

## Orwell Ladies Curling Club

### MINUTES of the 41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on

**Tuesday 3 April 2018**

in the lounge, Kinross Curling, Green Road, Kinross

**Time Meeting started:** 12.53pm.

#### Attendance

Approximately 34 members were present, including President Caroline Liddle, Vice President Fiona Doig, Secretary Eileen Thomas, Match Secretary Angela Wilcox and Treasurer Hester Niven.

#### Welcome

President Caroline welcomed members. She wished those who had been injured well and hoped to see them back on the ice. She particularly thanked Angela and Eileen, secretaries, for all the work they do behind the scenes, and also Hester, who puts herself forward every year as treasurer and would hopefully do so again this year!

President Caroline asked playing members to ensure that their completed voting slips for skips are put in the wooden box as counting of the votes would take place during the meeting. There will be other votes at this meeting as there are proposed changes to the Leads & Seconds Gairney, the Pairs competition and to our system for Penalty Points. Voting slips for those will be handed out when we discuss those.

#### Apologies

Gay Deas, Ann Whitelaw, Kathleen Brown, Bridie Graham, Maggie Saunderson, Moira Stewart, Jeanne Dean, Linda Bayne, Kirsty Paterson, Marion Forbes, Lesley Mearns, Lenore Kyle, Grace Paterson, Catherine Ballantyne, Barbara King and Joan Foster.

#### Minutes of Previous AGM, held on 4 April 2017

Agreed as a true record. Proposer: Sue Cameron. Seconder: Susan Scougal.

#### Matters Arising from Minutes of 4 April 2017

President Caroline explained that the Mixed League Leads & Seconds competition mentioned in last year's minutes did not go ahead. It had been suggested by Orwell men but they couldn't get enough players together for it.

#### Review of Membership

Angela Wilcox, Match Secretary, reported that this year there were 75 members in the club; 51 playing members and 24 social members.

There is one **resignation**; **Beth Farmer** will be starting college and is cutting down on club curling to concentrate on competitions. We have wished her all the best.

**Barbara King** is moving back into the area and would like to become a **playing member** again. (She is currently a social member.)

**Valerie Inglis** is going to make Orwell Ladies her **mother club**, thereby switching from occasional to full member.

**Linda Young** is changing from full non-playing to social member.

We need to formally accept **Jayne Ramsay** into the club. Jayne has been filling in as a reserve since November so most of you will know her. Agreed. Proposer: Frances Algie. Seconder: Margaret Greener.

We have two new members to consider:

**Alyson Henderson** is a member of KCDC and would like to join as an occasional member. We are please she has chosen us. Agreed. Proposer: Gill Roberts. Seconder: Liz Glennie.

**Joan Foster**, who many of you will know as a previous member of the club, would like to start curling again. Agreed. Proposer: Valerie Inglis. Seconder: Jackie McQueen.  
So, we will start next season with four more playing members that we had this year.

## **Secretaries' Report**

The report was given by Angela, Match Secretary:

First, a plea to all those who fill in or sign the cards. I have to be able to read them, including all the names so that I can fill in all the results correctly. Please do not just put down Sue as we have four of them and I am not telepathic! Full names, please. Marking subs is helpful and filling in the correct score for each end and adding it up should not be too difficult. Skips should check the result before signing the card. This season I have had lots of inconclusive names, missing names, incorrect addition and missing signatures. Filling in all the charts takes time and it would help if I didn't have to contact you afterwards to query the result.

### **Results**

The winners of club competitions will be revealed at the dinner on 24 April and results of KDLB competitions will be covered by Edna in her report.

By my count Orwell Ladies Curling Club have played in 178 matches this season and that does not include all the curling that individual members do in outside competitions.

#### **1. Friendly Matches**

In our regular friendly matches, we had wins against Dunfermline Ladies, Fossoway, Bishopshire, Loch Leven and KCDC and lost to Fossoway Ladies and Borland.

