Annual General Meeting of RCCC North East Area on 24th April 2024 To be held in Forfar Ice Rink at 7.00pm Agenda

- 1. Welcome from Area Rep Tom Kirk
- 2. Apologies
- 3. Obituaries
- 4. Minutes of the previous AGM on 26th April 2023
- 5. Matters arising from these minutes.
- 6. Reports
 - a. North East Area Rep
 - b. Secretary and Treasurer's
 - c. Junior Curling: Aberdeen -Albert Middler

Forfar – Ian Taylor

Dundee – Andrew Skea

- d. Development: around the rinks
 - Aberdeen
 - o Dundee
 - o Forfar
- 7. Nominations

Area Rep - Tom Kirk (2024) 2nd term retiring

Area Rep - Philip Ross (2025)

Albert Middler - (2026) 2nd term

Secretary / Treasurer - Janice Walls (3 years served)

Vacancy nominations

- 8. A.O.C.B.
 - a. Proposals for changes to Area Competitions rules penalty points and scoring
 - b. Date of Next Year's AGM
- 9. Presentation of Prizes for season 2023-2024

INDOOR BONSPIEL Angus Province -

Forfar CC -John Duff, Douglas McGlynn, Michael Cumming, David Stobbs

GRANT TROPHY North Eastern Province

AWW - Ronald Whyte, Albert Middler, Gavin Oag, Ken Anderson

CRICHTON TANKARD

Forfar 1 – Bill Thomson, Douglas McGlynn, Mike Cumming, Hayden Thomas

INTER PROVINCE COMPETITION North and South Esk Province

ROY GRAY TROPHY Callie Souter (Edzell), Kaella Millar (Caterthun) and Rowan Lyon (Caterthun)

Special Presentation to Callie Soutar and Ethan Brewster for winning Gold at the Junior Olympic Games 2024 in the mixed doubles event.

Royal Caledonian Curling Club Minute Of North East Area Annual General Meeting Held at Forfar Indoor Sports, Wednesday 24th April 2024

Tom Kirk opened the meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to come along.

Attendance:

28 members attended the AGM noted below:

Tom Kirk (RCCC Area Rep), Albert Middler (RCCC Area Rep), Pete Walls (Fettercairn), Alistair Crozier (Pitkerro), Janice Walls (Fettercairn/Dalhousie), Emma Sinclair(Gateway), Philip Ross (RCCC Area Rep), George Paterson (Forfar), Louise Souter FYC Coach), Callie Souter (FYC/Edzell), Ian Taylor (FYC/Suttieside), Wendy Louden (Edzell Secretary), Alistair Scott (Broughty Ferry), Jill Donald (Fothringham), Anne Donald (Fothringham), Rowan Lyon (Caterthun), Lillian Carnegie (Forfar Ladies), Ross A Allison (Caterthun), Sandy Stewart (Evenie Water), Tony Dunbar Balruddery), Brian McArtney (Letham Grange), Tracey Collie (Gateway), Richard Jachnik Aberdeen Petroleum), Dougie McMurray (Fettercairn), Marianne Jenkins (Suttieside), Hayden Thomas (Forfar), Mike Cumming (Forfar), Andy McGlynn (Forfar).

Apologies:

Chris Curnin (Caterthun), Graeme prophet (Dundee & District Secretary), Lorraine Cambell (N&S Esk Secretary) Jim Keillor (Letham Grange).

Obituaries:

George Hay (Hon Member Edzell CC), David Russell (Hon Member Forfar CC), Irene Miller (Guild/ Kirriemuir Ladies CC), Dorothy Wilson (Forfar Ladies CC) and Margaret Will (Dalhousie Ladies CC).

Minute of AGM held on 26th April 2023:

Minute proposed by Albert Middler and seconded by Wendy Louden.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from these minutes.

Reports:

North East Area 12 Rep - Tom Kirk

North East Area (12), Area Representatives

Tom Kirk (University of Dundee)

Philip Ross (Kirriemuir)

Albert Middler (AWW)

Janice Walls (Fettercairn and Dalhousie) (Area Secretary & Treasurer)

ASC

There have been four ASC meetings this year (2 ASC & 2 ASC/LSC). August, October, December & January. I attended three. Some of the main points of discussion referred to the future of Ayr and Perth ice rinks. Minutes are on the SC website.

