



## **Club Rugby Council meeting (2010/1)**

**Date:** *Tuesday, 2 February 2010*  
**Location:** *MRU Referees' Room, FMG Stadium*  
**Time:** *7pm*

### ***Minutes***

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

Kevin Tod welcomed delegates to the meeting and thanked them for their contribution to rugby in Manawatu.

Attendance: Kevin Tod (CRC chair), Dave Faulkner (CRC deputy chair), John Knowles (MRU CEO), Martin Brady (MRU club liaison officer), Steve Nagy (Te Kawau), Sam Moke (Bulls), Boots White (Bulls), Terry Cooney (Halcombe), Colin Gates (Te Kawau), Troy Homes (Linton Army), Roger Heatley (Ashhurst Pohangina), Jason Wright (Bulls), Grant Ewens (Bulls), Dave Faulkner (Massey University), Kim Durham (College Old Boys), Steve Morris (MRU president), Peter Hogan (Manawatu Rugby Referees' Association), Garry Watts (Dannevirke Sports), Barry Mitchell (Dannevirke Sports), Peter Askey (MRU board), Brendan Clare (Feilding), Patrick Bevan (Bunnythorpe), Steve Kinane (Bunnythorpe), Neil Aitcheson (Freyberg), Dan Lewis (Feilding Old Boys Oroua), Gary Nesdale (Feilding Old Boys Oroua), Nick Reid (Manawatu Secondary Schools Rugby Board).

Apologies: Farah Palmer (WAG), Barrie Angland (Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club), Chris Ricketts (MRU), Tony Murphy (MRU chair), Mike Dravitski (Te Kawau), Mike Haddon (Manawatu Maori). Sam Moke / Brendan Clare.

#### **2. Confirmation of minutes from 19 October 2009**

Minutes were confirmed by Kim Durham / Dave Faulkner.

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

No matters arising.

#### **4. Confirmation of CRC delegates**

The following were confirmed as CRC delegates for 2010:

Roger Heatley (Ashhurst Pohangina RFC), Jason Wright (Bulls RFC), Steve Kinane (Bunnythorpe RFC), Paul Roache (Bush Sports Club), Kim Durham (College Old Boys RFC), Barry Mitchell (Dannevirke Sports Club), Doug Brew (Feilding Old Boys Oroua RFC), Brendan Clare (Feilding RFC), Neil Aitcheson (Freyberg Old Boys RFC), Terry Cooney (Halcombe RFC), Trent Te Kooro (Kia Toa RFC), Troy Homes (Linton Army RFC), Kevin Tod (Old Boys Marist RFC), Dave Faulkner (Massey University RFC), Steve Nagy (Te Kawau RFC), Peter Hogan (Manawatu Rugby Referees' Association), Doug Bettridge (Manawatu Junior Rugby Board), Nick Reid (Manawatu Secondary Schools Rugby Board). Non-voting members: Barrie Angland (Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club), Mike Haddon (Manawatu Maori).

#### **5. Election of officers**

##### **a. Election of CRC chairman and CRC deputy chairman**

Brendan Clare nominated Kevin Tod as the 2010 CRC chairman, seconded by Roger Heatley. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the motion. Kevin Tod nominated Dave Faulkner as the 2010 CRC deputy chairman, seconded by Kim Durham. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the motion.

##### **b. Election of Operations Support Committee**

Nominations were called from the floor and the following members were nominated and duly elected to the OSC for 2010: Malcolm Burr, Murray Mitchell, Dan Lewis, Brendan Clare, Neil Aitcheson and Kim Durham. Chairman: Chris Ricketts (MRU community rugby manager).

#### **6. Nomination of MRU president for 2009**

Feilding RFC nominated Terry Clare as president for 2010 with Old Boys Marist RFC seconding the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by the delegates. This nomination is to go to the AGM from the CRC as a recommendation and ratification.

#### **7. Confirmation of CRC rep on Appointments' Committee**

Kim Durham nominated Kevin Tod to be the CRC rep on the Appointments' Committee for the next year, Neil Aitcheson seconded the motion. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the motion.

