

I.Y.R.A. Minutes

Date: 1-16-10 ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

Chair: Paul Bergman

Time: 10:00am

Minutes: Lana Bergman

Attendance

Committee members: Paul Bergman, Brian Gilmartin, Tank O'Brien, Jay Crawford, Michael Pateras, Alan Burton, Mark Johnson, Norm Smyth. All-State Tornados coach, Nolan Day and Lou Raymond. Coaches and representatives from the following dues paying teams (voting rights): Arlington Stallions, Batavia, Brother Rice, Glen Ellyn, Elmwood Park, St. Ignatius, Lake Forest, Lincolnway boys, Mt. Carmel, Morton, Naperville, New Trier, Noble Street Girls, Palatine, Plainfield boys/girls, Renegades, Schaumburg, St. Charles boys/girls, St. Rita, Sycamore, Waubonsie Valley boys. New Coaches and representatives (non-voting rights): DeKalb, Lincolnway girls, Neugua Valley, Peoria Rugby, Rauner, Quad Cities, Twin City, Cicero MS, Riverside Brookfield.

Discussion

Call to order by Paul Bergman.
Paul asked Nolan to start the meeting today.
Nolan asked that all members take a moment of silence for the recent loss of iYRA Tornado player Vincent Clarkson. Nolan then mentioned the Vincent Clarkson Memorial Fund was set up by the committee formed by Vincent's father, Joe Clarkson. 630-841-3368 The fund balance is \$10,000. Applications should be sent to Joe Clarkson with an essay or letter. Committee of 3 people headed by Joe Clarkson. Objective to make it last, fund raising, distributed in subsequent years. Enable players to participate in rugby event, tours and overseas tours who have a financial hardship or distress situations. Good playing skills and likely to have playing time. Commit to and follow through 75% of club games and iYRA team practices. Good character and "team first". What they expect to get out of the event and how they plan on honoring Vincent Clarkson.

The budget for Tornados is attached to and made a part of these minutes. 22 out of 24 teams were involved in sending players to tryouts, so Thank you! Our attempt now is to get film from you, to be able to get them to the next level. Kids making the tornados will need to pay \$80 to \$100 to cover the trip to Elkhart. Thank you to Tim Higgins from AthletiCo. The select side players also appreciate him.

The 7's Tournament will take place July 3.

The Tornados will tour England, Wales and Ireland. Nolan stated that they are looking for a loose forwards coach, please e-mail me. My contact information and tryout dates are on the web site

Discussion
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www.iyra.org. He also stated that he will be at the Frosh/Soph Tourney in St. Charles this spring.

Paul mentioned that AthletiCo is involved in what they call Global brigades where they go to various 3rd world countries and take supplies with them. If any of you can find a way within your clubs to support this, it would be appreciated.

Roll call was then take by Secretary, Lana Bergman. She then presented the minutes from the August 23, 2009 Summer Meeting, acceptance was motioned, seconded and approved by voice vote. Roll Call was then taken.

Jack Cushing, who is heading the IL Coaches Association, held their first clinic in December 2009. This Association was created to provide leader, support and technical information to the group. There are 24 members who pay a \$20 annual fee. Dues will fund a page on-line for Coaches Association – video links, library of books and videos. The first clinic’s speakers were Des Jones, CARFU Ref, regarding the new laws and Marty Wiggins, head coach of the Chicago Lions. Marty spoke about defensive scheming and scrumhalf training. The next Association meeting will be held January 30 at the Pavilion Fitness Center in Elk Grove Village from 1:00 to 4:00. We will have two lawyers who will talk about real liability issues and John Honcharuk “Honch” talking about concussion awareness and training, rest and recovery.

USA Rugby will grant 2 CEUs awarded for the Coaches Association clinics. Each coach has the responsibility to input these CEUs. You need 10 per year. Jack also recommended a book for all coaches called “*Bo’s Lasting Lessons*”. Brian Gilmartin added that Brother Rice will be hosting a fundraiser dinner on February 25. Before the dinner there will be a Coaches Association Clinic with guest speakers, Nigel Melvil, former USA Eagles coach and Eddie O’Sullivan, former Ireland coach. It will be \$15 if you decide to stay for the dinner.

Brian Gilmartin, Treasurer, reported the budget. (see attached). We’ve never filed a tax return. All monies need to be funneled through one iYRA account. Brian and Jay Crawford attended the USA Rugby Youth Conference and introduced the SBRO dues structure with the members. Eventually Illinois will be handling all USA Rugby dues and pay USA rugby a yearly fee of \$3,000. This new structure will replace TEAM dues. The goal is the have Illinois finance our own growth. Much discussion was had. It was voted that ALL teams pay each player CIPP of \$26 with \$6 going back to iYRA. Brian asked the members if they would like to wait until next year to start the new dues structure. After a vote, 12 voting members said NO, 11 voting members said YES. It was decided to start the new dues structure this season.