Area Management

All four Provinces have supplied 2 volunteers from each to form the Area Management Committee.

The committee was set up and we have had a few meetings this year. The committee met to carry out the Area competition draws which provided clarity on the draw process to all Provinces.

The main function of the committee is to help with the communications within the Area and also improve the feedback from clubs and Provinces to the Area committee.

The last meeting of this year met recently to get updates from the Provinces and also to review the competition rules. These proposed rule changes will be voted on at the Area AGM on Wednesday 26th April at 7pm at Forfar.

The Area Website has all competitions, draws and results.

Link to website: -https://northeastarea.curling.org.uk/competitions/

Last year we asked all clubs and Provinces to ensure their Scottish Curling membership database is kept up to date. There are still issues with some clubs and Provinces not having up to date details on the membership Database. Could all clubs please check their details on the membership database.

Structure review

The Structure review has been renamed as Sweeping Change: The Future of Curling 2023-2027 One of the aims of the review is that by 2027, we will have 12000+ members.

Area Competitions

All the Area competitions took place this season.

Province entries. NE entered 4 teams, N&S Esk entered 14, Angus entered 15 and Dundee entered 16.

The Inter Province competition had a full entry from three Provinces this year, but sadly NE Province could only supply 1 team.

Other issues such as late withdrawals meant redraws had to be done at late notice but fortunately all teams games took place.

The Area competition entry forms will be sent out following the Area AGM.

Ice rinks will soon ask for ice requests for next season.

North East Area, Area 12 Medallists

World Mixed Doubles Gold at the Youth Olympics. Great Britain's Callie Soutar (Forfar Young Curlers) and Ethan Brewster (Curl Aberdeen Juniors) won gold.

Annual General Meeting of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club will be on Saturday, 29 June 2024 at 2pm. Venue yet to be confirmed.

President Alister Asher

Vice President Sandy Howie and Keith Prentice have been nominated. Election to be held at

the RCCC AGM.

Directors (2 places) Logan Gray - Balfron, Wendy Loudon - Edzell, Mairi Milne - Letham Grange, John

McClelland - Stranraer Wheelchair, Isla McLennan - Torbrex, Alasdair Schreiber - Kelvinside Academical & Keith Wilson - Markinch. Election to be held at the RCCC

AGM.

The Agenda and Annual Report are still to be published. The only document available on the website is last year's AGM minutes.

Ladies Branch AGM

The 64th Annual General Meeting of the Ladies' Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club will be held on Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 2pm at North West Castle Hotel, Stranraer.

Development

The Dundee Development Group has been performed well this year and the Gateway club has been formed. Unfortunately, we have lost the position of Curling Manager.

The Development Manager | North East Scotland has changed yet again and is now Faye McInnes who is responsible for Curl Aberdeen, Dundee Ice Arena, Forfar Indoor Sports, Inverness Ice Rink, Kinross Curling, Moray Leisure Centre, Dewars Centre and Aviemore

ASC Representative

This year I stand down as Area rep as I have done two 4-year tours.

It has been a pleasure, mostly.

This year the third Area Rep will be Alistair Crozier from Pitkerro CC.

Tom Kirk,

Area Representative

Secretary's report: Janice Walls

Janice thanked Tom, Philip, and Albert for their continued support, the Province secretaries for passing on information etc to clubs and the members of Area Management Committee.

The management committee has been invaluable this season, given that there were a few issues to be resolved regarding the rules and scoring systems used in our competitions which were highlighted this year. Janice explained that this will be covered later on in the meeting.

The Management Committee only met twice over the whole season. The first meeting was to draw the competitions at the Panmure Hotel in Edzell, we discussed matters arising from the AGM that required action, and feedback from the Provinces. The second meeting was held in Curl Aberdeen prior to the AGM – we discussed the competition rules and scoring, the Area rep vacancy, a financial update, gifts for our Olympians, feedback from around the Provinces and the Incoming Men's Swiss Tour in January 2025. Relevant information regarding this has been passed onto the Province secretaries for action.

Competitions report

Crichton Tankard

This season we were had 18 entries which was 1 up on last year.

The amendment to the subs rule, made last year, seems to be working well for clubs. The only issue this season was in the Quarter final held at Forfar where Dundee didn't show up, meaning Forfar1 went straight through to the Semi-finals and ultimately won the competition.

