

FOR PUBLICATION

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH RUGBY CLUB RUGBY BOARD
HELD AT 5PM ON WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2022
BY MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Present:

Keith Wallace	(KW)	Vice-President
Alistair Forsyth	(AF)	Borders Regional Representative
Murdo Gillanders	(MG)	Edinburgh Regional Representative
Jim O'Neill	(JON)	Glasgow South Regional Representative
Kevin Quinn	(KQ)	Premiership Representative
Bob Richmond	(BR)	North Regional Representative
Neil Sutherland	(NS)	National 2 Representative
Hazel Swankie	(HS)	Midlands Representative
David Jamieson	(DJ)	Glasgow North Regional Representative
Gib McMillan	(GM)	Schools Representative
Ian Carse	(IC)	National 3 Representative
Mhairi Hay	(MH)	Referees Representative
Mike Bruce	(MB)	Women & Girls Representative
Gavin Scott	(GS)	Director of Rugby Development

Apologies:

Gerry Tosh	(GT)	National 1 Representative
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In Attendance:

Colin Rigby	(CR)	President
Angela McCracken	(AM)	Senior Solicitor
REDACTED	(XX)	Head of Business Operations
REDACTED	(XX)	Head of Regional Development

1. Introduction**ACTION**

The Vice-President noted that a quorum was present and opened the Meeting.

The Vice-President welcomed the Members to the first CRB Meeting. He noted the Meeting was intended as a planning session and not a formal reporting Meeting.

2. Player Insurance

The Borders Representative noted that the Murrayfield Injured Players Foundation (MIPF) were seeing a rise in applications from players whose clubs had not opted to have the "top up" insurance in place. He noted that the additional insurance was intended to ensure players do not suffer hardship when injuries are sustained that may stop them from working. He emphasised the importance on clubs taking this insurance.

He highlighted that there was often a period of delay between the injury being sustained and the insurance policy paying out, in these circumstances MIPF often had to step in, subject to the individual circumstances of each case.

The Rugby Development Director suggested a reminder was included within an upcoming Club Comms.

**GS/
AMc**

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The Head of Business Operations noted that the process had changed and now made it easier to pay for the additional insurance at the same time as the initial insurance. He highlighted that the Rugby Development Department do monitor which clubs do and do not have the additional insurance in place and they will continue to do so.

3. World Rugby Club Conference

The Director of Rugby Development noted that he had recently returned from the World Rugby Club Conference which had been an opportunity for he and his peers to meet to share best practice and discuss the current state of club rugby post pandemic. The following points were noted:

- It was noted that generally all unions were experiencing the same issues, particularly regarding player and volunteer numbers which had had an effect on return to rugby.
- Season structure and the appeal of game to in the modern world had also been a topic of discussion. It was noted that the unions which had had the greatest success were the ones who were creating a strong local rugby base and building from there.
- Player welfare had been the main focus of the conference. The Director of Rugby Development noted that World Rugby had provided useful data and information on the benefits of rugby for children and how it compares to other sports from a safety perspective.
- The development of a World Rugby “touch” activity was also being considered. It was believed there was a market for it if it could be developed and targeted at the right people.

The Vice-President thanked the Director of Rugby Development for his update.

4. Remit of CRB

The Vice-President referred to the paper which had been circulated to the CRB Members and was taken as read.

The Vice-President noted that the CRB had a different role and responsibilities than that of the Council. The CRB would be responsible for working with the Rugby Development Department to agree strategy and budget and will report quarterly to the Union Board.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- The Vice-President noted that it would be useful to have regular reports from the Disciplinary Panel and Championship Committee.
- The Midlands representative noted that the template which CRB Members use to report at quarterly Meetings should be reviewed as it is currently not fit for purpose. Other CRB Members agreed with this. It was agreed the Midlands Representative would work with the Senior Solicitor to propose a new template.

HS

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- The format of the fora was also discussed. The Vice-President noted that these should be an opportunity for the sharing of best practice. The different meetings patterns of each fora was discussed which varied from regular meetings to no meetings. The importance of the fora meeting and feeding back into the CRB was highlighted.

The President noted that the CRB needed to consider the purpose of the fora and what would be covered by the working parties. He suggested that an agenda for each fora would be useful to ensure that all areas of the game were being discussed at the fora meetings.

The Vice-President noted that he would look at the Terms of Reference templates that were in place for the fora and consider what needed to be included going forward to allow for a two way sharing of information between the fora and the CRB.

VP

5. CRB Working Groups

The Vice-President referred to the CRB Working Groups that had previously been discussed.

The following constitutions were agreed:

Reserve Team league Review

Kevin Quinn
Hazel Swankie
Ian Carse
Murdo Gillanders
Bob Richmond
Ali Forsyth
David Jamieson

Regional League

Jim O'Neil
Hazel Swankie
Ian Carse
Murdo Gillanders
Bob Richmond
Ali Forsyth
David Jamieson

Operations Group

Keith Wallace
Colin Rigby
Gib McMillan
Jim O'Neil
Ian Carse

Scrum School

Keith Wallace
Kevin Quinn
Mhari Hay

Match Officials

Mhari Hay
Ian Carse

Transition and Retention

Gib McMillan
Murdo Gillanders

It was noted to include the Borders Representative on the Schools and Youth review.

The Director of Rugby Development noted that his team would now look at each group's remit and the timing of the Meetings. The Director of Rugby Development and Senior Solicitor agreed to coordinate on the timing of the Meetings and timing of the CRB Quarterly Meetings.

GS

The Vice-President noted that the groups would also have the ability to co-opt people on to each group if and when required.

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The Vice-President emphasised that CRB was already making progress and was pleased to see how well the Rugby Development Department and the CRB were working in collaboration.

It was noted the Club Rugby Day at BT Murrayfield was likely to now be in June due to availability of BTM.

3. AOB

The Vice-President noted that he had been involved in launching a charity to encourage rugby clubs to donate blood and stem cells. He would share an invite to CRB Members which could be sent to all clubs in each of their fora.

KW/AM

With no further business the Vice-President closed the Meeting at 6.30pm.

APPROVED 14 DECEMBER 2022