

North East Area 12 Management Committee

Forfar Rugby Club

Friday 23rd August 1.30pm

Minute

Welcome: Philip Ross welcomed the group and said it was good to get the Provinces together prior to the start of the season. Philip also welcomed Brian McCartney to the meeting who is the Provinces lead for the Incoming Swiss tour to Forfar on 23rd Jan 2025.

Apologies: Debbie Irving

Present: Philip Ross, Albert Middler, Alistair Crozier, Marianne Jenkins, Alan Arnot, Ross Allison, Brian McCartney, Tom Kirk, Graeme Prophet, Alan Skinner

AGM minute – matters Arising - None

Financial Update:

At the moment with everything paid and all cheques accounted for we have £352.72. The Levis will be, giving us £832.72 going forward. We have 48 teams entered into the competitions this season which is 2 less than last year. However, we start the season with a surplus of £13.01 and levy's will be £480 leaving a balance of £832.72. which is more than enough to cover engraving, prizes and Crichton Ice Fees

Incoming Swiss Tour: Brian has shared a summary via email – which is attached as appendix 1.

It is a summery for Aberdeen and Forfar with rough details of visits and costs.

There is still to be a visit organised , Carnoustie was suggested and also a coastal drive from Aberdeen to Forfar with a stop at Dunnottar on the way – still working on this.

Albert queried costs and subsidies. The Swiss will be paying a daily amount which the organising committee is holding and will subside costs for meals. Each curler will be due to pay £117.29 which will come down to £74.50 + £5 for the Scottish Curling gift of A bottle of Whiskey and a branded bag. Provinces could subsidise costs for players - £20 was suggested Try to get the costs for players down to £50 if possible- need to be able to attract curlers to play. This will need to be agreed amongst the Provinces. The Provinces should book a piper, collate a description of Forfar and let them know that the Final Dinner is Open to anyone – more details will be provided.

Provinces Feedback:

Angus: Everything going ok at the moment, have 1 less entry to the Area Competitions and 2 less in the Province Leagues.

Dundee & District: Everything ok with the Province, still to do competition draws. Curling admin at Dundee Ice Arena has fallen to Dundee & District. The Allocation had been done, but then we were told there was to be an Ice-skating competition and all ice had to be moved to a start on 24th September. Allocations are now almost complete. The development group are receiving more support from the Arena General Manager and the bar will be open this year. There is a 66% uptake of Prime-Time Ice and will be having try curling sessions and Practice sessions 2 weeks before the season starts. Wheelchair sessions will be provided if there is interest, and we will also be organising outreach to schools.

North Eastern: The interest in Province Competitions has really dropped this season, there were no Leagues last year.

The Allan Johnstone is down from 10 to 7, Singles 4 > 3, Doubles 2 > 2. Entry to Area Competitions down from 5 > 3. One of the reasons for the drop in entries was the different cost for visitors when

the Forfar membership was changed. It was discussed that all ice for Area competitions are now at members rate which is £17 for peak time ice.

Albert will organise the Inter Province Teams for North Eastern Province – Janice to send Form to Richard and cc Albert in.

N & S Esk: The Province has new Secretary/Treasurers, Tracey Collie, and Emma Sinclair. Ross Allison has had a meeting with them, and all going well. Entries for the Province Competitions are good.

Draw: Took place with Philip using a Random Draw App on his phone.

The draws were checked against previous seasons draws to ensure that clubs were not drawn against the same clubs from previous years and only one adjustment in the Indoor Bonspiel was required.

- The Crichton Tankard Knock Out was drawn with 18 teams taking place overall – 6 teams from N& S Esk and North Eastern Provinces to be played at Curl Aberdeen and 12 teams from Angus and Dundee & District Provinces to be played at Dundee Ice Arena and Forfar Indoor Sports throughout the season with the Area Final being held in Forfar Indoor Sports on 24th March 2025 at 2.00pm
- The Indoor Bonspiel was drawn with an overall entry of 16 teams - 4 teams from Angus, 5 from Dundee and District, 6 teams from North & South Esk and 1 team from North Eastern Provinces. This Competition will be played in Forfar Indoor Sports this season on Sunday 12th November 2024 at 2.00pm and 4.30pm
- The Grant Trophy was drawn with an overall entry of 16 teams – 5 teams from Angus, 5 from Dundee and District, 5 teams from North & South Esk and 1 team from North Eastern Provinces. This Competition will be played in Forfar Indoor Sports on Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 11.30am, 2pm and 4.30pm.
- The Inter Province will take place in Forfar Indoor Sports on Sun 9th Feb 2025 at 11.30am and 2.00pm. The draw is yet to be done.

