

Florida High School Rugby AGM Meeting
Date: August 16th 2008
Location: Clewiston, Florida

Clubs Represented

Orlando High School Rugby – Ron Pruitt and Jeremy Humphries
Brevard U-19's – Ray Champion
Tampa Pelicans – Dave McFadden
Tampa Barbarians – Mark Van Trees
Lincoln Park – Allen Dobson
Pinellas – ??????
Northeast Nomads - Rocco and Bill Shelly
Trojan – Bill Marts, Ox and Donnie
Lelay – Lisa O'Donnell
Naples – Larry Fox
Cape Coral – ?????
John Dacenport
Martin Gardiner
Mike Blane
Moe Louvec
Scott Bueling
Terry Day

Roll call and introductions and Opening Statements.

- Coaches and representatives are introduced.
- As part of the introduction the following teams will not available for competition next season.
 - o Jacksonville Bulldogs
 - o North Broward Prep
 - o Dwyer
- The following teams have requested to join the league for next season.
 - o Tallahassee
 - o 2 Teams from Tampa Sarasota Military Academy and Bradenton
- Too many yellow and red cards issued. Coaches urged to enforce rules as sanctioned in the handbook
- Naples Bears 35 wins with no losses. New State Record
- State Champions – Tampa Pelicans
- Simon with Jupiter has or should be vindicated on all allegations soon
- Girls teams have been reduced to 1 team Jupiter

Presentation of the by-laws and handbook and guidelines for the newly created Florida Youth Rugby Union (FYRU).

- Steve opened with the following arguments as follows
 - o Decision to stay independent from the FRU
 - o CIPP Savings – Under one Team/Union
- John Davenport and Martin Gardner arguments
 - o No attempts for takeover
 - o As a member of union to transfer of funds is justified and will be easier
 - o Referee assignments - logistics and resources advantage of process already in place.
 - o Share the same idea of a seamless system for a person to develop a rugby career. Bring the structure together
 - o Has sent money to help U-based teams and Academy
 - o Both the FRU and FYRU need to be a family to share common goal of rugby

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- Wants to help structure state based youth organization
- LAU have been tasked to grow and develop state based U-based teams funds from Adult Teams – direct money to the FYRU
- Coaching registering help with cost and State Based Certification
- Don't want to run youth union but provide resources FRU
- Ref's will be available but not possible if not part of the union
- Discipline will be adopted through IRB down and using their system
- Ray called motion to vote for FRYU staying autonomous for the year 2008 season
Vote ended in a 6 to 6 tie
- As a result of the tie decision
- The FRYU will reconvene and revote on the merger based on the outline plan
- The FRYU has also tasked itself with development of a 5 year plan. Responsibility of the Board to create.
- The FRU will by September 21st provide a written plan due based on conference call by the FRU Board

FRYU By-Laws

- The by-laws were discussed and the following issues were brought to the attention of the group.
 - Amend the money in reserve – Remove from By-laws
 - Votes will be of a majority vote In lieu of a 2/3 vote
- Hand Book was discussed and the following issues were brought to the attention of the group.
 - Set Dates for individual seasons
 - Women's season will be in the Fall – September through January
 - Men's season will be in the Spring – January through April
 - New team deadline for acceptance will be December 15th
 - Jessica Langford Act will be a required prerequisite for head coach and staff.
 - Discipline – Hand Book to be revised based on the IRB Foundation Guidelines
 - Mouth Guards will be required by each player during all games and practice(contact)
 - Teams will be encouraged to set up on the same side of the field and parents/spectators on the opposite.
 - Coaching Certification – January 1st cut off to be a certified coach. Updates need to be made on the General FRYU Calendar of events. New Orleans Sept 26th and Carolina in October.
- Vote for Positions
 - Discussed was change of votes for positions – This will be on the agenda for next year
 - Add Disp. Chair(will need to be elected position) to the board for vote
 - Remove Treasure

Election of the newly created board of the FYRU

The following people have been elected in the following positions.

Raymond Campion as Director for the FYRU

Steve Young as Chairman

Bill Shelly as Vice Chairman

Jeremy Humphries as Secretary of the FYRU

Bill Marts as Treasurer

Discipline Chairman Jeff Oxenrider (in conflicts with same team, then decision comes from the next level up)

Dave McFadden as Master Scheduler

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Discussion of what dues each team would pay to be part of the Union.

