

Halifax Ultimate Recreational League Society

Annual General Meeting Minutes

24 July 2006

DRAFT

I. Call to Order

- a) **Greg VanSlyke** called to order the annual general meeting of the **Halifax Ultimate Recreational League Society (HURL)** at **7:12pm** on **Monday 24 July 2006** at the **Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, Room 1016, 6100 University Avenue, Halifax Nova Scotia.**
- b) Introduction of current Board of Directors (BoD): **Greg VanSlyke** (Chair), **Ken Crowell** (Secretary), **Bruce Roosen** (Treasurer), **Joanne Mcrae** (Director), **Ann Clarke** (Director), **Mike Lovas** (Director).

II. Register

- a) **Greg VanSlyke**: Reminder to members to hand in proxy forms/votes.
- b) **Ken Crowell** took a count of members present: 29 people present (plus all members of the Board of Directors), 2 proxies; quorum obtained.

III. Approval of Agenda for Current Annual General Meeting

- a) **Greg VanSlyke**: Asked for items to add to agenda. No additions.
- b) **Jocelyn Duffy** moved to approve the agenda. **John Bodurtha** seconded the motion. Vote taken. No objections noted. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Preceding Annual General Meeting

- a) **Greg VanSlyke** identified that minutes were available for members to review at the head of the room.
- b) **Paul Reed** moved to approve minutes of 2005 AGM, **Stu MacDonald** seconded the motion. Vote taken. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.

V. Consideration of the Annual Report of the Directors

- a) **Greg VanSlyke** reviewed the items in the 2005-2006 Annual Report.
- b) Notes in addition to the Annual Report contents:
 - i. 50% Discount from Gaia being passed on to the teams;
 - **Roger Ghegin**: asked for clarification, received it.
 - ii. The new HURL logo is on the web site and on the jerseys ordered through Gaia;
 - iii. 25 logos were submitted as candidates for the HURL logo;
 - iv. A 24 hour ultimate event wouldn't be a fundraiser for HURL, but it could be for some group with whom HURL associates;

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- **Jocelyn Duffy:** Asked whether it would be for charity or profit.
- **Greg VanSlyke:** It was break even for promotion; any overage would go to charity.
- v. Summer Playoffs:
 - The additional “rules” for teams to register grew this year since we expected to have a shortage of fields. It was important for teams to know what the rules were in advance.
 - Volunteers are sometimes hard to find, but it’s often a small group when HURL is trying to do a lot of things. Those who do stuff, do a lot. HURL wants to expand on the volunteer base. This is especially important for CUC this summer.
- vi. Fall League:
 - We’re told by HRM that this fall we will have actual paper field permits to avoid double-booking problems.
 - Women’s turnout for last years fall league low.
 - **Mandy Wintink:** noted that pressure from women’s co-ed team members kept them playing for their co-ed teams.
 - **Mark Beasy:** noted that the weather contributed as well.
- c) **Bruce Roosen** addressed the budget:
 - i. Still trying to determine if the Halifax Ultimate Juniors (HUI) financials should be managed through HURL itself or as a separate group. Currently being handled by Mike Lovas and reporting back to the BoD.
 - **Pete Lewis:** Commented that this was the opposite of what the previous BoD agreed on.
 - **Bruce Roosen:** Agreed, but it hasn’t evolved that way.
 - ii. HURL is absorbing the credit card fee for online transactions (credit card processing through Skipjack).
 - **Chris Forgeron:** If the MasterCard or Visa fees are over \$100 then we should consider joining the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB). 1.6% for MasterCard, 2% for Visa.
 - iii. The revenues reported in the budget don’t include the HST that HURL pays.
 - **Roger Ghegin:** Asked for clarification, received it.
 - **Ezra Edelstein:** Asked for clarification, received it.
 - iv. On the comparison sheet, we actually decreased in revenue.
 - v. **Chris Forgeron:** Question on the winter league fees: why are they almost the same as summer fees but the league smaller?
 - **Bruce Roosen:** There were higher costs and fees and fees were set at cost recovery. Some of this may be residual from summer and fall, it was fuzzy to sort out what it came from.
 - **Mike MacAlluster:** Noted that he can break out these payments better if necessary.
 - **Mark Beasy:** Part of this was due to the gym rental fees.
 - vi. The BoD feel that they need a more detailed plan on what to do with the accumulation of funds for fields.
 - vii. One of the biggest chances that we have to grow is through HUI. Still have the chance to grow co-ed, women’s, and open in the league or outside the league.
 - viii. **Nick Murphy:** What are guidelines for applying funds to touring teams, coaching clinics, etc.

