



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, February 20th @ 7:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting via Zoom, St. John's, Newfoundland

CALL TO ORDER @ 7:06 p.m.

Board members present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Club</u>
1. John Cowan	President	Vandals RFC
2. Colin Sullivan	Treasurer	Vandals RFC
3. Roxanne Butler	Secretary	Swilers RFC
4. Liam Warren	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

Regrets:

Steven Gardiner	Vice-President	Swilers RFC
Emma Bridgeman	Ex-officio	Dogs RFC
Greg Noble	Past-President	Dogs RFC

All others present:

Morgan Lovell	Heidi Gatherall	Robert Nugent
Victoria Whitten	Paul Newhook	Steve Best
Dave Penney	Angie Mercer	

John Cowan welcomed everyone and indicated reports were circulated to Board Members prior to this meeting.

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were circulated to Board members prior to the meeting.

Motion to adopt the 2020 Annual General Meeting minutes.

Motion – Sean Clancy

Second – Lesley Cowan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

John presented the President's report in detail pointing out Rugby is one of the only sports to flatten the dues during Covid in 2020. John also highlighted the hard work by members of the Board, coaches, referees and volunteers allowing rugby to return to play and provide safe environments. He further commented:

- Following a Return-to-Play call (Simon attended) with Sport NL, Rugby will follow our guidelines as determined in the Spring of 2020.
- The WC qualifier game that was slated for Newfoundland is not off the table according to a call today with Rugby Canada.
- Appreciation was also expressed, for the additional efforts by, Simon Blanks as the NLRU Covid Manager and Morgan Lovell as the NLRU Registrar.

Motion to accept the President's Report.

Motion – Sean Clancy

Second – Liam Warren

WOMEN'S REPORT

- Lesley presented the Women's report with some discussion on Canada Games for U18 Girls in 2022 in Niagara, Ontario. Team NL, presently, has a pool of 28-girls training under the Rock Umbrella program.
- Lesley, highlighted the large number of Coaches presently volunteering with the Rock program. The majority (8 of 9-coaches) are women and many are actively seeking Coaching certification and upgrading.
- Specific appreciation was expressed for the many efforts of Heidi Gatherall, the Rock-Girls Team Manager who along with the vast duties of a Manager, has additionally gone above-and-beyond ensuring players follow Covid-19 and Rugby protocols to keep us safe.

Motion to accept the Women's Report.

Motion – John Cowan

Second – Paul Newhook

MEN'S REPORT

- Basil presented the Men's report.
- Additional discussion around the Canada Games for 2025 to be hosted in NL and talk of either girls or boys, and not both.

Motion to accept the Men's Report.

Motion – Liam Warren

Second – Simon Blanks

COACHING REPORT

- Simon presented the Coaching report and indicated that everything to do with Rock Rugby was cancelled.
- Skills and conditioning was restarted in October 2020 and well attended.

Motion to accept the Coaching Report.

Motion – Lesley Cowan

Second – Colin Sullivan

OFFICIALS REPORT

- Sean presented the Officials report and confirmed that we have 3-female and 6-male active referees.
- Sean is working towards his Facilitator Certification for Officials and is hopeful we will have a Referee clinic this Spring.

Motion to accept the Officials Report.

Motion – John Cowan

Second – Simon Blanks

COMMUNICATION'S REPORT

- Liam presented the Communication Director's report, pointing out the continuing work with the website and social media. Paddy Parfrey (awarded Canadian Shield) and Carla Parfrey (NL Auction) were on VOXM shows and Liam has done a number of shows with VOXM and the CBC St. John's Morning Show over the past year; often discussing RTP.
- John thanked Liam for a great job.

Motion to accept the Communication's Report.

Motion – Sean Clancy

Second – Lesley Cowan

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Colin discussed the Financial Report in detail indicating that the majority of the funds that go through the account already have a predetermined destination.
- The decision last year to flatten the fees, reduced our income significantly.
- A number of expenses were also reduced including referee costs due to reduced games and travel costs due to National meetings moving to online and Coaching events cancelled.
- We are currently holding approximately \$15,000.00 in the bank account, that is not already spoken for.

Motion to accept the Financial Report:

Motion – Liam Warren

Second – Basil Crosbie

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Paul Newhook thanked the Board for their continued service and moved for the current Board to continue. Others on call were asked if any would like to be nominated for a position with no response received.

Motion to 'Reappoint existing Board'.

Motion – Basil Crosbie

Second – Simon Blanks

Additionally, Roxanne requested the Board approve the replacement of one of the women's ex-officio positions. Replace Maegan Roche, who has moved for school, with Victoria Whitten. The Board agreed.

DUES FOR 2021

A motion was tabled for the NLRU to charge dues at the same rate as the 2019-year; to be revisited if it is determined there will be no-contact Rugby this year.

Motion – John Cowan, Basil Crosbie

Second – Sean Clancy

NLRU Registration Fee structure from 2019

- a) Senior men - \$50.00
- b) Junior men - \$30.00
- c) Minnie - \$30.00
- d) Women - \$10.00
- e) Coach - \$50.00

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- The rate referees are paid was queried. The NLRU pay the NLRRS a set amount. A portion of our fees is collected and paid to the Referee’s Society who then determine the compensation entitlement for individual referees. Individual referees are compensated depending on the time on the field and level of the game.
- Paul Newhook reported the Vandals Club planned to regroup, identify some leaders and work to get things running. John stated that we all want to see it work and the NLRU is here to support a return.
- Steve Best reported the Corner Brook rugby is doing well and they would be keen to play in the GSF7s or could manage at 10-a-side event.
- John reported Tim Power’s time, as Chairman, on the Rugby Canada Board is ending and nominations were sought. Sally Dennis, a lawyer in BC, and originally from Wales may be the preferred choice as a replacement. Newfoundland continues to hold a strong voice on the National Board through Dr. Pat Parfrey, who is Rugby Canada’s Representative on the World Rugby Council.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 pm.

Motion: Sean Clancy, Basil Crosbie

Second: Liam Warren

Roxanne Butler
NLRU – Secretary

John Cowan
NLRU – President