

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY FOOTBALL REFEREES SOCIETY HELD ON THURSDAY 22 APRIL 2010, AT 19H00, IN THE BOARDROOM, NEWLANDS GRANDSTAND BOUNDARY ROAD NEWLANDS.**

**1. WELCOME**

The Chairman for this meeting (Mr. Arthur Southgate, standing in for Mr. Dan de Villiers), extended a warm welcome to all members present, attending this meeting.

A special welcome was extended to a Mr. Douglas Holwill, a previous Chairman of the Western Province Rugby Football Referees Society, for attending this meeting.

**2. PRESENT**

As per the attendance register.

**3. APOLOGIES**

The following persons have tendered their apologies, which have been noted, namely:

Dan de Villiers, Hendi Greyling, T. Thiart, F. van Wyk, Michiel Botes, Dennis Immelman, Johan Lourens, Daniel Fortuin, James Apollis, Owen Kiewietz

**4. OBITUARIES**

The members stood a minute silence, as a mark of respect to members, who have recently "lost" members of their family:

Dennis Immelman: Father in Law / Albert Savage: Father.

**5. OTHER MEMBERS**

- The Chairman informed members that Executive Committee Member Mr. James Apollis, was in the Panarama Medi Clinic Hospital for observation relating to the condition of his heart.
- Member Mr Owen Kiewietz, was still recovering from a recent heart by- pass operation.

**6. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

- Executive Committee Member Mr. Becker, and, member Mr Mathew Kemp, lead members through the six (6) Constitutional Changes, distributed to members on 29 March 2010, now tabled for discussion purposes, at this meeting.
- In the Constitutional Change number: 3 Performance Reviewers: The words Match Reviewer/s, must be added in order that all permutations are covered in the description.
- Mr. Kemp briefed members on all the Constitutional Changes, and the motivation behind each Constitutional Change being made, in particular: the Referees Representative.
- All the SIX (6) Constitutional Changes were carried unanimously.

**7. FINANCES:**

- Mr. Southgate, briefed members on the Annual Financial Statements of the Society as at 31 December 2009.
- Member's attention was drawn to the fact that under the item Fund Raising, there appeared to be a big discrepancy in the amount declared on 31 December 2009: R 17 965 and the amount declared as at 31

December 2008: R126 907. This was due to their being NO Black Tie Dinner being held during the 2009 Financial Year.

- With no further discussion by members on the Annual Financial Statements as at 31 December 2009, they were duly approved.

#### **8. APPOINTMENTS AND PERFORMANCE REVIEWING**

- Mr. Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley, addressed members, that he had temporarily, assumed the role as convenor in this portfolio while Mr. James Apollis was re-cooperating in the Panarama Medi Clinic.
- In the first two weeks of the club rugby season there had been 29 referee withdrawals.
- There are already 12 withdrawals received for Saturday 24 April 2010.
- The Referee Society Grading Structure should be on the Web Site by June 2010 as the Constitution determines.
- Currently 100 Performance Reviews / Match Reviews had been completed.
- The ideal scenario is that: each rugby referee is seen at least once by the end of the rugby season.

#### **9. TRAINING**

- Mr. Johan Pieterse communicated to members, that during the last part of this current monthly meeting, the recently written Rugby Referees Examination will be discussed, with particular reference to the match clippings on the Set Scrum.
- 122 Members have currently written the Rugby Referees Examination. The average mark obtained was approximately: 60. The highest individual mark recorded was: 77.
- In addition, members were informed that a Training Policy Document has been compiled, and forwarded to coaches within the designated regions; for implementation.

#### **10. ADMINISTRATION**

- Mr. Becker, addressed members on the new appointment computerized programme on the Web Site, and how it would eventually work.
- Once the new Format of the new Grading Structure is implemented and approved, it will be placed on the referees Web Site by June 2010.
- Members will then be able to see where they are graded versus the type of matches they should be appointed to.
- Members were briefed on the recently convened meeting between the Deputy CEO of Western Province Rugby Mr. Herman Abrahams, Executive Committee Members, and Administration Personnel. The minutes relating to this meeting are available to any member requesting them.
- Items covered related to: all club rugby appointments falling under the jurisdiction of Western Province, are for appointment purposes, the responsibility of the Rugby Referee Society.
- The Web Site is currently being changed and up-dated with information continuously.
- Mr. Ivan Solomons at this point, enquired about the Appointment Investigation undertaken by Mr. Becker, last year on behalf of members. He was informed that this process is ongoing, and all points are being attended to in this document. Members were informed that this Investigation Document was available to members on their request.
- Members were encouraged to ask question on whatever subject that troubled them. There would be no recriminations.

