

# 2016 TRU Winter/Spring Annual General Meeting - Agenda

Sunday, March 20 @ Scholz Garten - Austin, TX

1. Roll Call - Tate / W Young
  - a. Board Members (Voting): Tate, no quorum
    - i. Admin: Young
  - b. [Non Voting Members / Club Roll Call](#)
2. [Financials](#) - Pflieger
3. 2015-2016 Competitions - Tate
  - a. D1 M
    - i. Gold Cup
  - b. D2 M
  - c. D3 M
  - d. D1/D2 W
  - e. D3 W
  - f. RRRC 15s Playoffs - Houston, TX
    - i. 1 bid from Woodlands, TRU sub-committee will affirm bid and post to TRU website.
      1. Tate: In the past we've rotated hosts every year and we've had issues two years in a row. This has also affected 7s hosts, where we struggle to find adequate facilities in the assigned areas. Our facility standards are rising as we are trying to benefit sponsors, stream matches, etc. The TRU Board has had discussions that if we can't get qualified hosts, do we continue rotating? We may go to an open bid process...
        - a. Sharpley: We know about this rotation in advance, how about setting an earlier deadline? Then if it's not met or isn't an adequate bid, it's opened to the entire union?
        - b. Dodge: What about going to four regions? Far north (Little Rock, Oklahoma, Tulsa...)
        - c. Tate: The Board will continue to talk about this but we are looking towards a solution.
    - ii. USA Round of 8 - May 21-22, 2016 @ Tucson, AZ
      1. Sharpley: I've requested a waiver for RRRC Men as those two seeds are slotted to play each other. More discussion to come.
    - iii. USA National Championships - June 4-5, 2016 @ Glendale, CO
  - g. RRRC 7s (**Dates still tentative, once posted to website they will be confirmed**)
    - i. RRRC Qualifier #1 - 6/25 (same date as Denver 7s, we know)
      1. Sharpley: We are planning to have this be in the far north.
    - ii. RRRC Qualifier #2 - 7/9
      1. Sharpley: Planning to be in DFW area.
    - iii. RRRC Qualifier #3 - 7/23
      1. Sharpley: Planning to be in Central area.
      2. Tate: One of the things we've noticed is that everyone attends the 1st qualifier and if they are eliminated, they don't want to travel the far distance. We're trying to avoid this.
      3. John Anderson: As a team that has participated in this since the start, we'd ask to go back to the Central, North and South. Having a tournament outside of Texas is a huge burden on those teams that are a bit more south.

4. Tate: The reasoning behind this is that the geographic distribution of our 7s teams is not the same as 15s. The traditional North, Central and South doesn't really fit this model.
5. Sharpley: This is not a TRU competition either, this is a RRRC Competition which includes LR, Oklahoma, Louisiana etc. So to talk about outside of Texas is not relevant as it's a RRRC Championship.
6. Tate: I'd also say that these teams are TRU members, so we need to service them.
7. Anderson: Why not have two events in Dallas then? It's still north and it's still convenient.
8. Tate: We had a heck of a time trying to find one host for Dallas last year.
9. Dodge: Has there been any discussion about combining qualifiers with social tournaments? Teams want these events as a fundraiser, etc.
10. Tate: The Huns wouldn't consider this as our tournament is our primary fundraising event and qualifiers don't fit that. Our event has also been on the same weekend for 20 years and will continue.

iv. USA Rugby 7s National Championships - Aug 13-14, 2016 @ TBD

#### 4. Updated Policies

- a. [Law Clarifications](#) (World Rugby)
- b. Operating Procedures (going through a re-draft)
  - i. Tate: These are the TRU Operating Procedures that include RRRC policies. These haven't been re-written since 2012 and lots has changed. These will be published with final approval very soon.
- c. [Add/Change/Drop Match Form](#)
- d. [Rescheduling Matches/Forfeits \(RRRC\)](#)
  - i. Updates to come to clarify forfeits and reschedules (pending with RRRC Committee).
- e. USA Rugby Jersey Policy (RRRC)
  - i. Tate: This is coming and we wanted to let all the teams know. All players will be required to be in properly numbered jerseys, they must match CMS rosters, etc. If you need to order new or replacement kit, get on it. We'd recommend ordering numerous sets of numbers etc.
  - ii. Sharpley: RRRC would like to implement this for this year's RRRC Championships. If you're missing a jersey that's ok, just make sure your CMS/roster is updated.
  - iii. Dodge: What is the penalty for non-compliance?
  - iv. Tate/Sharpley: That hasn't been determined.
  - v. Green: Is it effective to fine a club that can't afford jerseys in the first place?
  - vi. Tate: If you recall the budget, we've only fined once in the last few years. We aren't trying to find ways to fine clubs. But this needs to be done and be an expectation going forward.
- f. Tie Breakers for RRRC Seeding (RRRC)

