



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

**Committee Meeting held in Renal Admin Dept, Guys Hospital on Monday 8<sup>th</sup>  
December 2008, 6.30pm.**

**Presiding:** Mr G Koffman

**Present:** Johnny Elias,  
Oliver Howlett,  
Mike Forsythe,  
Harry Gasper,  
John Kendall  
Marcus Pemberton,

Anthony O'Rourke,  
Rauri Haddlington,  
Frazer Barnes,  
Thomas Goddard,  
Charles West.

**1) Apologies for Absence**

Rhys Davies,  
Oli Laird,  
Pat Gush,

Steve Beckett,  
Dr Terry Gibson.

**2) Last Meeting's Minutes**

The minutes were written in full, despite the current set on the website being half finished! This will be updated, but it should be pointed out that the minutes provided at the meeting were full and complete.

Matters Arising:

Fixture Organisation:

We must again acknowledge the sterling work being carried out by our fixture secretary in organising matches. He must keep up this effort into the next season and he was happy to report that the remaining matches will be covered.

Scanlan Cup::

Pat Gush is yet to hear from the Honourable Artillery Company concerning the Scanlan cup this year. Whilst the committee agreed that other locations could be considered, it was a widely held view that it had been an excellent suggestion to hold this event there, especially given the location of this year's grand ball, and we shall endeavour to help where we can. One particular area in which Fraser may be able to lend a hand is in getting his friend Martin (A member of the armed forces) to try and have a word.

UH Cup:

The dates were confirmed again as having no clashes for the semi finals and being fine for the finals as described in the last minutes. The potential for RUMS to offer a banana skin before our path was discussed. They have already beaten us in the league this year and thus we should not underestimate them as opponents and whilst we all agree that the league should be the priority this year, winning UH final should also be high on the agenda for the season.

There was a short break whilst the committee members indulged in some light refreshment provided by Rauri Haddlington.

Post-prandially the conversation turned away from the rallying cries for UH glory and towards the actually business of winning this competition. All agreed that whilst training has been progressing reasonably well, we really do need to have a fresh start and more space

to begin the path to success after Christmas. It was indeed pointed out that training has taken a bit of a backwards step recently. Further to this it was also a common belief that if are to overturn the Bosch from Mary's then must be prepared to hand out some BOSH of our own and what's more to develop a game plan a little more exciting than "short, short, long." The need for a backs coach was also raised.

In order to complete these aims it was recognised that we need a plan and perhaps a change in location for training. Some members of the committee recalled the possibility if having training at Burgess Park, and at a later time. Burgess Park, it was suggested, offers an excellent training facility, which is easy to get to and would provide us with all the space we need to progress on the rugby field. It was also pointed out that KCLSU provide us with money for coaches, but that Steve will not accept it. We decided that Steve should be given this money, because he deserves it, and that he should be instructed to do with it what he wants, if he chooses to give it to the club it should be to improve training, by bringing in a backs coach or other experts.

Whilst both these are forward steps, there is the obvious fact that having good training is only going to help if we can guarantee regular, good numbers. Having training at Burgess Park in a more structured manner could help with this. Thus the plan is as follows:

- a) To try and secure Burgess Park for at least Monday and hopefully Thursday training running at 7-8.30pm from the second week of January onwards.
- b) To fix this date as the start of the build up to training and utilise peer pressure to get people off their asses and down to training.
- c) To stress what we are doing and to realise the aims for each team for the coming season.
- d) Charlie West to utilise the money for Steve and offer it to him, if he refuses to take it for himself to suggest Steve should use it for training-Geoff will also contact him.
- e) To win of course

### Norm;

Norm has had a rough time of late, being evicted from his house and having a poorly attended leaving do. Norm has been a great servant of Guys rugby over the years so all agreed that he should be treated very well at the ball. Furthermore it was proposed by the president that Norm be put forward as a Vice-President; this was seconded by Club Captain Johnny Elias.

### Samurai Kit;

The designs for the kit were chosen by the committee. These shall be ordered and sold at a subsidy to club members. It was asked particularly if the sizes could be chosen to fit all club members, keeping in mind the diversity in horizontal dimensions we boast in our club.

