

NMSRFR – EGM & MONTHLY MEETING

Held at Tally Ho on Thursday August 8th, 2019 at 19.00

Forty members present (see attached list)

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: - 29 Members (see attached list)

INTRODUCTION

Nancy Wilkins-Mead, as Guest Chair opened the meeting and outlined the evening's agenda.

EGM

All of the current Directors had agreed to continue in their roles for a further term and were elected en bloc by all of the members present.

Chair	Kelvin Roberts
Finance	Ian Moreton
Development	Mike Vaughan
Administration	Mick Fielding
C.B. Representative	Steve Guy

The Board had proposed, as previously circulated, that a new Director and three new officers be appointed. This was accepted and agreed by all members present as follows: -

Youth Development Director	Leonie Pryor
Vice President	Phil Carman
Technology	Will Hemming
RFU Development	Clare Antcliffe

The EGM closed at 19.20

Pre-season Members Meeting

Kelvin Roberts announced that the Society were delighted to report that one of our members, Sam Slade, had been promoted to the National Panel as a Watcher. This was a great achievement and those members present gave a round of applause. **KR** then handed the rest of the evening's agenda over to **NWM** who continued as guest Chair.

Society Vision

- 1.1** Phil Carman as part of his new role talked through his vision for Watchers for the coming season and emphasised that this formed a part of Pathway that **KR** was leading. Phil took questions and made an appeal for volunteers to take the Society forward.
- 1.2** **NWM** gave more detail to the Pathway and how it would work. This coming season would be a trial run with new members, YMOs & the elite Friday panel applying all the requirements which would enable feedback to give direction to any amendments. Following on from 2019-20 season the Pathway would apply to all members from 2020-2021 season. It was emphasised that members **WOULD** own their own development and progression by compliance with the Pathway and this was an enormous change of emphasis and would require a change of mindset for all seeking promotion.
- 1.2A** **Frazer Colley** gave details on the Appointments system and why it was clearly overdue as members were unclear on what the system was and how it worked for them. The greatest apparent improvement was that Society appointments would be done on a monthly basis which would give all

parties greater vision of availability. This was particularly well received by the floor. **FC** outlined the additional workload for the Appointments team and said that any additional volunteers would be welcomed.

1.3 Dave Winter continued the evening's theme of ongoing improvements by going through the training calendar where there would be an emphasis on "Less is more" but with a very tight focus on the Pathway principles and the need for personal ownership of training. The outlined Training sessions would be open to all with "Club Refs" very welcome. The testing of fitness would be either YOYO or BRONCO and it would be possible for either to be assessed remotely via digital systems.

1.4 Leonie Pryor has taken vigorous control of YMO & Youth Development and highlighted the new opportunities that now were in place and what could be expected throughout the coming seasons. The Society Website would very shortly have a Youth Development Calendar that would show full details of what was coming and when – Volunteers required Please! Rab Cooper has already started an YMO WhatsApp group to improve communication through the group. One piece of exciting news was that Wasps RFC would be running Youth Teams based at Bournville and our YMOs would be appointed to these games as Teams of Three.

Refereeing in France

Katarina Ham as a new member to the Society gave an interesting talk on this subject. As **KH** had gained her refereeing qualifications and most of her practical experience in France her knowledge & anecdotes were very well received. It is anticipated that these will form a Webpage very shortly.

Report from the Chair

Kelvin Roberts repeated that Recognition continued to be a principle of the Society and that any recommendations would be welcomed.

Financial impact of recent RFU changes

Ian Moreton gave a summary of notable changes to the Income & Expenditure profile with the following points highlighted:

- ❖ Income is down by £5K
- ❖ Expenditure forecast is unchanged
- ❖ Club Fees have been increased to £25
- ❖ Members Subscriptions have been increased to £25
- ❖ The RFU have indicated a severe cut in International tickets being made available from season 2020-21 and that there is likely to be a link between Appointments made via WTR and allocation of tickets; this emphasises the importance of appointments being made correctly and appropriately. The RFU policy is being questioned nationally and it is hoped that there will be movement on this proposal.
- ❖ A reminder was given that any Training expenses are not done on WTR but directly to IM.

Mick Fielding asked that any suggestions that would have been raised in the Members Forum, unfortunately a lack of time meant that this had not happened, should be sent to the Board for consideration.

The meeting closed at 09.25

