

Annual General Assembly

0900 CET, 11th September 2022

Agenda

1. Reading of Notice of Assembly.
2. Report on Credentials of Representatives and Quorum.
3. Exclusion/suspension of a Member Association.
4. Approval of the Agenda.
5. Reading of the Minutes of the last General Assembly and approval thereof.
6. Business arising out of the Minutes.
7. Minute of Remembrance for Friends and Colleagues no longer with us.
8. Report of the President.
9. Report of the Executive Board and Committees.
10. Report of the Auditors
11. Receive the Finance Report, Audited Statement and Discharge to the Board
12. Appointment of the Auditors
13. Presentation of the Budget.
14. Approval of Annual Subscriptions
15. Resolutions.
16. Further business.
17. Elections.
18. Acceptance of a new Member Association.
19. Date and location of next General Assembly.

3. Exclusion / Suspension of a Member Association

Resolution

To suspend the following Member Associations from membership of the World Curling Federation for non-payment of subscriptions.

- National Curling Association of Serbia
- Bolivian Curling Federation

12. Appointment of Auditors

Resolution

To appoint Mazars as the auditors for the World Curling Federation

14. Approval of Annual Subscriptions

No change is proposed to the rate of the Annual Subscriptions for the 2022/2023 season.

15. Resolutions

b) Constitutional Amendments

i) Proposals from the Structural Review Group

See Appendix One

ii) Proposals from the Governance Commission

See Appendix Two

c) Proposals relating to The Rules of Curling:

i) Mixed Doubles – R16 (I)

If in Mixed Doubles an end needs to be replayed, there is nothing in our rule book saying, that if they had called for a Power-Play in the first case, then they need to call for a PP also in the replayed end (and also the other way round, if they did not call for a PP, would they be allowed to call for a PP in the replayed end).

A new rule under Mixed Doubles should be implemented to clarify this.

If an end needs to be replayed, the choices of the original end (eg position of the stones, throwing order etc.,) have to stand as it was for the “original” end.

ii) Team Ranking – C9 (e) v

In that rule not all references are correct and need to be corrected.

If there are more than one team that is listed by (i), ~~(ii)~~, (iii) or (iv), teams will be listed by the following order: DNS, DSQ and DQB.

(ii) Has nothing to do with ranking of teams as it only refers to what happens if a play-off game cannot be played due to the fact that both teams are not available

(iv) is the rule about DSQ and DQB and should therefore also be listed.

In the listing of the IRM-codes, DNF is not mentioned and should also be added.

iii) General - Rule C1 (b)

During the 2021-2022 season the Board introduced an emergency rule. This rule now needs to be approved so it can be added to the rule book.

Add a new C1 (b) with the following wording:

The Board of the WCF may remove a team or Member Association from any WCF event if in the sole opinion of the Board their presence at the event would damage the event or put the safety of the participants or the good order of the event at risk.

All remaining clauses within Rule C1 shall then be renumbered

iv) Play-off charts (Page 61&62)

When we changed the rule about the play-off systems last year (WWCC, WMCC, WMDCC and WWhCC), the play-off charts were not adapted. The play-off charts will be updated to reflect the actual adopted rules.

v) Qualification World Championship (Page 53 of the rule-book)

When the rule was implemented, it was not clarified on how the two zones (ECC and PCCC) will be compared. We only say that it is the better performing zone of the aggregate performance of the top 5 teams of each zone.

We need to clarify how we award the points.

Proposal: To define which region is the better performing region of the aggregate performance of the top 5 MAs of each region (ECC and PCCC), the same points system as for the qualification towards the Olympic Games will be used.

| Ranking | Points | Final ranking |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| No 1 (World Champion) | 15 points | Based on Play-offs |
| No 2 | 13 points | Based on Play-offs |
| No 3 | 11 points | Based on Play-offs |
| No 4 | 10 points | Based on Play-offs |
| No 5 | 9 points | Based on RR ranking |
| No 6 | 8 points | Based on RR ranking |
| No 7 | 7 points | As per WCF rules |
| No 8 | 6 points | As per WCF rules |

| | | |
|-------|----------|------------------|
| No 9 | 5 points | As per WCF rules |
| No 10 | 4 points | As per WCF rules |
| No 11 | 3 points | As per WCF rules |
| No 12 | 2 points | As per WCF rules |
| No 13 | 1 point | As per WCF rules |

We also need to clarify, what happens if one region would not have 5 MAs.

