

FIRST DRAFT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
GOLDEN EARS WINTER CLUB June 20, 2025

NOT YET APPROVED

Meeting was held at the Golden Ears Winter Club

The panel: (board members unless otherwise designated)

Jay Wakefield (Vice-president); Janet Dunkin (secretary); Paul Dunkin (treasurer);
Eric Samuelson (member-at-large); Ken Madu (member-at-large)

Regrets: Pat Mellesmoen, Jason Peckham, Shannon Joannis (management team)

Chair: Jay Wakefield

Recording Clerk: Janet Dunkin

Call to order: 7:00 pm

Jay read the Notice of Meeting

Quorum has been met (see list at end of this report)

1. Additions to the agenda

none

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Ken, seconded by Janet: that the minutes of the AGM of 2024 be
approved as written. Carried unanimously.

4. President's report

Jay delivered the "chairperson's report" as Jason Peckham (president) was unable
to attend.

 **Chairperson's Report – Golden Ears Winter Club AGM 2025**

Presented by Jay Wakefield

Good evening everyone,

Thank you for being here tonight.

It's my pleasure to present the Chairperson's Report for the 2024–2025 season. It's been a remarkable year—full of big events, community engagement, and well-earned recognition.

Major Recognition – Curl BC Centre of the Year

Let's start with some big news:

Our club was named **Curl BC Centre of the Year!**

This is a huge honour, and a direct reflection of everything we've accomplished together—as members, volunteers, and staff. Congratulations to all of you!

From CurlBC Facebook post:



Hosted major events like King Cash, Mixed Doubles Trials & BC Masters



Fun, welcoming vibe for curlers of all levels



Passionate supporters of curling & events



Regional High Performance Training Centre



Top-notch ice conditions & stone care

Season Highlights – Events & Opportunities

We hosted **two major curling events** this season:

First, the Curling Canada Mixed Doubles Olympic Qualifier, in partnership with the Abbotsford Curling Club.

This was originally scheduled for the Abbotsford Curling Club, but when their

chiller failed, we stepped in—on short notice—and delivered a great event, with great ice conditions.

We welcomed some of the biggest names in the sport: Jennifer Jones, Brent Laing, John Epping, Lisa Weagle, and many more.

The response from Curling Canada and the players was incredibly positive.

Second, we hosted the **BC Masters Provincials**, which brought together the province's top senior curlers. Although this event was a challenging workload, it was a successful event—well run and well received.

Diversifying Use of Our Space

Last summer, in addition to our mainstay summer ball hockey rental, we opened our doors to a new kind of event:

- We hosted the **Cornhole Canada National Championships**, which was lively, well attended, and a great use of our space in the off-season.

During the season, we also had a great turnout for a screening of *Curl Power*, the documentary celebrating women's curling. So many people attended that we received a \$1000 contribution in recognition of our support for the film and the sport.

Membership and Community

Our **membership numbers** held steady this year—no major growth or decline. **Lounge rentals** also remained status quo, including a weekly cornhole league using our lounge space.

Our **volunteer program** continued to be an important part of our operations. It not only provides a volunteer community within the club, but also provides crucial volunteer support.

That said, we are still facing challenges in finding enough help—especially for:

- **Ice Rental Groups**

- **Bonspiel coordinators**

Some improvements and committees for these gaps have already been started, but we will be looking at ways to fill these gaps.

Listening to Members

Recently, we ran a **member survey**.

We received valuable feedback, and the board is reviewing this closely to guide planning for future seasons, as well as running more of these types of feedback programs.

Thank you to everyone who participated.

Youth Programs – Building the Future

We're proud of the programs we have for young curlers:

- We ran **two Little Rockers 4-week sessions** —both were very successful and well received. Big thanks to Roberta McCleod, Kristen Haggard, Karin Allison, and Brenda Kalanj for taking this on.
- Our Junior program continues to be strong. Big thanks Linda Kazulin who continues to run the program and help the juniors thrive.
- Our **Discover Curling program** continues to offer school-aged kids a chance to try curling in a supportive and welcoming environment.

Huge thanks to all the volunteers who made these programs possible.

You're helping grow the next generation of curlers.

Revenue and Sponsorship

- We maintained steady advertising support, with some positive activity in attracting new sponsors.
- Lounge rentals held steady.

Gratitude and Volunteerism

None of this happens without people.

I want to extend a sincere thank you to our **management staff, Dean and Shannon**.

Your professionalism, adaptability, and steady leadership are vital to our day-to-day operations.

And to our **volunteers**—there are far too many of you to name.

Whether you helped with the ice, the concession, youth programs, events, bar, runs to the recycling depot, or cleaning up after a long weekend—thank you.

You are the lifeblood of this club.

