



YEOMEN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

August 2008

Minutes of meeting held at WEGZ August 22, 2008.

1) Review of season

1st and 2nd XV

Areas that went well;

- a review of both the 1st XV and 2nd XV was discussed and the points listed below were a summary of comments that were passed on by members of the executive as well as players who attended the meeting
- this is our club and we need to have everyone's input considered and listened to if we are to improve for next year
- managed to complete a full season following a 2 year suspension
- many juniors played for our men's side
- ran 3 junior sides and 2 men's sides
- a successful tour of Baltimore (for most guys.....)
- next year hope to use the artificial turf field at Saint Joan for home games on Saturday
- use of Saint Joan of Arc for our practice facility was good – repeat application next year

Areas for improvement;

- too many players came into the season unfit and this cannot happen next year if we expect to be better
- lack of commitment to practice on the part of many players – pay their money and then they don't show up – next year we need to be firm that if you don't practice you cannot be considered for selection for the 1st XV
- too many practices where there was no structure – played touch for 1 ½ hours
- poor communication between coaches and players – no one phoning players when they don't come to practice or show up for games
- committee of coaches was not a good idea – need to establish a head coach for both the 1st XV and 2nd XV who need to be present most of the time and know the players
- lack of commitment also caused lack of continuity for 2nd XV because on game day too many second team players were either pulled from games early to reserve the first team or finished their game and went straight into a first team game – demoralizes both teams when that happens
- 2nd XV were not treated or made to feel that their role in the club was important – they had no warm ups – no balls – old uniforms - and at times no coach – this cant happen if we are to rebuild the club

- running an U21 team really put a strain on the men's team since most of the men were U21 players as well – recommend not running an U21 next year
- we need more volunteers to come forward to assist in various areas, retired players, interested friends of members etc. , this is important for the restructure
- need to make sure physiotherapists are arranged for every home game
- need to make sure we look professional – balls and cones etc – whose in charge?

Juniors

Areas that went well;

- ran 3 teams – U21/ U18/U16
- recruits came from several different schools
- Junior Camp in May was a success again – repeat next year
- Good showing of U16 to games

Areas for improvement;

- running an U21 team stretched our resources and player pool
- U18 showed very little commitment and team folded – Saint Joan players were the big disappointment
- need coaches for each age group who are not players

2) Financial/Registration Report –

- Tony shared his financial report with the executive and members present at WEGZ
- A full detailed report will be provided to all members at the AGM
- a recommendation was also made to raise the junior fee to \$175 and student fee to \$300 and the men's fee to \$350 – this motion will be brought to the membership at the AGM

3) Website Update/Feedback –

- most people happy with look of site
- information available useful
- Anthony looking for more people to be involved with articles and photographs
- off season information will be available on the site

4) Dinner Dance/AGM

- since last year's dinner dance was so successful we will run another one this year on **Friday November 7** at a new location since we left quite a mess at Le Jardin last year – Rob Fiore and Adam Mirra will organize the event
- the AGM will be held on **Saturday January 17th** at Saint Joan of Arc at 1:00 p.m.
- members need to come to this meeting

5) Indoor/Off Season Training

- indoor training will commence on Friday evening in January once again at Saint Joan of Arc
- the head coach will run these sessions and players are expected to attend

- although there will be basketball there will be more emphasis on rugby skill development
- Tony is going to organize one night a week pick up hockey as another way to stay in shape – more details to follow
- players need to spend time on their own in addition to the one day a week to do their own fitness
- the season is not the time to decide you are unfit and you need to do something about it

Overall, I am please with our first year back in the league and we will work on the areas that need improvement and move for a better season next year. See you all at the Dinner dance on November 7th.

Domenic Scuglia
Yeomen President

Team colours: red and white striped jerseys with red socks and white shorts