

Minutes
Rugby Illinois
Summer Annual General Meeting
July 30, 2016
AthletiCo Corporate Office

- I) 9:00am Circulate Roll Call Attendance. 26 of 49 clubs represented.
- II) Meeting called to order 9:17am.
- III) Winter 2015 AGM Minutes circulated by email and hard copy. Approved without objection.
- IV) Officers Reports - circulated in advance. No questions presented at the meeting.
 - A) President
 - B) VP Marketing - vacant
 - C) VP Development
 - D) Compliance Officer
 - E) Treasurer
 - F) Secretary
- V) Competition Committee Report - circulated in advance. No questions presented at the meeting.
 - A) VP Competition Report
 - 1) Disciplinarian Report
 - 2) Division Coordinators will report and take questions during breakout sessions
- VI) Ref Committee Report on concerns - J. Walker
 - A) Refs Want card info sooner and rating of refs
 - B) Coaches and refs should begin to meet both before and **after** match. Establish good will and open lines of communication.
 - C) We need them to entertain saturday matches on case by case basis. We want that to appear in the CARFU contract. Sore spot for most all RIL teams. History of how rule came down through midwest and devotion to club sides has been given by CARFU RS as rationale. Asked CARFU RS to reconsider the length of our season including weather and holiday issues contributing to our need to have Saturday matches. We will try with the Ref Society to avoid Saturday matches. However, if we submit Saturday matches well in advance if necessary they will absolutely make efforts to cover Saturday matches.
 - D) April Saturday matches still will not be possible for covering youth matches.
 - E) Coaches need to review the manual to be sure you know of all requirements including submission of a post-match report. These reports populate a database that is stored along with scoring accessible to the EC and CC.
 - F) Establish a standardized calendar so clubs can count on certain things happening. Establish with refs a standard and reliable weekend so we know when the ref certification meeting will always be. Facilitates our communication within our own clubs. We need to push for CARFU RS to establish a standardized date.
 - G) Palatine is looking to host the next ref certification, tentative date of February 18 at Harper College.

H) Rugby Oregon goal of having one certified referee on roster per club. Incentive make via free ref certification so long as attendee cipp registered after conclusion of certification.

VII) Sports Engine Plans

A) Registration through Sport Ngin instead of directly through USAR
B) Using team rosters online for both compliance and communication
C) Maintaining schedules and scores and Code of Conduct.
D) REgistration data will not include social security #s. Info submitted will not be publically available or used for marketing. Todd to confirm extent of accessibility by SportsNgin.

E) Plan is for coaches not to have binders of forms anymore. We will know electronically that forms and registration has been completed and submission will not be accepted by SI unless all forms necessary are completed and submitted.

F) Need to follow up on how to opt out of solicitation emails. Certain members receive insurance email offers. Manage account and communication settings via your sportsengine account.

G) Players can be registered by coaches or players but we encourage parents to complete and sign the forms. If coaches complete registration, parent should sign hard copy.

H) Do not have to produce birth certificate unless there is an objection to a player on a roster raised prior to match day.

I) Compliance Focus will shift to making sure all players can show their RIL ID card (name, photo, club name) and that only registered coaches are on the sidelines and wearing their lanyards. All info from USAR will be on the RIL ID cards for both coaches and players.

J) If you start your registration with the RIL form it will direct you at the end to the USAR registration site where you will also need to submit a registration.

K) Privacy Act and COPA regulations should be presented for discussion with Sportsengine to confirm their requirements with internet safety requirements for minors.

VIII) Old Business

A) C3 status of group exemption request. Expect approval letter within 30 days. New clubs joining TE group must submit intent to Anne by end of September annually.

B) Review of existing Club requirements and deadlines. Want to avoid last minute additions to schedule in the Spring. D1 clubs will have earliest registration deadline. Look for additional deadlines for clubs along with sportsengine instructions. D3 will have latest registration deadline.

1) Concern that registration will be difficult by December 1 when some clubs may not open recruiting until after Fall sports. Much happens in January.

2) RIL is asking clubs to do more and earlier than has been done in the past.

3) USAR will not refund registration fees - can be an obstacle for early registration.

4) Division coordinators should work with clubs on shared calendar to be sure registration deadlines are met. Be actively involved with the individual clubs to minimize chances of a club folding due to lack of #s. Membership shared concern that a requirement that is too early or requires too many #s could prevent a club from being able to compete. RIL will stagger deadlines to try and accommodate clubs who don't yet have the machine running. If you can't meet the standard for the division including the administrative rules, may need to adjust down. Suggested to approach this initiative as a pilot plan.

IX) New Business - 10:25am 35 minutes

A) Fall Ball - P.Bergman.

1) Need to be ready for increased interest due to summer olympics. Commit by August 15 for Boys: Arlington, SSI, Chiefs are on board so far. Other clubs are working on #s to get a conglomerate side together, in need of a coach. There should at least be 4 groups going on Saturdays: SSI, Calvary Church, Busse, Blaze field locations.

2) Season will be Sept 10 - October 22. Match Day: Varsity, voluntary 7s, U16 if #s and interest are present. Be prepared to self-referee. Host covers field. Some refs are volunteer.

3) Girls will coordinate separately in their own division.

4) MS interest is small for the most part right now

B) Shared Calendar. Establish Annual RIL events that do not change annually for advance planning purposes. Invite coordination between current Google Calendar and Website calendar so clubs can subscribe. Majority of membership in attendance indicated google calendar is accessible to them.

