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# Capital Rugby Union - Annual General Meeting

Sunday, August 19, 2018 - Mary Washington University, Lee Room - Called to order at 10:08 AM

## Attendees

### Executive Board Members Attended:

President - Matt Robinette  
Vice President - Ned Kieloch  
Secretary - Lacy Ames  
Treasurer - David Chapman  
High Performance Director- Stephen  
Davis  
Disciplinary Chair - Simon Smith

### Executive Board Members Absent:

Referees (RSV/PSRFR) Representative -  
Jason Wallach  
USA Congress Representative -  
Meredith McAlister

### Member Clubs Attended:

Beltway Elite  
Chesapeake Women's RFC  
Frederick RFC  
Frederick Women's RFC  
James River RFC  
James River Women's RFC  
Griffins RFC  
Maryland Stingers Women's RFC  
Norfolk Blues RC  
Norfolk Storm Women's RC  
Northern Virginia RFC  
Northern Virginia Women's RFC  
Patuxent River RFC  
Pax River Women's RFC

Prince William County RFC  
Rappahannock RC  
Rappahannock Women's RC  
Severn River RFC  
Severn River Women's RFC  
Women's College Rugby  
Representative: Bill Lucas  
Virginia Beach Rugby, Inc.  
Virginia RFC  
Washington Furies Womens RFC  
Washington Irish RFC  
Washington Renegades RFC  
Washington Rugby FC  
West Potomac RFC

### Member Clubs Absent:

Arbuton Revolution Sevens  
Baltimore Flamingos RC  
Baltimore-Chesapeake RFC  
Blacksburg RFC  
Blackwater RFC  
Charm City Knights  
Newport News RFC  
North Bay RFC  
Pittsburgh Harelquins RC

Potomac Exiles RC  
Raleigh Mens RC  
Raleigh Women's RC  
Richmond Lions RC  
Roanoke RFC  
Rocktown RFC  
Rocky Gorge RFC  
Scion Sirens  
Washington Scandals RFC

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## Agenda

1. Call to Order - 10:08 AM
2. Roll Call - Secretary - Lacy Ames
  - a. Additional notes brought up during roll call:
    - i. Quantico merged with other teams including Prince Williams County Men RFC and Rappahannock Men RFC
    - ii. Chambersburg merged with other teams including Frederick RFC, plus EPRU clubs
    - iii. Pittsburgh Angels merged with Highlander Women to create a new team called the Forge RFC which moved to the Allegheny rugby union
3. Treasurer Report - Treasurer - David Chapman
  - a. Spent under projected budget last year
  - b. Fewer teams/players - under revenue from CIPP/USA Rugby than projected
  - c. 7's Championships - Capital Rugby Union was supposed to pay for, but didn't have to - saved money on that budget item from last year
  - d. Select Sides did not exceed smaller budget last year
  - e. USA Rugby is behind on funding fee payments, so we have not received that money from the last few months
  - f. Over \$30,000 left over from last years budget which means it may be okay to work on a deficit budget the upcoming year if there are things that are needed or we want to have
  - g. Attendee Feedback/Responses to budget:
    - i. Can we have additional coaches clinics? Can there be more frequent and consistent posts about availability of money for clubs to host their own clinics?
      1. Answer: During 2017 AGM voted for clubs to take over clinics instead of CRU and 2 posts were made.
      2. Future suggestion from Matt Robinette to be voted on would be for CRU to take the clinics back and create 3 clinics throughout the year (Summer/Winter/Spring) to provide 200 level coaching certificate opportunity and during one of the sessions there could also be a combo certificate weekend including level 200, level 300, and strength and conditioning certificates at the same location.
      3. Additional suggestions from Matt were to transform the secretary position to a Secretary & Marketing position and this individual would get access to USAR login and social media

