



Agenda

Bromsgrove Rugby Football Club Annual General Meeting 2023 – 2024 Season

8th July 2024

Dear Member

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be meeting held at the CLUB HEADQUARTERS, Finstall Road, Bromsgrove, at 7.30pm on Wednesday the 24th July 2024.

Please note that all papers will be available for download in due course at our website and a limited number of hard copies will be available the meeting.

Please attend to support your Club.

Yours faithfully

**R J Davies
Hon Secretary**

AGM AGENDA

1. Reading of the notice to convene the meeting.
2. Announcements.
3. Apologies
4. Minutes of previous meeting held on 26th July 2023
5. Matters arising
6. Chairman's Report
7. Hon. Secretary's Report
8. Hon Finance Officers Report
 - Annual Subscriptions
 - Appointment of Accountants for 2024/25
9. Club Captains Report
10. Mini & Junior Chairman's Report
11. Election of Officers and Captains for the season 2024/25
12. Confirmation of nominations for Vice Presidents
13. 1st XV Colour and Awards
14. Any other business

Please note that any motions or nominations for posts must be received by Hon. Secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM and are only acceptable in writing, proposed and seconded from fully paid members.

MINUTES OF THE 152nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT FINSTALL PARK, 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 24th July 2024 AT THE CLUB HEADQUARTERS, FINSTALL PARK.

Present: The President, Chairman elect, Hon Secretary and the members signing the attendance register, which is attached.

1. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice opening the meeting was read by the Honorary Secretary. It was confirmed that no nominations for rule changes or motions for discussion had been received from the membership.

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting, referring back to the previous year he thanked all present for talking the time out of their busy schedules to support the Club and to the Players commitment to the Club.

2. Announcements

The deaths of Club members during the course of the last 12 months were noted with sadness:

3. Apologies

K Copson, K Udy, M Glaze, P Leake, D Wilkinson, Mrs A Norman, R Norman, Mrs A Amphlett, M Pengelly, C Bailey, Mrs C Wellington,, T Ayling, R Gordon, A Haley

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting were approved as a true record. Proposed by M Cornelius Seconded by V Nibbs.

5. Matters Arising: There were none that were not covered by the President's opening remarks.

6. Chairmans Report: Clare Foster delivered her report which is attached please see Appendix 1.

7. Hon. Secretary's Report

R Davies delivered his report which is attached please see Appendix 2.

8. Finance Officers Report

John Berlyn took the meeting in the absence of Paul Terry (family holiday) and walked the members through the important points in the accounts, which are as attached. See Appendix 3.

The Accounts for the year ending 30th April 2024 were presented for approval and accepted on a show of hands.

John Berlyn also recommended that we stay with the current accountants. The motion was passed to the meeting and carried with a show of hands.

Subscriptions for the Season 2022/23 were suggested as follows:

Senior Player	£200
Vice President (Suggested Minimum)	£150
Social	£85
Student/Unemployed	£40
Staff	£35

Mini & Junior Section

Mini	£140
Junior Player (up to age 18 on 1 st Sept)	£150
Guardian	£75
Maximum	£250

9. Club Captains Report

Dan Protherough – Director of Rugby gave his report which is attached see Appendix 4.

10. MINI AND Junior Chairman's Report

David King - Chairman of the M & J Section delivered his report which is attached see appendix 5.

11. Election of Officers and Captains for 2024/25

David Wellington Was elected as President by show of hands:

The following Officers were all duly proposed and seconded and qualify as members of the Club.

Chair.	Clare Foster
Hon. Secretary	Robin Davies
Hon. Finance Officer	Paul Terry
Hon. Playing Officer	Marc Cornelius
Hon. Development Officer	TBA
Hon. Estates Officer	Steve Husbands & Alan Haley
Hon. Social Officer	William Harris
Hon. Press Officer	TBA
Captain of the Club	George Amphlett
Hon. Commercial Officer	Bev Haynes

John Berlyn is in his 3rd year of a 3rd term as Executive Vice President Gregg Barr has been proposed and seconded as Executive Vice President and this appointment was confirmed by show of hands.

The M& J Officers are elected by their committee at their own AGM.

Captains for the coming Season

George Amphlett/Tom Hardwicke	1 st XV
Liam Colgan	2 nd XV
Stephen Rose	3 rd XV
Martin Lakeman	Crusaders
Drew Marshall	Colts

12. Confirmation of nominees for Vice President, Exec Vice President and Life Members

The members nominated by the Executive Committee were formally passed by show of hands by way of confirmation.

13. Colours and Awards

- See Appendix 6

14.Any other business.

