



St Paul's School Rugby Supporters' Group General Meeting – Minutes

Monday, 23 June 2014

1. Open Meeting at 6.30 pm **Present:** Claire Jackson, Colin McIntosh, Cheryl Williams, Steph Fisquet, Dave Balwin, Paul King, Kath North, Gabbie Douglas, Lindsay Seccombe, Phil Roxburgh, David Young, Kimberley Reed, Stuart Douglas, Lisa-Marie Jones, Ken Stansfield **Apologies:** Chrissie Whyte, Scott Whyte, Greg Love, David Sheppard, Chris Bird, Michelle and Keith Hutton, Tim Hughes, Jaimie Kugelman, Paul Ewin, Scott Forester.
2. Confirmation of Minutes from 26 May 2014 –Dave Balwin proposed and accepted by Lindsay Seccombe
3. Applications for memberships – more applications completed – **Action: Claire to take to Association meeting.**

4. Reports/Updates

a. Head of Rugby

Thank RSG for continued support with especial thanks for the 2014 training shirts. The support of the MS by Iconz and SS by Scott has developed the spirit and belief to a much higher level than before. The self-doubt of previous years may have cost the players; with their new found confidence and faith all teams had performed very well.

b. SS Coordinator/Opens Coach Scott Forester Season Summary

excerpts presented by Colin

The year 10 players had a terrific season and on finals day all stepped up to the occasion for a very physical game with the team managing to break through and win a 3rd premiership.

Opens rugby was run as one squad for the season in what the 1st XV and 2nd XV would be chosen from. Pre-season began in October to ensure new procedures and structures were set in place for the season ahead. Due to numbers in pre-season we were unsure of the numbers we would have for the 2nd XV. Training as a squad instead of 2 separate teams was a big part in what helped to break down year level groups and bring the players together as a squad, as a team and as mates. This became evident in the first few rounds of the season where the 2nd XV had dominant wins over CHAC and JPC proving the skill level in which was set by themselves and players in the 1st XV they were training with was lifting one another to learn and perform at a higher level. The 1st XV also demonstrated this with the tough, hard victories in the first two rounds, which saw how much these boys had come together as a squad and the efforts they were willing to go to for one another on the field.

The 2nd XV continued their undefeated run beating Canterbury in what was a hard challenging match and also Redeemer in which team structures were able to be practiced and reinforced. The 1st XV had a disappointing loss to Canterbury giving the boys a chance to look at how they need to play each and every week and in doing so executed set structures exceptionally well against Redeemer. The Ormiston round was our toughest round where both the 1st XV and 2nd XV were playing off for 1st and 2nd position on the ladder along with being our double points round. This only pushed the 2nd XV to higher levels once again as players were playing out of positions due to injury, but accounted for Ormiston with a clinical, skillful performance. The 1st XV however struggled under the pressure of the Ormiston team playing catch up rugby and fighting on their try line for majority of the game. These young men however demonstrated once again their passion and will to win and in sheer perseverance to stay within a try stole the win.

With 2 fixtures left until finals both the 1st XV and 2nd XV sat top of the table. WMAC at home was a mixed day in which the 2nd XV once again proved how they had become a force within their competition and their skill and fight around the breakdown was second to none. The 1st XV however were found out where in a short season no one can allow to have a relaxed week. We struggled to move around the field as a set line and our defensive line was questionable. When we put in place our structured play we demonstrated our skill level in scoring 4 tries, but was left too late in the game. This hit the men hard as they were well aware what implications it would have for their finals. A credit to the players in the opens squad they picked one another up at training on Monday and they lifted pushing themselves to not let that one loss be a representation of their season and to push the 2nd XV along in their push for a premiership.

Our final fixture was at home against St John's, many players were playing their last game on the St Paul's oval and this was not lost amongst any of the opens squad. St John's used some questionable playing substitutions in the 2nd XV in where our men stood strong and despite not playing their best rugby finished with a draw and a top of the table finish. The 1st XV knew they had to win to ensure a finals 3v4 spot and this was quickly demonstrated in their aggression and want of the ball not only in attack, but also defence. This strong base set the structure for what was in my opinion the team's best performance of the season in which they demonstrated their team structure, game plan and skill set to the best of their abilities.

