The Ivy Rugby Conference Annual General Meeting was held virtually on January 29, 2022 to elect new officers and discuss matters from 2021 and plans for 2022.

Ivy Rugby AGM Notes 1-29-22

Notes Taken by Secretary Paula Clark (Penn)

- 1. Take attendance and next establish directors
- 2. Election for Ivy League President
 - a. All voting teams are non-varsity
 - b. Due paying team directors can
 - c. Women
 - i. Brown: Christine Newcomb
 - ii. Columbia: Lily Fittinghoff
 - 1. Cornell: Amelia Luciano (abstained)
 - iii. Dartmouth: no members on call (Katie Dowty)
 - iv. Harvard Women: no members on call (Mel Denham)
 - v. Penn Women: Gabby Culbreath
 - vi. Princeton Women: Josie Ziluca
 - vii. Yale: Xanni Brown
 - d. Men
 - i. Brown: Jay Fluck
 - ii. Columbia: Dan Kennedy
 - iii. Cornell: David Burke
 - iv. Dartmouth: no members on call (Alex Magleby for now)
 - v. Penn Men: Andy Margolis
 - vi. Princeton: Richard Lopacki
 - vii. Yale: Craig Wilson
- 3. Andy Margolis seconds vote for Amelia Luciano for president
 - a. No objections, unanimous decision
 - b. Amelia Luciano voted for Ivy League President
- 4. Elections for general and council
 - a. Bob Far nominated for treasurer
 - i. Nomination seconded by Dave L., unanimous decision
 - b. Andy Margolis for general council
 - i. Nomination seconded, unanimous decision
 - c. Paula Clark nominated for secretary of Ivy conference
 - i. Nomination seconded by Jay Fluck, unanimous decision
- 5. Sign up for committee
 - a. Disciplinary committee decide on disciplinary action during games, etc.
 - b. Finance committee overlooks treasurer
 - c. Competitions committee 1 mens and 1 womens reps to figure out seating and tournament structure for Ivy 7s and 15s
 - d. Sign up through Google Doc

i. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1d1athP8DUGJv5fUG G7ByFfAEIB
VWdmjKPK 8ELGDfY/edit

6. Team overview from Fall 2021

- a. Brown
 - i. Women NIRA (NCAA) Conference (Dartmouth and Harvard)
 - ii. Men 12 games, 1 forfeit, competed Ivy league in NCR, no restrictions for practice in Spring

b. Columbia -

- i. Women Tri-State, some issues with COVID, about 7 games
- ii. Men 4 games, issues with COVID and field space for training, NCR Ivy conference in the Fall

c. Cornell -

- i. Women Upstate New York Conference, played 5 games, no info on when to start practice
- ii. Men no COVID restrictions for Fall 2021, 2 week restrictions for Spring 2022, issues with numbers, 2 local games (1 cancelled), played Penn, Columbia, Princeton and Brown. Unsure about current league

d. Penn -

- i. Women EPRU, 3 games,
- ii. Men played in the Ivys and NCR, slow start with COVID, lack of turnout and commitment, planning on normal schedule for Spring 2022, played 6 games

e. Princeton -

- i. Women club team 15s, 5 games, focusing on 7s in Spring, transitioning to varsity status in Fall 2022, hired new coach and looking for an assistant coach. Fall plan is still developing, not participating at the top level for the first year. Urges other interested programs to become varsity to make Women's rugby an Ivy League sport.
- ii. Men played 6 games, mix playing Ivy and local teams, didn't play Penn or Columbia, did play Rutgers. Want to play blended teams (Ivy and local) in the future. Fields are destroyed, so they're using 1 temporary field with women's team. Focusing on 15s, but will send 7s to Ivy Conference. Issues with numbers as well.

f. Yale –

- i. Women New England Championship Tier 3 conference, mixture of 7s, 10s, 15s. Brought numbers up to 20 players.
- ii. Men played all the Ivy teams except Dartmouth and Cornell. Played some Liberty teams. Blended competitions. Playing 15s in the Spring. Practice starts on Feb. 7, no teams will be sent to Ivy League 7s bc focusing on 15s, and it is alumni weekend.
- 7. Yale men are the only men's team who is not definitely not playing in Ivy 7s. Need to hear back from Penn women, and a few other men's teams.

8. Treasurer's Report

a. 2 years ago dues became voluntarily (due to COVID and lack of playing)

- b. Collected \$1,000 from 5 programs (10 teams) in CY2021
- c. Expenses reduced to a minimum
- d. Maintained insurance coverage (\$1350)
- e. Website maintenance and software (\$464 a quarter/~\$1900 a year)
- f. AGM did not happen this year because meeting was virtual Ivy Conference Lunch is usually around \$400-\$450
- g. Started 2021 with \$9,000
- h. [ACTION ITEM] Treasurer recommend reducing dues:
 - i. Club \$750 to \$350
 - ii. Varsity remains same at \$200
- i. David LaFlamme thinks extra money should go to
 - i. Livestream costs
 - ii. Refurbishing the Ivy trophy
- j. Andy Margolis wants to reduce costs, but not bare minimum. Proposes a subcommittee to look into everything.
- k. Any team that has issue paying dues can contact president and treasurer and figure something out

