



Hendon RUGBY

President David Gershlick

Annual General Meeting - Hendon Rugby Football Club Ltd

Saturday 13th June 2015

The meeting commenced at 11:15 with the following present:

D Gershlick, M Watts, D Connell, N Foley, A Power, L Murphy, G O'Donoghue, D Wilson, R Walsh, A Sheehan, T Middleton, A Whittaker, J Gimbird, C Hynes, J McCarthy, T Mathias, M Harber, L Donohoe, C Silver, S Choglay, A Peberdy, J Casalaspro, E Acampora, J Russell, D Connolly, K Okoko

Apologies for absence were received from:

T Brownsell, T Gilbride, M Symonds, J Cremin, B O'Regan

Minutes

1. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th June 2014 were taken as read.

Treasurer's Report

2. D Connell presented the club accounts. It was generally a good year for the club. Income for the season increased from £80,783 to £98,804. Total expenditure for the season also increased from £79,338 to £87,239. Overall the club made a profit of £11,564 for the season.
3. The bar is the main contributor to revenue. The Saracens match against Munster was one of the biggest days at the club in living memory. It also hosted numerous private events for members.
4. Car parking on Saracens match days is an important revenue stream and has funded the hire of Allianz Park for training on Wednesday evenings.
5. J Cremin, D Gershlick and the members who help them on Saracens match days are commended for the work they do to bring in money for the club.
6. Annual subscriptions from players was down slightly compared to last season (£1,863 compared to £1,920) with a continued pattern of non-payment from some members. Of the 53 players who played 4 games or more this season, 28 haven't paid any annual subs. The club will be adopting a much stronger stand on this from next season.
7. Thanks were also unanimously extended to the Sir Maurice Hatter Foundation and Mr. Keith Gent for donations to the club.

PLAYING RUGBY IN HENDON SINCE 1932

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8. The club welcomes Gamestec as a new sponsor, replacing one lost the previous season.
9. The President and Chairman thanked D Connell for preparing the year's accounts with such professionalism.

Director of Rugby's Report

10. M Harber said that the 1st team should have been promoted from Herts/Middlesex 2 and came very close to achieving that. Although it went down to the final weekend of the league, and an unexpected victory for London French against Hillingdon Abbots, there were other opportunities during the season that weren't taken. Overall it was a mixed bag, the team played some outstanding rugby but there were also a couple of occasions where the commitment wasn't here.
11. The 2nd team won the Plate knock-out competition in Herts/Middlesex Merit Table 4 at The Mount and finished 3rd overall in the table. Following a restructure in the merit tables, the 2nd team go up to Merit Table 3 with some strong sides. However, there needs to be better management around the 2nd team as some match fees are not paid and allowed to accumulate.
12. Retention of new players is also an issue, particularly in the 2nd team. 101 players played for the club throughout the season but just 53 of that total played four games or more and could be considered regular players.
13. At a players meeting on 3rd May, C Hynes was elected 1st team captain and T Gilbride was elected 2nd team captain.
14. M Harber highlighted the difficulties in selecting teams when players won't acknowledge text messages or cry-off with little notice. Players must communicate their availability in a timely manner.
15. M Harber confirmed he is stepping down as Director of Rugby. The President thanked him for all his work as Director of Rugby over the past 18 years and this was endorsed by all those present. The post will not be immediately filled and the role of Team Secretary will be readopted.

President's Report

16. D Gershlick thanked G O'Donoghue for leading the 1st team and offered his commiserations to him and the players for how the league ended. He said he expected the team would do well next season. He also congratulated the 2nd team on their success in the Merit Table knock-out competition.
17. The president thanked J Casalapro for his work as coach during the season and bringing the 1st team so close to promotion. The president commended C Silver for his work organising fixtures for both teams and the Hendon 7s tournament. He also extended the club's appreciation to D Connolly for his contribution as 1st team manager, and to A Sheehan and J Gimbird for the 2nd team.
18. He reinforced the need for discipline on and off the pitch. The RFU and Middlesex are taking a very hard stance on abuse of match officials and the club did not want to see any of its members before a disciplinary panel. The committee is formulating a new set of playing rules so that there is no ambiguity over what behaviour is expected of players.

19. The youth section is growing slowly. As there were not enough players to field a full Hendon side, the players linked up with Ruislip RFC for the season. Two Hendon players won the distinction of playing for the Middlesex U17 county team which is a great achievement.
20. L Donohue said he anticipated the youth players would join the senior teams when the time was right and that for the moment it was better they continue to play with their age group.
21. The President thanked JP Cremin, and all those involved in running the bar. It is great to see increased revenue and the takings from the Munster game was an incredible achievement.
22. He thanked M Symonds and R Steel for securing £500 from the RugbyForce scheme.
23. The hire of Allianz Park is funded by income from the car park. It is a great selling point for the club and something enjoyed by the players. However, very few of them assist at the club on Saracens match days. The president hoped that a few players would help him and S Smith marshal the car park or assist with the bar.
24. The club continues to have a good relationship with Saracens and is in discussion with them about the future of Copthall. Their original plans for an expanded Allianz Park were not approved by their board and since then a new CEO has been appointed.
25. All associated with the club were saddened by the death of former 1st team captain John Ryan in April. For the coming season, the no. 9 shirt will carry a black armband.
26. The President expressed his thanks to the committee and all other volunteers for giving their time, expertise and energy over the past twelve months.

Officers of the Club and Management Committee

27. The following committee was proposed and accepted

Club Officers			
President	D Gershlick	Chairman	M Watts
Treasurer	D Connell	Secretary	N Foley
Management Committee			
Fixture Secretary	C Silver	House Secretary	S Smith
Team Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>	Bar Secretary	J Cremin
Player Registrar	T Gilbride	Social Secretary	L Murphy
Membership Secretaries	R Walsh T Mathias	Medical Officers	S Smith A Peberdy
Youth Chairman	L Donohue	Sponsorship Manager	T Brownsell
Intl Ticket Secretary	T Brownsell	Fundraising Manager	<i>Vacant</i>

28. N Foley said that the club always needed volunteers and that anyone wishing to take on a role or contribute should speak to anyone on the committee.

Membership

29. The proposed rates of membership subscriptions were discussed and the following rates set for the 2014/2015 season:

Playing Member	£75 ^a	Non-Playing	£50
Student Member	£35 ^b	Life Vice President	£350 (one-off payment)
Vice President	£50	Junior Member	£10 (under 19 on 1 st Sept)
Social Member	£20		

a. Players who pay in full by the end of October will receive a free club item (to be determined).

b. This may be further reduced in individual circumstances at the discretion of the committee.

Any Other Business (AOB)

30. There being no other business the chairman concluded the meeting at 13:15.