



Georgia Rugby Union
Annual General Meeting-Minutes
August 9, 2009 12:30 PM

Call to order

Roll call

Reading and approval of previous AGM minutes (to be sent to GRU Yahoo Group)

Minutes from 2008 AGM were not presented.

Prior year Secretary took the minutes at the 2008AGM, and were not transmitted.

Greeting – Lex

- Accomplishments -membership up 24%, Atlanta and other teams performed very well.
- Discipline - individuals teams involved handled themselves well.
- GAHRSA – not members of GRU, they elected to participate as a USA Rugby State Based Rugby Organization versus GRU. Request made to GRU members to contact GAHSRA officials- help insure “proper rugby instruction” occurs.
- New GRU Youth Development Chair position announced

At-Large – Danita Knox

USA Rugby Nigel’s Report. USA Rugby Congress/GRU/South commentary and news. Presented marketing accomplishments for members consideration. TV coverage increased from 2 hours national in 2006 to almost 300 hours national in 2009.

Danita voted at Congress (?) to approve state based unions.

Treasurer – Gary Kent – Reports attached:

Better collections year over year.

P/L Budget v Actual: Loss relates to \$3000 approved deficit spending for website.

Only \$150 actual was spent in previous year.

All within budget except for special sponsorship payment to support GRU team

Renegades to travel to Final4 in Denver Div1 Championship.

All activities at or under budget.

Referees – Peabody explained 3 ELV’s not accepted.

Seeger- needs help for more recruitment of referees
Open discussion- challenges of training new referees.

Motion: Application for membership by new team: Athens Rugby Football Club

Second Bryan Grant

Commentary: Gary Kent: Associate Membership =\$500, saves \$100 for the applicant.

Vote: Unanimous approval of Athens RFC as an Associate Member

Motion to Approve Financial Statements by Lex Jolley

Second by Bryan Grant

Vote: Unanimous approval

Comment: Reiterated by Gary Kent- CIPP Registration of Players/clubs

- Need for \$100k insurance per player
- CIPP will NOT pay for player injury
- CIPP coverage is considered 3rd party liability insurance only.

Elections of GRU Executive Committee:

No new nominations except for the President.

Kevin Grass nominated, Jonny Fine of High country Seconded.

Lex Jolley nominated by Tia Doppenburg, Second by Danita Knox

Lex Jolly and Kevin Grass gave speeches for the election.

Lex wins.

Prior year's officers re-elected by acclamation

Rod Seddon, VP

Bryan Grant, Secretary

Gary Kent, Treasurer

Danita Knox, At-Large.

Gary Kent- Submit Motion to Approve Budget Proposal for new fiscal year – 9/09-9/10

Comment: Alex Rocca- Amend education line item to Coach/Referee education.

Bryan Grant Submit Amended motion to include Rocca's change

Second by Rod Seddon

All Yea except Tia Doppenburg

Secretary Report- Bryan Grant (attached)

Facebook, Twitter, and Yahoo list updates.

Other discussion from Bryan Grant:

MOU (memorandum of understanding), QnA, securing fields more permanently around Atlanta.

Not much will from GRU EC to engage in field management activities.

Bryan will post sample MOU's to the Yahoo group for consideration.

Press Release database- Bryan will post a template to the server. Requested 4 weeks lead time from members for events so they can be properly covered, and they must include

web and social media links in the document.

Other Discussion: Gary Kent By Law Changes: various motions:

Motion to change By Laws wording dealing with Associate membership to align with USA Rugby South's wording.

Vote: Unanimous approval

Motion – Donovan Marsh –

Adapt Yahoo Group http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/gru_members/ as primary means of communication from GRU EC to its membership, especially to member team's EC members.

Vote All Yea except 1 Nay (Gary Kent)

Motion by Gary Kent – Add Section 8.0.2 of GRU By Laws. EC may corrects it's own operational procedure. Not less than 4 EC members= quorum.

Second Bryan Grant

Vote: Unanimous approval

Collegiate Rugby Chair- Rene Daniels

- Improved level of Rugby over last 3 years.
- Emory stepped up from D3 to D2.
- Matrix GT men- advanced; KSU men- advanced (final 4?); Clemson Women beat UGA women at GRU tournament
- South Rugby- changing Collegiate D1/D2
- GRU – All Star Team need more participants.
- GRU mostly D2 except UGA (D1)
- Kermit Tyler (KSU)/Ian Lane (GT) both favorably mentioned.

Tia Doppenburg- All Stars commentary/update -

- Entered All Stars 3rd, finished 2nd. Losing to the FL.
- Rene wants \$500 for 7'2 Jerseys/All Stars.
- Emory red Card by non CIPP player. Emory on probation, almost shut down.
- Collegiate waiver discussion, various participants: for students at schools with no team. Allows for 5 years of play with no team at their school.

All Stars v Renegades match.

Argentine trip. – not in college, under 22yrs. 8 day trip. 3 games played/ Coaches invited. \$1000-\$2000 (No food)

Organized by Roger Werner STATS Tours rw@statstravels.com

Rene Daniels- Wants new savings and or fund raising to help buy 7's jerseys.

Workshops went undocumented:

Adjourned