

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Monday 2nd December 2024

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

In Attendance: Messrs B.H. Stott, A. Soutar & B. Dale.

Apologies:

CB Relationship Managers Report.

A. Soutar

1. Following clubs from Lancashire have applied for the volunteer funding, Aldwinians, Broughton Park, Didsbury ToCH, Waterloo, Leigh & Liverpool Collegiate. All applications were strong and there were 130 applications across the Country.
2. School Rugby Managers – It would be good to meet up with them and discuss ideas and targets etc.

B. Dale

1. 6-12s delivery India Perris-Redding got 6 girls down to Didsbury ToCH for cluster training.
2. De La Salle would like to start age grade rugby, DB has a meeting booked with them to discuss.
3. MD – received an email from Broughton asking if the name Salford RUFC was in use. It was confirmed that it was not.

Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Monday 4th November 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. BHS - An incident of a Coach and Spectator making contact with an U16s Player.

Finance

1. PD – Finance report is complete but some clarification is required from KB about which spend is allocated to U16s Girls or Girls DPP.

RFU

1. DC – Conversations at last Council meeting were dominated by RFU Board Member Bonuses, particularly Bill Sweeney. None of Council were notified of the agreement during Covid regarding salary sacrifice and bonuses thereafter.
2. PD – to clarify, Bill Sweeney and rest of the executive shared a £1.3M retention bonus. During they Covid period they took a paycut for 6 months. The bonus was agreed by the remuneration committee for them to agree to stay in the RFU for 3 years. Its not landed well in the year when due to the World Cup cycle the RFU has lost £43M.
3. MJW – Is there enough Council Members to call a Special General meeting to get a vote of No Confidence ? DC thinks figure is 20 but both PD & DC have not been asked. DC – Wrong time to announce and wrong time to give.
MD – If there where to be a no confidence vote what would it be ? DC felt it was aimed at the Chairman (Tom Ilube) and not the CEO (Bill Sweeney).
4. DC – Regionalisation Project starts in July 2025 and will see a body set up to distribute and eventually raise funding for Rugby projects in various areas. Lancashire and Cheshire will have the same regional body. MD questioned who would be interviewing for the posts, DC confirmed this would be the RFU.
5. AS – a question was asked could the bonus not have been deffered, this was not possible as it would still appear in the accounts.

Mens & Boys Rugby.

HH Reported

1. U18s had a good start to their campaign with a win over Cheshire 36-20 at Cheshire. Next game is 15th December versus Cumbria at Penrith.
2. U20s have had over 60 nominations who all look strong.
3. U17s start their campaign towards the end of the season.
4. An anonymous letter had been received as well as being copied to the other North County Secretaries and the RFU alleging substance misuse by players attached to a college. CAB & Anti Doping at TW2 had been advised and the college spoken to, there is no evidence of wrong doing. No further action is required.

5. Age Grade Calendar – It would appear that a small number of Colts teams are ignoring the CB dates in the AGC and playing competitive rugby on those days. This is not helped by the Colts web site calendar referring to the CB dates as Weather Weeks inferring that clubs can use the days for postponed fixtures.
6. Senior Mens game v Somerset will be held at Weston Super Mare.

Womens & Girls Rugby.

KB Reported

1. U16s had played at Leigh, Both teams won both games against North Mids who would like to host us and keep the relationship going next season. Next game is in February away to Staffs.
2. U18s won one game and lost one in the tri-tournament at Rockliff Whitley Bay. Next game is on 12th Jan against Chesire and Yorkshire at Eccles.
3. Vicky Irwin would like to stay in place for this coming Senior Womens campaign, others who would like to be involved are Eva Woods as a backs coach and Lizzie Duffy as the kicking coach. India Perris-Redding also keen to continue. Trials to be held in April.
4. Residential at Barnard Castle will start to be arranged in January, parental payments are to be direct.
5. The recent Womens World Cup event at Sale Sharks had resulted in neither Chesire or Lancashire representatives being invited with the exception of GAB. KB not happy about the perceived snub.
6. Senior Womens 1st game on 1st June against Yorkshire will be at West Park St Helens, GAB will also hold the pre-match Volunteers event at this game.

Correspondence.

1. Letter from Mr Concerned regarding substance abuse by U18s County players.
2. Email from Broughton regarding the use of the name Salford RUFC.

New Members.

There were no new member applications.

50:50 Draw

<u>Dec 24</u>	Value
G Jones	£42.00
P Hanson	£7.00
P Hanson	£7.00

S Knowles	£7.00
P Hanson	£7.00

Date of next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Monday 6th January 2025 by Zoom.

