**Cornwall Rugby Football Union**

**“Promoting Rugby for One and All”**

**“Avonsya Rugbi Rag Onen Hag Oll”**

Minutes of the Management Board Meeting held at Camborne RFC on Wednesday 16 June 21 at 7pm. (also via Zoom)

**Present:** John Sumnall, David Saunter, Andy Richards, Tony Knightsbridge, Tom Magill, Ross Tucknott, Terry Carter, Bill Hooper, and Terry Williams.

**On Zoom:** Cosette Shrosbree, David Martin, Chris Jewells and Georgina Finnegan.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Alan Milliner, Steve Murley, Bob Hubble and James Instance.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All agreed that these were a true and accurate record of the meeting, and they were signed by the Chairman, David Saunter.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting proper, the President, John Sumnall welcomed Terry Carter to the MB and presented him with his CRFU Committee Badge and tie.

1. **Matters arising:**
2. Advertising of Safeguarding Posts – This item had been placed on the Website and had been circulated to clubs. The cost of putting in local papers was extremely high, in excess of £500. However, there was one option of £250 and it was agreed that that would be the best.
3. Insurance of county cups – Chris Jewells stated that he needed a bit more time to bring this matter to a conclusion.
4. Rugby Safe report from last meeting – David Saunter will discuss at item L (reports).
5. Strategic Planning Meeting, 27 June – David Saunter and Terry Williams had written to club secretaries and Representatives inviting them to attend. Chairs of committees were asked to get numbers of those attending and forward to the secretary.
6. AGM – Chairs of committees asked to get their annual report to the secretary by the weekend. We would offer a Zoom option for those who were not happy to attend in person.
7. **Reports:**
8. Executive Report – The executive had not met since the last meeting, 21 April 21.
9. Treasurers Report – As circulated. Although yet to be finalised it would appear that we would make a loss for the past season. The Mitsubishi money was in. We now had copyright on the CRFU badge, at a cost of £222.00. The PFR budget for 21/22 will be £5,447. As regards sponsorship, St Austell Brewery had agreed to continue with the same amount payable. (£9.5K per year over 3 years). Eden Project were difficult to contact at the moment, Dave Rowe had been involved with the Royal and G7 visit. Jewson’s and Greenmount Carpets were looking to sponsor CRFU. He asked that chairs of committees forward invoices for anything outstanding. The RFU had committed £9.6 M to the DPP. As regards the funding of Representative Rugby, the committee had yet to meet. The RFU had reinstated the travel budget. International tickets – priced at £57 - £122. Our allocation had been reduced to 45 down from 75+. Clubs need to get things right on GMS, which was affecting ticket allocation. There were 3 Autumn Internationals in November.

There was then a discussion as to whether the CRFU should purchase a portable defibrillator. The secretary had some experience with this at Camborne and would look into it. Cost believed to be around £1000.

1. RFU Council Member – County Championship Review. After discussion in was very strongly felt that there should be no watering down of the County Championship. Clubs at National 1 and 2 were viewed as part of the Community Game, and therefore their players should be eligible. If standards were reduced then this would have an adverse effect on crowd numbers and also make it more difficult to attract sponsorships. Terry Carter stated that the England Counties XV was a great idea and players were extremely proud to be selected. There was £350K in place for funding for the County Championship, subject to the outcome of the review.
2. Governance and Finance – No report, the committee had not met since the last MB Meeting. Georgina Finnegan had attended the virtual Safeguarding Conference last Sunday, and it was very interesting, and slides would soon be available.
3. Club development – Tom Magill had 2 items to discuss:
4. Management guide - He asked that all chairs of committees come up with ideas as to what they wanted to include. GMS was a big issue and it needed to be made simple. David Saunter thought that the RFU needed to get involved in that. He requested the information be in to him so that he could collate and format and get out to clubs by 1 September.
5. Mitsubishi nominations – only 5 this year, some funds had been forthcoming from the RFU. David Saunter suggested we liaise with the Mitsubishi Garage at Penryn and do the presentations there, which would give them a photo opportunity.

David Saunter mentioned that Mark Withycombe was retiring. He had been involved with Cornwall Schools since 1985. Martin Caddy (Redruth) was also standing down from involvement with rugby. David Martin, chair of Nominations Committee stated that his committee would discuss these 2 individuals the next time they met, possibly in August or September.