- logins to gather contact information and promote events more frequently.
- ii. Why are we adding funds to select sides when D3/D4 teams make up the majority of the funds coming to CRU, yet D1/D2 players make up the select side teams?
    1. Explanation provided regarding how select sides benefit all teams in our union and everyone is invited to attend these events. Stephen Davis provided some insight regarding how well attended and diverse the 2017 select side camps/teams were.
    2. Men's Select Side Coach provided everyone who attends benefits from the camps regardless if they are picked to be on the select side team. Attendees gain knowledge from other players, select side coaches, and new drills to bring back to their home clubs.
      - a. D3 womens teams in attendance explained how their players brought back new drills and knowledge to their practices and made the select side teams. One additional point made was that there are no D3 womens nationals, so this select side opportunity may be the only change they have of playing at a higher level without having to leave their home teams for higher division clubs.
      - b. Additional individuals from all club levels (men and women) in the room explained their experiences of attending the camps and also making the team.
    3. Bottom line - USAR doesn't do anything to develop and elevate club rugby so the unions are responsible for developing their members.
  - h. Motion to vote on 2018-2019 budget; seconded by member club
    - i. Roll Call completed by Secretary - Lacy Ames
      1. 26 member clubs voted YES
      2. 2 members clubs voted NO
  4. Presidents Report - Matt Robinette
    - a. High Performance
      - i. Proud of our select side team successes this past year. Matt foresees our select side teams traveling more this upcoming year, playing more teams, and the CRU will be making contracts with other teams to ensure they will not back out on us
    - b. Sports Diversity Training - Compete Magazine

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- i. 2 Members of the Executive Board (Vice President/Disciplinary Chair) will be receiving training on diversity regarding players on the field, recruiting, and handling situations that arise in our matches.
      - ii. This is a proactive movement on our part to ensure we can properly respond to any situations that may arise in the future.
    - c. Wales v South Africa
      - i. Great Sales/Coaching Staff event was well received/attended
      - ii. Exciting match and offered great fundraising opportunities to our member clubs
    - d. Major League Rugby
      - i. Matt Robinette made contact with owners to be part of their planning process and to see how this could potentially benefit our players
      - ii. Future potential to have High Performance camps/matches with DC MLR team
    - e. Future Goals (if voted back in)
      - i. Provide additional Camps/Clinics
      - ii. High Performance Development
      - iii. Help grow union clubs
      - iv. Provide Admin Development (Boards/Admins of Clubs)
      - v. Referee Development
  - 5. Vice President Report - Ned Kieloch
    - a. 50 + odd transfers completed this past year
    - b. Future Goals (if voted back in)
      - i. Participate in Diversity Training/Council for our union
  - 6. Secretary Report - Lacy Ames
    - a. Provided updated contact information to: Lacy Ames at [lacy.renee928@gmail.com](mailto:lacy.renee928@gmail.com) or via Facebook
    - b. Include President & Match Secretary Name, Email, Phone Number, Teams Website & Social Media info
  - 7. High Performance Director Report - Stephen Davis
    - a. 2017 Select Side Review
      - i. Womens:
        - 1. 70+ players expressed interest, 41 showed up for camps, 13 teams represented
        - 2. Record 2-0 (Life University and Allegheny All Starts)
      - ii. Mens:
        - 1. 110+ players expressed interested, 80+ showed up for camp, 25 teams represented
        - 2. Record 1-3 (South, NOLA Gold, Houston Sabercats)
    - b. Future Interested Opponents:

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- i. Women: Japan National team, Jamaican National team, South, Allegheny All-Stars, Stars 15s
        - 1. Confirmed- Texas All Start Tournament - Early December
      - ii. Men: RUNY, NOLA Gold, Houston Sabercats, South, USA Islanders
        - 1. Confirmed - none to date
    - c. Men's Select Side Coach Feedback
      - i. Great to build skills for all levels of rugby players
      - ii. Builds comraderie/friendships across teams in our union
      - iii. Men have opportunity to be seen by MLR coaches with the competitive matches have been set up in the past and future opportunities
      - iv. Mens coaches are looking for:
        - 1. Fitness, Skills, Decision Making
        - 2. Safety in set pieces
      - v. MLR Cecil (Houston Sabercats player) gives perspective on most important things MLR looks for in players
        - 1. Can you make a decision?
        - 2. Are you coachable?
    - d. Developmental Teams
      - i. More players means the union can find more opportunities for developmental sides and find teams willing to play them
      - ii. Help develop these players to a higher level for their home teams
    - e. No Select Side 7's teams - we do not want to compete against our own member ODU's
  - 8. BREAK for lunch - 12:15 -1:00 PM
  - 9. Mid-Atlantic Conference Discussion - MAC Rugby Chair - Kathryn Hemlock
    - a. Update contact information - google form sent out via email with current contact information - contact Kathryn or your coordinator to have information updated if incorrect
    - b. Margy National Committee Update
      - i. Non-continous lower level CIPP to qualify as high level team (Ex D1 & D3)
    - c. No right size on the divisions except D1 Men have a cap of 8 teams
    - d. Current Promotion/Relegation process is about asking not forcing
    - e. Continue to defend against a D1 mens restructure which would turn the division regional versus within MAC
    - f. Motion to vote on open CRU MAC Coordinator Positions
      - i. D1 - David Chapman - unopposed
        - 1. motion to vote in David, motion seconded
      - ii. D3 Central - Tony - unopposed
        - 1. motion to vote in Tony, motion seconded

