

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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

Monday 6th February 2017

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

In attendance: Messrs, B.H. Stott, S. Urquhart, C. Lowden (RFU).

Apologies: Mrs C.A. Baker, Mr S.R. Blackburn.

RDO Report.

SU reported:-

1. Nat West Rugby Force had been closed with 17 applications from clubs, 10 will be selected for 2 workshops in April.
2. Mitsubishi Volunteer Awards – 2 weeks to close for nominations.
3. AGP bookings at PGH were going well.
4. Sport England looking to fund people to get active. £10m given to Community Game and £2.6m given for Womens game. This is to cover 4 years.
5. BHS commented that the RFU seemed to be concentrating on every aspect of the game except the Senior mens game which is struggling. SU responded that staff are working very hard.
6. MD had received an email from Rosie Williams advising that the Quarterly report would be stopped, MD had responded that he supported its continuing.
7. BHS commented that he felt League Secretaries should be given more independence to make local decisions.

Chris Lowden (RFU Universities Officer) reported:-

1. Getting more players from Universities to clubs is major focus.
2. An increase over last season had seen 34 teams in BUCS competitions and 20+ development sides.
3. 250 students had played in 20 different clubs so far this season.
4. CL had met Mark Nelson to discuss plans for next season and using University players as a resource. Very keen on introducing mentoring and coaching courses.

S Urquhart and C Lowden left the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 6th February 2017, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

RFU Report

RTJB reported:-

1. The strategic plan was well advanced and would be presented to be approved at the April Council meeting.
2. Nominations paper was out for approval at the next Council meeting, nominations were:-

John Spencer	President
Chris Kelly (Schools)	Senior Vice President
Peter Wheeler	Junior Vice President
Rob Briers	Chairman CGB
3. CB Leaders Conference was to be arranged for 30th Sept – 1st Oct.
4. Tom Fitzgerald & Angela, Bill Lyon & Jeanette had been entertained at recent International at Twickenham.
5. TDS questioned if there would be governance changes with the suggested changes to the make of Council from Sport England. A group has been set up and DNH advised it had been discussed at ERCA.

Finance & Funding Report

PD reported

1. We need to focus on marketing as an income stream. RFU not keen on spending on representative rugby. PD will chair a group and produce a discussion document

RDC Report

TF reported:-

1. All representative sides had made improvements, the U20s would have Dave Clarke as a Vice President to represent them.
2. One squad coach had expressed discontent with the format of the structured season and the fact that other Counties seemed not to adhere to it. KA will investigate and raise at the regional player pathway meeting.

Club and Community Rugby

MJW reported:-

1. A meeting was to be held on 13th Feb.
2. S Kohler had written a Marketing discussion paper which would be discussed and a report issued for the Board.
3. DNH felt the cluster meetings had been a success as we connected with clubs but they could be improved by more players attending. We should plan 3 more before the end of the season.

Volunteering

KA reported:-

1. He had met with CAB, Any Kerboas and Amanda Brazendale, AK had offered to become Volunteer Coordinator and AB would deputise. Board has ratified and MD will email them to confirm also copying Jill Loader, Alex Thompson and Dave Stubblely at the RFU.
2. AK had offered to organise the Leadership Academy and the Lancs Volunteer evenings, 25th April at Blackburn, 27th April at Leigh.

Cup and Competitions

BHS reported:-

1. Cup – some suggestions were being considered with perhaps a preseason competition involving 4 clubs.

Governance

TDS reported:-

1. A meeting is to be arranged, with a focus on various roles and how they are appointed, specifically the 7-16 Mini & Junior Committee and where it sits within the County infrastructure.
2. KA questioned if the Handbook is fit for purpose in its current form or should encompass a diary.

Discipline

BHS reported:-

1. T Baker to present his first case on behalf of the County.

Correspondence.

There was no correspondence appertaining to this meeting.

New Members

Brian Hurst – Littleborough. Annual membership approved.

50:50 Draw

Feb-17		
103	B O'Driscoll	£53.70
55	P Hanson	£8.95
172	DN Herriman	£8.95
133	M Downs	£8.95
57	A Gott	£8.95

Date of next meeting:

Next Meeting: Monday 6th March 2017

Any other Business

BHS – had been invited to Eagle for their Presidents Day.

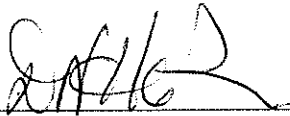
TF – Structured season document is complete and MD to send to Mark Saltmarsh.

MD – requested if directors would attend England v Scotland U18s at PGH.

MD – reported that a new M&J Secretary was required as Kate Benetta had stood down.

DNH – reported on the recent ERCA meeting discussions included next AGP Phase, Sport England and governance, Player payments and the perception that England Counties were selecting from NCA Clubs.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:00pm



Chairman

Date

6th March 2017