

## SUSSEX RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LTD

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held at Brighton RFC on Monday 28th March 2011 @7.30 pm.

<b>10.111.</b>	<b>Attendees;</b> P Bailey (President), A Butcher (Chairman), P Silk (Sec), R Hopkins (Treasurer), A Croucher (Playing), P Macaulay (RRDM), K Nichols (Competitions), F. Edmonds (Discipline) M. Richardson(Leagues) and R.Edmondson (IPP)
<b>10.111.</b>	<b>Apologies;</b> G.Thompson (RFU Rep) and G. Howorth (People & Places)
<b>10.112.</b>	<b>Minutes;</b> 10.90.1. Amended Minutes 22.11.10 not submitted and will be addressed next Monday. Minutes of Executive on 24.01.11 were approved and signed by Chairman. Clubs General Meeting Minute 07.03.11 were considered (10.106 add Salver Final).
<b>10.113.</b>	<b>Matters arising;</b> Curry night at Newick Tandoori 17.05.2011 – over 60 people had booked places and paid. President asked if David Maconachie and his wife could be invited to the Curry Evening. Agreed – PB to write
<b>10.114.</b>	<b>10.114.1. President’s Report; PB</b> circulated his report at the meeting. He has attended a VP Lunch at Pulborough, awarded the medals at the Salver, Shield, Plate Vase Final U14 and U16 Finals. He watched Sussex U17 beat Surrey U17 at Warlingham 29-27 and will present the Sussex 1 Trophy to Uckfield when they play Seaford on 9 <sup>th</sup> April. He attended the Volunteers Dinner at Hove on 24 <sup>th</sup> March with 80 volunteers but too few Clubs were present. He has been supported by the IPP who presented medals at the U15 Final and who attended the U14 and U16 Finals and the Surrey match and who attended Sussex Schools KO Finals Day as well as 3 of the Sevens Tournaments. The Chairman went to the U15 match at Horsham where Sussex beat Middlesex (10-8). The Secretary and Treasurer supported the U20’s at Midhurst. <b>10.114.2. Chairman’s Report; AB</b> reported he had been unwell for 3 months – he will report later in the meeting.
<b>10.115.</b>	<b>Competitions Report:</b> Ken Nichols reported. 10.115.1. Ken has had a very hard time from the Clubs about the Sussex Regulations and whether we should be running the Sussex Junior Leagues. It has been reported to him by both the IPP and Hon Secretary that many of the Sussex Clubs wanted Friendly matches. This had come from the RDO who had been instructed by the RFU to visit the Clubs. The RRDM stated that the Competitions Chair and the IPP had got the wrong end of the stick – the Clubs wanted less League matches and therefore more free Saturdays to play friendly matches. The Competitions Forum will meet later in the year and they will decide what they want. No Club has to play League Rugby. 10.115.2. Mike Ward is retiring as the London & SE Competitions Divisional Administrator after 27 years service. Agreed that Sussex would contribute £50 towards a leaving present. His successor is Ian Portland. 10.115.3. It is likely that the RFU Cup Competitions will be axed next season. 10.115.4. The Chairman asked the Competitions to review the regulations for next season – rewrite 4g. Peter Sealey to be asked to rewrite them. Mike Richardson was adamant that 4g was very clear. 10.115.5 Discussion took place about the venue for the U20 match against Surrey at Midhurst. A complaint had been received from the Surrey President stating that the pitch, the changing facilities and the 3 lady officials were not satisfactory. The Chairman had visited Midhurst before the match, met with Paul Colley and Midhurst and had agreed that he was satisfied with the facilities. The IPP had verbally apologised to the Surrey President. 10.115.6 It was agreed that RCE and KN would jointly draw up a list of venues for next season – it was agreed that every Club should have the opportunity to stage a match but the facilities available should match which match is being played i.e. if A and B teams there must be 2 Pitches
<b>10.116</b>	<b>Discipline: Frank Edmonds reported.</b> 10.116.1 Responsibility Behaviour of all club members and those who misbehave during club activities. There is an increasing lack of control by all concerned with the game at all levels. Competitions seem to have caused the increase of this kind of behaviour with a win at all costs attitude and the neglect of the recent core values. I am not saying that I want more cases reported to me but what I am saying is the CB needs to take a more active role in education of everyone to put their house in order. 10.116.2 Clearance and Competitive Matches Clearance to play by anyone wanting to play rugby should be carried before they allow this to happen. Check that the player has received clearance from their previous club before registering the player. Just because certain levels permit a player to take part without registration, the player must be properly made a member of the club. Failure would leave the player uninsured should he get injured. 10.116.3 Complaints Burgess Hill RFC Not the first complaint regarding mis matches and what team is being faced on a given day. 10.116.4 The following cases have been carried out: James Calver Burgess Hill 2 yellow cards 3 weeks Matt Philpott Burgess Hill striking 3 weeks Nicholas Lewis Barns Green striking 3 weeks
<b>10.117.</b>	<b>CB Strategic Plan</b> The CB Strategic Plan has been well received and has come back with suggestions. AJC will call a Meeting to discuss each part of the Plan to monitor progress.