Final results had us playing for the 2nd XV premiership v St Columban's and 3v4 playoff for the 1st XV against JPC. As a 2nd XV team coming up against a team we had not played against all season was something very different for all. In preparation we focused on ourselves and what we could control in our game. In a hard game the 2nd XV players fought and pushed through winning the game and the 2014 premiership. The 1st XV played out a tight game where players played beyond themselves exhausting all that they had. The lead changed throughout the game, but went down in a game where the bounce of the ball either way would have changed everything.

Overall a very successful season with the 1st XV finishing 4th and the 2nd XV as Premiers. Defining events include the 1st XV wins away against JPC and Ormiston along with the 2nd XV premiership final where I believe the Opens have set a precedent for commitment, passion and a team belief that will be a challenge to others to match in the future. I believe with what has been set in place this season will only help build as the year 10 players come into the squad next year and begin to build on what has been started in 2014.

c. MS Rugby Coordinator – Andrew Curtain & Manuel Cole-Manolis, Iconz Rugby Season Summary excerpts read by Colin

First of all Iconz would like to congratulate St Paul's on a great season. There were noticeable improvements throughout the grades and that showed with results. St Paul's has a lot of potential and we believe with a focused direction could compete in the 1v2 final in every grade.

A couple of the massive improvements we saw through the year was with participation and the development of Team wide game plans which got more kids involved and enjoying their rugby.

A few areas we noticed that could use some focused attention would be

- *Tight 5 techniques*
- *Kicking (general and goal)*
- *Up skilling of coaches*

A couple areas could be addressed and could drastically improve results.

- *On a few occasions we noticed Coaches not having the full attention of the players due to players mucking around. If this can be rectified Iconz believe that results will improve dramatically due to the players/teams getting the most out of their coaches and the time they give*
- *The other was a lack of discipline in some areas, which translated to the games. This can be noticed by*
 - *Techniques being coached not being used throughout the games*
 - *Lots of easily avoided penalties*
 - *Coaches not having the full attention of all players*

Iconz thoroughly enjoyed our time at St Paul's this year and would like to continue into 2015. We love the fact that the school has no bad kids and that most kids want to learn and enjoy the game. It was an absolute pleasure to be involved in the program. Iconz Rugby believes we have many other areas we can help the St Paul's program in 2015 and think that even better results than this year will be achieved.

d. Other

- i. At the JTAS meeting last week a round robin tournament to be held at SPS for Y4 - 6 in week 1 of Term 2, noting the TAS games will have to be away
- ii. The option of aligning TAS rules with those of the BJRU, which would have the potential to improve players' safety, was felt to be ideal but noted unlikely to happen in the near future. The issue of different referees applying different rules was discussed, noting currently a referee only needs Smart Rugby in the Junior TAS competition. Tim would be asked to ensure all referees are provided with the JTAS rugby rules and would be followed up by Colin/successor in the pre-season.

- iii. MS – Iconz were keen to explore more opportunities within the school and an exploration to run the SPS Easter camp had been supported favourably. It was agreed to explore all promotional opportunities e.g. add the ad to the last Newsletter, the booklet/flyer for dinner. RSG committed to provide the same level of funding (\$2000) for Iconz in 2015.
- iv. SS – SPS was still in discussions with Scott. Des Hylton had committed to working with Opens in T4, noting parent comments that fitness would not be enough. Colin looking at incorporating Des into a number of areas but full discussion was pending. The specifics of training in T4
- v. Aligning JTAS and TAS fixtures– while noted to be the optimal arrangement it was realised not every school committed to this. A request to have the JTAS fixtures distributed earlier with the hope that all home games all same location and times can be delayed.
- vi. Double points- it was unanimously agreed the concept was not desired for the teams. Action RSG to send letter to Dr Browning.

