

D/FW Curling Club Meeting Minutes

Date: August 30, 2009
Start Time: 1:35 P.M.
End Time: 2:55 P.M.
Board members present: S. Healer, M. Hunter, J. Willingham, N. Myers, A. Buckner, D. Kleppe, J. Havercroft
Board members absent: D. Johnson, A. Bahr
Mtg. Type: Board Meeting
Location: Dr. Pepper Stars Center, Duncanville
Prepared by: Shana Healer

The following is a summary of the topics of discussion, decisions, and action items from the meeting. It is not meant to be a transcript of what was said and by whom. Please notify the author immediately upon finding any discrepancies.

1. Judy called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM.
2. The next board meeting will be held prior to the next Open House in Duncanville on September 20. We'll meet at the Duncanville Community Center at 2:00. Judy will set that up.
3. The previous meeting minutes from 7/26/09 were reviewed. The email marketing is going well. The girls from the Dallas Morning News never got back in touch with Judy. We are working on the fabrication of the hacks. The Plaza of the Americas demonstration fell through due to a lack of volunteers. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **2009-2010 Season (Where? When? Fees? Deadlines?)**
 - a. **State of the Duncanville Stars Center**--There has been a lot of media lately about the possibility of the Duncanville Stars Center closing. The president of the Stars, Ken Cagle from the city of Duncanville, and about 200 parents showed up at a meeting on August 29 to discuss the future of the facility. Duncanville has lost \$700,000 per year for the past 9 years and would be willing to deal with a \$200,000/year loss. It was clear from the meeting that negotiations are still under way between the Stars and Duncanville because there was mention of the Stars making a counter-offer to the group that wants to take over the lease and turn the center into a basketball/volleyball facility. The hockey parents said they would be willing to pay more for ice time. The Stars were vague about how that facility was losing money when the other centers are successful. Most of the parents there were not actually from Duncanville or Cedar Hill but from other cities in the southern portion of the Metroplex. The city needs money to cover the bonds that were issued when the center was built. Jonathan said the Stars implied they want to use the facility rent-free and that the feeling about the future of the Duncanville Stars Center as an ice-based facility was more pessimistic than optimistic.
 - b. **Where will we curl?** We do not know where we will be curling. We may start in Duncanville, even at a later date, or we may start in Farmers Branch. Keith said there's a good possibility for Sunday afternoons in Farmers Branch. Judy told him we were not married to Sunday afternoons. Judy and Keith email daily, and she said we are at the top of his priority list. Keith wants to keep us in Duncanville, but there is also a lot of push to move north according to emails Jonathan receives. There are hockey clubs that are leaving Duncanville. It was suggested to just push for a move to Farmers Branch, where there may more demand for curling and more stability. Judy does not think we have the option at this point to demand to curl at the Farmers Branch.
 - c. **How are we protecting our rocks?** Chuck McCue's wife has drawn up a legal document to protect our rocks from being seized should the building be closed. Keith has said he thinks there will be advance warning should something happen. Both the Stars and the city of Duncanville have assured us that our rocks are safe and accessible.

- d. **What will our fee structure be?** Ice time is going up to \$310 regardless of where we curl. We will not offer a discount this year for early registration, but the dues will not increase from what they were last year at \$425. This should still cover everything if we get 32 members. As we get information about start dates, we will let people know. We had planned to start October 4, but we may need to push it back. A membership letter will not be sent out since the dues are not changing. Although it's hard to request money and commitments from anyone without knowing where or when we'll curl, an email will be sent out with the application attached. It will also be posted on the website. Details about when and where will be posted when we know something. Paypal will be available. There will be a \$5 service fee for using PayPal. Payment installments will be available.
 - e. **Where does that leave us?** There will be a season. We have been assured of ice time somewhere. We know our fees will stay the same. We may not have a month to collect membership letters and dues, but we do need to start finding out who is committed to curling. Refunds can always be made later if necessary. It is crucial to start collecting money to show the Stars Center that we're serious about curling and to go ahead and start building teams. Mike will post something to the website assuring the members that we are curling, and that it's time to start signing up.
5. **New Equipment—**
 - a. **Handles—**Green handles are available. They are \$36 with the bolt and washer. We need at least 2 to replace broken ones. We have 2 extra yellow ones. As long as we're ordering, we want to go ahead and order a couple of extras. Engraving is \$7.50 to put the sheet and rock number. The extras will be blank. We still owe some people sponsorship engraving. Judy will get the list of sponsorship information to Nick. A motion passed to order handles.
 - b. **Hacks—**We will table this until we decide whether or not we need hacks for a fifth sheet.
 - c. **Sliders, sticks—**New sticks are \$66. New full sliders are \$16. Step on sliders are \$23. Nick will spend \$250 on sticks and sliders. This amount was set aside in the budget for the 2009-10 season.
 - d. **Pebbling can—**A backpack pebbling can is \$95, not including heads, which are \$40 each. Dan and Andy have said they will be happy to order and donate this to the club.
 6. **Third Open House—**September 20 from 4:00-6:00 at the Duncanville Stars Center. Ice has been donated.
 7. **Borrowing Rocks from Farmers Branch—** The board does not like this idea. It would be costly and the rocks are smaller than regulation size. There is a "loan a stone" program from the USCA that we may need. The USCA gets rocks from the World Curling Association. They will offer clubs the opportunity to make a bid for rocks at the end of September. The club has to pay \$65/year to cover insurance. After 2 years of just paying for the insurance, the club has five years to pay for the rocks. As membership grows, this would be a better option if we need another sheet of rocks.
 8. **By Laws—**We did not add anything about bonspiels, what will happen if we get a dedicated club, or how to address ice maintenance within the club. The board began going over revised by-laws and was able to get through section 3.0. We will continue reviewing the revisions at the next meeting.
 9. **Additional Items: Banking—**Compass Bank is the bank the club is currently using. As for online banking, there is one more form to fill out which Andy and Judy must sign. Andrew has checks and will give Judy a checkbook. Only one person's signature is required on checks for amounts less than \$750.
 10. **Adjourn Meeting—**The meeting was adjourned at 2:55.

Accepted and approved by the undersigned on the date set forth below:

Signature: _____
 Title: _____

Name: _____
 Date: _____, 2009