

Minutes for Sussex Womens and Girls Development Committee

28th September 2009, 7.30pm

Chairperson: James Fisher RFUW London North and South Region

Present:

Dave Bennett	Crowborough
Mark Bonar	Chichester College
Geraldine Brown	Hove Womens, Sussex Womens
Simon Burgess	RFUW Women and Girls Development
Steve Christian	Chair Sussex CB, RDP 18-24
Robin Clarke	Worthing Girls
Aimee Day	Lewes Womens
Sonya da Silva	Lewes Womens
Debbie Hale	Worthing Girls
David Hooker	East Grinstead
Liz James	Hove Womens
Mel Liley	LPO London South
Glenn Warren	Chair Worthing Ladies and Girls

All Development Plan points indicated with *

1.0. Introduction to Meeting

Introductions from individuals as above.

2.0. Meeting Administration

JF Following a meeting held with Mal Chumbley and JF, Sonya da Sliva has accepted the position of Chairperson of Womens and Girls Forum

ML Accepted administrative role, minute taking etc.

JF Apologies received from Mal Chumbley and Lyndi Reading (Worthing Womens)

3.0. Have we got a sustainable cluster program?

Deb. H At U18s, the cluster fails because there is a lack of recruitment.

S.C Innovating recruitment: access to schools could lead to a "drip-feed scenario".
First for Sport encouraging training at school level to revive interest.

JF Communication key

GB/ML A barrier exists for girls entering the sport; sexism, cliques within clubs etc

Could each club have a person in charge of recruitment liaison?

JF Use of pathfinder as a resource for encouraging all players
Encourage all clubs to attend meetings to create unified approach

SB * Committing to supporting ongoing development and delivery as far as practical and possible is key.

4.0. Coaching

SC Encouraging coaching key, and taking this through school consistently

MB Limited coaches, limited resources. Questions raised over the cost of training

JF Unfortunately accredited RFU coaching qualifications are chargeable.

SB In cases where coaching is requested in a voluntary or community context, some funding is available.

JF * Each club is to have 1 Level 2 coach, per club and/or cluster, to be achieved by 2012. The expected coach licensing regulations are expected Nov 2009.

4.1. Retaining retiring players in a coaching capacity

JF * All clubs should encourage their retiring players to look into staying involved in some role if they are considering retiring from playing.

GB/ML Women generally retire from Rugby because they have other priorities, not just because they get old or are dropped from the first teams! This point should be included in the development plan but does not require much promotion as it is an existent process.

5.0. Establishing Formal Links across Sussex

JF Links between schools, colleges, universities and clubs to be established

* Junior clubs to have 2 formal school links, Ladies to have 1 formal university link

GB/L Address the link of Chichester University to Hampshire Trojans

JF Agreed. Sussex based establishments should support Sussex clubs.

JF/SB There needs to be a focus of the development of the individual as much as the club. The Pathfinder resource can help players maximise their potential in Sussex.

GB Lack of support at county level for Ladies. There is no prestige attached or any real form of competition for places on the team. This needs to be addressed.

JF This is a national issue that will be addressed.

In terms of Sussex, could a county performance pathfinder style scheme be achieved?

SB Proposed open day style training session at a neutral ground where all Ladies Clubs can be represented and attracted women to the sport.
Suggested novice session Spring 2010, experienced session Autumn 2010.

Next Meeting

Juniors Pre Xmas 2009

Ladies Early 2010; January 11th at Hove proposed.

Organisations discussed

British Colleges for Sport

First for Sport

The RDP is aware of sports bursaries for Sussex pupils enrolling in Sussex Unis (S. Christian)