

## **Executive Committee (2005):**

<b>President</b>	Andy Breuls	<a href="mailto:andy@gentsrugby.com">andy@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Club Manager</b>	Jim Graef	<a href="mailto:jim@gentsrugby.com">jim@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Clubhouse Manager</b>	Bill Stuart	<a href="mailto:bill@gentsrugby.com">bill@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Fixtures</b>	Martin Wolff	<a href="mailto:martinw@gentsrugby.com">martinw@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Greig Inglis	<a href="mailto:greig@gentsrugby.com">greig@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Social Director</b>	Alex Easton	<a href="mailto:alex@gentsrugby.com">alex@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dylan Kinch	<a href="mailto:dylan@gentsrugby.com">dylan@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Jr. Development</b>	Frank Schilte	<a href="mailto:frank@gentsrugby.com">frank@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Women's Development</b>	Jennifer Hodgson	<a href="mailto:jennifer@gentsrugby.com">jennifer@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Coach</b>	Craig Evans	<a href="mailto:craig@gentsrugby.com">craig@gentsrugby.com</a>
<b>Player Registration</b>	Mark Bowman	<a href="mailto:mark@gentsrugby.com">mark@gentsrugby.com</a>

Attendees: Martin W., Bill Stuart, Andrew B., Dylan K., Jim G., Evy, Alex E., Rohner., Mark Bowman sent his regrets

## **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Presidents address. Meeting format will change that each member of the executive will be expected to speak at each meeting and update the executive on any issues which had arisen over the course of the month.

Andy: Updated the executive on the NRU AGM (attended by Andy and Dylan)(see NRU AGM minutes)

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### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Jim:
  1. Post pads need to be secured and confirmed that we have all 4
  2. need to find a field to practice on and play for all teams including the Wednesday night spot for the Jr's
  3. Updated team list from Andy and Bowman from registration which will now include a Grimsby Rugby form

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### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Bill S:
  1. Clubhouse.... WHO HAS KEYS. This need to be rectified or the lock replaced which is a major expense
  2. Bill will contact the town to see if it is possible to have the door re-keyed or pins changed to accommodate the mass number of keys in circulation.
  3. This can become a problem once we officially move everything in. this may be a job for the lions... potentially a lock box system
  4. Ruhner fixed up the outside door. Needs a better welder to do the job
  5. Volunteers needed for a work day on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December

6. Plumber Jimmy Walpeck.... Do we know if he is going to finish the job or just run with the retainer
7. Wayne purchased a water heater to be installed
8. Billy Stabler to contact the plumber to have the work done or the retainer returned
9. Webber is up at the clubhouse everyweekend helping
10. Posts to be delivered
11. Dylan looking into the bar, framing still needs to be done
12. field needs to be ready

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#### NEW BUSINESS

- Alex E:
  1. contacted uniglove travel to get pricing on the savannah trip
  2. a date in January will be reserved for our year end banquet
  3. a minor social event will take place each month
  4. August..... Lake Placid
  5. and looking into Day Licenses for the bar

### **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Dylan:
  1. Volunteering
  2. list of jobs will be posted up at the clubhouse and people will be responsible for there completion
  3. posted schedule will be in conjunction with the lions
  4. No financial changes since last month

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#### NEW BUSINESS

- Martin
  1. fixtures... fields to be reserved for Wednesday nights. 3 exhibition games will be played during the year, none of which will be against teams we will play through out the year

### **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Evy
  1. Touch every Saturday e-mails will be sent out
  2. English player interested in coming over for the summer, will be welcomed

## **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

### NEW BUSINESS

- Rohner
  1. Lotto due in by Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup>
  2. If you have numbers e-mail them to Rohner ASAP
  3. another one will be done during the school year and any sold by the jr program will go to them receiving equipment

## **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

### NEW BUSINESS

- Miscellaneous
  1. Evy to coach

## **Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

### NEW BUSINESS

- Greig.
  1. see below as submitted by Ross McBride and red into the minutes. Potential to squash and problems with subbing players

Substitution – the malaise

Nov.24 2005

### **Continuation of the “State of the Union” concerns**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Why do we have substitution, can anyone remember? It was instituted to appease the new found (Then) TV sponsors of International Rugby games, to ensure that a game could not become one-sided due to injuries, resulting in the TV audience switching channels and missing the sponsor’s ads. It then applied to the top clubs with large paying crowds who felt obliged to provide a spectacle each Saturday.

