

TRU SUMMER GENERAL MEETING - AGENDA

Sunday, August 3, 2014 @ Austin, TX

1. ROLL CALL @ 10am – McPhail

- Voting Members: McPhail, Courtney, Corrigan, Roberson, Schmidtke, Wolfinger, Turner, Parker
- [Non Voting Members / Club Roll Call](#)

2. PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS:

- Review of Candidates (open floor / 10mins each)
 - a. Anderson
 - b. Tate
 - c. Watson
- Review of personal statements
- Candidate Q&A session
- [Election Process](#)

2a. Vice President Nominations (from the floor)

- Nominations are open, close after voting for President ,48 hours. Close Monday night (Aug 11) at 5pm. Nominees will need to send in a written statement, etc for review.
- Taute: I would like to nominate Mark Brewerton
 - McPhail: He was nominated as President, have you confirmed with him?
 - Taute: Yes.
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3. STATE OF THE UNION

- USA Update – Yeoman / Young (see notes)
 - [Yeoman Notes](#)
 - [Melville notes for Congress Members](#)
- West Update – McPhail / Sharpley
- GU Update – continuing to grow but don't know purpose
- Collegiate Updates – Changes with in Colleges
- High School Updates – Scheduling issues, sideline compliance, growth, referee needs

4. REVIEW OF COMPETITION RESULTS

- Division One: New Orleans; new format for 2014
- Division Two: Little Rock
- Division Three: DARC
- Women's Division One: Valkyries
- Women's Division Two: HARC
- Collegiate Men:
 - LSC: St. Edwards
 - SWC: UT
 - ARC: OU
- Collegiate Women
 - LSWC: UTSA
 - SWWC: UT
- High School Boys
 - Richardson - Club
 - West Lake - Red

- High School Girls
 - Kingwood

5. TRU SEVENS

- RRRC Sevens Series - Austin / Tulsa / Houston
- Texas Sevens Series Champs – Austin Blacks / Bluebonnets
- City All Star Sevens (Austin / Houston / Dallas?)
- Outstanding TSS Fee's owed (\$250)
 - a. Colt 45s
 - a. Phillips: Please double check this one as I believe they filled the bracket and the fee was waived.
 - i. McPhail: Ok, noted.
 - b. OKC
 - c. Dallas Reds
 - d. Alamo City
 - e. Little Rock
 - f. Tulsa

6. TRU OPERATING PROCEDURES

- Need major revision prior to YE 2014

LUNCH (working)

7. TRU DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

- [New USA Guidelines](#)
 - [IRB Regulation 17, Appendix 1](#) (get familiar!)
 - Courtney: I make a motion that we adopt the new USA Rugby Guidelines for this competitive year.
 - Turner: Second
 - Discussion: None
 - Yay: All, no NAYS...APPROVED
 - Courtney: Under the new bylaws and the new Board Members (Pres/VP) the y can appoint Director of Discipline. Do we want to do that now?
 - McPhail: No, lets start anew with the Sept 1st turnover to the new Pres/VP.
 - Courtney: Ok, 1) also note that the current DC Committee is four, the new IRB Regulations recommend a minimum of three. 2) Do we want to have a committee or Officer to hear appeals? It could be the President (they would be outside the committee).
 - McPhail: I think one person is a good concept, not sure if it should be the President.
 - Tate: I think it's a tough job right now as we don't know who the President/VP will be. It may not be a fit, so lets leave it open ended for now.
 - Courtney: Not necessarily saying we need to pick someone today, but putting it out there for feedback for the Membership, etc.
 - Taute: I'd be worried it was one person, what if they are a Coach or affiliated with a team? Is there a backup?
 - McPhail: Yes, you can have a backup or a recusal process.
- Sideline Abuse of Match Officials
- Lack of sideline barriers
- Ad Hoc teams

