



Guy's King's College & St Thomas' Hospitals

Rugby Football Club - Est. 1843

Committee Meeting Renal Admin Dept, Guy's Hospital Friday 25th September 2009, 5.30pm MINUTES

Presiding:

Mr Geoff Koffman

Present:

Dr. Terry Gibson
Mr. Duncan Steele
Mr. Charles West
Mr. Freddie Hartley
Mr. Timothy Davis
Mr. Sean Rayappu
Mr. Alex Smith
Mr. Alex Underwood
Mr. Johnny Elias
Mr. Fergus Devonport
Mr. Rauri Hadlington
Mr. Kanish Amin
Miss. Sinead Barry

1.) Apologies

Mr. Toby Welch

2.) Minutes dated 01/09/09

Toby's minutes were considered top drawer.

3.) Matters Arising

Gifts for Beccehamians RFC and Bromley RFC

Mr Koffman has received two Guy's shields and will pass them to each of the clubs concerned in return for the great hospitality we were given during our nomadic season.

Fixtures

The company previously responsible for printing fixture cards has unfortunately fallen victim of the credit crunch. This has caused a delay, however Mr Underwood will have them ready for distribution on Tuesday

Kit/sponsorship

New 1st XV kit has been ordered from PremierSport and should be arriving sometime in November. Unfortunately the credit crunch has again struck as European Canterbury have gone into administration, causing a swell in Samurai orders and delay. Gabriel and Top Notch have been confirmed as shirt sponsors. Gabriel are generously donating £1000 to the Guy's cause, while Top Notch are providing reduced gym memberships for players at their top quality gym opposite the Greenwood Lecture Theatre. While on the subject of gyms student members of GHRFC will be able to train at the KCLSU Waterloo gym Kinetic on Sundays for free and have the option of joining fully at reduced KCLSU staff prices.

Player database

Is slowly on its way, and will hopefully be finished by the next meeting.

Club day

Mr Rayappu is organising a 3rd XV match on the 21st November away against Old Whitgiftians. There was a little confusion over this, however it is hoped that as there are no other GHRFC scheduled matches that weekend all members of the club can make an effort to watch the 3rd XV and then enjoy the Autumn international on a big screen. Keep an eye out for more details...

Freshers' fair

The freshers' fair was a great success and there was general agreement around the table when someone put forward the fact that KCL rugby are inferior in every way. Over a hundred names were taken. Mr Steele is to write an email welcoming freshers to the club, as well as providing details of the freshers' trials this Wednesday...however since there are so many scrawled email addresses to decipher, the task of getting all of that information into digital form will be shared.

Freshers' trials

Freshers' trials are to begin at 2pm at Honor Oak Park. Members of the club will be meeting the

freshers outside of Boland House at 1pm to escort them to the grounds by making use of our friends at SouthEastern Trains. A few drills will take place and then will be followed by a trial match. It was agreed that as many current club members as possible should come down to watch and when there make the effort to be friendly to freshers so that they feel noticed...especially the ones that look big.

Mr Smith is to confirm with John Baigan at HOP that sufficient quantities of gin will be behind the bar so that the players of 09-10 are given a proper Guy's welcome. This will be paid for by a whip round from the boys watching. As there is a possibility of a lot of freshers joining us we should be careful to sort the players with potential from those that are newer to the game. On another note if enough freshers join there is a possibility of the 3rd XV re-entering a competitive league.

Marcus...mmarp

Marcus is a box. Apparently has lost interest in the game and Guy's. Although he had agreed to lead the 2nd XV until Christmas it has been revealed that he works on Saturdays. He needs to be replaced as quickly as possible so that no more walkovers are given. Edward Hardman and Jack Limbrick were chucked around, not literally, as potential candidates; anyone who is keen to do it should make themselves known. This needs to be sorted by next Saturday, when the 2nd XV have a game. This fixture has been targeted as a great way to trial freshers in a more formal way. It is also known that the 2nd XV UH cup is in need of repair after its end of season exploits.

4.) Treasurers report

Mr Devonport tells us that the KCLSU grant for the year is £4080. It is allocated to various club activities, but it is likely that around £1000 of it will be available for spending on something more of the club's choosing. The subs account could not yet be accessed, however if the previous treasurer's memory serves him correctly it contains around £1600. The subs for membership will again be set at £30. Unfortunately Ferg ended his report on a sour note after he confessed Saturday commitments to Wanstead RFC, who play in a league above the GHRFC 1st XV...mmarp. He did however promise to be a good treasurer.