In the Orwell match we had 2 wins, and 2 losses. Overall, we lost by 22 shots to 33.

Against Kinross we had 2 wins and a peel, winning by 26 shots to 17. Go girls, what a great result!

#### **2. KCT Competitions**

**Club Championship:** We entered a team in the KCT Club Championship in October. Angela Wilcox, Sue Cameron, Allison Pirie, Caroline Liddle, Eileen Thomas, Edna Nelson and Maggie Saunderson were the only ladies' rink. They lost to K2 and Dunfermline but beat Inverkeithing in a great weekend with a high standard of curling.

**KCT League Division 2.** Having been promoted last season we have performed well this year and finished in 2nd place. This means that we will be promoted to division 1 and get to play against Kinross, Dunfermline and the Juniors!

**Ladies Super League:** Orwell Ladies play in 6 of the 10 teams. This competition does not finish until tomorrow, but Wilma Brownlie is still in with a chance to win but it depends on tomorrow's results.

**John Stewart Double Rink Knockout:** Unfortunately, we were knocked out in the semi-final by Dunfermline.

We have two teams competing in the **KCT Closing Bonspiel** on Saturday.

#### **3. Area Competitions**

We played in the Interprovince League and the Fife & Kinross v Perth Bonspiel in Perth.

Orwell Ladies represented Loch Leven Province at the Inter-Province Bonspiel in Perth. This is three five-end back to back games and Angela Wilcox, Susan Scougal, Allison Pirie, Lesley Brown, Jackie McQueen and Mo Robertson won all three games to claim the trophy.

#### **4. Province Competitions**

This season we played in the Province Bonspiel and got knocked out of the Wilson Trophy in the first round by Kinross, who went on to win it.

In the Festive Potty, a combined Orwell team which included Edna Nelson, Angela Wilcox, Sue Cameron and Eileen Thomas had two good wins and an overall shots score of 30, good enough to win the competition for the second time in a row.

In February Orwell Ladies won the Blairhill Challenge. Well done to Wilma Brownlie, Sue Cameron, Margaret Nelson, Eileen Thomas, Caroline Liddle, Susan Scougal, Fiona Doig and Maggie Saunderson.

#### **5. Lomond League**

Orwell Ladies played 14 games, one being cancelled due to snow. We won 6 and peeled 1. Overall, we came 8th out of 16 teams and were the highest up ladies team. Orwell won the league.

#### **6. Outside Competitions**

In November, Angela Wilcox played for England at the European Senior Invitation in Greenacres, playing against the seniors champions from Switzerland, Russia and Sweden among others. England won all 6 group games, then beat Scotland in the semi-finals and then fell at the last hurdle by losing to Switzerland. Liz Glennie and Maggie Scott were in the winning rink at the Perth Ladies Open and Wilma Brownlie was a runner-up.

At the Yara Farmers Curling Championships Wilma Brownlie and Margaret Nelson were in the highest placed ladies rink.

In January, Valerie Inglis, Susan Scougal, Caroline Liddle and Fiona Doig won the Hamilton Ladies Open. Liz Glennie and Maggie Scott competed in the Scottish Seniors and got to the quarter finals.

Then in March ten Orwell Ladies took part in the Stirling Ladies Open. Angela Wilcox's team won with Susan Scougal and Eileen Thomas, 3rd place went to Wilma Brownlie's team with Margaret Nelson and 4th place to Liz Glennie's team with Maggie Scott. Hopefully they will keep the competition on a Wednesday next year as everyone had a great day out.

Margaret Nelson was part of the winning rink at the Scottish Women's Institutes National Curling Competition representing the Perth and Kinross Federation.

I know that members of the club competed in many more competitions both here in Kinross and around Scotland. There are too many for me to know about and certainly too many to list here.

### **Thanks**

All of this would not be possible without a hardworking committee, a group of readily available subs and all of you who make this club what it is.

Thank you also to Lenore for again printing the cards for us.

