



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

**Committee Meeting held in Renal Admin Dept, Guys Hospital on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>  
September 2008, 6.30pm.**

**Presiding:** Mr G Koffman

**Present:** Johnny Elias,  
Oliver Howlett,  
Mike Forsythe,  
Harry Gasper,  
Marcus Pemberton,  
Anthony O'Rourke,  
Rauri Haddlington,  
Charlotte Ashton,  
Thomas Goddard,  
Charles West.

**1) Apologies for Absence**

John Kendall,  
Rhys Davies,  
Oli Laird,  
Pat Gush,  
Frazer Barnes,  
Steve Beckett,  
Mr Terry Gibson.

**2) Last Meeting's Minutes**

Such descriptions as "excellent" and "a nice read" were to be heard in reaction to the minutes. Matters arising from the last meeting included the issue of kit. That's the wearing kind, nothing to do with the rugby player also known as Ratbag. It seems having spent 3 years in the doldrums of the kit world, we now have it coming out of every orifice.

On a serious note a lack of communication regarding the decision on club shorts led to a small misunderstanding which shall be explained forthwith:

- It was decided at the last meeting that we would order a set of shorts and socks to form the complete kit for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team. This was to be paid for with generous sponsorship from (Gabrium?) a company known to the President. The order for these has gone through and Kukri are awaiting payment. At the same time Prof Walton, a keen supporter of the club, kindly bought the club a set of new style shorts.
- Both of these benefactors are happily received by the club, the problem being that we are very grateful to Prof Walton and we also need to nurture the slightly explosive nature of the other sponsor for future kit acquisition.
- The conclusion of debate amongst the committee was that the sponsored shorts acquired via (Gabrium?) should form the weekly kit for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team and the shorts donated by Prof Walton would form the shorts for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Vets team or even the girl's team. Yes Mike, the girls do play in shorts...not skirts. We should also learn the lessons from this and ensure communication between the supporters club and the committee is clear and precise in future. Finally it was also pointed out that captains and members of the committee should not hesitate to advertise the sale supporter's club kit supplies to the club. On a parting note it would be useful for the correct spelling of the sponsor to be ascertained.

### **3) Treasurers Report**

The age old issue of subs payment was brought to the attention of the committee. Captains must make sure that all players pay, it is suggested that the meet for the first few matches should be Boland House in order to enforce payment on the spot. It was also obvious that some of the

committee have not paid yet, punishments for non payment will be encouraged from next meeting,

The grant account this year has a huge £5,000 which opens opportunities for acquisition of new equipment/bar tabs. It was noted that there has been confirmation from John Grant that KCLSU will pay for ground sharing arrangements this year.

The committee was made aware of a player fund that exists at KCLSU for those club that have England or as they are now known “elite” players. Such players as Theo could earn us some extra dollar, Charles has more info on this.

#### 4) Matches

The fixture secretary has done some diligent work in arranging fixtures in this difficult time. Old Colfean’s have offered us at least one pitch and 2 on some occasions. As OC’s is in Lee it is the preferred ground for home games. People were satisfied with the ground this weekend. However we have enjoyed a good relationship with Beccehamians and it was agreed that we would use their pitches when OC’s is unavailable. Student rugger is at the whim of KCLSU. It seems that we are the only sports team in the university who still has a fixture secretary. Thus KCLSU take responsibility for arranging of fixtures and thus the venues, all we do is arrange the ref’s. The fixture sec assured the committee that he would do his best to secure The Griffin as often as we could.

#### 5) Results.

Results so far:

| Team                 | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost    |
|----------------------|--------|-----|-------|---------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Team | 3      | 2   | 0     | 1       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team | 2      | 0   | 0     | 2       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Team | 1      | 0   | 0     | 0 (W/O) |
| Vets                 | 1      | 0   | 1     | 0       |
| Women                | 0      | 0   | 0     | 0       |

The First team currently sit in 4<sup>th</sup> place in Kent 2, and despite having the worst defensive record in the league they are confident in their ability to score more tries than they concede and look to collect the scalp of Old Williamsonians this weekend.

The second team face a tough season in a league dominated by Kent's finest brickies and cattle. They have a young team, which we hope to blood in fully and create a foundation for future years.

The third team have started interestingly boasting the unique position of having lost a game and conceded no points. The question of the thirds team was raised, it seems our good friends in Kent have identified a weakness in our ability to field a team and have quietly warned of abolishment from the league. Options for the threes are wide – as the third team are currently in the lowest league in the land - that being Kent – they could have the option of joining the Surrey leagues; a much more pleasant league to play in. Alternatively Anthony could call in a favour from the Polish community and get some cheap labour to fill in any gaps. It was pointed out that this week's walkover did involve communication errors. It was decided that we would monitor the third team's progress and re-discuss the options next meeting.