Ralph Gordon – indicated that it would be extremely helpful if there was a light at the front of the Clubhouse – that works.

Dee Hurcombe asked if the Club would enforce a no vaping ban whilst within the Clubhouse – proposed by DH seconded by PD – passed by show of hands.

Vernon Nibbs asked when the slip bricks will be installed – it was confirmed that they would be installed by the start of the new season.

Danny Prescott thanked the officers of the Club for a thankless job well done.

Meeting Closed 8.30 pm

Chairman's Report

I would like to congratulate all the players, coaches, and physios for last season. Our 1st team sustained some serious injuries towards the end of season one being to our outgoing captain Ed Spalding. I personally would like to thank him for his hard work on and off the pitch, it's been a pleasure collaborating with him and I'm gutted that his season ended on crutches.

Off the pitch, we have as always been busy running events. A lot of unseen demanding work goes into these events both by volunteers and the staff. A massive thank you to those volunteers that made these events happen. As you may be aware, our manager Lisa is leaving so I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for the demanding work she has put in over the last couple of years.

We have a new club website which we are slowly building up which means we are phasing out Pitchero. We are always looking for good news stories to put on websites and social media so please send them to us.

It's great to see that we have made progress with the girl's team. This season saw us start up training sessions led by Phil Cotton and Pete Rolands. This won't happen overnight – having been part of establishing Five Ways ladies' team many years ago, I know it takes a lot of hard work and commitment, but it will definitely be worth it.

As a Club that is part of a community, we have recently started to further our links with the community and local charities. We are pleased to announce that this season we will be supporting The Basement Project who provide support for young people aged 25 and under in Worcestershire and will continue to support HB9. With this focus in mind, Bruce Brant has stepped up as a Community Development Volunteer and we look forward to seeing the work he will be conducting over the next 12 months.

It's difficult to thank everyone individually but I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andy for his continued support this season. Not only does he spend many hours editing and producing the photos, but he also helps with lots of unseen things during the week.

APPENDIX 2.

Hon Secretary's Report 2024

Another testing year as the RFU continues to drive everything through GMS (game Management System). In the last 12 months we have we have seen our 2nd XV entering the league system. It is likely that the 3rd XV will join the league system soon.

I have attended the recent AGMs of both North Midlands RFU and Worcester & Hereford RFU and next week North Midlands Referees Society.

The coming season will see every senior player having to register on GMS for every time including the Crusaders. It is essential that every senior player is registered as only those players will be covered by the RFU's collective insurance policy.

The administration of a Club of this size is never down to one person but a team of people all contributing in numerous ways; this year I would like to single out Kelly, Emily, and Bloke for all their efforts in the M & J Section.

Thanks also go to Clare and Andy for reminding me of things I have forgotten additional thanks go to Steve Rose who has managed the 3rd XV which I doubt wouldn't have survived without his dedication.

If there is anyone, I have missed out please accept my apologies.

Salmon

TREASURERS REPORT

In my first year as treasurer I am disappointed that the results being presented to you today are not the news we would have wanted; and whilst the financial result is not as we had hoped, we do have a detailed understanding of the issues we are facing and a recover plan to start implementing improvements.

To provide some context of the swing from 2023 profit into 2024 loss, the 2023 financial result included recognising a significant value (£60k) of donations received to achieve a small profit for the year. These donations were not present in 2024 and as a result we saw a net £50k drop in revenues that flowed directly to the bottom line.

Turning to the 2024 results, I would like to share some details with you of our assessment of the financial performance followed by a brief outline of the areas our plans will be targeting for improvement.

Rugby performance costs (coaching and physio) were up year-on-year; however, these costs were fully covered by the sponsorship and fundraising activities associated with the senior teams in the club such as the sportsman's dinner and lunches and other advertising.

M&J membership was up year on year and covered the increase in costs we saw in that area.

In clubhouse operations,

Food & Beverage saw revenues increase (Bar Sales up 12% year-on-year and catering sales also up 12%) however the 21% increase in costs from the brewery, 68% increase in catering costs and 10% increase from National Living Wage costs more than offset this revenue increase, causing a total year-on-year **decrease** in contribution from food & beverage of £(22)k.

Events & Room hire saw a vast improvement in cost control (given the inflationary headwinds we are seeing in other areas) and an increase in revenues (which pleasingly has continued into this year's summer events). As a result, the contribution from this part of clubhouse operations improved by approx. £10k.

Whilst the overall result is disappointing, it should be noted that this year we have already seen an increase in contribution from the Summer events and sponsorship, we have also started work on a **turnaround plan including**.

