

EMPIRE RFU GU
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 11, 2018

The Executive Board met via conference call on Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at 9:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Board Members: Ken Pape (President), Gary Heavner (VP Governance), Michael Crafton (VP Operations), Lex Maccubbin (ED Men), Jennifer Jones (ED Women), Brad Kleiner (ED Referees)

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

Clubs: None

Absent: Pat Moroney (VP Communications), Jennifer Salomon (VP Finance), Rosalie MacGowan (ED Sevens)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:09 p.m. A quorum was in place.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ken Pape opened the meeting by saying this is the last Board meeting of the current group, prior to the AGM. He encouraged the next Board to be more proactive on communication with membership on the happenings with the good work being done (i.e. Women's 7s HP). His goal for the upcoming year is for everyone to do a better job in this area.

Ken congratulated Lex Maccubbin and Jen Jones on a great job formulating the 2018-19 schedules.

USA RUGBY 7s NATIONALS

Some great news coming out of recent developments, through work Gary Heavner laid the ground work on. Ken recently met with Erik Geib (USA Rugby) and Gary helped close the agreement.

Empire GU will be hosting the USA Rugby 7s Nationals at Columbia University, August 11-12. Ken emphasized that EGU needs to knock this out of the park. Ken thanked Gary for all the great work he put in on this effort.

Gary Heavner said this is rugby people hosting a major event, not a Chamber of Commerce, local committee, etc. The benefits are NYC is one of the cheapest places to fly to, facility rentals are cheaper and the majority of qualifying clubs can drive to the event.

The goal is this will not be a loss and ensure that it incentivizes USA Rugby to continue allocating host bids to EGU. Old Blue is putting up \$4000 - the ask would be for EGU to match. Additional clubs in the area - NYAC, NYRC, Beantown, etc. to do the similar. Typically, EGU has 3-4 clubs traveling to nationals. On average, it cost individual teams \$23K per team to travel to nationals.

Ken Pape said that EGU allocates a stipend for each qualifying club. Those funds, since not necessary for travel, etc., could be reallocated toward this hosting effort.

Michael Crafton asked whether there has been any consideration to the possibility to make money on this effort. Gary said there is no plan for that now, it is the goal to make it as inexpensive as possible to attend (i.e. free parking spaces, additional staff, reduced flights). It makes the entire event better and positions EGU for future hosting opportunities.

Gary Heavner made the following motions:

1. To re-allocate the club nationals stipends (\$1000 per club per policy), \$4000 in total to hosting co-host buy-in fee for USA Rugby Club 7s Nationals. Seconded by Ken Pape.

Yes -Michael Crafton, Jennifer Jones, Lex Maccubbin, Gary Heavner, Ken Pape (Motion passes, 5-0).

2. EGU earmark \$10,000 as an emergency reserve fund to cover any interim shortfalls. Oversight and approval of allocation of funds will be the VP Operations and VP Finance. Seconded by Ken Pape.
Yes -Michael Crafton, Jennifer Jones, Lex Maccubbin, Gary Heavner, Ken Pape (Motion passes, 5-0).

3. EGU Board authorizes the use of the EGU bank account for all transaction as related co-hosting USA Rugby 7s Nationals. Seconded by Ken Pape.
Yes -Michael Crafton, Jennifer Jones, Lex Maccubbin, Gary Heavner, Ken Pape (Motion passes, 5-0).

MEN'S REPORT

Lex Maccubbin said the schedule was almost complete. He said we could avoid some issues moving forward by sending proposed schedules directly to the clubs, prior to receiving back from NCR3. Seasonality will present a challenge, especially with starting the season prior to Labor Day (there may be some creative solutions necessary).

WOMEN'S REPORT

Jen Jones said clubs are supportive of the new schedule and shortened season. Ken Pape said this is trial and error and clubs will come around after the new scheduling.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Pat Moroney was not present.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jenn Salomon was not present.

SEVENS REPORT

Rosalie MacGowan was not present.

REFEREES REPORT

Brad Kleiner said clubs need to be aware of scheduling and priority will be given to full-registered clubs. The 7s tournament this past weekend, there was verbal abuse toward the referee (the tournament director suspended the club for the remainder of the tournament). Brad was asking for an update on the status of the player suspended for a previous tournament. Ken Pape said the player did not appeal and he is suspended through mid-Fall.

A discussion took place regarding a matter involving a coach and prior

NCR3 REPORT

No Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Amendment - Match Requirements

Proposed: Following the match, both clubs must enter all the required information into the CMS. This includes the complete roster for their side, all scoring, all yellow or red cards and all substitutions. Detailed instructions on how to do this can be found in the Team Administrator Handbook and the Team Administrator Checklist (<https://usarugbystats.com/account/login?redirect=https://usarugbystats.com/>). If a club does not complete all the required CMS information by 5PM on the Monday after the match, the club may lose one (1) competition point and be fined \$25. For each 24 hour delay after this, the club may lose one (1) competition point and be fined \$25. If a club, does not complete the CMS by the Friday after the scheduled match, it may forfeit that match.

In addition, the Home team is responsible for reporting the score to Empire GU via "Score Reporting via Text" feature, to include scores and tries for each club. The scores should be submitted immediately after the game, but no later than 6 P.M. on SUNDAY (for Saturday matches, otherwise by 6PM the day following the match). Failure to submit scores by text, may result in a fine of \$25 for each 24 hours after the 6PM deadline.

Yes -Michael Crafton, Jennifer Jones, Lex Maccubbin, Gary Heavner, Ken Pape (Motion passes, 5-0).

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
J.C. Whipple
EGU Administrator