## **6) UH**

The UH committee have discovered that the current dates for finals and semi-finals clash with BUSA fixtures. Therefore they have made the decision to alter the dates. Dr Gibson has raised concerns about this as he has already arranged the date with London Welsh and will be away for the proposed new dates. However unfortunately the UH committee have spoken and the dates will have to be moved, our fixture sec was asked to make sure London welsh are contacted.

The dates for finals this year therefore are:

1's – 22<sup>nd</sup> March

2's and 3's – 21<sup>st</sup> March

The semis have also been moved but the honorary secretary failed to write them down therefore would be grateful for confirmation of these from the fixture secretary.

The UH team enjoyed a 55-13 win against the RAF recently. 5 Guys men were involved in the thrilling win. The format of UH fixtures has reportedly taken a more “sexy” feel of late. There were rumours that this fixture included pre-match entertainment of naked Vets in a field. That’s Royal Veterinary students, not veterans.

Finally we eagerly await the UH seven’s competition this weekend. Good luck you few brave men.

## **7) Rugby Ball**

Much confusion has been generated regarding this new style ball, organised in September, tickets already sold, entertainment organised – didn’t happen in my day. The main concern of the committee is that if the ruse that only 3 tables are remaining is true, and the current players including the president and committee and girls club are yet to buy a ticket, there may be a problem.

We need to know if more tables can be arranged than the 15 table limit, we also need to know if it is not too late to buy tickets. At the moment it seems that the ball is going to be attended by alumni in the main and not students. It is good that the interest has been such that we underestimated the allocation of tables, but if it is impossible to increase our allocation then it will be a shame.

The other point of course is that we need to really push the ball upon people. £90 is not a lot of money in context of the year, if we all save £10 a month, that’s the cost of one ginning, we can all go to the ball. We need to get organized and get tables booked. Geoff Koffman has even

offered any brave club members a place on his table, if you are really struggling for friends.

## **8) AOB**

### **JK's Mugging:**

It was the unanimous decision of the committee that JK's brush with the darker side of Southwark was entirely his own fault as he refused to leave the Blue Eyed Maid when everyone else wanted to.

### **Training:**

Training is going okay, some issues still remain with the nights closing in and no word so far on the floodlight issue. Captain Elias is looking into Burgess Park and Tabard Astro as an option for training once a week. The girls have taken more of a beating from King's with the closure of HOP. They have been offered no training facilities. The girls captain has been in touch with Southbank polytechnic who have facilities and I believe have offered them to the girls.

### **Norm:**

Our esteemed groundsman Norm will leave us at the end of this month. His leaving do will take place at The Griffin on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October at 4-6.30pm. He has been a great servant of Guys Rugby for years and he deserves a large attendance at this do. During the evening he will be presented with a gift from the club-which the hon. Sec will arrange. Lets get down there and see him off well. Two important points; no-one is to try and gin him as is teetotal, and the current end point of 6.30 is flexible, we feel we can extend it with enough physical presence there.

### **Memorabilia:**

Was moved to temporary storage at The Griffin, it will soon be removed again and placed in more secure storage, John Grant has offered his office in Berrylands. A full and comprehensive inventory will be taken to ensure no pilfering of Guys History goes on.

#### Bursary:

There has been one applicant for the Scanlan Bursary so far, the St Thomas' fund has now been exhausted. Candidates are encouraged to get their applications in soon. The first year scholarship has had no applicants so far and we are to re-advertise this to get interest up. It was also raised that we could try and advertise for next year by sending out flyers to the rugby schools of the nation. Suggestions were made to alter the way the scholarship is awarded, but it was agreed that Dr Gibson as the main benefactor to the fund should have the right to arrange the scholarship as he wants it.

#### Match Reports:

Captains please get these written, at the moment the Vets are leading the way on this one. A full report of the Barbados tour is still required, though we believe R. Davies is working on this. Perhaps the delay could be due to extensive censoring work that is required to protect careers, marriages and friendships.

#### MOM:

From next Saturday a weekly Man of the Match award will be given to the player who Coachy Steve deems to deserve it in first team matches. Backs don't expect to receive this. The award will be worth £20 – donated by our president. The MOM is free to spend the award on whichever beverage he prefers.

#### KCL Guy:

Anthony Currie from KCL has asked if he can attend our meetings as an observer. This is fine.

#### Beach Tour to Brighton:

Tour Secretary back from his summer of fun and fuelling the credit crisis has diligently organised another tour. This will be an overnight affair on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November and will involve a beach rugby tournament and big screen to watch the England Game. Get involved.

**7) Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will take place on Monday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6.30pm in the Renal Admin Dept, Borough Wing, Guys Hospital.

Goodnight.