

Florida Rugby Union - AGM 2017 - Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

FRU Executive Committee

- Kerri O'Malley - FRU President - (KO)
- Matt Tierney - FRU Treasurer - (MT)
- Mel Newkirk - FRU Vice President - Women - (MN)
- Evan Haigh - FRU General Manager - (GM)

FRU Club Representatives (first listed if multiple attendees)

Name	Club	Name	Club
Mary Leigh Miller	Tampa Women	Evan Haigh	UCF Men
Jessica Premet	Tampa Women	Raoul Besse	UCF Women
Bill Cluck	Indian River	Kim Henderson	UCF Women
Michelle Fogelsanger	Orlando Women	Jamie Vance	Orlando Women
Austin Davis	USF Men	Luis Cabrera	Okapi
Gordon Campbell	USF Men	Gavin Mcleavy	Okapi
Corkey Newman	Brevard	Gary Nation	FRRRA
Michael Lucic	UF Men	Kevin Murtaugh	Pelican Rugby
Jesenia Torres	Orlando Women	Roy Dormant	Pelican Rugby
Jessica Premet	USF Women	Alan Gannar	Pelican Rugby
Alex Carvallo	Ft Lauderdale	Tim Beury	Sarasota
Kevin "Mac" McDonough	Miami RFC	Jared Rozowsky	Gainesville
Melissa Newkirk	Jacksonville Men	Melissa Newkirk	Jacksonville Women
Matt Tierney	Naples RFC	Antoinette Phongoen	USF Women
Mike Geibel	Eckerd College Women	Mike Geibel	Eckerd College Men
Tony Cardamone	Orlando Men	Rinaldo Cartaya	Orlando Men

Meeting Location — Orlando Public Library – 101 E Central Blvd, Orlando, FL 32801

Meeting Time — 200pm to 500pm

Meeting Agenda & Notes

- Introductions of the FRU Board (EH, MN, MT) plus explained absentees. Steve Braunstein had a family engagement that prevented him from travelling to Orlando today. The other three officers were not seeking re-election.

1. Agenda Change

- a. Orlando Men motioned to change the agenda to the proposed new agenda
 - b. Bay Area Pelicans seconded the motion
 - c. Voted on with all parties in favor
2. The President (KO) reported on the affairs of the Union during the period since the last Annual General Meeting;
- President's Report - [Click Here](#) to View the recorded AGM presentation
3. The Treasurer (MT) reported on the financial affairs of the Union during the period since the last Annual General Meeting;
- [Click Here](#) to view the 2016 Budget Report
 - [Click Here](#) to view the 2017 Budget

Questions & Notes

- With a budget surplus of \$10,000 how we can not reduce player fees? Debate amongst group. 5K was revenue that was event specific, for events that may not be hosted again, or unspent travel funds because the president was unable to travel to the USA Conference on the Game. (KO) stated the remaining \$5K equated to about \$3 per person which is not impactful per person but \$5K to Union and sport is extremely impactful. The budget categories are based upon historical spending. Further points from the group also stated the they would like to Union to have extra funds to try new initiatives to grow the sport without fear of destroying the budget.
4. The Union members shall elect the Union Officers for the coming year;
- FRU President
 - Jacksonville Women nominate - Kerri O'Malley
 - Orlando Women second the nomination
 - No other nominations

- Group Voted all in favor of Kerri O'Malley
- FRU Secretary
 - Naples Men nominate Mike Lusic
 - Gainesville Men second the nomination
 - Bay Area nominate Mike Geibel
 - Jacksonville Women second the nomination
 - Mike Geibel won with majority vote
- FRU Treasurer
 - Bay Area nominate Matt Tierney
 - Indian River Men second the nomination
 - Group Voted all in favor of Matt Tierney
- FRU Men's Vice President
 - Orlando Men nominate Rinaldo Cartaya
 - Orlando Women second the nomination
 - Gainesville Men nominate Kevin Murtaugh
 - Krewe women second the nomination
 - Kevin Murtaugh won with majority vote
- FRU Women's Vice President
 - Naples Men nominated Melissa Newkirk
 - Gainesville Men second the nomination
 - Group Voted all in favor of Melissa Newkirk
- FRU Seven's Director
 - Orlando Men nominated Steve Braunstein
 - Bay Area second the nomination
 - Group Voted all in favor of Steve Braunstein
- FRU College Director
 - Gainesville Men nominate Jessica Premet
 - Eckerd College second the nomination
 - Group Voted all in favor of Jessica Premet

5. New business

- Winter Meeting to be called to vote on by-law changes. By-law changes will likely include:
 - New AGM agenda
 - New officer removal language
 - New club admission, protocol and voting
- Also at the winter meeting we discuss Men's Division (2) & (3) regional alignment for the 2019 season. Proposals to be sent well in advance
- Florida Rugby Partnership with the FYRU. Already has produced the Ryve sponsorship

6. No new applications for membership

- No new clubs were added to the Union
- Miami RFC is working on Women's program.

4. The Union addressed any scheduling issues related to upcoming year through subcommittee meetings organized by divisions – moved to end via vote.

- Women's D2 - The women agreed with 5 teams now in the matrix Fort Miami, Indian River, Jacksonville, Orlando and Tampa that all teams would play each other home and away and the top 2 teams will play in the State Championship weekend. The women's schedules would align with Men's schedule where allowable so that clubs could travel and play at home together
- Men's D2 & D3 - Discussed at length about the aligning of the D2 & D3 to regional North and South. This would not happen in 2018 but was proposed so that clubs could think about it and discuss, we will have complete plan come the Winter meeting. A number concerns came out about difference in level of play between to bottom D3 teams and top D2 teams as well as difference in resources between larger cities and smaller towns. Other ideas were to move to three regional pools. All of these will be investigated and thought out through a Men's committee that will be formed.
- Men's D2 2018 - All agreed we need to play from January through April - No December games. They wanted to begin working through regionalizing their schedule. It was agreed (of note Naples voted against this) that they would form three pools of three playing Home & Away within their respective pools with (4) crossover matches. The top from each pool advances to playoffs with a wildcard (Best 2nd placed team) advancing to playoffs.
- Men's D3 2018 - With Tallahassee withdrawing from league play. All teams agreed to play a reverse of last years schedule where possible. They understood that one or two games may changed to ensure everyone got 3 home & 3 away games. Teams planned on supplementing their reduced schedules (1 match) with friendly games. Top 4 teams will still advance to playoffs
- D2 and NSCRO College Men & D1/D2 College Women - Survey to be conducted and and new schedule to be developed within the next month. Clubs need to put forth their weekends they are unable to play in the fall and spring.

Orlando Men Motioned to close the meeting

Gainesville second the motion

Voted by remaining parties all in favor.

Meeting Closed at 4:44pm -Meeting Minutes taken by Evan Haigh - FRU General Manager