

Orwell Ladies Curling Club

MINUTES of the 42nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on

Tuesday 2 April 2019

in the lounge, Kinross Curling, Green Road, Kinross

Before the AGM started Angela announced the result of the Closing Bonspiel. Country beat Town +1. The winning team was skipped by Laurie McKerrow with Mo Robertson, Rosie Goudie and Jayne Ramsay.

Time Meeting started: 1.00pm.

Attendance/Welcome

President Caroline Liddle welcomed 37 members to the meeting. Those present included Vice President Fiona Doig, Secretary Eileen Thomas, Match Secretary Angela Wilcox and Treasurer Hester Niven.

In Memoriam

President Caroline spoke about our dear sister curler Sue Jones, a lovely lady and a strong supporter of the club, who sadly passed away in December. Members stood and observed a minute's silence in her memory.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Avril Baird, Kathleen Brown, Bridie Graham, Lesley Mearns, Joan Foster, Linda Bayne, Sue Cain, Nancy Gibb, Maggie Scott, Gillian Russell, Grace Paterson and Norma Anderson.

Minutes of Previous AGM, held on 3 April 2018

These were agreed as a true record: proposed by Sue Cameron and seconded by Alicia Hay.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 3 April 2018

None.

Review of Membership

Angela Wilcox, Match Secretary, reported as follows:

Currently there are 73 members in the club; 51 playing members and 22 social members.

Sadly, we lost Sue Jones, and Bridie Graham has moved up to the Black Isle.

There is one resignation; Val Gaudin. We have wished her all the best.

There are no new members wanting to join.

Secretaries' Report

Angela, Match Secretary, reported as follows:

Results

The winners of club competitions will be revealed at the dinner on 23 April 2019 and the results of KDLB competitions will be covered by Sue Cameron in her report.

By my count Orwell Ladies Curling Club have played in nearly 200 matches this season and that does not include all the curling that individual members do in outside competitions.

Friendly Matches

In our regular friendly matches, we won against KCDC, won some and lost some against Fossoway and Bishopshire, and lost to Dunfermline Ladies, Loch Leven and Boreland.

In the Orwell match only Laurie won her game. Overall, we lost 21 shots to 35.

Against Kinross sadly we lost all three games, going down 14 shots to 30. I think last year's win hurt them!

KCT Competitions

Club Bonspiel: Eileen Thomas, Sue Cameron, Grace Paterson, Maggie Saunderson and Kirsty Cassells represented Orwell Ladies, the only ladies' rink, at this event.

KCT League Division 1: Having been promoted last season we have not played well here and lost all our games. So back to division 2 to try again.

John Stewart Double Rink Knockout: Susan Scougal and Angela Wilcox skipped the rinks against Ceres to a close win. Susan and Valerie Inglis took the second round against Glenfarg but were knocked out.

KCT Closing Bonspiel: We have a team competing in the KCT Closing Bonspiel on Saturday.

Ladies Super League: This competition does not finish until tomorrow, but Valerie Inglis, Liz Glennie and Angela Wilcox are all on 12 points, so there is everything to play for yet. *[Post meeting note: the League was won by Liz Glennie's team, including Maggie Scott, Eileen Thomas and Jane Drysdale of Orwell Ladies, and Liz Thomson.]*

Province Competitions

This season we played in the Province Bonspiel, Blairhill Challenge and the Festive Potty.

We got knocked out of the Wilson Trophy in the second round by Kinross.

Lomond League

Orwell Ladies played 15 games. We won six and peeled one. Overall, we came 10th out of 16 teams (two places lower than last year). Bishopshire won the league.

Outside Competitions

In September, Eileen Thomas, Sue Cameron, Angela Wilcox, Susan Scougal, Edna Nelson and Maggie Saunderson represented Orwell Ladies at the **Kinross Curling Club 350th Anniversary Bonspiel**. This was a fantastic weekend with teams from Canada, America, Denmark, Switzerland and Germany. It was superbly organised by Kinross CC and everyone had a great time and made new friends.

Wilma Brownlie and Maggie Saunderson were in the winning rink at the **Kelso Ladies Open** in October along with Pat McFarlane and Judith Dixon from Kelso.

The KCT held the **Over 40s weekend** in January and Orwell Ladies were very well represented in various teams.

At the end of January Angela and the English ladies won the **Lockerbie Ladies Open**.

In February Angela Wilcox, Sue Cameron, Caroline Liddle and Maggie Saunderson played in Stranraer at the **Lyburn**. They lost the high road final to Margaret Agnew.

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

Hester Niven, Treasurer, handed out copies of the interim accounts for 2018-19.

