



DEVON RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Management Board Minutes

Date: 27th August 2025

Venue: Newton Abbot RFC

Present: Simon Fuller, Simon Farmer, Rob Masters, Graeme Gillard, Chris Forster, Sian Brooks, John Drew, Tim Warren.

Apologies: Glenn Channing, Nicola Vaughan

Declaration of Interests

Chris for item one

Minutes of Last Meeting

Actions reviewed

Actions

1. Chair/Secretary to confirm position on Twickenham County Championship Finals incident to Brixham
2. Director of Rep Rugby to ensure players, coaches etc. are aware of our Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Process
3. President-Elect nominations to be passed by Directors to the Chair
4. Tim to discuss with Nicola sharing of club information
5. Chair/Director of Finance to prepare paper on Reserves and other dedicated funds
6. Tim to ask RFU Club Officers to add Chair to WhatsApp Group
7. Director of Rep Rugby to discuss Tamar Shield proposal for level 8/9 players to represent the County against Cornwall
8. Sian, Rob and Tim to explore what other sports do to support neuro-diverse players
9. Chair/Director of Finance to give indication of funding levels per directorate
10. Directors to consider content for the Local Rugby Plan from their area of responsibility

11. Directors to share ideas for volunteer recognition in the county with Chair and Volunteer Coordinator
12. Director of Male Game to amend competition rules to allow for a club to defend a competition they won in the preceding season.

Additional Points

Directors would like more updates from RFU Officers after they visit Devon clubs. Email summaries of these meetings could be copied to the Secretary for onward distribution as appropriate.

All Directors to think about Local Rugby Plan content for their area of responsibility, what this is likely to cost and what, with restricted budgets, would need to be completed over a longer timescale. All to consider stretch goals. Chair/Director of Finance to give an indication to each Director of their likely funding (subject to above).

The RFU have provided dedicated funding for volunteer recognition. All to consider approaches to recognising the valuable contributions of volunteers across the community game.

Vacancy Update:

- Director of Female Game – interviews ongoing
- Director of Age-Grade – Sas Huntwood
- Volunteer Coordinator – Mark Long
- Team Managers
 - James Bertie will look after Senior Men and Under 20s until Christmas when we will appoint an additional Team Manager
 - Mark Long (Under 17s and Under 18s)
 - Steffan Anderson-Thomas will continue with Senior Women

Sian gave update on Rep Rugby. We intend to enter all three teams in County Championships this coming season. A discussion was had re our readiness to apply to join Division One of the Senior Men's competition. It is likely that we are not there yet. It would require significant additional funding as counties playing in Division One are further from us.

Kit will be ordered at the start of the year, so provider knows our needs. Additional kit will only be purchased with the Director of Finances approval.

Cup Competitions. We do not have provision for a club to have the opportunity to defend a cup they have won in a preceding year. We will amend our competition rules to ensure that this is possible in future seasons.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday the 24th of September (online)