- 1.) recruitment in two key hires around food & beverage and Events management
- 2.) looking to outsource the catering operation
- 3.) This will allow us to focus on the core activity of growing revenues from more traditional rugby club areas (bar sales, events sales, sponsorship)

Finally, a note **Cashflow** for the year. We saw an increase of £7k; despite negative earnings from operations and repayment of loan liabilities, this has been achieved through careful cash management and support from some of our key suppliers. This support has been vital to ensuring the club remains in a good position to meet its financial commitments.

In **Summary** The absence of a surplus of funds over the past two years has meant investment in the club facilities has been difficult, and we are all very disappointed that we have been unable to finish the changing rooms project this financial year.

Our focus is to generate the income needed to complete this project by 2026.

To achieve this, we need help from the membership to look at implementing ways to reduce running costs- all ideas and suggestions are welcome as the only other option will be to increase revenues beyond where we have done so for the coming financial year.

Rugby Report

The 2023-4 season was a successful season for the senior section with all teams performing creditably and the club regularly fielding 4 sides bucking the trend of most clubs who have been struggling to field more than 2.

The 1st XV finished 3rd in Regional 1 with a record of played 22 won 15 lost 7. There were some memorable victories and performances along the way with the “snatch and grab” victory away at Kenilworth one of the most extraordinary turnarounds I’ve ever seen in a game. Down and out with 15 minutes to go trailing 37-20, our Captain Marvel, Ed Spalding completely turned the game on its head and we ran out winners 43-37 much to the dismay of the home team coaches and crowd.

The performances got better and better as the season went on and our victory at home against Oxford Harlequins was one of the best performances I have seen in my time at the club. It had the feel of a “changing of the guard” in some sense as stalwarts such as Bobby Green and Lewis Arnold departed from the team and young players such as Chris Romano, Will Parkes, Finn Haines, Jack Medley and Alex Wilkinson came to the fore.

We had a few shocking performances like Stoke at home, but in the 2nd half of the season especially, we played some fantastic rugby and really should have been unbeaten after Xmas. We need to learn to be more clinical and turn our possession into points better, but it felt towards the end we were developing into a very strong team which hopefully we can build on this year, what was more pleasing was that we suffered some serious injuries in the 2nd half of the season to Tom, Ed and Rich but managed to cover these remarkably smoothly.

We have retained the majority of the squad, bar a couple of notable exceptions such as Alex Wilkinson who has moved to London, and Drew Harper who felt for his development he needed a new challenge. Thankfully we had already signed a number of players who can fill these shoes and we approach the new season with a squad all pulling in one direction.

Special mention must go to Rhys who has been a breath of fresh air on the coaching front, allowing Will to focus on playing, and giving me the opportunity to look at the bigger picture rather than be 1st XV focussed all the time. Chris Shipway has once again been ever present and provides the calming influence, which every coaching team needs.

The 2nd XV had a remarkable turnaround in fortune after we made some structural changes midway through the season. Nick Wright came in and made a big difference with his more collaborative and compassionate methods and the players really bought in to finish off the season with some excellent victories. There was also a realisation amongst the players that to compete with big town sides like Evesham, Leamington, Old Lem’s and Droitwich you have to think like a first team and prepare like a 1st XV. The highlight was probably beating OL’s at Bournville after the shitstorm they created at the end of the previous season.

The 3rd XV once again had another successful season under the leadership of Steve Rose. What

Steve has achieved in the time he has been in post is nothing short of remarkable. We now have a senior section all pulling in the same direction which is wonderful and to see players like Liam Colgan and Dan Cooper play 1st XV rugby this year is a testament to the work Steve has done in rebuilding the trust between the 3s and the 1s and 2s. Gone are the dark days where the 3s was a separate entity to the rest of the senior squad.

The Crusaders charge on under Leader Lakeman, one thing you can't ever accuse him of is not being persistent. From turning up at the Cross on a Friday night to give Ben Copson a bollocking for ignoring him, to all the work he has done raising funds for Scotty Morris the man is relentless. On a serious note though the work he has done for Scotty is nothing short of heroic and Rob Burrows may have had Kevin Sinfield but Scotty has been lucky to have Martin in his corner leaving no stone unturned to support him.

The Academy had a successful season in Division 2 of the Colts League and should do very well in Division 1 this year. They have a plethora of players that should slide seamlessly into senior rugby in the 2s and 3s over the next few years to continue their rugby journey at the club with the aspiration of playing 1st XV. Bobby King, last years colts captain, has been training hard and looks a fine prospect and I see him being a regular in the 2nd XV this year. We hope to be able to blood some as the season progresses. Praise must go to Jamie Rodden who is in his element with young players who hang off his every word like the Pied Piper!

