



Eccles Rugby Football Club

Founded 1897

President: E. Crookell

Ground and Clubhouse:

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Minutes for Annual General meeting – 11th June 2012

Welcome from the Club President - Mr. Ernie Crookell

Ernie Crookell opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 116th AGM. He then asked for a minutes silence for Harry Scott, Roy Sulway and Norman Davis.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Jeff Pennington, Simon Rose, Sam Simpson, Mike Farn and Sean Griffin.

Minutes From Previous AGM

Andy Brunt asked if he needed to read the minutes from the previous AGM – however these had been circulated by email for all to read and it was therefore deemed unnecessary to read through them. The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mark Dutton and seconded by Billy Borrett.

Minis and Juniors Report (Paul Bates) *Done first as paul had to leave early.*

Thanks to Heather Thorpe for registration and Child Welfare, Marie and Kitchen team ,Carl Dutton Fixture Secretary and all the Coaches and Managers.

Statistics are 130+ players, 25 coaches, 8 managers and All age groups represented apart from U15.

Coaches training included Continuity in Attack run at Eccles, Defence in Phase Play run at Eccles, 6 attended Scrum Courses, 6 scheduled on Coaching Rugby union to Level 2 and 3 workshops on towards Level 3

Plans for Season 2013 include Under 14 and 15 having two teams, Referees per team, Two Development workshops and a Junior Tour.

Treasurer's report (Greg Wilson)

I do not intend to go into all the figures in detail as this was done with the finance committee a couple of weeks ago but would like to highlight a number of areas which came from this.

The bar has increased year on year, however this has been affected by the building work via a decrease in external bookings in the early part of the year. This has been mitigated via the events organised by Martin and Kath. A big thank you must go out to the pair.

We have seen an increase in playing costs of c£4.5k due to an increase in travel expenses c£1.7K increase in Physio £0.7K and increase in coaching courses £0.7K

We have seen a reduction in international tickets by £3.5K, this was due to the autumn internationals being cancelled due to the world cup and therefore the decrease in the number of tickets sold and therefore the reduction in corporate sponsorship. This will be reversed this coming year.

The community account (Trev) has seen a reduction by c£4k which is a consequence of the government cuts and the reduction in grants available.

We have also seen an increase in utility costs by £5k. This is an area which we will be looking once we come out of our contract with the utility companies.

I have taken the decision to expense the building costs this year instead of capitalising the work, this is more easy going forward.

Overall yes we have made a significant loss in the year however there is mitigating circumstances as already noted, however as you can see from the balance sheet we are in a strong position going forward.

Secretary's report (Paul Thorpe)

Started with a huge thanks to Carolyn as assistant Sec, Due to my work and Home commitments, Carolyn has undertaken the majority of the Hon Sec's work, plus ladies evening, etc The Harry Broomhead award was justifiably awarded for all her efforts. The new changing rooms, gym, balcony ,meeting room progressed well in the closed season, thanks mainly once again to Brunty for all his hard work and effort, without him, this club would have nothing, and I mean nothing like the facilities here today. The new meeting room has spurred on projects like the Duke of Edinburgh- something that I think will put us up there with, if not above the best. All this hard work has resulted in Lancashire County RFU nominating Eccles to be their representative in the National RFU Intermediate Cup Competition for the season 2012-2013. The Intermediate Cup, cater for clubs who are not involved in the League Champions Cups. The Cup comprises of semi-finals and finals where each of the four Divisional Organising Committees is charged with identifying one team to progress to the semi-final stage. Semi-finals take place in April with the finals at Twickenham in May. This is a great incentive for the whole squad to train for and something for the entire club to look forward to A quick reminder that anyone who has not paid their subs and is under 18, is not allowed to vote, and that player insurance is a minimum cover and players should seek their own personal additional insurance if required.

Rugby reports

Club Captain (Sean Griffin) (read by Andrew Brunt)

First of all may I add my apologies for not being here this evening. A tremendous honour was bestowed on me 12 months ago as I became 1st Team Captain for the second time.

The Season could have been viewed as mixed however attaining 3rd place was an improvement on the previous 4th place position achieved the both seasons before.

Throughout the club, Billy did superb with the 3's robbing player from pillar to post and like Gary with the 2's, having to cope with Will and I taking players at the last minute.