Proposal: If one region has less than 5 MAs participating, the region will receive zero points for the MA(s) missing.

And finally, we have to define what happens, if there is tie between the two zones.

Proposal: If both regions have the same total number of points for their top 5 MAs, the region which won the World Championship will be ranked higher.

vi) Age limit for Junior events – C2 (e)

The current rule says: To be eligible to play in the World Junior Curling Championships (WJCC) and qualifying events, a player must be less than 21 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June of the year immediately preceding the year in which the championship is to take place.

With us having had to change the dates of the qualifying event in December, this rule needs reworded as follows:

To be eligible to play in the World Junior Curling Championships (WJCC) and qualifying events, a player must be less than 21 years of age by the end of the 30th day of June preceding the event(s).

vii) Chief Umpire – C10 (f)

When the Chief Umpire is not on duty but the session is controlled by the Deputy Chief Umpire, we say no-where that the final decision can be made by the acting Chief Umpire.

Therefore the rule should be changed to read

... the decision of the Chief Umpire (or in their absence the official delegated to act as Chief Umpire) is final.

viii) Trial Rule - No Tick-shot rule

The following rule will apply to all WCF competitions in the 2022-23 Season and is an extension of the trial run at the 2022 World Men's and Women's Curling Championships

If a stationary stone in the free guard zone is touching the centre line, it cannot be moved off the centre line directly or indirectly by an opponent's stone prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end.

If a violation occurs, the non-offending team has the option to:

1. Remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or
2. leave all stones where they came to rest.

ix) Clean Up

Any references in the current rule book to systems relevant to 2021-22 or earlier will be removed.

d) Rule Changes proposed by the Member Associations

i) Norwegian Curling Association

The Norwegian Curling Association (NCF) recognizes the delays caused by COVID in finalizing the outcomes of the MTV Group's work. However, we feel it is vital that both the length of the game and the future format of the World Championships are given due consideration as a matter of urgency.

Therefore the NCF proposes:

The WCF Board brings forward concrete proposals on both the number of ends in a championship curling game and the format of World Championships well in advance of the 2023 Annual General Assembly and no later than June 30, 2023.

ii) Chinese Curling Association

The following two motions are proposed by the Chinese Curling Association:

- 1) The length of a game of curling will be reduced from 10 ends to 8 ends in men's and women's championship curling
- 2) The WCF will try to avoid back-to-back games for every single team by drawing a schedule for all competitions (including men, women and mixed doubles)

iii) Italian Ice Sports Federation

The FISG propose increasing the number of crest positions available to the Member Associations during WCF events:

| Current regulations (as of uniform & creasing policy issued January 2022) | Revised regulations – proposal (changes marked in red) |
|--|---|
| <p>There are six (6) positions for crests and badges for all events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE RIGHT CHEST (1) AND UPPER LEFT ARM (1): will be reserved for the event sponsor or an event crest of the Host Committee. • THE LEFT CHEST AND UPPER RIGHT ARM (total of 3): reserved for team sponsor's crests or Member Association's logo: <p>Option 1: The left chest (1), and upper right arm (2), for a maximum of 3 crests, OR Option 2: The left chest (2) and upper right arm (1), for a maximum of 3 crests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ON THE TROUSERS (1): will be reserved for one team sponsor's crest. All team members need not wear the crest on the same leg (depends on right or left-handed), but the crests must be at the same height and location on the trouser. Sponsor crests are not permitted on trousers in wheelchair curling. <p>Total crest size (edge to edge) shall not be greater than 100 square centimetres (16 square inches). All team sponsors' creasing must have the approval of the team's Member Association.</p> | <p>There are nine (9) positions for crests and badges for all events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE RIGHT CHEST (1) AND UPPER LEFT ARM (1): will be reserved for the event sponsor or an event crest of the Host Committee. • THE LEFT CHEST AND UPPER RIGHT ARM (total of 5): reserved for team sponsor's crests (4) and or Member Association's logo (1): <p>Option 1: The left chest (1), and upper right arm (2), for a maximum of 3 crests, OR Option 2: The left chest (2) and upper right arm (1), for a maximum of 3 crests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ON THE TROUSERS (2): will be reserved for 2 team sponsor's crests. All team members need not wear the crest on the same leg (depends on right or left-handed), but the crests must be at the same height and location on the trouser. Sponsor crests are not permitted on trousers in wheelchair curling. <p>Total crest size of each crest (edge to edge) shall not be greater than 100 square centimetres (16 square inches).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum total aggregate size for the 4 team sponsors' crests on the upper body: 200 square centimetres. • Maximum total aggregate size for the 2 team sponsors' crests on the trousers: 100 square centimetres. <p>All team sponsors' creasing must have the approval of the team's Member Association.</p> |