And finally, most of this information can be found on the website, with photos. If your achievement is not there I do apologise. Next season, remember to take a photo and send me a report and I'll put it on the website so other club members can see it. – *Angela Wilcox*

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Hester Niven handed out copies of the interim accounts for 2017-18. These were approved. Proposed by Alicia Hay. Seconded by Wilma Brownlie.

It was agreed to keep the staff tip the same as last year at £150.

There had been £263 in the "Losers' Pot" which raises funds for Kinross Curling Trust. It was agreed to round this up to £270.

There was £43 left over from the opening bonspiel.

### **Representative Members' Report**

The club's representative members on the KDLB for the past year were Edna Nelson and Sue Cameron. Edna reported as follows (members of Orwell Ladies shown in bold):

**Senior Pairs:** The season started with the Senior Pairs in October, sponsored by High Valleyfield Pharmacy. Winners: **Susan Scougal** and **Angela Wilcox**. Runners up: **Liz Glennie** and **Eileen Thomas**.

**Ladies Open:** This took place in November, sponsored by Brian Johnston Pharmacy. Winners: Ann Shaw and Forfar Rink with super sub **Gay Deas**. Runners up: **Liz Glennie**, **Maggie Scott**, Fiona de Vries and **Eileen Thomas**.

**KDLB Bonspiel:** This took place in January. Winners: **Wilma Brownlie**, Alice Thomson, **Bridie Graham** and Marie Tomaney. Runners up: Lorna Rennie, Yvonne Wardrope, **Catherine Ballantyne** and **Frances Algie**.

**KDLB Points:** Sponsored by Loch Leven's Larder. 1st: **Susan Scougal**. 2nd: Irene Baillie. Team event winners: **Orwell Ladies** team of **Susan Scougal**, **Wilma Brownlie** and **Allison Pirie**.

**Thistle Pairs:** This took place in February and was an open event for the first time. Winners: **Val Inglis** and Fiona Rutherford. Runners up: Margaret Robertson and Wendy Henderson from Kelso.

### **Henderson**

**Bishop:** Seven teams entered at local level. The winning rink who represented Kinross in the finals at Hamilton was the rink of **Val Inglis**, **Susan Scougal**, Heather Gough and **Sue Cameron**. They reached the semi-final of the low road. The competition winner was Ayr, and the winner of the low road was Stranraer.

**Morton:** Kinross won seven out of the nine games against Murrayfield, Kelso and Kirkcaldy to go forward to the finals at Kirkcaldy Ice Rink. Kinross won the semi-final against Stranraer but unfortunately lost in the final to Stirling. Well done to everyone who took part.

I would like to thank Orwell Ladies for supporting the Ladies Branch competitions and also contributing to the 100 Club so generously. Thank you. – *Edna Nelson.*

## **Social Report**

The social sub-committee for the past year has been Jeanne Dean, Margaret Nelson and Lesley Johnston who co-opted Frances Algie to assist them. Jeanne wrote the report, which was read out by Frances as follows:

The summer programme began with the usual **Texas scramble golf competition** at Milnathort Golf Club capably organised thanks to Lenore Kyle. Sixteen golfers took part and, in a fairly close contest, the winners were Marion Forbes, Susie Ballantyne, Caroline Liddle and Beryl Harley. The 'wooden spoon' award went to Sue Jones, Jane Smith, Margaret Nelson and Gay Deas.

Thanks to Frances Algie for providing the trophies and prizes for the golf event this year.

Non-golfers and social members joined the participants for a very pleasant soup and sandwich lunch followed by a very impressive array of baking. The golf club staff certainly looked after us very well again.

The **summer outing** organised by myself took place on Tuesday 1st August. Despite a very unpredictable summer weatherwise, we were able to go ahead with the **walking treasure hunt around Limekilns and Charlestown**. This was followed by a high tea at the Elgin Hotel, Charlestown. We were very lucky that the afternoon provided a three-hour break in the rainy weather which dominated much of last summer and the wet weather indoor alternative of the quiz was not required. Eight teams took part in the Treasure Hunt.

