20775 Holt Avenue
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Dakota Curling Board of Directors

March 11, 2026 – Meeting Minutes

1.) Call to order Time: 4:49
Present: ~~Jeanine Perera~~, Jon Skyberg, Jerry Schimmel, Jason Armstrong, ~~Laura Hakala~~, Randy Peterson, Jim Gaebel, Brian Mong, Joe Kaus
Absent: Laura Hakala, Jeanine Perera
Guest: Kevin Niemen

2.) Set date for next meeting:
a.) Next: - April 15 - 5pm @ club
b.) Future: - May 14 -5 pm.@ club (Thursday)
c.) June meeting – June 10 – Annual Meeting Prep
d.) Annual Meeting – June 23

3.) Consent Agenda
Motion to Approve: *Jim Gaebel* Second: *Randy Peterson* Result: Pass
a.) February Meeting Minutes
~~b.) Business Ops Report~~
c.) Member Services Report
~~d.) President's Report~~
e.) Facilities Report

4.) Discussion of Items Pulled from Consent Agenda
No specific discussion items.

5.) Strategic Discussions
a.) Olympic Watch Party Update
Jerry reported that we had ~100 people come through the club during the watch parties. There was good positive feedback from participants (youth, High School, Adults). Jerry would like to keep it going next year - maybe around Nationals

b.) Bonspiel Committee Update
Jerry reported that the Bonspiel Committee has set the schedule for next year. There is some discussion about some format changes, but the dates were presented and approved by the board.

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The Schedule:

i.)	Sept 25	Pirate Spiel
ii.)	Oct 10	All American Women's Spiel (USWCA- Amy McGirl)
iii.)	Nov 13	Fantasy Spiel (D & D theme?)
iv.)	Dec 5	Holiday Spiel (one day)
v.)	Jan 20	Sr Spiel (Internally run week day bonspiel – not published)
vi.)	Jan 29	"5U Spiel" - Will rebrand this to try to attract more teams
vii.)	March 5	Gopher State (USWCA)
viii.)	March 12	Doubles Spiel
ix.)	April 2	Triples Spiel
x.)	April 30	Cinco Spiel

Jerry also announced the intent to hold a "Drain the Barspiel" the week after Cinco (prior to melting the ice). This would be a volunteer appreciation event. The top volunteers for the year would be invited to participate and be entered into a special raffle for prizes yet to be determined.

Other events coming in FY27 – Hot Shots, Slider Cup (daytime event), MCA Mixed.

The above schedule was approved by board vote. (Motion-Jason, Second-Jon).

c.) CIP Committee Update

Jerry reported that he and Jon had had an Initial meeting. They feel that we are in OK shape with our current maintenance. The big concern is the chillers, but we are reasonably confident that we can keep them running through 2030, We should start preparing club for a 2030 need to replace the chillers. This could be a $250K bill.

d.) Leagues Committee Update

Jim reported that the league committee had met in late February. The general feeling from that meeting is that we likely grow by about 40 members due to Olympic bubble. To accommodate this we need to figure where to fit these players. We will target problem nights (Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday), but also need to explore other options (Saturday or adding to existing nights). There is some concern about messing with nights that are working.

This week, Jim sent emails to all current skips. That email identified some options that we are considering for the specific nights and asked for feedback and other suggestions.

In this meeting, Jerry put forth a new suggestion of trying to put a "Competitive"

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league on Wednesday night.

Jim will continue to collect the feedback and then work with the committee to present a league plan. We would like the league plan to be set prior to the end of league play this season.

6.) New Business

a.) Hot Shots Curling Camp – October 16-18
No updates

b.) Food at the bar
Food at the bar is live! There is a book by the microwave to provide training and instructions. Once you complete the training you need to sign that you are trained.

c.) Arena Playdowns – April 10-12
This event is track.

d.) Club Playdowns
Randy will talk to Justin and see what we are going to do. We tentatively found dates in April (23 thru 26) that are open. Randy will work with Justin to start working on a plan to fill the event.

e.) Skip Draws/League Rules
Jim reported that he has some wording ready for updated League Rules. However, yet another issue has come up. A team was in the hack ready to throw and the buzzer went off while clock said they had 2 minutes left. What rules – Buzzer or Clock?

In the discussion, the board agreed that you are entitled to 2 hours not 8 ends. We need to cultivate a culture of finishing in 2hrs or less.

A couple of suggestions…

i.) Clock rules (East Clock) and buzzer tells you to look at the clock. Finish what you are on and play one more.
ii.) At buzzer, skips figure out how to get done on time and agree. (a suggestion of playing a short end like maybe 4 rocks).

f.) Club Scheduling Issues – Private Events/Ice Maintenance/Practice
We have had a few issues lately where events are getting scheduled over other events. Some of this is due to events not getting on the calendar (Practice Ice)

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and other might be training for new admin staff.
Jim will work to ensure Practice Ice Schedule is maintained on the club calendar as well as Pete Segar's google doc.