Indoor Bonspiel

Initially had 16 which was 2 up on last season. Unfortunately, Caterthun and AWW withdrew at short notice causing a re-draw to be made and ice cancelled with both clubs sharing the cost.

On the day, everyone turned up and there were no issues. Angus were the winning Province and Forfar CC took the Trophy.

Grant Trophy

We had 16 teams enter this year which was 2 down on last season.

We originally had Forfar Gateway club making up the numbers until Forfar Ladies stepped into the breach. There were a few issues with the competition as things played out.

Dun picked up a 6-point penalty for fielding a 3 handed team which meant that AWW was awarded 6 points leading to them peeling the game 10-10.

Forfar Ladies were disqualified for fielding an unregistered player which meant that University of Dundee were awarded 5 ends as their actual game score was 13-1.

As North Eastern had only 1 team, (AWW), entered into the competition,

and once all the scores had been averaged, the winning Province was North Eastern with AWW winning the Trophy. There were lots of unhappy curlers that day and many comments made about the results. Hopefully the proposals for the changes to the rules and scoring will prevent this from happening again. This is a great competition and I hope that you will all continue to support it.

Inter Province Challenge

This is the sixth time we've run this competition. This year we had 3 Provinces with 3 teams and North Eastern fielding 1 team due to a misunderstanding by the New Province secretary. Following on from the Grant scoring issues, North Eastern were placed in 4th position to prevent the same issues happening again. Thank you again to Andrew Skea, Ian Taylor and Albert Middler for identifying a date which didn't clash with the Junior and School Competitions. And a great big thankyou to the provinces for pulling their team entries together.

North and South Esk were the winning Province and the Roy Gray Trophy will be presented to the juniors from the 3 N&S Esk Province teams.

Treasurers report: Janice Walls

This season I have progressed the account to online banking, don't intend to go mobile with it but it's great to be able to check the account when subs are coming in and whether cheques have been presented – or not.

As you will see the bank balance still looks reasonably healthy. Last years Trophy engraving, prizes, Crichton Finals Ice Fees, the gift for James Craik, the Inter Province Prize and AGM refreshments, are now reflected

in the statement. Also, this seasons Crichton Finals Ice fees have taken the balance down considerably, although it's still quite healthy. We have received in full, Competition Entry fees from all 4 Provinces, thank you for your prompt payments.

Income generated for the year was £638, of which £136 is reimbursement from Caterthun CC and AWW CC for the cancelled Ice fees paid on the day of the Indoor Bonspiel. Competition entries were £500. The deficit is mainly due to this seasons Crichton Final Ice Fees, Refreshments, and the presentation to James Craik. I must say at this point that the Inter province prize is not included in the Income this year, although I have mentioned it on the breakdown sheet, as Hayden Thomas is presenting the £100 in cash to the winning Province directly this year and it's not hitting the bank.

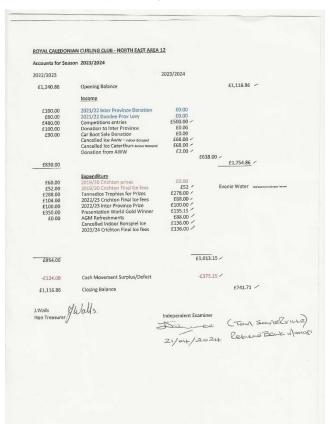
A breakdown of this year's competition entries and fees are below:

	Crichton	Grant	Indoor Bonspiel	Revenue
DD	6	5	5	£160
Α	6	5	4	£150
N&S E 3	3	5	6	£140
NE	3	<u>1</u>	1	£ 50
2023 entrie	es 16	16	16	£500

Looking forward, if we continue to attract the same or more club entries there should not be a need to raise the subs for some time and I see the deficit being much smaller next year. The last couple of years we have been playing catch up from Covid and that's all come to an end now.

Janice said thanks to Tom Summerville for auditing the Area accounts.

Accounts Proposed by Tom Kirk and seconded by Philip Ross.