And your work this season, especially during major events, made us truly deserving of that Curl BC award.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, we plan to continue exploring opportunities that support the growth of our club, enhance sponsorship and advertising partnerships, and strengthen our volunteer base. We aim to build on the momentum of this past season's successes, while ensuring any new initiatives are carefully considered and approved by the board.

Closing Thoughts

This season showed just how much we can accomplish—together.

Whether you're out on the ice, helping behind the scenes, welcoming a new member, helping with paperwork—you're part of something special.

Thank you all for your energy, your ideas, and your love of the game.

Jay Wakefield

Vice President, Golden Ears Winter Club

[3. Treasurer's report for 2024-5](#)

Paul explained that the report (which everyone had access to via either email or there at the meeting) showed a modest surplus of \$789. The expenses and income were generally in line with what had been seen in the previous year.

Some questions arose:

Why is the surplus so low? Jay and Paul explained that our operating agreement with the city states that a large surplus must be shared with the city, and that at the end of the year we spent money on things that are needed in the club. This year, it was new seating for the downstairs lounge area.

Where do the volunteer fees appear?

They have been included in club fees, but next year they will have a line item of their own.

Moved: Ken, seconded Janet: that the financial statements of the 2024-5 year be accepted as given. Carried unanimously.

5. Nominating committee and Election of directors

The Nominating committee is made up of Ken Madu. We need new board members, as two are coming off (Pat and Jason). Nominations are also accepted from the floor.

Three nominations have been received: Jim Cottingham, Terry Hawley and Glen Shipp.

Andrew Watsyk was nominated from the floor and agreed to stand.

No other nominations were forthcoming. All members were voted in by acclamation.

6. Other business: questions from the floor

a. Is there a strategic plan? *Eric has been working on this and it is now in draft form. It is a three-year plan. He gave a brief overview of its three arms (sustainability, youth and promoting the sport).*

b. Is anyone tracking whether Discover Curling and Learn to curl to see how many join the club from there? *Shannon has done some tracking of Learn to Curl (where they heard about it) but otherwise, no. This will need more volunteer support to do it*

c. What is the breakdown between lounge and ice rentals? *Shannon would know this but was unfortunately unable to attend. This information can be obtained later.*

d. Is consideration being given to hiring people to fill volunteer gaps? *Yes, the next board will be considering this. In fact, this has already been taking place as Shannon has paid someone to do grant writing, something for which no volunteer could be found.*

e. Is there a structure of committees at the club? *This is something that is common to other organizations and should appear on the website and in the club. Yes, the board is trying to institute this.*

f. Will there be further evaluation of the volunteer program? *Yes*

g. Will there be a fee increase? *This will be determined by the new board.*

h. Has a cost analysis been done on the camera purchase? *Is there a payback on their installation? There has been no cost analysis per se, but the vision is to attract advertising to streaming big events.*

i. Is the board considering a rebranding of the logo or name of the club? *Yes, this has been suggested and the board will look into this.*

Two comments from the floor: Port Moody Curling Club just did this, so perhaps they can give an idea as to the cost. The proposed new ice rinks that will be built next door may enable us to get some signage change at the same time.

j. Are volunteers covered by club insurance? *Yes.*

Moved by Vince Hodges, seconded by Kathleen Ferguson: that the meeting be adjourned

Adjournment: 8:10 pm

Following adjournment, the league winners were announced:

League Winners of the 2024/2025 Season

Monday/Wednesday Masters – Glen Shipp (President of league)

The 2024 Haney Masters Club Champion, and winner of the Edwards Cup, was Team Dunbar

(Skip Doug Dunbar, Third Will Menkveld, Second Ron McPhie, and Lead Dave Estergaard)

and they went on to a respectable Bronze Medal finish at the Fraser Valley Masters Curling Association InterClub Championships held in Chilliwack early this year.

Monday Night Competitive league – League Coordinator - Kirsten Ryan

Winners of the league – Team Ryan

- Kristen Ryan
- Shannon Joannis
- Megan Yamamoto
- Kirsten Fox

Tuesday Day Ladies – League coordinators: Linda Kazulin, Lindsay Terepocki and Patti Mooney

Winners of the league - Team Dunkin
Janet Dunkin, Nancy Walter, Joanne Keegan and Ann Marie Orser

Tuesday Night Mens – League Coordinator Derek Seaton

Winner of the league – Team Dunkin

Paul Dunkin, Michael Sloan, James Martin, Peter Hamilton

Wednesday Night Open – League Coordinators - Derek Seaton and Jim Manning

Winners of the league: Team Dunkin

Paul Dunkin, Janet Dunkin, Derek Seaton, Gregg Knapfl

Thursday Mix Em Up – League Coordinators - Ron and Flo Laxdale

Winners of the league - Team Kinnear

Jim Kinnear, Brian Reynard, Chris Martin, Mary Dyk

Learn to Curl – Coordinator - Jim Cottingham

- This season our lead, Doug Patterson had to step aside for a little bit as he nursed himself back to curling health. Doug still showed up with a warm presence and eventually found his way back on the ice.
- When Doug was absent, Amanda Brittain led the session with ease and grace with the help of Trevor Nisbet.