- Need to establish budgets for season. This can determine cost per team
- \$50 per team will be asked to cover start-up cost until the budget can be created and accepted.
- each team to strive and get 1 each corporate sponsor
- Non Profit is filed paperwork to be finalized this year.
- CIPP registration one big or individual (not going with big registration)

Discussion of current set up of Divisions and Play-Off status

Playoffs and Divisions

- The League will go to an 8 team playoff structure or 4 team structure TBD based on amount of teams registered.
- The group discussed the decisions for state championship and which teams will go to the souths. All agreed that cost was the biggest concern and if a team wanted to attend it would be based on that team to cover the funds necessary to travel.

Women's Rugby

- The league is now 4 teams down to 1.5 teams
- Sept 20 or 27 tournament Location and time TBD – The goal is take the 8 girls for tryouts
- Nationals to be in Ft. Lauderdale November

Sevens Rugby

- High School 7's Tournament's away from the men's

Discussion of Two established All-Star teams (one each for the category of U-17 and U-18)

North and South All Florida Days

- Idea for set dates on North and South All Florida Days TBD
- All coaches will provide the selection process for the two teams.
- Dave McFadden will handle the North half of the State
- Bill, Don and (?) will handle the south half of the State
- Larry fox will oversee the two combined U-based teams.
- Game dates TBD

Presentation of the ACADEMY by Moe Leveque and Allan Dobson

U20 Thunder, Handout given

- o Coaches are encouraged to look for players that are U20
- o Follows guide lines of USA Rugby
- o Team name will be the Florida All Stars Thunder
- o Swap dates from Saturday
- o December is a tentative month for the first Match U20
- o Nov 22-25 are set for dates for training
- o Web site address is as follows Rugbyacademy.info
- o Reasons for acceptance or non acceptance will be given to players
- o Bill, Don and (?) – Have been Nominated as the South Select Side Coaches
- o Dave McFadden– Has been Nominated as the North Select Side Coach
- o Registration is require by all players and will come with cost
- o Requirements and Potential Dates for Academy will be posted by Allan or Moe

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Discussion of funding sources for the Union - Corporate sponsorship

- Each team is encouraged to provide a corporate sponsorship for the FRYU.

Presentation from Gerry Fitzgerald of the Referee Association

- Video and General discussion to review the new law variances.
- The group was encouraged that each team is responsible to provide a ref and qualified touch judges.
- Future ref and touch judge clinics will be posted to the FRYU web site.

Youth Rugby.....Flag / Touch in the elementary and middle school systems....Presented by Mark Van Trees

- Flag as a module for PE in Polk county and Hillsborough county sponsored by military.
- Presentation in October to State for the acceptance program
- Marines to help sponsor league
 - o Requires direct marketing
 - o The Marines ask that they can attend our games and be provided with a breakdown of programs required

Ideas for integration of the college program to Youth

Nothing discussed during the meeting.

Timeline for season

Welsh Touring Side

- 18 years of age with cut off and not playing football, need numbers to make a good game.
- 25 in the south and 25 in the North to select a team of 22
- Game of Oct 25th
- Selection in 1st Sept and 15 Sept

Ruggerfest

- 4 slots for select side teams will be the format for high school
 - o 2 Florida teams U-based will be slotted
 - o 2 Out of State Teams.

Out of State Touring Sides

- The master schedule needs to be updated with proposed dates for Out of State Touring Sides. **Group**

Buying discount plan and Fundraising

Team Kits from World Rugby Shop

- Donnie Stramanak handed flyers for kit pricing. All items should go through Donnie when purchasing. World Rugby Shop is the sponsor.
- Kits can be customized as needed for teams.

Buying Program

- Scott Bueling handouts and info for fundraisers. If your team is planning to use his fundraiser please contact Scott for more information.
 - o Merchant Discount Card (similar to coupon book)
 - o Christmas and January Cookie Dough sales programs

Marines

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- Mark Van Trees presented on the program for the US Marines. All agreed that the program was a great Idea and should be used by all. Mark to supply more information for going forward.

Development of a web site

Youth Section Web Site FRU

- FRU has encouraged the FRYU to use the site
- Master Control will be given to selected individual by the FRU
 - o Ray to delegate people to update and monitor content on site.

Possible passing of three Resolutions

FRU Statement for Poaching

- Policy to be written in the FRU that does not allow direct poaching.

Olympic Rugby

- 7's to be the format for the Olympics.
- Eagles 7's team will be a core member of the IRB.

Voice for displeasure for selection cycles based on ages US vs. the IRB.

- FRU will address through Martin Gardner