

I.Y.R.A. Minutes

Date: 8-26-08 GENERAL MEETING

Chair: J. Tyke Nollman

Time: 7:00pm

Minutes: Lana Bergman

Attendance

Committee members: Tyke Nollman, David Hall, Ray Dempsey, Lana Bergman, Tank O'Brien, Jay Crawford, Michael Pateras. All-State Tornados coach, Nolan Day and assistant coach Lou Raymond. Coaches and/or representatives from the following rugby teams: Arlington Ställions, Brother Rice, DeKalb HS RFC, Glen Ellyn Ducks, St. Ignatius HS, Lincolnway Girls, Montini Catholic, Mt. Carmel, Naperville RFC, New Trier HS, Oak Park, Plainfield Boys, Plainfield Girls, St. Charles Boys, St. Charles Girls, St. Rita HS, Sycamore HS. Meeting host, Mike Overturf of AthletiCo.

Discussion

Tyke Nollman, iYRA President, gave the Welcome, introductions and President's address. Tyke announced updates and progress:

- Newsletter
- Middle School program
- Communication
- Park District programs

He noted that iYRA as an organization is strong. Success depends on commitment from all members. Tyke then announced that he will not be seeking another term as President at the next election in January.

Lana Bergman, Secretary, announced that the Tornado's UK Tour report and photo album is now posted on the iYRA web site on the "News" page. (www.iyra.org) She then presented the minutes from the January 12, 2008 General Meeting, acceptance was motioned, seconded and approved by voice vote. The Code of Conduct form needs to be in before season begins. Code of Conduct forms signed by Coaches and Representatives for the 2008 season will not be required to sign a new form unless changes are made.

Lana stated that the initiatives from the January meeting had been implemented.

1. Coaches only need to report their scores one time at scores@iyra.org. The e-mail is automatically sent to several people including the Tier Coordinators and the PR Representative to post to papers.
 2. A web page on the iYRA web site has been set up for those who are interested in starting a team. This page gives links to the IRS, secretary of state and USA Rugby as well as links to forms and suggestions from other coaches.
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Discussion
(cont)

Future initiatives were introduced which would include adding a web page for "Educating Your Players". The web page should have links to educational pieces and videos that coaches can copy and paste into an e-mail to their players. Lana asked all members to e-mail her their "wish list" of things that iYRA can do to make their job better and easier.

Members were reminded to check out the web site for announcements, clinics and events.

Lana announced that she will be seeking re-election at the January meeting.

Ray Dempsey, Treasurer, gave the financial report. The report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. He noted that there were 29 dues paying members. Other than AthletiCo Ads, there were not donations to iYRA this season.

Ray announced that he will be stepping down and will not be seeking re-election.

David Hall, Vice President, gave his report on new teams, programs and initiatives.

- The 501c3 status was obtained and is now in place. A copy of the letter of approval is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes
- David anticipates 6 new middle school teams next season.
- He reported that there were 35 coaches who attended the USA Rugby Coaching Clinic.

David also handed out the activity statistics for the web site visits and the newsletter subscription. There were over 2500 visits to the web site in May. There are over 250 e-newsletters distributed every month. David announced that he will be seeking re-election in January.

Lou Raymond, Boys All-State Tornado's Assistant Coach, announced that they had a successful year:

- They won the Midwest Championship
- They won the Cody Cup against Wisconsin All-State Team
- They won their match against Manitoba. (Manitoba has invited the Tornados to Canada next year).

Lou stated they had attendance for tryouts from 3/4 of the iYRA teams. There were no cuts. He also announced that Bobby Mulvaney was selected on the USA U-19 Eagles team.

Discussion
(cont)

The Tornado's just got back from a successful 2 week UK Tour. They won 2 and lost 2.

Windsor Rugby 5 Tornados 3	Tornados 16 Porthcawl RFC 10
Tornados 59 Supermarine Rugby 0	Gorseinon RFC 22 Tornados 10

Everyone had a good time. Porthcall has requested an invite to the USA next year.

Tornados future initiatives:

- Get better with communication/e-mail
- Get events posted in a timely manner
- More U-17 events.

Tank O'Brien, Tier I Coordinator, reported that all games were played. He asked that those teams who wish to be moved to a different Tier, to please inform iYRA by November 15, 2008. It was a very successful season and there were no issues for 2008.

