

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH RUGBY COUNCIL
HELD AT 5PM ON MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2022
BY MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Present:

Colin Rigby	(CR)	President
Keith Wallace	(KW)	Vice-President
Alistair Forsyth	(AF)	Borders Regional Representative
Gib McMillan	(GM)	Schools Representative
Murdo Gillanders	(MG)	Edinburgh Regional Representative
Jim O'Neill	(JON)	Glasgow South Regional Representative
Mhairi Hay	(MH)	Referees Representative
Kevin Quinn	(KQ)	Premiership Representative
Ian Rankin	(IR)	Co-opted (URC)
Bob Richmond	(BR)	North Regional Representative
Gerry Tosh	(GT)	National 1 Representative
Neil Sutherland	(NS)	National 2 Representative
Hazel Swankie	(HS)	Midlands Representative
Ian Carse	(IC)	National 3 Representative

Apologies:

David Jamieson	(DJ)	Glasgow North Regional Representative
John Halliday	(JH)	Co-opted (Rugby Europe)

In Attendance:

Angela McCracken	(AM)	Senior Solicitor & Council Secretary
Gavin Scott	(GS)	Director of Rugby Development

1. Introduction**ACTION**

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

The President thanked Council Members joining the Meeting and noted it was the last scheduled meeting of the Council before the transition into the Club Rugby Board.

2. President Update*2.1 SGM and associated activity update*

The President thanked the Council Members and their Clubs for the support given to the motions at the recent SGM.

He noted that since the SGM vast work had been undertaken to prepare the organisation for the implementation of the new structure on 1 November 2022.

It was highlighted that the recruitment process for the Custodian Directors had commenced and it was hoped appointments would be made by early in 2023.

2.2 Ticketing Update

The President provided an update on ticketing ahead of the 2022 Autumn Tests and noted the Club Rugby Board ticketing entitlement.

3. Governance

3.1 *MIPF Trust*

The Chair of the MIPF Trust provided the Council with an update on the work of the group.

The President noted that two Council vacancies had arisen on the MIPF. After discussion, the Council **APPROVED** the Vice-President and the Glasgow North Regional Representative as Trustees of MIPF.

3.2 *Council Nominations Committee Update*

The President noted that in the lead up to the implementation date, the new Union under L Crerar's chairmanship had assumed the responsibility of the Council Nominations Committee and as such the Council Nominations Committee would now be stood down.

The President thanked the members of the Committee for their contribution to the process.

4. Vice-President Update

4.1 *Vice-President Update on CRB*

The Vice-President referred to the draft CRB programme had been circulated to the Council in advance of the Meeting. It was noted he had developed the programme in collaboration with the President and the Director of Rugby Development.

The following points were noted:

- The Vice-President noted that the role of the CRB was different than that of the Council, it was narrower and deeper, with a clear input into the strategy and budget of the Club. The opportunity the new remit brought for the members of the CRB and the Rugby Development Department was highlighted.
- The CRB would need to consider the format of the For a going forward.
- It was noted the first year of CRB would be a test of the proposed programme and in future years it may need to be amended.
- The Vice-President noted he was keen that working groups with CRB members were set up on the following legacy issues:
 - ⇒ Season Structure
 - ⇒ Reserve Teams
 - ⇒ Competition Rules/Fulfilment
 - ⇒ Referee Numbers
 - ⇒ University Drop Off
 - ⇒ Scrum School
 - ⇒ Simplifying Comms/Admin

The Council Members provided the Vice-President with their preferences for working groups, all of which were noted by the Vice-President.

- The Vice-President noted that there would be an annual “Club Day” held at BT Murrayfield. It was hoped this day would be held in January of 2023 ahead of the budgeting process commencing. It would be an opportunity for the Clubs to share case studies and receive updates on a variety of matters including the process of the working parties.
- Quarterly newsletters to the Clubs and President’s Roadshows were also being considered.

The Vice-President thanked the Council Members for their contribution and advised further updates would be issued as the work commenced.

5. AOB

The following points were raised under AOB:

- The Glasgow South Regional Representative raised that the West Regional Competitions Committee had noted that there was a rise in the use of Premier and National 1 players in the National 2 and 3 leagues which lead to significant safety concerns.

The President noted that the Competitions Committee had raised this with him directly and he was reviewing the points that had been raised.

- The use of the GameOn principles was also discussed by the Council. The Director of Rugby Development noted that his team would look at how often the rules were being utilised and if not, then why not.
- During discussion it was noted that there had been a number of teams recently that had been unable to fulfil their fixtures due to player numbers. The Vice-President noted that as CRB they would need to apply radical thinking and take time to look at the issue of player numbers.

With no further business the President closed the Meeting at 6pm.

APPROVED 31 OCTOBER 2022