

**MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014-15
GLOUCESTER CONCORDES SPEEDSKATING CLUB**

April 19, 2015 at 17h00

Royal Canadian Legion
800 Taylor Creek Drive, Orleans, Ontario

Attendance: See list in Annex for participating members
Meeting called to order by Laurel Rockwell, President @ 16h20.

ITEM	DISCUSSION
I	<p><u>Approval of the Agenda</u></p> <p>Moved by: Bill Tropper Seconded by: Dean Hosiak</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Approved</p>
II	<p><u>Minutes from April 27, 2014 AGM</u></p> <p>Moved by: Jean Hurtubise Seconded by: Bill Tropper</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Approved</p>
III	<p><u>President's Message</u></p> <p>a) Introduction of the Members of the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurel Rockwell – President • Jean Hurtubise – Vice President • Vacant – Past President • Doug Durham – Treasurer (Books – Clare Gee) • Janique Gagnon – Secretary • Joanne Michaud – Club Registrar • Michel Trottier – Member at large • Stu Jolliffe – Member at large • Teresa McGarry – Member at large • Neil Monkman – Member at large • Dean Hosiak – Member at large <p>b) Introduction of Club Members performing important roles for the club:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Kluge – Meet Registrar • Michel Trottier – Webmaster • Jean Hurtubise and Stu Jolliffe – Equipment Managers • Neil Monkman – Fundsript Coordinator • Sandra Chenard – Meet Coordinator • Vacant – Statistician • Joanne Michaud – Club Wear <p>c) Accomplishments during the 2014-2015 Season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted 1 Eastern Regional Meet (November 16/2014) • Hosted the Provincial B and Masters Championships (March 28-29/2015) • Hosted two mini-meets for the LTSS skaters • Coaching model – 2nd year with paid coaches • Cooperative events with our sister club – the Ottawa Pacers • Officials development – Level 1 clinic in the fall • Coaching development

d) Community involvement:

- The club organized a food drive during all our events.
- Laurel Rockwell stated that she would like to see the Concordes a little more involved in our community in order to be better known.

e) Social Activities:

- GCSSC Annual General Meeting and Banquet held on April 27/2014.
- Mini-meets at Christmas and at year end – these are fun for our younger skaters.

Reports

- a) Registration: Jean Hurtubise showed our trending numbers for the last three year. They have been decreasing in the recent years. After the 2010 post-Olympic boom, we lost a few of our top skaters and we are building the next generation of skaters. It is important to promote our sport to the kids in order to increase our numbers. We have been involved in the past with media (CTV, papers). Some of our skaters – Ivanie Blondin, Vincent de Haître, and Lily Weidemann are now known at the national and international level. We are planning to have brochures distributed in the schools in the fall in order to boost our registration numbers. Any ideas from the parents will be welcome in order to help us market our club. We had two LTSS groups this year – we are hoping to continue with this format next year.
- b) Financial Overview: Laurel Rockwell explained the club has been running a deficit for the past two years as we implemented a new “paid coaching model”. These losses were anticipated when the Executive made the decision to move to the paid coaching model. Thus, our reserve has been reduced by approximately \$24k in the past two years. Doug Durham also reported to the membership that our club changed bank (to Scotiabank) this year in order to reduce our financial charge and get better customer service – we are also getting a better rate for our chequing account. In addition, Scotiabank offers sponsorship to amateur clubs – Doug Durham will be speaking with the bank manager in the near future on this matter. The club also started renting some ice time from the new Sensplex East in Gloucester – we were able to rent one hour of ice per week as well as store our mats for free. This is something that the Executive might entertain again next year. Finally, it will be important to work on marketing/fundraising strategy for next year as well as corporate sponsorship.
- c) Equipment: Jean Hurtubise said the majority of our skates were rented this year. Skates, soakers and guards were returned in good condition at the end of the season. No boots/blades needed to be bought for short track – however the club purchased 8 pairs of clap blades for long track (we now have ~18 clap blades in our inventory). We will be submitting a grant proposal in order to buy new mats that will be meeting the SSC/OSSA requirements. Jean Hurtubise asked if any parents were proficient in putting together a grant proposal for the next deadline – July 1st/2015. Finally, the club asked that parents be available next year to help putting the mats on the ice as well as taking them off at the end of the sessions – this will save valuable time for our skaters.
- d) Fundraising and Marketing: Laurel Rockwell spoke to the success of our regional meets in raising funds for our club (50/50 draw, raffle tables.) Of note, we will need a Fundraising / Marketing committee as well as a sound strategy next year to ensure the survival of our club in the future and lessen the financial burden on our families. Neil Monkman then addressed our membership to explain Fundsript, which could be a major fundraiser for our club. Parents get a monetary return and the club benefits as well. Neil Monkman will coordinate with Jean Hurtubise to send an email to the membership on this topic in the near future. Finally, Laurel Rockwell indicated that our marketing and advertising this year included the Ottawa Sports Page, Television promotion with CJOH, and the use of our website.

e) Coaching:

- Introduction of Club coaches:
 - Mike Rivet
 - John Weidemann
 - Joanne Gosselin
 - Heidi Hickey
 - Stephane Parent
 - Andrew Wallace
 - Leah McCue
 - Troy Johnson
- Mike Rivet reported that our coaches are great learners and grasp what they see from our skaters very well.
- Mike Rivet indicated that our kids are having a great time. We have a good mix of athletes and 'not so great' athletes. What is important is to keep them engaged.
- The club's coaching's philosophy is to learn to skate well first (basics in speedskating) and then progress to skating fast.
- There will be dry-land training offered this summer.
- A sign-in sheet for returning skaters for next season has been placed at the registration table – having the names will facilitate the coaches' task of grouping the skaters according to age, skills, maturity, as well as advancing the skaters to the proper group.

