



Newfoundland Rugby Football Union - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, March 24th, 2019 @ 2:15 p.m.

Swilers Rugby Club, St. John's, Newfoundland

CALL TO ORDER @ 2:20 p.m.

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

<u>Present (Name)</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Club</u>
1. John Cowan	President	Vandals RFC
2. Colin Sullivan	Treasurer	Vandals
3. Roxanne Butler	Secretary	Swilers RFC
4. Graham Cook	Communications	Swilers RFC
5. Lesley Cowan	Director of Women	Vandals RFC
6. Basil Crosbie	Director of Men	Baymen RFC
7. Sean Clancy	Referee Director	Referees Society
8. Simon Blanks	Coaching Director	Dogs RFC
9. Maegan Roche	Ex-officio	Swilers
10. Emma Bridgeman	Ex-officio	Dogs RFC
11. Martin Stoyles	Club Member	Swilers RFC
12. Steven Gardiner	Club Member	Swilers RFC
13. Liam Warren	Club Member	Swilers RFC

Apologies:

1. Greg Noble	Past-President	Dogs RFC
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Minutes of 2018 NRU-AGM

MOTION – It was moved to approve the minutes and reports from the NRU – AGM 2018

Moved Simon Blanks

Seconded Sean Clancy

Motion Passed Unanimously

Directors Reports:

President's report: Presented in detail by John Cowan.

- In 2018 Rugby Canada fees increased by \$20.00; this year (2019) reduced by \$5.00.
- NL Rugby seeking additional Rookie Rugby Kits and inflatable field structure to help promote the game.
- Coaches have been conducting lunch time rugby programs with a number of schools, and a Junior High School Festival is planned for June prior to a Super League game to be hosted at Swilers.
- From the Strategic Plan it was agreed the NRU needs to create an Action Plan for all divisions from Mini to Senior to identify goals for each and investigate any opportunity to partner with Government.
- John specifically thanked both Geoff Warden and Graham Cook for their time and contributions as directors with the NRU.

MOTION – It was moved that the President's report be accepted

Moved **Simon Blanks**
Seconded **Sean Clancy**
Motion Passed Unanimously

Treasurers Report: Colin Sullivan provided the Financial Statements

- There was a discussion on travel grants. It was generally felt that these would continue to be available.
- There was discussion on a potential issue related to use of training space. It was agreed that the NRU would determine how other groups respond to this issue.

MOTION – It was moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted

Moved **Lesley Cowan**
Seconded **Basil Crosbie**
Motion Passed Unanimously

Referee's Report: Sean Clancy provided a detailed report

- Inappropriate conduct towards officials was discussed. The NRU expressed support for officials and several action items were identified to further support referees. Items including clubs posting a notice that "Abuse of officials is not tolerated." Referee society to also resend Discipline protocol to clubs.
- Referee Director attended Educator Course in March 2019.
- No plans to send our referees to 2019 Atlantics in PEI and Eastern Canadians in Kingston.
- New ruling coming from World Rugby/Rugby Canada soon regarding high/dangerous tackles.
- Changing game times and locations without informing the referees has caused issues.
- Referee numbers was discussed. It is hoped that some of the newer referees may be in a position to referee higher level games.

Referee's Report continued:

MOTION – It was moved that the Referee’s report be accepted

Moved Colin Sullivan

Seconded Simon Blanks

Motion Passed Unanimously

Women’s Report: Presented in detail by Lesley Cowan.

- Women could not field a U18 team in 2018 with the exception of 11-players competing at the U18 National 7s in BC in March.
- Concerns regarding the senior women being left out of the discussion that resulted in the discontinuation of a senior women’s division at the Atlantic tournament. The NL team is relatively young (most U18 2-years previous) and the Atlantic event was a good building block. Alternate competition could have been in place had the NRU been informed.

MOTION – It was moved that the Women’s report be accepted

Moved Roxanne Butler

Seconded John Cowan

Motion Passed Unanimously

Men’s Report: Presented in detail by Basil Crosbie.

- It was agreed that it is important to increase the number of junior teams.
- Newfoundland will host the CRC – U19 National tournament. The Atlantic Rock will be a regional team. Officials will be Panel Referees. Dates: Monday, August 5 to Sunday, August 11th, 2019
- A separate meeting will be held to discuss Clubs.

MOTION – It was moved that the Men’s report be accepted

Moved Sean Clancy

Seconded Graham Cook

Motion Passed Unanimously

Coaching Report: Presented in detail by Simon Blanks.

- Simon Blanks and Morgan Lovell recently attended Coach Education session in Saskatchewan.
- Plan is to run one to two courses this Spring/Summer.
- Simon has been in touch with the startup Rugby group in Corner Brook of some solid former Rock players who now live and are practicing and playing Touch in Corner Brook. Simon to spend time in CB to support and help further the development of this program. CB plan to participate in GSF7s in August.

MOTION – It was moved that the Men’s report be accepted

Moved John Cowan

Seconded Liam Warren

Motion Passed Unanimously

Communications Report: Graham Cook presented in detail.

- Graham Cook informed the committee that he will step down as he is moving away in July. He plans to stay involved to help transition a new Communications Director into the role.

MOTION – It was moved that the Communications report be accepted

Moved Liam Warren
Seconded Steven Gardiner
Motion Passed Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. There was a discussion on Sunday Night 7s for all ages. It was noted there has been some club discussion on Family Flag Rugby for all genders and ages.
2. It was reiterated that a Certificate of Conduct is required for all Coaches.
3. A new National Disciplinary Policy is expected.
4. It was noted that the updating of the NRU By-Laws continues.

Elections of Directors:

Board of Directors:

MOTION –to forego elections and for all Board members to retain their seats, with the exception of the two vacant seats for the Vice-President and the Communications Director.

By acclamation the existing officers move forward and remain in their positions for 2019.

The Board then moved to appoint the following:

Steven Gardiner – Vice President
Liam Warren – Communications Director
Motion Passed Unanimously

New Business:

1. NRU Registration Fee – There was discussion on funds available to the NRU.
2. The following changes were proposed to the fees:
 - a. Senior men - \$50.00 (\$7.50 increase (offset by \$5.00 RC decrease)
 - b. Junior men - \$30.00 (\$7.50 increase (offset by \$5.00 RC decrease)
 - c. Minnie - \$30.00 (\$10.00 increase (offset by \$5.00 RC decrease)
 - d. Senior Women \$10.00 (\$5.50 increase (offset by \$5.00 RC decrease)
 - e. Coach \$50.00 (\$2.50 reduction)

Moved John Cowan
Seconded Roxanne Butler
Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion to adjourn:

Moved Sean Clancy
Seconded Liam Warren
Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting ended @ 4:16 p.m.

Roxanne Butler
NRU – Secretary

John Cowan
NRU – President