

May 5, 2021

AGM Manager's Report

I would like to thank the members and the board for their patience and understanding in what was a very different and stressful year for all of us. The resilience shown by all of you as the Covid regulations changed continually was amazing. The most frequent comment I heard throughout these continuous changes was 'I am just happy to be curling at all'. Of course on December 2 that comment was no longer true and the rink was shut down for the remainder of the year.

We had 168 registered curlers this past year. Do to Covid regulations and the eventual shut down we were unable to provide curling through the school programs, drop-in, learn to curl initiatives, club bonspiels, corporate bonspiels and team building corporate curling. Most years these events would bring hundreds of additional people into the rink, hopefully we can welcome them all back this coming year.

This past year we changed to on-line registration. Although the decision was made before Covid-19 took off it was certainly a good time to keep the crowds out of the office. Betty Dryden and I worked through the summer and early fall to get clubs site set-up and work out the bugs. Thank you everyone for the huge buy-in by the membership. Almost everyone was able to register on their own. Betty and I provided a little support to some to get them through the process. A few of our members without access and/or computer literacy were registered with my help at the office. In the end everyone was in the on-line data base. This has enabled the club to now communicate with you electronically since we have email addresses for everyone. Make sure you keep your e-mail address in I/O up to date.

The club has decided to move forward and start our accessibility elevator project. It has been broken into phases and we are currently building the shaft for the elevator, this work is basically finished. This portion is over 50% of the cost of the project so we have a good start. The next phase is to order and install the elevator. We will apply for any grants we qualify for this year and hope to raise some funds in the community. We currently have almost enough funds to complete the next phase but with Covid-19 still very much around it seems prudent to make sure that we are going to have a normal season and rentals next year before spending our operating capital.

We have done some of the work ourselves with volunteers. Anybody who is bored sitting at home give me a call as we have to put the rink back together. This will involve a thorough cleaning of the rink as we have construction dust everywhere. There will also be reconstruction and painting to do. Volunteers to help out are always appreciated and you don't need construction skills to help with the cleaning.

The club was also able to complete a long overdue rewrite and approval of the by-laws last fall. Our by-laws were based on a club model that we hadn't been following for years. The new by-laws were based on the sample by-laws on the Societies Act site with few changes. The new bylaws will allow the club to be able to adjust much easier and faster to our changing world. Under the new bylaws everyone that curls and pays dues is a full voting member of the club. A copy of the new by-laws are in your package. My thanks to committee that was instrumental in being able to complete this project.

When we get closer to returning to curling next fall I hope we have a clearer picture of what any Covid regulations will look like. We can all hope that maybe there will be none. I will be staying in contact with Curl BC over the summer and will keep the membership informed of changes before registration opens. On the assumption we are curling we will open up I/O in mid to late August for league registrations.

Ken Hall – WLCC Manager