9. Nomination

- a. Keep fees the same \$750 (\$200 for varsity members). If a team has financial issues they can contact treasurer (Robert Far) and president (Amelia Luciano) to figure something out.
- b. Seconded, unanimous decision to keep fees the same
- 10. Ivy 7s Harvard (2022) hosting no issues for costs, Dartmouth (2023) does potentially have issues for costs and may want some costs subsidized
- 11. For score reporting self-report scores and Stephen Siano will post to website
- 12. Jay Fluck motions for adoption and ratification of Bob Far's treasury report
 - a. Andy Margolis seconds
 - b. Bob Far wants future meetings to include prospective budget
- 13. Richard Lopacki wants more in-depth info about due-paying teams and what teams can pay and which cannot
- 14. David LaFlamme asks if Craig Wilson will focus on both 15s or 7s just 15s
- 15. Andy Margolis asks Tiger if Penn team falls on Spring Fling it does not
- 16. Academic All-Ivy
 - a. Waiting on responses from:
 - i. Columbia Men
 - ii. Cornell Men
 - iii. Harvard Men
 - iv. Penn Men
 - v. Penn Women
 - vi. Harvard Women
 - b. Respond to Amelia Luciano by next week
- 17. Disciplinary Action Report
 - a. No disciplinary action taken for on field behavior

- b. 2 informal complaints of coaches and players being disrespectful to referees
 - i. Please be respectful
- c. Dartmouth NCR vs Penn State One of Brown players was injured and lack of reporting from NCR on how the disciplinary hearing went
 - i. Please be safe and have documentation on safety
- 18. How is NCR working for teams instead of Ivy Conference?
 - a. No responses
- 19. How is Ivy 7s going to work?
 - a. Hosting
 - i. 4 teams were interested in hosting
 - ii. 2 teams ultimately interested in hosting Dartmouth and Harvard
 - iii. <u>Harvard was selected</u>. Amelia is working with Justin Moss (Harvard) to organize. 19 teams are coming. Games will happen on 2 fields, ESPN+ will livestream on main field. Indoors available for changing. Looking for sponsors for food.
 - b. Schedule formation
 - i. Will use competitions committee with Justin Moss (Harvard) to make match-up
 - 1. Christine Newcomb (Brown)
 - 2. Dan Kennedy (Columbia)
 - 3. Richard Lopacki (Princeton)
 - 4. Tiger Bax (Penn) chair of competitions committee for 15s
 - ii. Possibility on men's side: NCR qualifier for CRC in NOLA
 - iii. Will varsity women play against club teams?
 - Many varsity teams will have two teams (A and B), so one side may play club teams, A-sides are allowed to play club teams according to NIRA
 - c. Andy Margolis asks if ESPN+ ads will be given to us?
 - i. Harvard has a plan with ESPN+ to cover all home games
 - ii. Not sure if ad money comes back to Harvard, but it would not come back to the conference
 - d. Must make sure that schools are legally okay with sponsorships
- 20. Figuring out committees
 - a. Competitions committee

Men's

- i. Dan Kennedy (Columbia)
- ii. Richard Lapacki (Princeton)
- iii. Tiger Bax (Chair)

Women's 7s

- iv. Christine Newcomb (Brown)
- b. Disciplinary Committee
 - i. Dave Laflamme (Brown)
 - ii. Richard Lopacki (Princeton)

- iii. Jay Fluck (Brown)
- iv. Milli Luciano (President)
- v. Xanni Brown (Yale)
- c. Finance Committee
 - i. Christopher Lee (c.lee3@columbia.edu) (Columbia)
- d. Motion to ratify committees by Amelia
 - i. Seconded, unanimous support
- 21. Eligibility of players from Dan Kennedy (Columbia)
 - a. Columbia has ineligible players due to their age/years since graduating HS
 - b. NCR/USA rugby says this player cannot play in A-side/qualifying matches
 - c. Dan Kennedy believes this is a violation of Title IX age discrimination
 - d. If the match is a qualifying match then the player cannot play in a determining match
 - e. If the match is non-qualifying then the decision is made by the conference
 - i. Amelia states that the player should then be able to play in the B side match
 - f. For women NCAA, there is no restriction on age
 - g. Ivy Conference (Amelia Luciano) says that any students enrolled in the Ivy League in good standing can play in friendly matches
 - i. Should not exclude players who play past age of 7 years from high school
 - ii. Andy Margolis proposes for a subcommittee to investigate the eligibility
 - h. Andy Margolis and Amelia propose a sub-committee to investigate
 - i. Dan Kennedy
 - ii. Amelia Luciano
 - iii. Maia Laitinen (mal2336@barnard.edu)
 - iv. David Laflamme
 - v. Christopher Lee (Columbia)
 - vi. Andy Margolis will not be on the committee, but will look at the legal aspect as General Council
 - vii. Look at past decisions, look at NCR rules, etc. and provide a recommendation prior to Ivy 7s (April 2022)
 - viii. Christopher Lee states that
 - "In terms of liability, Columbia Men's have checked with NCR Website and NCR directly through phone that those registered with NCR (with no regard to eligibility) are insured"
 - 2. Currently NCR has no rule particularly for Military Vets while USA Rugby does - "waiver applies to all student-athletes participating in the USA Rugby College Competitions whose military service has prevented the individual's ability to compete five years within the ten years since high school graduation"
 - 3. https://www.ncrugby.org/page/show/6132936-insurance
 - ix. Timeline:
 - 1. need decisions before Ivy 7s
 - 2. Gather evidence by the first week of March 2022

22. Next year's AGM is supposed to be next year on January 28th, 2023