

# I.Y.R.A. Minutes

Date: 8-19-12 ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING Chair: David Hall

Time: 9:00am

Minutes: Lana Bergman

## Attendance

Attendance: Committee: David Hall, Tom Peroulas, Tank O'Brien, Paul Bergman, Lana Bergman, Bill Gannon, Alan Burton, Anne Schwaab and Vinnie Lapiana. Club Representatives: Arlington Stallions, Batavia HS, Brother Rice, Chicago Hope Academy, Chicago Wapiti, Deerpath MS, Fenwick HS, Glen Ellyn Stingers, St. Ignatius, Lake Forest, Mt. Carmel, Morton Mustangs, Naperville Girls, Neuqua Wildcats, New Trier HS, Palatine Barbarian, Plainfield Boys, Renegades HS, Rockford Ravens boys, St. Charles MS, St. Charles Girls, Sycamore, Waubonsie Valley Boys, West Suburban Barbarians  
Guest: Dave McCann, USA Rugby.

## Discussion

Call to order by David Hall, President  
Roll call completed and the Summer meeting Minutes approved.

**Scott Van Schelvyn- Fund raising.** You don't have to do any work, I'll do the rest of the work with the kids. My 3 best products – Cookie dough fundraising; Coupons and discount cards. It's quick, easy and fund raising for you. A percentage of sales go back to the club.

**Guest, Dave McCann from USA Rugby** gave a presentation on coach development. USA Rugby is rolling out a new program, a coaching education program. Everything we do is focused on the best interest of the players. The 3 main issues:

- Protecting the players, coaches and organizations
- Develop coaches and players to be the best they can be
- Prepare for victory

American rugby model - teaching the kids the right thing, the right time, the right way. Engaging and building that passion for rugby.

One of the driving factors of our program is addressing major concerns. Sexual molestation clinics, concussions, accident coverage.

The coaching development program focuses on getting more coaches involved, keeping them involved and the opportunity to advance to an elite level.

Player safety – field prep, player prep and proper instructions

We're trying not to be punitive anymore and be more progressive. No more repeating courses.

Big changes in the program:

- Don't need to repeat courses (no longer being punitive, but being progressive)
- All coaches must be certified
- Membership fee coaches \$65 (cover majority of educ. costs)
- Concussion Management

Discussion  
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- US Olympic Committee Safety / Sexual abuse
- Old Level 1 is the new Level 200
- Old Level 2 is the new Level 300
- Old Level 3 is the new Level 400

Introductions to the game and fundamentals of the game.

Brand new coaches must be **level 100** certified which covers concussion and safe sport.

High School coaches must have **level 200** which covers technique, first aid and fundamentals.

**Level 300** gets in to strength conditioning, advanced techniques, This will be a \$305 course/

- Courses are on-line
- USA Rugby courses
- Educational partners such as CBC, USOC, NFHS, USADA, American Sports Education Program.

New database in October and going through each coach. The registration fees will be reinvested into the program.

- August 15, 2012 registration opens.
- October – USADA True Sport added to player protection package.
- November – intro on-line registration for 100 level.
- January 2013 – USAR Course Leader Training 1 days course
- February 2013 – Level 200 launches
- Spring 2013 – Level 300 launches
- Summer – Level 400 launches

Coach profiles will be developed with the new database.

A Coach Development advisor. James Wilbur

We really want to grow the sport, and want to provide as many resources as possible.

In partnership with CBC, USOC, NFHS, USADA, American Sport Educ. Program.

**Presidents report – David Hall**

Youth rugby is alive and well in Illinois. Youth rugby has continued to grow in the last year with more players and clubs participating. iYRA managed to recruit volunteers to run Rookie Rugby programs schools, at boys and girls clubs, at Park District summer programs and at Church summer programs and no request was not fulfilled

**Vice president – Tom Peroulas**

Rookie rugby growing throughout the state. Tom thanked AthletiCo, The Blaze and Norm for all the work for the State Championship, Tom also acknowledged people stepping down. Lana Bergman and Tank O'Brien Tier 1 Coordinator, in appreciation for work they have done. There will be elections today, with openings for these positions, so this is an opportunity to get involved.

On a disciplinary note. There was a reduction in incidents. The coaches were thanked for making that happen.

Discussion  
(cont)

Tom stated that he's working on a manual, which will have consistency vs. flexibility. A draft should be available for review by the membership prior to the Winter Meeting, and open for feedback.

**Secretaries report – Lana Bergman.** Attached. Lana thanked the members for giving her the opportunity to be on the committee.

**Treasurer's Report – Bill Mahon**

Report attached and made a part of these minutes.  
Last year iYRA made \$8,000. This year net is about \$7,000.

**Compliance Officer – Paul Bergman**

Report attached to and made a part of these minutes.