The interim accounts indicate a substantial deficit for the year (-£735.19). The ice bill for the year was significantly larger than before. This will be examined carefully.

There was an expenditure of almost £400 for new jackets; about £260-worth have been sold so far.

It was agreed to pay the ice team and bar staff £150 in tips as in recent years.

The Losers' Pot which raises funds for Kinross Curling Trust contained £330. It was agreed that if we have the opportunity to sponsor a pair of stones for £60 for the benefit of KCT (as we did in 2018-19), the fee for this will come from the Losers' Pot and then the balance of the Losers' Pot will be paid over to KCT. It was agreed to carry on with the Losers' Pot to benefit KCT in 2019-20.

The membership fee for full members for 2019-20 will be £31.

The interim accounts were approved: proposed by Christine Taylor and seconded by Mo Robertson.

Representative Members' Report

Sue Cameron reported as follows: Fiona Doig and I were Orwell Ladies reps this season and Liz Glennie also served as Secretary. It was another busy season with the usual five branch competitions and an incoming Swedish Tour in addition to the national Henderson Bishop and Morton Competitions.

Senior Pairs (Oct): *Winners: Liz Glennie and Eileen Thomas. Runners-up: Val Inglis and Maggie Scott.*

KDLB Ladies Open (Oct): *Winners: Heather Gough, Elaine Paterson, Elspeth Caldwell, Anne Porter. Runners -up: Judith Dixon, Joan Reed, Helen Forbes, Angela Wilcox.*

Swedish Tour (Oct): The Friday night dinner was hosted by the Ladies Branch Committee followed by the curling on Saturday morning, Scotland was jointly represented by Kinross & Kirkcaldy Ladies Branches with each club providing one player with the remainder from previous Swedish tourists. Wilma and Maggie Scott represented Orwell Ladies and they also attended the closing banquet on Saturday night along with the KDLB office-bearers. The tie was won by the tourists.

Henderson Bishop Playdowns (Nov): Six teams from Kinross and two from Perth. *Winners: Morag Wellman, Debbie Weir, Sarah Bruce Jones, Maggie Saunderson and Dottie Burt. Runners-up: Ann-Maree Davidson, Jo Fletcher, Anna Martin, Anne Hewitt and Margaret Cairns.* Both teams qualified for the Henderson Bishop finals at Stranraer in February 2019 where I am assured there was good curling and good times had by all!

KDLB Bonspiel (Jan): *Winners: Lizzie Glennie, Jorja Rennie, Anne Moore, Joan Foster. Runners-up: Irene Baillie, Sue Cameron, Allison Pirie, Maureen Lewis.*

KDLB Centre Points (Jan): *Winner: Sheila Cannon (Kinross Ladies). Runners-up equal: Julia Cormack (Dunfermline Ladies), Gillian Laird (Dunfermline Ladies), Sheona McClure (Fossoway Ladies), Debbie Weir (Fossoway Ladies). Third equal: Eileen Thomas and Valerie Inglis (Orwell Ladies). Team Trophy Winners: Fossoway Ladies (Sheona McClure, Debbie Weir and Dottie Burt).*

In April 2019:

KDLB Thistle Pairs: Scheduled for February, this competition was postponed until April due to the funeral of Ann Malcolm and has yet to be played. *[Post meeting note: The Thistle Pairs competition was won by Anne Shaw and Lillian Carnegie of Forfar. Runners-up were Eileen Thomas and Allison Pirie.]*

Morton: In December 2018 Kinross Centre attained five out of six points by winning two games and peeling one game when they played their away games against Murrayfield. In January 2019, Kinross Centre attained four out of six points by winning two games and losing one game when they played their home games against Borders. And also in January, Kinross Centre attained two out of six points by winning one game and losing two games when they played their away games against Kirkcaldy. These results were not enough to progress to finals held at Kirkcaldy Ice rink in March. The venue for next year is expected to be Forfar ice rink.

Thanks and Forthcoming Events

Orwell Ladies are always very supportive of the KDLB competitions so thanks to all who played this year I am sure you recognised many Orwell ladies amongst the winners' names!

I'd like to thank the office-bearers and club reps who run the competitions and encourage you to consider standing for vacant posts next season.

Thanks also to all the generous sponsors who provide the prizes for the KDLB competitions.

Already on the horizon for next season in 2020 is the **incoming Canadian Tour**. The 100 club is a major source of funding for tour hosting; thanks to those who joined this year.

For anyone interested in becoming a curling tourist there will be an **outgoing American tour** in 2021.

Finally, a reminder that the **KDLB AGM** will be held here at 7.15pm on 29 April 2019 and you are all very welcome. – Sue Cameron.

