

**NOCA 2011 Annual General Meeting
Sunday June 12, 2011
Lakehead University, Thunder Bay**

c. Introductions – call to order 11:05 a.m.

Muriel Anderson, NOCA President, welcomed everyone to the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Northern Ontario Curling Association

d. Attendance:

Board:

Region 1: Muriel Anderson (President), Don DeBenedet

Region 2, Kris Woznesensky, Bev Junnila

Region 3: Jennifer Widera, Karen Saarimaki

Region 4: Kathy Ingram, Ian Fisher

Region 5: Ron Henderson (Secretary/Treasurer), Roma Lundgren

Region 6: Stephen Chenier (Vice-President), Bob Hardy

Staff:

Leslie Kerr - Executive Director, Dick Henderson – Technical Coordinator, David Kawahara – Wheelchair Coordinator

Other Guests:

Donna Green, Trevor Clifford, Dale Jackson, Peter Hinz, Kathleen McGowan-Hinz

e. Awards Presentation

Bev Junnila presented the following awards:

NOCA 2010-2011 Volunteer Award:

Bonnie Barbisan, Fort William CC (accepted by Trevor Clifford)

John Sporer, Idylwyld Golf & Country Club (accepted by Roma Lundgren)

James McPherson, Longlac CC (accepted by Karen Saarimaki)

NOCA Honorary Life Memberships:

Bill Groom - Sudbury CC and Idylwyld G&CC (accepted by Ron Henderson)

Paul Sauve – Coniston CC (accepted by Roma Lundgren)

NOCA 2010-2011 Club Recognition Award:

Soo Curlers Association (accepted by Ian Fisher)

Muriel Anderson reported that the NOCA had nominated Jan Pula for the Syl Apps Volunteer Achievement Award. Jan was presented this award at the Ontario Sports Alliance Awards banquet in April.

f. Constitution of meeting:

Muriel reported that the notice of meeting had been sent to all voting delegates 45 days prior to the meeting.

g. Acts of Directors:

Motion:

THAT the actions of the NOCA Board of Directors for 2010-2011 be ratified

Moved: Kathy Ingram

Seconded: Bob Hardy

Carried

h. Report on Credentials:

Muriel reported that all 12 Directors were present, and that a quorum of 7 was required so the meeting is duly constituted.

The voting structure was explained to the delegation. Only the 12 Regional Directors carry a vote at the AGM. This ensures that all regions are equally represented at the AGM regardless of the location of the meeting. Delegates were encouraged to ask any questions they had during the meeting.

i. Acceptance of Agenda:

Motion:

THAT the agenda be accepted.

Moved: Ian Fisher

Seconded: Karen Saarimaki Carried

j. Minutes of June 13, 2010 AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the AGM dated June 13, 2010 be accepted.

Moved: Bev Junnila

Seconded: Roma Lundgren Carried

k. Business Arising:

There was no business arising from the minutes.

l. Reports:

a. President's Report – see attached President's report

- As President for the 2010-2011 season, Muriel Anderson presented her report

b. Financial Report – Ron Henderson (see attached draft financial statements)

- Ron reported that the financial statements are only in draft form as they must be accepted at the AGM before the Auditor can present the final statements.
- The NOCA had an audit done this year rather than a review so that there is more opportunity to apply for various grants such as Trillium funding.
- The NOCA reports a surplus in the 2011 fiscal year of \$7703, however \$6698 of this surplus is unrealized gains from an investment.
- Discussion took place regarding philanthropy. Leslie advised that the NOCA is investigating this as a funding source.

Motion:

THAT the financial statements for the year ending April 30, 2011 be accepted as presented

Moved: Don DeBenedet

Seconded: Steve Chenier Carried

c. Executive Director's Report – Leslie Kerr (see attached report)

d. Development Report – Kathy Ingram (see attached reports)

- Kathy presented the Development Report, and Curling Week report (attached) and indicated that the Wheelchair Coordinator's report will also be attached to the minutes.

e. Competitions Report – Steve Chenier (see attached)

- Steve presented his report and highlighted that this year there were 19 less teams entered in competitions. Over the last 4 years, entries have decreased by 26 teams.