#### 5. Lunch Break (12:15 - 12:45pm)

#### 6. Discipline - Tate

- a. [Sideline Conduct](#)
- b. Referee/AR/TJ Abuse

#### 7. High Performance - Keuppens

- a. Keuppens - Nov 19 event in Shreveport with potentially South, MARFU and Life University M/W. For this to be successful we need buy-in from ALL clubs/teams. If players and coaches are discouraged from doing this, we aren't putting our best foot forward. This is a huge marketing

opportunity and player development. We will also be sharing the video of the matches with USA Rugby National Coaches.

- i. Howard: The timing is very difficult as we're coming down from 7s and preparing for our 15s season. We have to have to some off-time.
- ii. Keuppens: I understand that, we know the timing isn't ideal but we have to play when other unions are available and there is space in the overall schedule.
- iii. Tate: The goal here is to see high level players have more opportunity to play higher level games.
- iv. Sharpley: This is close to the idea of the Gold Cup, more matches and at a higher level.
- v. Dodge: I agree, we need more games and higher level.

#### 8. Sponsorship - Tate

- a. [Ruck Science](#) (Tim Howard)
- b. Red Ball Oxygen

#### 9. Referees - Young

#### 10. Club Requirements

- a. [TJ/ARs Program](#)
  - i. 90% compliant. Wear your green shirt.
- b. [L200 Coaching Certification](#)
  - i. 100% compliant and only GU in the USA!
- c. CMS
  - i. 90% compliance week over week, let's get to 100%
- d. Referee Feedback
  - i. 10%, this needs to be improved.

#### 11. Technology

- a. TRU Website
  - i. New responsive site is coming! Be on the lookout.
  - ii. TRU Board minutes posted 30 days after.
- b. [TRRA Website](#)
- c. [Feedburner](#)
- d. [Club Contacts](#)
- e. [Twitter](#)
- f. [Facebook](#)
- g. [Youtube](#)

#### 12. [Summit Conference](#)

- a. 8/19-21/2016 SAVE THE DATE! DFW area.
  - i. Friday - Happy Hour Welcome
  - ii. Saturday - Courses/Clinics and Banquet
  - iii. Sunday - Courses/Clinics
    1. Level 300 Coaching Course
    2. Level 100 Coaching Course
    3. TJ/AR Courses
    4. Level 1 Referee
    5. Administrative Courses
    6. Guest speakers!
    7. Hall of Fame

#### 13. Hall of Fame

- a. Tate: The TRU Board discussed this as an initiative to honor past TRU members or contributors. We are coming up on our 45th Anniversary and need to celebrate it. Inductees will be nominated soon and will be recognized at the Summit. Corrigan is heading up this effort.
14. Nominations (to be handled at Summer 2016 AGM)
- a. TRU DI M Rep - Sep 2016 (3 year term)
  - b. TRU W Rep - Sep 2016 (3 year term)
  - c. TRU Congress Sep 2016 - Young (2 year term)
  - d. RRRC Competitions Committee (1 year term)
    - i. Sharpley: Follows CIPP cycle, nominations and voting will be over the summer.
15. Summer AGM Date / Location (Dallas)
- a. Tate: We haven't picked a date yet but it will be in Dallas, following our normal rotation. We'd like to have it before the Summit and before the CIPP cycle rolls over.
    - i. Keuppens: What about 6/26 after the first 7s Qualifier in the North?
    - ii. Tate: We can have it earlier than late summer but all the financials aren't quite ready. But we do post our Board minutes now and so teams should be more up to date on things. Dallas clubs, any assistance in finding a facility would be appreciated.
16. New Business?
- a. Congress Update (Yeoman)
    - i. USA Rugby 2020 Strategy
    - ii. PRO Rugby
    - iii. RIM
  - b. Red River Rugby Premiership
    - i. Tate: The 7 D1 clubs have met twice to talk about a premiership league within the RRRC. This would be similar to a ARP and PRP league and would be more than likely happening in 2017.
    - ii. Sharpley: There is no official agreement yet but an agreement in principle.
17. Meeting End (2:57pm)