

Ivy Rugby Conference Annual General Meeting

January 12, 2013.
Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

Minutes by: James F. Saksa, Esq.

Attendance:

Name	School	Email	Position
Omar Foda	Penn	Ofoda@sas.upenn.edu	Head Coach, Men
Jay Fluck	Brown	Jay.Fluck@cbre-ne.com	Director of Rugby
Richard Lopacki	Princeton	rlopacki@its.jnj.com	Director of Rugby; Head Coach, Men
Richard Baker	Princeton	rbaker@princeton.edu	Asst. Coach, Men
Jodie Van Ogtrop	Columbia	jvanogtrop@gmail.com	Head Coach, Women
Daniel Kennedy	Columbia	DanielKennedy@hotmail.com	HC, Men
Daniel Martinez	Columbia	Dam2190@columbia.edu	President, Men
Jan Pikul	Yale	janpikul@hotmail.com	HC, Men
Andrew Margolis	Penn	rugger@margolisrealty.com	Director; IRC GC
Jim Saksa	Penn	Jsaksa@foxrothschild.com	Attorney (Penn Alumni Co-Chair)
Emilie Burke	Princeton	elburke@princeton.edu	VP, Women
Kristy Gianclomenico	Princeton	kgiandom@princeton.edu	President, Women
Dorothy Mittow	Princeton	dmittow@princeton.edu	Match Sec., Women
Pierce Janssen	Cornell	Plj26@cornell.edu	President, Men
JoJo Bucci	Cornell	jojobucci@yahoo.com	Director, Men's
Gavin Hickie	Dartmouth	Gavin.Hickie@dartmouth.edu	Interim HC, Men
Roger Demment	Dartmouth	r.demment@dartmouth.edu	Sr. Assoc. AD
Deb Archambault	Dartmouth	Deb.archambault@dartmouth.edu	Women's Director
Bryan Hamlin	Harvard	Kiwicoach15@gmail.com	Women's Director
Matt Lawlor	Yale	Matt.a.lawlor@gmail.com	President, Men
Nicholas Lombardo	Yale	Nicholas.lombardo2@gmail.com	President, Men
John Broker	Yale	johnjosephbroker@hotmail.com	Coach, Men
Kristen Brao	Yale	Kristen.brao@yale.edu	Captain, Women
Amanda Hall	Yale	Amanda.l.hall@yale.com	President, Women
Nathan Gallo	Yale	nlgallow@gmail.com	HC, Director, W.
Lee Fleischer	Cornell	Laf79@cornell.edu	Captain/Match Sec.
Shannon Walsh	Cornell	Skw53@cornell.edu	Captain
Catherine Forbes	Cornell	Cmf229@cornell	President, Director

Unrepresented teams:

Penn Women
Brown Women
Harvard Men

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Team Representatives:

Brown

M: Jay Fluck

W: [Unrepresented]

Columbia

M: Daniel Kennedy

W: Jodie Van Ogtrop

Cornell

M: JoJo Bucci

W: Catherine Forbes

Dartmouth:

M: Alex Magleby (Gavin Hickie as proxy)

W: Debra Archambault

Harvard

M: [Unrepresented]

W: Bryan Hamlin

Penn

M: Andy Margolis

W: [Unrepresented]

Princeton

M: Richard Lopacki

W: Emil Signes (Undergraduates as proxy)

Yale

M: Jan Pikul

W: Nathan Gallo

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Elections:

President: Stephen Siano

Treasurer: Joann Brislin

Secretary: JoJo Bucci

Men's Match Secretary: Richard Lopacki

Women's Match Secretary: Debra Armchambault

General Counsel: Andy Margolis

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New Business

Creation of a Safety Committee

Debate on merits of creating a safety committee, in response and recognition of the injuries (especially concussions) common to rugby.

RESOLVED by unanimous vote: that a Safety Committee shall be established following the procurement of insurance. The Board of Directors shall by simple majority select individuals to serve on the Safety Committee, and such individuals need not be Directors. The Safety Committee shall prepare and present to the Board, for the Board's approval, a mission statement for the Safety Committee, detailing its duties and powers.

