

PNRFU Annual General Meeting
Jan. 19, 2008
Chehalis, Wash.

Budd Bay representatives:

Dan Smith (President), Amanda Haines (Secretary), Chris Cousins (Coach/Team Coord),
Casey Kilduff (Team Coord), Melissa Fritcher

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call
- III. Approval of 2006 AGM minutes
- IV. Financial Statement (Lynn Howard, union treasurer)
 - a. The executive committee last year pitched in to cover some dues that had been unpaid and to bring accounts up to date. Starting last year, it became union policy that any club owing dues or referee's fees would be unable to participate in matches. Since then, only one club failed to pay its dues and later opted out of the union.
 - b. Howard advised anyone who sends checks to the union to make a follow-up call to make sure the check arrived.
 - c. Jason Shelton, union president, reported that when he took over as president in March 2007, there was \$3,500 total in the union's account. There is now about \$27,000 in the account. "Financially, we're sitting pretty good," he said. "We have money." Also in 2007, the union was able to pay off a settlement and about \$7,000 in owed referee's fees, Shelton said.
- V. Disciplinary Report (Craig Parrish, union vice president)
 - a. In the fall, there were three red cards issued to players. "Nothing too bad," he said.
- VI. Referees Report (Parrish)
 - a. A goal was set four years ago to have more than 100 certified referees working in the four-state union region. That goal has been realized.
 - b. Referee's fees are "still high but holding" with the bulk of the fees going to cover travel expenses.
 - c. Referees will be getting new jerseys. Watch for those.
 - d. In response to audience comment, Parrish said he would look into the possibility of online evaluations of referees. Players at the meeting said they wanted more accountability. This could include evaluation forms on the new union Web site. A committee will be formed to discuss this issue. (Dan Smith will be one of the members on the Committee)
- VII. Divisional Reports
 - a. Division I Men: One member reported a lot of last-minute game cancellations. He suggested a system where D-I teams could contact nearby D-II or D-III teams for make-up matches.
 - b. Division II Men: The Pacific Coast Playoffs will be in Northern California. Two teams will be sent to that.

- c. Division III Men: (Bremerton RFC/OPSU has changed their name to Kitsap RFC). Kitsap Sevens will be in late July or early August this year. Teams are considering a switch to a new playoff system for DIII, considering the addition of possibly 3 new teams to the division. The DIII teams will play each other in the fall for seeding, then switch to a playoff structure in the spring.
 - d. Senior Women: Teams are discussing the possibility of adding a Division II classification for fledgling teams struggling in D-I.
 - e. College Men, Division I: Overall, the play is getting better. A key part of that have been the high school teams. The division is considering a \$500 surcharge to be paid by all teams to offset the costs of playoff travel.
 - f. College Men, Division II: There have been some scheduling issues and the smaller schools are looking at a proposal they plan to present this summer.
 - g. College Women: No report.
 - h. Washington Youth Rugby: There are two new clubs, Bellevue and Bonney Lake.
- VIII. Logger's Report (Craig Brown, director)
- a. They are really looking to get "full union representation" and they have sent surveys to past Loggers for input on how to make things better. They are also talking to officials in British Columbia, Canada, to assess interest in scheduling matches with those teams.
 - b. There is a win-win raffle going on now. Tickets are \$10 each. The grand prize is a trip for two to Chicago. Clubs that sell raffle tickets keep \$6.50 of the ticket price.
- IX. Pacific Coast Rugby Football Union: No report.
- X. USA Rugby: No report.
- XI. Applications to the union
- a. The Vancouver Sharks submitted their application for full union membership. It was approved.
- XII. Budget (Shelton)
- a. Of a total predicted 2008 budget of \$25,350, it was suggested that money be divided accordingly: 5 percent to national support; 20 percent to team support; 5 percent to clinics; 10 percent to reserves; 5 percent to administration; 40 percent to rep side; and 15 percent to the new union Web site. This budget was approved.
- XIII. New Officers
- a. Parrish was re-elected to the vice president's position.
 - b. Howard was re-elected to the treasurer's position.
- XIV. Old Business
- XV. New Business
- a. Web site: The union is allocating about \$4,000 to a new Web site. The entire system will be updated, but none of the old information will be lost.
 - b. Match reports: It was noted that the match reports on the Web site often include more information about the weather and field flora than about the actual match. Parrish said he would talk to the refs and encourage them to provide greater detail, but he added that many weren't writers and didn't

feel comfortable or motivated to provide details. This matter will be forwarded to the committee also considering referee performance evaluations.

- c. President Shelton approached Budd Bay, Kitsap, and others regarding the restructure of the Summer 7's program. He would like to help increase participation in the tournaments by having a "Summer 7's Series" event in which teams would participate in all 5 of the tournaments and be eligible to win the grand prize (cash) should points be high enough. Shelton will be working with the local clubs to see how this can be completed.

Minutes submitted by Amanda Haines, Budd Bay club secretary, Jan. 22, 2008.