NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY RUGBY LTD

Minutes of a meeting of the board of directors of Northumberland County Rugby Ltd CRN 14063768 (**Company**) held at 12-13 Lansdown Terrace, Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne on 02.08.2023 at 18:30

PRESENT:	**NAME**	**POSITION**
	Lucy Armstrong	Director
	Brian Fergie	Director
	David Challenger	Director
	Dean Gray	Director
	Henry Cave	Hon Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE:	**NAME**	**POSITION**
	Ruth Scott	President
	Penny Stewart	County Representative
	Claire Sharpe	County Administrator

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM:		
	Gary Robson	Director
	Craig Wrightson	Vice President
	Graham Crozier	Vice President

1. Chair

Lucy Armstrong was appointed Chair of the meeting and chaired the meeting throughout.

2. Notice and quorum

The Chair reported that due notice of the meeting had been given and that a quorum was present. Accordingly, the Chair declared the meeting open.

3. Interests in proposed transactions and/or arrangements with the Company

3.1 Each director present declared the nature and extent of their interests in the proposed transaction [and other arrangements] with the Company to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the requirements of section 177 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Company's articles of association, as follows:

NAME	NATURE AND EXTENT OF INTEREST
Lucy Armstrong	Declared that she is a member of Percy Park rugby club. No conflict
Brian Fergie.	Declared that he is a member of Alnwick rugby club
David Grant Challenger.	Director. (Is not a member of a rugby club.)
Dean Stewart Gray	Declared that he is a member of Ponteland rugby club
Gary Leonard Robson	Declared that he is a member of Tynedale rugby club
Henry Graham Cave	Declared that he is a member of Medicals rugby club

3.2 It was noted that pursuant to Article 32.1 of the Company's Articles of Association, a Director may vote and form part of the quorum in relation to any proposed transaction or arrangement in which they are interested, subject to any restrictions imposed under article 32.2 of the Company's articles of association.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd May 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes of the board meeting held on 3rd May 2023, a draft of which was produced to the meeting, be approved without amendment, and that the Chair be authorised to sign them.

5. Discussions

5.1 The Board recognised the President event went well, and Sarah Hunter really enjoyed the Coaching she took part in.

5.2 It was reported that in terms of the movement of all activities of the County into the Company that

(a) All the above named directors have resigned from the Northumberland County Rugby Limited, and the new directors of Northumberland County Rugby Limited have been appointed

(b) New Articles of Associated of the Company have been adopted

(c) The Rules (in the same format as were in place for Northumberland County Rugby Limited) have been adopted

5.3 Budget discussions were held including

(a) An Introduction from BF

(b) Acknowledgement that there is a £35k shortfall on budget

(c) Acknowledgement that the Website is working, and hope was expressed that this may provide savings of 10%

(d) Other counties are questioning number of County Teams they support; Northumberland are not alone in reviewing this

5.4 Discussion were held regarding a potential raffle of prime international tickets

(a) It was reported by HC that we have approached RFU tickets

(b) We should consider speaking to Lumo for travel tickets due to cost of travel

(c) Any such raffle will need licence for draw.

(d) PS confirmed

(i) She has 6 tickets per game home game, and some for Scotland, sometimes 4 away games-

(ii) PS receives them, and its PS' discretion.

(iii) PS will check if we can top splice her allocation.

(iv) We will also approach Falcons 2 season tickets, match tickets. Day tickets also.

5.5 Discussions were held regarding Vertu Motors

(a) Vertu have expressed a willingness to continue to support and perhaps expand that support Concentrating on

(i) Childrens rugby

(ii) Walking rugby

(iii) Women's rugby

(b) It was reported that

(i) Vertu had paid for medals this year but will look at giving merchandise

(ii) The County has fulfilled the 50 test drives target

(iii) One club in the County is working with them on their walking rugby.

5.6 Discussion were held around the end of this season, and the availability of a 100K enhancement fund related to world cup – priorities being

(a) Women's rugby

(b) Diversity rugby

(c) Walking rugby

(d) Mixed ability rugby

(e) Vets rugby

It was reported that there is a difference between the funds available and if we apply for funding out of the 100K we need to think how it enhances the offering already being made

5.7 Discussions were held around how we start introducing people to rugby by holding small events (short games and the like) at events and festivals being held. There are ideas being looked at around likes of walking rugby / touch rugby for parents who take players to county training, age grade festivals – touch rugby and BBQ for parents there watching.

5.8 Discussions were held around the £2½K CB pot for Under 12s Girls, and this being targeted on delivery and support to clubs with likes of skills sessions and festivals, with further discussion around this on the 21st of August (meeting being set up with U12s coaches). The aim may be to have every club with an U12s hosting something. U14 and U16 Girls development also being discussed and we may be approaching the Youth Trust to support some project ideas for these age groups.

5.9 Discussions were held around the President Team identifying other Trusts etc to whom we can apply for funding, with a view to then a 3/5 year plan/map going forward. It was noted that often the links between the County and these other possible available sources of funds are not there, and further there is then no link between focus on what we can do, the costs involved, and any measured output, which we can then use to report to any such Trust/or grant body other than the RFU.

6. Resolution

Resolution Number	To be actioned By
Resolution 01/2023 Season- the minutes of the board meeting held on 03.05.23, a draft of which was produced to the meeting, be approved without amendment, and that the chair be authorised to sign them.	Lucy Armstrong
Resolution 02/2023 Season – Potential Raffle of International tickets to raise funds	
HC to seek permissions required from a. RFU to ensure we are not in breach of terms of issue of tickets b. Newcastle County Council for licence.	Henry Cave
PS was to investigate the availability to the County as a County resource of the allocation of RFU international tickets provided to the County and used by the County representative, and report back on (a) Allocation (number of tickets believed to be 6 per game); (b) Licence; (c) Ticket allocation; and (d) Travel (e) Standing orders of RFU on the matter of ticket allocation.	Penny Stewart
LW to contact Lumo to see if they will provide travel	Lucy Armstrong
Resolution 03/2023 Season	
LW to write to Trust to request funding support for next year with a business plan.	Lucy Armstrong
Resolution 04/2023 Season	

President Team identify Trusts etc to whom we can apply for a. Community Foundation Greater inclusivity etc b. National Bodies c. Local Bodies d. To identify 2 or 3 organisations to approach e. The left behind	Ruth Scott
Resolution 05/2023 Season	
DG to identify what else can the website do to help drive revenue- link photos to mugs calendars etc	Dean Stewart Gray
Resolution 06/2023 Season	
HC to check if the County Logo is registered	Henry Cave
Resolution 07/2023 Season	
DCG to look at the county offering for members, and report	Dean Stewart Gray

7. Filing

The Chair instructed Henry Cave to make all necessary and appropriate entries in the books and registers of the Company.

8. Close

There was no further business and the Chair declared the meeting closed.

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Chair	(Date)