WHEELCHAIR CURLING

| Current regulations (as of uniform & crestring policy issued January 2022) | Revised regulations – proposal (changes marked in red) |
|--|---|
| <p>There are five (5) positions for crests and badges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE RIGHT CHEST (1) AND UPPER LEFT ARM (1): will be reserved for the event sponsor or an event crest of the Host Committee. • THE LEFT CHEST AND UPPER RIGHT ARM (total of 3): reserved for team sponsor's crests or Member Association's logo: <p>Option 1: The left chest (1), and upper right arm (2), for a maximum of 3 crests, OR Option 2: The left chest (2) and upper right arm (1), for a maximum of 3 crests</p> <p>Total crest size (edge to edge) shall not be greater than 100 square centimetres (16 square inches). All team sponsors' crestring must have the approval of the team's Member Association.</p> <p>Wheelchairs: One sponsor's crest on each wheel (may be different sponsors), with the total crest size per wheel not greater than 200 square centimetres (31 square inches) is permitted.</p> | <p>There are seven (7) positions for crests and badges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE RIGHT CHEST (1) AND UPPER LEFT ARM (1): will be reserved for the event sponsor or an event crest of the Host Committee. • THE LEFT CHEST AND UPPER RIGHT ARM (total of 5): reserved for team sponsor's crests (4) or and Member Association's logo (1): <p>Option 1: The left chest (3), and upper right arm (2), for a maximum of 5 crests, OR Option 2: The left chest (2) and upper right arm (1), for a maximum of 3 crests</p> <p>Total crest size (edge to edge) shall not be greater than 100 square centimetres (16 square inches). Maximum total aggregate size for the 4 team sponsors' crests on the upper body: 200 square centimetres. All team sponsors' crestring must have the approval of the team's Member Association.</p> <p>Wheelchairs: One sponsor's crest on each wheel (may be different sponsors), with the total crest size per wheel not greater than 200 square centimetres (31 square inches) is permitted.</p> |

e) Changes to the World Curling Federation Anti-Doping Rules

Following a recent Audit of the World Curling Federation's Anti-Doping operations by WADA the following minor changes are proposed:

Page 4 of 68 of the World Curling Federation Anti-Doping Rules adopted 6 Sept 2020

Amend:

6. European Curling Championships **to read** 6. European Curling Championships – A Division
7. Pacific-Asia Curling Championships **to read** 7. Pan-Continental Curling Championships – A Division

Delete:

8. Americas Challenge
9. Curling World Cup

Add:

8. World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship

Page 67 of 68 of the World Curling Federation Anti-Doping Rules adopted 6 Sept 2020

APPENDIX 2**WCF TESTING POOLS – Pyramid Testing Model****Amend:****2. Details of Whereabouts Requirements:**

| | <i>WCF Registered Testing Pool (WCF RTP)</i> | <i>WCF Team Testing Pool (WCF TTP)</i> |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Regular Activities | Training / Work / Other | Team & Individual Training Information |

17. Elections**President**

Hugh MILLIKIN (AUS)

Graham PROUSE (CAN)

Bent RAMSFJELL (NOR)

Beau WELLING (USA)

Director (3 positions)

Helena LINGHAM (SWE)

Sergio Mitsuo VILELA (BRA)

Beau WELLING (USA)

18. Acceptance of a New Member Association

The following Associations are proposed for Provisional Membership of the World Curling Federation:

Curling Jamaica – currently a conditional member

Polish Federation of Curling Clubs* pending the outcome of the appeal to CAS by PCA

19. Future Meetings

Open Meetings for Member Associations are planned the World Women's Curling Championship, March 2023 (SWE)

The 2023 Annual Congress will be held on the following dates: Open Meetings 13th and 14th September, Annual General Assembly 15th September 2023. The location will be announced at the AGA.

