

MINUTES, MARFU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 26, 2006

Present:

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

EPRU: Carl Ostermann, Susan Martinko.

PRU: Eric Pittelkau, Jason Wallach.

VRU: David Chapman.

Minutes of last meeting approved:

The minutes to the March meeting were approved as posted to the web site.

USA Rugby Report:

Pat provided a written report on the last USA Rugby Meeting. The old "Board" of USA Rugby has now become a "Congress," which will have considerably less power than the old board. MARFU was the only TU that seemed opposed to this loss of power.

The Congress will approve the new board, which holds actual power.

For now, our representatives to the Congress will remain the same: Elaine (EPRU), Pat (PRU), and David (VRU). The VRU elects its representative directly; the EPRU and the PRU appoint theirs. Elaine will declare our representative to USA Rugby.

Our by-laws need to be amended to reflect the new nomenclature that USA Rugby is now using.

Calendar for Fall, 2006

The calendar for fall, 2006 is now available on the MARFU website.

Collegiates

The seedings for Collegiate Div I and II are available on the website. Seedings for Division III will be determined by the Round Robin Tournament to be held November 18 – 19.

Elaine suggested that we consider doing away with this round robin and come up with a different format. No formal motion was seconded. Last year, the VRU did not send a representative.

Steve Cohen, Eric, and Carl Schmitt have agreed that the men's collegiate Division I needs to develop a more meaningful and more competitive territorial structure. Eric has developed a general plan, and the group asked the board for permission to move forward. Motion made by Kinzey, seconded by Elaine, and passed by voice vote. A more specific proposal will be presented in December.

Men's and Women's Club

USA is planning a competitions audit which may change the structure of the men's and women's competitive structure.

The MARFU women's championship will now be decided in the fall. Division I will be determined by matrix play. Division II will be determined by a tournament. We have two bids, one from Raleigh, and one from NOVA. David motioned that we award the bid to Raleigh, seconded by Carl O. Motion passed unanimously.

Seven's

The report of the 7's Committee will be posted online.

A motion to make the women's championship permanent (it has been an "invitational" up until now) was made by Kinzey, seconded by Elaine, passed unanimously. A motion to also make the Women's Division II permanent was made by Carl S., seconded by Susan, approved unanimously.

Referees

Pat passed out a break down of what MARR is charging us for referees for our events. He feels that we can resolve any remaining issues with the Society.

The RDO is in Chicago in two weeks. MARR does not have the funds to send their representative, Tom Lyons. The cost would be about \$600. Carl S. motioned that MARFU provide the funds, seconded by Elaine, passed by voice vote.

MARFU will develop a formal procedure for teams to question technical mistakes made by referees (not "missed calls" on the field, but, for example, when referees apply an incorrect procedure for matches resulting in a tie at the end of regulation play).

Treasurer's Report(s)

Pat passed out a number of written reports, including a breakdown of championships and select side expenses. Basically, we are "about where we need to be." However, we are

still about \$2,000 over-budget for the men's select side. We are trying to recover some of this from players, but if we do not, some money will need to be subtracted from the men's select side's budget for next year.

Collegiate Men's Select Side Coaches

Elaine moved to keep Terry Ryland and Doc Jones for 2007 – 08, seconded by Kinzey, passed by voice vote but opposed by Schmitt.

Funding for Foreign Players on MARFU Select Sides

USA now allows up to 5 foreign players for 15's and 2 for 7's. Pat moved that we not fund such foreign players. Motion died for lack of a second.

Women's U – 19's

Apparently, USA has named coaches for territorial women's U-19 sides. MARFU does not support this program.

Discipline

Carl Schmitt has developed a form for submitting disciplinary actions which can be used consistently across the three LAU's in MARFU. He has had it okayed by each of the LAU presidents and disciplinary chairs. Kinzey motions to have MARFU use the form consistently across the three LAU's, seconded by Pat, passed unanimously.

Trainers

Elaine wants us to move towards having athletic trainers at all of our events. This issue has been discussed before. The main concern is what it will cost us. Eric will develop a cost analysis and present it to us in December. He will talk to Steven Cohen, who has long promoted this idea.

Business Development/ Vendors/ RFP

Elaine wants us to develop a business development group and also to look at our relationships with vendors. Tom Lyons, Len Borki and Eric will work on sponsorship and business development, and Pat will look at our relationship with vendors.

Dates for rest of year:

The AGM will be Saturday, December 9, 2006. Nominations for Officers are due November 9, 2006.