SCC Board Meeting

Monday, July 24, 2023

6:00pm

Present: Mike O’Brien (President) Doug Runnoe (Vice President)

Tim Bradshaw (Treasurer) Shevaun Stocker (Secretary)

Ron Bichler Charlie Johnson

Scott Laven

Absent: John Gunnon

Guest: Joe Kubala

Called to order at 6:00pm.

**Secretary Report** – Karen/Shevaun

* Question about social media and volunteers at June meeting – we didn’t have who was taking these on in the minutes
  + Scott will continue to manage the website and social media
  + Volunteers – did anyone get this in their personal notes?
* Motion to approve years of service for outgoing board members (Runnoe/Charlie) – approved unanimously
  + Tim had 6 years of service; Dave was 4 years, Holly was 4 years, Jim Lehto was 6 years

**Treasurer Report** – Tim

* No updates (no activity at this time)
* Tim will do a full review of the financials at year-end (typically when the tax return is filed (by Nov 15th)
* Tim will put a budget together by Sept. 15th

**Club Manager Report** – Scott

* Scott will start updating website (bonspiel info, open registration dates – probably first week of Sept., need to get leagues set up)
* Will probably open registration up to returning members, first, for a week or two
  + Shevaun - need to start thinking about recruitment of new members; strategies should be deployed simultaneously to registration announcements
* Will update membership price structure (based on new USCA membership model)
* Mike O’Brien needs to get added as a signatory of bank accounts
* Need to apply for liquor license in the next month; food license is already taken care of
* Scott will send out a proposal for leagues (any changes to start times, any changes to Wednesday league, change Sunday league name from Beginner League to 5-and-under – retaining educational layer – and maybe changing it to a recreational and instructional league)

**New USCA membership model discussion** (how will it impact our club?) – Scott

* Flat-fee of $750 per sheet charged to the club (so $3000 for SCC; Scott thinks we paid USCA $4500 last year) plus if members want to join as a USCA member, there is an additional fee
  + Benefits of USCA membership – if you’re going to do anything competitive that is sponsored by USCA, you need to be a member; if you’re doing anything instructional (ice management, etc.)
  + The individual USCA membership is now $25 (was $34 last year) – but for every member that joins USCA, the club gets $5 of that (though if you want to curl competitively, that level of membership is $100)
* Will need to update online registration to provide the option to pay for USCA memberships
* Need to establish which leaders in SCC we expect to be USCA members (as they need to be part of USCA’s Safe Sport program)
  + Would SCC pay for this USCA membership, since we’re expecting it as part of their role
* Mike will put together a few options of scenarios, for us to review at the next Board meeting (including which roles require Safe Sport participation)

**What does our current insurance policy cover and is it what we need?** – Charlie/Scott

* Two policies from State Farm
  + Directors and operators policy (protects us, as board members, from lawsuits)
  + General liability policy
* What we don’t have – content coverage (rocks, beer in the cooler, furniture)
* Charlie can get an estimate, if we get him a value to work with (Scott has an inventory list)
* The county has some kind of coverage on the property – not sure whether it covers the building vs. property
  + Charlie will investigate what coverage the county has – Scott will help connect Charlie with the county officials who can help clarify this (Irv may be able to help with this)
  + Will need to consult the lease to determine what property (compressor, etc) the SCC owns vs the county owns
* USCA also offers insurance policy (liability if a member gets injured) – not sure how this changes, if the whole club is insured (with the new flat-fee membership model)
* Charlie wonders if we need worker’s compensation coverage (for the club manager position, ice management positions)
  + Since we pay Scott on an 1099, it may not be necessary but this would take some investigation
  + It would be about $425, annually, for about $15,000 in annual salary
  + Charlie will send out information on these options ahead of the next board meeting

**Golf outing update** – John

* From last board meeting, this will be Sept 16, 2023

**Sponsorship** – Joe

* This will be Joe’s 10th year taking on sponsorship for the club – THANK YOU!!
* Will send out a first communication to returning sponsors on Monday, August 7th; asking for payments to be received by Friday, August 13th
* For consideration, ask the sponsors whether they want to sponsor bonspiels, in addition to the annual sponsorship of the club
  + We’d need to figure out what that would look like for the sponsors
* Joe isn’t expecting to change the prices this year (we changed them last year, for the first time in many years)
* Karen reports that Rick says we could do additional in-ice advertising, if sponsors if they’re interested (it would show up on the house cameras)
* Joe would like to attend the next few Board meetings – Shevaun, make sure he gets these dates/times

**Update on dehumidification and furnace replacement projects** – Scott

* We’ve got a quote for the furnaces (~$12,000), Rick was in on Friday (July 21) with Randall Bros. – owned by Carlson - and should have a quote soon; Scott is also working on a third quote from DG Solom
* Dehumidifiers – should be about $4,500 a piece; maybe $3,000 to install (Scott has a soft quote on this)
* May need to write a grant to USCA to get help with the financing on this
  + Jillian Peterson may be able to help write this grant; but it looks like USCA has put this program on hold – need to figure this out
* This could have rebates from the state (Focus on Energy can inform us as to what we qualify for)

**Identify Chair for NW bonspiel** – Mike

* Mike put out feelers to some people – will continue contacting folks
* Ron will co-chair; now we need to find the co-chair partner

