

## **St. Paul, Minn., USCA Town Hall meeting notes**

Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010

*USCA facilitators: Kent Beadle, John Benton and Chris Sjue*

*Notes taken by Chris Sjue, USCA President*

**To the reader:** Not everyone quote/comment is attributed to a particular person, but efforts have been made to identify all comments or statements made by the USCA representative facilitating the meeting.

Over 25 people attended the meeting ranging from coaches, icemakers, curlers with less than 2 years of experience, and competitive curlers up to and including two Olympians. I thought a very good cross-section of curlers.

As the note taker for the town hall meeting, here are some of the comments, questions and thoughts expressed by those in attendance:

1. Will there be self-assessment tools for coaches and will coaches be accountable for their performance?
2. Where do funded teams fit into the organizational chart?
3. How or who will keep track of player development?
4. The staff needs to help teams develop a business plan to run curling team i.e. obtaining sponsors, funding, manage expenses, etc
5. Some discussion on when to hold trials, some felt Nov or Dec the year prior was too early in the season due to lack of practice ice.
6. Several participants stressed the need for the USCA to make max effort to obtain, train and develop coaches for teams. Also the need to define the coaches' role.
7. What does "opt in" mean with respect to the program?
8. Expressed a need to get our up and coming teams to competitive events to obtain the necessary experience.
9. Frustration with some attendees that information does not get out to the non-AAC athletes.
10. One participant asked what was the process to be used for hiring the High Performance Director.
11. Will camps be open to teams or individuals?
12. Will athletes with fewer skills be able to participate in the program?
13. There were several questions on athlete and coach funding.

14. And finally the attendees were interested in how future information would be communicated especially those athletes not in the AAC loop.