- The Competitions Committee recommended to the Board that the format for Bantams, Juniors, and Seniors be revised for this season to encourage participation, and to decrease the amount of travel required for the first level of competition.
 - The CCA will be discussing the Coach Time issue at the National Curling Congress. The NOCA will implement what the CCA accepts.
 - The coach criteria is changing for this year. The changes will be posted on the website and included in all Competitor Guides.
 - The format for the Men's playdowns will be reviewed over the coming season with any recommended changes being presented at the next AGM.
 - U-stream will be utilized again this season. AS there is not one cable company that covers all of Northern Ontario, U-Stream is the most effective method of "televising" playdowns.
 - A new tour has been created by volunteers – The Great Lakes Curling Tour. Both of the NOCA Superspiels are part of this tour. All events qualify for CTRS points.
 - Steve thanked all of the clubs who hosted events this past season.
- f. Sponsorship – Bob Hardy**
- Bob Hardy reported that sponsors are needed for the Junior, Senior, Bantam, and Masters events, as well as for overall sponsorship of the NOCA.
- g. Best Practices – Kris Woznesensky**
- Kris reported that the office had sent out a letter requesting clubs to submit contact names for any success stories so that he could follow up and create a Best Practices file for the website. He will revise the letter and redistribute it in the fall.
- h. Communications – Steve Chenier**
- Steve reported that the NOCA is working on getting information to as many people as possible by using email addresses from the Membership database.
 - This year there will be additional incentives to register so that the number of members registered increases, thus enabling the office to mass email information.
 - The website will be cleaned up by the fall.
- i. Constitution/Manual Report – Muriel Anderson**
- Muriel reported that there is a change recommended for the term of office for the Board members. The term of office will be for 3 years. This will allow the Directors to become knowledgeable about the organization, and make a significant contribution on committees during their term. This will be addressed in New Business.
 - The NOCA Manual is under constant review and is posted on the NOCA website.
- j. Canadian Curling Association Report – Muriel Anderson**
- Muriel reported that the CCA Annual General Meeting and National Curling Congress will take place June 15 – 18, 2011 in Ottawa.
 - There will be discussion at the National Curling Congress regarding governance of the CCA Board of Governors.
 - Muriel and Steve will attend the NCC and AGM as voting delegates, and Leslie will be a non-voting delegate. A full report will be presented to the Board at the August Board meeting.
- k. Ontario Curling Council – Andrea Ronnebeck (see attached report)**

Motion: That the reports of the Board of Directors and Staff for 2010-2011 be accepted.

Moved: Ian Fisher

Seconded: Kathy Ingram

Carried

m. New Business:

a. Bylaw Changes – Muriel Anderson

- Muriel reported that Subsections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 which address Election and Appointment of Directors need to be changed as discussed in the Constitution/Manual report.

Motion:

THAT section 4.7 read:

4.7 Terms of office for all directors shall be three (3) years. Directors will serve for no more than two (2) consecutive terms. If no candidates run for election, the director(s) may serve an additional term.

And

THAT sections 4.5 and 4.6 read:

4.5 Election of male directors shall be:

- a) In 2012 and every third year thereafter in regions #1, 3, and 5
- b) In 2013 and every third year thereafter in regions #2, 4, and 6

4.6 Election of female directors shall be:

- a) In 2012 and every third year thereafter in regions #2, 4, and 6
- b) In 2013 and every third year thereafter in regions #1, 3, and 5

Moved: Steve Chenier

Seconded: Roma Lundgren

Carried

b. Motion to conduct an Accounting Audit:

Motion:

THAT an Accounting Audit be conducted

And

THAT BDO Dunwoody in Thunder Bay be named as the Auditor for 2012.

Moved: Ron Henderson

Seconded: Karen Saarimaki

Carried

c. Strategic Plan

- Muriel reported that the NOCA Board had spent a day working with Brian Cowan in June 2010 to start the process of creating a 5 year Strategic Plan. Much work took place over the last year to condense the document.
- The 4 Key Imperatives identified are Improving Communication, Encouraging Participation, Improving Performance, and Operational Effectiveness.
- 4 committees were struck (one for each imperative) and these committees worked on creating priorities for the first year of implementation. A Business Plan for the coming season will be in place by the end of the summer.

Motion: THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by: Steve Chenier

Carried

2011 NOCA Awards Committee Report

Volunteer Awards:

Bonnie Barbisan – Fort William CC
Nominated by Trevor Clifford

Jamie McPherson – Longlac CC
Nominated by Pierette Lachance

John Sporer – Idylwylde G&CC
Nominated by Alan Arkilander

Honourary Life Memberships

Bill Groom – Sudbury CC and Idylwylde G&CC
Nominated by Alan Arkilander

Paul Sauve – Coniston CC
Nominated by Alan Arkilander

NOCA Club Recognition Award

Soo Curlers Association
Nominated by NOCA Awards Committee assisted by Tom Coulterman

President's Report – June 2011

- 2010 NCC was attended by Leslie Kerr, Steve Chenier and myself. A full report on the congress was presented at the August board meeting.
- Code of conduct, disciplinary procedure, and appeals policy required much research and diligence in order to reach an acceptable form for each for inclusion in the manual. This was completed and accepted at the Board meeting in November. All amendments to the bylaws and changes to the manual over the past two years were reviewed and the website was updated in December.
- A benefits of membership brochure, prepared by Leslie and myself in consultation with the board, seemed to help many members accept the affiliation fee increase. This brochure is concise and should be used by all curling clubs at the time of registration to inform members.
- NOCA board provided input for the CCA Curling Assistance Program (CAP) as the guiding principles were being developed. Three NOCA clubs received CAP grants. Kakabeka Falls CC received a \$2500 business development grant and Cobalt Haileybury CC and Port Arthur CC each received a Bricks and Mortar grant of \$9000. Nine applications were submitted by NOCA clubs. Hopefully more clubs will apply in the coming year.
- I attended CCA/MA meetings the last Wednesday of each month. Most of the meeting involved presentation of information by CCA president, vice president, and finance chair. Hall of Fame Committee requires nominations for Volunteer of the Year and Canadian Curling Hall of Fame by December 31 each year. I encourage NOCA members to submit nominations. Elaine de Ryk, one of the CCA governors, was our liaison this year. She called regularly throughout the year to discuss concerns and developments.
- Letters welcoming players to events and letters of thanks were written to all host clubs and congratulatory letters were sent to all winning teams.
- During the election campaign access to Canadian championships became an issue in some ridings. Some candidates were ill-informed resulting in a huge demand on time for NOCA. A press release was prepared explaining the commitment of the CCA to Equal Opportunity to Access Canadian Championships. This eventually calmed the concern.
- May was a busy month with two meetings of the Member Association presidents, some vice presidents and Executive Directors. At the NCC a request will be made for the formation of an ADHOC committee to study issues involving quorum.
- Communication among directors is imperative to keep our association informed and moving into the future. Committee meetings were held on Skype this past year, an improvement over conversing by email.
- We must work together to insure that more sponsors are secured in order to implement our strategic business plan and to enhance the budget.
- I wish to thank all directors for their volunteer time and effort in the past year as well as the many members in our vast association. I look forward to the next year.