Mike Pateras, Tier II Coordinator, also reported that all games were played. The only challenge was the weather. Elmwood Park will be joining the 2009 season. He stated that he appreciated the flexibility that the coaches demonstrated. The only issues were that coaches were not reporting scores in a timely manner and asked that the coaches include the number of tries with their scores. Mike also asked coaches to get a 6 week permit for their pitch. Middle school will hopefully have 6 teams for 2009. St. Charles & Arlington Stallions Middle Schools joined forces and played the Rockford Michigan middle school team before the Churchill Cup. The IL middle school won the match.

The Girls Coordinator, Larysa Santiago, was not able to attend the meeting, however submitted a recommendation for a fall season. The girls had another successful season with the small group of existing programs. Larysa also attempted to organize a girl's select side, the Tornados, to compete at the Midwest Tournament, but with a limited player pool, she was unable to get enough commitments from players.

Due to other commitments and not being able to dedicate the time for this role, she is regretfully stepping away from her position and will not seek re-election.

Jay Crawford, of the disciplinary committee, reported that there was

Discussion
(cont)

only 1 red card for the entire season. He commends the coaches for teaching their players how to play the game with sportsmanship.

Ken Westergaard, Publish Relations Representative, reported that he is in need of ideas to get the sport of rugby in the news. He stated that he has tried a number of PR ideas and is not getting a very good response. Ken will not be able to commit the time to this position and will not be seeking re-election in January.

Ian Wagrich, of the Legal Committee, handed out a report prepared by their committee members, Rick Turner, Dan Marinic and Ian Wagreich. The report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. The report was focused on enhancing safety in youth rugby. A few of the recommendations for rules or guidelines include, but are not limited to:

- Coach certification
- Referee certification
- Field conditions
- Handling injuries
- Trainers

The legal committee has requested comments from members to incorporate into a document for the January meeting.

It was also recommended that IYRA purchase officers liability insurance. Ian noted that all clubs should be incorporated and to have a separate entity administer your club. Ian would like members to send their suggestions to any member of the Legal committee. (*e-mails found on the "contact us" page of the iyra web site*).

New
Business
Discussion

Tyke Nollman reported that he had received communication from CARFU President Adrian Gannon. CARFU is interested in funding and managing a U-20 select side. The floor was open for much discussion on the topic and it was unanimously voted that this would be an opportunity and not a conflict with IYRA and that IYRA should encourage CARFU to run a U-20 select side to provide continuity for your players to play the game as they move on from youth rugby and thus, officially state that the responsibility of IYRA is to administer rugby for high school and high school age boys and girls and younger aged youth. Our goal is to develop and manage the sport within younger age categories and not expand into older ages.

The executive officers of IYRA move that IYRA select side teams be defined as players who are current or recently graduated students in the current school year. If a player is a club side player, he/she must be eighteen (18) years old or younger at the time he/she represents IYRA as a player. All players must also be CIPP certified to play for IYRA select side. IYRA Tornados equipment, resources and uniforms can only be used for advancement of rugby within these parameters.

New
Business
Discussion
(cont)

Another topic of discussion was the single v. multi school teams. Tank O'Brien stated that the Midwest will need to push two tournaments; one for single source "High School" teams and one for U-19 clubs.

It was also mentioned that any team wishing to move tiers, should inform IYRA committee by November 15, 2008.

Paul Bergman, Coach of the Arlington Stallions, presented a Member Club Compliance Proposal. This proposal was handed out to the members which listed suggestions for policies for discussion at the next AGM. The proposal listed expectations, requirements and consequences of members necessary for the orderly function of the organization. The list included dues, scores reporting, USA Membership and Code of Conduct. This proposal is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

The next Annual General Meeting will be held Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 10:00am.

President

IYRA
Jan 1, 2008- Aug 26,2008
Income and Expenses

Income

Dues- 29 teams x \$ 200 = \$ 5800.00

Tourney = \$ 6859.55
\$ 12,159.55

Account Rec- Brother Rice (MW Travel) = \$ 250.00

Total Income \$ 12,409.55

Expenses

MW Dues (2007 + 2008) \$ 220.00

USARFU Dues 100.00

Carfu Refs 330.00

Website 217.47

Select Side 2622.03

Equipment 869.25

State Championship 4451.90

Cicero- Berwyn Travel to MW 250.00

Total Expenses \$ 9060.65

Net Income \$ 3348.90

Checking Account Balance- 1-1-08 \$ 3056.24

Checking Account Balance- 8-26-08 \$ 6602.09

2008 IYRA MEMBERS

St. Ignatius
New Trier
Montini
St. Charles
Mt. Carmel
Brother Rice (1)
Brother Rice (2)
Glen Ellyn
Plainfield
Lincoln Way East (Boys)
Arlington Stallions
Brother Rice (3)
Lincoln Way (Women)
Waubensee Valley
Schaumburg
Rockford
St. Charles (Women)
Naperville
Oak Park
Batavia
Berwyn
Lake Forest
Mid Valley
Plainfield (Women)
St. Rita
Noble Street
Noble Street (Women)
Elmwood Park
Renegades

