

EMPIRE RFU GU
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
August 25, 2013

The Executive Board met via conference call on Sunday, August 25, 2013, at 9:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Board Members: Renee Ovrut (President), Mike Crafton (VP), Kyle Antoian (VP), Ashley Belline (ED Women), Brad Kleiner (ED Referees), John Bradley (Colleges), John Bradley serving as proxy for Oscar Prue

Non-Voting Members: Gary Heavner (USAR Delegate), Nike Anzalone (Ad Hoc),

Administrator: J.C. Whipple (Administrator)

Absent: Oscar Prue (VP Operations), Steve Molnar (ED Men), Sean Horan (ED 7s),

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 p.m.

This Executive Meeting, per Empire GU bylaws, was made available to GU membership. Those who called in were able to listen to the meeting, and then invited to raise questions or comments during an Open Forum at the end of the call.

ELITE CUP / D1

Gary Heavner provided an overview of the matters surrounding Elite Cup / D1. An Elite Cup committee has been approved. Clubs will be allowed to play Elite Cup – they can either not play D1, or play D1 but not compete in league playoffs. Clubs must make USAR and their respective region aware of intentions prior to start of season.

Gary said, at this point, clubs are saying they are committed to the league. There is potential for California to create its own separate Elite Cup (CA Elite Cup), though its season does not begin until January. Long-term planning could include an East Coast Elite Cup.

There are no assurances as to how all of this will work out, and it is unclear whether Northeast clubs will fulfill their current commitments.

Gary will forward, when available, a final draft of the Elite Cup / D1 overview

COMPLIANCE – FALL 2013

The Board discussed compliance matters surrounding start of Fall 2013 season. Mike Crafton noted that USAR is only requiring that clubs have a Level 100 certified coach on the roster. Each club must have a Level 200 coach certified sometime during the 2013-14 calendar.

John Bradley noted that USAR is stringent with PDU credits, making higher-value courses more attractive. It was discussed to approach Coaching Connection regarding a coaching clinic in the NYC area and combined that with player instruction and recruiting for clubs. Clubs could offer instruction for various sessions and attendees could select the units they would like to attend. USAR would need to approve PDU values for each unit.

FORFEIT POLICY

Brad Kleiner and Mike Crafton reviewed the proposed policy for Forfeits during league competition.

Empire GU clubs forfeiting a league match will be subject to a \$1,000 fine plus actual expenses incurred by the opposing club, as determined by the Empire GU Board of Directors. Clubs forfeiting a match are also ineligible for any Empire GU, regional or USA Rugby playoff competition.

Motion: Mike Crafton; Second: Renee Ovrut

Yay: Renee Ovrut, Mike Crafton, Kyle Antoian, Ashley Belline, Brad Kleiner, John Bradley, Oscar Prue (proxy by John Bradley)

Motion passed, 7-0. Forfeit policy will be effective immediately, starting with the Fall 2013 competition.

SENIOR WOMEN

Ashley Belline reported that there may be a small change to the D2 schedules – this will be forthcoming.

COLLEGES

John Bradley reported that the College schedules are in place and clubs have been made aware. J.C. Whipple is posting some amendments to the schedule on the GU website.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J.C. Whipple
Administrator