

## **The Constitution and Rules of the Hampshire Schools' Rugby Football Union**

**1. The name of the Union** shall be the "Hampshire Schools' Rugby Football Union" [HSRFU], hereinafter referred to as "the Union".

**2. Membership of the Union** shall be open to all schools and colleges in the County of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands willing to conform to the Rules of the Union and of the England Rugby Football Schools' Union [ERFSU].

**3. The Objects of the Union** shall be to:

- 3.1 encourage playing the game of Rugby Football in schools according to the Laws and Bye-laws of the Rugby Football Union and the ERFSU, of which they should be affiliated members;
- 3.2 arrange competitions between member schools and colleges of the Union [Members];
- 3.3 maintain an overview and active interest in all games and competitions involving Members;
- 3.4 provide an interface between the interests of education and Rugby, offering professionally-based advice and direction as necessary;
- 3.5 support Club Hampshire representative age-grade teams;
- 3.6 promote coaching and refereeing courses for teachers and students;
- 3.7 encourage teachers and school/college staff coaching the game to become licensed coaches.

**4. The Committee of the Union** shall consist of:

The Officers -

- 4.1 a President;
- 4.2 a Vice-President, who shall be elected at the AGM for outstanding services to the Union;
- 4.3 a Chairman;
- 4.4 an Honorary Secretary, who shall normally represent the Union on the ERFSU Committee;
- 4.5 an Honorary Treasurer.

Other Committee members -

- 4.6 a Competitions Sub-committee Convenor;
- 4.7 Members' Representatives, employed at affiliated schools and colleges;
- 4.8 a representative each from associated organisations [e.g. Club Hampshire; HRFU Youth; HRFURS; RFU Education Dept].

With the exception of 4.8, these positions should normally be filled by persons recently employed in education at the time of first election; they shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting; these elections shall follow nomination [supported by at least one Member School/College] which must be received by the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the AGM. All these members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Committee and at any General Meeting during the year.

**5. The Management of the Union** shall be vested in the Committee which shall have full control over:

- 5.1 the funds of the Union in the furtherance of its objectives;
- 5.2 the organisation and regulation of appropriate competitions between Members;
- 5.3 the filling of casual Committee vacancies until the next AGM;
- 5.4 appointing representatives of HSRFU to standing committees of the ERFSU, and associated organisations as invited;
- 5.5 co-opting additional Committee members for specific purposes;
- 5.6 establishing sub-committees and appointing their membership;
- 5.7 disciplining any Member.

Only Committee members identified in 4.1 to 4.8 are entitled to vote in exercise of these powers.

**6. Finance-**

6.1 The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for supervising and recording the Union's income and expenditure, and reporting on it to the Committee. The Union's bank account shall initially require the Treasurer's and Chairman's signatures [to be updated annually], but only one signature shall be required for business. At the AGM the Treasurer shall report on the procedure followed leading to 6.3 [below].

6.2 The Financial Year shall close on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April in every year.

6.3 The accounts of the Union shall be independently examined and reported upon at the end of the financial year, with the report being taken to the next scheduled General Meeting or Committee Meeting [whichever comes first], then distributed to each affiliated Member.

6.4 The annual subscription, as determined by the Committee, becomes due upon confirmation at the AGM of the level of the subscription, and is payable prior to the start of the next Season. New Members must pay the subscription upon admission to the Union. The subscription includes the affiliation fee to the ERFUSU.

## **7. General Meetings -**

7.1.1 Fourteen days' notice of any General Meeting shall be given to each affiliated school or college, and the convening notice shall specify the purpose of the meeting.

7.1.2 Only Members, and those members of the Committee elected under 4.1 to 4.7, are entitled to vote at a General Meeting. Each Member may send representatives to the meeting, but only one person shall have the power to vote.

7.1.3 The Chairman of the Union shall take the chair at a General Meeting. If he is unable to take the chair, he shall nominate a deputy. The presiding Chairman shall have a casting vote.

7.2 The Annual General Meeting of the Union shall take place no later than the fifteenth day of July in every year with the following agenda:

7.2.1 to consider and approve, with or without amendment, the Minutes of the previous meeting;

7.2.2 to receive reports from

- 7.2.2.a the Chairman,
- 7.2.2.b the Honorary Secretary,
- 7.2.2.c the Honorary Treasurer,
- 7.2.2.d the Competitions Sub-committee Convenor,
- 7.2.2.e representatives from other committees;

7.2.3 to elect the Committee for the following season [cf 4 above];

7.2.4 to set the annual subscription for the following Season, including the ERFUSU Affiliation Fee;

7.2.5 to consider Any Other Business notified in advance to the Chairman, or business which the Chairman, at his sole discretion, deems relevant.

7.3 The Honorary Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting whenever the Committee deems it necessary, or within 30 days of receipt of a requisition in writing by representatives of ten Members. Any requisition must be sent to the Honorary Secretary, stating the purpose of the meeting.

**8. Any badges, emblems or logos** used by the Union shall be those of the HRFU Ltd, unless agreed otherwise by the Committee.

## **9. Amendments, Alterations and Winding-up -**

9.1 These Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting, where there must be the agreement of two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote for any alteration to take effect.

9.2 Notice of any proposal to amend or alter this Constitution and associated Rules must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary by the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April in any year.

9.3 In the event of the Members deciding by a simple majority at a Special General Meeting that the Union can no longer fulfil its Objects, the Union shall be wound up and all remaining assets, after the payment of all creditors, shall be donated to the Rugby Football Union Injured Players Foundation.