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Disciplinary Committee:

The following were named by the Board to the Disciplinary Committee:

Chair: Jay Fluck

Ref's Director: Jan Pikul

Other members:

JoJo Bucci

Catherine Forbes

Marketing, Sponsorship, and Promotions Committee:

The following were named by the Board to the Marketing, Sponsorship, and Promotions Committee (MSP):

Chair: Nathan Gallow

Other Members:

Richard Lopacki

Ms. Shannon Walsh

The MSP Committee shall develop a mission statement for the MSP Committee and present it to the Board for the Board's approval. Such mission statement shall outline a marketing and promotions plan for the IRC.

Competitions Committee

The following were named by the Board to the Competition's Committee:

Co-Chairs: Richard Lopacki (Men), Debra Archambault (Women)

Men:

Alex Magleby

David LaFlamme

Dan Kennedy

Women:

Bryan Hamlin

Chris Ryan

RESOLVED: the Competition's Committee shall operate as two sub-committees (Men and Women) and shall coordinate internally as necessary and desirable.

Select Side Committee:

The following were named by the Board to the Select Side Committee:

Men: Gavin Hickie
Omar Foda
Rick Baker

Women:
Brian Hamlin
Jodie Van Ogrtop
Deb Archambault

RESOLVED: the Select-Side Committee shall operate as two sub-committees (Men and Women) and shall coordinate internally as necessary and desirable.

FURTHER RESOLVED: Select-Side Committee shall investigate opportunities for putting together a select-side to compete against similar teams. Select Side Committee shall select players to join the Select-Side regardless of whether such games are played.

Finance Committee:

The following were named by the Board to the Finance Committee:

Chair: JoAnn Brislin – Treasurer
Chris Losak

Report: the IRC bank account is almost ready.

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Bylaws, Operating Rules and Incorporation Resolutions

Jim Saksa, as Incorporator, named 9 Directors to serve until a full 17 can be selected.

Those 9 Directors are:

Jan Pikul, Jodie L. Van Ogtrop, Richard Lopacki, Jay Fluck, Joseph Bucci, Debra Archambault, Bryan Hamlin, Andrew S. Margolis, Stephen Siano.

The Incorporation Resolutions (attached) were adopted, authorized and executed.

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Proposal – Communications Directors

Siano proposes having a Communications Director for each team (Director of Communications description is attached).

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Governance Proposal

Each Committee shall draft a mission statement for such committee, setting out the powers and responsibilities of such committee. Those mission statements shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval.

The Operating Rules shall be redrafted and presented to the board for approval. The Board shall select a drafting committee.

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Competitions Reports

2012/2013 Ivy Playoffs Background:

- On July 21st 2012 all 8 Ivy Rugby teams agreed and committed to a league structure and playoff process for the 2012/2013 season to determine both our representative to the USA Rugby Round of 16, as well as our Ivy champion.
- Dartmouth considered committing to the Varsity Cup at the end of June 2012 and informed the other Ivy teams on July 5th. At this time the Varsity Cup window was targeted as an end of spring invitational tourney and it was assumed there would be no clash with Ivy Rugby playoffs/USA D1AA playoff dates.
- Our *Ivy Rugby Champion* gets an automatic seed into the 2013 USA D1AA Round of 16.
- All 8 teams agreed to an Ivy "final 4" playoff structure to give the top 4 Ivy teams an equal chance of both winning the league and moving forward to the Round of 16 as our Ivy Champion.
- All 8 teams agreed that whichever team would win the Ivy playoffs becomes both our "Ivy Champion" and is committed to moving forward to the D1AA playoffs.
- Based on fall results, the final 4 teams in the Ivy playoffs (top 2 teams from both Ivy North and South) are seeded: 1. Dartmouth 2. Penn 3. Brown and 4. Princeton.
- At the January 12th 2013 Ivy AGM, Dartmouth shared that the second round of the Varsity Cup playoffs falls on the same weekend as the USA D1AA Round of 16 Playoffs. Dartmouth informed the Ivy AGM that ideally they want to participate in both the Ivy Playoffs as well as the Varsity Cup.
- USA Rugby (Richard Cortez) confirmed via phone conference January 15th that If Dartmouth play in our Ivy "final 4" Playoffs and win the Ivy Championship crown and then decline to go to the D1AA playoffs, the Ivy Rugby Conference automatic bid cannot be passed on to our runner-up. Under this scenario our Ivy runner-up would only be considered as an "At Large" bid candidate to the Round of 16 with no guarantee that a bid would be offered.

