



**NLD RFU**  
**Minutes of NLD Board Meeting**  
**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – 7pm**  
**Via Zoom Conferencing**

1	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Actions
	<p><b>Attendees:</b> Chris Johnson, Jeff Mapp, Chloe McMorran, Chris Brookes, Darren Dolby, James Kennett, Dave Andrews, Alex Bowden, David Chamberlin, Richard Carpenter, Jackie Dyer, Steve Allford, Katherine Wells</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b></p> <p><b>Meeting Opened At: 7pm</b></p>	
2	<b>Chloe Mc Morran &amp; Alex Bowden – Q&amp;A</b>	
	<p>Update from Chloe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CB Drop in Session – 26/4/21 7pm, focus on lower 15 retention.</li><li>- 8 NLD clubs signed up to host Inner Warrior camps</li><li>- No pressure to opt into RFU Risk Assessment Package. Closing date 25<sup>th</sup> April</li><li>- Competitions – Email was sent to all women’s contacts on Friday to register for leagues. Further details coming for W&amp;G forum. Focusing on girls playing opportunities.</li><li>- Caught up with Jenna around girls clusters. Will pick up with Neil Clack.</li><li>- Good idea to host age grade cluster. Lots of resources will be launched this week. Will follow up if clubs show an interest.</li><li>- National CB call will take place 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month and will be used by Steve Grainger to pass on any headlines.</li><li>- Loan programme not yet launched. Will further update tomorrow.</li><li>- No update yet on CB funding for next year. Should be discussed at next Council meeting, this week.</li></ul> <p>Alex Bowden –30 Survival Grant applications received across NLD. All awards should be made this week. 1 duplicate, 3 pending applications and 3 rejected.</p> <p>3 key points – grants have gone up, clubs asking how the figures have been reached. No CB involvement as they have had to stick to government guidelines. Clubs have different sales costs and restricted reserves, so grants would differ. Majority didn’t</p>	

include depreciation, that was added. RFU was administrator, funding was from government. Aim was to make sure money was available to any club that was in need of it. Nearly £800k of funding gone into the CB. Interesting to see how some clubs have been able to reduce costs quite well through lockdown, not so easy for others. Things to look at with regards to sustainability for the future.

JM – Don't think clubs will come back to us with questions if they have received a significant grant. Clubs that have received nothing won't be aware yet of clubs that did receive, so they will likely come back to question that. 5 clubs received £10k or less. Don't understand why such a big difference between top and bottom awards. If operating costs were greater, the awards were higher.

AB- Clubs need to show that they have furloughed staff during lockdown, operating costs from 2018-2019 were used to make projection of costs of 6 months survival, so if they had spent a lot during that period their costs will look higher so grant award will reflect that and those who have been prudent will have received far less. It's a government grant with associated rules to follow, so the process has been different to RFU grants of the past and future. More queries have come from clubs who got the higher rewards, looking for justification for the high reward.

Quite surprising at some clubs have been awarded £50k. When assessing for CB grants there are no clubs that stood out as being in need of that much money.

Role of CB described as secondary decision maker. What does that mean? AB - CBs were asked to flag any concerns with clubs which cause a difficulty with awarding funds. Only 10 clubs across country flagged. Last award letters go out this week. Clubs need to accept and then government said the figures can be shared. Government didn't want big publicity for the grants, or the published figures.

If all NLD clubs are told about the grants and clubs that got no money ask questions, RFU can look through rejections, but not much to be done with those who haven't applied at all.

