

SUSSEX RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

Minutes of the Executive Meeting of Sussex RFU held at Brighton RFC on Monday 22nd November 2010

Present: Peter Bailey (President); Allan Butcher (Chairman); Peter Silk (Secretary) and Messrs Edmondson, Hopkins; Howorth; Macaulay, Nichols and Thompson G.

The Chairman welcomed Richard Glynn Jones (RFU Referee), Phil Bowers (SSRFUR Chairman) and Iain Mitchell (SSRUFR Secretary).

The Chairman reminded the Executive Committee that all comments should be made through the Chair.

10/59. Apologies for Absence: Croucher, Atthis, Broadwell, Siggs and N. Silk

10/60. Minutes of the Executive Meeting on the 4th October 2010 were adopted and signed as a true record. Proposed: P. Bailey Seconded: K. Nichols.

10/61. Matters arising:

10.50 Peter Macaulay thanked all the Sussex personnel for the CB Action Plan Meeting at the Hickstead Hotel when they met the RDT personnel.

10.51 The Secretary had sent 2 nominations from Sussex to the RFU President who would then choose one of them for one as a Valued Volunteer to be his guest at one of the 6 Nations Internationals.

10.58 The IPP will eventually book Newick Tandoori.

10/62. President's Report: He has watched 6 County Matches and been a guest of Crowborough and Hastings. In addition, he has been at an Orientation Day at Twickenham and has seen 2 Investec internationals.

10/63. Chairman's Report: Allan Butcher reported
He reported that the Ardingly contract had been received – slight increase due to inflation – agreed that the contract be signed.

10/64 Referees and SCRRG

A frank discussion took place about the need to find more referees.

The following points emerged:

- There was a low numbers of referees in the County who were growing old together
- The presence of Richard Glynn-Jones's presence indicates the gravity of the situation.
- The low number of Referees is a GAME PROBLEM in all CB's.
- We have a duty of care to provide qualified referees.
- The Community Rugby Group should join the Referee's Society under the CB so that the CB can give funding to develop Referee's. This funding should be equivalent to that given to Coaching.
- Referees need development – Training – Development and a Pathway.
- Clubs need to be engaged in providing referees for the Game.
- There is great support for the Club Referee who likes to referee locally.
- Each team should have a qualified referee. Thus at Senior Level, a Club with 5 senior teams should have 5 qualified referees.

- The last 4 ELRA Courses have been cancelled due to lack of participants and teachers pulling out at the last minute.
- The Whole Club Seal of Approval needs qualified referees.
- Financial help could possibly be proved by the CB to encourage players to become referees.
- We must change the culture – help the Club – no stick—no bullying – Evolution – we will have referees in 3 -5 year’s time!!!
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- The way forward: -
- All Executive Members should send their ideas to the Hon. Secretary for improving the number of qualified referees.
- A week in January should be chosen to audit who referees each game:
 1. Dave Maconachie can provide a list of all the Saturday appointments
 2. Each Club can be asked who refereed their Senior Matches on Saturday and Youth matches on Sunday. Dave can also provide a list of midweek appointments to Schools.

10/65. CB Action Plan.

All Departmental Heads were asked to submit their Action Plans by 19th November. RCE to find out if this had been achieved. Carol T-Jones has sent out a new format Action Plan – Chair was not impressed.

10/66. Secretary’s Report – a report had been circulated.

1. Kit Contract 2011/14 – Subcommittee had interviewed three suppliers and they recommended that negotiations are undertaken by Nick Silk with Gilbert with the proposal that they should take over the contract from 1st May 2011. Final document to be submitted to Executive for final ratification. Agreed.
Discussion then took place about the £27k stock – need a programmed/target to shift the stock. Richard Siggs asked to bring the stock to the General Meeting at Lewes for sale.
RH to supply a stock list to the Chairman.
Subcommittee investigating better methods of stocking the shop – Codestorm of Worthing being investigated.
Karen Siggs retiring at the AGM 2011.
2. Still awaiting date of John Steele’s visit (Eastbourne RFC).
3. Club Aid Visit; Shoreham 13.12.11, Uckfield 9/16.02.2011; Rye has not replied. MC to attend latter.
4. U20’s sponsorship with Army being negotiated – need continued entry on CB website – agreed that NS concludes the sponsorship agreement.
5. Uckfield Community College is planning to build a 3G Pitch. It was agreed that Peter Mercer should be involved in the project. Uckfield RFC may well require RFU assistance.
6. The Secretary reminded the Executive about comments made on the touchline and in e-mails should be consistent with good business practice. Please think carefully what you write and say on the touchline.
7. Rye whole Club Seal of Approval application is near completion – RDO and GH to attend combining Award with Club Aid Visit – AB to ring Helen Pierce.
8. Jacqui Coleman had circulated her Safeguarding Report. She has attended the RFU Safeguarding Conference in Wigan.