8. BY-LAW AMENDMENTS / UPDATES

- Additions / Deletions / Other

9. FINANCIALS

- Review of [YTD financials](#)
 - [Conference Financials](#)
 - [CIPP Summary](#)
 - Parker: Motion to approve draft financials with finalized coming later (by Sep 1)
 - Discussion:
 - Watson: These aren't final? Why should we vote?
 - McPhail: No, they aren't. The membership can accept or not, The Board will listen.
 - Courtney: Second
 - Vote: all YAY, APPROVED.
- Collegiate Distribution Discussion
 - Roberson: Since the Collegiates have been moved out to their own silo and we only have 1 seat on the Board...what do we do about the fees over the 30 years that were accumulated from the West fund? The Collegiates have paid into that fund for 30+ years and if the TRU gets a payment, shouldn't the Collegiates get some of that fund? We'd like to use this money to host clinics and do rugby development, etc. We aren't talking a lump sum but we could even do percentages, etc.
 - Kolberg: Do we have any spots on your Boards? Why do you feel that you deserve that money?
 - Roberson: No, we want to be able to use those funds for things that will help our rugby development without having to ask the TRU for help etc.
 - Courtney: It is the same as the RRRC building your competition, they are almost exactly the same now.
 - McPhail: Lets give a bit more history, the Collegiates didn't move from under the TRU because they wanted to, USA mandated it. For the 30+ years before that, the Collegiates have contributed CIPP and fees to the TRU/West.
 - Yeoman: How much was deposited to the West and how much?
 - McPhail: \$72,000 - \$75,000 two years ago.
 - Courtney: When the Colleges were still full members
 - Yeoman: So you want sole control of your money and fees because you don't have any rights to the TRU?
 - Tate: Well to be clear, they don't hold ANY....but they just have one seat on the Board and Roberson is serving in that role.
 - Courtney: The Colleges have a rep on the Board that is elected by all the Independent Colleges (affiliate members). When the bylaw amendments came out last month, the Colleges COULD NOT vote. They are affiliate, non-voting members.
 - Tate: The vote to amend the existing bylaws; the Colleges did not have a right to vote then either. They haven't had votes as individual Clubs in the TRU for the last two years.
 - McPhail: I believe the fear is, with the problems with the Bylaws and that seat was under discussion and removed originally. They are now in self preservation mode...
 - Tate: Hold on, the language here is important. WE didn't do it, some of the Men's Clubs wanted to, but we didn't do it.
 - Roberson: I will tell you that I am NOT WRONG, there was a correction posted to the bylaws because the proposed bylaws DID include removing the Collegiate

and Referee Seat. This was caught by the BOARD right before voting was supposed to happen and a revised set of proposed Bylaws were posted.

- McPhail: More history, Scot was asked to write the proposed bylaws and he did that. He went through several revisions and submitted it to the Men's Clubs for review. Then Corrigan submitted ANOTHER copy of the bylaws because he was told this is what the "members" wanted.
- Tate: Ok, but lets be absolutely clear here, a proposal is not an election.
- Courtney: We agree, the last bylaw amendments did include removing those two seats and IF they had been voted on, it would have passed!
- Yeoman: Please come up with a proposal and lets look at it.
 - Parker: We as the Men's Rep dropped the ball, we were wrong to put that forth (removal of voting seats for Collegiate and Referees). Nobody actually read it.
 - McPhail: We (The Board) didn't think we needed to read it, it was materially changed without notice.
 - Parker: We niavely put it in there thinking that people would read it.
 - Courtney: I believe that a member of The Board should have brought this up as it is a HUGE change from what was originally proposed.

10. TEXAS RUGBY REFEREE ASSOCIATION

- Recap of TRRA AGM from 8/1 (Schmidtke)
 - Elections
 - Chairman: Schmidtke
 - Vice Chairman: Greg Varnell
 - National Panel: Green appointed
 - Zone List (referees with potential for National Panel):
 - Wendy Young
 - Shawn Martin
 - Traci Schmidtke
- Maximum games per weekend, Fall Schedule, Deadline for Submissions
- New Scheduling Software (Beta Testing)
 - whostheref.com

11. FALL (Texas Cup) COMPETITION

- Schedule & Pathway (Kolberg)
- Budget
 - About the same amount of money for last year, (~ \$5,000) the problems with the jerseys won't happen again.
- Potential
 - Last year vs Belmont Shore at Vegas 7s, hoping for South All Star and maybe an International match in the future.
- [Women's](#) (Young)

12. OLD BUSINESS

- Men's Reps Reports - None received (requested by McPhail), anyone want to give a verbal one?
 - Corrigan (D1) (absent)
 - Tate: I can speak to it from a RRRC perspective (gave report).
 - Turner (D2)
 - Yeoman: What about the D1b teams? How did that work out and what about playoffs?
 - Kolberg: This is a USA mandate, if teams are in multiple divisions they had to participate in contiguous divisions. The only place the 2nd teams can go is D2.