- Certified Coaches - The executive committee has decided to do the Coaching certification through USARugby. If you do not get your certification, you will not get a certificate of liability. We will supply the workshops for these certifications at the end of January and in August 2013.
- Once you get certified, you need to do your CEU continually (1 year cycle).
- CIPPING – this year was better in getting players cipped. Offering additional accident insurance participating in sanctioned events. Sanctioned events are events where all players are CIPPed.
- Code of Conduct – We're going to be working on the Code of Conduct and try to get it down to one page.
- Age Limit of players – college students tried to register themselves for a 7's tournament. Just a reminder that iYRA is for high school students.

**Luke O'Tool – CARFU Referee Society.** Luke stated there were a few incidents of discipline this season. He suggested that coaches have a meeting with player's parents about conduct. CARFU Referee Society will be having a meeting and will go over rule changes on August 27 at 7:00pm. Referees would be happy to come to your practices to go over the new rules. Luke felt that phone conversation would work better than e-mails regarding implementing new training and recruiting programs for Match Officials to handle MS games.

As far as the discipline, there is a very good chance that CARFU might come up with a Code of Conduct that would require coaches to sign, in order for Referees to come out to your games. CARFU Referee Society may ask to take a look at iYRA code of conduct.

Tom Peroulas stated that incidents should be reported to iYRA. iYRA needs to know when they happen. A member suggested that a match report should be submitted by coaches and referees after each match.

Luke stated that if coaches would like to request a certain referee NOT be assigned to referee their match, then the coach should notify CARFU Referee Society.

**HS Boys All State Tornado – Nolan Day**

There is the Cody Cup trophy at the back of the room and if AthletiCo could house the cup, it would be greatly appreciated. Illinois won the cup back from Wisconsin.

Thanks to the MS coaches to get that learning curve a head start for the

Discussion  
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Tornados. Improvement of skill and knowledge of the game were noticed. Tornados have one of the best U-17 teams this year.

The number of teams went down in sending players, but our numbers were about the same. We would like a couple of really good players from your team.

Nolan asked coaches if they could help getting a field, so the players could move around a bit and they aren't traveling so far for practices.

There were 28 players on tour this year. They are fitter and only had 1 injury in the last game. 6 games in 18 days. Lost 2.

Thank you to AthletiCo, sponsors and the Board of Directors for the support. Looking at 7's

### **MS Boys All State Hurricane's Report – Alan Burton / John Weyer**

The MS Hurricanes started 3 years ago and sent a team to Elk Heart. The program has expanded to a 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade level called the **Squals**. (the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders are the Hurricanes) There have been exhibition matches, competing against the Indianapolis club. Encourage kids to come out and try rugby. Hurricanes have an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who already has 2-3 years experience now, which only helps when they reach High School.

Nolan mentioned that we need to go to a better tournament. The competition in Elkhart is just not there for the Tornados. He suggested iYRA think about Pittsburg or Washington DC or even Colorado instead of Elkhart next year.

### **Events Coordinator – Norm Smythe**

State Championship. Norm stated he would like to add a punt, pass, kick competition during the state championship. He also mentioned that there are a couple of really good videos from State Championship.

### **Girl's Coordinator – Anne Schwaab**

Anne reported that one of her goals is to start a festival format and also have a girls 7's. Contact Anne if any members would want to be included in the girls contact list.

### **Scores – Web site – Tom Pettit**

Remember to submit your scores to [scores@iyra.org](mailto:scores@iyra.org) There have been issues with members not understanding the points system. Tom mentioned that he would like to make the web site completely transparent. Tom updates standings up to day before Memorial Day. The handbook is going to welcome your feedback on point system and Toms suggestion is the tie breaker be the same. The coaches were 98% compliant with scores reporting, which is very good.

### **Election of Officers**

Secretary – Adrienne Cortes

Tier 1 Coordinator – Vinny Lapiana

Disciplinary Chair – Warren Taylor

All other Committee Members were unanimously re-elected.

Discussion  
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**Dues**

If we set our dues a little higher, we can help subsidize those clubs that are struggling and also have the funds for State Championship. It was then voted, with 1 person opposing, to increase the iYRA dues \$5 for High School Level only. There will be no dues raised for Rookie Rugby.

**Dates for 2013**

Dec 8, 2012 – Winter AGM

Jan 26 - 200 level coaches certification CEU workshop

March 2 - Level 1 Referee

April 7 - Touch Judge training at Harper College (1 week before MS season begins)

August 18 – Summer AGM

August 31 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Coach Certification date

December 7 – Winter AGM

5 7s Tournaments set in the summer already.

Catholic Cup – in March 2013, Georgetown, Illinois

We have teams committed: Fenwick, Brother Rice, St. Ignatius

No other business. No other questions or comments from members.

Adjourn

Meeting was then adjourned at 12:00pm. The Winter General meeting will take place on Saturday, December 8, 2012.

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President, David Hall

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