



## Club Rugby Council meeting (2010/2)

**Date:** *Wednesday, 14 April 2010*  
**Location:** *MRU Referees' Room, FMG Stadium*  
**Time:** *7pm*

### ***Minutes***

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Attendance: Kevin Tod (CRC Chair), Steve Morris (MRU Board Chair), John Knowles (MRU CEO), Chris Ricketts (MRU community rugby manager), Dave Rennie (Turbos coach), Martin Brady (MRU rugby services manager), Steve Nagy (Te Kawau), Barry Mitchell (Dannevirke), Garry Watts (Dannevirke), Troy Homes (Linton Army), Lyall Mooney (Linton Army), Jason Wright (Bulls), John Whitehead (Massey University), Doug Brew (Feilding Old Boys Oroua), Steve Kinane (Bunnythorpe), Kim Durham (COB), Peter Hogan (MRRA), Barrie Angland (Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club), Trent Te Kooro (Kia Toa), Dan Lewis (Feilding Old Boys Oroua), Gary Nesdale (Feilding Old Boys Oroua), Sean Clark (Bush).

Apologies: Hugh Blair (MRU Board), Peter Askey (MRU Board), David Faulkner (Massey University), Roger Heatley (Ashhurst Pohangina), Terry Cooney (Halcombe), Tasi Tuhana (Kia Toa). Confirmed by Troy Homes / Barry Mitchell.

#### **2. Confirmation of minutes from 2 February 2010**

Minutes were confirmed by Peter Hogan / Kim Durham.

#### **3. Matters arising**

Kevin Tod raised the issue of Reciprocal Bar Rights for club patrons attending each other's clubrooms. Mr Brady said all clubs had signed the agreement and it had been distributed.

#### **4. MRU CEO Update – John Knowles**

Mr Knowles raised two items:

### Turbos Season Ticket Offer:

The promotional message for the offer is as follows:

Remember how Manawatu SAVED THE TURBOS? Now it's time to GET BEHIND THE TURBOS! To help launch this season, Higgins have offered an incentive to buy your tickets early at very hot prices. Manawatu Rugby is offering the first 2500 season tickets sold before the end of May with a huge discount: Covered Stand: Was \$210, Now \$175; Uncovered Stand: Was \$138, Now \$115; General Admission: Was \$108, Now \$90.

Tickets gain you entry to all seven competition home games plus the pre-season match v Hawke's Bay. Community organisations will be selling tickets on behalf of Manawatu Rugby, and they benefit by receiving \$20 per ticket sold!

### Rugby World Cup 2011:

Mr Knowles said the MRU would play a key role in the operational management of the two pool games and the three training venues. The MRU will provide a high level of support to the RNZ 2011 staff that will be appointed to coordinate these activities in our area. The MRU have entered into a contractual agreement with RNZ 2011 as to the level and nature of the support we will provide in the following areas: Accreditation; Administrative planning/support; Broadcaster/media support; Volunteer management; Ticketing; Match management; VIP hosting support; Catering support; Team hosting/logistics; Team liaison; Training venue management.

The MRU would also be looking for volunteers from the local rugby community to assist with the staging of the two matches.

## **5. 2010 Competition Discussion**

Prior to the meeting discussing the competition format, Turbos coach Dave Rennie spoke to the meeting regarding Turbo players' availability for club rugby in the lead up to the ITM Cup. Mr Rennie said the following:

The Turbos management would consider the following points when deciding on players' availability for club rugby during the period of the 2010 Turbos' Pre Season and ITM Cup matches.

### Pre -season:

- Starting XV will probably not be available for club rugby following each game
- Reserves will probably be available for club rugby following each game depending on how much game time they had
- Overall, the decision whether to make a player available to clubs will be made based on "the needs of the player."

### ITM Cup:

- It is unlikely the playing 22 will be available for club rugby but again will be assessed on the individual "player's needs."

If club coaches were unsure whether players are available then contact Dave Rennie on 021 344 398.

Regarding the 2010 competition, Mr Tod looked to ensure concise discussion on the matter and asked for a show of hands on who favoured a two-full round competition followed by semifinals and finals. All clubs were in favour.

Discussion then arose around whether points would be carried over from one round to the other and the following motion was put by Kim Durham / John Whitehead: "Points start again in the second round."

Voting was:

In favour of the motion: Bulls, Bush, COB, Dannevirke, Linton Army, Massey University, Old Boys Marist, Te Kawanu.

Against the motion: Feilding Old Boys Oroua, Kia Toa.

Abstained: Bunnythorpe, Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club, Manawatu Rugby Referees' Association.

#### Summary of competition:

End of 1<sup>st</sup> round: 22 May 2010

End of 2<sup>nd</sup> round: 24 July 2010

Semifinals: 30 July 2010 (Friday night preferred)

Final: 7 August 2010

Points Table: Points start again in round two

There was also discussion around looking to change lower grade second round matches to ensure an all clubs' Finals Day was on 7 August. Mr Ricketts said he would look into facilitating that. Mr Ricketts also said he was open to Gary Nesdale's suggestion to extend game start times to allow reserves to back clubs' Senior I teams.

## **6. 2011 Competition Review process – Chris Ricketts**

Mr Ricketts told the meeting that the Operations Support Committee had developed a timeline for the review and development of next year's competition format. Clubs had until 1 June to submit their proposals to the committee for consideration. He said it was a chance for clubs to establish a competition which could be in place of a number of years and be initiative in creating more rugby opportunities.

Mr Tod said that clubs would need to consider promotion/relegation and the criteria for Senior I status.

## **7. General Business**

- Mr Tod asked what club the IPC Colts team was affiliated to and Mr Ricketts said they were, along with a Church-based team, to the Massey University club.
- Mr Tod also mentioned a seed company (CROPMARK SEEDS) was offering clubs a financial reward for any person associated with a club

purchasing seed from them. Mr Tod said he was happy to talk to any club about the offer.

- Mr Knowles thanked the clubs for the work they do throughout the season and, in particular, the four merged clubs for their successes.
- Mr Brady outlined to the meeting that only four clubs had fulfilled their NZRU and MRU requirements to have all their players registered. He said that clubs have until 5pm on Friday (16 April) to hand registrations into the MRU office or penalties would follow if unregistered players played at the weekend. Mr Brady also outlined to clubs that all head and assistant coaches must do RugbySmart and, again, there were a number of clubs that had coaches which had not attended courses. He said there was a catch up session on Saturday 17 April 2010 in the Referees' Room at FMG Stadium.

Meeting closed at 8.18pm.