AOBC

- Following the completion of the Competition draws, there was a discussion about the number of entries for the North Section of the Crichton Knock Out as being unfair due to having less teams in the North Knockout in Aberdeen and the Forfar section having too many byes – giving unfair advantage to some teams. The group agreed to look at this further and discuss at the next meeting as changes would need to be ratified at an AGM.
- Brian McArtney talked about the changes to the PVG system for coaches, there is a new form to complete, and the club has to sign it off . Fiona Hartfield is in charge of safeguarding and going to be strict with this.
- Brian asking Tour reps from each Province to contact him.
- Janice to set up a Whats App group for Province Secretaries and Area Reps and asks for phone numbers please.
- Philip to cancel two rinks on 5th Jan in Curl Aberdeen

Date of next meeting TBC 3rd or 4th week in March prior to the AGM.

Meeting closed: 15.20pm

Swiss tour of Scotland January 2025

The Swiss tourist arrive in Scotland on Sunday the 12th January 2025 they then travel around Scotland. (the travelling Swiss party will consist of 22 Curlers, 2 bus drivers and 2 Couriers)

They travel from Inverness and arrive at Curl Aberdeen on Wednesday the 22nd January 2025 at 2.30pm. They play the 20 Aberdeen curlers at 3.15pm before going back to the hotel at 5.45pm and returning for dinner at 7.30pm. They are staying at the Crowne Plaza Aberdeen Airport.

After breakfast the Swiss tourist leave Aberdeen on the 23rd January, 2025 at 10.30am for a visit enroute to Forfar in time for a greeting and lunch at 1.30pm at FIS. After lunch the Swiss prepare to play the 16(5 curlers from each of Angus, Dundee and District and North and South Esk Provinces plus 1 other) Forfar curlers at 3.00pm and finish after the game and socialising about 5.30pm. Dinner starts at 6.30pm and lasts until they depart for Edinburgh at 9.30pm.

Not sure where this enroute visit is likely to be but willing to listen to suggestions.

Curl Aberdeen are hosting the tourist and perhaps Albert might be able to give some more information about the organisation of the tour in Aberdeen.

FIS are hosting the Swiss tourist when they play in Forfar and below are the prices Mike has proposed:-

Here the prices for the catering for the tour, we are doing our very best to keep them competitive while costs keep rising.

Lunches:

Soup & Sandwiches £8.50pp, with tea/coffee £10pp

Soup & Large Round Sandwiches £10 pp, with tea/coffee £11.50

Dinner: 2 Course

Between £20-£25 depending on menu choices.

I should also mention that these are subject to any supply price increases, we often see 2 or 3 within a week so it is very difficult to price well in advance.

With regard to the ice fees we will again keep these at competitive prices for the tour at £10pp per game.

I can appreciate it is difficult to expect local curlers to cover the costs and it is therefore important other sources of income such as fundraising or sponsorship are considered to help support.

Hope this helps.

How this is converted into a payment to cover the cost for each of the 16 curlers in Forfar it comes out to £74.50p plus a £5 donation per player for the tour gift. These figures do not include any contribution from the 3 Provinces playing in Forfar but will include a contribution from the Swiss.

As North Eastern Province are organising the events in Aberdeen I hope that Angus, D&D and N&S Esk will come together again to organise the Forfar side of things with the Area having an overview since it is them whom the national organising committee are dealing with. (I am on that committee).

What is to organise in Forfar?

Players to play from each of the 3 Provinces; Coordinating the payments; Book a Piper; Collecting the Gift payment; Linking with the rink; Deciding on possible Province contribution; Flags; Description of Forfar for booklet; and other organisation as required.