- Tate: HURT and LR both won those SF matches by good margins, but league play was not run overs. Were those B sides at the same level as HURT and LR, no. I think they fit better in D2 but not in D3.
 - Parker (D3)
 - Young: Schedule was a bit concern for D3 teams, how is that being addressed?
 - Parker: Yes, we are trying to minimize as best we can.
- Women's (Schmidtke)
 - Young reported as Schmidtke had an emergency
- TRU Championships - Denton and Corpus did not have proper paperwork for Championship.
 - Chapman: We were notified 48 hours before the TRU Championships that we had to have the proper paperwork including birth certificates. The day of we spoke to McPhail (commissioner) and let him know that we didn't have time to get all that information. After the tournament we then received a fine and we've appealed that. The money is not the issue, we don't feel that we should be punished for this as we followed TRU Policy.
 - Parker: I will take some of this as this was around the time I was having some personal issues. I should have done a better job of following up on this.
 - McPhail: This is an event that leads to a USA Championships and so those eligibility guidelines should be followed as well.

13. SELECTION OF WINTER MEETING LOCATION & DATE

- Dallas next on rotation policy / new president guidance
 - McPhail: On rotation it would be recommended as DFW but new leadership will determine.

14. NEW BUSINESS and INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- L2 Coaching Course - Ft Hood
 - McPhail: Get it to Wendy and we can get it posted
- Alamo Dome 7s
 - Roberson: UTSA and Alamo City played in two 7s matches at half-time of an Arena Football match (~ 8,000 in attendance).
- Tentative Dates of Competition
 - TRU Championships : May 16
 - Central Regional Playoffs: May 30
 - USA National 15s Playoffs: June 13
 - USA National 7s (Collegiate): June
- New member applications:
 - Men
 - Lost Souls (APPROVED/D4)
 - Lone Star (Woodlands) (APPROVED)
 - Ft Hood (APPROVED/D3)
 - Longview (APPROVED/D4)
 - Eules
 - Working with RRRC to potentially join competition this year (D3)
 - Laredo
 - Need TRU Application, Coach, CIPP list
 - East Texas
 - Need TRU Application, Coach, CIPP list
 - Alliance
 - Need TRU Application, Coach, CIPP list
 - Women
 - Bluebonnets (Sevens) (APPROVED/RRRC 7s)
 - Griffins (W)

- Submitted to RRRC Women’s Subcommittee with all requested details, being reviewed.
 - Little Rock (W)
 - Submitted to RRRC Women’s Subcommittee with all requested details, being reviewed.
- Collegiate Schedules
 - Most of the Collegiates are moving to Fall 15s and Spring 7s (men/women).
 - SWWC / 15s Fall / Spring 7s
 - SWC / 15s Fall / Spring 7s
 - LSC / 15s Fall / Spring 7s
 - LSWC / 15s fall and Spring
- McAllen
 - Hughes: We’ve had a long standing relationship with some of the Mexico teams and we’d like to have tournaments to have more Texas and Mexico rugby. We also have a brand new facility in McAllen that has 8 fields and we’ve been approached to see if we can host tournaments there. Thinking January event before Spring season.
- Non-Texas Cup
 - Phillips: Are teams still hosting tournaments or other events for those that aren’t doing the Texas Cup
 - Cowtown - No

15. CLOSING REMARKS

- TRU Polos for the TRU Board (Schmidtke)

16. ADJOURNMENT

- Courtney: Motion to adjourn
 - Second: Roberson
 - Closed 3:54pm