Muriel Anderson
President 2010/11

Northern Ontario Curling Association
Financial Statements
For the year ended April 30, 2011

Contents

Independent Auditor's Report	2
Financial Statements	
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Operations and Net Assets	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to Financial Statements	7

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members Northern Ontario Curling Association

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Northern Ontario Curling Association, which comprise the statement of financial position as at April 30, 2011, and the statements of operations and net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit qualified opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report (cont'd)

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Membership dues revenue is recorded based upon membership headcount provided by participating curling clubs and the scope of our audit did not extend to an examination of the membership records of these participating curling clubs. Our verification of membership dues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Association and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to membership dues revenue, accounts receivable and net assets.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northern Ontario Curling Association as at April 30, 2011 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Other Matters

The financial statements of Northern Ontario Curling Association for the year-ended April 30, 2010, were reported on under a review engagement report dated June 1, 2010 by another accounting firm.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Thunder Bay, Ontario
June 20, 2011

Northern Ontario Curling Association Statement of Financial Position

April 30	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 86,639	\$ 111,848
Investments (Note 3)	138,354	131,628
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	11,209	14,435
Inventory	9,429	12,480
Prepaid expenses	1,062	-
	246,693	270,391
Long term investment (Note 5)	40,510	-
Equipment (Note 6)	3,047	4,101
	\$ 290,250	\$ 274,492
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	\$ 13,939	\$ 5,965
Deferred revenue (Note 8)	86,061	85,980
	100,000	91,945
Net assets		
Reserve fund	3,000	-
Surplus	187,250	182,547
	190,250	182,547
	\$ 290,250	\$ 274,492

On behalf of the Board:

_____ Director

_____ Director

Northern Ontario Curling Association Statement of Operations and Net Assets

For the year ended April 30	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Revenue		
Amethyst camp	\$ 87,590	\$ 87,024
Assessments	5,993	6,028
Reserve Fund Curl Ontario	-	4,338
Competitions	74,297	75,223
Dominion CCC	22,801	36,100
Sponsorship	8,220	3,933
Inventory sales	745	238
Membership dues	99,982	93,116
Operating grants	38,955	61,694
Program funding	58,903	49,601
Miscellaneous income	8,000	9,172
	405,486	426,467
Expenditure		
Amethyst camp - program expense	81,373	87,102
Amortization	1,054	1,474
Bank fee	209	199
Bad debts	2,596	-
Competitions	73,440	84,205
Dominion CCC	19,518	34,144
Programs	46,907	37,783
Development	5,005	17,891
Insurance	4,266	4,229
Inventory write-down	292	-
Office	20,894	23,155
Personnel	88,500	89,695
Professional fees	5,660	4,145
Other association fees	24,192	24,665
Meetings	23,538	26,755
Marketing	7,037	20,393
	404,481	455,835
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditure for the year before the undernoted	1,005	(29,368)
Unrealized gain on long term investments	6,698	9,838
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditure for the year	7,703	(19,530)
Net assets, beginning of year	182,547	202,077
Transfer to Amethyst Reserve	(3,000)	-
Net assets, end of year	\$ 187,250	\$ 182,547

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Ontario Curling Association Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended April 30	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Cash flows from operating activities		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditure for the year	\$ 7,703	\$ (19,530)
Items not involving cash		
Amortization of equipment	1,054	1,474
Unrealized gain on long term investments	(6,698)	(9,838)
	2,059	(27,894)
Change in non-cash working capital balances (Note 9)	13,270	58,009
	15,329	30,115
Investing activities		
Purchase of equipment	-	(280)
Purchase of investments	(40,538)	-
Disposition of investments	-	44,218
	(40,538)	43,938
Increase (decrease) in cash for the year	(25,209)	74,053
Cash, beginning of year	111,848	37,795
Cash, end of year	\$ 86,639	\$ 111,848

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Ontario Curling Association

Notes to Financial Statements

April 30, 2011

1. Organization

The Northern Ontario Curling Association was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario on April 26, 2007 without share capital. The Northern Ontario Curling Association is a regional umbrella organization to which Northern Ontario curling clubs belong. Its purpose is to promote and develop the sport of curling in Northern Ontario. The corporation is exempt from income tax under section 149 (1) (l) of the Income Tax Act.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies of the Organization:

a) Basis of Accounting

Revenue and expenditures are recorded according to the accrual basis of accounting. Investment income includes dividend income and is recognized when it is earned. Investments are recorded at fair market value and as such, unrealized changes in the investment are recorded on the statement of operations and net assets.

b) Revenue Recognition

The Northern Ontario Curling Association follows the deferral method of accounting for government grants and program contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

c) Financial Instruments

The Association classifies its financial instruments into one of the following categories based on the purpose for which the asset was acquired. The Association's accounting policy for each category is as follows:

Assets or Liabilities Held-for-Trading

Financial instruments classified as assets or liabilities held-for-trading are reported at fair value at each balance sheet date, and any change in fair value is recognized in net income (loss) in the period during which the change occurs. Transaction costs are expensed when incurred.

