

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Monday 4th November 2024

Present: Mr D Clarke in the Chair, & Messrs, J.T. Hughes, G.A. Burns, M.J. Worsley, C.A. Baker, H. Hughes & M. Downs.

In Attendance: Messrs B Hurst, B.H. Stott, A. Soutar, D. Westhead, J. Jones (Youth Council).

Apologies: K. Bennetta, P. Deakin.

CB Relationship Managers Report.

A. Soutar

1. Thanks to CAB for being first in the Union to complete the safeguarding review.
2. There are now 4 Schools Rugby Managers in post in Lancashire. It would be beneficial for the CB to be introduced to them. They are Ali Watt (Liverpool), Doug Martin (City of Manchester), James Wright (Greater Manchester) and Mark Sutcliffe (Fylde Coast).
3. Remit to increase the number of girls playing in the 6-12 year old group in partnership with Jack Leach of Sale Sharks.

D. Westhead

1. Impact 25 (Lead up to the Womens World Cup) – Momentum is building. Working at 2 "hotspots" of Liverpool and Manchester with a total of 21 Lancashire clubs.
2. 6-12 work. Sale Sharks are working with 6 clubs, Sefton, Collegiate, Trafford MV, Manchester, Broughton Park and Toch. Each delivery plan will be different from club to club.
3. Volunteer recruitment fund is live currently, clubs can apply for £500 to run a recruitment event. Only 1 application to date and closing date is 22nd November.
4. 50-60 applications for the Womens Leadership course from across the North.
5. MD – I Spivey advises a 44% increase in 12-16 year old Girls registrations.
6. CAB – need to be able to measure the differential between the number of girls registered and those actually playing.
7. Held 2 Impact roadshows at Collegiate and Toch which were well attended with 9 Lancashire clubs there.
8. DC & HH – met with NOWIRUL to look at supporting some clubs with struggling lower teams. Also discussed Electronic Match cards which NOWIRUL are fine with. Second point was the number of 1st XV's who are far too good for those levels, there was no agreement on this.

Discussion on the start date of the season after a letter from Southport. NOWIRUL have taken this point to look at further.

9. DW – Red Roses visits to Waterloo and Liverpool St Helens. Sarah Beckett and Holly Aitchison respectively.
10. DW – Facilities Group will be updated at next meeting by Matt Coglan about some projects related to Impact 25.
11. BHS – There is a lot of emphasis on Womens and Girls rugby at the moment to the potential detriment of the Men and Boys game.
12. MD – voiced concerns about the new regional board that is being brought in and how much extra work will be put on volunteers to help them.

J Jones – Lancashire Youth Council

1. Social media been running about 3 weeks with 23k views, TikTok have over 11k views to help grow rugby from a young persons perspective.
2. Filming is being done around several of our clubs.
3. Rugby Unlimited Drop – gave out 120 balls in Bolton town centre to predominantly 14-18 year old Black and Asian children to take to their schools and get some rugby played.
4. The Committee consists of:-
 - Dan Aspinall – Chair
 - Nathan Power
 - Ella Walsh
 - Nel Leach
 - Abi
5. Next candidates for the ball drop are Trafford MV and Broughton Park. CAB advised to potentially look a towns with Christmas markets.

Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed per procuracionem as a correct record.

Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

Questions to Written Reports

Disciplinary – Appendix 1.

1. Business is brisk. There seems to be a lot of punching and striking.

RFU

1. Not recent Council meeting since last Board meeting. Next Council meeting is 25th November.
2. DC – the consultation for the stadium masterplan is still ongoing. Union want to move from 3 non rugby events per year to 15 to pay for the upgrade to the stadium. Local residents and Council are in talks.
3. MJW – Any reaction to Bill Sweeney's pay rise. DC had heard nothing.
4. Invites have gone out to the Mens Papa Johns Cups. Closes on the 22nd November.

Finance

1. MD – PD confirmed he had had the accounts back from the examiners and they need to signed off by the County. They will then be uploaded to the website in time for Novembers Financial AGM.

Mental Health – CAB

1. Request permission in view of what has happened lately can we have a designated Mental Health Officer for the County. To sit on the Club & Community committee and be available to liaise with all the Mental Health parties.

Agreed

Mens & Boys Rugby.

HH Reported

1. U18s had received 118 nominations for trials, 100 turning up. This has been cut downs to 45 and a squad of 25 selected from the second trial. Standard is good with 11 clubs and 9 schools represented.
2. U20s lead coach and forwards coach applications were good candidates.
3. Royals had 46 applications to go to trial. Royals will play the Anti Assassins on the 28th December and then play Vale of Lune in the New Year to mark their Centenary.
4. Cheshire had asked to play the Royals before a County Championship game, this is difficult as they are in a different division.

