

First Vice President's Report to the Board of Directors  
Area Liaison Meeting  
Wednesday, February 10, 2010

The USWCA Area liaisons met at the Troy Hilton Garden Inn on Monday, February 8, 2010 at 10:00 pm. In addition to the 1st VP Nancy Seitz Dawn Gutro, East liaison; Mary Beth Goelzer, Wisconsin; Molly Jensen, West 1 and Kelly Stephens, West 2 were present for the meeting.

Area Liaison job descriptions were passed out and discussions centered around the importance of accurate and up to date contact information for reps and the most effective methods for contact. It was suggested that while email is a convenience, phone calls are often more effective for getting information between reps and liaisons. Liaisons would benefit from getting lists from the secretary updating them on the rsvp status from their region so they could more efficiently follow up with reps who have not committed to coming.

The importance of making sure new reps are encouraged to attend, welcomed and involved when they come to meetings and the possibility of involving everyone in the process of getting them oriented to what USWCA is all about was touched on. Being personally invited to join another USWCA board member seems to make a big difference in attendance by new reps. Also, the transition of club reps is most successful enhanced when they are invited to attend a meeting with a departing rep before taking over as the contact for their club.

The question asked concerning the number of votes allocated to a person serving as both a rep and a liaison. Since the liaison is not a committee chair position, one vote is allocated to a rep serving as liaison.

All liaisons were encouraged to join a morning breakfast for new reps on Tuesday and to be a part of the reps luncheon at noon Tuesday, since it offers a great opportunity to talk together with the reps of each region about shared ideas, challenges and opportunities.

Before adjourning, we talked about ideas for Olympic open houses and events being planned at their clubs that might be shared with reps whose clubs are still looking for ways to capitalize on the upcoming festivities.

The meeting ended at 10:35 pm.

First Vice President's Report to the Board of Directors  
Reps Meetings  
Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Letters to all reps on January 7 via email, reminding people of the upcoming call to meeting and asking for prompt responses. There remain a number of incorrect email addresses on our roster and website so some additional phone calls were required. Phone calls reminding liaisons to follow up with reps from clubs in their regions were made a week later.

A meeting of the 1st and 2nd Year Reps was held in the Dining Room of the dining room at 8:00 am on Tuesday, February 9th 2010. Present were Nancy Seitz, Joan Freeman, Maureen Guay and Kelly Stephens. Since all were familiar with the rep system, our conversation revolved around the role of liaisons in facilitating communication with reps, concerns about keeping reps engaged and up to date and questions about building curling events like the All American that fit the limits of the an individual club while honoring the intent and rules of the USWCA program. We briefly talked about the importance of getting reps to enroll as a member on the website and making sure information is there for them.

The meeting for all representatives of the USWCA commenced at 4:10 pm in Sage II Handouts included the area liaison contact, the Responsibilities of a Rep guidelines, a form for contact information changes and a questionnaire concerning committee preferences. Also available were the liaison job description and the new reps tri-fold explanation of the USWCA management structure. The attendance sheet was signed by 46 reps and guests. Following introductions of all present, we briefly reviewed a rep's key roles, including board meeting attendance, timely and accurate communication between the USWCA and member clubs, and proactive service on a USWCA committee.

Reps were encouraged to send an alternate from their club when they cannot attend a board meeting. That alternate must be chosen by the club and notification given to the USWCA secretary prior to the meeting. In the event an alternate cannot be found, everyone was reminded the importance of sending in their proxy. Also, when a rep is stepping down, it was suggested that they invite their replacement to join them for their last meeting in order to facilitate their orientation to the faces and procedures of USWCA committees and the board meeting.

Results of the Fall survey asking for opinions about the option of switching from a Friday/ Saturday meeting to a Saturday/Sunday format were reported, indicating that of 33 responses 18 were in favor of Saturday/Sunday, 1 preferred the Friday/Saturday format and 14 had no preference. As a result, the invitation was made to all reps to come to the Fall Meeting in Cleveland, OH beginning Friday evening, September 17 and ending Sunday afternoon, September 19, 2010. Initial hotel plans are being made with Marriott East and reservation details will be available on the USWCA.org website as soon as possible.

## Proposals and Motions

USWCA By-Laws chair Carolyn MacLeod explained the proposed amendments to be presented for a vote at the February 10th meeting.

Star Pfiffner spoke to issues concerning the National Bonspiel, Dorothy Roach reviewed the initial concept for the Women's Curling Circuit.

Maureen Guay circulated the bonspiel rotation plan and asked that clubs to consider hosting either the Senior Bonspiel or National Bonspiel when they have the opportunity

Casey Kremer reminded reps to sign in as members on the website.

In closing, Past President Janet Farr briefly shared her memories of being a new rep at USWCA and the friendships that grew out of that inauspicious beginning.