2012/2013 Ivy Playoffs Background Agreed next steps:

- Dartmouth has not yet decided if they pay in the Ivy "final 4" and win the Ivy Championship, they will commit to the D1AA playoffs as our automatic Ivy seed. The AGM discussed this topic at length. Dartmouth agreed to consider their position for a

few days and then inform Ivy Competitions Committee of their intent by Jan 18th. Upon receiving Dartmouth's position the Ivy Competitions Committee will determine options for moving forward. These options will then be shared with the Ivy Directors to be voted on by all the Ivy Teams.

2013/2014 Ivy league schedule & playoffs Background:

- No major negatives raised to the current 2012/2013 North/South/Playoffs structure. However, some teams expressed preference for ideally finding a way to have all the Ivy teams play each other in a league structure (without playing back-to-back games as in 2011 season). Competitions Committee agreed to explore two new options while factoring in key issues/concerns for all our schools including Ivy & USA National 7's timetable, school start dates, dates each team is allowed by their university to bring their players back, dates universities allow our teams to start playing in formal leagues vs "friendlies", dates for any fall exams, and any other conflicts for the fall for each school.

2013/2014 Ivy league schedule & playoffs Agreed next steps:

- Men's Competitions Committee will develop two new possible league/playoff scenarios to be considered and then voted on by the Ivy Directors to be voted on by all the Ivy Teams.
- The three options for 2013/2014 are:
 1. Keep the league and playoff structure as we have now (Ivy South & Ivy North leagues with 4 team spring playoffs)
 2. Play 7 Ivy games in the fall allowing all the teams to play each other. Determine Ivy final Champion via 4 playoff in the spring.
 3. Play 7 Ivy games allowing all the teams to play each other. Split the league season over both fall and spring (eg: 5 in fall and 2 in spring). Determine final Champion via playoff in spring.

Women's Competition Report:

Playoffs: Decided to move playoffs into the Fall. There will be a 6 week schedule. Keeping top tier, lower tier split. Same playoffs as now, tiered.

Sevens: Made agreement to support Ivy 7s tournament. 3 weeks will be devoted to 7s; not sure if all 8 teams will participate.

National Tournament: Brown has stated that they would not play in national 15s tournament if they made it due to academic commitments. If confirmed, not allowed to participate in the playoffs. All teams in final 4 should compete for that automatic spot. Brown is also forfeiting chance to win Ivy Championship.

Dues: Penn Women and Cornell Women must pay this year.

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Budget Report

All teams must pay dues.

JoAnn Brislin is sitting on checks; once bank account is properly set up, will deposit.

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Boathouse Report

Discussion of teams' experiences with Boathouse apparel. Generally, mixed results. Some teams had shoddy apparel, but seems as though Boathouse is willing to replace torn or ripped apparel.

Official review scheduled for next year's AGM.

RESOLVED: IRC and each team shall shop around for potentially better outfitting agreements.

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Select Side Report

Select-Side, All-Ivy are separate, but will likely overlap.

All coaches admonished to get All-Ivy, Select-Side recommendations in.

RESOLVED: Select-Side Committee shall determine and select All-Ivy and Academic All-Ivy teams, in addition to Select-Side teams.

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Marketing, Sponsorship and Promotions Report

Discussion of MSP Duties.

MSP Goal: find sponsors. Generating funds. Finding sponsors.

Advertising:

Website banners – Yes.

Banners at games (depends on school).

Jersey ads -- Schools each have various issues. Depends, must be done by each school.

NOTE: some teams cannot use the "official" logo or crest – IRC must be aware in all marketing materials of which logos to use. Each team must be able to provide logos/marks to MSP Committee and Board.

NOTE: Cannot use "Ivy League"

RESOLVED: that teams, in ordering next set of uniforms, shall put Ivy Rugby Conference logo on them.

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Marketing Opportunity

Presentation by John Broker of Renegade Brands.