Appendix One

Structural Review Group

Changing the process for Approval of Rule Changes

Proposal for the AGA

Part of the discussion process within the Structural Review Group has been looking at a principle of 'the right decision, by the right people, at the right time'. One of the suggestions received by the SRG was to look at the rules process and how it could be removed from the AGA as the formal format of that meeting is not ideal for getting rules approved and the timing of the meeting is also not ideal given it is so close to the start of the season.

Following the feedback from the Open Meetings in Geneva the balance of elected / appointed personnel on the Competitions and Rules Commission is adjusted, along with the inclusion of a second member of the Board.

The proposal now reads:

1. The final decisions on the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition are removed from the AGA and made a responsibility of the Board
2. A new process confirming the process and consultation opportunities will be put in place that allows the Rule Book to be confirmed before the AGA each year
3. The membership of the Competition and Rules Commission will be altered to include two individuals directly elected by the Member Associations
4. The new process will rely on a mixture of the expertise on the Competition and Rules Commission and the consultation with the membership to develop the rules, the Board will make the final approval of all rule changes which will ensure that the wider impact of rule changes is appropriately considered.

| Current Process | Proposed Streamlined Process | Notes |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Suggestions for changes come in from MA's, Feedback Meetings, experience, other proposals | 1. Suggestions for changes come in from MA's, Feedback Meetings, experience, other proposals | Same |
| 2. Reviewed by C&R in Nov-Jan | 2. Reviewed by C&R in Nov-Jan | Same |
| 3. Consult with AC in Jan-Feb | 3. Consult with AC in Jan-Feb | Same |
| | 4. Share ahead of Webinar and ask for amendments / suggestions | MA's receive for earlier engagement |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 4. Shared with MAs for feedback at Open Meetings in Spring | 5. Open Meeting / Webinar for further MA discussion in April | Discussion at Open meeting supplemented by a Webinar - ensuring wider engagement |
| 5. Sent to MA's not at Open Meetings | | |
| 6. Feedback considered by C&R and AC May-June | 6. Feedback considered by C&R and AC May | Same |
| | 7. Final Proposals circulated to MAs in June with a second Webinar to explain final decisions | new MA engagement opportunity |
| | 8. Emergency review by C&R if there is a significant adverse response in second webinar then send to the Board for approval by 30 June each year | New – allows additional time for translation of rule book into other languages prior to the start of the next season |
| 7. Motions for AGA sent to MAs in July | | Removed |
| 8. Amendments received by WCF in July | | Removed |
| 9. Reviewed by C&R and AC | | Removed |
| 10. Amendments sent to MAs in August | | Removed |
| | 9. Rule Book publish prior to Congress | New |
| 11. Discussion at Congress | | removed |
| 12. Voting at AGA (75% needed) | | Removed |
| 13. Rule book publish October | | Removed |

Proposed C&R Membership

Current Membership

Board member a Chair plus one other member of the Board
 6 people appointed by the Board from nominations submitted by the MAs
 Head of Competitions
 1 from the Athlete Commission

Proposed Membership

Board member as Chair

1 Additional Board member

Head of Competitions

3 elected Members - elected from nominations by the MAs at the AGA

1 from the Athlete Commission

3 appointed by the Board following nominations received from MAs – need to be experts in the rules

Constitutional Changes

Delete

14.3.2. changes to The Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition

Insert

16.13.5. to make changes to The Rules of Curling and Rules of Competition

Renumber remaining clauses of 16.13.

Bye Law 4

2.5. The Competition and Rules Commission shall include three members directly elected by the Member Associations. The process and timing of the election shall be set by the Board.

Appendix Two

Governance Commission Suggested Motions

Motion 1

To remove the guaranteed spots on Commissions for Canada, Scotland and the USA.