10/67. Treasurer: –

Richard Hopkins circulated the final draft of the CB accounts for the year ended 30th June 2010, which showed a surplus of £3274. The Accounts were adopted for submission to the Clubs General Meeting on 6th December 2010, for their approval.

10/68. Sussex Representative Report:-

Graham Thompson had circulated his report. He had looked after Yvonne Wood and her sister at the All Blacks Match. Yvonne is the U9 Eastbourne Coach who is not very well. The Executive voted unanimously that Graham be instructed to vote in favour of the sole resolution on the agenda at the RFU SGM to be held on the 15th December 2010, “the proposal The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be subject to annual election”

10/69. CBRDP

1. The minutes of the Youth, School and CBRDP Meetings have been posted on the website.
2. Roger Edmondson brought up the payment of physios for County sides. Martin Eley has expressed a wish that the physio should be paid for all coaching sessions. All the remaining CB teams only have a physio at CB matches. The payment of physios was referred to the next CBRDP for discussion.
3. Ben Stocken (RUSLO) is trying to develop HE Rugby – problems with contacting the 19-24 Chair, Steve Christian.
4. Women & Girls – Peter Bailey watched the Ladies match v Essex and reported that Sussex had a very inexperienced team. After lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Devon match away should be cancelled and the money saved being used in coaching.

5. CB Matches Results:-

Sussex U18 24 Surrey U18 26

Sussex U18 26 Hampshire U18 27

Kent U18 29 Sussex U18 25

All matches lost in the last minute with opposition try.

Hertfordshire U16 10 Sussex U16 5

Sussex U16 10 Kent U16 17

Sussex U16 10 Hampshire U16 5

Sussex Ladies 7 Essex Ladies 32

Kent U15 Girls 20 Sussex U15 Girls 10

6. National Squads

Dylan Hartley England hooker

Hugo Southwell Scotland fullback

Joe Marler England 1st XV Squad

Amy Wilson-Hardy England U20 Squad

Deborah Harwood England U18 Talent Development Squad

Nina Crowther England U18 Talent Development Squad

10/70. People and Places (Community)

1. Seal of Approval there remain only two clubs to complete their files, the RDO has worked hard with all the clubs concerned to achieve this overall result.
2. Facilities, the report is on the website and is an ongoing working programme with the clubs across the county.
3. SLA, 50% these are being slowly completed and all clubs need to be reminded of their importance.
4. CRC Invoices and Funding, there are several clubs in arrears. The next batch of invoices will be going out at the end of December 2010 or early January 2011.

10/71. Discipline

1. Sept Adam Williams Hastings 1 Punching 4 weeks
2. Oct Karl Gleave E. Grinstead 1 Punching 4 weeks reduced to SOS on appeal; increased from 0 to 2 weeks because he had denied a red card dismissal as a Junior.
3. Oct Joseph Shopland Worthing 1 2 yellow cards Sending off sufficient
4. Oct James Anderson Seaford 1 Punching – taken in tandem
5. Oct Cas Arabi Chichester Hi Punching 1 match
6. Oct Theo Walcott BHASVIC Punching 2 matches
7. Oct James Anderson Seaford 1 Punching 10 weeks
8. Nov G. Broome Bognor Punching 2 weeks
9. Nov J. Oakey Eastbourne 1 Kicking 3 weeks
10. Oct 31 Deal & Bettshanger v East Grinstead abandoned – both Clubs appeared before RFU Disciplinary Committee – docked 15 points + 0 points for match + 15 more points deduction suspended.
11. Nov M. Marsh Worthing 1 Stamping 2 weeks (RFU Panel)

10/72. Competitions

The main report is on the website, there is ingoing discussion on organising a summer sevens competition as part of the RFU's One New Team initiative.

10.73. A.O.B.

All clubs are to be reminded to update RugbyFirst with their CRefC & CVC appointments.

The meeting closed at 9.40

Peter Silk

Hon Sec & Executive Director

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