The 2's have secured promotion into what appears to be a very tough league - tremendous team spirit along with a strong influence of youth has brought the team closer to the 1sts in what will only assist the 1st Team Squad next season.

Moving onto our season, it had its highs along with some low's namely Benedicts, Upper Eden and De La Salle away - we when not at full strength didn't manage to 'win the dog' and spurned opportunities to gain promotion.

The highlight of the season for me was twofold - a great double over the League winners Fleetwood where we were visibly lifted with fantastic support - I hope the balcony will prove to assist all the home sides this season. Most pleasing for me this season has to be the emergence of the Colts who in Chris Finch, James Wright, Reece James, Tom Dutton, Danny Mac and Connor Thonley have all not only joined the fray, but two or three have secured a shirt - this is testimony to everybody who has ever had any involvement in our youth.

I would like to finish with thanking you all for your support this season, Ted and the remaining fossils for superb Ground and Pavillion - I can now class Dutty and Bunty in this bracket - especially while I am in London.

Marie and Dolores have done us proud again along with Rachel and the entire bar staff. I would like to thank anybody who has travelled to West Cumbria - we all know how arduous a journey it can be - trust me, as a player to know you have support up there is a huge help.

Sam/Gary and Will - thank you for your help chaps.

My final thank you must go to Carolyn - she has been 1st Team Second, Lancashire buffer, Scott Brown deflector and words cannot illustrate the help she has been.

Good luck to next season's captain, I hope you get the commitment the position deserves and gain the promotion we so nearly secure

Ladies (Shelly Powe)

The set 3 year objective, now in year 2 is to be the best team in the North West, we are on track.

Good foundation, this year with your help, sponsorship and sideline support:-

Played 20, Won 17, Drew 1 and lost 2. Scored 960 points, league top individual point scorer, we has 39 players in squad, with friendly's arranged for fringe players.

Won the league, championship 2 North gaining promotion to Championship North 1 – tier 2. Retained the Lancashire plate.

Massive challenge next year, aiming for 4th or above in the league, under 15/18 girls training integration, arrange friendlies and league fixtures, continue fundraising and uping our profile in the media. Training is to become twice a week. We have our ladies committee and roles in place and than our brilliant coaches Mark and Mike. Thanks to Don for sorting the referees and Marie for her hard work behind the bar and food. Thanks to the support of the committee.

Colts (Billy Borrett)

thanked and Donna Finch for their support as manager , We started with 30 and finished with 26 players. Played 26, won 20 and lost 5, and finished 2nd in the league.

6 players represented the 1st team, 9 players for the 2nd team and numerous players for the 3rd team. This bodes well for the future of the club. They attended the tour with the oldies and were all very well behaved, Thanks to Paul Thornley, Gary and Sam, and thanks to Martin Parkinson for the press reports.

Community Coach

Primary schools (tag rugby):

St Joseph the worker, Cadishead, Riverview, Cathedral school, Monton, Marlborough road, St Mary's, St Edmunds, Holy Cross & All Saints, Christ the King, St Pauls, Clarendon Road, St Gilberts.

Salford Yr5/6 Borough tag festival – St Pauls Primary winners – represented Salford in the North West tag 2 twickenham festival on 20th June 2012.

Secondary Schools (Boys and Girls):

St Patrick's R C, Walkden, St Ambrose Barlow, Albion High, Harropfold, Oakwood High, Wentworth high, St Georges High, Chatsworth High, Oasis Academy.

Yr 7 & 8 Boys – RFU emerging schools/HSBC festivals –Walkden, Albion, St Patrick's representing Salford schools. Albion yr 9 boys went on to win Greater Manchester finals.

Yr 10/11 Boys – Greater Manchester RFU emerging schools, Eccles RFC – 10 schools attended – winners Walkden High School.

Yr 7/8 Girls Tag – borough festival on 22nd May, 5 schools attended, Top 2 teams St Georges & St Ambrose going through to the Greater Manchester Schools Games festival on 3rd July.

Yr 8 Boys development day, 2 teams attended St Ambrose & St Patricks - 1Hr coaching followed by Game.

Colleges

Salford City College – No college team this year.

Coach development sessions for Btech and A level PE students.

Possibility of girls rugby next year.

Salford University

Female student volunteers continue to help in the community with coaching and festivals.

Coaching of womens XV - poor numbers in training. Number of games completed was low due to lack of numbers.

