

EASTERN COUNTIES RUGBY UNION LIMITED

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022



Minutes of the above Meeting, held at Cambridge RFC on

Saturday, June 11, 2022, commencing at 6.30 pm

1. Attendance

Ian Forton (Immediate Past President – in the Chair) and:

Alasdair Bovaird (EC Chair), Pamela Clarke (NURFC), Russell Clarke (EC M & C chair), Gary Lee (Norfolk RFU), Robert Temple (ECRU Hon Sec), Richard Watson (ECRU Governance chair), Alan Wilkins, Terry Mullet, Roy Holloway, Tim Reeve, Mike Ryland (all Ipswich RFC), Colin Gould, Roger Kemble (Brightlingsea RFC), Aaron Stokoe, (Thetford RFC), JJ Jeffrey (Cambridge RFC), S O’Kane (Great Yarmouth-Broadland RFC), Will Riggs (Cambridgeshire RFU), Gina Chivers (Cantabrigian RFC), Harriet Walachowski (Suffolk RFU), Declan Gallagher (Thurstons RFC), Tony Roberts (Shelford RFC), Mark Towler (Mistley RFC)

Also present for item 13 (see relevant minute) were representatives of Mersea Island RFC, Saffron Walden RFC, Colchester RFC, Bury St Edmunds RFC, West Norfolk RFC

2. Apologies

Bob Cranna (West Norfolk), Steve Mackee (ECRU Hon Treasurer), Bob Page (Felixstowe), Chris Capps-Jenner, Steph Hanratty (EC), Roger Pierson (EC Council Member),

3. Introduction

The IPP opened the meeting by introducing himself, explaining why he was in the chair, welcoming everybody, and thanking them for making the time to attend.

4. Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

These had been circulated in advance, were approved and signed by the IPP.

5. Matters Arising from the Above Minutes

There were none.

6. Report from the Committee on the affairs of the Constituent Body since the previous Annual General Meeting

The Annual Report had been circulated to all in advance of the AGM. The Chair invited any questions or comments. There were none and the report was Received.

7. Financial Report

A Financial Report (included with the Annual Report) had also been circulated to all in advance of the AGM. Again the Chair invited any questions or comments. There were none and the report was Received.

8. Priorities and Plan for 2022-23

The Chair distributed the “Planning for 2022 – 23” document, which identified five priorities:

- Developing and Supporting our Volunteers;
- Improving links between our clubs and schools;
- Maintaining and Developing the Men’s XV-a-side game;
- Improving the digital presence of Eastern Counties and of rugby in Eastern Counties, and;
- Improving Eastern Counties' Engagement with Clubs.

Feedback from clubs had led to a proposed additional priority:

- Support clubs to prioritise and access support for their facility development needs.

Commenting on this he remarked that we at present lacked both money and volunteers, and these may limit our ability to realise our ambitions. A formal endorsement of this plan was not sought, but discussion was invited. This focussed on how the three counties could engage and work more closely with EC, to improve communications and ease service delivery. At present only one of our counties is functioning effectively and the discussion concluded with an understanding that we need to ensure the restoration of three fully-effective counties.

9. Election of President-elect for the ensuing Year

There were no nominations. The IPP said he was prepared to continue for a short while in a more limited role. This offer was accepted, with thanks, and with the suggestion that we look to the three County Presidents to supplement his efforts.

10. Election of Officers for the ensuing year

The nominations from Management Committee were:

Chair	Alasdair Bovaird
Hon Secretary	Robert Temple
Hon Treasurer	Steven Mackee

There were no other nominations, so these were elected, unopposed.

11. Election of Patrons

No nominations had been received, and the IPP advised that nominations from the floor were not permissible. If there were any potential Patrons then their names should be passed to the Hon Secretary for consideration by Management Committee.

12. Election of Committee Chairs for the ensuing year

There were no nominations. The Chair explained that a Management Committee, consisting of the three officers, the three County representatives, the Council member and the Immediate Past President, would be convened to institute a recruitment process, seeking volunteers on the basis of tasks needing to be done, rather than roles to be filled.

13. Proposal

Proposed by R J Watson, Chair of Governance; seconded by A J Bovaird, Chair.

That Rules 5 & 13 of the Constitution be amended by the insertion of new Rules 5.11 and 5.12 to provide for the claims of the personal representative of a deceased Member, or the trustee in bankruptcy of a Member, and by the insertion of new Rules 13.5 and 13.7 to provide for the removal of members of Management Committee.

At this point in the meeting it was noted that with only 18 members present, the necessary quorum of twenty members had not been achieved. The meeting was adjourned and reconvened in accordance with rule 7.5 of the constitution. At that point a further five members were in attendance and the proposal was put to the 23 members present.

This was a special resolution which required a two thirds majority to be carried.

The proposal was carried, *nem con*

14. To consider any other motion or business duly proposed in accordance with Rule 7.2.5

There were none

15. To consider any other business of which due notice has been given.

There was none

16. To hear any other relevant matter for the consideration of the Committee during the ensuing year, but on which no voting shall be allowed.

None raised

The IPP thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 7.06 pm