

United Hospitals RFC AGM Minutes.

6.30pm Tuesday 15th May 2007.
Drewe Lecture Theatre, Reynolds Building,
Charing Cross Hospital.

Present:

Terry Gibson (President)	terrence.gibson@kcl.ac.uk
Fred Imms (GKT)	fnvkat@aol.com
Jeremy Bartosiak-Jentys (ICSM)	jbartosi@ic.ac.uk
Chris Hallewell (ICSM)	christopher.hallewell06@ic.ac.uk
Tom McWilliams (ICSM)	thomas.mcwilliams06@ic.ac.uk
Ruairidh Crawford (ICSM)	ruairidh.crawford@ic.ac.uk
Simon Bellringer (ICSM)	simon.bellringer@ic.ac.uk
Ben Wiles (ICSM)	ben.wiles@ic.ac.uk
Xander Ancock (ICSM)	alexander.ancock03@ic.ac.uk
Tim Snow (ICSM)	timothy.snow@ic.ac.uk
Austin Dekker (ICSM)	austin.dekker@ic.ac.uk
Mark Halls (GKT)	mark.halls@kcl.ac.uk
Peter Gretton (GKT)	peter.gretton@kcl.ac.uk
Rhys Davies (GKT)	rhys.davies@kcl.ac.uk
Iain Wilson (GKT)	iain.wilson@kcl.ac.uk
Tom Goddard (GKT)	thomas.goddard@kcl.ac.uk
Michael Dunne (SGUL)	m0300401@sgul.ac.uk
Abdul Munshi (SGUL)	armunshi@hotmail.com
Sean Spears (SGUL)	m0101010@sgul.ac.uk
James Jackson (SGUL)	m0302622@sgul.ac.uk
Toby Ikwueke (RUMS)	tobyikwueke@hotmail.com
Charles Archer (RUMS)	c.archer@ucl.ac.uk
Tim Davies (RUMS)	tim.davies@ucl.ac.uk
Will Dooley (Bart's)	willoooley@hotmail.com
Alex Jones (Bart's)	ha05214@qmul.ac.uk
Malcom Scott (Bart's)	mtdscott@hotmail.com

Apologies:

Robin Touquet (ICSM), Dudley Sinnett (ICSM), John Shepherd (Bart's)

Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th June 2006

Copies of last year's minutes were circulated, read and approved. Terry Gibson then welcomed those present to this year's meeting. In the absence of last year's secretary, Duncan Austin (GKT), Jeremy Bartosiak-Jentys (ICSM) agreed to take minutes. Terry Gibson then went on to compliment Michael Dunne's (SGHMS) comprehensive minutes of the last meeting.

Matters Arising

United Hospitals Challenge Cup Structure 2007-08

Terry Gibson opened by asking that the structure of the UH Cup in 2006-07 be retained for 2007-08 and went on to point out that the pro's and con's of a round robin or knockout competition were discussed at length at the 2006 AGM. The knockout format was supported by those present, with no school asking for the reintroduction of the round robin format.

Jeremy Bartosiak-Jentys (ICSM) then questioned whether the UH Cup Final would be better served by playing on a Sunday afternoon in term time rather than a Wednesday. Jeremy proposed that the weekend coinciding with the penultimate weekend of the Six Nations, 8th March in 2008, is usually an EDF Junior Vase cup weekend, a competition the UH clubs rarely progress in. This view was supported by Ben Wiles (ICSM). However, Iain Wilson (GKT) stated that a Wednesday was preferential as the GKT crowd was larger this year on a Wednesday than it was the previous year when the final was on a Sunday. Peter Gretton (GKT) raised the point that fixtures were always going to clash during the UH Cup period and that sacrifices had to be made, therefore, GKT did not play in the MacAdam Cup this year as it clashed with the UH final.

As a result, Ruairidh Crawford (ICSM) proposed that setting dates for the UH Cup should wait until BUSA League and Cup fixtures and Saturday League fixtures were announced in August/September. Terry Gibson informed all that the fixtures needed to be arranged now as London Welsh need to be informed with as much notice as possible but, as ever, there is some scope for flexibility in the final dates for the UH fixtures. In addition Dr Gibson agreed to write to BUSA informing them of the dates for the UH Cup. It was agreed that UH Cup dates should be set at the AGM.

Annual Dinner:

ICSM apologised for not organising a UH dinner for this season with Simon Bellringer (ICSM) citing the potential financial burden imposed on the hosting club as one ICSM were not prepared to take. Fred Imms (GKT) said that he supported an annual dinner but commented that the a system for collecting cheques needs to be established to prevent UHRFC footing the bill for those that reserved places but did not turn up. SGUL declared that a dinner could be organised successfully, citing their efforts in 2005 at Wimbledon Dog Track. Terry Gibson mentioned that there was a substantial amount of damage done at the dinner mainly due to the fact that many punters were exceedingly drunk. A dinner for the 2007-08 season was unanimously supported

Rhys Davies (GKT) agreed that GKT would organise the 2007 dinner and a date would be confirmed. Later discussions mooted the possibility of the UH dinner being held after the UH Cup final, whilst Tim Snow (ICSM) suggested that the dinner maybe better attended if it were held after the UH VII's competition as all the teams would already be together. This proposal was greeted with general approval. [*The UH VII's competition is scheduled for Sunday October 7th 2007 as below*].

Representative games:

Terry Gibson turned to 2006-07 captain Rhys Davies (GKT) to give a summary of the season. Rhys Davies told those assembled that UHRFC played one fixture under his captaincy against Cambridge University U21's at Honor Oak Park. UHRFC won the fixture 13-12 with John Kendall (GKT) kicking the winning penalty. Terry Gibson indicated that Cambridge were once again keen for this fixture to be repeated in October/November 2007. This message was to be passed on to the newly elected fixtures secretary.