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<b>10.118.</b>	<p><b>RDO's Club Visits</b> The RDO had been asked to visit all Sussex Clubs by the RFU and he had visited 12 Clubs but 9 Clubs had failed to respond to his invitation. Main topics covered were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment and retention of Players and Volunteers</li> <li>• Links with Educational Institutes</li> <li>• Links with the Community</li> <li>• Club Aspirations – including summer activities, increased use of facilities etc</li> <li>• Seal of Approval</li> <li>• How the RFU and CB can help in these areas.</li> </ul> <p>RRDM reported on Current CRC Delivery: 29% Primary Schools; 52% Secondary Schools; 10% Clubs; 4% FE; 3%b Adults and 3% CB's.</p>
<b>10.119.</b>	<p><b>Chairman: Allan Butcher made a verbal report:</b> He reported that there were undercurrents in the CB Executive – it must be an enjoyable experience and we must have respect for the President. He was very concerned with the performance of the RDP's with a lack of attendance from the Clubs. He believed that the General Meetings were poorly attended and suggested a new approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drop General Meetings</li> <li>• Executive Meetings in October, January, March, May and July with present format but adding on 4 RDP Chairs and Referees Chair.</li> <li>• 4 Executive Meetings where Agenda is scrapped and certain topics are discussed in greater detail</li> <li>• The September Executive Meeting would involve all the Chairs of each Committee.</li> </ul> <p>There was general agreement that change was necessary, there was a need to discuss policy in greater detail, the RDP's were not working efficiently and we had to encourage Clubs to attend the RDP Meetings. The Secretary believed that the present Executive Structure should be retained with 7 voting members + IPP + RRDM. FE said that it was important not to take away the voice of the Clubs by getting the right people from the Clubs to the Meetings. The Chairman asked all present to submit proposals to him of how we should improve our present structure with a view of ensuring a better RDP programme.</p>
<b>10.120.</b>	<p><b>Referees Task Group</b> The terms of Reference were approved and the President will report his findings to the November Executive Meeting. Areas of investigation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A survey of their present condition of Refereeing, the numbers involved and an estimate of the future numbers required to satisfy the game in Sussex and to deal with the drop-out rate for referees for whatever cause.</li> <li>2. The higher take up from the Clubs of persons taking ELRA qualification for further the aim of 95% of all Sussex Referees being ELRS and above qualified by accepted RFU standards. To include evaluations of incentives and rewards for taking up refereeing.</li> <li>3. The provision of continuous development of referees to keep them up to date with decisions of Governing Bodies and the interpretation of the Laws to aim at a national standard of decision making and on field operation.</li> <li>4. The established need to provide a more localised club based operation to cope with 24/7 practices, commuting, family commitments and energy costs.</li> <li>5. The provision of volunteers, professional staff and annual budgets to administer and run a much extended operation in Sussex CB.</li> <li>6. It was requested that the Referees addresses should be included in the Handbook</li> </ol>
<b>10.121.</b>	<p><b>Secretary: Peter Silk reported:</b> <b>10.121.1. John Steele (RFU Chief Executive)</b> had still not given us a date. <b>10.122.2. Club Aid Visits</b> The Secretary circulated the reports of the 3 visits. <b>Rye</b> – problems with minis and youth section. <b>Shoreham</b> – no problem <b>Uckfield</b> – shortage of volunteers. <b>10.122.3</b> Hastings and Bexhill RFC have voted that their 1<sup>st</sup> XV should apply to join Kent League 1 next season. Concern was noted about the withdrawal of Crawley 2<sup>nd</sup> XV.</p>
<b>10.122.</b>	The meeting finished at 9.50pm. Meeting was adjourned to be reconvened at Eastbourne on 4 <sup>th</sup> April.
<b>10.123.</b>	<p><b>Reconvened Meeting was held at 1 Ryefield Close, Eastbourne, Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 7.30 pm.</b> <b>Present:</b> Peter Bailey (President); Allan Butcher (Chairman); Peter Silk (Secretary) and Messrs Croucher, Edmonds, Edmondson, Hopkins; Nichols and Thompson G.</p>
<b>10.124.</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Gary Howorth and Peter Macaulay
<b>10.125.</b>	<b>Matters Arising;</b> The secretary was requested to contact Dionne Fowle at Brighton RFC over the arrangements for the Executive Meetings.
<b>10.126.</b>	<b>Hastings and Bexhill RFC.</b> The formal notifications from both Kent RFU and from the club had not been received by the Hon Sec. Sussex RFU would await the outcome of the invitation by Kent RFU before the Hon Sec undertook the