From my perspective it would be remiss not to thank all the people who go under the radar but have hugely important roles in making the club run smoothly. Steve, Chris and Dennis for all the work on the ground, especially this year where it never seemed to stop raining, Lisa and her team who go above and beyond at times to keep the bar open. James Barron as kitman who does the dirty jobs nobody else wants to do, Zak and Lyndsey for their medical support. Clare for doing a lot of the admin still even though she is not manager anymore, Andrew Tobias for the match reports and GMS. Bev for really trying to turbocharge moving us forward off the pitch and David for his help with the community programmes.

I'd also like to thank all the people who volunteer throughout all the sections of the club and help make the club such an enjoyable place to be a part of.



M&J Annual Report

My first years aims and objectives for the season were to ensure that the section was fully compliant throughout with a first aider or more in each age group, all volunteers were fully DBS checked and now have a basic understanding of safeguarding and concussion knowledge.

We needed to build a team around us which would achieve these objectives.

A new safeguard officer (Amelia Husbands) was introduced and hit the ground running.

The process was implemented where it was made compulsory to all to carry out online awareness courses for volunteers to have said knowledge before a DBS was issued. This improved our compliance rate from 54% to 98%.

Then to coach the coaches, we as a club needed an officer to ensure that training for all aspects is readily available and routinely implemented this was achieved by appointing a coaching development officer who again continues to ensure first aid, and basic training is updated on a regular basis so we give our children the best possible coaching experience as possible.

Academy/colts was set up by my predecessor and the first season proving to be very encouraging, with an excellent start with head of coaching getting the best out of players.

The new approach to colts rugby to make the transition to senior rugby easier and more successful.

With 40 lads registered, an average of 28 training twice a week and a consistent match day squad of 22 massive we had the largest membership and squad in our league.

Results. Finished second in the league with a mainly lower colts side. Great achievement In My Opinion.

Representative rugby

U18

2 in Worcestershire

2 in north Mids

1 England midlands

2 in Hereford and Worcestershire

U17

8 selected for Worcestershire
5 for north Mids

Next season the aim is to put the team into division 1.
Jon Chris Ian and Jamie are staying on for next season with Jamie remaining as lead.

Special mention to Chris Brotherton who has found sponsorship allowing the academy to be practically self funded. With new kit - stash - visits to gym - 4g's and subsidised events.

Representative rugby

U16

Midlands West Academy DPP we had 12 representatives with 5 being retained for the PDG

Achievement

Semifinal of the North Mids plate

U15

Midlands West Academy representatives
Midlands West DPP we had 12

Achievement

Semifinal of the North Mids cup

U14

Midlands Academy representatives
Midlands West DPP we had 14

Achievement

A huge congratulations to them for Winning the North Midlands cup the first big honour in the section for the first time in approximately 20 years.

We introduced this year a recognition award process Volunteers are recognised and rewarded as they should be throughout the season with a monthly nomination process which is discussed and agreed at the exec.

Monthly meetings were well attended by all of the M&J age groups and feed back was provided and acted upon.

Girls rugby

Girls/ ladies rugby has been an objective for a number of reasons so to get this started is huge for not just the club and community but the sport itself. Firstly, getting just under 30 girls turning up on the first session was hugely encouraging and we will continue to make this a huge success.

Plan for new season

I have announced that I will stand down as chair at the end of next season due to work commitments and other personal reasons.

The plan is now to put in place a vice chairman that can take over and continue with the works that have been going on and natural progression takes place.

It's hoped that we will continue to support each age group coaches to become the best possible and give the best experience to our children.

That way we will continue to develop high-quality young players boys and girls alike.

Crusaders – Martin Lakeman.

Bromsgrove RFC AGM 24th July 2024

Record of Attendance

Print Name	Signature
R. J. DAVIES	R. J. Davies
D. WELLINGTON	D. M. Wellington
J. WATSON	J. Watson
VERNON NIBBY	Vernon Nibby
Stuart Hinton	Stuart Hinton
JOHN BERRY	John Berry
D. HURCOMBE	D. H. Hurcombe
D. PRESCOTT	D. Prescott
M Peggelly	M. Peggelly
DJ. PROTHIEROUGH	D. J. Protherough
P CRAWFORD	P. Crawford
E. TURNER	E. Turner
MARC CORNELIUS	M. Cornelius
C. FOSTER	C. Foster
B. Haynes	B. Haynes
R. BRIST	R. Brist
A. JEPSON	A. Jepson

Bromsgrove RFC AGM 24th July 2024

Record of Attendance

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