Correspondence.

None appertaining to this meeting.

New Members.

There were no new member applications.

50:50 Draw

<u>Aug 24</u>	Value	<u>Sept 24</u>	Value
P Hanson	£42.00	E Neely	£42.00
P Hanson	£7.00	BH Stott	£7.00
M Cornelia	£7.00	M Cornelia	£7.00
EBN Norc-Taylor	£7.00	S Knowles	£7.00
M Brennand	£7.00	H Henderson	£7.00

<u>Oct 24</u>	Value	<u>Nov 24</u>	Value
RTJ Briers	£42.00	P Hanson	£42.00
S Knowles	£7.00	D Welsh	£7.00
EBN Norc-Taylor	£7.00	PE Hughes	£7.00
D Welsh	£7.00	G Spenglar	£7.00
H Henderson	£7.00	G Jones	£7.00

Date of next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Monday 2nd December 2024 by Zoom.

Any other business.

GAB – Both she and Ken Andrew (Chair) are involved with Merseyside Wooden Spoon. The region is expanding and now includes Leigh & Wigan. GAB asked if Lancashire would become a partner club.

Agreed

Meeting ended at 7:35pm



pp

Chairman Date 2nd December 2024



Combined Disciplinary Statistics

October

	Current Month				Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	13	5	8	160.00%	26	13	13	100.00%
Head	1	0	1	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Shoulder	1	0	1	0.00%	2	0	2	100.00%
Knee	0	1	-1	0.00%	0	3	-3	-100.00%
Elbow	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	15	6	9	150.00%	29	16	13	81.25%
Kick								
Kicking	1	1	0	100.00%	3	2	1	50.00%
Trip	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Stamping	0	1	-1	-100.00%	0	2	-2	-100.00%
Sub Total	1	2	-1	-50.00%	4	4	0	0.00%
Tackle								
Dangerous	1	3	-2	-66.67%	2	8	-6	-75.00%
Tip Tackle	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Sub Total	1	3	-2	-66.67%	3	8	-5	-62.50%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	4	0	4	100.00%	6	1	5	500.00%
Verbal Abuse	1	3	-2	-66.67%	5	8	-3	-37.50%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	5	3	2	66.67%	11	9	2	22.22%
2 Yellow Cards	4	2	2	100.00%	9	6	3	50.00%
Rule 5.12	0	8	-8	-100.00%	3	14	-11	-78.57%
Other	0	0	0	0.00%	2	0	2	0.00%
Total	26	24	2	8.33%	61	57	4	7.02%



Adult Disciplinary Statistics

October

	Current Month				Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	11	2	9	450.00%	21	10	11	110.00%
Head	1	0	1	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Shoulder	1	0	1	0.00%	2	0	2	100.00%
Knee	0	0	0	0.00%	0	1	-1	-100.00%
Elbow	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	13	2	11	550.00%	24	11	13	118.18%
Kick								
Kicking	1	1	0	100.00%	2	2	0	0.00%
Trip	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Stamping	0	1	-1	-100.00%	0	2	-2	-100.00%
Sub Total	1	2	-1	-50.00%	3	4	-1	-25.00%
Tackle								
Dangerous	0	2	-2	-100.00%	1	6	-5	-83.33%
Tip Tackle	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Sub Total	0	2	-2	-100.00%	2	6	-4	-66.67%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	3	0	3	100.00%	5	1	4	400.00%
Verbal Abuse	1	1	0	0.00%	3	5	-2	-40.00%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	4	1	3	300.00%	8	6	2	33.33%
2 Yellow Cards	4	2	2	100.00%	9	6	3	50.00%
Rule 5.12	0	8	-8	-100.00%	3	14	-11	-78.57%
Other	0	0	0	0.00%	2	0	2	0.00%
Total	22	17	5	29.41%	51	47	4	8.51%



Youth Disciplinary Statistics

October

	Current Month				Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	2	3	-1	-33.33%	5	3	2	66.67%
Head	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Shoulder	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Knee	0	1	-1	-100.00%	0	2	-2	-100.00%
Elbow	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	2	4	-2	-50.00%	5	5	0	0.00%
Kick								
Kicking	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Trip	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Stamping	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	1	0	1	#DIV/0!
Tackle								
Dangerous	1	1	0	0.00%	1	2	-1	-50.00%
Tip Tackle	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	1	1	0	0.00%	1	2	-1	-50.00%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	1	0	1	100.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Verbal Abuse	0	2	-2	-100.00%	2	3	-1	-33.33%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	1	2	-2	-100.00%	3	3	0	0.00%
2 Yellow Cards	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Rule 5.12	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Other	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	4	7	-3	-42.86%	10	10	0	0.00%