Friday Mixed – League coordinator Amanda Brittain, Draw Master and support Trevor Nisbet.

Winning Team - Team Joannis

Dean, Ian Turgeon, Corrine Hahmann and Charlene Zaste

Wed/Sat Juniors – Coordinator – Lead person - Linda Kazulin

Supported by many coaches: Bob and Lindsay Terepocki, Toni Fister, Janet and Paul Dunkin, Brenda Kalanj, Eric Wardroper, Karl Lundgren, Jason Peckham

Little Rockers Program – a wonderful team of instructors - Roberta Mcleod, Kristen Haggard, Karin Allison, and Brenda Kalanj

Sunday Open Doubles League – Corey Hodges

League Winner - Team Kitamura

Takeshi and Kyoko Kitamura

Concession Volunteers

Many thanks to our amazing concession crew, headed up by Fran King

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made our season such a success, without your involvement our club would not be able to run our programs and events.

Volunteer(S) of the Year

Jim Cottingham and Eric Samuelson

Jim Cottingham

It is with great appreciation and admiration that we recognize Jim as our Volunteer of the Year.

Jim's dedication to our Learn to Curl program has been nothing short of outstanding. Week after week, he greeted participants with warmth and enthusiasm, took attendance, ensured everyone had name tags, and kept in close communication with Shannon to track weekly attendance. He also served as a reliable liaison between the program and the league, keeping everyone informed of social events and updates.

Whenever a call for help went out, Jim was one of the first to raise his hand — often saying with a smile, "I might not know what I'm doing, but I'm willing to try." That spirit of willingness and humility has made a tremendous impact.

Whether it was assisting with online scoring, helping with the ice installation and takedown, supporting bonspiel 50/50 draws alongside his wife Faye, or stepping in to assist rental groups and welcome new curlers — Jim was always there. His presence, his reliability, and his positive attitude have become pillars in our club community.

Jim's contributions, both big and small, have helped strengthen the fabric of GEWC. His commitment and cheerful nature make him not only deserving of this award but deeply appreciated by all of us.

Thank you, Jim, for everything you've done. Your dedication truly makes a difference.

Eric Samuelson

It is my great pleasure to take a moment to recognize someone whose contributions to our club have been nothing short of extraordinary. We are proud

to honour Eric Samuelson for his unwavering commitment, hard work, and generosity of spirit.

Eric has been a driving force behind some of the most challenging – and often least glamorous – tasks at the club. When it comes to the gruelling work of installing and taking down the ice, Eric has been a constant presence. His willingness to go above and beyond in supporting Dean during these intense periods speaks volumes about his dedication and work ethic.

But Eric’s contributions don’t stop there. He’s rolled up his sleeves at events, helping with everything from organizing food and cleaning up, to setting up décor and making sure things run smoothly. His behind-the-scenes efforts have made a visible difference in the success and polish of our club functions.

Over the past five months, Eric has taken on a critical role by conducting a thorough audit of our internal operations. His thoughtful analysis and clear-eyed recommendations have helped the management team prioritize focus areas and identify ways to streamline processes. This work has already begun to create positive ripples that will benefit our club for years to come.

Eric also served on the board this past season, lending his insight and leadership to the larger vision of the club. His impact extended beyond meetings and planning – he actively reached out to individuals to assist with needed repairs and improvements around the facility, ensuring our space remains welcoming and functional for everyone.

Eric, your contributions have touched nearly every part of our club, and your quiet leadership and can-do attitude have left a lasting impression on all of us. We are deeply grateful for your time, your energy, and your belief in what we’re building together here.

Please join me in thanking and celebrating Eric Samuelson — a volunteer we are truly lucky to have.

Attendance record (present or by proxy)

By proxy: Fran King, Andrew Wong, Linda Kazulin

Present:

Ken Madu	Earl King	Jim Cottingham
Janet Dunkin	Mary Dyk	Derek Seaton
Paul Dunkin	Terry Hawley	Andrew Watsyk
Eric Samuelson	Chris Luck	Julia Berridge
Jay Wakefield	Michell Luck	Greg Berridge
Jay Ruzycki	Amanda Brittain	June Booth
Chris Ruzycki	Trevor Nisbet	Kathleen Ferguson
Corey Hodges	Kirsten Fox	Stacey Shannon
Vince Hodges	Lindsay Shannon	Miles McClenaghan
Glen Shipp	Brian Reynard	Ann McClenaghan
Gary Mitchell	Jolene Watsyk	Wendy Restricks
Verna Patterson	Peter Stephensen	Doug Patterson
Ann Marie Orser	Faye Cottingham	