A certain Iain Wilson also has passed on a set of Colgate shirts to Charles West. These are very lovely shirts and are available to buy from Charlie. However the arrival of these shirts has provoked an interesting dilemma...Said Iain Wilson is yet to pay back the sum of £800, raised by Marcus I Pemberton and James Cuthbertson in order to buy stash for tour. Iain had received sponsorship from MPS for tour shirts and received these shirts, and also received the raised money from Marcus. Therefore a financial black hole has appeared and £800 has seemingly disappeared. Tom Goddard is to contact Mr Wilson with regard to this.

### New Shorts;

The new shorts are due to arrive on the 19<sup>th</sup>. J Elias is to pick these up from the rheumatology dept. in order that we can use them in the matches on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Furthermore to this, we are to get someone with a good camera to take a team photo for the gazette and the website. We owe our kind sponsors this as a token of our thanks. If we do this right, there has been talk of a further donation from Gabrium...Good Eggs

The shorts and socks are to kept as the team kit, not handed out to individuals, even withstanding some fungal issues raised by Mr Elias.

### 3) Treasurers Report

The treasurer asks if captains requiring coaches for matches can kindly give two weeks notice in future.

Regarding the fresher's scholarship; this is run via KCL and the time has come when it needs to really be sorted. We need to pressure the fresher's to apply, unbelievable as it is, very few fresher's have so far submitted applications for the monetary package.

The Meeting was interrupted at this point by Olly Howlett with an aside regarding Blackheath. They have enjoyed the fixture against our seconds the last few years and following this Saturdays excellent match, would like to make a big match out of the oldest fixture in the world friendly this year. Fear not, this will not involve Guys 1sts of Kent 2 playing Blackheath 1sts of National 2, no. In the past this has been a Vets fixture and the Blackheath lads are keen to open it up a bit and make a big day of it. What a good idea. Olly to arrange it.

### 4) Results.

Results so far:

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
1 <sup>st</sup> Team	8	6	0	2
2 <sup>nd</sup> Team	8	2	0	5
3 <sup>rd</sup> Team	4	1	0	3(W/O)
Student 1's	7	4	0	3
Student 2's	6	1	0	5

The men's firsts continue to dominate in Kent 2 with only the 2 losses. The last month has seen 3 victories and we must continue this trend into the coming month. They currently lie 2<sup>nd</sup> in the table with only HSBC ahead.

The seconds have had a resounding win, a terrible loss and a near miss. It remains clear that if they get a regular team out they can really compete in this league. They lie mid table

The thirds league is to be abandoned as only 5 teams in their league are managing to get teams out. The three's are to remain as a friendly side, and we look to get a regular team out, competing in the league next season.

The student sides are having mixed fortunes. The first team represent the good side of this fortune with promotion looking a real possibility if they can secure some good results in the matches they hold in hand over teams above them in the league, They are currently 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The second team are having a torrid season so far with only one win. However despite having a point's difference of -178 maintain a mid table position at present.

## **5) Rugby Ball**

It's got to the stage now where talking is done, complaining is over etc. Pat Gush needs the money and the club has had enough time to get over the shock of such organisation on the part of a committee member. Get the deposits paid- at the very least each committee member should have paid by the end of the week and we should hassle those who have not paid but who have shown interest to pay! Simple as that; this event will be special and has to be supported. Girlfriends are allowed as are wives, but we advise those bringing both to ensure they sit on separate tables.

## **6) AOB**

### Memorabilia:

Has been moved

### Shirts:

Our spanking new shirts are showing some wear and tear, some at the hands of opposition attempts at tackles, some at the hands of house officers in Woolwich A&E, therefore we asked if Rauri can get in touch with Kukri firstly to ask if one off replacements can be sought, and also to enquire about whether the shirts damaged through match play can be replaced free of charge as part of a guarantee. In the meantime, damaged shirts are to be sewn up by us...or at least by fresher's.

### ELV's:

We reported back to the RFU regarding our opinions of the ELV's, largely we think they have improved the game, however in some aspects, notably pulling down the maul, we believe the ELV's do not constitute a forward step.

### Xmas Dinner:

Will be held after the last game of this term (20<sup>th</sup>) at Tiger Tiger. Tickets will cost £20, which includes 3 courses, a little wine and entrance to the club...possibly. This promises to be a memorable evening so I do not recommend missing out!

### Balls:

Charlie is in the process of getting some balls. Rugby balls that is, we hope to get ones with the club crest on and have money from the grant to do this.

### **7) Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will take place on Monday January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm in the Renal Admin Dept, Borough Wing, Guys Hospital.

You stay classy GHRFC Committee