**Cornwall Rugby Football Union Ltd**

**Promoting Rugby for One and All**

**Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen hag Oll**

This was the 14th of our Virtual Management Board Meetings, held on Wednesday 2 December 2020, at 7pm, via Zoom.

**Present on line:** David Saunter, John Sumnall, Andy Richards, Chris Lea, David Martin, Tony Knightsbridge, Bob Hubble, Georgina Finnegan, Bill Hooper, Alan Milliner, James Instance, Cozette Shrosbree and Scott Sturdy (Area A Club & Volunteer Support Manager).

**Apologies for absence:** Terry Williams, Steve Murley, Tom Magill

**Minutes of last meeting:** all agreed that these were a true and accurate record. The Secretary would hold a copy on file with a notation to the effect that due to Covid-19 the chairman could not sign them in the normal way.

**Matters Arising:** None.

DS asked CJ to give the Board an update on the plans for the Cornwall League post New Year. Redruth have indicated that they intend to compete in the National Clubs Association Cup and then enter their fringe squad into the Cornwall League; they do not intend to run a second team as such for season 20/21.

Having consulted with Competitions Committee they would like to adopt regulations from the Duchy League, where a side could start a game with a minimum of 10 players with borrowing if necessary both sides must start with equal numbers. A further regulation could be the allowing of 7 named replacements.

Clubs could arrange their own friendlies but would need to arrange referees themselves.

DS had spoken with Nigel Hambly at Redruth, whilst DS agreed that NH had to do what was best for Redruth, DS made it clear that as a CB we had to what we deemed best for the rest of the county. It was felt that perhaps Redruth hadn’t fully appreciated the possible consequences of their decision to go cross border this season. NH had already told the NCA Redruth would not travel to a Tier 3 area to play.

NH said he would speak to his fellow coaches and senior players regarding the concerns raised by DS and get back.

CL raised concerns about referee availability; CJ had spoken with Steve Avenell who said referees were keen to get started.

AM raised concerns about travelling from up country down to Cornwall, which could involve travelling through a Tier 3 area, also the trust factor of sides visiting Cornwall having complied with necessary conditions.

DS felt that 16th January would be a better start date for the league and youth competitions, post New Year.

*CJ will contact Steve Avenell and Mike Gee from South West Leagues who will compile the fixtures for a 16th January start.*

**Scott Sturdy Area A Club & Volunteer Support Manager:** Scott attended the meeting in his function and gave a presentation of his role and how he saw rugby support progressing going forward. Following his presentation there followed a frank discussion with him regarding aspects of the support being delivered at present.

*DS to speak with Tim Pickard regarding issues raised during the meeting.*

SS wanted to organise his own club clusters in Cornwall with club reps and a CB rep in on the meetings.

Following Scott’s presentation DS went around the meeting;

Youth & Education: Program being put in place with Lee Maher.

Treasurer’s report: AR had sent out financial reports up to the end of November. Looking to keep a tight rein on PFR budget. Will introduce Purchase Order system going forward.

President’s update: Mitsubishi award presentations to go ahead at Penryn RFC 19th December. We will also be presenting a CRFU scarf to the lady who does the signing for the young player with Pz&N RFC. John reminded everyone he was happy to come along to any other presentations being organised.

Assistant Hon.Sec: WH raised the issue about some clubs not completing their Safeguarding Audit on time. DS would write to all club Chairs reminding them that these “Housekeeping” tasks via GMS etc, needed to be completed on time and that failure to comply could have consequences when seeking CRFU assistance in future.

Women & Girls: RT had been in contact with other South West CBs regarding the program for both Girls U.18s & U.15s. Program of matches will start as originally planned, selection will take place end of January. Coaches have been appointed for both age groups. Fixtures are likely to be one off fixtures as opposed to the festival format.

Representative Rugby: CL had sent out report

Facilities: DM felt we should keep our 7 clusters for our purposes, agreed.

Rugby Safe: Detailed report from BH. Pushing 1st Aid Courses.

Safeguarding: CS concerns about slippage on DBS checks, too many have expired and need renewing. DBS and reference checks need to be more robust. DS pointed out that we can insist upon it regarding a CB role but with clubs it would be pointed out as best practice. CS keen to see that all clubs adhere to the process. TK pointed out that at present we have 14 county coaches without a current DBS check. CS requested she be copied in when coaches or volunteers are appointed so that she can complete the due process.

Game Development: JI concerned about player numbers throughout the county. Regarding Sponsorship JI had spoken with Roger McKerlie from Club Champions, want to work with us to find sponsors. Cost upfront would be £3,000. They then find the sponsors, after finding 3k of sponsorship sales they then take a 20% cut on further deals. They already work with Herts, Kent, Essex and Hampshire CBs. Also happy to work with our clubs via webinar and Q&A sessions. JI keen to drive this forward if MB happy. GF would like to have sight of proposal re Governance.

RFU Rep’s Report: AM reported that the first RFU County Championship review is due next Wednesday. CRFU shown in good light at RFU Council meeting with their lead on Diversity & Inclusion. Mention of former Cornwall U.20 player Owen Davey, who is currently playing in New Zealand got MoM award and was presented to former All Black, Sir Michael Jones, good mention of Cornwall via TV coverage in NZ.

AOB.

WH, brought up facebook posting by Celtic One, who are selling rugby merchandise on-line using CRFU logo. DS was aware of the problem. Do we need to look at licensing our logo? AM will seek advice from Angus Buljaski at the RFU.

Regarding Scott Sturdy’s request for enlarged clusters from his point of view and appointing a CRFU liaison; Cluster 1 & 2 under DS, Cluster 3 & 4 under SM, DS to ask Steve, Cluster 5 &

 Under WH, Cluster 7 JS.

BH asked DS about the What’s App group he has for his cluster meeting, best for each cluster group to set up their own.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 16th December 7 pm on Zoom

Meeting closed at 9-15 pm.