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

Mr Knowles made the following points:

- He thanked CRC members for their efforts during the past year.
- The Union was advertising for a Coach Development Officer – focus on coaching coaches who coach at the age group level. Howard Ede, MRU Financial Controller, has resigned. Position will be advertised.

- The MRU has reviewed ticketing for the 2010 Air NZ Cup – prices have gone up slightly on last year with seven games scheduled at FMG Stadium this year.
- All MRU management and coaching staff (Turbos included) are now based at Arena Manawatu. The Turbos will still use Massey University for trainings and Kelly's Gym for weights etc.
- The NZRU has cut the National Women's Competition.
- Registrations this year are important with Manawatu needing to increase its numbers.
- Supporters' Club – MRU is keen to strengthen its relationship with the MRSC with clubs having a role to play. There is also an opportunity for a pool of volunteers to be formed in the lead up and during the RWC2011.
- 125<sup>th</sup> MRU Jubilee – Next year is the Union's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary with celebrations looking likely in April next year.
- Merchandising – there will greater emphasis placed on merchandising this year.
- Signing of players – Mr Knowles said it was disappointing to lose Andre Taylor and Kurt Baker but he said he wasn't expecting any further losses.
- Arena Manawatu had indicated level 2 in the grandstand will be developed so there is an opportunity to sell that area for corporate hosting for Air NZ Cup.

## **9. Community Rugby Update**

MRU community rugby manager Chris Ricketts did not attend the meeting but submitted the following report:

### **1. Club Rugby Competitions**

- Commence for all grades on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Formats for Senior 1 and 2 are set and formats for all other grades will be set when entries are confirmed in mid March.
- Senior 1 draw has been published, however there will be changes to field allocations due to early season maintenance work on both FMG stadium and Arena Field 2.
- Fixtures will be played over Easter and Queens Birthday weekend – optional for Presidents grade.

### **2. Coach Education & Rugby Smart**

- A series of 16 practical workshops on all aspects of coaching commences in early February. These will be lead by Dave Rennie, Bruce Hemara, Jason O'Halloran and other high profile coaches. Clubs must ensure that their coaches are aware of these and urge them to attend.
- Compulsory Rugby Smart session will be held on the following dates. Clubs must ensure that all their coaches attend in order to complete the NZRU safety requirements and to register as a coach for the 2010 season.
  - Mon. February 22nd: 6pm in the Referees' Room, FMG Stadium
  - Wed. February 24th: 6pm at Feilding RFC, Johnston Park

### **3. Representative Team Head Coach appointments**

- The MRU has requested applications for the positions of Head coach with all MRU Representative Teams. These close at the end of February. Applications for the positions of Assistant Coach(es) and Manager will be requested once Head Coaches have been appointed.

#### **4. Coach Development Officer**

- The MRU is currently recruiting a Coach Development Officer whose key role will be to improve the capabilities of our pool of over 350 voluntary coaches, with a particular emphasis on the development of coaches at School and age grade Club levels.
- In the meantime any rugby development enquiries should be made to Bruce Hemara at the MRU.

#### **5. Playing Strip for 2010**

- If clubs are getting new strip produced that differs from last year's strip in any way, including sponsorship branding and marks, then this must be approved by the MRU prior to production as per MRU policy.
- Tony's Tyre Service is once again the sponsor of the MRU Club Rugby Competition. All Senior 1 teams must display this sponsor's mark. This can be via sublimation or via a badge. Contact the MRU if you are producing new playing kit to request one of these, or if there is a conflict of interest and you require a dispensation not to display the sponsor's mark.

MRU club liaison officer Martin Brady made the following points:

2010 Registration forms - The 2010 Registration forms are ready for collection. Club personnel, if you have any issues, see MRU staff.

Players' overseas clearance – Clubs are reminded that if players who have played overseas want to play locally in 2010 then they are required to gain international clearance from the NZRU. The MRU will distribute a current list of "outbound" players next week.

