

**EMPIRE RFU GU**  
**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
March 24, 2013

The Executive Board met via conference call on Sunday, March 24, 2013, at 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: Renee Ovrut (President), Mike Crafton (VP), Oscar Prue (VP), Kyle Antonian (VP), Ashley Belline (ED Women), Steve Molnar (ED Men), Sean Horan (ED 7s), John Bradley (Colleges), Gary Heavner (USAR Delegate), Nick Anzalone (At-Large), J.C. Whipple (Administrator)

Absent: Brad Kleiner (ED Referees)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 p.m.

**SENIOR WOMEN**

Ashley Belline updated the Board on developments with structure and scheduling for Senior Women. A conference call with Tracy of NERFU took place and a division or split of teams was discussed. This will happen based on results of last year.

By April 1, a presentation of structure and schedules will be made by respective CRs. Most likely a longer schedule with more teams per division. D2 is growing from five teams and D1 will grow as well. Renee Ovrut stated that Danbury is interested in joining for the upcoming season.

**SENIOR MEN**

Steve Molnar said that the D2 / D3 Final Four will be held May 4-5 (first round will be held April 20). Steve contacted each club within Senior Men seeking bids for hosting Final Four. There was some light interest, but the only adequate bid submitted came from Princeton Athletic Club. Steve indicated there should be no logistical concerns and Princeton has ample field space. While not centrally located, the club should run a good Final Four.

Steve did raise the question of reimbursement for Ambulance / EMT services at Final Four. Renee asked that Steve ask Princeton for a bid on those fees, though the GU should be prepared to cover those costs associated with the tournament.

**COLLEGES**

John Bradley reported that of the (50) clubs which competed last fall, he has heard from (42) about their intent to compete again this year. There are also four or five new clubs interested in joining this fall.

There are some clubs in arrears with the NYSRRS, but those issues are in the process of being resolved. John is also working on a plan to hold Coaching Certification and has delivered the USAR Survey to the college clubs.

John detailed a conversation with Cortez of USAR regarding college inclusion within GUs. It is widely accepted that as long as the colleges can act autonomously, there is no issue with staying under GU umbrella. John is working on detail costs associated with running the college structure and a proposal to contract with GU for services would be presented.

Tony Brown has indicated an interest in picking up some GU college clubs and Mike Hodgins of Empire Colleges has also stated an interest.

Invoices will be disseminated shortly. Mike Crafton stated that he will work with J.C. to generate invoices; John said he would be happy to facilitate distribution to appropriate college administrators.

Renee noted that, regardless of college affiliation, John needs more help and he should plan for an assistant of some sort.

### **USA RUGBY**

Gary Heavner stated there was an Elite Cup and the question of NYAC competing at D1 was raised. Renee indicated she spoke to a representative of NYAC, and received in writing its intent to compete at D1.

With the approaching USA Rugby Congress in June (Houston), Gary asked for clarification of GU reps. Renee stated that it would be Gary and herself for 2013.

A committee has been formed to rewrite the bylaws for USA Rugby; Gary is a rep on that committee. There will be official requests to GUs for proposed changes forthcoming. Part of the plan is to hash out what the breakdown of representatives is – how many seats, geographic split, level of play, etc.

Renee asked that Gary keep the Board abreast of any developments with the Bylaws restructure.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Renee asked Sean about the response for the Women's 7s survey. Sean said he has approximately (70) to date. J.C. will include info on the survey in the upcoming newsletter.

Gary asked that a write-up on requests for changes to Bylaws also be included in the next newsletter. J.C. will include as well.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J.C. Whipple  
Administrator