



Committee Meeting Monday 5th January 2004 Kingswood School Upper Pavilion

Minutes

Present: Tim Graham (TG), Mark Blackham (MB), Jackie Cole (JC), Phil Edmonds (PE), Penny Bromley (PB), Natasha Miller (NM), Allan Curnow (AC), Nigel Butt (NB), Nick Rose (NR), Yeng Ping-Ng (YPN), Mike Horton (MHo), Kelly Nolan (KN),

Apologies: Glen Wright (GW), Shelley Pike (SP), Gordon Opie (GO), Simon Sparkes (SS), Stuart Hares (SHa), Michelle Hares (MHa), Dudley Bartlett (DB), Tim Sparkes (TS),

1. Introduction From Chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:10.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1st December '03 were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Division of container at the Kingswood pitch has still not happened yet. GO will progress this in the coming week or so. In the meantime the goalkeeping kit has been sorted out.

MC is to give all Captains a list of the forthcoming fixtures once they have become definite.

Junior membership forms – progress being made.

MB had sent an e-mail to Jane Vines at Kingswood about the seating at the upper pavilion. Despite MB offering financial assistance to KWD, Jane Vines said that since the facility is currently used more by the school than the club that the seating arrangements would remain as is.

TG asked MB what progress had been made regarding the first aid kits and fast freeze cold packs. MB said that he would invest in the first aid kits once secure storage was available in the container. MB had ordered a First aid catalogue. CG has purchased the freeze packs but was away.

MB had not had an opportunity to draft a letter to King Edwards School regarding the ladies 2nds treatment.

4. Coaching.

a) Junior

TG thanked Nigel Butt for taking the time to come to the meeting despite his resignation in December. TG went on to inform Nigel and the members present that extensive discussions had taken place at the last meeting about Nigel's resignation.

TG spoke of Nigel's past commitment to the club and in particular to his coaching of the junior section over many years and paid tribute to his achievements. TG then invited NB to voice his reasons for his resignation.

NB firstly reiterated his decision that he does not intend to come back to the club either as a player or as a coach. He informed the club that the decision was not because the club was doing anything wrong but that it had become too stressful playing, coaching and juggling personal and family life. With his own children playing football on Sunday mornings this made it very difficult to attend junior coaching. Therefore NB had made the conscious decision to leave the club as he felt he could no longer maintain 100% effort and commitment to the junior coaching.

On the negative side, NB cited the following matters of concern:

The Seniors seem to not give enough feedback to the juniors.
Kit in the container seemed to be going missing on a weekly basis.

Action

GO

MC

MB

The club is continuing to lose junior members to Buccaneers due to pressure from teachers that are members of Buccaneers.

NB had asked MB if the sessions could be switched to Tuesday evenings. This would be a very difficult change to make at short notice and needed a great deal of consideration from the whole club.

MHo mentioned to the committee that a parent of one of the juniors who he works with had given him nothing but positive feedback about the coaching sessions. It is the opinion of MH and the parent that more players would leave the club if the sessions were to be moved to Tuesdays.

TG thanked NB for coming to the meeting and said that as a senior member of club the door would always be open to him to return.

MB informed the Committee that MB, NM, Andy Rogers (AR) and GW are taking things forward with the junior section although the sessions would suffer from NB leaving in the short term. GW and AR will complete the term 3 plans by Sunday 11th with term 4 plans being completed by the week after. MB and NM had created a list of coaches/members that would be prepared to make up a pool of coaches for the Sunday sessions. The pool would be sufficiently large to mean that coaches would only be called upon once every 3 or 4 weeks and therefore would not become over burdened by commitments.

TG asked MB & NM to report back to committee in the next few months with the proposal for next seasons junior sessions, including consideration of moving the coaching to a weekday evening.

All members present agreed that MB's idea to integrate the juniors into the Club day would be a good idea. Therefore it was decided that the senior Club day would be from 2pm-4pm, immediately followed by the juniors from 4pm-5pm. There would then be a joint award presentation and BBQ. MB was asked to inform parents.

MB & NM

MB

b) Adult

PB mentioned that Tuesday numbers had dropped off towards Christmas leaving mainly only the ladies 3rd team. The Ladies 3rds were becoming upset with this situation and were starting to feel like they no longer wished to train with such poor numbers. The turnout is particularly bad from the mens side of the club. PB stressed that the quality of the coaching is great but it is being spoilt slightly by the poor turnout. In order to help the ladies 3rds, the ladies 2nds have committed to doubling up by training on both Tuesday and Thursday. NR was asked by TG to encourage more of the men's 5th players to attend and to liaise with CG to boost numbers. PB was asked also to encourage her players to remain committed to attending the sessions.

NR, CG
& PR

TG said he would monitor the situation and that he would be attending all sessions this week to inform players of the new rules that have come into play in January '04.