**IYRA -2008
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

INCOME

Ticket sales and parking	\$ 5393.00
Program Ads	550.00
American Rugby Outfitters	<u>966.00</u>
(750-trophy + 216 T shirts)	\$ 6859.00

EXPENSES

PA Systems	\$ 90.00
Paint	100.00
Service Sanitation	436.00
Solution Network	1587.93
(Program, buttons, Banners, bumpers)	
Flag, Frames, Trophies, Certificates	1097.97
Trainers	500.00
Referees	540.00
Start up Cash	<u>100.00</u>
	\$ 4451.90

NET PROFIT

\$ 2407.10

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUN 10 2008

ILLINOIS YOUTH RUGBY ASSOCIATION
C/O DAVID HALL
130 N GARLAND CT STE 4603
CHICAGO, IL 60602-4850

Employer Identification Number:
20-2580850
DLN:
17053017311028
Contact Person: PETER A ORLETT ID# 31436
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
February 21, 2007
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

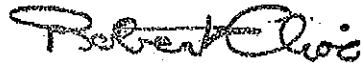
Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Sincerely,



Robert Choi
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Illinois Youth Rugby Association
Summer General Meeting
Member Club Compliance Proposal

Presented by Paul Bergman, Arlington Stallions Rugby Club

Rationale

Inasmuch as there are expectations/requirements of member clubs that are necessary for the orderly functioning of the organization, there also needs to be a policy in place that specifies what these expectations are and what consequences exist for any member failing to fulfill said requirements.

Dues

iYRA Club Dues are set at the January Annual Meeting. Payment of Dues is due on March 15.

- Any club that makes dues payment at the January General Meeting will be given a \$25 Discount.
- Any club that makes dues payment prior to March 1 will be awarded one Bonus Point in that season's league standings.
- Any club participating in iYRA Play-off matches to qualify for Midwest Championship play must pay their Dues by March 15. Failure to do so will result of that club's removal from this play-off structure.
- Any club that makes dues payment after March 15 will have one Bonus Point subtracted during that season's league standings.
- Any club that fails to make dues payment by the May 1 will be denied participation in iYRA State Championship Play-offs.
- Any club failing to pay dues during a calendar year will be denied access to league play during the following year.
- It is the club's responsibility to monitor arrival of payment to the organization's Treasurer.
- Any check returned for insufficient funds will negate any early payment incentive as outlined in this document.
- Exceptions to the rules stated above will be considered on a case-by-case basis, presented to the iYRA Treasurer by the offending club and voted on by the Competition Committee.

Illinois Youth Rugby Association
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Scores Reporting

It is the responsibility of each club to report their scores for league play to their Coordinator within 24 hours of the match in question. If a four-try bonus point applies to the match, the club representative must also report the number of tries scored. Failure to report a score prior to the date of the next scheduled match will result in no points being awarded in the standings.

The Coordinator does not assume tries scored when a high score is reported. If the number of tries is not reported prior to the date of the next scheduled match, no bonus point is awarded.

It is the Coordinator's responsibility to investigate any discrepancy in reported scores if it may affect a less than 7 point loss bonus point.

Club and Player Membership of USA Rugby

All Clubs must be registered with USA Rugby by March 1. Any Club that is not registered with USA Rugby by this date will not be eligible to play in Tier 1 or Tier 2 leagues and State Championship Play-offs for the coming year. All Clubs must have a minimum of 15 players registered with USA Rugby by March 15. If a Club does not have a minimum number of players registered by this date, they will be denied participation in the iYRA regular season play and State Championship Play-offs.

Code of Conduct Forms

All member club administrators/coaches are required to sign a witnessed *Code of Conduct*. These are due to the iYRA Secretary by March 15 and a form must be on file for each coach/administrator CIPPed for the club and/or listed on the iYRA contact list.

Any club that does not have *Code of Conduct* forms on file by April 1 will have a competition point subtracted from their total at the end of the league season.

It is the responsibility of the club administration to confirm receipt of these forms by the iYRA Secretary.