

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board meeting of the held at Liverpool St Helens FC

Monday 3rd October 2016

Present: Mr D.N. Herriman in the Chair, Messrs, T. Fitzgerald, J.T. Hughes, T.D. Stirk, Mrs C.A. Baker, M.J. Worsley, R.T.J. Briers, J.S. Greenwood, P. Deakin, M. Downs.

In attendance: Mr S.R. Blackburn, S. Urqhart, D. Southern, A. Soutar, C. Antcliffe, G. Morgan (Liverpool Collegiate)

Apologies: Messrs, K. Andrews, B.H. Stott.

Welcome.

DNH welcomed all to meeting, especially Gary Morgan of Liverpool Collegiate who was attending as part of the County mentoring scheme.

RDO Report.

AS reported:-

1. Three new All Schools in Liverpool were to be Calderstones, Broad Green who both feed Collegiate and Sefton along with Cardinal Heenan.
2. Collegiate had progressed well over last 6 months where the Chairman had given all coaches 18 months to gain coaching qualifications.
3. Waterloo had a tough start to season, AS thanked TF for the recent Presidents visit. Questioned if accounts had been received to allow sign off. – Action MD
4. A new Gay / all inclusive Team, Liverpool Titans were to play and were to be based at the Police club. 20-30 players showing interest.
5. Birchfield were doing well at the start of the season and West Park 3rd Team were expected to pick up as the Rugby League season was now coming to an end.

CA reported:-

1. 24 Clubs in Lancs now offered either Womens and / or Girls rugby. 12 new teams this year. The County would now split into the usual 3 geographical clusters. Helen Duggan is working on the organisation strategy and for 3 Chairmen of clusters.
2. Area 5 will hold a University Megafest at MMU in October.
3. Broughton Park & Burnley to hold a Pitch up and Play.
4. Connections with Ormskirk and Manchester had improved.
5. Bolton were starting to build and Littleborough were going from strength to strength.
6. RTJB noted that it was Women in Sport week, CA noted that Area 5 had been tasked with organising 20 events and they would be on findrugby.com

DS reported:-

1. Of the 3 RFU Targets of Adult 15 a side, Touch and W&G rugby, the only one that is down is Adult 15 a side. There have been 6 teams selected at risk due to non playing of fixtures but RL may have an effect at this point in the season.

2. There were 4 new Vets teams and the NW Casuals League was doing very well. Manchester Medics 2nds and Manchester Dentists were to apply for affiliation.
3. TDS – emails received from Katie Dooling to the effect that CBs can bid for RFU funds to continue the Unity relationship.

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2016, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed as a correct record. MD thanked KA for taking the minutes in his absence.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

RFU Report

RTJB reported:-

1. A Council meeting was due to be held.
2. The Board had been looking at the format for a new Womens Competition at the Senior level. There will be minimum operating standards and a desire to spread the top level game geographically. This should be in place for season 17-18. Also with a new Championship to follow in 18-19, both would benefit from a significant increase in funding.
3. Payment of players, there was a proposal of no payment at level 6 and below and a salary cap for levels 3, 4 & 5. Clubs below level 6 paying players would not be eligible for RFU grants. Proposals were scheduled for 19-20.
4. RTJB had been made a Director of The Twickenham Experience.

Finance & Funding Report

PD reported:-

1. The account should be ready for the end of October. In future these should be more aligned with the PFR so budget and reporting are in same format.
2. All memberships, individual and clubs, need to be reconciled as correct.
3. MD – accounts need to be set out to member 14 days before FGM.

RDC Report

TF noted that a report had been circulated, the main points of which were:-

1. There will be a marginal increase in overall medical fees going forwards.
2. The Royals were now looking for opposition.
3. The Coaching Conference had been a success and was well attended.
4. There had been an offer of kit sponsorship from a parent of a player on an age grade county team. Due to time constraints of adding printing to kit it was felt it may be better to sponsor a game or programme advert. Our sponsorship document detailing sponsor packages should be revised.

Club and Community Rugby

SRB reported:-

1. There had been a recent meeting of the committee.
2. We had now been advised that Lancashire could run the Leadership Academy without Cumbria's involvement. Sadly this decision came too late and we have no candidates in place. CAB asked if RDOs could nominate candidates. GM commented that he had gained a lot from attending the Leadership Academy and had about the process from the Cluster meeting. MD commented that this cancellation was not due to Lancashire but delays from the RFU
3. Website – Anne Clarke doing a great job with website but she needs more fresh information to add.
4. MJW advised that the stand at the Uclan Sports fair had been confirmed. KA and TF to attend, details to be sent to Helen Duggan for W&G involvement. Action MD.

Volunteering

CAB reported:-

1. A possible deputy to CAB had been identified, the Board approved the candidate should they wish to take the post.
2. Dates need to be confirmed for the Presidents meetings.
3. TF – Feeling from visits that a lot of clubs do not know what we do and we should think to how we can get this information across.

Cup and Competitions

No report.

Governance

1. TDS reported that no meeting had been held but the current workload was for age grade dispensations which CAB had been dealing with on the committees behalf. At this point TDS left the meeting.

Discipline

JSG was ratified by the Board as the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.

Correspondence.

There was no correspondence appertaining to the meeting.

New Members

There were no individual membership applications. An application for a new club, Liverpool Tritons, was approved.

50:50 Draw

Sep-16			Oct-16		
65	H Henderson	£53.70	11	R T J Briers	£53.70
23	R Brooks	£8.95	35	A Gott	£8.95
41	P Hanson	£8.95	8	K & A Andrews	£8.95
168	S Knowles	£8.95	31	M Cornelia	£8.95
123	D Welsh	£8.95	131	M Downs	£8.95

Date of next meeting:

Next Meeting: Monday 7th November 2016

Bill Nichol (Southport) will attend as part of the mentor scheme.

Any other Business

MD – to contact Alys Lewis (RFU Legal) to revive the Lancashire / Cumbria travel issue and league restructuring for a resolution and how to proceed,

MD – reported that a meeting had been held between John Bullough (Hon Solicitor) and Stuart Kohler to discuss the incident involving a minor at a County game at Liverpool St Helens. Subsequently there is no action to take as the RFU Legal department are involved.

MD – U15s & U18s Girls will play Yorkshire at Doncaster. MD & PD will represent County Board.

JSG – Anti Assassins fixtures

16th October at Oldham

13th November at Burnley

CAB – Bailey Financial Services banner appears on bottom of emails regarding international tickets. Could they be approached to place advert in programme.

CAB – Safeguarding Conference, 25 clubs had attended, very successful and thanks to Rochdale for hosting. KA thanked CAB for arranging.

TF – had enjoyed the last months visits. He had been to Widnes, Wigan, Preston, Sedgley, Waterloo and Liverpool St Helens. He reported some disquiet from Clubs regarding the DPP process. Enthusiasm and acceptance of the growing womens and girls game and that the coach mentoring and workshops were well received.

MJW – Peter Elliott will help to produce county match programmes.

GM – Thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend, commented that communication of what we do should be improved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:15pm


Chairman

Date 7th Nov 2016