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	appropriate consultation with the Sussex member clubs.																
<b>10.127.</b>	<p><b>Secretary; Peter Silk reported:</b></p> <p><b>10.127.1.</b> Clubs to be visited Horley and Brighton. Secretary to liaise with Mal Chumbley over the 2011/12 timetable programme.</p> <p>10.127.2. Hon Sec to notify all Sussex clubs that a Vice President needed to be nominated at the AGM and that any nominations were welcomed. It was noted that K. Gordon has already been proposed by Lewes and seconded by GPT.</p> <p>10.127.3. Hon Sec reported that the 2010/11 Mini Festivals programme had generally been well regulated this last season, there were issues over one club, Alan Croucher undertook to discuss the outstanding issues with Steve Briscoe.</p>																
<b>10.128.</b>	<p><b>Treasurer; Richard Hopkins;</b></p> <p><b>10.128.1.</b> Richard verbally reported on the current financial position , which was regarded as satisfactory.</p> <p>10.128.2. The treasurer provided an upto date list of the club subscriptions due for the current season and those outstanding he was chasing.</p> <p>10.128.3. GT reported that Level 1 clubs would now be known as MEMBER CLUBS.</p> <p>10.128.4. The undertaking to provide a number of tickets for Volunteers to attend the 06.08.2011 England vs Wales match was discussed and the allocation of budgets to cover the cost agreed. Gary to formally request the allocation be made.</p> <p>10.128.5. Kit Contract with Samurai will come to an end on 30.04.2011.</p> <p>10.128.6. Karen and Richard Siggs have confirmed they will stand down on 30.04.2011, RH to approach them to stay on to 30.06.2011.</p> <p>10.128.7. The rent on the garage store was to be renewed by RH from 01.05.2011 for a further period.</p> <p>10.128.8. Alan Croucher will ask each team manager (U14, to U18) to provide an up to date list of playing kit they held together with what would be required for 2011/12 for budget purposes and for ordering new stock. AC was to undertake a similar exercise for the Coaching staff allocated to each team.</p> <p>10.128.9. AC was to approach Simon Bates for both the senior men and U20's players and coaches.</p> <p>10.128.10. 3 Kit managers to be appointed for the U14/U18'S, senior man &amp; U20's, and overall kit manager.</p> <p>10.128.11. Richard presented the Kit Shop 2011/12 proposals which discussed in depth and agreed. RH to meet with Gilbert to discuss the contract and the detailed workings day to day.</p> <p>10.128.12. County Office; the costs of running the Sussex office are to be reviewed. It was noted that the internet connections were not of a suitable standard and the level of communication has suffered accordingly. DN was undertaking the role of RDT secretary. GPT was requested to arrange a meeting at Twickenham and for the Secretary to attend.</p>																
<b>10.129.</b>	<p><b>Playing; Alan Croucher;</b></p> <p>10.129.1. Lead coaches in post; U15 Hadon Westerby, U16 Richard Siggs, U17 Andy Connors, U18 Geraint Jones.</p> <p>10.129.2. Chris Jones will organise a four centre U14 course June to September 2011.</p> <p>10.129.3. No parent of a player will undertake a coaching or management role within any age group without prior approval of both the C&amp;P and Playing Chairmen.</p> <p>10.129.4. Further consideration to the development group of both players and coaches to be run alongside the SoR county team players. Subject to finding a sufficient number of appropriately qualified candidates.</p> <p>10.129.5. Summer 7's programme, 2/7 Pulborough, 23+24/4 Sunshine , 22/7 Barns Green, 9/7 West Sussex Beach</p> <p>10.129.6. W&amp;G Ardingly U15 &amp; U18 attending, H3 Girls Courier "Youth team of the year", Sussex 7's Worthing 8/5.</p>																
<b>10.130.</b>	<p><b>People and Places; Gary Howorth;</b></p> <p>10.130.1. In the absence of Gary, a discussion took place on the current status of the RDP's and the way to build them up further throughout the coming season 2011/12.</p> <p>10.130.2. It suggested that the RDO meeting group be re established with the RRDM, RDO, CRC's and RDP Chairmen.</p> <p>10.130.3. Means of ensuring more clubs attended the Clubs General Meetings was to be explored.</p>																
<b>10.131.</b>	<p><b>Discipline; Frank Edmonds;</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Paul Sparks</td> <td style="width: 30%;">Crawley 1</td> <td style="width: 30%;">Dangerous Tackle</td> <td style="width: 10%;">4 weeks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kurt Butler</td> <td>Brighton</td> <td>Striking</td> <td>3 weeks</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Kenny Molekoa Malesakla Brighton *</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Dave Windsor Worthing *</td> </tr> </table> <p>*Both players failed to attend Disciplinary Panel twice and are suspended until they appear before the Panel.</p>	Paul Sparks	Crawley 1	Dangerous Tackle	4 weeks	Kurt Butler	Brighton	Striking	3 weeks	Kenny Molekoa Malesakla Brighton *				Dave Windsor Worthing *			
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<b>10.132.</b>	<p>Any other business;</p> <p>10.132.1. The location of the Executive meetings was to be reviewed.</p> <p>10.132.2. The question of paying expenses for players attending divisional trails was discussed and GT confirmed the RFU have budgets for these players.</p>																
<b>10.133.</b>	<p>Allan Butcher announced that he would not be seeking re election at the AGM.</p> <p>The Executive unanimously expressed their thanks for the work he has done this season and wished him all the best for the future.</p> <p>The secretary to notify all Sussex clubs that a Vice President needed to be nominated at the AGM and that any nominations were welcomed.</p>																
<b>10.134.</b>	The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.																
	Peter Silk      Hon Secretary																

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