Cash, short and long-term investments have been classified as held-for-trading.

Loans and Receivables and Other Financial Liabilities

Financial instruments classified as loans and receivables and other financial liabilities are carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method. Interest income or expense is included in net income (loss) over the expected life of the instrument. Transaction costs are expensed when incurred.

Northern Ontario Curling Association Notes to Financial Statements

April 30, 2011

2. Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

c) Financial Instruments (cont'd)

Accounts receivable has been classified as loans and receivables.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities has been classified as other financial liabilities.

The following method was used to estimate the fair value of the financial instruments at the balance sheet date:

Investments in securities with an active market - quoted market price.

All transactions related to financial instruments are recorded on a settlement date basis.

d) Deferred Revenue

The Northern Ontario Curling Association is the recipient of certain approved program grants which specify project purpose, maximum allowable contributions, and specific time periods. Unexpended funds are included on the balance sheet as cash and deferred funding until the programs are completed. At the completion of the program, unexpended funds are returned to the granting agency. Funds expended in excess of allowable grants must be provided from general funds.

e) Equipment

Equipment is initially recorded at cost. Amortization is provided as follows:

Banners	- 5 year straight line
Computer equipment and software	- 3 year straight line
Equipment, furniture and fixtures	- 5 year straight line

f) Contributed Services

Members contribute approximately 800 hours per year to assist the Association in carrying out its operating activities. Due to the difficulty in determining the fair market value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

g) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

h) Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value and was counted at year end. The amount of inventories recognized as an expense during the year is \$10,956 (2009- \$12,718).

i) Reserve Fund

The reserve fund consists of internally restricted funds to provide working capital during the fluctuating periods when operating expenditures exceed program funding.

Northern Ontario Curling Association Notes to Financial Statements

April 30, 2011

3. Investments

	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
Canadian Treasury Bills	\$ 2,369	\$ 2,359
Equities and Equity Funds	55,846	49,158
Guaranteed Investment Certificates	80,139	80,111
	\$ 138,354	\$ 131,628

The guaranteed investment certificates carry interest rates ranging from 0.5% to 1.25% and mature between July 2011 to April 2012.

4. Accounts Receivable

	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
General	\$ 8,461	\$ 14,435
GST/HST receivable	2,748	-
	\$ 11,209	\$ 14,435

5. Long Term Investment

	2011	2010
	(Unaudited)	
Guaranteed Investment Certificate, interest rate of 1.65%, maturing July 2012	\$ 40,510	\$ -

6. Equipment

	2011		2010	
	(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Office equipment	\$ 3,291	\$ 1,869	\$ 3,291	\$ 1,513
Computer	5,134	3,930	5,134	3,337
Banners	929	508	929	403
	\$ 9,354	\$ 6,307	\$ 9,354	\$ 5,253
Net book value		\$ 3,047		\$ 4,101

Northern Ontario Curling Association Notes to Financial Statements

April 30, 2011

7. Accounts Payable

	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Trade	\$ 2,159	\$ 2,030
Accrued liabilities	11,780	3,935
	\$ 13,939	\$ 5,965

8. Deferred Funding

	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Amethyst - sponsorship	\$ 1,000	\$ 11,000
Amethyst - registration	85,061	74,980
	\$ 86,061	\$ 85,980

9. Statement of Cash Flows

	2011	2010
		(Unaudited)
Accounts receivable	\$ 3,226	\$ 61,006
Prepaid expenses	(1,062)	-
Inventory	3,051	4,557
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	7,974	(2,919)
Deferred revenue	81	(4,635)
	\$ 13,270	\$ 58,009

Northern Ontario Curling Association Notes to Financial Statements

April 30, 2011

10. Capital Disclosure

Northern Ontario Curling Association receives externally restricted funding from various funders for the delivery of specific programs. These funds are maintained and disbursed under the terms of the relevant funding agreements and management is responsible for adhering to the provisions of these agreements.

The Association's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard its ability to continue as a going concern so that it can continue to provide delivery of its services to the members.

Management maintains its capital by ensuring that annual operating and capital budgets are developed (and approved by the Board of Directors) based on known or estimated sources of funding available each year. These budgets are shared with all management of the Association to ensure that the capital of the Association is maintained.

11. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The overall objective of Northern Ontario Curling Association is to set policies that seek to reduce risk from its financial instruments as far as possible without unduly affecting the Association's flexibility. This note presents information about the Association's exposure to these risks. The primary risks identified by the management of the Association include credit risk. It is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant concentration or currency risk.

