



**Illinois
Youth Rugby
Association**

Chicago Area High School Rugby Meeting February 7, 2005 – Downers Grove, IL

Attendance: Jonathan Mesik-IYRA, Charlie Jacobson-Blaze Youth, Terry Mongoven-IYRA, Des Jones-CARFU Ref Society, Jack Cushing-Mt. Carmel, Andy Wasik-Mt. Carmel, Patrick McGinnis-Chicago Blues, Matt Karstrand-Chicago Blues, Denis Graeber-Naperville, Matt Hobbs-Naperville, Elliot Hershik-Naperville, Lou Raymond-NW Woodsmen, Tom O'Brien-St. Ignatius, Clay Struve-New Trier, Bill Mullins-Montini, Ken Westergaard-Downers Grove, Steve Wascher-Morton Township/Condors Youth, Jay Crawford-St. Charles, Paul-Bergman-Hersey, Bob Bartlett-Hersey, Michael Pateras-Hersey, Marty Berry-Br. Rice, Charles Sheppard-Br. Rice, Tim Britt-Bourbonnais, Bill Drury-Bourbonnais, Steve Krause-Plainfield, Karen Kalicki-Plainfield, Pat Marshall-St. Patrick, Dan Wiseheart-Glenbard West, Tim Daly-Lincoln-Way, Michelle Reed-Waubonsie Valley

CARFU AGM Update:

Jonathan Mesik attended the CARFU AGM on Saturday, January 29. At this meeting a \$1500 donation was voted into the CARFU annual budget intended to go towards the high school and U-19 Select Side Programs.

New Teams/Change in Tier:

- Hersey Boys are added to the Tier II spring schedule
- Montini Boys are added to the Tier II spring schedule
- Chicago Blues Boys are added to the Tier II spring schedule
- Plainfield Girls are added to the Girls spring schedule
- St. Patrick Boys are available for friendly games during spring '05 with desire to become a full team in '06.
- Plainfield Boys are moved from the Tier II spring schedule to the Tier I spring schedule

Promotion/Relegation:

Over the time between the November meeting and this meeting a committee was tasked to determine the criteria to be used to move teams between tiers was determined. The committee determined that only the coaches of each team could know the capabilities of teams for the upcoming year. Therefore the outcome of this task has come down to each team is to decide for themselves on which tier they are to compete for the year. The IYRA will help guide by giving insight and opinions to teams.

By-Laws:

The existing By-Laws from other Midwest states with high school rugby organizations are going to be used as a guide in writing the By-Laws for the IYRA. A group (consisting of Steve Krause, Tim Daly, Dan Wiseheart and Jonathan Mesik) has expressed interest in getting together to work on this issue. At that time this group will come up with an agreed upon draft, which will then be sent out to the clubs for comments. Approval of said By-Laws is desired during '05.

Discipline:

The existing discipline structure from other Midwest states with high school rugby organizations are going to be used as a guide in writing the structure for the IYRA. Jonathan Mesik will prepare

a draft of the discipline structure, which will then be sent out to the clubs for comments. Approval of said structure is desired during the spring of '05.

Medical:

Jonathan Mesik has spoken with Athletico, who could not promise to cover all games, but would try to do their best to meet that goal. Jonathan Mesik is sending Athletico a schedule of all games, that Athletico will try to fill. Jonathan Mesik is still in discussion with Health South to find a sponsor/standard trainer provider for all clubs in need. Jonathan Mesik will also be providing all clubs with a form that all medical coverage personnel is to sign at each event indicating that this person accepts responsibility as the medical personnel at the event.

Schedules:

- With the new teams added to each level, the schedules were to be forthcoming. These have since been sent to the clubs and are attached to this report in all games format.
- Br. Rice will be seeded #1, Mt. Carmel #2 and St. Ignatius #3 into the Midwest Playoffs in Elkhart, IN on April 30 & May 1.

Referees:

- All Referee questions, scheduling additions and such must be made through Des Jones with the CARFU Ref Society. He can be contacted at djones@dg58.org.
- All teams are still required to have a certified referee as part of their club. This person can be a coach or parent. This person is to be available in event that the schedule ref is unable to be at the field for any given reason.
- The CARFU Ref Society is planning on holding a certification clinic in the near future. When more information is available it will be provided to all clubs.

Other:

- All teams, players and coaches must register with USA Rugby through CIPP. All coaches must complete the background check. All teams must ask USA Rugby for Insurance Certificates for all practice, scrimmage and/or game locations.
- The IYRA Coaching Camp is being held on Sunday, February 27th at the UIC Physical Ed Building. Jonathan Mesik asks that those who plan to attend inform him of their intention. Checks will be accepted on the day of the camp, however lunches must be planned.
- All clubs are asked to provide contact and location information to Dan Wiseheart of Glenbard West Boys. This information will be shared with all clubs to facilitate better communication in the present and future.