	HOITH EUST AICE IE ACCOUNTS							
Income/E	xpenditure							
Date	Details	Chq No out	Cash	BACS	Income	Expense	Balance	
	OPENING BALANCE						£1,116.86	
26/03/2023	Crichton Final Ice Fees 2022/23 season	010182	£0.00	£0.00		£88.00	£1,028.86	
29/03/2023	Presentation to James Craik World Gold Medal Winner	010183	£0.00	£0.00		£135.15	£893.71	
30/03/2023	Lost & Cancelled cheque, informed bank - Evenie Water	010184					£893.71	
28/04/2023	Evenie Water Crichton Final ice fees 2019/20 replacement chequ	010185				£52.00	£841.71	
24/04/2023	Tannadice Trophies, Engraving and Prizes	010186				£278.00	£563.71	
26/04/2023	Angus Province Inter Province Prize transaction cancelled	010187				£0.00	£563.71	
04/05/2023	Refreshments for AGM	010188				£88.00	£475.71	
15/11/2023	Cancelled Indoor Bonspiel Ice	010189				£136.00	£339.71	
12/01/2024	Angus Inter Province Prize Replacement Cheque	010190				£100.00	£239.71	
10/12/2023	Province Levy Angus				£140.00		£379.71	
12/01/2024	Province Levy N& S Esk				£140.00		£519.71	
15/02/2024	Province Levy North Eastern				£50.00		£569.71	
12/01/2024	Province Levy Dundee & District				£160.00		£729.71	
16/02/2024	Province Levy Angus for Forfar Lds Grant Entry				£10.00		£739.71	
16/02/2024	Caterthun Ice fees				£68.00		£807.71	
16/02/2024	Aww Ice Fees				£68.00		£875.71	
16/02/2024	Donation from AWW				£2.00		£877.71	
25/03/2024	2023/24 Crichton Tankard Ice Fees - Forfar					£136.00	£741.71	
2023/24	Inter Province Prize £100 cash donated by Hayden Thomas dire	ctly to winne	rs at AGM,	didn't hit t	he bank ac	count		

Season 2023-2024 As at 26th March 2024

North East Area 12 Accounts

Junior Curling:

Curl Aberdeen: Albert Middler

Curl Aberdeen Juniors have had another successful season. Membership has grown to 36 junior members. The have 3 coaching sessions per week throughout the season. beginners and novices Tuesday 4.30 – 5.45pm, more advanced Wednesday 4.30 – 5.45pm and all members Saturday morning 8.30 -10.00am. In addition to the forementioned sessions we had 6 Academy members, Ethan Brewster, Sam Lynch, Like Perras, Mark Lyon, Fraser Riddoch and Tamzin Smith, that train with their team coaches every Tuesday 4.00 - 6.00pm. All six Academy members played in the Scottish Junior Curling Championships.

We had teams play in all the slams, under 14's, under 17's and under 21's, for those playing in more than one age group that is quite a commitment both for the juniors and their parents, who we should never forget to thank, without their support and transport we would struggle to have any juniors. Not a successful season for any of the teams but with wins and losses, great experience for all.

A number of our juniors played in Super League teams either as regular members of a team or as subs when required and a few played in the new Friday night Mixed League.

Returning to commitment, what can I say about Ethan Brewster. Played all under 17 and under 21 slams, In November, with partner Eva Hare won the Inaugural Matt Murdoch Junior Mixed Doubles in Dumfries, earning a funded trip to the Nordic Junior Curling Tour Mixed Doubles event in Sweden. Selected with playing partner Callie Soutar from Forfar to Represent Great Britain at Winter Youth Olympics in Gangneung, South Korea, winning the Gold Medal. Finally finishing his season 10 – 14 April with Eva Hare in Sweden at the Nordic Junior Mixed Doubles event, this time unsuccessful, did not make the play of games but again great experience.

Finally our thanks to our coaches, Albert Middler, Kyle McLain, Layla Al Safar and Academy Coaches Dillan Perras and Kay Gibb.

Forfar Young Curlers: Ian Taylor

The club continues to attract good numbers although our membership has dropped, post Covid. We have membership in the high 50's. We had an average of over 24 curlers attending coaching in session 2023-24 season. Numbers are reduced when national slams and schools' competitions are taking place.

FYC's continue to support the Forfar Ice Rink & Province competitions, playing in all the Ice Rink Bonspiels, Agricar League, Callander Trophy, Peter Pan. We also play our own internal leagues helping to develop the athletes' curling skills and tactical awareness.

At a national level club members continue to compete in junior competitions both individually and in FYC teams. Forfar always have a good representation at all the Asham U14, U17 & U21 Slam events. Notable achievements this season were.