**Super League Proposal** – Tim/Mike

* Scott & Tim met with the group last week
* Wednesdays at 8pm (would have a league at every club, every week)
* 32 teams (SCC would be allotted 8 of the 32 teams; 16 teams from Duluth, 8 teams from Two Harbors)
* Tri-chair model (Tim Bradshaw, Jason Krause, Dave ?? from Two Harbors)
* The other two boards are excited, folks are on-board; we can take any questions we have back to the Super League group
* Tim needs to meet with the Wednesday night commissioner to see if this arrangement can be managed (worked into the Wednesday night league)
* We’re concerned about being able to fill 8 teams towards this
  + Tim thinks this can go forward, even if we can’t get a full 8 teams together (Duluth or Two Harbors may be able to fill extras)
* We need to reach out to the SCC membership, to start garnering interest in this
  + If we can’t get at least 3 or 4 teams participating from SCC, it may not be worth the disruption to participate in this
  + Or, if the Super League doesn’t fill to 32 teams, then they may only need 2 sheets for this every Wednesday at 8pm
  + Tim will send out an email to SCC membership
* We need to communicate with our ice crew, to make sure we’re able to get suitable ice prepared for these 8pm Wednesday night games (last year, there wasn’t anyone managing ice on Wednesdays)
* This may require Wednesday night to start at 5pm and to do 6-end games
* It may be split into two divisions (if a real mix of abilities of teams sign-up); also trying to get a new name (Super League may sound too elitist)
* Doug will get a league commissioner meeting together in the next few weeks; this would be part of that discussion

**Discuss proposed by-law changes** (including lifetime membership addition) – Doug

* Reviewed proposed by-law addition and procedure for lifetime membership
  + Doug has reviewed and amended every article, at this point
* We’ll present amended by-laws to membership in October (including the addition of the lifetime membership paragraph)
* Could Meg review them and provide feedback? She was instrumental in a prior set of revisions
* How will we process the changes and get feedback to Doug?
  + We all need to review the revisions Doug sent out and get him feedback; within a week, if possible
* How will we present this to membership?
  + Give membership the current by-laws, the proposed revised by-laws, and a document that annotates what has changed in the by-laws
  + Aim for getting this out at least a couple of weeks in advance

**Web access for important club documents** – Mike

* Mike and Scott will discuss (this has come up with previous boards)

**Dollars for Doers program** – Mike

* Developed as a program to help off-set expected dues increases (though the dues never actually increased)
* Program has merit but hasn’t been fully realized
* We need to re-think the approach
  + The folks who sign-up for bonspiels using the volunteer app are easy to keep track of
  + Need to find a way to keep track of those who sign up to help with ice in/out, other projects in the club
  + Need to track the new recruits that folks bring in
  + Need to advertise the program better (make sure the members see the benefit both to themselves – lower dues – and to the club – the club doesn’t have to hire folks to do that work)
* Shevaun will look into how to better organize/manage this (Mike has a rules document for this – need to get this from him)
  + Need to better advertise it to our members across the leagues
* 10 hours for $25 off next year’s dues
* It is also paired with a recruitment tool – for every new member you bring to the club, you get $25 off the membership
  + In the online registration form, add a question ‘ what brought you to SCC this year’? – and options would be existing member (and they have to add the name of the member), social media, advertising, etc.

**Open** (if time allows) – All

* Bonspiel dates need to be communicated to USCA (need to be in by July 31st)
  + Shevaun needs to do this (it is a duty of the Secretary); reach out to Holly for help
  + May 25th meeting has the dates in the minutes

**Review assignments** – Shevaun/Mike

* Mike
  + Get added as a signatory for bank accounts
  + Put together options/scenarios for how we handle USCA membership for SCC leadership
  + Continue contacting potential NW bonspiel co-chairs (with Ron)
  + Discuss web access for important club documents with Scott
* Doug
  + Get a league commissioner meeting together in the next few weeks (impact of Super League needs to be discussed)
* Tim
  + Will put a budget together by Sept. 15th
  + ~~Communicate Super League to SCC membership~~
  + Communicate with SCC ice crew about being able to prep ice on Wed night for Super League
* Scott
  + Will start updating website (bonspiel info, open registration dates – probably first week of Sept., need to get leagues set up)
  + Will update membership price structure (based on new USCA membership model)
  + Need to apply for liquor license in the next month
  + Scott will send out a proposal for leagues (any changes to start times, any changes to Wednesday league, change Sunday league name from Beginner League to 5-and-under – retaining educational layer – and maybe changing it to a recreational and instructional league)
  + Provide Charlie with copy of the lease to aid Charlie in content coverage estimate
  + Get third quote on dehumidifier/furnace project
  + Connect with Jillian Peterson to have her identify whether USCA’s grant program is back up and running (for assistance with funding the dehumidifier/furnace project)
* Shevaun
  + Develop new member recruitment strategies to be deployed simultaneous to website updates
  + Make sure Joe Kubala has SCC Board meeting dates/times
  + Review Dollars for Doers and develop proposals for revising, to bring to next Board meeting
  + Communicate bonspiel dates to USCA by July 31st (see dates in May meeting minutes)
* Charlie
  + Develop estimate for insurance coverage of SCC building contents (rocks, furniture, inventory in cooler, etc.); Scott has an inventory list
  + Develop estimate for worker’s comp coverage
* All Board members
  + Establish which leaders in SCC we expect to be USCA members (to be part of USCA’s Safe Sport program)
  + Review by-laws revisions and lifetime membership proposal and get feedback to Doug

**Set next meeting date & time** – Mike

* August 21st, 2023 at 6pm; location TBD (plan on SCC but Mike may update)