

MINUTES OF THE SUSSEX SW RDP
Meeting held on 13th October 2010 at Pulborough RFC

Present:

Chairman – Chris Keeley/Chichester RFU
D. Fisher – Sussex RFU/Worthing RFC
Mike Marsh – Community Rugby Coach
Martin Broome – Bognor RFC
Simon Flint – Midhurst RFC
Mike Fisher – Pulborough RFC
Dom Lee -- Pulborough RFC
Brian Vincent– Worthing RFC

Chris Keeley welcomed all delegates.

1. Apologies had been received from Mel Liley Colin Hill and Martin Elley
2. Chris Keeley reviewed the Minutes of the last Meeting of the Partnership held on the 21st July at Worthing RFU. The Meeting approved the Minutes and the following matters arose
 - a) Item 3. Chris Keeley suggested that Mel Liley be seconded to the Committee. With the increasing focus on Women's Rugby it was felt that Mel's expertise and position within the RFUW would be of considerable benefit to the Partnership. Whilst it was acknowledged Mel was not automatically within the SWRDP all agreed that a secondment role would be very worthwhile.
 - b) Item 6 The Partnership Development Manager's role is presently under review (due to Government review) and a discussion ensued regarding the potential impact of a change in this role. In addition it was noted John Mills has moved on from his PDM role and Ally Groves is presently covering. Within the discussion several points were raised of note,
 1. The communication between various Rugby bodies needs enhancing. For example a more joined up approach should be considered between this Partnership and the West Forum. Concern was voiced regarding the lack of working together.
 2. Going forward the Formal Links between Clubs and Schools needs to be maintained. BV mentioned that Worthing's RFU philosophy was to assist the broadening of Rugby playing children within the schools which then enables the more able children to move to club Rugby for further development.

3. SF commented that co-ordinating with the schools directly rather than through the PDM worked better for his club and that in addition the Support from Mike Marsh CRC was on considerable benefit. It was acknowledged the Links were very much based upon the desire of the teaching staff within the schools.
 4. It was agreed that we were likely to go through a period of considerable change and that the present structure would need to be reviewed based upon how the PDM role changes. Consideration should be given at SRFU and within Sussex schools as to how they can come together to ensure this important area of Rugby Development is not eroded. It was felt by the Partnership that the impact and potential consequences needs to be considered at this higher level (i.e. SRFU and Sussex Schools governing body)
- c) Item 7A It was commented that the detail in the County Handbooks for many clubs were incorrect. It was established that a template had been sent to club's for completion however club's had not received or failed to complete. It was also mentioned that SRFU appear to operate 2 systems to capture this data and CK said he would raise the matter up the line.

3. Mike Marsh as Community Rugby Coach confirmed that he will now in future forward his 2 month plans to members of the partnership in advance of these meeting for perusal. It was agreed this did and would help to make matters considerably clearer.

It was mentioned that Mike also provides SRFU a more detailed monthly report of which had been historically circulated to several of the partnership. As they were still keen to receive this more detailed advanced plan Mike said he would investigate this through Dina at SRFU.

4. Girls/ Women's Rugby

Development

- a) Chichester has held several sessions with a taster being held on 3rd October. CK commented that is will be steady process and that they have a coaching team set up to work with the girls.
- b) Midhurst are aiming for sessions once a month and are driving interest through Posters in schools.
- c) MB confirmed that they have the start of a ladies squad however greater numbers are required. MB mentioned that there would be some benefit in other club's promoting Bognor ladies as well as Bognor promoting Girls Rugby for Club's that had sides started. It was agreed that this made considerable sense.
- d) It was mentioned that it is vital that the structure set up is sustainable and discussions were held around rotating where the Girls training at Chichester played. (I.e. Midhurst/Pulborough etc). After discussions it was felt this unwise

as travelling would be a disincentive. (numbers playing/training Chichester 12 Midhurst 5)

- e) Mike Marsh pointed out that Rydon School had started Girls Rugby and Mel Liley was supporting this. Between 35/40 are presently turning out. Mike Fisher stated he had spoken to Rydon last week and would be following this matter up. It is hoped that Pulborough RFC and Rydon can work together to take Girls Rugby forward.
- f) Worthing RFU are in a slightly different position having a under 15's 18's and ladies side. DV however mentioned that development is somewhat ham strung by county training. A significant amount of players from Worthing are incorporated within the County set up which reduces the numbers remaining for training. This has resulted in remaining players having reduced interest and it is also felt the Development provided at County is not adequate.
- g) Mike Marsh mentioned there is the County girls/ladies meeting on the 8th November at 7.30pm at the White Hart Lewes. MM would arrange for details to be circulated and it would be great for the Clubs Champions to attend.
- h) MM also mentioned that this half term RFUW are looking to set up some taster days for Girls Rugby. They are happy to provide coaches and assist with funding. Communication would be out shortly. Whilst it was agreed that the principle was correct reservations were that timescales were unrealistic. (Only 1 ½ week to start of Half Term).