The results were as follows:

Winners: 'The Charlestown Flappers' with 75 points. Team members were Liz Glennie, Lenore Kyle, Sue Jones and Rosie Goudie.

Runners-up: 'Help! We need Somebody' with 73 points. Team members were Christine Taylor, Bridie Graham and Gill Roberts.

Wooden Spoon: 'Lost Our Marbles' with 67 points. Team members were Sue Cameron, Mo Robertson and Maggie Saunderson.

After the **opening bonspiel** on Tuesday 19th September, Ann Whitelaw came out of her semi retirement to provide us once again with a sumptuous buffet and Margaret Nelson produced some very well received traybakes for dessert. Grace Paterson kindly and competently organised the hall and parking arrangements. As usual, many ladies chipped in to help the social committee with the clearing up which always seems to proceed with amazing efficiency! Yet another enjoyable event so many thanks to all who contributed.

In the survey sent out with last year's social programme your committee asked whether or not members would be interested in **further social activities** over the winter months. Eighteen of the ladies who responded indicated an interest in further social activities or events. It may therefore be an appropriate question to consider at this AGM as to what form these might take. A Christmas event, perhaps, or activities which social members could enjoy after lunch on the first Tuesday of the month?

Thanks to my fellow members of the social committee, Margaret Nelson and Lesley Johnston as well as France Algie who was co-opted on to the group in the early summer. – *Jeanne Dean.*

Margaret Nelson then read out a card received from Jen, daughter of **Jessie Lawrie**. On behalf of herself and her father Jim, Jen thanked the club for continuing to invite Jessie to events and for the transportation to events over the years. Jessie has now settled happily into life at Ashley House. (See also Any Other Business.)

## **President's Report**

President Caroline said her report would be the briefest ever as she had a plane to catch! She had little to add to her opening welcome, other than congratulating those who had achieved success during the season. She thanked the committee for their work and everyone for their support.

## Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2018-19

	<i>Office/role</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Seconded</i>
1	<b>President</b>	<b>Caroline Liddle</b>	Angela Wilcox	Fiona Doig
2	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Fiona Doig</b>	Susan Scougal	Angela Wilcox
3	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Eileen Thomas</b>	Sue Cameron	Margaret Nelson
4	<b>Match Secretary</b>	<b>Angela Wilcox</b>	Susan Scougal	Frances Algie
5	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Hester Niven</b>	Caroline Liddle	Sue Cameron
6	<b>Committee member</b>	<b>Margaret Nelson</b>	Caroline Liddle	Sue Cameron
7	<b>Committee member</b>	<b>Lesley Johnston</b>	Caroline Liddle	Maggie Scott
8	<b>Committee member</b>	<b>Frances Algie</b>	Maggie Scott	Lesley Johnston
9	<b>KDLB Rep</b>	<b>Sue Cameron</b>	Maggie Scott	Angela Wilcox
10	<b>KDLB Rep</b>	<b>Fiona Doig</b>	Sue Cain	Eileen Thomas

## Review of Club's Programme

<i>Orwell Ladies Competitions</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Thistle	No comments.
Jubilee	No comments.
Gairney	Details of a proposal to change the Leads & Seconds Gairney had been sent out in advance of the meeting. The proposal was to have club leads playing at lead and third, and club seconds at second and skip. After the first round of games, leads shall swap with thirds, and seconds shall swap with skips. The change was proposed to give club leads more experience of the higher playing positions. (The first version of the Leads & Seconds Gairney had club seconds playing at third and skip, with club leads playing at lead and second.) Ballot papers were handed out to leads, seconds and new members and the result announced at the end of the meeting. The proposal was carried by 11 votes to 4.
Pairs	Details of a proposal to change the OLCC Pairs competition had been sent out in advance of the meeting. The proposal was to play the Pairs competition all in one day, with the exact format to be organised by the committee. A knockout format would be avoided; the idea would be for participants to have several games. The current format is a knockout spread over four sessions over three weeks. Players knocked out in the first round do not play again until the closing bonspiel three weeks later. Some players find this a disappointing way to end the season. A ballot was held and the result announced at the end of the meeting. The proposal was carried by 25 votes to 4.
Points	No comments.
Mixed League	No comments.