What are the arguments for substitution at our level? None that I can think of. If we lose a game we still have to go to work on Monday anyway. We are a small amateur organization in a very large pond so let’s avoid these grandiose dreams of buying into everything The Big Boys do. Our main mandate is to promote rugby and play as much as possible during the season provided and substitution is hamstringing that effort.

The only exception should be that unlimited substitution should be allowed at the lowest, entry level team in a Club, whereby all the part timers, shift workers, school kids, recovering players, etc are guaranteed at least a part of a game every week. Until a few years ago this was a “Local ruling” in Edmonton, which saw us through the growth of rugby from 1 to 5 divisions in the eighties!

The City has doubled in population since then and we are now down to 3 divisions!

The game has changed, not true. “Their” game has changed, the professionals play a new game, but we still train twice a week and play once, so surely it should not apply to us. Training twice a week and playing twenty minutes on a Saturday does nothing for rugby development. The IRB have actually, after having opened the stable door, requested the “Recreational Rugby” folk reduce the number of subs being played.

Initially I proposed reducing subs to two “Front row qualified” players, (A few unanswered letters to the ERU over the past five years) but on further thought I have concluded that we should revert back to no substitutes at all. (They can do what they want at the Super League level, I don’t care)

What are the ramifications?

1. We would play far more meaningful rugby.
2. We would develop 80 minute players, which is what the National team needs.
3. We could have effective team captains again, instead of someone who spends his time sitting on the bench subbing for the next team up. (See if you can name your Club’s second team captain) Team captains could also manage the team with their vice-captains, as of old, dispensing with the new trend to have “Managers”.
4. We could fill more fixtures. 30 players was all that was needed for two games, now if you have thirty players and two games, say in Edson and Leduc, the formula is to dress 22 for one game and cancel the other game, leaving a lot of players unemployed that day. It happens all the time.
5. We could stop the dreadful waste of much needed referees and touch judges, and do away with the fourth official who, at present, counts out the subs, the blood injuries, the sin bins etc. Personally I am not in The Referee’s Society to perform that task, and wont.

6. If a front row player is injured and has to go off then revert to Oldies scrums (Like Australia did against England last week). *Gentlemen we are already there*. The automatic scrum feed that is now acceptable has reduced the scrum to a restart platform. Ok, there would be no shove, but you still have 150 or so rucks and mauls, plus the line-outs, and eighty long minutes, in the game to satisfy the physical side.

7. Teams would have to start with qualified front rows or face a league points penalty. Canceling a game because of a front row shortage would not be acceptable, the penalty for not playing being much more costly than that of playing with Oldies scrums, and conceding a league point (For example)

8. A gap left by a player lost to injury in a game demands a greater insight from the captain, or the coach. Shuffling a team around to compensate for a missing player requires a greater understanding, and knowledge of the player's individual skill sets than just shoving another substitute onto the field. It was filling in on those occasions that many of us developed skills in other positions

9. The IRB's own figures show that playing short, either for yellow carded players, or red carded players, has no appreciable effect on a game.

10. "Guys will play injured", the argument will be. Well that is always a player's personal decision and it happens anyway as players don't want to be subbed out and then outshone by their replacement. Human nature will rule no matter what.

11. Our rules state that no game may start with less than eleven players on the field. Which meant the original intent was that the game should go on anyway.

12. How many new players have we lost, who finding themselves playing only a small portion of every game, have quietly left the Club and the game? Faces disappear before we even remember their names.

This is a serious proposal and one that, if adopted, will transform Rugby in Edmonton, back into a player's game, and realize a maximum utilization of playing personnel.

**Go ahead give this some thought, and then give me your arguments for substitution.**

Davie Graham      [McScrum@telus.net](mailto:McScrum@telus.net)

P/s This is just one of the issues that should be resolved before the 2006 season is carved in stone.

**Accepted into the minutes and motion for new business**

\*\*\*\*Next executive meeting set for January 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Please contact Greig Inglis prior to this date with possible agenda issues and if you cannot make it.\*\*\*\*\*

**Accepted into the minutes and motion for meeting to be adjourned  
Accepted by the executive (8:40 pm).**