



OXFORDSHIRE RUGBY UNION

*Registered Office: The Old Tannery, Hensington Rd, Woodstock OX20 1JL
A Limited Company. Registered in England under the Industrial and Provident
Societies Act 1965 Registered No. 29325R*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2019/29 Season

HELD VIRTUALLY DUE TO COVID 19

on 23rd June 2020 at 7pm

Followed immediately by a Clubs Meeting

AGM Agenda is set out below:

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of the Minutes from the 2019 AGM.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 2019 AGM.
4. Ratification of the proposed Officers of the County (President, Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)
5. Approval of the updated constitution (Oxfordshire RFU CB Rules) document
6. Ratification of Committee Board Members
7. County Awards
8. County Reports
9. 2020/21 Season's Achievements.
10. 2020/21 Priorities and Focus of the CB
11. Clubs Feedback and 'Questions to the Board'.

12. Any Other Business.

1. Apologies for absence:

Dave Larham (RDO) – currently furloughed, Phillippe Peirsegaele

Attendees: Club representatives. This meeting was attended by 21 people representing the clubs: Aubrey Doran, Kevin Robinson, Jennie Allen, Chris White, Nick McKeown, Peter Ramsdale, Pete Conway, Patrick Neale, Mark Gardner, Neil Hopper, Chris McCarthy, Bob Fisk, Graham McDonough, Matt Rushton, Patrick Sweeney, Keith Upton, Tim Stevens, Dave Rudman, Craig Morley, Roger Graham, Mark Boland, Jim Holmes (Referees society)

Executive Board attendees – Pete Bramley (Interim Chair), Karen East (Secretary), Rob Walsh (RFU Council Representative), Phillippe Peirsegaele, Gina Overton, Jenny Bosley (President), Doug Bosley, Andrew Tacon (Treasurer), Jane and Paul Weaver

Pete Bramley (Interim Chair) opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Jenny Bosley (2019/20 President) Chaired the AGM

2. **Acceptance of the last minutes dated July 2019.**

Minutes were accepted. ^[L]_[SEP] **Proposed by Aubrey Doran,
Seconded Mark Gardener**

3. **No Matters arising from those minutes** ^[L]_[SEP]

Re. Schools Union, the best person to contact is John Thomas of Chipping Norton School. ***AP. Karen to pass this information to
Phillippe Peirsegaele***

4. **Ratification of the Proposed Officers of the County**

Appointments were accepted and ratified as per the below list.

There were no additional nominations submitted.

Treasurer: Andrew Tacon (Proposed Aubrey Doran, Seconded Keith Upton)

County President: Pete Bramley (Proposed Mark Gardner, Seconded Chris White)

Executive Chair: Pete Bramley (Proposed Patrick Neale, Seconded Pete Ramsdale)

Secretary: Karen East (Proposed Mark Gardner, Seconded Aubrey Doran)

5. [L] [SEP] Changes to the Constitution / Oxfordshire RFU rules

As detailed in the calling notice papers changes to the Oxfordshire RFU rules were proposed by the committee. Changes were accepted and ratified in the rules with immediate effect. **Proposed Rob Walsh, Seconded Aubrey Doran**

For clarity the changes were:

- Amendment 1: Committee members shall receive no remuneration for serving on the committee other than the payment of authorized expenses for carrying out their duties unless approved by the board and such payments are shown as a separate item within the annual accounts.
- Amendment 2: The position of vice presidents shall cease with immediate effect and annual subscriptions will not be taken.
- Amendment 3: The committee may appoint patrons of the CB. Such patrons will be individuals and they shall not be members of the CB and shall not have the right of voting at general meetings but will have such rights as the committee may decide and shall pay an annual subscription as fixed by the committee. Life members have one collective vote at AGMs.

The Officers of the County will sign the rules and file to formalize.

Pete Bramley took over the meeting from this point

Pete thanked Jenny Bosley for her work as President over the last two years.

6. Ratification of Board Members

The below board appointments were accepted and ratified.

Chair of Governance and Safeguarding: Rob Walsh (Proposed Chris Mcarthy, Seconded: Mark Gardner)

Chair of Representative Rugby: Doug Bosley (Proposed Chris White, Seconded Aubrey Doran)

Chair of Development Rugby: Phil Perisegaele (Proposed Nick McKeown, Seconded Pete Ramsdale)

Co Chairs of Competitions and Fixtures: Jane and Paul Weaver: (Proposed Chris White, Seconded Neil Hopper)

Chair of Media & Communications: Gina Overton (Proposed Nick McKeown, Seconded Chris McCarthy) 

7. Awards

Awards were recognized for the following people. Those receiving awards will take part in a formal presentation at a later date, to be confirmed.

Chris Skaife our outgoing Chair receives a county badge in honour of his two and a half years as Chair for the County.

David Wicks receives a posthumous award (Witney RFC) – RVC tie

The following are awarded RVC (Really Valued Club) ties (men) and scarves (women).

Jane and Paul Weaver – work with Banbury RFC

Craig Burrows – work at Grove RFC

Matt Mountford – work with Chinnor keeping the second team going and now as manager with Chinnor 1st

Rachael Barker and Kirsten Hayes for their work at Gosford All Blacks

Keith and Jean Oakes for the work done at Banbury RFC

Neil Hopper for his work bringing Oxford Harlequins forward

Kevin Robinson proposed that Nick Cole is given Honorary Life Membership. This was accepted. **Proposed: Mark Gardner, Seconded: Chris White**

8. County Reports

Rob Walsh (RFU Council Representative)

Rob has spoken to insurers regarding self-employed player insurance. So far insurers will only cover teams but Rob is still investigating.