Any other business.

KB – received an email from Preston Girls looking for assistance with coaching and guidance. BD to contact Steve Tiernan.

GAB – had received from MD to application forms to make the Conty an associate member of Wooden Spoon.

DC – Website, had spoken to Jonathan Conn at the RFU about CB template websites.

Meeting ended at 7:45pm



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Chairman Date 8th January 2025



Combined Disciplinary Statistics

November

					Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	10	8	2	25.00%	36	21	15	71.43%
Head	1	1	0	0.00%	2	1	1	100.00%
Shoulder	1	0	1	100.00%	3	0	3	100.00%
Knee	0	0	0	0.00%	0	3	-3	-100.00%
Elbow	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	12	9	3	33.33%	41	25	16	64.00%
Kick								
Kicking	4	0	4	100.00%	7	2	5	250.00%
Trip	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Stamping	1	4	-3	-75.00%	1	6	-5	-83.33%
Sub Total	5	4	1	25.00%	9	8	1	12.50%
Tackle								
Dangerous	5	4	1	25.00%	7	6	1	16.67%
Tip Tackle	2	1	1	100.00%	3	1	2	100.00%
Sub Total	7	5	2	40.00%	10	7	3	42.86%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	3	0	3	100.00%	10	1	9	900.00%
Verbal Abuse	1	0	1	100.00%	6	8	-2	-25.00%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	4	0	4	100.00%	16	9	7	77.78%
2 Yellow Cards	5	2	3	150.00%	13	8	5	62.50%
Rule 5.12	5	4	1	25.00%	8	18	-10	-55.56%
Other	2	0	2	0.00%	4	0	4	0.00%
Total	40	24	16	66.67%	101	75	26	34.67%
Dismissed Cases	4	0	4	100.00%	4	4	4	100.00%
Total Proved	36	24	12	33.33%	97	71	12	16.90%



Adult Disciplinary Statistics

November

					Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	7	5	2	40.00%	28	15	13	86.67%
Head	1	1	0	0.00%	2	1	1	100.00%
Shoulder	1	0	1	0.00%	3	0	3	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	9	6	3	50.00%	33	17	16	94.12%
Kick								
Kicking	4	0	4	100.00%	6	2	4	200.00%
Trip	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Stamping	0	2	-2	-100.00%	0	4	-4	-100.00%
Sub Total	4	2	2	100.00%	7	6	1	16.67%
Tackle								
Dangerous	5	3	2	66.67%	6	3	3	100.00%
Tip Tackle	2	1	1	0.00%	3	1	2	100.00%
Sub Total	7	4	3	75.00%	9	4	5	125.00%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	3	0	3	100.00%	9	1	8	800.00%
Verbal Abuse	1	0	1	100.00%	4	5	-1	-20.00%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	4	0	4	#DIV/0!	13	6	7	116.67%
2 Yellow Cards	5	1	4	400.00%	13	7	6	85.71%
Rule 5.12	5	2	3	150.00%	8	16	-8	-50.00%
Other	2	0	2	0.00%	4	0	4	0.00%
Total	36	15	21	140.00%	87	56	31	55.36%
Dismissed Cases	4	0	4	100.00%	4	4	4	100.00%
Total Proved	32	15	17	53.13%	83	52	17	53.13%



Youth Disciplinary Statistics

November

					Year to Date			
	2024	2023	Diff	%	2024	2023	Difference	%
Striking								
Hand	3	3	0	0.00%	8	6	2	33.33%
Head	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	100.00%
Shoulder	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	100.00%
Knee	0	0	0	0.00%	0	2	-2	-100.00%
Elbow	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	3	3	0	0.00%	8	8	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	1	2	-1	-50.00%	1	2	-1	-50.00%
Sub Total	1	2	-1	-50.00%	2	2	0	0.00%
Tackle								
Dangerous	0	1	-1	-100.00%	1	3	-2	-66.67%
Tip Tackle	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	0	1	-1	-100.00%	1	3	-2	-66.67%
Referee Abuse								
Disrespect	0	0	0	0.00%	1	0	1	100.00%
Verbal Abuse	0	0	0	0.00%	2	3	-1	-33.33%
Threatening	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Sub Total	0	0	0	0.00%	3	3	0	0.00%
2 Yellow Cards	0	1	-1	-100.00%	0	1	-1	-100.00%
Rule 5.12	0	2	-2	-100.00%	0	2	-2	-100.00%
Other	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	4	9	-5	-55.56%	14	19	-5	-26.32%