- Gregor Troup playing with Team Grant won the overall Asham U17 Slam event wining three of the five
 events
- Ross Craik's team were semi-finalist at the Scottish Junior Men's Finals in Aberdeen.
- Callie Soutar's team reached the final of the Scottish Junior Women's but sadly ended up as runnerup. An excellent achievement considering Callie is only 15 and has many years to win the top prize.
- Callie was selected to represent GB at the 2024 Gangwon Winter Youth Olympic Games in South Korea. Callie was partnered with Aberdeen's Ethan Brewster in the mixed doubles event. And as everyone knows the pair returned home with and Olympic GOLD Medal.

As always, I'd like to thank the Ice Rink Management Team, Ice Team, and Bar Staff for providing us with this superb facility. Also a huge thank you to the Coaches & Helpers that give up their free time to make the club the success it is.

Dundee Junior Curling Club: Andrew Skea

Membership

Membership at year end is 17 with average weekly attendance around 10. This is significantly reduced from the 50 reported in 2019 and 35 reported in 2020.

The number of new members was lower than usual at just 5.

Coaching

Our usual coaching session has moved to 4:30-5:45pm on Tuesdays in Dundee Ice Arena. The main reasons for the switch to Tuesday are: maybe slightly better ice and hopefully fewer clashes with other after school activities.

Thank you to our regular coaches, Drew Moyes, Neil Strachan and Alasdair Macleod. Also to Andrew Skea for coordination and admin.

Our coaching pool is depleted and to get numbers of juniors back up, we do need more coaches. Please contact Andrew Skea.

External Games and Competitions

In the 2023/24 season our members played most Dundee Ice Arena bonspiels and retained the Tennent Caledonian Bonspiel Trophy for the second year running. We had one teams in Dundee Phin League finishing respectable mid table.

We did not enter teams in National U14 or U17 this year though some curlers participated with friends from Forfar. Younger members participated in U12 competitions in Forfar and Stirling.

Finances

The club has reasonable cash reserves and a good stock of rental shoes. To grow numbers we do need more coaches and adults keen to help recruit in local schools. Help with admin is also sought. We look forward to next season.

Development Around the rinks:

Curl Aberdeen – Albert Middler

Month	Juniors	No's	Novicos	No's	Try Curling	No'	Roginnors	No's	Curlings Cool	No's	Corporato	No's	Shared Lives	No's	Scouts	No'	ASN Festival	No'c		
Oct	27 Sheets	_	6 sheets		8 sheets	56		140 3	Curings Cool	INO 3	10 sheets	-	1 Sheet	8	Scouts	INO :	ASIN T ESTIVAT	INU 3	1	
Nov	18 sheets		6 sheets		4 sheets		8 sheets		8 sheets		11 sheets	88	1 sheet	8	3 sheets	24				
Dec	27 sheets		6 sheets		6 sheets	_	10 sheets		8 sheets		11 sheets	88	1 SHEET	٥	3 SHEELS	24				
Jan	36 Sheets		8 sheets		4 sheets		10 sheets		31 sheets		8 sheets	64	1 sheet	8	2 sheets	16				
Feb	36 sheets		8 sheets		4 sheets		8 sheets		19 sheets		9 sheets	72	1 SHEET	•	2 SHEELS	10				
Mar	33 sheets		8 sheets		2 sheets	15	o sileets		12 sheets		8 sheets	64			3 sheets	24	6 sheets	40		
April	9 sheets		2 sheets		2 3110013	13			12 3116613		5 sheets	40	1		3 3116613	24	0 sneets	40		
чрпп	9 3116613		Z SHEELS								J SHEELS	40							Total	
Totals		35		15		##		65		270		496		24		64		40	1232 excl	uding
Totals	Junior Club Novices											24		64		40				
								4 Schools, 2 sheets) 								Juniors ar	iu	
		3 sessions/week 1 session/weel 2 sheets/se 3 sheets/session 2 sheets/sessio 1 hr/session															novices			
	Ave. 20/session						6 schools, 4 sheets		i I											
			Ave. 14/s	essio	n		Ave 14/blo	ock	2 x 2 hr session	ons										
	8 new this seaso	n				15% try cu	ırling			1 company	book	ed								
	Poor retention from Curlings Cool, but						to beginne	ers			private beginners									
												A few others booked								
											beginners classes									
	predomina	ntly																		
	country schools																			

Curl Aberdeen had 3 or 4 Try Curling sessions per week with an overall 50 coming back to beginners classes.