5.) Macadam

The Macadam Cup is scheduled to take place on 31/3/10 at Berrylands. It is important the GKT student side make sure they are available to play, so that the KCL rugby team can finally contest a game after so many years of no competitive fixture; hopefully Mr Underwood will facilitate this.

6.) Training and KCL/GHRFC

This part of the agenda provided the main 'meat' of the discussion. The all-weather pitches have been fully booked by various hockey and football clubs on Monday nights, so Monday training will be taking place in the area behind the old grandstand under our old friend the portable floodlight that so pathetically lit up the Bowling Green at the Griffin. It should be noted that when other student teams are on holiday the astroturf pitches will be again available for rugby, however this will only be before Christmas, after New Year and the late Spring. Mr Steele is exploring the possibility of using the astros under the banner of 'recreational activities' on Tuesdays and Thursdays...this may be a loop hole we can make use of. Mr Hadlington then followed this with an interesting account of how John Grant/Baigan are obliged to rent out the facilities to local clubs in

the area. Mr Davis has been given the responsibility of solving the lack of light problem by finding more. How much do floodlights cost to buy/rent? Will KCLSU help with costs? These are both exciting questions and ones that Tim will hopefully providing the answer to at the next meeting.

Recently it has been revealed to us that as of next season KCL will be charging GHRFC to use their own pitch(es), and that the 2nd XV field will be converted for association football. The exact details of this development are still unknown, but it is highly suspected that it is a money saving move by KCL. Dr Gibson mentioned that the original agreement was to have two rugby pitches at HOP after the redevelopment. A KCL 'civil servant' Jennifer Briggs is the person we are hearing this from, it is suspected the decision has come from a higher authority within KCL. Dr Gibson noted that Imperial Medicals do not have a problem using Teddington for their Saturday matches. KCL were able to fund the HOP redevelopment by flogging off the old St Thomas' pitches at Cobham to Chelsea, it was remarked that if they had not gone for pittance there would likely be enough money to start construction on the new pavilion.

It was proposed that a meeting between Steve Vaid (sports development at KCL), Jennifer Briggs and GHRFC take place. The charging for ground use will not start until next season, so there is still time to wait a while and find out exactly what the changes will be before making a move. A good relationship with KCL rugby should be encouraged to form. Mutual training would provide better access to facilities, as well as the option to run opposed sessions. Their treasurer Alistair Goodbrand is a friendly chap and seems like a closet egg, Mr West has agreed to contact him.

N/A.) Discipline

Mr Koffman interjected with the very serious issue of a complaint against GHRFC following harassment of two young girls at London Bridge station in the presence of their parents after the game against HSBC last Saturday. An angry email was sent to Mr Koffman informing him of the incident. He replied with a sincere apology and insists the players responsible send letters as soon as possible. Mr Hartley was involved in attempting calm the affronted family at the time. He claims the collective group as a whole was probably responsible. He and another player, however, will be writing the letters.

Although the complaint is not serious enough to warrant an arrest it is a stain on the club's reputation, and we should be more careful in the future as everyone present contributed to causing the complaint...apart from Lucas.

7.) Christmas Dinner

Mr Smith is arranging a club dinner at Belsushi's in December. The venue is well known as tolerant, and therefore an excellent place for the sort of meal where eating is not the most important part of the evening's agenda. This news was followed by a few very important remarks: apparently Nando's give 20% off to those with NHS cards and also Mr Rayappu highlighted the potential of free burgers at Belushi's...which are allegedly 'really good'. Many lols were had.

8.) Tour

Mr Davis is keen to tour before Christmas, this caused much excitement. We can look forward to some concrete details at the next meeting. It was also suggested that a tour on the scale of Barbados be arranged for the Summer of 2011. It is worth reminding everyone that Villagers, Wanderers,

Spirochetes and South Molton are being planned to take place at the close of the competitive season.

9.) A.O.B.

With a suspicious glint in his eye Mr Rayappu suggested contact sessions with girls at training would be a way to save space in the limited area we have, this again provided lmaos.

Mr Smith told of a club curry night after the first student games on 7/10/09, and also to expect the first annual GHRFC arm wrestling tournament in the coming season.

10.) Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in the Renal Dept. at Guy's on Tuesday 6th November at 6.00pm. After this committee meetings will take place on the first Tuesday of every month.