Social Report

The social sub-committee for the past year has been Margaret Nelson, Lesley Johnston and Frances Algie. Margaret reported as follows:

Frances, Lesley and myself had an enjoyable year organising the summer programme, starting with the golf in June at Milnathort. Once again we were lucky with the weather. Our winners were Beryl, Wilma, Frances and Alicia and runners-up were Elma, Gay and Lizzie. Milnathort Golf Club provided us with delicious soup and sandwiches. A huge thank you to Lenore for organising the day.

Next was our Summer Outing on 4 September, a little later than usual but well worth waiting for: “Our sail on Maid of the Forth.” We couldn’t have asked for a more beautiful evening.

The captain and her mates welcomed about 50 sailors, made up of members, husbands and friends. After our glass of wine in the sun we made our way down to the lower deck for a delicious buffet supper provided by Anne. Then the jazz band started up and few sailors enjoyed a wee dance up and down the passage way. I think everyone enjoyed the sail on “Maid of the Forth”.

Next was the Opening Bonspiel, always an enjoyable get together to start our new season’s curling. Again thank you to Anne for a delicious lunch.

Then on 15 November we had a Curlers’ Court. With my two social members being non-made curlers, I had to call in the experts, Beryl and Gay. After a few meetings we started to get organised.

Our President Caroline took great control of the evening, with Beryl and her two helpers, Angela and Eileen, and Gay and her helpers, Sue and Susan, put nine curlers through their routines. I have to congratulate our nine members; they were amazing and entertained the whole company.

A big thank you to Angela who made an excellent job of the programme and the name cards, she even had the menu choice on each card. Also thanks to the Green Hotel who had the room beautifully laid out and provided us with a delicious meal. – *Margaret Nelson.*

President’s Report

President Caroline said we’d had a very successful year and congratulated everyone who had won competitions. The club was injury-free this season apart from Edna who had broken her wrist a couple of weeks earlier.

President Caroline said the social committee deserved special thanks after the very special summer outing and the curler’s court. Caroline had hoped the court would not be on her watch, but she said it had been a “cracking night” and that we were “lucky to be in such a great club”. She thanked everyone who had helped run it smoothly.

Caroline said she could not have managed the presidency without the help of the committee, particularly thanking Eileen, Angela and Hester as secretaries and treasurer. She thanked everyone for being so supportive, making the job of President really quite easy. She admitted to having secretly quite enjoyed it, and was pleased that her voice doesn’t squeak as much as it did two years ago! She ended by saying “thank you all for putting up with me.”

Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2019-20

	<i>Office/role</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Seconded</i>
1	President	Fiona Doig	Caroline Liddle	Valerie Inglis
2	Vice President	Alicia Hay	Fiona Doig	Laurie McKerrow
3	Secretary	Eileen Thomas	Caroline Liddle	Fiona Doig
4	Match Secretary	Angela Wilcox	Caroline Liddle	Marion Forbes
5	Treasurer	Hester Niven	Caroline Liddle	Liz Glennie
6	Committee Member	Rosie Goudie*	Laurie McKerrow	Susan Scougal
7	Committee Member	Lesley Johnstone	Caroline Liddle	Susan Scougal
8	Committee Member	Frances Algie	Caroline Liddle	Jane Drysdale
9	Representative Member	Alicia Hay	Angela Wilcox	Valerie Inglis
10	Representative Member	Caroline Liddle	Angela Wilcox	Eileen Thomas
11	Past President	Caroline Liddle	n/a	n/a
12	Committee Member	Christine Taylor*	<i>Co-opted later</i>	

(Ten committee members in total as two members have double roles)

* At this AGM Christine Taylor was elected to be a Committee Member. However, after Christine volunteered to be Orwell Ladies’ nominee as Vice President of Loch Leven Province (see item below), she then expressed a preference not to be responsible for social events as an Orwell Ladies Committee Member. Rosie Goudie was then elected to this position. *[Post Meeting Note: At the first committee*

meeting of the season on 9 April 2019, Christine was co-opted on to the committee to facilitate communication regarding Province matters.]

Loch Leven Province: Nominations

It is Orwell Ladies' turn to provide a Vice President for the Province. No-one volunteered at first then Susan Scougal said she would do it, but was unhappy at having to, as she has spent several years on the OLCC committee. Christine Taylor then volunteered to be Orwell Ladies' nominee and this was agreed and Christine thanked. The Secretary will inform Boyd Houston, the current Province Secretary. The Province AGM is on Monday 15 April 2019 at 7pm at Kinross Curling and should be attended by a representative of Orwell Ladies. Christine would not be able to attend but Caroline would attend as Representative Member and confirm Christine as our nominee.

