

Empire GU Board Meeting Minutes - 5/19/2013

Members Present: Kyle Antoian, Renee Ovrut, John Bradley, Sean Horan, Ashley Belline, Oscar Prue, Mike Crafton, Steve Molnar

Members not Present: Brad Kleiner, JC Whipple (GU Admin)

1. Princeton AC – looking for out of pocket expenses (~\$2800) for travel to Sweet 16s.
 - a. Renee suggests GU offers \$1,000 to help alleviate their costs.
 - b. Suggestion that GU only offer clubs a maximum of what a club has contributed in dues each year.
 - c. Money would only be issued once per USA Rugby Playoffs (e.g. a team cannot ask for money for the Round of 16, and then again for the Final 4)
 - d. Renee motion to give Princeton AC \$1000 for playoff expenses – Kyle Second
 - i. Motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Note to also write a policy considering the thoughts above (Mike Crafton)
2. Mike Crafton – Bayonne Rugby – Youth Clinic (requested by City of Bayonne)
 - a. Club wants to purchase 3 “Youth Packs” – includes balls, cones, flags
 - b. ~\$150 / pack – ask is for \$500 to fund Youth Clinic
 - c. Event would be 2 days – last week of May / early June
 - d. Question raised about what GU’s payment is to Play Rugby USA
 - i. Mike believes ~\$2k / year (not necessarily paid in a single lump sum)
 - ii. Union can also buy tickets to Play Rugby USA cocktail party
 - e. Sean motion to given Bayonne \$500 – Ashley second
 - i. Motion passed unanimously by board (Mike Crafton abstained)
3. Renee – Union can give an alternative donation to PlayRugbyUSA fundraiser dinner in lieu of non-earmarked donation from Union.
 - a. Question if we have spoken to Mark Griffin about our idea
 - i. Mike – Mark suggested he give us tickets to this event instead of sponsoring a team(s)
 - b. Renee motion – John second
 - i. Passed unanimously by board
 - ii. \$1000 to be donated to PRUSA in the form of tickets to their
4. Empire GU Logo’s
 - a. Just sent out to board by Renee (8 logo options)
 - b. Kyle suggest each board member send top 3 to Kyle this week (in order)
 - c. Mike suggests comments be sent
5. D1 Schedules (Steve)
 - a. Thought schedules were done – Mike/Brett from NERFU are asking for late changes.

- b. Steve is including Old Blue 'B' in D2 – attempting to coordinate Old Blue D1/D2 team schedule to accommodate travel.
 - c. Mike D has indicated there is a competition call (USAR) on Monday that could also present new considerations.
 - d. Mike Crafton asking for no scheduled games for Sept 22nd 2013 for all leagues – large international 7s tournament being held in Saratoga by Al Caravelli
 - i. Steve indicated D1 already has a bye for that weekend, but not for other weekends.
 - ii. Oscar worried that we can't give up a weekend at lower divisions due to the amount of league games needed for D3
 - 1. Also asking for Steve to provide a list of teams by division for review
6. Renee phone call with Nigel Melville, Brett, John Snyder (USAR National Office) – regarding August 10th 2013 Exhibition Match @ Gillette Stadium in Foxoboro, MA
- a. New England Irish vs. London Irish
 - i. New England Irish = group of players who are mostly new to rugby who will learn how to play in 2-3
 - ii. Not endorsed by USAR – no national team players will be made available
 - iii. Goal is to create a league with former NCAA/NFL Football players playing rugby in the US
 - iv. Renee spoke to person in charge of the game – confirmed the game is being held and will be aired on NFL Network
 - 1. Offered the GU 1 comp ticket to event.
7. Mike Crafton – asking Union to vote on “EGM” to ask for Steve’s resignation
- a. Renee believes no discussion is warranted – Mike has sent an email out prior to meeting
 - b. Mike motions to vote on EGM - second by Sean Horan
 - i. No – Renee, John, Ashley, Oscar, Kyle, Steve
 - ii. Yes – Sean, Mike
 - iii. Motion failed (6 nay / 2 yay)
8. Coach for Womens 7s?
- a. No coach yet – few resumes have been submitted by no confirmation
 - b. Tryouts for Womens 7s will be held same weekend as ODA Tryouts
9. College Dues update to be sent by Mike this week
- a. John Bradley to ask clubs who have not yet paid dues to remind them to pay and ask for payment update.
 - b. John indicated some have also not paid Referee dues.
10. Meeting Adjourned 9:46pm by Renee