**Cornwall Rugby Football Union Ltd**

**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

This was the 19th of our virtual Management Board meetings held on Wednesday 24 February 2021, at 7pm, via Zoom.

**Present on. Line:** John Sumnall, David Saunter, Andy Richards, David Martin, James Instance, Tom Magill, Tony Knightsbridge, Bill Hooper, Bob Hubble, Georgina Finnegan, Cosette Shrosbree, Chris Jewells, Steve Murley and Terry Williams. (joined later by Alan Milliner).

**Apologies for absence:** Alan Milliner (see above). Ross Tucknott

**Moment of silence:** prior to the start of the meeting there was a short period of reflection for David Muirhead, a former county player, who passed away this week.

**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 the chairman was unable to sign in the normal way due to the Covid – 19 situation.

**Matters arising:**

1. Club Champions – Georgina Finnegan had looked into the company and it would appear to be smaller than we were led to believe. She felt that we needed a clearer road path before proceeding. From their company records it would appear that they have had a bad year. James Instance added that they had not dealt with a CB before but only with clubs and that Roger McKerlie had raised £150K for his own club. There was then a lengthy discussion amongst members as to how to proceed. Georgina Finnegan proposed that we postpone making a decision pending further information, and she did not think that putting up £3K at the moment was a good idea. Seconded by Tony Knightsbridge. All were in favour. David Saunter suggested that a subcommittee be formed to work alongside Governance and Finance in pursuance of this matter. They included Steve Murley, Tom Magill, John Sumnall, James Instance, Bob Hubble, David Saunter and Georgina Finnegan to Chair. It was also suggested that Bill Hooper continue to make enquiries with another party, locally, who may be able to do the same job.
2. Grants of money to clubs, including Cornish Pirates - Two proposals discussed at the last meeting were brought for approval by David Martin:
3. £225 to all clubs to cover cost of providing anti covid-19 requirements when clubs reopen
4. One off grant to Cornish Pirates of £500 to help cover costs of covid-19 testing required when the Championship resumes in March

Both proposals were seconded by Tom Magill.

A discussion then took place with some members not happy with giving Pirates money from CRFU. David Martin then re-proposed that we give all clubs in the county, including Pirates, £225. This was passed by a show of hands. Tony Knightsbridge felt that clubs should be urged to get their Golden Roles completed on GMS and that they should get Accreditation done. David Saunter will write to clubs to get that done.

1. Hire of portable floodlights – Andy Richards stressed that it would be the responsibility of the hirer to collect and return the lights and also to ensure that appropriate insurance was in place. He also added that we should listen to offers if anyone wanted to purchase the lights.

**Reports:**

1. Treasurer – Andy Richards added to his report (circulated), that he had been notified by the RFU that as no spectators were admitted to Twickenham for the 6 Nations no second tranche of PFR money would be forthcoming. This amounted to £6.6K. He thought it possible no PFR would be available next season and that clubs including the CRFU should ensure that they had sufficient monies in reserve. We currently had £45K in credit. CB’s were also advised to apply for the Winter Grant in the same way as the clubs. He would do the necessary paperwork. Hopefully the DPP programme will start up at the end of March. We are holding the affiliation fees already paid in by the youngsters.

Andy Richards had received a call from Colin Hatch who stated that he had 3 Samurai subs suits and he enquired as to whether or not we could use them by covering up the Samurai logo. It was felt that this would not go down well with O’Neil’s and that we would not use them.

1. RFU Council member – Alan Milliner reported that regarding the County Championship Review Group, there was a questionnaire coming out in April, and also one on finance. The time scale would allow for presentation to the Council in September.
2. Governance and Finance – Georgina Finnegan had nothing to add to her report other than the Terms of Reference would be discussed at the next F & G meeting.
3. Club Development/Volunteers – Tom Magill reported that he had been approached by a company who had an app whereby games could be filmed and it was possible to monetise that. He would put the information together and circulate. This was a free offer, and could we endorse their approach to clubs. Matter to be discussed at the next meeting.
4. Safeguarding – Cosette Shrosbree had nothing to add to her report. A position was available for 2 assistants and this would be publicised on the Website. Georgina Finnegan knew of someone who may be interested.
5. Game Development – James Instance reported that at the moment this was “sat in the long grass”. By 29 March club DOR’S would have more of an idea as to where we were going.
6. Youth and Education – Tony Knightsbridge had circulated his report. There was concern about players moving up the age grades next season as they had had little or no rugby. He had forwarded a proposal to the RFU who were looking at it. Coaches were qualified to Level 2, but he would like to get CPD (advanced), which was the forerunner to Level 3, in place. The CPD was in 2 parts, a webinar and a 2 1/2-hour face to face sessions. The cost of Level 3 was £1100. It had already been agreed that we would fund Richard Kevern’s cost at level 3. John Sumnall suggested that if a county coach was attached in a coaching role to a club then the cost should be shared.
7. Representative Rugby – vacant, no report
8. Competitions – Chris Jewells stated that there was as yet no date for a resumption of rugby of any kind, but he felt that things were moving in the right direction. A possible date for resumption was 12 April, with as yet, an unknown format. If this proved to be the case then we could have 10 weeks of rugby, with no breaks and that would take us into June. David Saunter added that Steve Grainger had intimated that it would not be full contact rugby, but Ready4Rugby.. We then had a group discussion as to how long it would take to get teams match fit and a time of 4 weeks was suggested as being about the correct time. June was not a good time to be playing rugby and all agreed that this would not happen. Clubs to be contacted and their views sought on the problem, with replies coming back to Chris Jewells and Dave Saunter. The end of the season would be the end of May.
9. Facilities – David Martin added that since his last report, Camborne and Redruth had applied for grants of £500 each for work at their grounds.

Camborne – repairs to posts and CCTV cameras

Redruth – blasting of grandstand steel works

Invoices for work carried out would be required, and a maximum of £500 would be paid, or 50% if cost amounted to less than £1000. Veor Holman had made contact and the dugouts had finally been completed, invoice sent in for £386.89 and they would receive £193.95.

1. Rugby Safe – Bob Hubble had nothing to add to his report.
2. Women’s and Girls – no report. David Saunter mentioned that we needed more players taking part in this section.
3. Diversity & Inclusivity- Steve Murley had nothing to add to his report. John Sumnall congratulated him on the enormous amount he had done since taking up the post.

**Correspondence** The secretary/assistant secretary had nothing to report.

**Any other business:**

Andy Richards asked if the secretary had received any interest in the vacant post of Data Officer. The answer was negative.

David Saunter asked if we were all agreed that the President, John Sumnall, should have an extra year in office due to the restrictions encountered during the Covid-19 pandemic. President Elect Andy Reed had been approached and he was happy to go along with that. All were in favour and John Sumnall thanked everyone for their support.

David Saunter advised that the Duke of Edinburgh was our Patron and he was 100 in June. He felt that we should fly our flag on that date to mark the occasion. The Secretary to contact County Hall to ascertain whether or not they would agree to fly our flag there. We should also send a greeting card.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 24 March 21, 7pm, via Zoom. Reports to the Secretary by 10 March.