One or two new Students came down training with Eccles RFC womens team but not as successful as last year

Need to consider taking over coaching of Salford Uni mens 1st XV next season with the potential to attract players to the club. With A.N.Other taking on the womens XV.

Adult Touch Rugby Summer League:

12 teams, squads of up to players in region of 160 adults competing for title of Salford community touch rugby champions.

3 weeks Broughton RUFC, 3 weeks Eccles RFC, – Finals week at Eccles RFC. Cup winners “The Straight Bananas.

Best Finals day as yet with after match activities organised by Womens section. Tug-O-War etc.

Many thanks to Ernie for donating Trophies.

SRUDG Summer Camps:

Eccles RFC venue - 40/50 children per day with a total of 90+ different children attending the camp throughout that period. Headed by John Fray, assisted by Tom Dutton plus volunteers, James Wright, Charlotte Harrison, Bryony Cullen and number of u15's players.

Broughton RUFC – Now up to 30 children per week. Headed by T Parrott, assisted by Uni Students.

No Grants available but still able to fund the camps using payment from parents (£20 per head at Eccles, £15 per head at Broughton).

Other Camps

Easter Rugby camp delivered at Eccles RFC. Delivered by T Parrott assisted by Club volunteers Jon Pan (AKA Fat neck) Tom Waring & Big Bob from u15's. 20 children attended between the ages of 6 and 14yrs.

Player recruitment/retention:

Good number of recruits at u12's & u14's. Struggling with u13's in an effort to split the current u13/14 squad into two separate squads.

Girls U15's increased numbers, up to 19 training on a regular basis all registered to Eccles RFC.

U18's now has a squad of 9.

Coaches and team managers have also been put in place – Pete Jones, Jon Pan & Andrea Marland – u18's, Kim & Jackie Wallace – U15's

Coach development:

Tag rugby course: 16 teachers attended, 8 club coaches. (funded by the development group)

Rugby Ready: 2 teachers, 10 club coaches

With the help of Archie the club has put on two RFU development session:

Continuity in attack and Defensive phase play -

Great attendance from Eccles RFC coaches 15/20 attended.

Chairman's Comments (Andy Brunt)

Good to close the first part of the meeting by saying it was always good to finish with Trevor and there are so many positives – particularly for the future development of the club.

Progress is being made, with action on getting the under 18 girls up and running. If we pull off the 14/15 split there will be only one team missing next year that being the under 16's.

1st team has seen an improvement, consolidation with 3rd in the league and nominated this year to represent Lancashire in the Intermediate Cup, final to be played in Twickenham. A lot of hard work put in by Glen, Sam, Chris and Gary. 2nd team promoted and 3rd team in the top half. Colts finalists and women league and plate winners. Some great work being done on the D of E.

Now is the time to push on, develop skill sets 13-16 with clinics on core skills.

In summary the work to do next season is to split the 14/15s, develop coaching, quality and quantity with maybe training twice. Tough league for 2nds and Women and 1st team need to push for promotion.

The first half of the meeting concluded at 21:00

Election of Officers

President	Ernie Crookell
Chairman	Andy Brunt
Secretary	Paul Thorpe
Asst. Secretary	Carolyn Radcliff
Treasurer	Greg Wilson – (Mike Farn to cover Greg whilst absent)
Asst. Treasurer	Mark Dutton
Fixtures	Don Edmondson
Bar Secretary	Mark Dutton
Committee 2015	David Bates, Billy Borrett
1 st team Captain	Glen Cahill
1 st team vice captain	Will Hamer
2 nd team captain	Stuart Grieves
2 nd team vice captain	Martin Thompson
3 rd team captain	Gary Hamer
3 rd team vice captain	Billy Borrett

A.O.B

FSA Audit – Proposed by Andrew Brunt, Seconded by Carolyn Radcliff.

Martin Parkinson asked who should take priority on a Sunday for pitches etc, Colts or Women? It was agreed that the Women should, and have always taken priority.

It was agreed that Opening hours to be put up in club house.

Friday Dinner debate on speaker or what format it should take? There was a split between a sportsman's type or a Club players night. It was decided that we should seek further consultation from members and feed back to committee.

Mark Dutton raised the question of subs moving to £10 per month. It was decided to leave as is for now but conduct a survey on what other clubs are asking their members to pay.

It was asked that PT send a letter to sale supporters club with reference parking for their home games at ERFC.

Meeting closed 22:12