5.

- a) Service Level Agreement MM has now been received from Worthing, Bognor, Midhurst and Pulborough(form needs finalising). Still waiting for Chichester and Littlehampton.
- b) Volunteer Nominations. Now required for volunteers age 21 or younger. Please submit by 5th November. Prizes potentially are 6 nations' tickets to please submit your nominations ASAP.
- c) Sussex Club Support programme Review

Rugby 1st

Still concerns that Rugby 1st is not the correct vehicle for the administration for Clubs. Small clubs are able to cope however larger clubs are finding the tasks too onerous.

It was felt the 2 hour course was too fast and that the programme still does not encompass all club requirements (volunteers etc)

Referee/coaching coordinators

Confirmed the CCC software is useful

Only 6 Clubs from the County attended in total

Referee section was not as beneficial as hoped (believe loss of facilitator at short notice)

Facilities/Funding/Media and Volunteering

This is still to take place and will be reported on at the next meeting

6. AOB

- a) Simon Flint under 16's colts has withdrawn due to lack of numbers. However pulling together an Under 20's side
- b) Simon Flint. Referee event on 19th October. Guest speaker. Being held at Midhurst. Contact Simon Flint for further detail
- c) Simon Flint. Thank you to Chichester for last weeks tournament and Mike Marsh for organising recent tag tournament at Midhurst
- d) Simon Flint. Midhurst Seal of approval now submitted
- e) Simon Flint Wooden spoon Luncheon. Confirmed that is on 16th December which is mid week. Concern that unlikely to be many takers due to this.
- f) Mike Marsh 8/11/10 Tag course at Worthing RFU. Is RFU course. Anyone interested email MM with details (name address). Fee £20. MM is able to run this course at any club with 6 weeks notice but must have at least 12 coaches.
- g) 2 evening sessions to observe coaching of scrummaging and line outs. At London Irish on 1st and 29th November. Cost £5 per session.
- h) During half year (25th 26th) 10-3 under 14's District County Session. Contact MM for more details
- i) MF. 3 RFU courses to be held at Pulborough RFC
 - 24th November – CPD Mini; Ruck & Maul; Pulborough RFC (7pm through to 9.30pm)
 - 1st December – Rugby Ready; Pulborough RFC (7-10pm)
 - 8th December - CPD Mini; Lineout; Pulborough RFC (7pm through to 9.30pm)

Will be placed on RFU site and coaches will need to register in the normal way. Only local courses for sometime so please register before it is too late.

DV commented that this highlighted the need for SRFU to take control of these issues. It should be centrally co-ordinated and not left to local clubs to have to follow through. DV also provided an open invitation to any club coaches to come to Worthing RFU on a Tuesday and Thursday evening to observe/listen to their coaching sessions.

j) MF Hampshire RFU appears to be piloting rule amendments for under 7's and under 9's. As they are significantly different to present regulations any clubs partaking in Hampshire tournaments need to consider their options. MM is to check the reasoning and impact on these changes.

k) Dave Fisher. Mentioned that the national Coaching co-ordinator Gary Henderson lives locally and that perhaps we should consider his involvement/or invitation to a future partnership meeting.

l) Chris Keeley. Next level 2 course in Sussex not until July 2011. He will pursue the option of trying to organise a further one in Sussex prior to this date.

m) Chris Keeley. CRB's online has been delayed. Jackie Coleman will advise us in due course when it is released and will then provide the required 'password'

n) Chris Keeley. Still awaiting details of whom can facilitate 1st aid courses. MF mentioned PRFC had now organised a course and now provide details.

o) Brian Vincent. Administration is becoming an onerous task and questioned some of the tasks within the clubs which appear to detract from the development of Rugby and redirect valuable resource (including money) away from the grass roots of clubs. In addition it appears clubs are now being asked for revised development plans which true worth is debatable. In general all clubs are frustrated with the detractions of admin over the development of playing Rugby.

There being no further business the Meeting was closed with the date of the next Meeting to be held on 5th January 2011 at Midhurst at 7.30pm