

Guy's King's College & St Thomas' Hospitals
Rugby Football Club - Est. 1843



Committee Meeting held in Rheumatology Dept.,
Guy's Hospital on Tuesday 17th April 2007

Presiding:

Dr Terrence Gibson

Present:

Iain Wilson
Ben Diggins
Stuart D'Sylva
Mark Halls
Adam Staten

Mike Forsythe
Dave Manson-Bahr
Peter Gretton
Rhys Davies
Robert Hone

1) Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from Lucas Rehnberg, Harry Gasper and Rupert Enticknap

2) Last Meeting's Minutes:

There was a general consensus that the minutes of the last meeting provided a full 'blow by blow' report of the previous meeting.

3) 1st XV UH Final Day:

Dr Gibson opened the meeting by congratulating the First team squad and notably Pete Gretton for their efforts in the recent UH Cup Final. Dr Gibson remarked that although the team had managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory, Guy's put in a terrific performance exhibiting a standard of rugby the likes of which have not been seen for twenty years.

Pete Gretton concurred with Dr Gibson's sentiments, adding that it was unfortunate Mary's could bring on the calibre of player which they did in the dying moments of the game. The Cub Captain also stated it was important to consider that amongst the old campaigners in the squad there were many who were making their UH debuts that day, showing that the Club has reason to be optimistic for future competitions. As an end note, Mr Gretton said that he was pleased to see that Bart's had made it to the Symmonds plate match, indicating there is still healthy competition at all levels of the UH competition.

4) Winners of the Paul Scanlan Memorial Bursary and the St Thomas' Hospital RFC Prize:

The winners of the above prizes were announced during the committee meeting. Ben Diggins scooped the 'top prize' of the Paul Scanlan Memorial Bursary, with Simon Trotter being awarded the St Thomas Hospital RFC Prize. Those present extended their heartfelt congratulations to the two winners, remarking that the decision had been most fair and the two best candidates had been selected. In what is almost somewhat of a tradition, Mr Diggins was reminded he was obliged to buy the first round in Guy's Bar after the meeting. Dr Gibson had also apologised for the delay in announcing the result, stating that this year there had been more applicants than usual.

5) Rugby Ball Update:

Ball organiser, Mike Forsythe, sporting more grey hairs than usual, reported to the Committee that the organisation of the Ball was going to plan. Mr Forsythe said that he had calculated in order for the ball to be a success it was necessary that at least 100 people attend the event. Dr Gibson reminded Mike that it was also important to invite female guests as well as Club members to the event, as their presence tends to keep the night civilised or if not at least delay the inevitable high jinks. When asked how it might be possible to increase the female presence at the Ball, it was stated that it would be wise to omit the customary adjectives used to describe the Ball; the main culprit being the term 'carnage'.

Mr Forsythe said that he has been in contact with Norm, who has expressed a wish that some members of the Club sleep in the marquee on the Friday and Sunday nights and that security is hired provided on the night itself. The committee agreed this was an appropriate demand; Mr Forsythe will arrange this.

In addition, Mr Forsythe informed those present that he has had some help from the girls rugby team in obtaining some choice raffle prizes for the ball. Some of these prizes include an iPod, a meal for two at 'Roast' and a year's supply of Durex condoms. This later provoked a tumult of banter amongst the committee, ranging from disgust from the Ampleforth educated Pete Gretton, to remarks from some committee members (who shall remain nameless) that the contents of the prize would not satisfy the duration of the Ball let alone a year!! Despite this, Mr Forsythe said he intends to sell the raffle tickets for £5 each, the committee agreed this would be a very fair price considering the high quality of the prizes.

6) Forthcoming Annual General Meeting:

The Honorary Secretary reported to the Committee that the Harris lecture theatre has been booked for the Annual General Meeting for 6:30pm. He added that the agenda will resemble that of last year's meeting, with Dr Gibson, the Club captain and himself briefly speaking to be followed by the election of Club Officers and the presentation of Blues. The Honorary Secretary noted from the expressions of the committee members that they were eagerly anticipating the words of the Honorary Secretary.

Dr Gibson confirmed with the Committee that as usual, team photos would take place outside the Hodgkin building before the AGM. David Manson Bahr, once again kindly offered to act as photographer on the day, and would provide prints of photographs at a later date for a nominal fee. Teams should meet for the photos at 5:30pm outside the Hodgkin building.

All captains were encouraged to ensure as many members of the Club as possible attended the evening.

7) Finance and Grant:

Although absent from the meeting, the Club Treasurer communicated beforehand that Adam Staten had been remunerated for entry fees to various Seven's competitions. He also reported that some money remains in the Club's grant account, which must be spent by the end of the season.

8) Forthcoming Seven's Tournaments:

Club Seven's Captain, Adam Staten, informed the Committee the Club has entered one team into the Middlesex Students 7's on 5th May and two teams into the London University 7's on 7th May. One committee member asked if Mr Staten would be able to manage such an influx of fixtures as these two added fixtures would double the number of seven's fixtures the captain had played that season!

9) Match Results:

A full and concise breakdown of match results will be provided at the AGM next week.

10) Next Meeting:

The next committee meeting is scheduled for the 11th September 2007 at 6pm in the Rheumatology Department, Guy's Hospital. It is important all new committee members attend to ensure a smooth start to the new season. For the particularly brave and patient members of the Committee the United Hospitals AGM is scheduled for the 15th May 2007 at Charing Cross Hospital at 6:30pm.

Dr Gibson then closed the meeting, whereby several members of the committee retired to Guy's Bar for a light refreshment courtesy of Ben Diggins and his recent acquisition of wealth.