Delete Bye Law 4 clause 2.4

Rationale:

When the constitution was changed in 2013 to remove the guaranteed spaces on the Board from Canada, Scotland and the USA, as compensation, they were guaranteed a minimum of two spots in WCF Commissions. As the organisation continues its move to a skills-based approach to selecting personnel for Commissions, it is no longer appropriate to give this guarantee. Therefore, with the agreement of these three MAs, this clause will be deleted. For information, this clause has never been used as a deciding factor when selecting someone for a commission.

Motion 2

To give the WCF the authority to hold General Assemblies virtually.

Add 8.2.4 The WCF may hold a General Assembly with the delegates either present in person or virtually. Hybrid meetings, where some delegates are present in person and some virtually, are not allowed.

Rationale:

During COVID the WCF used special dispensation from the Swiss government to hold its AGA in a virtual format. The Governance Commission believe that having the ability to continue to hold meetings virtually, if required, will be helpful particularly in the case of urgent Special General Assemblies where travel at short notice can be a barrier to achieving a quorum. It is proposed not to allow hybrid meetings as these can sometimes be felt to be unfair to those not present in person and also unfair to those who have spent the time and effort to attend the meeting.

Motion 3

To remove the current limitation for members from the same MA serving on the Board and allow up to 2 from any single Member Association to serve on the Board irrespective of the position they hold on the Board.

Delete 16.4 and replace with

16.4. No Member Association may have more than two Directors or Officer/Directors from their Association on the Board

Rationale:

The current rules allow for two people from the same Member Association to serve on the Board but only if one is an Officer and one is a Director. It is felt that this is an unnecessary restriction given the role of the Board, the desire to get the right people with the right skills elected and that as the Officers and Directors are broadly carrying out the same roles the current rule prevents some candidates from standing.

Motion 4

Emergency Powers Clause

The Governance Commission met following the Open Meetings in Geneva to consider the feedback received. During the meeting support was expressed for both options. However, after reflecting on the discussions, the Governance Commission feel that the point raised regarding the potential issues in making decisions in emergency situations (ie prior to the next General Meeting), where it would not be possible to give a 3-day response period, indicates that the Board should be given the authority to make these kind of decisions immediately. The Board would need to ensure that it consulted with relevant Commissions to ensure it had the widest possible feedback.

A suggested option to allow the Board to take the decision if the 3-day period was not possible was considered. However, the Commission felt that, as the use of this clause is rare, and especially if the SRG Motion on the rules is accepted, then it will only be applicable for a very small number of situations e.g. re-opening nominations if none are received as well as other constitutional matters.

The Commission recognised that there were still concerns about giving the Board complete authority in this area and they agreed to offer the option for the membership to vote on the alternative option as an amendment where if 50 % of the Member objected then the action could not be taken.

The following Motion is proposed:

In the current constitution 16.13.5 and 16.13.6 are deleted and replaced as follows:

- 16.13.5. when urgent, take decisions normally assumed by the General Assembly (as per Art. 15), except election of Board Members, expulsion of a Member Association, changes to the Constitution and dissolution of the WCF. In addition, in emergency situations between General Assemblies, the Board, following recommendations from the Competition and Rules and Athlete Commissions, may propose changes to the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition.
- 16.13.6. In such a case the decision, if it is to be made permanent, must be approved by the next General Assembly in accordance with the constitutional requirements at that General Assembly.

The following Amendment is proposed:

The proposed motion is deleted and replaced as follows:

In the current constitution 16.13.5 and 16.13.6 are deleted and replaced as follows:

- 16.13.5. when urgent, take decisions normally assumed by the General Assembly (as per Art. 15), except election of Board Members, expulsion of a Member Association, changes to the Constitution and dissolution of the WCF. In addition, in emergency situations between General Assemblies, the Board may propose changes to the Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition. Any changes proposed by the Board in an emergency situation will be circulated to the Member Associations and if more than

50 % of valid votes available from the Member Associations object in writing to the Board within 3 working days of notice being given, the rule change will not be implemented, and the matter will be referred to the next General Assembly of the WCF. Otherwise, the Board's decision to revise the rule(s) for the emergency situation will stand until the next General Assembly.

- 16.13.6. In such a case the decision, if it is to be made permanent, must be approved by the next General Assembly in accordance with the constitutional requirements at that General Assembly.