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- iii. D3 South - George - unopposed
    - 1. motion to vote in George, motion seconded
  - iv. D1 Women - Meredith - unopposed
    - 1. Motion to vote in Meredith, motion seconded
  - v. D3 Women - empty - Stingers Keren Espinoze nominated and accepted
    - 1. Motion to vote in Keren, motion seconded
  - vi. 7's Coordinator Men - Barney - unopposed
    - 1. Motion to vote in Barney, motion seconded
  - vii. 7's Coordinator Women - Bri Kim nominated and accepted
    - 1. Motion to vote in Bri, motion seconded
10. Referee Liasian Report - Gray O'Dwyer
- a. We have promoted more high level referees than any other area
  - b. Asking our clubs to:
    - i. Need more players to become referees
      - 1. Helps teams/higher privlidge with referee assignments
      - 2. Better knowledge
    - ii. Scheduling is hard for 11am or 1pm
      - 1. Neutral fields would be helpful because referee societies could stack referees to allow more coaching. Helps develop referees faster for higher levels of rugby
    - iii. Game film for referee coaching
      - 1. Everyone wins - there is a Drop Box (Google drive) or you can provide video to your referee society directly
  - c. Additional suggestions to help with referee shortage:
    - i. Maybe change times of matches from 11 or 1
    - ii. Stack matches
    - iii. Attend upcoming referee clinics
11. Discipline Chair Report - Simon Smith
- a. Dangerous Tackling - still biggest issue we have with cards
  - b. Sideline behavior has improved since last year
  - c. Advised everyone should review Regulation #17 regarding the process for discipline so everyone will know their rights and responsibilities during the process
12. USA Rugby Congress Representative Report - Meredith McAlister
- a. Not present/will send details to all members next week
13. Capital Rugby Union By-Law Amendment Discussion and Vote
- a. By-law change - Article Iv - 4.02
    - i. Currently reads: The Annual General Meeting will be held on a Saturday or Sunday during the months of May or June.

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- ii. Amend to: The Annual General Meeting will be held on a Saturday or Sunday before August 31.
    - 1. Motion to approve amendment, motion seconded
  - b. Updating Officer responsibilities/titles
    - i. Article III - 3.06.02 Add: Primary Union official for all player transfers (Vice President)
      - 1. Motion to approve amendment, motion seconded
    - ii. Article III - 3.06.06 - Amend title from Competitions Director to Competition Liaison/High Performance Director
      - 1. Motion to approve amendment, motion seconded
  - c. Article III - 3.06.06 - USA Congress Rep is a voting board member.
    - i. USA Rugby Congress Representative will carry the Union's perspective and vote to all Congress meetings. The Congress rep will vote on all official votes with input from the Capital Board. If for any reason the elected Congress rep cannot attend an official meeting the President of the Union will attend the meeting and have authority to cast votes. If the elected representative sits on committees the alternate will sit on committee meetings and provide notes/feedback and any committee decisions to the elected rep. If the elected rep and the President are unable to attend the Board member that will attend will be decided in this order: 1. President 2. Vice President 3. Secretary 4. HP/Competition Liaison 5. Treasurer 6. Discipline Chair
      - 1. Motion to approve amendment, motion seconded.
  - d. Applying for Membership
    - i. Currently reads: ....additional member clubs shall be elected to the Union by a majority of full members at a general meeting upon nomination by a member club and a second by another member club.
    - ii. Amend to: Membership to the Union must follow the procedures outlined in the Membership Addendum to the By-Laws.
      - 1. Clubs joining the Capital Rugby Union must:
        - a. Provide written notice to an officer of the Union
        - b. Complete the club registration process and pay related fees with USA Rugby
        - c. Declare level of competition to the Capital and Mid-Atlantic Conference. Must gain approval from both entities to join desired level of competition
        - d. Provide a list of club officers to the Secretary of the Union
        - e. Provide address, dimensions, image, and reservation process (private/public) of home pitch
        - f. One year probationary status