The Province was also looking for a new Secretary but there were no volunteers.

See also item on Province under Any Other Business.

Review of Club's Programme

Internal (Club) Competitions

Gairney: Although not perfect, the Gairney arrangements are probably as good as they can be.

Pairs: There was general agreement that the bonspiel format tried out this season for the Pairs competition had worked well and had been enjoyable. It was therefore agreed to change to this format. (See also Review of Bye-laws, below.)

Mixed League: Sue Cameron had heard that the original idea for the Mixed League was to have all female skips one year and all male skips the next (with other positions alternating male/female as usual). It was agreed that the current arrangement where a male skip might play against a female skip is preferable. Jane Drysdale said that the Reserve list for the Mixed League is not being used, with other players, who are not on the list, being asked to play. It was reiterated that Reserves must be asked first before looking to the general club membership for a substitute. This applies to all club competitions.

External Competitions

KDLB: Liz Glennie, KDLB Secretary, said that dates are not fixed for next season yet. The Open had to move to a Thursday in 2018-19 to avoid a clash with a Perth competition but would revert to a Tuesday in 2019-20.

Kinross Curling Trust: No comment on KCT League, John Stewart Double Rink Knockout, Opening and Closing Bonspiels, Club Bonspiel.

Province: No comment on Province Bonspiel, Blairhill, Wilson, Festive Potty.

Club Friendlies: Gill Roberts suggested that, when fielding a team in a friendly against KCDC, it would be a good idea for the most recent recruit from KCDC to play, to encourage other KCDC players to join. That is how she recruited Alyson Henderson to our club. It was unanimously agreed that this was a good idea.

Grand Match: Agreed to field two teams as usual in the event of a Grand Match.

Review of Bye-laws

For the club Pairs, it was agreed to change to a one-day bonspiel (not knockout) format, similar to that tried out in season 2018-19. Six stones per team per end had been used, with the Free Guard Zone applying to the first four stones played per end. Gay Deas suggested that the Free Guard Zone should apply to the first three stones per end. This was agreed.

It was agreed to delegate it to the committee to alter the Pairs bye-law to reflect the bonspiel format.

Review of Social Programme

It was agreed to leave this up to the committee.

Result of Voting for Skips

Jane Smith and Margaret Nelson were thanked for counting the votes. In alphabetical order, the skips for next season are: Angela, Eileen, Grace, Laurie, Sue, Susan, Valerie and Wilma.

Any Other Business

Province: Susan Scougal raised the subject of Loch Leven Province again. (See also Loch Leven Province: Nominations above.) For a number of years there has been great difficulty in securing enough people to take on the office-bearer roles on the Province. This has resulted in the latest technique of requiring clubs to take turns at providing the various offices, but this is perhaps unfair on the very small clubs. Indeed, some clubs are pulling out of Province competitions to avoid these responsibilities. Susan made the point that it seemed a cumbersome way of organising four competitions per year. She suggested it could be done differently. Perhaps Kinross Curling could take on the organisation and running of these competitions?

Beryl Harley said that curling competitions would originally have been between one province and another. Provinces are a very historic part of organised curling in Scotland.

Angela suggested that when it is a club's turn to provide a Province Vice President, the club's own Vice President could do it as a club Vice President does not have much else to do.

KDLB: Liz Glennie, on behalf of KDLB, thanked everyone for supporting the KDLB competitions throughout the season.

Orwell Ladies History Book: Gay wondered what had happened to the book that the early members had been collectively writing. Eileen will check the secretary's boxes.

Handover of Presidency

Caroline officially handed over the presidency to Fiona, and the gavel and losers' pot.

Fiona said Caroline has been amazing and will be a hard act to follow. Caroline has promised to be on the end of the phone!

Vote of Thanks

New Vice President Alicia Hay gave the vote of thanks as follows:

On behalf of OLCC I would firstly like to thank your office bearers, our outgoing President Caroline and meeting president Fiona and take this opportunity to wish Fiona an excellent term in office. On behalf of the club, our indebted thanks to our joint secretaries Angela and Eileen, treasurer Hester, our committee and social committee, all who do a huge amount of work behind the scenes to keep the club running smoothly.

A huge thank you to Kinross Curling Trust and all the staff who provide us with great ice and look after us so well as they have done today with the delicious soup and sandwiches.

And a final thanks to all our members for supporting the club and making the club that we all enjoy. Thank you. – *Alicia Hay*.

Close of Meeting

The meeting ended at: 2.08pm. The meeting lasted one hour and 8 minutes.