

Approved 12/08/2007

MINUTES, MARFU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 11, 2007

Present:

Officers: Elaine Recchuiti, president; Reyn Kinzey, secretary; Pat Costello, treasurer; Carl Schmitt, at large.

EPRU: Carl Ostermann, Susan Martinko.

PRU: Eric Pittelkau, Jason Wallach (and son), Maria Vastola.

VRU: George Durocher.

Elaine introduced and welcomed George as a new director from the VRU.

Minutes of last meeting approved:

The minutes to the December AGM were approved. (Moved by Costello, seconded by Schmitt, approved by voice vote).

Sevens Committee:

Susan presented the report of the Sevens Committee. The committee's report included three recommendations: (1) holding two qualifiers, one on June 9th at NOVA and the other July 14 at the Maryland Exiles; (2) discontinuing Tier II; and (3) holding the Men's and Women's Championship on July 21 in DC. The three recommendations were treated as three motions.

1. Several board members expressed reservations about holding only two qualifiers and both of them in the DC area. The motion passed by voice vote, but the board asks the committee to consider three qualifiers with a more even geographical representation of the territory next year.
2. Several board members suggested that it would not "cost" us very much to continue Tier II for another year, and the Tier does encourage some clubs to develop their 7's program. The committee's motion to discontinue Tier II failed by voice vote. The board then acted to instruct the 7's Committee to continue Tier II for one more year (motion by Kinzey, second by Schmitt, passed by voice vote).
3. The recommendation to hold the Championship on July 21 in DC was approved by voice vote (motion by Costello, second by Pittelkau).

EMT's vs ATC's

The board once again continued a discussion about whether we should continue to require EMT's at our events or if we should allow certified athletic trainers. A motion was made to change our wording to require "qualified medical personnel," and the motion was carried by voice vote (motion by Durocher, seconded by Osterman).

Collegiate Men's Competition

A motion was made to approve the Men's Collegiate Division I that was discussed at the AGM. The League will begin play this fall (2007). The motion passed by voice vote (motion by Pittelkau, seconded by Schmitt) with no dissenting voices.

One consequence of this league would be that DI players would NOT be available for LAU Fall select side play. Elaine will direct the Men's Collegiate Committee to consider this.

Match Coordinators

Assignments were made for match coordinators at MARFU events.

Accounting for Select Sides

Pat is working on reconciling the accounting for the men's select side programs (both 7's and 15's). At the moment, the 15's side is showing a surplus of \$2,309.45, but some bills are still out-standing, and that money will probably be spent. On the other hand, the 7's is showing a deficit of \$1,461.64, but we might be able to work that out.

Final Budget

A draft budget for this year was passed at the AGM in December. It will be finalized after the LAU's declare their final number of clubs on April 1 (at that time, Pat can determine exactly how much income we will derive from dues).

Coaching Elite Program

Nigel Melville invited coaches to come to San Diego to work with the All Blacks and USA Rugby. Several MARFU coaches attended and commented that it was a valuable experience. MARFU helped with some of these coaches' expenses once they got themselves to San Diego.

Discipline

Carl Schmitt reported that the VRU has fined Charlotte \$1,100 for playing a match when the club had only 4 players CIPP'd.

He also reported that ref's are often not including players' CIPP on disciplinary reports. Sometimes they are not even using players' names. This, of course, creates difficulties in enforcing disciplinary actions.

Date for next meeting:

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2007.