

EMPIRE GU
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 22, 2016

The Executive Board met via conference call on Wednesday, July 22, 2016, at 9:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Board Members: Ken Pape (President), Pat Moroney (VP Communications), Rosalie MacGowan (VP Finance), Lex Maccubbin (ED Men), Sarah Rutman (ED Women), Sean Horan (ED Sevens), Brad Kleiner (ED Referees)

Non-Voting Members: J.C. Whipple (Administrator)

Absent: Jorge Quintana (VP Operations),

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 p.m. A quorum was in place.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ken Pape said a review of the Administrator position and work of J.C. Whipple has been completed. It will be publishing the results

AGM discussion - VP Operations and ED Women are the only contested positions. Sean Horan asked about the job description change. Ken stated this requires a vote by the membership (60 day notice) since it is a bylaws matter.

Women's Select Side in operation. Ken Pape said everyone is looking for the best way to improve this process. Pat Moroney said the best way to accomplish this is to hold a conference call. The coaches buy-in came from better communication, engaging the coaches.

NCR3 Women's scheduling: Women's schedule submitted and approved (with the impression Old Blue would be entering a side). Upon review, some teams had three and four byes. Ken Pape contacted Brett Willis to inform him changes would be made. Ken asked Lex Maccubbin to compile a new schedule, which was passed to Angela Corpus (D2 rep to NCR3). Brett Willis declined the new schedule and was asked to present to NCR3, which was refused. The matter advanced to the National level and after significant back-and-forth, the matter was ultimately resolved.

A more in-depth discussion took place on EGU and relations with NCR3, including the Chairman position (a lifetime appointment). Ken Pape said a member of the NCR3 Committee must call for a vote to restructure positions and structure.

FINANCIALS

Rosalie MacGowan stated that EGU is in good financial position. She is working with JC Whipple to produce the financial report which will be presented at the AGM.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Pat Moroney stated that communications internally as a Board has improved, can continue to improve in relations to membership. Considering the NCR3 matters, Slack would have been useful in communicating as a group. Pat suggested the Board look at using this more effectively.

Pat has been working on integrating Google Docs to help improve communication, and this also integrates with Slack, which will be useful.

MEN'S REPORT

Lex Maccubbin said that the schedules are set, though he is working through some changes taking place between clubs on home-away dates.

WOMEN'S REPORT

Sarah Rutman said that D2 is set, but D3 Downstate scheduling is presenting issues. Still working through a couple matters, the most recent version of the schedule has been sent to the Board for review.

SEVENS REPORT

Sean Horan stated it has been a great season for Summer 7s. Biggest improvement has been the addition of the Upstate series which Lex Maccubbin was instrumental in initiating. Biggest division is HS Boys with 70 teams. Women's and HS Girls have been lagging. Blazing 7s wraps up Summer 7s Series tomorrow. Will name an All-EGU Team from series.

Coach mentoring program going on through Northeast Academy. Expansion of Northeast Academy into Buffalo has been impressive - athletes and coaches have been great and excited about the potential.

Ken Pape asked about the feedback from the Downstate tournaments. Sean said there are certain tournaments have not been growing, actually regressing. There will now be an application process for clubs to be included.

A discussion took place on communication / education for Youth/HS rugby. The need is there to improve access to SRO and local HS clubs.

REFEREES REPORT

Brad Kleiner reported that the Summer 7s tournaments has gone well. Brad suggested to keep an eye on future tournament scheduling and sanctioning multiple events on same day - resources are not available.

Sean Horan asked about referee development. Brad said it is sporadic, that there are a couple good candidates, but has to be viewed as a pipeline - folks will come and go.

Brad mentioned that there could be the potential for other rugby referee societies to work on contract.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Website: J.C. Whipple provide a review of the website proposal from SportsManager. The update would be to a responsive template, improving the presentation and access to EGU website. Fees are a one-time \$800 development fee and \$200 annual for hosting / support. Ken Pape said this would be tabled until the new Board is seated following the AGM.

AGM: There are two contested Board positions (VP Operations / ED Women) and candidates will be able to present themselves for two minutes. A review of the AGM Agenda took place.

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J.C. Whipple
EGU Administrator