1. Safeguarding – as per report
2. Game Development – In the absence of James Instance, Andy Richards was able to report that the First Aid courses had gone through and we had covered our costs. David Saunter added that courses given by Wayne Reed were excellent. Courses were being set up for DOR’S and Mentoring. These were on the website.
3. Youth and Education – As per report. Tony Knightsbridge added that the new tackle laws were on the website. The Ladies Touch Rugby Festival at Liskeard-Looe on Sunday had resulted in 1 positive covid test on Monday. All clubs concerned had been notified (Truro, Bodmin and Camborne). To date there were no other cases reported. The DPP programme had now ended and there was good feedback from Exeter Chiefs.
4. Representative Rugby – as per report. In addition Terry Carter stated that there was a typo, Zena Penrose was not present at the meeting. There was an issue with the Crawshays fixture. He asked what level their team would be pitched at. The secretary was able to say that it would not be at International level, but somewhere around our level 4/5. The date was not good as it was still in the regular season and would adversely affect player availability. Terry Carter and the secretary to liaise with regard to addressing this problem. Stuart Hood needed some assistance with Clubs XV, he could not do it all on his own. Dave Saunter would help, as would Daubroy Delahunty. The Herbie Stubble Testimonial game was to be played on 4 June. There were outstanding fixtures against Bodmin and Saltash. St Agnes had a 50th Anniversary coming up, and Penryn 150.
5. Competitions – as per report. The Duchy League fixtures were published yesterday.
6. Facilities – nil to report
7. Rugby Safe – Further to Bob Hubble’s report, David Saunter reminded us that we had agreed to continue First Aid Courses next season. We had also agreed to purchase the ProSafe App. There was then a discussion regarding the administration of Rugby Camps. A pro forma had been drawn up and circulated to clubs. The secretary had already received notice of two camps from Truro which were being run by Exeter Chiefs. This form will probably need rewriting following the RFU review. David Saunter emphasised that the first point of contact for future approval of Rugby Camps must lie with the Secretary who would then liaise with other parties as appropriate. John Sumnall expressed some reservations concerning certain aspects of the report. He strongly felt that the Secretary should be the point of contact. He stated that we must ensure the integrity of the clubs running the camps and the competence of the coaches.

The MB approved of all of Rugby Safes measures below with the following caveats:

1. Pass
2. Pass, with inclusion that all training to be carried out by appropriately qualified individuals, linking into James Instance committee where required.
3. Pass
4. Pass
5. Pass
6. Pass
7. Women and girls – as per report. Ross Tucknott added that the RFU were keen to promote youth volunteering. He was looking to set up a Captain’s Council with all the age group teams to share best practice. There was concern that the u12’s were being considered as a stand-alone age band. This would cause major challenges in the ability of clubs to field teams.
8. Diversity and Inclusivity – as per report. Former player Ralph Knibbs was getting involved at RFU level.
9. **Correspondence:**

Bill Hooper had been in contact with Fabrice Queneherve, President of the Ligue de Bretagne about the possibility of rugby co-operation between Cornwall and Brittany.

The secretary had written to Paul Cottle and Alan Truscott advising them of their nomination to become Hon. Vice President’s of the CRFU. Both had replied accepting and felt very honoured to be nominated. He had also invited Paul Hurrell to the AGM as he had been nominated the previous season.

He had also written to Biffa thanking them for their past support of the u20’s.

1. **Any other business:**

David Martin advised the MB that Terry Carter’s Committee Badge was the last. He still held a few of other officials. However, the cost of each new badge had been quoted at £35. All agreed that this was extortionate and that the committee badge would not be replaced.

Terry Carter advised that Sam Matavesi had been selected by Fiji in a forthcoming International versus New Zealand.

Bill Hooper advised that Arthur Relton had been selected for England u20’s v France on Saturday.

Ross Tucknott mentioned that Josie Plant from Perranporth had featured for the England u18’s.

The secretary to write to all of them to offer congratulations from the CRFU. He would also write to Merryn Doidge who was unlucky not to get capped for England in the abandoned game V France earlier in the season.

1. **Date of next meeting:** to be arranged