

# Nottingham Casuals Rugby Football Club Limited

## *Minutes of 97<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting*

***Tuesday 14th May 2019***

### **1. Apologies**

S Roberts

### **2. Approval of Minutes of the previous AGM**

Approved

### **3. President' Address**

Thank you for attending the meeting.

Once again, there has been a lot of hard work put in by many individuals this season, which the club members should recognise, and thank them for their efforts.

Lot of hard work, invaluable contributions both on and off the field

To the playing committee who have struggled manfully to get the sides out every week, especially Bob Parry who took over the 2nds and 3rds. Really mixed bag. But won the Notts cup.

But what a great season for the 1sts team, unbeaten champions Mids E N div 3, and Notts Intermediate shield winners, runners up in the NLD

intermediate knockout competition, To watch all the league games, has been a wonderful experience.

Best season ever most have said, but I can

honestly say that to be President this season has been simply fantastic.

To those who helped the club off the pitch,

Andy H,

Not only co bin man, but looking after the clubhouse, and being here most Wednesdays, to open up for the University, IMS games.

Helen, who has looked after the bar, with Shaun, our chef.

Andy Crowther as Secretary of the club

Ollie Mann who has been treasurer, but unfortunately due to pressure of work, cannot be here, and has to stand down.

Oli Mott, chairman, thanks for your support, carry on the good work.

Ken, for the fabulous ground, standing down as ground chairman, and lately Phil helping Ken, taking over the ground from today.

The same as last year, there are certain areas that will need managing much more stringently next season, mainly again to do with the finances.

Membership

Thanks to Phil for working on getting all the subs in, reflected in the figures.

The new system seems to have worked.

To the Juniors

Thanks to Bryn for his hard work, he is now handing over to Alan Knibbs, hopefully the Minis and Juniors will go from strength to strength in all age groups.

There are now 2 girls age groups as well.

Thanks to the coaches and parents who are running, organising, cooking, on Sundays and Thursdays and to Angie, trying to keep the finances in some sort of order.

#### **Upcoming dates**

Next week the tour.

In June

21st to the 23 rd Solstice 7s, tournament day on the Saturday.

The ladies who have run the 7s for 16/17 years have decided to stand down, so thanks to Kath Mellor and Anna Hughes, and the rest who have helped make it such a success. It's on the RFU national circuit now.

29 th /30 th June Natwest Rugby force, work party needed

Please volunteer for a shift. We've got some money, we need workers.

July 13 th , the Beeston carnival, but more importantly the Hallam fest here at the club, in honour of our late club captain, on the anniversary of his death.

I got a phone call from Dave Mellor, just as we are going out for a meal during our holiday in Fuerteventura.

Needless to say that it put a bit of a dampener on proceedings.

The club did him proud during and after the funeral, and I sincerely hope that people will turn out on the day, and raise money for the cause.

Bit of a sad not to end on, but happy memories of a great bloke, an integral part of this club.

I am standing down as President, lot of memories to look back on, but thank you to one and all for the privilege, it's a wonderful club to be part of.

Best wishes to Andy Gibson, He played 1 st team for a good number of years, and shared in a lot of previous successes on the pitch.

Lech Kluk

#### **4. Reports**

1<sup>st</sup> XV Captain

Lech has stolen much that i wanted to say, but we had a fantastic season, unbeaten in the league and only dropping 3 bonus points. We only lost 2 two games across the season -93% win rate.

Mark Higgins was our top try scorer. A fantastic season, thanks to all who played in the team.

Hope to continue the same next season

Stu Williams

2<sup>nd</sup> XV/3XV Captain

A mixed bag of results, done well with 2XV level players but spent much of the season playing with a mixed 2/3XV. Towards the end of the season we have worked well and got some hard fought wins. The2 XV had won the Nottinghamshire Shield.

We need more players, playing regularly across the season

Bob Parry

OM thanked Bob

Veterans XV

No fixtures as most players were playing in other club sides

Oli Mott

Juniors

A successful season with age groups feeding in from the bottom with good coaching that is well regarded by the children and parents The girls team going really well and aiming for a girls festival next year.

We are an accredited Kids First Rugby Club which is a new RFU award.  
Thanks to everyone involved.

Alan Knibbs

Club Captain

All of what I would wish to say has been said, but we have been through a lot in recent times and this year's results would have made Ben Hallam really proud.

Thank you to the captains Stu and Bob. A lot of work is done behind the scenes so thanks for all the jobs that get done. Please find a moment to thank people and let them know they are appreciated.

## Chairman Report

As we've heard already tonight, it has been a good year for the club, one that has been filled with successes across our entire club. Highlights for me include:

- 1st XV unbeaten and winning the league only one of a handful of clubs that have managed that, and something that hasn't happened in the 20 years I have been at the club
- 2nd XV winning the cup having been suffering through the early part of the season, losing captain and vice captain, and for much part being supported by the 3rd XV.
- Girls side, a return to girls and womens rugby at the club for the first time in a number of years. When I first started, the women's team formed an important part of Casuals Rugby Club so it is great to see this back.
- Continued growth and success in the mini's and juniors. We continue to grow as a club, and are offering more and more opportunities to young players in the Beeston area, including taking a brave approach of combining with a fellow club to ensure some of our young players get to play rugby something which endorses the ethos of the RFU and of Rugby For All.