2010 Club Handbook – The MRU has distributed email requesting club information for the handbook with the deadline being next Friday week (12 Feb 2010). Some clubs won't know all details, just contact the Union. The MRU is looking to have the handbook out by two weeks out from the start of the competition.

RWC 2011 - The final date is looming for rugby supporters to register receive information regarding Priority Ticket offer for next year's World Cup. The NZRU are trying to chase up the following organisations: 1. Manawatu Deaf Rugby, 2. Manawatu Rugby Supporters' Club, 3. Manawatu Evergreens, 4. Golden Oldies (stand alone or within a club structure).

We ask if this relates to you or you know a person within these organisations, then forward this email onto them. The Related Rugby Organisations must use this template to capture data for their members. All sections are compulsory with the exception of an email address (as not everyone will have an email address). However, we encourage you and the Related Rugby Organisations to capture as many email addresses as possible as this will be the preferred method of communication for RNZ 2011. The deadline for these templates to be returned to me is Thursday 18 February 2010.

#### **10. General Business**

##### **a. Clubs' Bar Licences (Te Kawau RFC)**

The Te Kawau RFC has highlighted an area of concern for clubs after reading the Sporting Clubs Association of New Zealand (SCANZ) latest newsletter regarding a possible breach of many clubs' bar licences. Every club licence states "The sale and supply of alcohol is only permitted to the following persons: a member of the club; a guest that is accompanied by a member; a member of another club that has secured formal Reciprocal Visiting Rights." This means if the bar personnel sell alcohol to an unaccompanied guest of the club then that club is in breach of the law. The easiest way to ensure Te Kawau RFC (and all Manawatu clubs) meet its

requirements under the law is have a formal agreement in place to ensure Reciprocal Visiting Rights for all clubs' members.

The Te Kawau RFC, therefore, suggests all clubs sign a reciprocal rights agreement. All clubs agreed and those present signed. Mr Brady to distribute amongst clubs once all have signed.

**b. Quarter-finals in Senior I competition (Te Kawau RFC)**

Colin Gates talked to the matter and felt there was an opportunity to add quarter finals in the 2010 Senior I competition. Some healthy debate was held with some clubs believing the competition format for this year had been set and it should not be altered. After much discussion it was decided not to alter the 2010 format but the Operations Supports Committee to investigate possible formats for the 2011 Senior I competition with the only assumption that 11 teams will be competing. Mr Brady to inform the OSC.

**c. Submission regarding Senior II competition (Bulls RFC)**

Sam Moke and Boots White talked to the club's submission.

Bulls RFC competed in the 2009 Senior II competition. Prior to the competition, the Manawatu Rugby Union allowed Freyberg RFC to fill the vacant "Bye" spot in the round robin, meaning Bulls was the only club in the grade which didn't have a Senior I team. In order to mirror teams in the two competitions Bulls was scheduled to play each week the club which Senior I team had the bye.

Bulls RFC believed 'stacking' did occur during the season, making the club's job to compete more difficult than it should have been. The club wanted a bit of fairness in the 2010 competition where it does not have to compete against clubs which Senior I teams have a bye on a weekly basis. The Manawatu Rugby Union did look to address the club's concerns when they were raised but not to the satisfaction of Bulls RFC.

Bulls RFC asked other clubs to share its position in the competition draw. This would mean in the first round, clubs' Senior I & II teams would not be mirrored (one game of out 11).

The clubs said the matter should be forwarded to the Operations Support Committee to see if it was possible to alter the draw.

Other General Business:

- Colin Gates (Te Kawau) raised the issue of the under 21 grade and the splitting of the two pools as his club finished its season in mid June. Mr Brady will forward it to the Operations Support Committee.
- Boots White (Bulls) suggested having a Ranfurly Shield type trophy contested in the Senior II competition. Mr Brady will forward it to the Operations Support Committee.

Meeting closed at 8.38pm.