Credit Risk

The Association is exposed to credit risk for certain types of financial assets. Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Association if a customer or counter-party to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Association's receivables from contributions. Allowances are provided for potential losses that have been incurred at the balance sheet date, and the amounts disclosed in the balance sheet are net of any allowances for bad debts.

Fair Value

The carrying value of cash, investments, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximates their fair value due to their short term nature.

12. Comparative Figures

Certain prior year figures have been reclassified to conform with current year disclosures.

Executive Director Report
NOCA Annual General Meeting
June 12, 2011

Once again it was a very busy year for the NOCA administration.

Following is a summary of the year from an administrative viewpoint.

- The finances of the NOCA are monitored very closely on an ongoing basis. This year we had an audit completed rather than a review. This was done by BDO Dunwoody in Thunder Bay. Now that audited statements are in place, more granting partners can be accessed
- A database of competitors and coaches and members is now in place and will require constant updating
- The membership cards were distributed this year but were not printed in time for some of the clubs who open in September. There was an incentive from Goldline for members to enter the NOCA Member database. Only 370 people entered this year – we will promote this more this season. The member card also has sponsor promotions attached to it from Choice Hotels and Avis. This year we will number the cards rather than have the member's name on it to save hassle for the club managers/league organizers.
- A Benefits of Membership brochure was created and each club received 50 copies.
- Membership numbers were down this year by 388 members. While some clubs had increases in membership, many had slight decreases. This large number is largely due to one club that saw a loss of 240 members. This will be addressed with clubs in the fall conferences if the grant is received.
- A grant was received for two Coach symposiums this year. They were held in Thunder Bay and Sudbury and were very well attended. Evaluations were very positive. 62 participants attended, representing 30 of the 42 affiliated NOCA clubs (78%). This was a great response and well received by the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport.
- Curling Week was held again this year, and while it was successful in some areas, more promotion will be done next year and information sent to clubs with the fall mailout.
- One of the main functions of this position is to seek funding in the way of grants and sponsorship. A grant has been applied for to hold two Curling Conferences in the fall – notification . These conferences will encompass training for coaches and athletes, as well as for Curling Club Boards and staff through the Business of Curling Program.. The funding for this program comes through the Ministry of Health Promotion (special projects), The Coach Association of Canada, and Investor's Group.

- The Dominion Amethyst Junior Curling Camp filled very quickly (96 campers) with 36 campers attending from Northern Ontario. This year, with the assistance of a partnership with PBL Insurance, there will be a bus which will transport campers from the northwest, and along highway 11 to and from camp.
- A good response was received this year for the NOCA awards, as well as the Pat O. Reid coaching awards.
- I attended the Ontario Sports Awards dinner in Toronto in April where Jan Pula was awarded with the Syl Apps Volunteer Achievement Award. Congratulations Jan!
- NOCA Notes is emailed to all club delegates, Board, staff, Learning Facilitators, members listed on the database, and other contacts on a weekly basis in the curling season. It is created as needed in the off season.
- The website continues to be very well used, and the webmaster updates the site on a regular basis during the competitions season.
- Communication with the other Executive Directors, Member Associations, the CCA, and the OCC continues to improve and be beneficial to all parties. I am now finished my term on the ED Council executive as the Secretary.
- This summer will be spent catching up and preparing for the fall.
- Playdowns.com was a very successful partnership. All event sites looked the same and entering results was very user friendly.

Thank you to our Sponsors, the Board of Directors, Staff, and many Volunteers for making this association so successful.

I am looking forward to another challenging season as the NOCA continues to evolve and improve operations and services to members and member clubs in the goal of promoting and developing the sport in Northern Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Kerr
Executive Director

Development Committee Report
to the
NOCA AGM June 12, 2011

The Development Committee met face-to-face in Sudbury in June 2010, by monthly teleconference call and informally by email, Skype or telephone as needed.

Coaching Seminars were held in the fall of 2010 (in Thunder Bay, September 10-12 and in Sudbury, October 22-24). There were 27 participants in Thunder Bay with 24 taking Competition Introduction coach course and one taking Club Coach. Sudbury had 35 participants with 26 taking the Competition Introduction coach course and one taking Club Coach. Two Competition Coaches were evaluated in Longlac for certification and follow up for next season will involve the practical evaluation of the remaining Competition coaches. There were three additional coaching clinics held throughout the province over the season (Cochrane, Sudbury, Fort Francis) with a total of 27 Competition coaches and 3 Club Coaches trained. The focus for the coming season will be arranging for the practical evaluation of Competition Coaches for certification.

In May, Leslie and Dick submitted the Sport Priority Funding application for proposed fall 2011 seminars. If successful there will be two seminars - one in Thunder Bay from Sept.30 to Oct. 2 and in Sudbury from Oct.21-23. The seminars/conferences will be multi-dimensional and include Coach/Athlete Development, Business of Curling© for Club Volunteers, an Aboriginal Youth Curling consultation and Learning Facilitator training.

