**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held at Camborne RFC

 Wednesday 28th June 23, at 7pm.

**Present:** John Sumnall, David Saunter, Andy Richards, Kevin Thomas, Bill Hooper, Tony Knightsbridge, Alan Milliner, Steve Murley, Andy Read, Daubroy Delahunty, Lee Maher (MB members), Nicola McCombe, Scott Sturdy & Rachel Miller (RFU), Club representatives (see attendance sheet, 32 attendees)

**Welcome:** President John Sumnall welcomed everyone.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Reggie Gough, Cozette Shrosbree, Paul Hayes, Terry Williams, John Bullock, Jane Bell, Tom Magill, Kevin Job, Roger Mead.
2. **In memorium –** the President, John Sumnall, asked the meeting to stand to remember those who had passed away during the past 12 months.
3. **Address:** from the President, Mr John Sumnall (previously circulated, copy attached).
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM:** Proposed Richard Simeons, seconded by Colin Hatch, signed by John Sumnall.
5. **Matters arising:** None.
6. **Reports from Committees (previously circulated):**
7. **Executive – Mr David Saunter**
8. **Treasurer – Mr Andy Richards**
9. **RFU Council Member – Mr Alan Milliner**
10. **Governance & Finance – Mr Paul Hayes**
11. **Club Development/Volunteers – Mr Tom Magill**
12. **Safeguarding – Mrs Cozette Shrosbree**
13. **Game Development – Mr Daubroy Delahunty**
14. **Youth & Education – Mr Tony Knightsbridge**
15. **Representative Rugby – Mr Kevin Thomas**
16. **Competitions – Mr Lee Maher**
17. **RugbySafe – Mr Reggie Gough**
18. **Diversity & Inclusivity – Mr Steve Murley**
19. **Discipline – Mr Bill Hooper (Discipline Hon. Secretary)**
20. **Sub Rules (Proposed amendment) read out by the President:**
* **(Cornwall Clubs XV) All players who play for Cornwall Clubs XV in one game shall be entitled to wear the Official County Clubs XV tie, the first of which shall be presented at the expense of the CB. To qualify for selection a player must be currently registered with club and regularly playing at level 8 or below (NB currently these leagues are called Counties 2 Cornwall (level 8) or Counties 3 Cornwall (level 9).**

**Amendment proposed by Daubroy Delahunty, seconded by Denis Preece.**

**The President then added a rider to the above sub rule;**

**“Selection for the Cornwall Clubs XV will be at the discretion of the nominated Selection Committee. The Management Board has requested that traditions behind the original ethos of the Cornwall Clubs XV continued to be respected by ensuring the widest possible representation of Community Clubs balanced against the needs to provide a competitive squad.”**

1. **To appoint Officers for season 23/24:**

 **President – Mr Andy Reed (period of 3 years), Proposed by John Sumnall, seconded by Colin Hatch.**

1. **Re-election of current members of the Management Board:**
2. **Governance & Finance – Mr Paul Hayes**
3. **Club Development/Volunteers – Mr Tom Magill**
4. **Safeguarding – Mrs Cozette Shrosbree**
5. **Game Development – Mr Daubroy Delahunty**
6. **Youth & Education – Mr Tony Knightsbridge**
7. **Representative Rugby – Mr Kevin Thomas**
8. **Competitions – Mr Lee Maher**
9. **Rugby Safe – Mr Reggie Gough**
10. **Diversity & Inclusivity – Mr Steve Murley**
11. **Assistant Hon. Secretary CRFU – Mr Bill Hooper**

 **Voted en bloc, proposed by Terry Carter, seconded by Peter James.**

1. **The President, Mr John Sumnall then made the following awards:**
* **Mr Bill Ryan – Hon Vice President of the CRFU. Bill Ryan made a short acceptance speech thanking the CRFU for his award.**
* **Mr Keith Lean – Hon Vice President of the CRFU. Keith Lean thanked the CRFU for his award.**
1. **The President then closed the AGM and gave notice of next year’s meeting – Wednesday 26th June 2024 at 7:15 pm, venue TBA.**

**The meeting was then opened up for a discussion forum. Nicola McCombe addressed the meeting along with Scott Sturdy and Rachel Miller.**

**There then followed a general forum with topics taken from the floor.**

**Jon Perry (Launceston) Asked about the finance of representative rugby and what needed to be changed. Dave Saunter explained that we looked at our expenses over a 2 year cycle (2 home games or 1 home game). 23/24 could see us with 6 away games for Seniors, Ladies & Under 20s, that will incur considerable expense to CRFU as RFU funding is insufficient. CRFU need to source more sponsorship to help balance the books. Jon also asked about the merits of an Under 23 competition at either national or regional level. DS replied that this had been proposed to the RFU but they were not keen.**

**There was then a general discussion regarding lack of funding to the community game in general. Terry Carter reminded the meeting that county rugby was the beacon of rugby in Cornwall.**

**Alan Milliner re-affirmed that the current level of funding by RFU to the community game will not decrease. Alan also emphasised the importance of the current player pathway, which has seen many Cornish players progress.**

**David Penberthy (Redruth) highlighted the ridiculous ruling regarding second team players from level 4 clubs ineligible from playing county under 20 in Jason Leonard Cup. These second teams play at level 8 or 9 in the league structure. He asked if the CRFU would continue to challenge this ruling. DS replied that Colin Hatch had taken this up with RFU Competitions and that we were not letting it go. Keith Lean added that the SW group had to self-fund their program to allow divisional rugby to take place.**

**John Sumnall then made a plea to the clubs to get their information to him in good time for the CRFU handbook.**

**Glenn Gibson (St. Agnes) thanked Scott Sturdy and Rachel Miller for their support and also the CRFU.**

**Jon Perry asked about next season’s Papa John’s Cup format. Scott Sturdy replied that the dates were decided, competition to start 13th April 2024. Still to decide if early rounds will be at a regional level to reduce travelling. General discussion around fixtures and format of draw.**

**Lee Maher reminded clubs that he had sent out the structured season showing proposed dates for county cup games. This season there will be set dates for ties to be played on, with early rounds in first part of the season. Finals to be played mid-week to free up Saturdays.**

**Steve Avenell (CRRS), plea for more club referees. Courses to be held over the summer. Also any ex-players who want to take up the whistle he will be pleased to hear from.**

**John Sumnall then brought the discussion to an end.**

**Approved & signed off:**

**President: Andy Reed Dated:** 26th Jun 2024