



Berkshire Rugby Union Referees Ltd

(operating as Berkshire Society of RFU Referees)
c/o Reading RFC, Holme Park, Sonning Lane, Reading, RG4 6ST

Summary Minutes of ExCom Meeting held on 3rd October 2023 at 8pm via ZOOM

Present: PL, DL, SB, KP, NC

ACTION

1. Apologies

RC

2. C/fwd actions

(Aug'23) MOD Consistency/Admin 'Event'

DL to arrange follow-up event to April session with MODs before the end of the year

DL

(Sept'22) Referee Feedback Forms on WTR *(completed by clubs, post-match)*

On RFU 'WTR roadshow' call (25/10), Mark Brown (WTR owner) confirmed availability of existing templates on WTR, as used by several other RefSocs for some time - MB took action to share details
NC has chased-up, repeatedly, via RFU MODO team, with no success

Oct'23 update: SB has contacted Mark Brown (WTR), need to follow-up as no response yet

SB

Resources/Succession Planning

Ongoing action for ExCom to consider succession planning & resourcing

- RC outlined need for support in coordinating CRefCs and YMOs, for both existing and potential new YMO/Club Ref recruits, from clubs or via the impending RFU ERR/ITR cycles, and suggested asking a member if they could assist (having previously volunteered to do 'something')

ExCom

Oct'23 update: RC has spoken to individual about role(s) and is trying to arrange a 'knowledge transfer' meeting with Colin Stonehouse re: Reading-area YMOs

RC

CRefCs

RC to coordinate a face-to-face/Zoom session with all CRefCs – session planned Tues 10/10

RC

(Aug'23) 100 game 'awards' (KP)

Agreement for KP to progress order of 100 game awards

c.5 'due' by the end of 2023/24 season, but lots of interest from members who have already achieved 100 games – larger order (20+) required?

KP to confirm whether supplier offers any pricing discount on larger volumes

Agreed engraving: BRR logo & '100' on one side; 'Berkshire Rugby Refs' on the other

KP

(Sept'23) Hosting of Sending-Off forms on WTR

Recently WTR communicated that they can now 'host' RC forms, allowing for online submission by refs with (direct) transfer to 'home' CB Disciplinary Sec's.

The potential pros & cons were discussed, and the following actions agreed:

SB to contact Mark Brown (WTR) to confirm:

- Whether a 'review' mechanism exists/can be added (to allow Chris Parker to 'QA' any forms

SB

- before onward transmission)?
- Who would have visibility of ‘published’ reports?

Oct’23 update:

- awaiting feedback from MB (WTR)
- DL advised of general disquiet/queries on similar lines across the Disciplinary Panel community

(Sept’23) Kit issue (rebranding/75th season)

It was agreed to progress an issue of kit to (i) reduce the ‘surplus’ held in the current account, (ii) commemorate the 75th season of activity (BSRFUR having been founded in 1948), and (iii) help publicise the name-change from ‘BSRFUR’ to ‘BRR’

NC shared details of the RFU ‘club hub’ procurement platform, with clothing/kit options available, bearing the England Rugby rose (at v.low prices), to which the BRR logo could be added.

It was subsequently agreed that members would be issued with a new t-shirt (white) and backpack.

Oct’23 update:

- Googleform circulated to members for completion of sizing *(& interest) – deadline: 15th Oct
- NC/KP to coordinate procurement with AG

NC/KP,AG

(Sept’23) Corporation Tax

PL has taken on ownership of correspondence with HMRC re: BRR’s (non)taxable status – technical letter drafted and to be sent to HMRC shortly

PL

3. Comms kits

DL to collect (old) To3 kit from Julian Rainford

DL

Confirmation that additional AXIWI units may be required, following ‘loss’ of one unit from Chris Parker’s set – KP to check with AG on pricing

KP

4. Training

NC advised that Lee Goodall has offered to run another Scrum session (LG is now coaching Oxford Uni Women, so Tuesdays are more easily available) – NC to advise Crispin – possibly Nov session topic?

NC,CD

Other topics/suggestions raised:

- Use of ‘local’ photos to support DLV consistency discussions – DE(?) to coordinate collation of pics from FB/social media for CD to use in members’ meeting
- BBO Regs on substitute numbers – some confusion re: what is allowed – clarification: “if captains can’t agree, it’s a maximum of 3”
- Mgmt of Colts coaches – to include in wider ‘game mgmt’ discussions
- All refs to be reminded re: notice on cry-offs/warning App’mt Team if potentially unable to fulfil a fixture to avoid last minute scrambles to fulfil fixtures

DE

5. Appointments

(ref. data shared by SB in advance of meeting)

Request received from RFU/RFRU on September appointment stats, due to anecdotal feedback on number of games unappointed nationally (Week 1: c.60; wk 2: c.90; wk 3: c.120)

Good coverage of games in Berkshire, though data showed fluctuating volumes week-to-week

Praise for App’mts Team for frequency of ‘+1’ appointments, giving refs opportunities to progress

SB to review November appointments, to assess number of games covered & relative availability of

SB

referees (post-RWC)

6. AOB

(RC) – c.7 DBS checks o/s for active members (previously o/s all MODs now updated)

NC to send out minutes for review, publish summary minutes on website and agree agenda for next meeting. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21:18 NC

The next ExCom meeting is scheduled for Tues 7th November 2023 – NC to circulate Agenda in advance, point members to previous Summary Minutes on website, etc. NC