The Amethyst Camp was full in July 2010 with 36 of the 96 campers from Northern Ontario. Level 1 and Level 2 Ice Technician courses were held prior to the with 7 Level 1 and 14 Level 2 receiving certification. Registration for Amethyst 2011 includes 36 young curlers from Northern Ontario. This year a bus has been arranged to pick up campers from Thunder Bay along the Hwy.11 corridor to Sudbury and 23 campers have opted to use this transportation. The Ice Technician courses will once again precede the camp – to date 2 are registered for Level 2 and 4 for Level 1. New this year a High Performance Team clinic will be offered on the Saturday before Amethyst for a maximum of 12 teams. The staff for Amethyst will be available to custom design a day for competitive teams striving to improve – to date 4 teams have registered. Registration deadline for both the Ice Technician courses and the HP clinic is Friday, June 17.

Bantam Challenge events were expanded this year and three competitions were scheduled in each of the western and eastern sectors of the province. Mentor coaches were available to teams to provide feedback after games on strengths, weaknesses, team dynamics, strategy and skills. Coaches were able to interact with their team while playing the game and discuss coaching strategies with the mentor coach. Events were held in Thunder Bay, Nipigon, Copper Cliff, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury. The event scheduled for Longlac was cancelled to low registration. This initiative has been broadened for the 2011-2012 season and renamed Youth Challenge Events by including high school teams and first year Junior teams along with the Bantams. It is hoped at least one event will take place in each of the six Regions. To date Thunder

Bay, Fort Frances, Nipigon or Longlac, Sault St. Marie and Espanola have scheduled a Youth Challenge Event.

In late March 2011 the Sheppard Bantam Boys' Team from Mindemoya traveled to Scotland to participate in the International Junior Curling Club Bonspiel. The team chose to participate in the competitive stream and placed 3rd overall. Reports from the group were very positive with all commenting on the hospitality shown to them and the reassurance the boys' were "not out of their league" in the competition. There are both male and female competitions and they would recommend it to any other teams interested in traveling to Scotland. More information can be obtained from the NOCA office.

Head Official, Bill Charlebois traveled to the provincial championships to oversee training of officials prior to competitions. In total 3 event head officials, 20 on-ice supervisors and 56 people were trained as timers for five provincial events.

Report of the Coordinator for Wheelchair Curling – Dave Kawahara
(attached as separate document)

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Ingram
Development Committee Chair

Curling Week Report
to the
NOCA AGM June 12, 2011

At the June 2010 Board meeting it was decided that Curling Week in Northern Ontario for the 2010-2011 season would be held the week between the Ladies' and Men's Canadian Championships – Friday February 25 through Sunday March 6, 2011. This would incorporate the closing weekend of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts and the opening weekend of the Tim Horton's Brier. Attempting to begin the season with curling week is very difficult due to the varying start dates for curling clubs. The week between the Scotties and the Brier will be Curling Week in Northern Ontario for the foreseeable future.

The poster created for last year's Curling Week was revised slightly at minimal cost for the redesign. This was a deliberate choice as the committee hopes the poster will become recognizable and associated with curling week in the future.

A free draw was a major component of the week, with a prize package of a trip for two to the opening weekend of the Canadian Mixed Championship to be held in Sudbury from November 12 to 19, 2011. To enter a person must visit a curling club and fill out a ballot. Clubs were responsible for mailing the ballots to the NOCA office. Three nights' accommodation, two weekend ticket packages and travel to the event (flights on Bearskin Airlines depending on winners' location) was included in the prize awarded on March 25 at the Fort William Curling Club in Thunder Bay with Ron Hell from Bearskin assisting Bev Junnila with the draw. The winner was Don Burke from the Providence Bay Curling Club.

Information and prize ballots were mailed to each curling club in January. Plans, information and activity suggestions for next season's curling week will be included in the fall mailing to the clubs to allow for more planning time.

Advertising was done through the posters sent to each club and radio spots throughout the north. As a lead up to curling week a weekly trivia contest was held on the NOCA website from January 31 until March 6. Two weekly winners were awarded a copy of Fit to Curl by John Morris.

Curling Week 2012 will be Friday February 24 through Sunday March 4.

Kathy Ingram
Curling Week Committee Chair

NOCA Wheelchair Curling Report 2010 – 2011 Season

Participation Level:

There was an increase in participation for both recreational and competitive wheelchair curling during the past season. A total of 43 wheelchair curlers (26 recreational and 17 competitive) in four different NOCA communities participated in the past year. The newest addition to the sport was the curlers from the Sudbury CC. The previous year had a total participation of 24 curlers (10 recreational and 14 competitive).

CCA Wheelchair Curling Development Camp: FWCC - December 17 & 18, 2010 A development camp for wheelchair curlers was held at the Fort William Curling Club and sponsored by the CCA. The camp was one of eight camps held across Canada to identify potential candidates to be asked to Team Canada's wheelchair curling selection camp in the future. The two day camp attracted 16 competitive curlers and 4 coaches and was lead by Wendy Morgan, Wheelchair Curling Team Canada Manager.