Discussion (cont)	<p>Donations to your club should filter through iYRA, due to 501c3 tax donation benefit.</p> <p>Chicago Lions are using the Barrington Field house reservation that iYRA had, and will be reimbursing \$700 to iYRA.</p> <p>Des Jones, CARFU Referees, could not attend today's meeting, but had a report, which is attached and made a part of these minutes.</p> <p>Bylaws changes presented by Paul Bergman:</p> <p>4.13 and 4.14.1– Establishment of Compliance Officer and sits on the executive committee – was accepted unanimously by all members.</p> <p>4.14 – Establishment of Middle School Coordinator and sits on the executive committee – was accepted unanimously by all members.</p> <p>4.15.1 – Establishment of Tier III Coordinator and sits on the executive committee – was accepted unanimously by all members.</p> <p>5.5 – Tier movement of players. Was voted to send this bylaw discussion to the Competition Committee to be re-evaluated. 12 Yes, 9 No</p> <p>5.7 Team Loyalty - Rescinded and rules will be established per Tier Coordinator</p> <p>4.11.1 Add Tier III and Middle School Coordinator</p> <p>Enactment of Rules – Article 20</p> <p>Ability to establish rules that put in place consequences for lack of compliance.</p> <p>3.3.3 Team in good standing requires 15 CIPPed players – approved unanimously</p> <p>3.2 Executive committee reviews Rule changes before each competitive segment can conduct a Tier vote – approved unanimously</p> <p>List of Rules Article 21</p> <p>Rules per each Tier, majority for each Tier. Much discussion was had and a vote taken. 12 Yes, 9 No.</p> <p>21.1 – Contact Information by March 1 – Accepted</p> <p>21.2 - Dues to iYRA - Irrelevant</p> <p>21.3 - Players CIPP - Accepted</p> <p>21.4 – Coach Certification</p> <p>21.6 – Volunteerism at State Championship or \$100 fee per volunteer – Accepted (there will be no points deduction involved)</p> <p>21.7 – Sideline barriers – up to and including a fine as determined by the disciplinary committee - Accepted</p> <p>14.1 – Electronic Voting (E-voting) for changes of bylaws – 2/3 member vote by members in good standing per dues criteria. Propose bylaw amendment will have a period of discussion (2 weeks) and then a period for vote (2 weeks). – Accepted.</p>
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Discussion (cont)	<p>Adrian Gannon, President of CARFU asked for feedback on national championship. SBRO would be associate members of USA Rugby, would not be eligible for National Championship. You would need to be members of a territory.</p>
	<p>Norm Smyth – Event Coordinator. Norm states that he would like to make sure we have volunteers for the State Championship. Norm would also like to raise money for the state championship as well.</p>
	<p>A Vote was had for the Election or Re-election of Officers: President – Still open Vice President – David Hall Treasurer – Brian Gilmartin Secretary – Lana Bergman Tier I – Tan O’Brien Tier II – Michael Pateras Tier III – Joe Goett Middle School – Al Burton Girls – Mark Johnson Disciplinary – Jay Crawford Compliance – Paul Bergman</p>
	<p>Tier I Report – Tank O’Brien Report attached. Lightening delay was discussed. There is a 30 minute wait after lightening strikes, with a 1 hour max. It was suggested that the losing team has option to continue play or not. Much discussion on this was had and it was decided to defer the Lightening rules to the competition committee. Discussion was also had on number of coaches on each side of field. It was decided that flexibility should be at the discretion of the Tier.</p>
	<p>Tier II Report – Michael Pateras Will have the final schedule completed before March 31. Tier II will be divided into North, South and West. Mike went over the points structure.</p>
	<p>Tier III Report – Brian Weller for Joe Goett Season will begin March 20. Four teams in the Peoria area. There are 8 teams in Tier 3 with 2 additional teams possibly joining. Bloomington and Springfield. Quad Cities and Muscatine. Tier 3 tournament will be hosted in the Peoria with top 2 teams to come to State Championship on May 31. Best 4 teams south of I-80 and best 4 teams north of I-80 for this tournament. Tier 3 will start the season on March 20.</p>

Discussion (cont)	<p>Middle School Report – Alan Burton 6 clubs of which 3 are new. There maybe 2 more joining play, Cicero and another team just southwest of Milwaukee. Like last year, the play will be a festival format, where several teams come together and play during the day.</p> <p>Girls Report – Mark Johnson Rockford will be joining the girls this season. We will now hopefully have 6 teams. The goal is to double the teams and get girls interested in IL Rugby. It would help if the boys teams would encourage girls to form teams. Select Side Girls – We will be hosting the Midwest U-17/U-19 Tournament. I will be contacting teams to watch matches. The goal is to get girls to compete in higher level play. Mark asked coaches to contact him if they have girls who are interested, even if you don't have a girls team. June 12th will be the Girls/Boys 7's Riverfest in St. Charles.</p> <p>Disciplinary – Jay Crawford Report attached. No Red cards last year. Teams with questions, please ask for clarification</p> <p>Old Business – Discussion was had about A side B side entering a side in Tier 2. It was moved and approved for the Competition Committee to re-evaluate this bylaw.</p>
Adjourn	<p>4.11.1 Add Tier III and Middle School Coordinator</p> <p>Paul mentioned that, in light of 7s Rugby being accepted in the Olympics, there will be 7's play at Busse Woods on Fridays in June which will be open to anyone. We would also like to hold curtain raisers for mens fall league.</p> <p>Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.</p> <hr/> <p>Vice President</p>