#### **11. HERMAN PRETORIUS**

- The Chairman, thanked member Mr. Herman Pretorius, for his ongoing support of the Rugby Referee Society over all these years.

- This is greatly appreciated by all members of the Referee Society.

## **12. BEN THERON:**

- On the 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010, at the HTS Technical High School Bellville: A course will be presented on the: Introduction to refereeing in Practice and school laws.
- The Referees Black Tie Dinner will be on Thursday 10 June 2010.
- The rugby referees examination results are available. Referees are to telephone Tracy Dunbar at the administration office for their examination mark.
- The next Boksmart course will be conducted at Newwands Rugby Field on Friday 14 May 2010. Referees are to telephone Tracy Dunbar at the administration office in order to book their place on this course.
- The Super 14 Blue Bulls match at Newlands on Saturday 15 May 2010 is sold out. Referees are warned not to sell their tickets on the black market. If caught, they will lose the right to this ticket. They can sell the ticket back to the Referee Society, for the price of a ticket to this match being: R95-00.
- Club Rugby Matches: Referees are not to permit foul language to be used amongst participant players on the rugby field. If foul language is used, referees are to Red Card the guilty players.
- At a club rugby match verbal abuse was directed at the first league referee for the afternoon, at the official after match cocktail function. The official was fined R500-00. The Referee Society feels the amount is too little. No official is allowed to abuse a referee in any way or form; during the various matches and / or at an after match cocktail function.
- If rugby referees are threatened in any way or form: they are to report immediately the abuse and the actual language directed at them, immediately, to the administration office.
- All reports for any player given a yellow and / or red card must be submitted in writing, to the administration office. Referees are not to neglect their duty, by negotiating with the clubs that are affected by the various players sent off.
- Alan Becker is currently undertaking an analysis of all referee match reports for the designated Saturday, and, compiling a statistical record of the significant events. This includes match reports that are not returned to the administration office; thus highlighting the referees at fault in this particular instance.
- Referees are report all anomalies at all rugby fields. These could be: technical areas, no marking and / or poor marking of rugby fields, and, are the pole protectors in a good condition.
- Boot Inspection; must be carried out at all rugby fields, as the players line up to take the field, immediately prior / before, to the kick off.
- The FRONT STUD of the boot is illegal. This is to be outlawed with immediate effect at the Boot Inspection.
- Players Cards: If the player does not have a player's card...He cannot play. That does NOT APPLY to the entire team...only...the player who does not have a player's card.
- The e-mail facility attached to the web site, to be used to return the match results, is currently working well.
- Referees and / or assistant referees who do not turn up to their designated appointed matches will be referred to the Referees Disciplinary Committee.
- A report must be submitted in writing to the administration office if the Third Team and / or Second Team Referee, do not stay for the First Team match, to fulfill their official match appointment, as an Assistant Rugby Referee in this match.
- The Union will support all rugby referees, in any situation, that they feel they are being threatened. Threats must be reported on the referees match report.

- Referees are encouraged to attend the various Regional Monday Evening Meetings at any one of the designated regions.
- Fitness is the referee's responsibility.
- Active Rugby Referees, referee Super League Schools Matches.
- Non-Active Rugby Referee's, referee Premier Schools League Matches.
- New Members were introduced to members of the rugby referee society.

### **13. GENERAL**

NIL

With no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 20H55.

The committee acknowledges the superb quality of the rendered minutes and thanks Alan Becker for continuing to volunteer his time and expertise in this regard.

**The next monthly meeting of the Western Province Rugby Football Referees Society, will be convened on Thursday 27 May 2010, at 19H00, in the Boardroom, Newlands Grand Stand, Boundary Road Newlands.**

**ATHUR SOUTHGATE**

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE:**