

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board meeting of the held at Liverpool St Helens FC on Monday 9th April 2018

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

In attendance: Messrs S.R. Blackburn & S. Urquhart.

Apologies: Messrs K. Andrews, J.S. Greenwood, D. Clarke, D. Southern & B.H. Stott.

RDO Report.

SU reported:-

1. Garth Prison – 6 training session for 20+ prisoners were run in April.
2. Typhoons were to play their first game against a Chester side.
3. Summer O2 Touch – RFU want to recruit more clubs, they are required to run 30+ sessions per year. RTJB requested a list of current O2 Touch centres.
4. Health of Game Consultation – Roadshow to be held on 25th April at Preston 6:30-9:30.
5. 50+ attendees booked on the Steve Borthwick session on lineout play.
6. Lower Leagues Meeting (NOWIRUL) – Professional staff being pushed to meet with clubs and talk through issues.
7. RTJB confirmed with SU that Clubs choosing to join the Lancashire Leagues would not face the loss of insurance and funding streams.

SU left the meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 5th March 2018, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

RFU Report

A written report was given to the meeting by KA as below:-

1. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
RFU's GDPR toolkit for clubs, referee societies and Constituent Bodies currently in trial and due for release very soon.
On 25th October 2018, the UK will adopt new laws to bring into effect the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). GDPR builds on existing data protection law to give individuals more rights in relation to their data, and places an increased onus on all organisations, whether commercial companies or not-for-profit organisations such as rugby clubs, to secure individuals' data.

The RFU has created a toolkit to help clubs, referee societies and CBs in the following ways:

- to understand what the new data protection laws require;
- to provide practical steps to achieve compliance; and
- to signpost to further resources to help achieve compliance.

2. Community Club 'Health of the Game' Consultation Roadshow 2018
During April and May this year RFU will be embarking on a community club consultation roadshow around the country, speaking to club committee members, international ticket officers, and members of constituent body executive committees / boards. This will provide clubs with the opportunity to consider the latest National Rugby Survey results, discuss the health of the community game, and review proposals as to how international tickets may be allocated to clubs in the future based on the amount of rugby being played.
Lancashire Roadshow- 25th April 2018 at Preston Grasshoppers RF 6.30 to 9.30 pm

3. Regulation change around 'Out of Season' activity
Following approval by RFU Council, the important changes to regulation 15 concerning Out of Season activity are effective immediately and therefore covers Summer 2018.
In summary the following is permitted:
 - *At U11 and below, non-contact training only;*
 - *At U12 and 13, in addition to the above, non-contact matches and competition (if approved by the CB or CSU);*
 - *At U14, 15 and 16, in addition to the above, XRugby7s contact matches and competition and preparation* (if approved by the CB or CSU);*
 - *At U17 and 18, in addition to the above, 7-a-side contact matches and competition and preparation* (if approved by the CB or CSU).*

4. Insurance support for clubs' tour programmes
Full details of the specialist travel cover Howden have designed with the RFU, to dovetail with club combined liability and personal accident insurances, can be found at:
www.englandrugbyinsurance.co.uk/tours

5. Inaugural Tyrrells Premier 15s Final
The inaugural Tyrrells Premier 15s final will be held at west London club, Ealing Trailfinders on 29th April (3pm kick off, live on Sky Sports Action & Sky Sports Mix).

6. 'The future of Girls CB rugby and player pathway' roadshow
The roadshow has been designed to allow those involved in the delivery of Girls CB rugby in England, to attend a regional evening event and discuss the overview of Women & Girls action plan and player pathway. The meeting will be held at Broughton Park RFC Monday 9th April 2018.

There were no questions against the RFU report.

Finance & Funding Report

PD presented the Board with the Balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year to date.

1. DNH questioned why we were paying the costs of 2 x DPP events at Preston.
2. MD questioned why we were paying for maintenance on a Liverpool Uni minibus.

RDC Report

TF presented a written report to the meeting:-

1. The Senior XV starts training on 18th April for the County championship programme. The W & G Section has yet to report to Team Lancashire their preparations for the Womens County Championship.
2. The U20s have reached the semi-final stage in their County Championship programme and they will play Berkshire at Wigan on 15th April. The players and management team are to be congratulated. They have

secured promotion from the Shield to the Cup competition next season. Also, after the group games they are the county with both the highest points scored and the least points conceded; a remarkable achievement considering that other groups in the competition have four teams in their group and play an extra game. A number of U20s players will be invited to train with the Senior XV, some availability problems might arise due to the North and National U20s programme.

