - a. Site rental payments. After discussion, it was decided not to change the current policy of no hosting fees for nationals, since clubs hosting Mixed and Junior Nationals have made quite good profits in recent years. This subject may be brought back to the Executive Committee for reconsideration after pending efforts to recruit sites for the 2005 National Championships.
 - b. Residency period. Discussion only, on current two year residency period for nationals eligibility.
 - c. Define club, league eligibility. Discussion only, of definition of “club member” and “league play participant” as eligibility requirements for Nationals, possibly including exemption for some clubs. Maskel noted there are other issues, such as substitution, that need to be ironed out.

Fenson requested Swandby to take over as chair and left the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

4. Other. *The Executive Committee went into closed session to discuss a WCF matter.*

5. Unfinished business. There is no unfinished business.

6. New Business. There was no new business.

7. Adjourn. **Motion by Moore, Lowe second, to adjourn the meeting at 2:27 p.m. Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,
David Garber
Recording Secretary

Reviewed and authorized
R. Chris Moore
Secretary