It was decided that juniors could only attend the Tuesday senior coaching if they are 14 years old or by special invite. This rule would remain flexible depending on individual ability.

5. Team Matters.

a) Selection

At the last meeting Wednesday coaching was discussed at length with the majority of the committee agreeing that attending training was a key factor in the selection process. This had caused some consternation with some members, particularly with some members of the men's 2nd team. TG invited PE to comment. PE felt unable to comment until speaking to his players and would give feedback to TG and MB in the following days.

PE

MHo said that as an umpire it is apparent when he is umpiring which members are attending coaching and which teams have a core of players that train together. He also advised that training on Wednesday is far superior technically to other sessions and that the men's 3rd team were benefiting from attending.

TG and JC were in agreement that there were no such problems with the ladies members who, on the whole all attend coaching.

b) Captain's Team Sheets (reminder)

TG reminded Captains present that Captains match record sheets are to be sent to Michelle or brought to selection for Michelle so she can record who has paid and played.

6. Finance and membership arrangements

MB informed the Chairman that FVG had said that the accounts were in good shape but that there was a little concern over the cost of the meals provided by KWD. It appeared to FVG that we are being charged VAT on the meals. KN was asked to check her correspondence with Jane Vines and liaise with MB.

<<Update: FVG called MB the morning after the meeting to say that there had been a mistake in the calculation and that the cost of the meals was correct at £1.80 per head inclusive of VAT. >>
FVG had asked MB to mention that some Captains had not requested any travelling expenses for away matches. If Captains do not request these expenses in the next few months, in accordance with the recommended mileage then they would lose them. It is extremely difficult for the Treasurer to calculate the status of the Club accounts if expenses are not paid at the predefined time. TG asked MB to ask all captains to send in their expenses once per month and that any outstanding expenses be submitted as soon as possible.

MB

7. Umpiring.

MHo informed the Chairman that more umpires are required by the Club in order to fulfil its match commitments.

TG had had Hugh Salter, Patrick Holmes, Aimee Tilley and Hannah Browster given to him as potential candidates. TG reiterated that the Club would pay for the umpiring course if the members in turn umpire games as and when they can. All Captains were asked to again ask their team members for volunteers.

All
Captains

TG pointed out that the new points scheme for umpire hospitality had placed City of Bath in 7th place from 24 clubs, although this included one team with more than double the number of points than all the others, with the next 6 all very close. TG thanked the Captains for their good work.

8. Upper Fields Pavilion.

John Darcy, the new steward, had spoken informally to MB about his wish to arrange a meeting between KWD, Bath Junior Rugby and City of Bath HC to discuss the furnishings and general running of the facilities. Nothing further to report on this agenda item matter.

9. Social Events.

The Chairman congratulated KN and MHo for organising the superb Christmas party. All agreed that the evening had been a great success and that all who attended had had a wonderful time.

NM asked that in future Captains try harder to obtain deposits from members well in advance of any social events. Six people did not turn up after the food had been ordered. KN would pursue these people for the cost of their food.

KN & All
Captains

The next event will be 24th January. This would again be a social evening to encourage the club members to get to know each other better. The evening will start at the upper pavilion until closing at 8pm followed by drinks in an appointed bar in the City.

The theme for the February event has not been decided. KN suggested a skittles night at an appropriate location in the city. This was met with agreement from the other members.

KN mentioned that due to lower numbers at events that big outlay events would be put on the back burner for the time being as it was becoming more and more difficult to make a profit.

There will be another quiz night in March.

10. Any Other Business.

TG thanked NM for attending.

TG said that the Club website is looking great and very professional. AC in reply said that he thought its going well but could do with more Ladies 3rd team scores/scorers and other content in general.

JC asked that Captains ensure that members only take one pasty each as on occasion the ladies had been left embarrassingly short when playing late fixtures.

All
Captains

MB brought to the attention of the committee that a Level 1 coaching course was coming up in the next few months at Frenchay.

NM mentioned that Kirsty Gay was now playing hockey for two schools, the ladies 1st XI, mixed XI and for county. Her mum, and other members of the ladies 1st XI are concerned that this could be damaging to Kirsty and therefore NM was asked to liaise with Hugh Gay to see if something could be done to ease this situation.

NM

AC and NB left the meeting early and TG thought it appropriate to discuss further the possibility of a refund of subscription to NB. It was unanimously decided that a refund of subscriptions could set a dangerous precedent and therefore it was decided that in recognition of NB's donation of the TV to the club that a good will gesture of £50 should be returned to NB. Some members were against this motion and therefore the committee was asked to put it to the vote. (7 for, 2 against, 1 abstention)

TG would write a letter to NB which would also include the offer of free junior coaching for his sons for the rest of the season and next. MB will arrange for a cheque to be sent to TG.

MB &
TG

12. Date of next meeting:

2nd February 04.

The meeting was closed at 20.15.