Kurlings Cool didn't start until the second half of the season due to lots of corporate events – 496 people over the season. We also had scout groups and Assisted need sessions. The school's floor curling sessions culminated in a Floor Curling Festival on Ice at the end of the season. Overall, we have 25 coaches (all voluntary) in the pool to call upon, but we are going to miss Layla who was employed by the rink as development and Events Manager. Full information can be seen in the chart above.

Dundee Ice Areana: Tom Kirk

Dundee Ice Areana gave each club 1 free sheet of Ice for Try Curling which was very successful with 100 people attending. 50 of these have moved onto beginners and joining clubs. The Gateway Club is doing well with the Office Bearers being drawn from the development group. Last year the season only lasted 16 weeks. As there is only curling on Mondays and Tuesdays and David Jones (the rinks Development Manager) had a target of filling 90% of the ice available which meant that most curlers found themselves playing numerous

back-to-back games, which wasn't ideal. David has now moved on leaving the Ice Rink General Manager (Neil Craik) taking the reins. He is very supportive of curling and following a meeting with him, he has assured the development group that the season will be extended, and he will only be looking at 70% capacity for prime-time Ice which will help reduce the number of back-to-back games. Any spare ice can be used for corporate and local groups. He is also hoping to attract some National Competitions, not expecting this to happen until 2025/26 season.

The development group will be taking on the role of Curling Manager with a sub group of 3 or 4 people to do the ice allocation of Clubs, Leagues and Provinces and Area Competitions with the view to allocate on an equal basis. The rink will be promoting Corporate and Try Curling events in an effort to get as many new curlers in as possible- there are challenging times ahead. It's not all doom and gloom and the new plant that has been installed is helping to improve the Ice. Tom mentioned the possibility of reintegrating Dundee into the Area Indoor Bonspiel – this will be taken forward by the Management Committee.

Curl Forfar: Brian McArtney

Development Fund Award

Thank you for applying for the Scottish Curling Development Fund 2023/24. We are pleased to inform you that you have been awarded with £1,030 towards your project in the Development Fund Application form for: Like all rinks we placed a bid to the Scottish Curling Development Fund for safety equipment to help new curlers feel safe while they gained their first experience of curling on the ice. We also wanted equipment that would make the experienced curler improve their weight delivery, timing when to/not to sweep and timing the speed of a stone. As more curlers are getting older many are turning to using a delivery stick to extend their curling experience and keep them in the sport. Below you will see what we were awarded and the equipment which it purchased.

- Forfar Development 2023/24
 - 10 extra small and small grippers, 3 delivery aids, 16 Dialled protection helmets
 - Laser timing equipment
 - 4 delivery sticks

Scottish Curling Rink Stats Tracker

These are the Stats for the full year that all rinks completed: -

Try Curling – 6 sessions with 37 participants.

Beginners - 6 sessions with 23 participants

Curling's Cool – 19 sessions with 54 participants from 16 schools

Gateway club only had 6 new members this year with more indicating to join next year.

Junior Club – there are 58 members in the club of which 52 are Juniors.

Coaches - there are 22 coaches.

1 coach is still in training; 16 Level 1 coaches are fully accredited; 5 Level 2 coaches are fully accredited. Curl-Forfar Membership – at the Rink paying the £20 FCCC membership fee 511; (Those who don't pay the £20 fee pay higher Ice Fees per game, cannot give numbers for these players)

Scottish Curling – Playing members 686 (113 Multi Mem), Non-Playing Hon. Mem- 61

Below is additional information that are not included in the above statistics.

- Monday Morning Coaching has had a healthy number of curlers attending regularly accommodating a range of curlers from beginners to experienced and included stick delivery.
- Primary School classes have attended 'On Ice' sessions during the school day (One being for girls in Arbroath)
- There have been five corporate sessions supported by coaches.
- Thirteen clubs have had club coaching sessions either with their own coach or with a coach from the coach's pool.
- Forfar Young Curlers had twenty sessions, most Saturday mornings, starting at 8.00am and split into two one and a half hour sessions. The novice curlers used the early session while the more experienced curlers did the later session. This usually entailed an hour on the ice with half an hour off the ice.

