

EMPIRE RFU GU
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 10, 2016

The Executive Board met via conference call on Monday, October 10, 2016, at 9:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

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

Clubs: Kevin Holt (Union)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 p.m. A quorum was in place.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ken Pape said EGU is at the halfway point of the season. There are significant issues with the referee assignments and how they are working. Ken sent a message to Andy Buck regarding assignments and the hierarchy - WPL, Men's D1, Men's D2, Women's D2, Men's D3 and Women's D3.

Ken brought to light that in his mind WPL and Women's D1 are not receiving the proper level of assignment. Lex Maccubbin said he understands Ken's thought on this; based on his experience as a referee and assignor, there is a nuance to this. Pat Moroney agree and said particular games require different sets of skills, including physicality, rivalry, etc. Pat said it is really important to have the best referees on the best games, but there needs to be some leeway as this is not a linear process. Continued discussion took place.

Rosalie MacGowan said EGU has no authority over the referees and referee societies. Ken Pape said he is going to contact USA Rugby for a referee trainer and start exploring how EGU can create a structure under its auspices.

Ken has the finalized pricing for the EGU Summit and will distribute to the Board for review and approval.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Rosalie MacGowan started by sharing and covering General Guidelines for EGU finances: Expense Approval, Reimbursement approval process, Invoice approval process and requirements, paying EGU Administrator, budget guidelines and timeline, and quarterly reporting of financials.

Rosalie provided a budget projection for 2016-17 and gave an overview of the new layout and projected income / expenses.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Pat Moroney said there were a couple small items. He said that we are approaching a crisis with the state of referees. Multiple organizations are involved and none communicate with each other - senior club, college, high school and referee societies.

Brad Kleiner stated he was surprised to hear that the referees are the issue. Ken Pape responded and asked when it became ok for colleges and high schools to schedule games on Saturday. Brad said the referee societies have given priorities to clubs on Saturday during league season. Should a college schedule a game on a Saturday, it goes to the bottom of a list. The hierarchy of games was revisited. Brad stated that referees come from clubs, referees are former players.

Brad said the referees societies will be scheduling Level 1 certification courses. There is an EGU policy in place where each club is required to supply at least one (1) new certified referee each year. It was discussed that policy needs to be reviewed and decided to acted upon or updated.

MEN'S REPORT

Lex Maccubbin provided a report on yellow / red cards as the season is at the halfway point. There have been seven red cards to date and 40+ yellow cards. Most have been reported by the referees, but not all. Lex said there should be a requirement of the referees to provide report.

A discussion took place regarding Union and an upcoming match with Montclair and Bayonne (D2 / D3) and the timing. Lex Maccubbin reported he has been in communication with all clubs involved and the matter is resolved.

WOMEN'S REPORT

Angela Corpus said CMS is moving along well. Angela will be scheduling a mid-season call. The crossover playoffs will be held on Oct. 29. The championship will be played in the spring.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Sharon Berger presented on the Women's D3 playoff crossover. The need is for the matches to be centrally located. A discussion took place regarding location, referees, travel.

Clubs have submitted their EAPs and Sharon is reviewing.

SEVENS REPORT

Sean Horan reported he and Rosalie have created a host application for all tournaments moving forward. This is based on the USA Rugby application process. Sean and Rosalie invite the Board to review the application and provide any feedback. Decision on approved tournaments will be made by December.

REFEREES REPORT

Brad Kleiner reported that Technical Zones have been somewhat of an issue, coaches or staff floating to of the zone. Referee abuse has been improved.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business to review.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to review.

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J.C. Whipple
EGU Administrator