

## LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

### Minutes of the Board meeting held At Liverpool St Helens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Present: D. Clarke in the Chair, & Messrs K. Andrews, J.T. Hughes, P. Deakin, H.H. Hughes, C.A. Baker, M.J. Worsley, J.S. Greenwood, G.A. Burns, & M. Downs.

Apologies: Messrs, R.T.J. Briers, G.J. Morgan, B.H. Stott & A. Soutar.

*There was CB Relationship Managers Report.*

#### Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

#### RFU Council Members Report.

K. Andrews provided a headline report of the Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October. (Appendix 1)

#### Questions & Comments.

1. PD – Concerned about the new trial tackle law for U18s which is below the waist, whilst protecting the ball carrier it could cause injury to the tackler. KA confirmed that John Lawn (RFU) had scrapped the trial for these reasons.
2. HHH – Questioned why the County Championship competitions had not been sorted yet if go ahead to hold them had been confirmed for season 2021-2022.
3. DC – Confirmed that the County Championship future depends on justification in terms of player & volunteer retention.
4. MD – Received an email from Paddy Murphy at Burnley highlighting issues with GMS and the loss of a valuable volunteer due to it.
5. JSG – Questioned what is the future for England Counties and England U20s Counties, short answer is that its unknown at the moment.
6. CAB – Received a response from Alan Moses regarding Safeguarding Training which was to the effect of “You sort it”. Very unsatisfactory.
7. KA – There is to be a review of the RFU as a national governing body.
8. KA – Becky Davies (Staffs) had been co-opted on Council for 2 years on the World Rugby Scholarship.

#### Disciplinary.

BHS provided a summary report of the season to date. (Appendix 1)

1. MD – Business is brisk. There have been a number of cases of underage players playing Senior Rugby. Clubs to be advised of the regulations again.

### Team Viability.

1. HHH – So far this season the ADM Leagues had lost 19 games and the NOWIRUL Leagues had lost 59 games. Issues included Clubs loosing Second XVs but their Third XVs not moving up, Clubs loosing 2 Senior Mens XVs. The ADM Leagues understand they need to be flexible with Clubs. HHH to meet with Fred Swarbrick, John Powell and Matt Bryan to discuss team viability.  
RFU Leagues tend to be steady as they are made up of only First XVs.

### Red Rose Rugby.

A lengthy discussion on the Company that has been set up by the Chair of the Schools Union and how it was going about contacting people.

Companies the County use for our Schools Project had been approached by RRR and advised they were the representatives for the County.

MD – to write to RRR post KA speaking to Robbie Jones on the matter.

### The College of Rugby.

MD described the College of Rugby and how they provide BTEC Courses in Sport (Rugby Union). They are based at Sedgley Park but are not part of the club, just use their facilities. Due to the unusual set up of the College the RFU have suggested that they become a non voting member of Lancashire RFU to gain GMS access and then register with the RFU Colleges. **Membership Agreed.**

MD to contact Phil Clarke regarding COMA which apparently is a similar set up.

### Club Champions.

Club Champions had provided a Powerpoint Presentation to add to the website to attract new sponsors. It was felt that the presentation lacked professionalism and would be better with live action. DC to respond with our proposed changes.

### Correspondence.

None appertaining to this meeting.

### New Members.

No new memberships have been received.

### 50:50 Draw

Oct 21	Value
G Spenglar	£53.40
G Spenglar	£8.90
TD Stirk	£8.90
K & A Andrews	£8.90
A Clarke	£8.90

Date of next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 using Zoom.

Any other business.

KA – Jim Chapman, Council Member for Yorkshire had passed away. MD to send condolences to Barry Breakwell, Yorkshire Chairman.

PD – PFR has been increased by £8.5K

GAB – requested a list of people who had received Volunteer Match Tickets to Twickenham in past years.

KA – The Presidents Value the Volunteer is to be awarded to George Baldry OBE of West Park.

JSG – discussion on the funding of the Royals v Anti Assassins Christmas game. MJW kindly offered to sponsor the game which in turn will be held at West Park.

CAB – RFU now have a self declaration form for Volunteers which is not yet mandatory.