- Forfar Young Curlers ran six 'Technical Session' throughout the year, which was split into two, one hour, timings to increase the numbers benefiting.
- Many schools run 'New Age Kurling' session in school by teachers and with the support of coaches have run a Festival with 16 teams.
- Coach/Club support with 'New Age Kurling' for pupils requiring Learning Support in Arbroath.
- Two of our Level 2 coaches are qualified as Coach Tutors.
- There were ninety coaching sessions throughout the year where two hundred and ninety coaches were used on two hundred and thirty-five sheets of ice that took one hundred and eighty-four hours.

This year has been extremely busy with more clubs taking up the rinks offer of one free coaching session. However more clubs would help their own club development, increase playing numbers along with improving the skill level of their members, if they had a qualified coach within their club.

The rink actively promotes the Try Curling and Development sessions via their social media platforms, e-newsletters and other marketing tools. The FIS Facebook page currently has more 4.2K followers. The FCCC Executive committee launched the Curl-Forfar Development Fund to assist towards developing curlers, curling clubs and competitors. Forfar Young Curlers, Forfar Gateway and others have already benefitted from financial support from the fund.

There were a few coaches who retired this year and I thank them for their dedication over many years and I wish them well as they continue to support the sport.

Thanks to Lorraine for organising the coaches who facilitated all the sessions this last year while keeping up to date with their accreditation and enjoy a rest over the summer before we start again next year. Brian McArtney

Nominations:

Area Rep - Tom Kirk (2024) 2nd term retiring Area Rep - Philip Ross (2025) Albert Middler - (2026) 2nd term Secretary / Treasurer - Janice Walls (3 years served)

Vacancy nomination is Alistair Crozier,

Tom Kirk introduced Alistair to the floor and said that Alistair is a long-time member of Pitkerro Curling Club, he has been Dundee and District Province President and was a Tourist to Canada in 2023. Alistair is well versed in Area and Province procedures and responsibilities and will be a great asset to the Area as one of its representative's. As there were no other nominations there was no need for a vote and Alistair will take up the post at the RCCC AGM on 29th June. the Area Representatives now stand as below for 2024/25.

Area Rep - Philip Ross (Competitions secretary) (2025) Area Rep - Albert Middler - (2026) 2nd term Area Rep - Alistair Crosier (2031) 1st term Secretary / Treasurer - Janice Walls (3 years served)

AOCB

a) Proposals for changes to Area Competitions rules penalty points and scoring

We discussed the changes made to the Crichton rules last year and how they had worked very well, that each team would have 4 core team members at the start of the season, there would be unlimited subs as long as they hadn't played for another team and that there must be 2 core members in the team.

Following the difficulties experienced at the Grant Trophy this year the management committee discussed proposals to amend the rules to prevent a Province with only 1 entry from winning the competition by default. These are detailed below.

 6 shots and 5 ends are too many penalty points nowadays and that it should be reduced to 3 shots 4 ends across all Area Competitions

- Late arrivals will be penalised 1 shot for every 5minutes up to a maximum of 3 shots.
- 3 handed teams will have 3 shots taken off their score.
- All Provinces should enter a minimum of 3 teams.
- All Competitions except Crichton Provinces with less than 3 entries will have their scores averaged by 3.

Following discussion and an almost unanimous show of hands the proposals were adopted.

- b) Incoming Men's Swiss Tour Aberdeen Wed 22nd Jan 2025 Arrive for welcome and lunch then 5 afternoon games followed by dinner and stay overnight at the Holiday Inn Express. Forfar Thurs 23rd 2025 Arrive and welcome at 1.15pm Lunch 1.30pm 4 games at 3pm then Dinner with Curlers before driving to Edinburgh to stay overnight. Albert reported that planning was underway in Aberdeen, Forfar planning was also underway with Brian McArtney leading the planning team, Province secretaries have been notified.
- c) Incoming Women's Canadian Tour on Sat 16th November 2024, arriving at 9.30am for welcome and 3 games, lunch, another 3 games then Dinner before travelling to hotel in Dundee. Tourists not playing in am and pm will visit Glamis Castle.
 Janice reported that organisation was well underway with the planning team having met twice.
- d) Date of Next Years AGM will be held on Wed 23rd April 2025 at Forfar Ice Centre

Meeting Closed at 20.55pm for Prize giving.