Jim will work with Deb to ensure that she avoids Ice Maintenance days for scheduling private events.

g.) Lakeville Mailing List – Do we stay on this?
The Board agreed that we should stay on the New Resident mailing list at a cost of $195/yr.

h.) Board Recruiting
The board agreed that we should ask for interested parties in league announcements.

i.) New Volunteer App
Jerry demoed his version of a new app for club calendar. What he demoed had hooks back into many of our existing software (league apps, Discord, etc). The main motivation for working on this was to make volunteer signup and scheduling easier. He has a bit more work to do before getting a demo version to board members for testing. The ultimate goal is to have this ready for introduction at the Annual Meeting.

j.) Lawn Bowling – Kevin Nieman
Kevin came to the board essentially asking for help in marketing the summer Lawn Bowling League. Kevin does all the work in scheduling and tracking the results for the league. In the past the league has been advertised through a mass email, but he thinks the league can grow and get wider visibility to the club through better marketing.

Ideas discussed:
- Newsletter
- League Announcements
- Broadcast Email
- Market it to new members (i.e. L2C participants)

It was also suggested that he work with Rob Graberto get it set up in League Apps to help with registrations.

7.) Adjournment Time: 7:09 pm

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Member Services Report

March 2026

Leagues:
Leagues are up and running for the winter. Jason Botterill is working hard to get one more team to have the doubles league full. Rob Graber has asked us to help recruit a couple more people to fill the Novice Mini league starting March 15.

There are a handful of unpaid invoices for winter. Some of these are late additions due to working to fill the Doubles league. The others will get reminder emails from Rob.

There are 25 people (6 teams) signed up for the instructional league and 30 people (8 teams) signed up for mini novice. Many of these new curlers will be looking for leagues next year.

The leagues that are not full:

- Sunday 7:30 5 Teams
- Monday 7:30 7 Teams
- Wednesday Triples 4 Teams
- Friday 5:30 7 Teams
- Friday Mixed 4 Teams

The league committee met in early March to talk about league changes for next year. With increased interest due to the Olympics, we need to be prepared to provide place for new members to play. Some key topics/goals from the meeting:

- Expect to be around 320 members next year (280 right now)
- Leagues currently at 85% capacity. Rob believes this is a pretty good expectation.
- Target 3 trouble nights: Sunday late, Wednesday, Friday Late
- Try to figure out a way to get a third draw somewhere.
- Look for a way to make Saturday attractive to a group.
- Find a spot for a Novice League

Private Events:
Private Events have seen a spike in interest! We conducted 9 events in February and currently have 5 scheduled for March. We expect this list to grow based on the number of inquiries the club is receiving.

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3/14	12:00	1 Sheet
3/21	7:00	3 Sheets – Lakeville Fire Dept
3/23	2:30	1 Sheet
3/27	1:00	1 Sheet
3/28	2:00	1 Sheet
4/4	3:00	1 Sheet

We continue to struggle getting people to sing up to train these events. There is a core of 3 or 4 that have done these, but we need more trainers if we are getting so many events.

Learn To Curl:
Learn to Curl classes have become very popular after the Olympics. The club added some classes that filled very fast so we added more. There are 3 classes in March: 3/14, 3/21, 3/28.

Jason is conducting instructor training on March 14 in an attempt to get more people comfortable with instructing. So far there are only 1 signed up and he is an experienced Private Event instructor.

Practice Ice: (Pete Segar)
February practice ice events were generally interrupted by the Olympics and Ice Maintenance. The event on Feb 28 was very well attended. There is definitely a desire within the club for ice time.

Upcoming Practice Ice:

March	21, 28
April	18, 25

Bonspiels:
The Double Spiel was conducted the first weekend in March.

Olympic Watch Parties:
Olympic Watch parties were held at the club on the weekends of Feb 14/15 and Feb 21/22. Both weekends were well attended. We had many outside guests who attended for some on-ice instruction.

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Facilities Committee Report

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Maintenance items

- Chiller Maintenance:
  - 2/9 - swapped out a wiring harness on CP4. Resolved the issue. Plan to do this same wire swap-out on other CPs as a preventative measure.
  - 2/24 - Gartner worked on CP2 which has been down on low pressure most of the year. They were able to find a leak and braise it closed. All CPs are now running.
- The Dehumidifier was giving an error. We identified a circuit breaker that tripped. We were able to resolve it without calling in a technician.
- Scraper adjustment mechanism failed on 1/19. The crank mechanism shaft threads stripped out. Mike O was able to get it welded and we were back in business in a day. Meanwhile, I ordered a new blade adjustment assembly ($300 Canadian) not knowing how long it would be before it would get to us. We have since put the new one on.
- Pebble water tank leaking. Fixed one leak…identified another.

Ice

- Need to get plan for next controlled melt nailed down. Conflicts in the schedule have come up.

Camera System

- New bird dog for TV on Sheet B has been installed…resolved the issue with that TV image freezing.
- 2 house cameras have loosened and need to be manually adjusted. This requires getting to the rafters. Checking on rental of a large step ladder to get this done.
- Had issue with the near house camera on sheet B. (Extremely cloudy image) This was resolved by vendor.
- Recent issue during the Double Trouble Spiel where a handful of house cameras were not showing a current image. Resolved by vendor with a full system reboot.

OTHER

- Landlord passed on a complaint about the snow that we dump outside the club by the dumpsters when we do a scrape. Jon implemented a solution and shared it with the landlord. No response from the landlord on whether it is acceptable.

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Internet Service Provider Update

- Contracts signed to switch to Metronet fiber service. Met with the install team and mapped out the scope of work and timing. Expected install June 2026. Completed cost and speed comparison to Spectrum. Spectrum offers 1GIG/50Meg upload compared to 1GIG/1GIG with fiber. Metronet is $250 per month and Spectrum $175 per month.