Terry Gibson once again reaffirmed that it was not necessary for UHRFC to play their strongest team in every game and that the newly elected fixtures secretary should arrange fixtures against local club's development sides at a level at which 2nd team players could participate. In addition Oxford Whippets, Cambridge U21's and Blackheath U21's were touted as potential opponents.

Fred Imms (GKT) requested that the fixtures secretary inform him of all UHRFC fixtures for the 2007-08 season so that insurance could be arranged. Comments were made as to whether the club needed insurance or that as students the team was covered. This was left to be investigated by the new committee. Terry Gibson urged for fixtures to be arranged as soon as possible.

Royal Veterinary College:

Terry Gibson asked those in attendance whether the RVC should be invited to take part in the UH Cup Competition. This was met with little support. Iain Wilson (GKT) commented that the RVC are still keen to be full members of UH. However, many made the comment that a representative of the RVC did not attend the AGM. Finally, it was decided that RVC would not be invited to participate in the UH Cup.

The invitation of the RVC to the UH VII's competition and to the UH dinner was unanimously supported. Furthermore, it was to be made clear that any future involvement would require the RVC to be present at the 2008 UHRFC AGM.

Treasurer's Report:

Terry Gibson thanked the treasurer for his work and invited Fred Imms to present the clubs accounts to the AGM. Fred Imms (GKT) tabled the accounts of the club up until April 2006. He stated that the club was in a precarious position at the end of April 2006 with assets only amounting to £850. However, Fred Imms reassured everyone that the clubs finances were currently in a far healthier state with the latest statement showing assets of approximately £3,253, mainly due to the fact that damage did not have to be paid for as there was no UH dinner.

Fred Imms again raised concerns that the clubs major revenue stream, the UH Cup Final Day, had again not returned a profit. He stated that the numbers of spectators at UH final were better than the previous year but were again too low and that the number of lunches taken was again disappointing. A reason for this could be the

prohibitive cost (£60) of the lunch which is a major deterrent. As a result the cost cutting at the UH Final must continue with beer not being provided to players after the game and the cost of the lunch being reassessed with a buffet option maybe being favoured. Additionally, the attendance at the Plate final is always disappointing. Terry Gibson mentioned that the support of the plate and cup finals by senior members of the hospital's competing was very disappointing. More needed to be done to attract crowds to the Cup final day.

Iain Wilson (GKT) proposed that the amount charged by London Welsh be looked into and that the numbers of London Welsh stewards and staff seemed rather excessive for the scale of the event. Xander Ancock (ICSM) proposed that a change of venue may be considered and that he had already held informal discussions with Rosslyn Park. Xander agreed to look into this further.

Terry Gibson proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Rhys Davies (GKT) and the accounts were unanimously approved.

United Hospitals VII's Cup:

Terry Gibson proposed that the VII's competition be arranged for Sunday October 7th 2007 with the same number of teams competing as in 2006. Whilst it is usual for the competition to be rotated around the different hospitals' grounds, Terry Gibson stated that the location of RUMS's grounds may result in a low turnout, a point which RUMS accepted. Additionally, SGUL stated that their grounds at Cobham were not suitable as the amount of re-development work, and that Chelsea FC have banned alcohol from the grounds, make holding the UH VII's competition impractical. SGUL will be back in the rotation once re-development is complete.

Iain Wilson (GKT) offered that the UH VII's be played at Honor Oak Park. Terry Gibson thanked GKT for the offer and the proposal was accepted.

Election of Officers:

President:	Terrence Gibson (GKT)
Vice president:	Nominations to Terry Gibson. To be elected at UH VII's
Secretary:	Iain Wilson (GKT)
Treasurer:	Fred Imms (GKT)
Club Captain:	Iain Wilson (GKT)
Vice Captain:	Alex Jones (Bart's)
Fixtures Secretary:	Xander Ancock (ICSM)

United Hospital Challenge Cup Competition Dates:

As mentioned earlier the format for the 2006-07 competition is to be retained for 2007-08. Therefore, the fixtures are as follows:

1st XV Competition:

Round 1: Wednesday 13th February 2008.

Bart's vs. St George's Venue TBA

Semi-Final: Wednesday 27th February 2008.

Imperial Medicals vs. Winner Round 1 TBA

RUMS vs. GKT RUMS

Final: Wednesday 12th March 2008.

Loser Semi-Final 1 vs. Loser Semi-Final 2 Symonds Plate

Winner Semi-Final 1 vs. Winner Semi-Final 2 London Welsh RFC (Old Deer Park)

2nd XV Competition:

NB: Bart's may introduce a 2nd XV into the UH 2nd XV Cup. If so, they will inform the UH committee in October 2007, once the number of players at the club is known. Should Bart's enter the 2nd XV competition the 2nd XV Cup will require a 1st round match:

Round 1: Wednesday 6th February 2008.

Bart's vs. St George's Provisional Venue TBA

Semi-Final: Wednesday 20th February 2008.

Imperial Medicals vs. Winner Round 1 TBA

RUMS vs. GKT RUMS

Final: Wednesday 5th March 2008.

Winner Semi-Final 1 vs. Winner Semi-Final 2 TBA

3rd XV Competition:

Final: Wednesday 5th March 2008.

GKT vs. Imperial Medicals

Honor Oak Park

Any other business:

NONE

NEXT AGM TO BE HELD AT GUY'S HOSPITAL, HARRIS LECTURE
THEATRE, 6.30PM TUESDAY 13TH MAY 2008.

Terry Gibson once again thanked last year's committee and all those present for attending. Dr Gibson then brought the AGM to a close after which all retired to the Reynolds Bar.