A standing ovation for our coaches from the parents took place.

IV

New Business

a) Objectives for next season and open discussion

The President described the objectives the Club and the new Executive should reach for in the coming year (*suggestions in italic*):

- Balance our budget and restore our reserve – *cancel morning ice? (loss this year), volunteer book keeper (from the membership?), fundraising strategy.*
- Promote membership – *flyers given to the schools, invite kids to try speed skating*
- Host two meets – *they have been submitted (December – one-day meet; B Championships – two-day meet), awaiting confirmation*
- Increase sponsorship
- Coach and Official development – *club as strong as the coaches*
- Best Practice Guidelines policy review – *has been deferred as we need someone dedicated to this*
- Online Registration – *will be ready for this fall. Jean Hurtubise added that Michel Trottier has been working with GoalLine, a company that will be offering our club a database that can be used. Will be only for registration, not for payment (extra cost).*
- Summer training program – *Coaches will be offering dry-land training for groups 3, 4, and 5.*
- Fundraising Committee
- Early start on identifying volunteers for the coming season

At this point, the President opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Q: Possibility to have dry-land training for LTSS skaters.

A: Mike Rivet indicated that the training will be planned for older skaters as they are getting ready for a more involved training as they move on to higher levels. Need to have the right kids for this training – quite demanding.

<p>V</p>	<p><u>Election of Officers and Executive Committee – 2015-2016</u></p> <p>Darcy Santor graciously accepted to be our president of elections, which started at 17h20.</p> <p>It was stated that all Board positions were opened and that every members could be nominated, provided they are at least 18 years of age. All current members of the board also confirmed they would stay in their position for another year.</p> <p>Nominee for President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neil Monkman has been nominated for this position. - No other nomination was received from the floor. - Elected by acclamation. <p>Nominee for Vice-president:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jean Hurtubise let his name stand to continue in this position - No other nomination was received from the floor. - Elected by acclamation. <p>Nominee for Treasurer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Doug Durham let his name stand to continue in this position. - No other nomination was received from the floor. - Elected by acclamation. <p>Nominee for Secretary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Janique Gagnon let her name stand to continue in this position. - No other nomination was received from the floor. - Elected by acclamation. <p>Nominee for Registrar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joanne Michaud let his name stand to continue in this position. - No other nomination was received from the floor. - Elected by acclamation. <p>(This is not the position of meet registrar; that function is handled by another volunteer)</p> <p>Nominees for member at large positions (four positions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lisa Kluge let her name stand for one of these positions. - Dean Hosiak let his name stand for one of these positions. - Stuart Jolliffe let his name stand for one of these positions. - Laura-Lee Balkwill volunteered her name for one of these positions. - Kathy Matthews volunteered her name for one for one of these positions. - Kevin Cooke volunteered his name for one of these positions. - No other nominations were received from the floor. - All nominees were elected by acclamation. <p>Laurel Rockwell will stay on as Past President.</p>
<p>VI</p>	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Late April/early May 2016 -- time TBD Location: TBD</p>
<p>VII</p>	<p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>Moved by Bill Tropper that the 2015 AGM be adjourned.</p>

Seconded by Stephane Parent. The 2015 AGM was adjourned at 17h30.
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List of members attending the 2015 AGM

Member	Level	Member	Level
Heidi Babulic		Paul Martin	CompB
Laura-Lee Balkwill		Kathy Matthews	
Marion Chase		Theresa McGarry	
Jim Daly		Joanne Michaud	Board
Doug Durham	Board	Neil Monkman	Board
Janique Gagnon	Board	David Nadeau	
Cesar Gervais		Julianna Nightingale	
Marketa Graham		Stephane Parent	Coach
David Harquail		Mike Rivet	Coach
Dean Hoisak	Board	Darcy Santor	
Jean Hurtubise	Board	Susan Townley	
Stu Joliffe	Board	Christiane Tremblay	
Sean Jordan		Bill Tropper	
Josephine Jordan		John Weidemann	Coach
Adam Kenzie			
Lisa Kluke	Board		
Lynn Labelle			
Kim Lawrence			

[32 members in attendance]

2014-15 Season Awards

Award	Male	Female
Group 1	Sawyer Cooke	Sasha Wallace
Group 2	Cameron Jordan	Renata Kenzie
Group 3	Gabriel Martin	Olivia Hickey
Group 4	Edouard Parent	Sandrella Lapalme
Masters (1 skater only)	Jordan Moreau	

Skater of the year – Peter Williamson Trophy

Jonah Hurtubise (Male)

Lily Weidemann (Female)

Sportsmanship Award

Tomas Graham

Volunteer of the year Award

Michel Trottier