

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

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

Monday 6th March 2017

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

In attendance: Messrs, S.R. Blackburn, T. Baker (Leigh RUFC), D. Southern (RFU).

Apologies: Messrs, B.H. Stott, J.S. Greenwood.

RRM Report.

Dave Southern reported:-

1. Nat West Rugby Force had been closed with 16 applications from clubs, Workshops would be held on 12th or 24th March, a further 5 clubs would take part in the Crowd Funding exercise. Waterloo, Broughton Park & Bury would get the Keith Kent Consultation.
2. The monthly reports would continue but would be Club centric and the CB would also contribute to the report.
3. Within the Strategic Plan there are targets for net new teams who play 7 or more games, Lancs targets are Bolton 5th, Bury 4th, Leyland Warriors, Liverpool Collegiate Vets, Liverpool Tritons, Orrell 3rd, Sedgley Park 5th, Southport Shipwrecks & Wythenshawe.
4. Our next arranged cluster meetings should be more player focused.
5. DNH – we need to finalise the list of volunteers from Clubs for the CB volunteer evenings.
6. KA – meetings had been held around the Country to discuss Age Grade Rugby and requested one be arranged in Lancashire.

D Southern 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 after an amendment from TDS regarding the make up of the M&J committee.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

RFU Report

KA circulated a report to the meeting, main points were reported:-

1. Three artificial grass pitches were now in use, one being at Preston Grasshoppers.
2. Gordon Lord (English Cricket Board) had been appointed Elite Coach Educator.

3. The East stand redevelopment plan had been given planning approval, work would start immediately after the 6 Nations final home game.
4. The possibility of change of ownership at Gloucester RFC to the owner of Montpellier is being discussed as there could be conflicts of interest.
5. The Nominations (previous minutes) had been agreed, and congratulations were passed to RTJB as the new chairman of the Community Game Board.
6. HMG Governance Code – Jason Leonards sub committee had reported that
 - Non compliance could affect future government funding and support.
 - There were 72 requirements, 39 had already been met, 21 were easy to achieve and 12 could require a constitutional change.
7. There would be no increase in International ticket prices for season 2017-2018. RTJB requested information as to who our tickets are being sold to.
8. Richard Smallbone had presented on Safeguarding to the Council.
9. Waterloo Ladies had been accepted in to the Womens Super Rugby Competition and should be given Lancashires full support.
10. A final paper would be presented to the April Council meeting with regard to the payment of players at lower levels.

Finance & Funding Report

PD reported:-

1. A sponsorship meeting had been held a major topic of which was the £52k spent on representative rugby which the RFU do not recognise as development (certain aspects perhaps could be).
2. We need to self fund as we spend £20k on kit and £15k on essential kit. It was suggested that the essential kit could be funded by some squads players.

RDC Report

TF reported:-

1. Development Centres – 1 very successful had been held at Wigan, next is at Trafford MV.
2. A universities development programme is to be set up.
3. Womens & Girls – Senior Womens County trials had been held, a request had been made to raise a development squad with a plan to play Surrey at a mid way point. This was approved.
4. County Championship – The decision had been made to play at Fylde, which may not be ideal but would be player centric.
5. There was a discussion on the structured season with a template for the U17s proposed.
6. Preston Grasshoppers had requested that we put an advert for their Director of Rugby on the County website, this was approved.
7. Lancashire Roses (an U18s invitational squad) had requested to tour France. This was to be passed to the RFU, this is not a County representative side.

Club and Community Rugby

MJW reported on a meeting held on 13th Feb:-

1. The Presidents meeting had been reviewed.
2. Anne Clarke gave a review of the website and requested that more content be sent to her.
3. Stuart Kohlers marketing report was discussed at length.
4. Sub committee group has been formed to look at conducting a survey.
5. 2 web master meetings have been arranged to swap ideas.
6. Volunteers evening – a list of all club secretaries to be sent to Andy Kerboas – action MD.
7. A secretary is needed for the committee as SRB will step down during his president year. John Huyton (Orrell RUFC) had offered to join and would be welcomed.

Volunteering

CAB reported:-

1. Andy Kerboas and Amanda Brazendale had started to work in their new roles.

Cup and Competitions

JTH reported:-

1. Some fixtures are still outstanding.

Governance

TDS reported:-

1. A paper will be presented to the April Board meeting on regulation changes.

Discipline

DNH reported:-

1. Clubs had commented that JSG Chairmanship was going well.

Correspondence.

There was no correspondence appertaining to this meeting.

New Members

British Police Women RUFC – Approved.

50:50 Draw

Mar-17

19	M Brennan	£52.50
89	J E Nixon	£8.75
132	A Clarke	£8.75
17	M Brennan	£8.75
165	S Knowles	£8.75

Date of next meeting:

Next Meeting: Monday 3rd April 2017

Any other Business

KA – Highlighted that sadly there were a few County members funerals on the horizon.

CAB – Kids First to be held at Broughton Park with Kevin Cottingham, Bury, Sedgley Park and Littleborough are new clubs.

CAB – highlighted a case of a past coach who had indecent images on a phone, the case had gone to Crown Court.

CAB – complimented Rossendale Minis for their encouragement at a recent game at Tyldesley.

TDS – Safeguarding report should be added under Governance going forward.

DNH – a meeting had been called by level 8 clubs in the North of the county to discuss fixtures next season.

DNH – questioned if the use of the trial period of the press officer had been beneficial to the County.

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

_____ Chairman Date _____