HHH – DPP & U16s, a request from Chris Stabler to set up a B side as there are 52 players. **Approved**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:57pm

 PP

Chairman

Date 1st Nov 2021

**LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LTD**  
**Board Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021**  
**RFU Representatives Report**  
**Council Meeting 01.10 21**  
**Headlines**

**Council meeting held at Twickenham**

**Decisions made on 03.09.21**

Council approved:

- The new contact rules of play regulations- The Touch Union
- Co-option onto Council- Becky Davies- Staffordshire- WR Women's Leadership Scholarship
- Global Law trials in Age Grade game U15s and above

**CEO's update:**

Bill Sweeney reported on:

- Community Game Return to play
- Autumn Internationals
- Player Welfare Update
- Championship Review
- Women's Game
- Commercial update
- Premiership Coaches Conference

**Chair's Report:**

Tom Ilube's first report:

- Meetings
- Safeguarding Training
- Board processes

**Community Game Board:**

David Roberts reported on:

- Travel funding subgroup
- GMS- short term problems and midterm review for its fit for purpose
- Winter sports survival fund and additional investment
- Monthly engagements with CBs
- Club of the Future Commission
- County Championship

**Girls' Age Grade Banding:**

Lou Latter reported on:

New Girls' Age Grade Bandings

**Professional Game Board:**

Phil de Glanville reported on:

- Review of Lions and summer tours
- EPS Squads
- Europe
- Covid protocols- season 2021-22
- Head impact prevention and management
- Graduated return to play

- Brian health clinic
- Minimum standards criteria for promotion to the Premiership

#### **Governance Committee**

Chris Cuthbertson reported on:

- Global Law Trials
- WR Game-on proposals
- Tackle height trial
- Project Touchstone
- Future Competitions Structure
- Old Elthamians RFC
- Lichfield Women & Leicester Tigers

On going work:

- Review of Antidoping Sub-committee
- Review of pitch side first aid provision
- Review of Council Media policy

#### **Board Nominations Committee:**

Dominic Proctor reported on:

- Work plan-  
Recruitment of Board Directors 2022  
Succession planning for Board roles
- Joint Board/Council Nominations Committee meetings
- Subsidiary Company Directors
- International Representatives

#### **Council Nominations Committee:**

Ken Andrews reported:

New Council member interviews

Independent member on Council Nominations Committee- Rosie Ranganathan

Council member on RFU as NGB Review Group

Independent members on sub committees

World Women's Leadership Scholarship – Becky Davies

Co-opted Council members

RFU Red Rose Award

#### **Diversity and Inclusion Implementation Group**

Genevieve Glover updated Council on the progress of the D & I Group

#### **Financial Report**

Sue Day updated Council of RFU Finances

#### **Review of RFU a NGB**

Mike Waplington updated Council with the membership of the Review Group, and outline of the areas to be covered.

#### **National Youth Council**

Tom Read reported:

Young volunteers

Released Academy players

Young Match Officials

NYC Recruitment.

KA/DC/RTJB 04.10.21



## Lancashire County RFU Summary Disciplinary Statistics Season 2021/2022

### Notes

The previous season figures are based on 2019/2020. The season was incomplete I have adjusted the figures to give a full season figure.

As you can see from the total there is a 47.98% decrease in sending off cases. This is in both adult and youth matches. It is difficult to know if this improved behaviour or decrease in matches played. I suspect it is the latter.

The main surprise in statistics is the low number of tackle offences given the importance being stressed by world rugby.

For information only please do not discuss as the matters are still to be resolved. We have three matters under review. One of a club playing a player out of the correct age group which will be heard on 7 October and two allegations of racial abuse in school matches. which are being investigated by the schools under the oversight of the RFU due to the nature of the allegations.

### Combined Current Season Statistics

	Total	Proved	Denied	Dismissed	Sine Die	Pending
Current Season	20	19	1	1	0	0
Previous Season	38	31	5	4	4	0
Difference	-18	-12	-4	-3	-4	0
Difference %	-47.98%	-38.49%	-81.25%	-71.88%	-100.00%	100.00%

	Striking	Kicking	Tackle	Foul Play	5.12	Balance
Current Season	12	2	3	2	0	1
Previous Season	10	4	4	8	4	1
Difference	2	-2	-1	-6	-4	0
Difference %	17.39%	-51.35%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

### Adult Current Season Statistics

	Total	Proved	Denied	Dismissed	Sine Die	Pending
Current Season	14	13	1	1	0	0
Previous Season	28	21	5	4	4	0
Difference	-14	-8	-4	-3	-4	0
Difference %	-50.78%	-37.77%	-79.55%	-71.88%	-100.00%	100.00%

	Striking	Kicking	Tackle	Foul Play	5.12	Balance
Current Season	7	2	2	2	0	1
Previous Season	7	2	2	6	3	1
Difference	0	0	0	-4	-3	0
Difference %	-3.08%	-5.26%	20.00%	-67.86%	-100.00%	0.00%

### Youth Current Season Statistics

	Total	Proved	Denied	Dismissed	Sine Die	Pending
Current Season	6	6	0	0	0	0
Previous Season	10	10	0	0	0	0
Difference	-4	-4	0	0	0	0
Difference %	-40.00%	-40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

	Striking	Kicking	Tackle	Foul Play	5.12	Balance
Current Season	5	0	1	0	0	0
Previous Season	3	2	2	2	1	0
Difference	2	-2	-1	-2	-1	0
Difference %	66.67%	-100.00%	0.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%	0.00%