

Dear TRU Men's Division 1 Club Presidents,

I am running for reelection to the TRU Board as your representative. If you believe I have done a good job for the D1 clubs over the last 3 years, please vote for me. If not, you should vote for one of the other candidates.

As most of you know, I also serve as Chair of the Red River Competitions Committee. If you read the notes from that committee, and the TRU Board notes, you know that although I maintain a full time law practice, I very rarely miss a meeting and am actively engaged on the calls. Hopefully you have also found me communicative, accessible and responsive during my service on these committees.

If reelected to the TRU Board, I'd like to focus on two new initiatives:

1. Securing More USAR Events in the Red River. A collaboration between the TRU, Red River Committee, and clubs to work on identifying and securing high-quality venues for USA Rugby championship events within the Red River Competitive Region. This would include some form of subsidy to the host club from the TRU. Funding such a subsidy would still be cheaper than the TRU awarding travel grants to the clubs that make playoffs, and easier on TRU member clubs' travel budgets.
2. Exploring Options for More High-Level D1 Matches. As you know, the number of D1 clubs across the country and within the Red River has decreased over the last five years, and competitive matches are becoming more difficult to come by. Although the Red River D1 competition has fared better than most, I'd like to find ways for the D1 clubs to schedule more high-level friendlies to provide further player development opportunities with the assistance of the TRU. The possibilities here include the potential reviving of the Gold Cup where the first and second place D1 teams will take on the first and second place D1 teams from a different competitive region in the fall, and perhaps the addition of a Silver Cup for the third and fourth place teams. Other options are a formalized series of fall friendlies against MLR teams, and the restoration of the TRU All-Star program.

I appreciate your attention to this message and would appreciate your vote.

Sincerely,

Dave Dodge