3. The Lancashire Coaching Group will hold the inaugural meeting on 25th March at Burnley FC
4. The CB Hon. Medical Advisor has been in contact with county medics and started planning for next season. One result from this will be a Medical Registration form for players in both junior and open age groups to complete before attending County trials; this will ensure that County Medics are freed from the requirement to take details from players at trials or before a game and that they are alerted in advance to any existing medical conditions.
5. The Lancashire RFU sponsored Student 7s festival will be held on 18th April at TMv. Male and female teams from a number of universities across the County have been invited.
6. There is no progress to report regarding the invitation to participate in the Children's Village at the Royal Lancashire Show in July. The organisers have yet to return phone calls and open discussions
7. The chairman of the Board has received a request for a meeting with an individual to discuss U16s boys and U17 and U18 girls County Representative Squads entering a 7s tournament in Paris in September 2019 (two thousand and nineteen). This tournament first came to Board notice in 2015, when Lancashire RFU declined a request to authorise a Lancashire Representative side to participate. The current request for a discussion meeting mentions that U17 and U18 girls squads were formed using the "Lancashire Roses" concept and that two teams entered the tournament in 2015 and again in 2017; the Tournament website for 2017 identifies these teams as being "Lancashire U17 & U18 Girls". No request to Lancashire RFU for permission to enter a team in this tournament was received in 2017.
8. Coaching Scholarships continue to be processed. A County SXV player who has worked with the Lancashire Academy has been approved for funding for the next Level 2 intake.
9. The PFR 3rd Quarter review has been completed without major problems. A request for funding has been approved to provide touch rugby kits to be distributed via the RDOs to clubs and schools; this will be met partly from anticipated underspend and partly from re-directed funds.

In addition to the written report there were the following notes.

10. 44 players had been identified for the Senior XV squad.
11. We would not be in a position to help with the Childrens Village at the Lancashire show.
12. Lancashire Roses to France – MD to write to John Foster advising that the Board would not approve the application to tour and that it should be applied for via the Rugby Development Committee.

Club and Community Rugby

No report.

Cup and Competitions

No report.

Governance & Safeguarding

No report.

Discipline

No report.

Strategy Planning Discussion

PD Opening Comments

We should respect the RFU strategy as they are giving us the tools and money through PFR, but we need to be independent. Our strategy should be aligned with the RFUs but not mirror it.

What was deemed the priority of our stakeholders from the last Board meeting was schools that are not members of Lancashire Schools Union and how we can engage with them for rugby. Following comments were made.

JBW – it would be difficult for members schools to get out and help with non members schools due to teachers time. All Schools, a lot don't seem to taking the game forwards. May be best to help via the pro staff.

RTJB – Perhaps wrong schools selected for All Schools and we should concentrate on schools who played rugby in the past but have ceased.

MJW – Many schools finish playing by Christmas which does not give a lot of time to rugby.

DNH – Why are there no schools liaison officers. He had tried to think of a club that had a good school link to use as an example but with difficulty.

TF – Pro staff should not be planning in isolation.

MD – suggested a pilot between primary & secondary school with a local club and CRCs as an experiment to see what would work.

JBW – Some schools were still worried about the safety of the game, CAB suggested we invite school heads to safety courses.

RTJB – Youth Trust Fund could help facilitate any of the above.

The next stakeholder for discussion at the May Board meeting will be 17-18s issues.

Correspondence.

There was no correspondence appertaining to the meeting.

New Members

No new membership applications.

50:50 Draw

Mar 18	Value
B J O'Driscoll	£53.10
P Hanson	£8.85
A Clarke	£8.85
J E Nixon	£8.85
A Clarke	£8.85

Date of next meeting:

Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st May 2018

Any other Business

1. CAB – Preston Grasshoppers now have 218 people within the Junior section which should be applauded.
2. MJW – a reminder of the North cluster meeting to be held at Preston.
3. MD – Next meeting nominations should be discussed including the LiU candidates.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:45pm

 Chairman Date 2nd May 2018