<i>External Competitions</i>		<i>Comments</i>
KDLB Competitions		No comments.
KCT Competitions:	KCT League, John Stewart Double Rink Knockout, Opening and Closing Bonspiels, Club Weekend Bonspiel	No comments.
Province Competitions:	Bonspiel, Blairhill, Wilson, Potty	No comments.
Area 10 Comps:	Inter Province League, Fife & Kinross v Perth Bonspiel	Angela proposed that the club withdraw from these competitions as we never get to hear the results of them. This was seconded by Margaret Nelson. There was no counter-proposal so this was generally agreed.
Lomond League		No comments.

Club Friendlies		No comments.
Grand Match		No comments.

### Review of Penalty Points

A proposal to change the Penalty Points for the late or non-arrival of a player had been sent out in advance of the meeting. The proposal was to reduce the current maximum 6-point penalty to a maximum of 3 points (one after 10 minutes, a second after 20 minutes and the third after 30 minutes) and apply automatically to all games. Ballot papers containing the following options were handed out: Remove the penalty points altogether OR The Proposal OR No Change. The vote was by Single Transferable Vote and the result was announced at the end of the meeting. The Proposal to change to three penalty points was carried.

### Review of Bye-laws

If the proposal to change the Pairs competition is carried (which it was), the current Pairs Bye-laws would be suspended for season 2018-19 while we try out the new format.

### Review of Social Programme

Members were generally happy with the current programme, though there was a suggestion that it needs a bit of a boost. Ideas are welcome. Some social members might like an event in the winter.

### Curlers' Court

It was agreed to hold a Court in the 2018-19 season.

### Result of Voting for Skips

In alphabetical order by first name, the results were:

Angela, Edna, Eileen, Fiona, Grace, Laurie, Susan Scougal, Sue Cameron, Valerie, Wilma.

### Any Other Business

**Thanks to Shireen:** With reference to the card received from Jessie Lawrie's family, Laurie proposed a vote of thanks to Shireen for her kindness in so often going to collect some of the more senior members of the club to bring them to social events. This was heartily agreed by all present.

**KDLB:** Lizzie Glennie, currently KDLB Secretary, thanked the members for supporting KDLB competitions.

**Development:** Lizzie also encouraged members to contact Robin Brydone, the development officer, for coaching. She knows several people who attended Try Curling and are now beginner curlers. She also congratulated Robin on his recent success with the Scottish Junior team.

### Vote of Thanks

Fiona Doig, Vice President, gave the following vote of thanks:

I would like to thank the committee for working so hard to make sure the club runs smoothly. Thank you to our President Caroline, and particular thanks to Eileen and Angela who do a fantastic job and are never allowed to resign!

As always we are very lucky to have fantastic ice at our rink. This is due to the hard work of Steven and his team. The catering staff work hard and serve lovely soups, sandwiches and cakes every week. A special thanks today for our lunch.

The social committee always do a great job organising the opening and closing bonspiel lunches, the dinner, golf day and summer outing. This year's outing was a treasure hunt; a special thanks must go to Jeanne for all her hard work organising this. Jeanne will be stepping down from the social committee this year.

The reserves are a very important part of our competitions, especially this year with many players unable to play. I know some played more than they really wanted to. We are lucky to have a busy club with great ladies and great curling. Thank you! – *Fiona Doig*.

### Close of Meeting

President Caroline closed the meeting at 1.53pm. (The meeting lasted exactly one hour.)

**The above minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting at the 2019 AGM**