C) Bylaws amendment (see page 2-3) unanimous approval by Ayes and Nays.

D) Proposed Disciplinary Committee of 3: would make the process easier when it comes to review. Easier for 3 people to assess and recommend resolution. Interested volunteers contact Disciplinary Chair. Suggestion to include more than 3 people on the committee. Can require each club to submit a representative to serve on a committee or to be the disciplinary contact. DC could ask for 2 per division. Dont want conflict of interest invited. A.Gannon to provide example of process utilized by National

E) New Club requirements by division and onboarding materials

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MBn1alpj4i57ABfWRLHQh20CZh1SEYJ3W6hueFriCY4/edit>

F) State championship venue and date - proposed moving away from Memorial Day weekend

1) Need to control gate for revenue generation

2) Rockford was only venue that bid this year.

3) High school players leave after graduation weekend.

4) Need longer playing season than ending mem day.

5) High schoolers will make time if a championship to play for.

6) Playing weekend after mem day in the past has worked for MS but not HS.

7) Extending one more week can also serve as safety for not playing additional playoff matches without enough time.

8) Varsity clubs insurance through may no longer cover graduated players or all players in the school after end of year or after end of graduation? Clarify the insurance issue for rugby being different than baseball for example.

9) Should not be playing on a day of reverence: Memorial Day.

10) Why do we have Freshmen and JV playing in State? They want something to play for and we want to give opportunity for all players to play as many weeks as possible and encourage higher level play for younger ages as well.

11) Developing clubs lose players and cannot be competitive immediately after Memorial Day.

12) We have had huge turnouts by families holding matches on memorial day weekend. Not perfect but its working without forfeits.

13) Put a rule in place for playoff matches ending

14) Choices

(a) Memorial Day Sunday/Monday

(b) Memorial weekend Saturday/Sunday

(c) June 3-4

(d) Whether to separate MS and HS Chships

G) Concussion law - IL Gen Assembly concussion protocol applicable to school districts and schools

1) Be sure to check on your Continuing Education requirements. Meet annual #10 per year.

2) Anne and John Honchurak to follow up with opportunity to learn more about best practices under the law and how schools are meeting their requirement to be trained for 2 hours by SEpt 1.

H) Next Meeting Date Time and Venue Proposed December 10, 2016. Date and Location TBD

X) Nominations for below positions were seconded and put to a vote of membership. Elections Results are as follows:

President - John Walker. Approved

VP Marketing - Stephanie Esposito

VP Competition - Vacant.

VP Development - David Hall

Secretary - Anne Schwaab

Treasurer - David Hall

Compliance Officer - Mary Ann Daniluk

Boys D1 - Vinnie LaPianna

Boys D2 - Vacant.

Boys D3 - Todd Fouts

MS Coordinator - John Chevalier

Girls Coordinator - Amy McCormick *

Disciplinarian - Rob Copland

Match official coordinator - Sean Bracken sean.ardengroup@gmail.com

XI) Thank you from John Walker for efforts of outgoing board and coordinators.

XII) Adjourn 12:15 pm and break out into divisions

07.30.16 Proposed Bylaws Amendment

Whereas, the Executive Committee of Rugby Illinois ("EC") is the acting board of directors having full governing authority and ultimate oversight over the affairs of the organization; and

Whereas, the EC has authority to delegate certain of the responsibilities of Rugby Illinois to Committee; and

Whereas, the EC has delegated to the Competition Committee the responsibility of managing matters relating to club competition in the below Bylaw provisions:

Section 4.1 of the Bylaws states that "The Executive Committee's authority shall not overrule the authority explicitly delegated to the Competition Committee in these by-laws

4.14.1 The Competition Committee, hereinafter referred to as the CC, will consist of the Vice-President of Competition, High School Boys Division 1 Coordinator, High School Boys Division 2 Coordinator, High School Boys Division 3 Coordinator, High School Girls Division Coordinator, Middle School Coordinator, the Disciplinarian, and the Match Official Coordinator. The Rugby Illinois Vice-president of Competition will serve as Chair of this committee.

4.14.2. The CC will be responsible to make all decisions affecting member teams for the following season, including; 1) Accepting and evaluating petitions to compete for a berth in regional or national championship competitions; 2) Rugby Illinois Play-Off structure and seeding; 3) Division play organization; 4) Division play scheduling and 5) Disciplinary guidelines and sanctions."

Section 6.1 of the Bylaws further states that

"The protocol for determination of which clubs will represent Rugby Illinois in any Regional Championships is the responsibility of the Competition Committee.

6.1.1 The protocol for determination of which clubs will represent Rugby Illinois in the USA Rugby National Championships is the responsibility of the Competition Committee.

6.1.2. The protocol for determination of which clubs will represent Rugby Illinois in any regional or other higher level championships that may be established by or endorsed by USA Rugby will be the responsibility of Competition Committee;"

Whereas, on further evaluation of the amendments passed at the Summer 2015 AGM and reflected in the above Bylaw sections, the EC finds that these provisions - and any others related to the authority of the CC - must be amended to reflect that:

The CC's proper function pursuant to the not for profit laws of the State of Illinois and the bylaws of this organization, is not to act as a second Board of Directors of the Organization. Rather, the CC shall recommend and report to the EC their decisions and plans related to competition by Rugby Illinois Member Clubs, which is ***subject to discussion and approval or ratification by the EC, as the governing body ultimately responsible for the actions of the organization.***

