



Club Rugby Council meeting (2008/1)

Date: *Tuesday, 29 January 2008*
Location: *MRU Referees' Room, FMG Stadium*
Time: *7pm*

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

CRC Chairman John Anderson welcomed all members to the meeting.

Attendance: Tony Murphy (MRU board chairman); Peter Clark (MRU board member); John Whitehead (MRU board member); Hadyn Smith (MRU CEO); Chris Ricketts (MRU community rugby manager); Martin Brady (MRU club liaison officer); John Anderson (CRC chairman); Dave Wolland (CRC deputy chairman); Neil Kitchen (Feilding); Sam Strahan (Oroua); Gary Nesdale (Oroua); Colin Gates (Te Kawau); Trent Te Kooro (Kia Toa); Kenny Johnson (Kia Toa); Kevin Tod (HSOB); Jim Lyons (HSOB); Colin Parker (Freyberg); Neil Aitcheson (Freyberg); Barrie Angland (MRSC); Malcolm Burr (Marist); Troy Homes (Linton Army); David Faulkner (Massey); Roy Todd (COB); Mike Haddon (Manawatu Maori Rugby); Murray Mitchell (Te Kawau); Glenn Lind (FOB).

Apologies: Damon Durie (MSSRB); Mike Dravitski (Te Kawau); Graeme Bull (MRRA); Shane Zander (Bulls); Dave Parata (Kia Toa); Steve Morris (MRU president). Kevin Tod / Jim Lyons.

2. Confirmation of minutes from 5 December 2007

Minutes confirmed by Troy Homes / Jim Lyons

3. Matters arising

No matters arising

4. MRU Board Report (Tony Murphy)

Mr Murphy said the Annual Report would be distributed to clubs in the next week or two. The current focus for Provincial Unions in New Zealand and NZRU was the state of the game and the review of the Air New Zealand Cup. He said that

the Union's AGM was scheduled for Monday 18 February 2008 in the McMillan & Lockwood Lounge (FMG Stadium), starting at 7pm.

5. MRU Financial Position Report (Hadyn Smith)

Mr Smith gave a brief report to clubs saying that the MRU had made a small surplus and that would be explained in the Annual Report.

6. Confirmation of Club CRC delegates

The following club members were confirmed as CRC delegates for their respective clubs/organisations in 2008:

Roger Heatley (APRFC); Shane Zander (Bulls); Steve Kinane (Bunnythorpe); Dave Wolland (Bush); Roy Todd (COB); Barry Mitchell (Dannevirke Sports); Doug Brew (FOB); Neil Kitchen (Feilding); Neil Aitcheson (Freyberg); Terry Cooney (Halcombe); Kenny Johnson (Kia Toa); Troy Homes (Linton Army); Malcolm Burr (Marist); David Faulkner (Massey); Gary Nesdale (Oroua); Jim Lyons (HSOB); Mike Dravitski (Te Kawau); Graeme Bull (MRRRA); Barrie Angland (MRSC); Damon Durie (MSSRB); Farah Palmer (WAG); Mike Haddon (Manawatu Maori).

7. Election of CRC Chairman and Deputy Chairman

CRC Chairperson John Anderson and CRC Deputy Chairperson Dave Wolland both indicated they would stand down.

Jim Lyons nominated, seconded by Gary Nesdale, Kevin Tod for the Chairperson's position – the meeting voted unanimously in favour.

Gary Nesdale nominated, seconded by Dave Wolland, David Faulkner for the Deputy Chairperson's position - the meeting voted unanimously in favour.

8. Election of Operations Support Committee

The following members were voted onto the OSC for 2008: Dan Lewis (Oroua); Murray Mitchell (Te Kawau); Neil Aitcheson (Freyberg); Trent Te Kooro (Kia Toa); Neil Kitchen (Feilding); Malcolm Burr (Marist).

The OSC would be chaired by MRU community rugby manager Chris Ricketts.

9. 2008 Club Competition Format

MRU community rugby manager Chris Ricketts explained the format for 2008 saying that it would be a 13 team round robin first round followed by a cross pool playoff system. The Turbos players would play the full round robin.

Discussions were held around holding traditional games later in the season and placement of the bye. Mr Ricketts said he would distribute to clubs information regarding the bye and aimed to have the draw out to clubs in two weeks' time.

10. 2009 Club Competition Format

John Anderson talked to a letter that was written and sent to the MRU board for consideration in which it stated that clubs were opposed to the current 2009 format where there would be a two division 16 team Senior 1 competition. The letter followed a meeting of the majority of clubs on 15 January 2008 where the 2009 club format was discussed.

Board chairperson Tony Murphy asked whether the content of the letter was the position of the CRC. Mr Anderson confirmed that it was. Malcolm Burr (Marist) said that the letter stated that all clubs were opposed to a two division competition. Mr Burr said Marist did not hold that view and supported a two division competition.

Mr Murphy also asked whether clubs supported the other points of the MRU 2009 competition document distributed to clubs in April 2007. Mr Nesdale responded by saying that clubs only have an issue with the structure of the competition and were looking for a 'compromise' from the MRU board.

After much discussion the outcome was that the CRC unanimously supported the letter being presented to the MRU board for consideration at its next meeting. Mr Murphy said that the letter would be given serious consideration by the board.

11. Player Inducements

MRU CEO Hadyn Smith spoke to the meeting about suggestions that players were being offered inducements to transfer from one MRU affiliated club to another. Mr Smith said MRU staff had produced a discussion document which would be distributed to clubs within the coming week.

12. General business

- Barrie Angland (Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club) made the following comments:
 - o Supporters' Club AGM is on Tuesday 5 February at Club Palmerston (Linton Street), starting at 7.30pm
 - o Two MRSC delegates will attend the annual Rugby Supporters' national conference in Wellington next month
 - o Footy @ 4 radio show is there to promote club rugby and Mr Angland asked for feedback from clubs on the show
 - o He congratulated Turbos Johnny Leota and Hayden Triggs for their selection in the Highlanders squad and suggested the CRC write to them and congratulate them and wish them all the best for the Super 14 competition.

- MRU board chairperson Tony Murphy congratulated Barrie Angland on his QSM he received in the New Year's Honours List.

Meeting closed at 8.38pm