NOCA Wheelchair Curling Report			
2010 -2011 Season			
		printed on:	16-May-11
	Male	Female	Total
Recreational			
Thunder Bay	4	8	12
Sudbury	9	3	12
Kenora/Dryden	1	1	2
Total Recreational	14	12	26
Competitive			
Thunder Bay	6	3	9
Sudbury	3	1	4
Kenora/Dryden	3	1	4
Total Competitive	12	5	17
NOCA Grand Total	26	17	43

2011 NOCA Provincial Wheelchair Curling Championships:

FWCC - February 25 – 27, 2011 This year's event had four entries; two from Thunder Bay; one each from Sudbury and Kenora/Dryden. For the third consecutive year, the team representing the Kenora/Dryden Curling Clubs won the privilege to represent the NOCA at the Canadians. The team in order of position, skip to alternate, was made up of Wayne Ficek, Mark Wherrett, Chester Draper, Denise Miault and Cindy Hoffstom. The team was coached by Tom Wherrett.

2011 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championships Edmonton Alberta March 21 – 27, 2011 The Canadian wheelchair curling championships had a field of ten teams including a Host Team from the Jasper Place Curling Club. The NOCA's Team Ficek had a respectable showing with a record: 4 – 5 which tied for 5th with the Edmonton Host Team.

2012 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championships: FWCC – Thunder Bay March 17 – 25, 2012 Planning for next year's Canadian Wheelchair Championships is well underway with the formation of the Host Committee and key Sub-Committee (Accommodation, Transportation and Sponsorship). There have been several planning sessions and two Main Committee Meetings to date. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2011.

Major 2011 – 2012 Events for Wheelchair Curling

1. Pat 'O' Reid Memorial Bonspiel Sun Jan 8, 2012 at Toronto Cricket Skating & CC
2. NOCA Provincial Championship Jan. 27-29, 2012 at Sudbury CC
3. OCA Provincial Championship Jan. 31 – Feb 4, 2012 at North Grenville CC (Ottawa)
4. Ontario ParaSport Winter Games Feb. 24-26, 2012 at Huntsville- teams placing 4th, 5th and 6th in OCA and NOCA Provincials will qualify.
5. Ontario Winter Games (Integrated) March 5-12, 2012 at Collingwood- teams placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd at OCA and NOCA Provincials will qualify.
6. CCA Canadian Wheelchair Championships March 17 – 25, 2012 Fort William CC. (Thunder Bay)

As indicated by the above schedule, depending on when the wheelchair curling event is scheduled for the Ontario Winter Games, there could be only five days between the end of the Ontario Winter Games and the beginning of the Canadians. More discussion is needed to make a NOCA recommendation to John McCrae, Ontario Curling Council regarding the qualification criteria to events 4 & 5 above.

Coaching and LF Seminars

A presentation on disabilities and curling was made at the Thunder Bay Coaching and LF Seminar on September 25 - 27; 2010 and the Sudbury session on October 22 – 24, 2010. All four disability divisions, namely, wheelchair, special olympics, deaf and blind curling, were discussed.

Objectives and Program for 2011/2012 NOCA Wheelchair Curling Season

- 1 To Host the 2012 NOCA Wheelchair Championships at the Sudbury Curling Club, February 27 – 29, 2012
- 2 To Host the 2012 Canadian Wheelchair Championships at the Fort William Curling Club, March 17 – 25, 2012
- 3 Recruitment:
 - To increase the number of teams participating in the Provincial Championships to five or more. To achieve this goal, the following initiatives will be undertaken:
 - Formation of a third competitive team in Thunder Bay and/or the development of a spare pool in the event of sickness of any competitor
 - Continued support of the existing teams from the Kenora/Dryden and Sudbury area
 - Recruitment of curlers by networking with support agencies such as the Canadian Paraplegic Association and physiotherapy support organizations.
- 4 Coach Development
 - Engage interested coaches to become involve with wheelchair curling
 - Developing existing coaches to go to the next level by applying for Quest for Gold grants
- 5 Sault St. Marie : Soo Curlers Association
 - During the Men's Provincials held at the FWCC in the past year, interest was shown by a representative from the Soo Curlers in Sault Ste. Marie in the installation of the elevator at the FWCC. Any support requested by them will be provided both in grant applications and construction. Of course, the installation of accessible equipment would pave the way to bringing wheelchair curling to city.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Kawahara Wheelchair Coordinator NOCA



COMPETITION REPORT

June 12, 2011

2011/2012 SCHEDULE & PLAYDOWNS

The conclusion of another competitive season has come and gone and plans for next year are well underway. Total entries for all competitions were down nineteen (19) teams from the previous year and a total of thirty (30). The largest drop was in Men's Curling with eleven (11) less teams. Some of the loss/gain can be attributed to geography while the current economic climate must also be considered as a possible reason.

2011-2012 COMPETITION CALENDAR

The committee has worked to finalize a calendar that reduces many conflicts and keeps the calendar flowing for volunteers and competitors alike. This is a tough challenge annually with over thirty-five (35) separate events spread over the Province.

2010/2011 COMPETITION REVIEW

Congratulations to all teams that participated in any competition this year. Any athlete who decides to compete at this level is dedicated and willing to sacrifice much to attain their goals. This year saw Northern Ontario represent well at the National Level and on behalf of the committee and all members of the NOCA congratulations on your success and keep up the good work. GO NORTHERN ONTARIO GO.

The 2010-2011 season saw start of the implementation of the Canadian Curling Association's equitable access to championships with the Mixed and Senior teams in 2011-2012 being open for all fourteen (14) Member Association. In this season both our Senior teams at Nationals were under the gun to finish higher than the bottom three (3) in order to guarantee the NOCA's position directly to the Nationals in the next year. This will also be the case this November in Sudbury as the Mixed team will be a fourteen (14) team event with the bottom three (3) being relegated to the play-in phase the following year. The 2011-2012 season will see the implementation of the Juniors with the Men's and Women's to follow.

