**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting

Wednesday 14th Jun 23, 7pm @ Bodmin RFC.

**Present:** David Saunter, Jane Bell, Andy Richards, Tony Knightsbridge, Kevin Thomas, Alan Milliner, Lee Maher, Paul Hayes, Steve Murley, Daubroy Delahunty.

**On Zoom:** John Sumnall, Bill Hooper & Nicola McCombe (RFU)

**Welcome:** Chairman Dave Saunter welcomed everyone.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Andy Reed, Cozette Shrosbree, Tom Magill.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record they were signed by David Saunter.
3. **Matters arising:**

Whirlwind Sports, matter sorted, disposal of old stock. Rugby for Riley, DS and spoken with Scott Lake over £9k raised.

JS raised eligibility regarding the Cornwall Clubs XV. JS laid out the matter with regard to the sub-rules applicable at the beginning of the season. Players had to be a member of a Cornwall Premier League or Cornwall League 1 side, this was subsequently amended to Cornwall Counties 2 & 3. The crux of the problem is the selection of players from reserve sides playing in those leagues. At that point this matter should have gone to SGM at the time of the Financial AGM. JS went on to remind the committee about the raison d’être of the Cornwall Clubs XV. The proposal is that selection can only be from clubs that only run one side in the leagues.

PH reminded the meeting that this had been discussed at the February MB meeting. His view was that second team players deserve the opportunity to be included in a Cornwall Clubs XV side. DS floated the idea of a separate side to represent second XV clubs. KT reminded the meeting about our opposition to the RFU’s decision to ban second XV players from National

League clubs playing in the Jason Leonard Cup. KT also felt that selection could be more robust ensuring a good spread of players from around Cornish clubs. DS felt that we had to be Inclusive in our selection policy for the Cornwall Clubs XV.

SM proposed we have 2 teams, one for single team clubs and one for clubs with reserve teams in the leagues. KT felt that we really needed to focus on getting the selection right rather than have yet another team.

To sum up DS said that we will stick with players from Counties 2 & 3 with a monitoring process on the selections. PH to amend the proposal for voting on at the AGM on 28th June.

**Confidential Items under Item 7:**

1. **Reports;**

**Executive:** Executive has not met.

**Treasurer’s Report:** AR had sent out his report.

The breakdown of costs for the 3 representative sides was highlighted. Overall profit on the season is £15K. Insufficient to cover the costs of next season with likely 6 away games for the 3 sides. There needs to be stricter control of expenses and costs. KT would speak to AR re cost saving ideas and budgets for next season.

AR has indicated he will be stepping down from the role at the AGM. He added that he is happy to continue to represent the CRFU on SW Mutual & International Tickets allocation for Vice Presidents. DS added that we will be advertising for a new Treasurer. Already one person has indicated an interest.

Nicola mentioned that there was a review of all the county championships and that we should feedback our views to that task group headed up by Dr Tim Miller and Gary Henderson.

Regarding the Papa John’s Cups, comments should go to Paul O’Leary and Simon Cruise.

KT felt that these committees should be approaching the CBs for feedback, not us feeding back to them.

AM reminded us all that our CB is still in a good place, others are not so lucky.

**RFU Council Rep:** AM had submitted a report on his activity.

He had been with Bolingey Barbarians on their tour to Normandy, a report on the tour has been sent to the RFU for inclusion in the next Touchline. Good for our profile with RFU.

**Finance & Governance:** PH had sent a report in.

BH asked if had heard back from John Dunstan regarding composition of Discipline Panel, still awaiting a return of his messages.

**Club Development & Volunteers:**

DS recorded his thanks to TM for his work re organising county games & Honda Volunteer Presentations. On facilities Nicola mentioned that of the clubs that applied re Sanitary, Saltash outstanding, and Toilet facilities, Helston, Launceston, Saltash & Truro not yet accepted. TK mentioned Liskeard had applied for sanitary package, appears they were unsuccessful due to oversubscription.

**Safeguarding:** CS sent report.

**Game Development:** DD had sent in a report.

Asked for reps to chase up contacts for Tackle Height workshops.

There was a discussion about the merits or otherwise of the content of the course.

**Youth & Education:** TK had sent in his report.

Under 17’s program now completed. Some disquiet regarding the referee appointed on the day, to be taken up with Steve Avenell.

**Representative Rugby:** KT had sent in a report. Nothing further to add.

**Competitions:** LM had sent in a report.

He wanted next season to move the senior cup final to a Wednesday evening to avoid chaos with Papa John’s Cup.

Cup dates to be set within the season with 1st round played during first half of season. MB agreed with suggestion.

Looking ahead to season 24/25, LM wants to re-vamp the Counties Leagues. Reduce Counties 2 & 3 to a ten team league then launch a de-regulated Counties 4 league, which would include the remaining teams currently outside the league structure both clubs and reserve sides. Meeting felt this had to be put to the clubs for them to decide. Also a discussion regarding the re-vamped points deduction for walk-over games conceded and no friendly game played.

Proposal letter would be sent to clubs for consultation, when the time comes.

**Rugby Safe:** RG had submitted a report.

Reggie asked Nicola for clarification on the role of the First Aider at games and that he or she should not have another role during a game. Nicola replied that this was “Best Practice”, RFU recognise that this may not always be possible. RG asked if First Aiders could wear a special bib for instant recognition. RG looking to produce a roadmap.

**Diversity & Inclusion:** SM had sent in a report. Nothing further to add.

**Discipline:** BH had submitted a report.

Monthly CB drop-in, discipline breakout covering the results of the audit undertaken in December. Main concern for us was succession planning for the discipline committee, also diversity of our panel. Recruiting tools to include ads via social media to attract younger, playing age members to the panel. Recording of disciplinary decisions on CB website, RFU looking to get CBs to put this in place.

**Correspondance:**

JB had an enquiry from Lankelly-Fowey regarding courses referred to GMS portal. Letter from Richard Simeons (Camborne RFC), regarding an incident during an Age Grade match. JB to reply and inform Mr Simeons, that the matter has been handled correctly by the committee concerned. (update: TK had already made a suitable reply)

**A.O.B:**

JB asked about publicising events on the website, JS pointed out we had an Events Calendar on the website for such matters.

KT had read JS’s end of season message, clarify that the men lost their final pool game not semi-final.

JS regarding the CRFU AGM, if Chairs could pull out a topic from their report so that club delegates could talk about in the Q&A session afterwards.

Also updating the handbook for 23/24.

JS thanked everyone for their support as he prepares to stand down as CRFU President at the AGM and also from the MB, which he has been on since 1981/82 season, with a break from 2004-09, in its various formats.

Happy to continue with VPs, assist with Discipline, Finance & Governance and also look at Data Officer role which is still vacant.

Nicola will be present at the AGM along with Scott Sturdy and Rachel Miller to catch up with key people at 5 pm.

Payment of Players return to be completed by clubs by 30th June.

DS asked if those on the MB with connection to our sponsors please give name and email to JB so that DS can write and thank them.

Will also write to clubs that hosted county games.

**Item 7**: Nothing to record.

Date of next meeting: TBC

Meeting closed at 8:48pm.

Approved and Signed: