

New Brunswick Rugby Union

Minutes of Meeting

Date: February 24, 2018 10am ADT

Written by: Curtis Lauzon

Location: Loyalist RFC

Subject: AGM

Signature: _____

Present:

Becky Knox, Cheryl Oliver, John DeWolfe , Jason Peters, Curtis Lauzon, Tim Comeau, Charles Eager, Alison Aiton, Damian Murphy, Yves Pellerin, Coleman Lloyd, Sharon Johnston, Blake Edwards, Jamie Gray, Troy Dixon, Julien Ouimet, Vanessa Duffley, Malcolm MacAfee, Brad Saunders, Mike Curwin, Grant Beckingham, Brent Garrish, Alex Locke, Alan Gray

NBRU Sign In (Appendix 1)

Clubs Present:

Loyalists, - Tim Comeau – 4 votes

Trojans, - Julien Ouimet – 4 votes

Miramichi, - Brent Garrish – 1 vote

Moncton, - Yves Pellerin – 3 votes

Valley Wildmen – Coleman Lloyd – 1 vote

Irish – Cheryl Oliver – 1 vote

Belleisle – Alex Locke – 2 votes

Charlotte County – Proxy though Saint John Irish Becky Knox – 1 vote

Agenda:

See attached agenda

AGM 2017 MOM & Special General Meeting 2018 MOM:

Motion to accept Tim Comeau, seconded Jamie Gray, carried

Designation of Voting Delegates

- Standard of voting at the 2017 AGM; 1 vote per senior team per club. Senior team is defined as; Male or Female, playing in a NBRU League (A, B or C).

Executive & Director Reports

- President's Report; attached.
 - Side note: John DeWolfe announces that Canterbury has been selected as official supplier.
- Treasurer's Report; attached.
- Technical Director's Report; attached.
- Rugby Development Officer's Report; No Report
- Provincial Teams; No Report
- High Performance; No Report
- Coaching Report; attached
 - More communication for NCCP Coaching Courses.
- Director Youth Report; No Report
- NBRRS Officials Report to follow, Referee society to work with the NBRU to achieve goals for 2018

Provincial Team Reports

- Troy Dixon; U16/U18 W, Are competitive locally but struggle against the bigger provinces.
- Blake Edwards; Senior men, No Report
 - Eastern Super League to be introduced for 2018 season
- Yves Pellerin; U20/Senior Women, No Report.
 - Ali Massoudi will take over role in 2018
- Brent Garrish; U18 men, No Report
 - Jamie Gray will take over role in 2018

- Alex Locke; U16 men, No Report.
 - High costs when Easterns is in NFLD and Nationals in West
- Vanessa Duffley; U18 W 7s, No Report. large cost for players playing both 15s and 7s

Election of Officers 2018

- President, Treasurer, Secretary and all Directors are up for election.

All positions filled by acclamation or are vacant;

- President – Yves Pellerin
- Treasurer – Pat O'Donnell
- Secretary – Becky Knox

Directors:

- Domestic Competitions – Vacant
- Provincial Teams – Alex Locke
- Coaching – Troy Dixon
- High Performance – Ali Massoudi
- Officials – Charles Eagar
- Youth – Grant Beckingham
- Women's – Alison Aiton
- Indigenous – Jason Peters
- 7s – Johnny Cullen

Motion to accept Tim Comeau seconded Brent Garrish

New Business

- Leagues & League Management - SportLoMo. John speaks regarding new registration system, SportLoMo. Used by nearly all provincial unions. Used for

scheduling, league management, registration and more. Curtis said that more pressure will be put on clubs to finalize their registration set up.

- Player Welfare - World Rugby leader in player welfare. Rugby Canada have adopted several policies. Push for insuring coaches have criminal record checks and proper coach training.

Vanessa motions that NBRU work to develop, promote and implement concussion policy. Alex Locke seconds the motion, carried

- Player eligibility – John states that there were some issues with transfers in the last year. States that policies are in place and require adherence. Alex Locke motions that player eligibility be covered in depth in the bylaw review. Yves Pellerin seconds the motion, carried.

Tim Comeau motions that decisions made by disciplinary committee be distributed to all clubs. Sharon seconds the motion, carried

- Rebranding, Marketing and fund raising – John states that NBRU reached out to Marketing Company. Plan received was less detailed than originally planned.

Becky Knox motioned that a committee be struck to develop brand plan to present to marketing company. Jason Peters seconds, carried.

- Policies & Procedures update/implementation – Curtis states that development of standard procedures and policies for provincial teams, coaching standards, and financial documents is underway
- Supplier contracts, supplier/contract review process/committee – Kukri was selected for kit for past three years. Contracts will be reviewed annually. John DeWolfe suggests formalized process to review all contracts on an annual basis.
- Referee recruitment, training & retention – Clubs have to take more proactive recruitment efforts. Vanessa Duffley suggests job description/posting.
- Dues structure - review committee – John described Rugby Canada's suggested charge of \$15 per member added to membership. Provinces not in favor of this fee. Curtis describes need for Provincial fee review.

Open Forum

- Jason Peters would like, as part of the NBRU's partnership with ASRNB, that NBRU identified that rugby is played in traditional territories of Mi'kmaq and Maliseet.

Becky Knox motions that all programming of NBRU takes place in the unceded traditional territories of Mi'kmaq and Maliseet. Alex Locke seconds the motion, carried

- Discussion takes place on scheduling for 2018. Jason Peters states that ASRNB will be having a Senior Men's team that will compete in B side competition. Yves requests that all clubs submit their scheduling requests to him.

Motion to Adjourn Tim Comeau, seconded Damian Murphy, carried.

Time 3:15 PM ADT

Next AGM: To be Scheduled.

**2018 Annual General Meeting - New Brunswick Rugby Union
10:00 am Saturday, February 24, 2018
Fredericton Loyalists Clubhouse – Cityview Ave. Fredericton**

Agenda:

- Call to order
- Housekeeping items
- Roll Call & Designation of voting delegates
- Review of minutes from last year's AGM & Special AGM
- Executive, Director, Coaches & Official's Reports

- President
- Treasurer
- Technical Director
- Coaching
- High Performance
- Provincial Teams
 - Senior/U23 Men
 - Senior/U20 Women
 - U16/U18 Women (15s & 7s)
 - U16/U18 Men (15s & 7s)
- Youth
- Referee Society
- Addition of new Directorships
 - Women's Rugby
 - Indigenous Rugby
 - Sevens
- Voting on proposed Bylaw changes & amendments
- Election of Officers & Directors
 - President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Directors of Women's Rugby, Indigenous Rugby, Sevens, Vacant or Vacating Directorships

New Business

- Leagues & League Management - Sport Lomo
 - Registration, scheduling, reporting, statistics, website(s)

- Player Welfare
- Player eligibility
- Rebranding, Marketing and fund raising
 - Policies & Procedures update/implimentation
 - Supplier contracts, supplier/contract review process/committee
- Referee recruitment, taining & retention
- Dues structure - review committee
- Open Forum
- Summary of Action Items
- Adjournment

President's Report –

New Brunswick Rugby Union Annual General Meeting

February 24, 2018

2017 was a year of change and progress for the NBRU with significant happenings both on and off the field. We worked with stakeholders to strengthen and grow the organization by entering into new partnerships, and by reviewing policies and procedures to create efficiencies that will carry the NBRU into the future. We have invested in equipment and technology, people, training, certification and programs to better serve our growing membership. Our Technical Director resigned and a new one was hired. We continue our focus on development of rugby in NB through our key initiatives at the grass-roots level through Rookie Rugby programs across the province, with First Nations and Francophone communities, Middle & High School programs, Universities, and support of our member clubs. 7s Rugby has grown strong roots thanks to its' inclusion as a recognized NBIAA sport, but mostly because of the hard effort and dedication of the Saint John based 7s coaches and managers.

Our partnership with Aboriginal Sport & Recreation New Brunswick shows great promise of dramatically increasing the number of young New Brunswickers playing rugby, and the possibility of new rugby clubs developing in non-traditional parts of the province. Our investment in technology from Sport Lomo will simplify scheduling, referee assignments, game reporting, league standings, and statistics. Our contracts with official suppliers are meant to bring cost efficiencies and brand consistency for our representative teams.