2011-2012 RULE CHANGES

The CCA will be reviewing the 'COACH TIME' rule at the NCC this year and the NOCA will implement the approved 'TIMEOUT' rule from the CCA

All manuals will be updated during the summer along with a detailed review of the Hosting Guidelines in an effort to merge the two (2) documents using the same wording and phrases.

The competition committee is very troubled by the decrease in the competition system since the start of our organization four years ago. The total number of teams competing has decreased by thirty (30) and our understanding is travel and time away from work, being issues that could have caused the decrease. For the 2011-2012 season the committee is going to test a new system of Region playdowns for Bantam, Junior and Senior with the goal of increasing participation while decreasing the total amount of travel per competitor.

AMENDMENT TO COMPETITIONS FOR 2011-2012

The competition committee reviewed the status of competitions for the past three years and are proposing changes for the 2011-2012 season. In this season teams in the Junior Men & Women, Senior Men & Women and Bantam Boys & Girls will see a change in their qualifying process.

In an effort to increase participation and decrease travel distances, the committee is going to increase the number of teams attending our Provincials championships to eight (8) from the current six (6). Each existing Region will qualify one (1) team with the two larger Regions receiving two (2) spots each for a total of eight (8) teams. The larger regions are Thunder Bay (Region 2) and Sudbury area (Region 5). Each region will require two (2) teams participating to receive their Region's spot at Provincials. The larger Regions will require four (4) teams to qualify their two (2) spots at Provincials.

The committee feels that the reduced travel in each Region will allow teams who would not have travelled the extreme distances in the past to participate. This pilot project will be reviewed annually with the goal being a noticeable increase in participation at all levels. Also note that facilities in Espanola and the Manitoulin Island area will be added to Region 5 for the competition season.

Thank you to all our host clubs, committees, officials & volunteers for all the hard work and dedication in helping to organize and run our competitions.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Chenier
Competitions Chair

Constitution, Bylaws, and Manual – June 2011

- Code of conduct, disciplinary procedure, and appeals policy were developed and added to the manual in the November 2010.
- Bylaws regarding election of directors and term were amended in January. Terms of office were changed to three years resulting in a change to bylaws 4.5 and 4.6 which indicates the years in which directors in the six regions are elected. The amendments will be voted upon today.
- At the committee meeting held on Friday further revisions are recommended. Steve Indig, Sports Law, continues to advise on matters concerning the bylaws.

Muriel Anderson
Constitution/Bylaws/Manual Chair

Ontario Curling Council
REPORT TO NOCA AGM

2010-2011

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Curling Council meet monthly via conference call. There have been no major issues facing the council this year.

John McCrae and Terri Collicott with input from the Northern Ontario Curling Association and the Ontario Curling Association completed the applications for Ministry grants. The grants enable the associations to offer services and programs to clubs and curlers. Base funding was down slightly this past year, but the Council is optimistic that this will change in the coming year.

The Council ended the year with excess revenue which will be retained as recommended last year by the Associations.

Nominations for the Pat "O" Reid award are down. More promotion of this award is required in the coming year.

The current funding split between NOCA and OCA has been maintained at 35% and 65% respectively.

In the Report of the Chief Administrative Office, John McCrae expressed his "congratulations to the Northern Ontario Curling Association for the projects they continue to present to their clubs and curlers in their jurisdiction. They are excellent projects and Leslie Kerr and her staff should be congratulated."

This is the end of my first year on the Ontario Curling Council. It has been an interesting year as I am learning about the operations of the council as well as the relationship between the Council and the Associations. I remain optimistic about the future of curling in our two provinces when I see the dedication of the staff and volunteers who devote their time to these three organizations.

I would like to thank NOCA for allowing me the opportunity to participate as a director of the Ontario Curling Council.

Sincerely,

Andrea Ronnebeck
Director

Strategic business plan – June 2011

- Strategic planning began in June 2010 with a full day of brain storming during which categories were identified. Brian Cowan facilitated the workshop and created a 15 page document that has been studied and used by Board committees over the past year to begin development of a business plan. Al Gemmell met with a committee in early fall to discuss the plan and consented to serving as a resource person.
- The Board was divided into four working groups to analyze the four key imperatives – operational effectiveness, improving communication, improving performance, and encouraging participation. A SWOT analysis was completed by each group. The actions were ranked, reasons for the ranking listed, and a suggested time line given. Budget needed to be kept in mind. Most organizations don't have the human or financial resources for quick implementation.
- The next task was to identify the common threats and set goals for each of the four imperatives that are achievable in the next 3 -5 years. The goals were prioritized and strategic actions, responsibility (who) were applied to each.
- In preparation for the strategic planning session during the face to face meetings during the AGM weekend our Executive Director has taken the first priority in each imperative and added the human resources needed. Financial resources will need much discussion and will require acquiring new funding.
- Much has been accomplished over the past year with all board members involved. At this time it is important for all of us to be revitalized in order to progress into the future.

Muriel Anderson
Chair, Strategic Planning