

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Monday 4th September 2023

Present: Mr D Clarke in the Chair, & Messrs, J.T. Hughes, H. Hughes, M.J. Worsley, K. Bennetta, T.L. Coffey, G.A. Burns & M. Downs.

In Attendance: Mr B. Hurst, Mr D. Westhead.

The Chairman welcomed the new season and the new Senior Vice President, Brian Hurst, to the meeting.

Apologies: Messrs, C.A. Baker, P. Deakin, B.H. Stott.

CB Relationship Managers Report.

DW Reported in addition to AS email report.

1. Age grade affiliations are up approx. 12% on same time last season.
 - Season 22/23 3,502 players registered as of 01/09/2022
 - Season 23/24 3,918 players registered as of 01/09/2023
2. Report for all spent Targeted Delivery Funding 22/23 has been received.
3. Report received for Targeted Delivery projects 23/24
 - By extending our successful 'Schools to Clubs Link' programme in to Colleges.
 - By the continuation of our 'Schools to Clubs Link' programme, targeting All Girls Schools where possible.
 - By funding taster sessions for those clubs struggling for numbers with their ladies teams.
4. Funding approved for bids in to the Adult Male Recovery Fund (£100k Nationally) – £15k total to Lancashire after successful application.
 - 20 x £500 Touch Rugby Events.
 - 10 x £500 Vets Rugby.
5. Club Development Team are now settling into post and are ready to expand their roles.
6. Key Targets.
 - Adult Male Recovery (RFU Project Phoenix) to target clubs from match card data. This seasons focus will be on Colts transition.
 - At Risk Clubs – 3 have currently been identified in Lancashire. 2 have very depleted or no players and one is a facilities issue.
 - Growing the Womens & Girls game – growth targets set by the RFU at 35% will be a big challenge.

Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2023, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

RFU Report.

1. DC reported that a Council Meeting had been held to discuss the appointment of a Chairman to conduct a review of the National Governing Body. The Board had suggested an external candidate but this was

defeated by Council 30 votes to 27. Nominations will now select a Chairman from Council to lead the review which could take up to 9 months.

2. MJW - felt that the Academy System of Premiership clubs was not working with many U20s players having no game time and therefore not being match ready.

Womens & Girls Rugby.

1. HH – Is looking at changes in the Womens & Girls Structure after the RFU review of our DPP structure last season.
2. HH – All sitting incumbents with the exception of one, had re-applied for the posts as well as new applicants. Applications will be reviewed.
3. HH – denied that anyone had been dismissed from a role in the Womens & Girls structure.
4. KB – confirmed that Sale Sharks are happy to assist with our DPP, we just need to give them the structure. Also Trafford MV had offered facilities and to host the DPP.
5. MJW – we need KB to form a Women & Girls committee.
6. DC – suggested an approach to Cheshire to partnership on the Girls competitions due to low number of clubs involved.

Nomination process to start for Girls DPP.

Action KB

Correspondence.

None appertaining to this meeting.

New Members.

1 new Annual Member

Iain Gould.

Approved

50:50 Draw

Aug 23	Value	Sept 23	Value
M Cornelia	£53.70	P Hanson	£53.70
K Andrews	£8.95	D Herriman	£8.95
P Hanson	£8.95	P Hanson	£8.95
BH Stott	£8.95	G Spenglar	£8.95
D Poppitt	£8.95	RTJ Briers	£8.95

Date of next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Monday 2nd October 2023 at Liverpool St Helens.

Any other business.

GAB – Bolton Volunteer Awards Evening had been a great event with Katy Dayley-McLean reporting she had a great night.

JTH – Confirmed the RFU disciplinary conference at Wye Boston had gone very well.

MJW – asked TLC what was Mixed Ability Rugby. Rugby for Adults who are either Physically disabled or have behavioural issues and are helped by able volunteers to play Rugby.

HH – Competitions at Twickenham will not change the eligibility rules on the U20s representative competition.

TLC – Had a presentation with IMAS online detailing mixed ability rugby. Sedgley Park, Aldwinians Bolton and Preston are interested in being involved and should receive some small amount of funding. Try It Rugby will deliver our Sport England bid for £14.5k.

TLC – Requested Board approval to apply for a grant.

Approved

TLC – Robbie Jones is writing a D & I policy for the Schools section. TLC will work with him on one overall action plan.

TLC – Rugby United, 9 young adults have signed up for the coaching course, 3 of whom are Muslim.

DC – Halbro Leagues. There is an issue with re-arranged fixtures already in the season. Sought Board permission to speak to Fred Swarbrick about a change in the rules.

Approved

Meeting ended at 8:00pm

Chairman

Date

2-10-23