Growth comes with costs, the most noticeable of which are resources of volunteers and funding. It is incumbent on all of us to recruit more coaches, managers and referees to run and officiate rugby at all levels. Additional funding sources are required to finance new and established programs, with particular emphasis on mitigating costs for players and club development.

It has been an honor and privilege for me to have served as the President of the NBRU the past four years. Although I have not accomplished all that I had hoped to during my term, I feel that I am leaving the organization in much better condition than it was when I stepped into my role in 2014. There are many challenges ahead and I wish my successors all the best going forward. As Past President I will work with the new Executive to transition into their roles and I will continue to serve the New Brunswick rugby community wherever and whenever possible.

John DeWolfe

February 24, 2018

Annual Report – 2017

Technical Director

In my first few months as Technical Director of the organization there were three major areas of focus: partnership with Aboriginal Sport and Recreation New Brunswick, registration system review and set up, and gap/pathway analysis.

The partnership with ASRNB has been the driving force for grassroots development in new areas. ASRNB has led efforts in coach development in the following areas: Elsipogtog First Nation, Listuguj First Nations and Eel River Bar which has helped in developing Rexton, Dalhousie and Campbellton.

Moving forward NBRU plans to continue to work with ASRNB to develop further in Eel Ground and Miramichi, Madawaska and Edmundston and Papineau and Bathurst.

Upon review of registration systems it was determined that due to a number of factors SportLomo would be best moving forward. NBRU set up has now been finalized and

clubs have been sent out set up information as of January 2018. Goal is to have all clubs set up by mid-March. Review of the registration system and membership categories has made it clear that detailed review of membership categories is overdue.

The Sport and Recreation Branch of the Government of NB has started a program to help us identify and determine gaps in our pathway. This process has identified several gaps in our current program and has started to develop changes in some of our efforts. One immediate program we felt needed to be added was our high performance group targeting upcoming athletes for selection to regional teams.

Moving forward we will continue identify programs and determine which are worthwhile and implement these programs to remove these gaps.

Respectfully Submitted,

Curtis Lauzon

Coaching Directors Report

2017 Annual General Meeting

Feb 24, 2018

2017 was a productive year in training coaches for the NBRU. We successfully completed our training schedule as presented. We are still having trouble getting sufficient numbers to meet the minimum requirements to run a level 1 or level 11 course. The minimum number of participants is 8 to have the course recognized by WRB. If any club is going to volunteer to host one of these events they should be well aware of this minimum requirement. The host club is also responsible for the procurement of a meeting and GYM area for these courses to be run, as well internet access at these facilities. Thanks to those who hosted these events during 2017.

The addition of Curtis Lauzon will certainly improve our communications with Rugby Canada and we look forward to smoother relations in this area. It has been difficult at times to see the clear communications lines in the area of coaching with RC.

We are making attempts to add two or three more WRB Educators to assist Simon Pacey and myself in running these clinics, This would add a women's perspective, a bilingual perspective as well as an additional presenters, to look after our future requirements. We will have additional requirements, going forward, with our recent partnership with our aboriginal community, as well as our ongoing club requirements. Blake Edwards effort's with Rugby Ready will create additional demands in these areas as the players age. Thumbs-up for Blake and his work in this area. Unfortunately there will not be WRB Educator training courses during 2018, so our plan will have to wait till next year.

I was pleased with the interest in coaching over the last three years with having trained over 60 persons in Level 1, Level 11, First aid in Rugby, and a an introductory course in Sevens. I would like to thank everyone who took of their valuable time to share their time with us and the rest of the coaches who participated. I am concerned , however, that the pre-course work was not done by coaches prior to taking their courses. It is important that this work be done to get the full value of the courses, in a time allocated. It has also provided us with additional problems in getting people certified, which we are currently working on.

I would implore all current coaches to push for an expansion in our playing season. I do not believe we are playing enough Rugby , a minimum of 10 competitive games would be a minimum requirement to provide enough player experience to compete in interprovincial play. We are late to start in the spring and when we do; we always seems to be catching up.

Simon Pacey did a great job with course delivery during the year and it was a pleasure to work with him.

I will not be re-offering as Dir of Coaching. I will continue to serve as MLF and WRB Educator until such time as we are able to add to our coaching

work force. I will continue to work with the coaches I have trained to complete their certification process,

Respectfully submitted

Malcolm MacAfee