And I think special mention should be given to the volunteers who support and run this club. Let us not forget that this club is run by people who give up their time and effort to try and make the club success and I think sometimes we could be better at recognising this, and I know in the future there are plans for volunteer recognition days.

I was fortunate enough to be invited recently to a mini/junior section meeting and saw first hand the passion and commitment so called new members to the club are demonstrating, and I wanted to encourage that across the board.

At the last AGM I talked about numbers, and how they were affecting our club. At that time it was financial numbers that was my main concern, but thanks to a change in approach in membership led by Phil Aylward and supported by Bryn Lewis, I have been pleased to see a dramatic uplift in membership, which has helped boost the club finances and allowed us to operate.

So to continue that theme I want to pick up on numbers once more. As you may know, we have several members of the committee stepping down at this AGM, and not all of their roles are currently being filled. If this continues to be the case, then these tasks will fall to the existing members of the committee, and add to their burden. Whilst that situation is manageable, and we will continue to operate, it is not ideal. Over reliance on a certain number of people will mean that we are not as effective, yet our workforce feels more of the pressure. So I use this opportunity to appeal for more numbers to step forward and take on some of these roles.

On that note there are several people I would like to thank.

I would like to reiterate Brodie's thanks to Kath Mellor for organising the Solstice 7s for the past 17 years, and also add to that the support that Anna has also provided. Together they took something from a concept to a successful enterprise, and it is often only when someone steps down that you realise just how much work they did. So thank you to them.

To Ken who has worked tirelessly through wind and rain for 39 years to maintain what we believed are the best pitches in the county. Ken's work often goes unnoticed but I want to take this opportunity to state it is, and has never been unappreciated.

To Ollie Mann, who is stepping down as Treasurer. The Bear has been instrumental in leading the club through a significant improvement programme where there has been funding challenges at each turn. Special mention should also go at this point to Barbara Kluk, who has been assisting Ollie behind the scenes. It is her work on a weekly basis that has made Ollie's job easier, and I am very thankful she is continuing to help with this process.

To Bryn Lewis, who steps aside from the mini/junior chairman role having been responsible for creating the section from scratch. I am sure he will be quick to highlight where he has received support but like many of volunteers most of you will be unaware of the time he has given up to host school events, offer coaching to schools and groups which has given us the successful section we see today.

And finally to the gentleman to my right/left who stands down as President after his second stint in the role. His work for the club has been over and above his role as President this year, there is a rarely a day of the week that goes by when he is not at the club during the day or night, leading on club development, and representing the club across the the three counties. He has been tireless in his efforts, and a true ambassador for Casuals Rugby Club.

I am sure there are others who deserve thanks, but I have gone on enough. Thank you to you all, and again I ask of you all, are you able and willing to help us continue to move onward and upward.

Oli Mott

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the previous years accounts had been audited and presented to the AGM formal notice of this

## Notes to the Accounts:

LK presented: Financial position is strong. We are being successful in raising external funding for projects and our month to month spending is well controlled and within our means.

Bar income £36K - fantastic work from HG & SD  
Membership figures have been excellent, well done to all.  
Thanks to social committee for organising many events

We plan to spend money for next season on new kits, scrum machine repairs and new training equipment and balls

## Amendments to Club Rules

### Proposal 1

This AGM agrees to the proposal made by the Committee that the membership will accept an unaudited set of accounts. These accounts to be submitted to the FSA.

Proposed: A Crowther  
Seconded: L Kluk

For	27
Against	0
Abstain	0

### Proposal 2

This AGM agrees to the proposal made by the Committee a suitable lay auditor be appointed to conduct a lay audit of Nottingham Casuals Rugby Football Club Limited's financial accounts for the year, following their submission to the FSA. The Results of their audit to be reported to the following AGM.

Proposed: A Crowther  
Seconded: L Kluk

For	27
Against	0
Abstain	0

## 5. Elections – Officers of the Club

Position	Candidate	Proposed	Seconded	For	Against	Abstain
President	Andy Gibson					
Chairman	Ollie Mott	L Kluk	O Mott	27	0	0
Elect						
Secretary	Andy Crowther	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Treasurer						

## 6. Elections – Club Officials

Position	Candidate	Proposed	Seconded	For	Against	Abstain
Club Captain	B Howatson					

Chairman of Bar	Helen Gill	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Committee Membership	Phil Aylward	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Secretary						
Fixtures						
Secretary						
Match						
Secretary						
Chairman of House	Andy Hollingsworth	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Committee						
Chairman of Ground	J. Ken Allen-Smith	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Committee						
Social	H Franklin	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Secretary						
Publicity	Lech Kluk	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
General Member	A Conolly	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
General Member	D Gill	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
General Member	Steff Roberts	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Juniors 1	A Knibbs	A Gibson	O Mott	27	0	0
Juniors 2		Co-opted member				

Fixtures and match secretary are important roles that need filling

1XV Captain/Vice - Stu Williams/James Wood

2XV Captain/Vice - Bob Parry/Dan Clark

3XV Captain/Vice - Kelvin Stevens/James McNab

Veterans - Oli Mott

## 7. Confirmation of Election of Honorary Life Members made by the Committee in the preceding year

## 8. Election of Vice Presidents

None

## 9. Open Forum

LK I need to thank Dave Beaumont for his hard work as fixture secretary and we need someone to take it on.

Adam Conolly - thanks for the strong support for the club tour

Sean Danhiemer - a belter of a season, and has been better after games with help behind the bar but could always do with more assistance