5. **Treasurer Report** Movement this month

Income Canteen Profits; Met North Cross Country \$1500, Pink Day \$1700, TAS CC \$1800, June Home Game \$1200: Sponsorships received GTECH Holdings \$1500 for 2014/15, Overseas Packers and Shippers \$500

Expenses Pink Socks \$660, Pink Day Donation \$1020 plus \$65 from Opens

Committed \$13 000 with available \$6000

Opens Tour 11 paid available funds of \$13 000. No expenses to date

Yr 9 Tour all paid expenses kit and accommodation deposit; available \$11 000

Dinner Sales approx. \$11 000. No expenses this month as yet.

6. **Events**

a. **Pending**

- i. Rugby dinner –orders were open on Flexi schools. 80 plus adults. Sponsors for medals for 4, 6, 10 and Alumni money for 1st and 2nds. Julie Mitchell collecting raffle prizes.
- ii. 2014 Year 9 Tour – Presentation on Saturday – 3 games. 24 boys attending, including 4 boys travelling despite injury
- iii. 2015 Opens Tour – 11 paid and 5 more interested. Tour Time have offered some modification for the smaller number within the budget which has been approved by Tim.
- iv. Canteens – support for Holt Bolt 27 July (RSG) and 28 Sept (Opens 2015 tour to share with CSG tour) arranged. Now pay for food from McDonalds

7. **General Business**

- a. **Sponsorship** – All previous and new donors were thanked. Sponsors posters were arranged and updated with new support.
- b. **2015** – Further to the recurrent calls for volunteers Lisa Jones had agreed to nominate at Treasurer, Sandra Stanley as Secretary, David

Balwin as President, Lesleigh Reid as Canteen Manager. Colin confirmed his plan to step down as HoR. Stuart Douglas put forward the current year 10 coaches wish to go forward with their current team and join the Opens coaches.

- c. **UQ** – had sent details for next 2014 December 3 weeks Mon- Thurs 9am-noon tbc. Mindful those from SPS who attended had felt it worthwhile all agreed to promote.
 - d. **Embellishments** – The members of the elected RSG committee and other attendees, except for two, agreed that the 2014 2nds Rugby team should have their premiership acknowledged by SPS with an embellishment. Noting the comments that Tim Hughes was keen to hear from the students. **Action: Claire to contact all the captains and ask them to encourage their players from all years to express their opinion. The Year 10 PTC to send an email to the students and parents to ask them to discuss.**
 - e. **The old Changing Shed** – was to be knocked down due to safety reasons. A new shed will be built, **Action: Claire to ask Dr Browning if "Go St Paul's" could be painted on the roof.**
 - f. **Strength and Power Shed** – opened officially at Gala Day and was being used by a variety of sports and year groups.
8. **Other Business**
- a. **Lindsay Seccombe** – the issues with the GoPro were noted and a commitment to utilise the tool for 2015 was made; the option of a post season friendly with GPS school was raised. The short season was noted and it was reported that canvassed parents were happy to give up first Saturday of weekend of holidays for extra game but the timing of the Formal and Cricket tour's traditional pre-end of term departure was noted.
 - b. **Phil Roxburgh** – it was noted Paul Robson one of the open's coaches was in need of new employment (boilermaker). It was agreed the to try and include coaches bios in the e-news and a subtle request for an employment sponsor **Action: Claire to include coach bio in e-news**
 - c. **2015 Year 9 Tour** – Lisa Jones had contacted RSG noting a number of parents had volunteered for be involved in the tour. It was included in the school tour schedule. Once the 2014 tour was complete plans would progress.
 - d. **Dinner Booklet-** Phil R required the names for every player in each team so photos can be included.
 - e. **Cameron Robbins** – stepped down from the Year 9 tour fundraiser/RSG. Thanks had been sent. Phil has kindly offered to do the slide show for the dinner.
 - f. **Shane Morgan** – assistant Yr 9 coach asked for his fees to be given to Year 9 tour.
 - g. **Injuries** – noting the issues relating to the delayed games it was agreed SPS/TAS would be asked to look at the ways that injuries are looked at. While safety is paramount playing options for when injuries occur e.g. stretcher to remove player from field if safe or spare field to move game to.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm with thanks to those who attended and Rugby coordinators for their comprehensive summaries

Next Meeting Monday 28 July at 6.30 pm