International Ticket Allocation – notes that have been sent out by the RFU are a precaution. There will be further updates to follow regarding this as the Covid 19 situation evolves.

Biggest warning to clubs is finance. The economy is going to be a problem. Clubs are encouraged to take stock of finances where they can and to look outside of the box for sponsors.

The situation changes daily at Twickenham. The Autumn Internationals are still not confirmed. Updates will come out as they are available.

Andrew Tacon (Treasurer)

Oxfordshire RFU CB has an immediate support fund of £29,000 for clubs. Four successful applications have come in so far and one more pending. Applications of up to £2,000 will be considered per club.

Youth money, County games, Volunteer funds have not been spent due to the Covid 19 but we have transferred some of the money across to the immediate support fund.

Next years money is the main concern, it's an open task and we do not know what funding will come through.

Jenny Bosley (2019/20 President)

Thanks to the clubs for their warmth and hospitality. Two years has passed very fast.

The season has been cut short because of Covid 19.

Jenny passed her congratulations to clubs for the season's achievements.

Paul / Jane Weaver (Co Chairs of Competitions and Fixtures)

Date of return to rugby means planning is complication. If Iffley Road is available the Cup and Shield could potentially be a season opener.

The festivals will be played at the clubs that were allocated them last season so that that they do not miss out.

Oxford Harlequins (Neil Hopper) queried why the Cup and Shield would go to Iffley Road and not them. It was explained that we would utilize the AGP but because we do not know when the season starts Iffley may make more sense. If the season starts late there may not be any spare dates to run it and it will clash with club games hence why Iffley Road is being considered. Details will be confirmed once more is known.

Jim Holmes – we have found the under 14s / 15 cup a great arena for the YMOs. When and if the season starts the referee's society will try and populate those games with the YMOs as much as possible. PW / JW confirmed that they would like to extend their thanks to the Referee Society for their fantastic support.

Referees Society (Jim Holmes)

This last season the referees society covered over 90% of matches which is excellent. YMOs and adult referees are being recruited.

Looking to 20/21 there will be an open and transparent pathway for referees. This will be on the referees society website. Appointments policy for the clubs will also be published on the website.

Chair of Media and Communications (Gina Overton)

Gina gave a media and communications presentation.

Clubs are asked to let the secretary know if they do not receive regular communications. Most communications are sent via GMS, social medias is also used widely.

9. Seasons Achievements

County Cup and Shield are not yet finished due to Covid 19. Jane and Paul Weaver will work with Doug and Jenny Bosley to try and get these games played.

The board was advised that Tina Simpson (Henley RFC) represented and reached 350 games. It is agreed that she should be honored but at this moment the award to be given has not yet been decided. The board will discuss further at a future board meeting.

10. Priorities and Focus of the CB

Current short-term focus is on Covid 19. There are still CB grants available to support clubs. Jay Bowers is available to help if clubs need

support as well as the board.

The next immediate focus of the CB is to finalise the Local Rugby Plan.

11. Clubs Questions

Mark Gardner (GAB) asked about risk assessments. A. All clubs have to do these, they are tough but essential. Suggestion was for County to provide a basic risk assessment template. The board will look in to this. Chipping Norton have done risk assessments and would be happy to share those. If any further clubs would like to share them send them to the secretary. The secretary will then circulate them to clubs. **AP. Pete Bramley to chat to Jamie Goddard to see what can be done from a risk assessment perspective. JG will contact clubs directly.**

Mark Gardner (GAB) discussed Covid 19 track and trace and mentioned that this could work within rugby clubs.

No further questions.

12. Any Other Business

Pete Bramley had a discussion with Jamie Goddard (Rugby Safe Officer for the CB) prior to the AGM. Jamie will utilize his skills and knowledge and can assist clubs as needed. JG may run a webinar but is currently setting out his plan.

Chris McCarthy – as of this season the referees have to do DBS checking of all of the referees. At the moment can the referee's society be contacted as part of safeguarding? A. Jenny Bosley (Safeguarding and Discipline committee) has noted this and is looking in to this. **AP. Jenny Bosley.**

Mark Boland – A presentation on where we are / thoughts for the reboot would be useful. The board will look in to this. This could be done on Zoom. **AP. Pete Bramley / Full board at next board meeting.**

Mark Boland – there are issues with travellers in some areas. RW

advised that Clubs are warned to look out for them and ensure gates are locked. Mark Boland / Patrick Sweeney advised that through experience it is very difficult to get them removed.

Keith Upton has confidence in Pete Bramley but asked how Pete Bramley will handle his President / Chair role and his referee positions. Pete confirmed that there is no conflict of interest and that he does have a capacity to carry out the roles. The board has discussed this at length. The referee role means that he will visit many clubs anyway and afterwards he can act in President capacity with additional visits to the clubs on Saturdays and Sundays (once games resume). Pete also acknowledged that the board is very supportive and work well alongside each other.

Pete Bramley thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He noted that there would be a Chairman's meeting every month going forward. Details will be cascaded in due course by the secretary. Clubs were reminded they could contact members of the board as needed between meetings.

Pete Bramley (Chair) closed the meeting at 20:35