	<p><i>Alex and Chloe left meeting.</i></p> <p>Board agreed that figures of rewards will be published when they receive them.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes from Last Meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021</b>	
	<p>Agreed as true and accurate reflection of meeting. - Add 'Keyworth' to end of paragraph in AOB</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Matters Arising from those minutes</b>	
	<p>Not heard anything back about Worksop's finances.</p> <p>Restructuring sub-committee met with Partner Unions (formerly Domestic Unions). Proposals going to be sent to clubs for feedback. Should all be in place by AGM. Chris J is going to assist Darren in reviewing the constitution, which should also be ready for AGM.</p> <p>£5k flood reserve is still available.</p> <p>East Leake still wish to re-join NLD. Waiting on constitution being ratified then they will be in touch.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Finance – Richard Carpenter</b>	
	<p>Accounts came back from Duncan &amp; Topliss 3 weeks ago, but they contained an error so have been sent back. Should be back in time for EGM.</p> <p>Subs have been at same rate for a long time. RC proposes a club rate (£48) and individual rate (£24), no longer taking account of how many teams are fielded. Far easier to keep track of it. Mike proposed taking to AGM, Jeff seconded.</p> <p>Individual membership applications are closed, although applications from people associated with NLD could be considered. CJ – Articles of Association should be considered for rules around restricting membership.</p> <p>Is there a priority list for international tickets? Only individual members are allowed to apply. Club members are not considered NLD members. Agreed that international ticket allocation needs reviewing.</p>	<p>Mike will find out what other CBs charge for membership. Some CBs add £10 on to price of ticket. NLD charge £5 per order which covers postage.</p> <p>CJ &amp; DD will add to structure proposal agenda.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Club Development</b>	
	<p>Need to find out level of RFU/government funding for NLD before looking at LRP allocation for next season. Some of last season's funding still in bank; suspect that there will be no funding for next season.</p> <p>Do we offer money back to the unions and Ref Society that we have not spent? Look to come to an agreement about it. Transparency with them is important.</p> <p>Youth Council held forum to gather views on a range of things – feed into Midlands age grade forum. Will be a quarterly event. About 20 clubs present sharing what they are doing.</p> <p>Nottinghamshire Hurricanes (LGBT Club) were mentioned a while ago but no constitution come forward. Jenna is going to get in touch with them and try to get them involved in NLD.</p>	<p>JK will share minutes</p> <p>CJ will sent details of referee who was involved to DD.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Game Development</b>	
	<p>Scott Johnson set up zoom meeting with CCCs. Around 25 CCCs attended. Positive meetings.</p> <p>DA meeting with CCC in Lincoln to see what is happening. CB may need to be more involved in visiting Sunday morning coaching sessions. At the moment clubs have to organise their own 1<sup>st</sup> Aid training through their own providers, which is not as good as previously.</p> <p>CRCs will be a big miss in terms of keeping in touch with coaches.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p>NLD have no influence over World Cup tickets.</p> <p>Application closed for D&amp;I Lead. 1 application from Michael Hawkes from Derby RFC. D&amp;I is his background, used to work for RFU. MW will arrange for chat with Michael.</p> <p>DD waiting for more information from Chloe regarding MM Vol of Year awards. Closing date for applications is beginning of next month.</p>	

<p>DD, CJ and Jim McDonald had positive Safeguarding meeting. Authorisations for '17yr olds playing up to Senior' process will be started.</p> <p>Not many tours going ahead just now. Holiday camp with Freddie Tuilagi went on last week without authorisation. Another coming up in July so may need to speak to Twickenham regards any action that can be taken. Permission needed to carry out camps even on private ground as these are. DD will keep pursuing it.</p> <p>Agreement to set meetings as bi-monthly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month from September on. Dates can be arranged and shared now.</p> <p>EGM will be set as soon as accounts come back.</p> <p>NLD FCS meeting in favour of new structure proposals.</p> <p>Buxton club sale – advised to leave it alone as lawyers are involved. May need to get involved if things progress to affect rugby landscape.</p> <p>Karl has interviewed all applicants for Rep Rugby Coaching and Management roles. Should be announced this week.</p> <p>Dilwyn Evans from West Bridgford contacted NLD to make them aware of an ex-player who was moved out of club and is now sending threatening texts to players accusing them of bullying. No action requested from NLD yet, but just wanted NLD to be aware.</p> <p>Worksop have complained to Chris Brookes about not being included in the NLD cup draw. This was down to Worksop not responding to all the emails that NLD sent out. Error on their part. They may be offered a spot if another club drops out.</p>	
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May (budget meeting)  AGM – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June</p> <p>Meeting closed: 9.30pm</p>	