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- **Greg VanSlyke:** A touring team policy is in the works. For touring teams, they want to have teams affiliated with HURL as a way of bringing the teams under HURL jurisdiction. For something within HURL, that avenue for funds was always available through the committees. BoD always open to individual requests that have value.
 - **Nick Murphy:** Sort of agrees but wants to see it a policy so that people know it is available and what the guidelines are for its use. Write down the criteria to protect HURL.
 - **Todd MacAulay:** Don't the bylaws say we can't give touring teams money? Are we already breaking our bylaws?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** No. No funds have gone directly to touring teams right now; they have been given sponsor status instead and must give back to the ultimate community. We have given them field times for free.
 - **Mike McAllister:** Read by law 16.1. Basically we are in accordance with our bylaws.
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Asked about when such a policy might be available. Wants to attend a UPA meeting in Boulder, should she just ask for grant?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Yes ask for grant. Indicated that there isn't a timeline for completed policy yet. It would be easier to develop a procedure on how to apply for the funds rather than a policy.
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Would like to see something on paper, especially in respect to clarifying some of the issues that came up with women's touring teams last year.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Will take away comments to develop a procedure on how to make a request to the board by members.
 - **Todd MacAulay:** Suggested that a subcommittee could be made to develop the policy.
 - **<Unidentified Member Comment>:** HURL is a not-for-profit organization. Before we talk about a policy of grants, we need to budget for it.
 - **Joanne Mcrae:** Noted we have a grants policy although it still needs to be fleshed out. Would be happy to provide a subcommittee with any information that has been accumulated on forming a grant policy to date.
- d) **Ezra Edelstein** moved to accept the Annual Report. Seconded by **Stu MacDonald**.
Vote taken. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.

VI. Consideration of the Financial Statements

- a) Already covered with budget discussion by Bruce Roosen.
- b) **Roger Fage:** Were these audited statements?
- **Greg VanSlyke & Bruce Roosen:** Not audited this year. Books were consolidated by TD Taylor Consulting as an independent person. Budgeted for a full audit next year.
 - **Roger Fage and Chris Forgeron:** Suggested BoD list the accountant next year.
- c) **Liane Johnson:** Asked if Mike Lovas should present his statements now.

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- **Bruce Roosen:** Mike Lovas has been presenting financial statements separately. Maybe we should be doing it. We need to decide on what's happening with HURL and HUI organizational relationship first.
 - **Mike Lovas:** Gave brief HUI financial summary: \$1,083.73 in the bank; income: \$2,195.00; purchasing: \$2,548.92; given away 126 discs, sold 108 discs. Has been running his own thing. Too detailed to read out but they should be broken down and handed out in the future.
 - **Liane Johnson:** Does this include HURL and CUPA grants.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** This reporting has to be addressed in the future. A HURL Board of Directors member is on all HURL committees to keep them responsible to HURL and operating within the guidelines of the board.
 - **Todd MacAulay:** HURL should show the financials to protect the HURL, the BoD and HUI committee.
 - **Mark Beasy:** Would have been good to have had the financials from HUI available tonight.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Not automatically incorporated because of the ins and outs in the HURL books and because HUI is in a separate set of books. This is why they're looking to recapture HUI in the HURL books.
- d) **Roy de Vries** moved to vote to accept Financial Statement. Seconded by **Fred Li**. Voted: 0 no's, 0 abstentions. **Greg VanSlyke** declared the motion passed.

VII. Consideration of the Operating Statement and Report of the Auditors

- a) Greg VanSlyke reviewed the Business Plan handout.
- b) Additional information:
- i. Want to improve the financial reporting
 - ii. Organizations must be registered with the Nova Scotia Schools Athletic Federation before they can participate. Looking to register in that organization.
 - iii. Looking to make an open league to help handle the many men left on waiting lists.
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Asked if it would be truly an open league.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Would like it to be open, but would leave it to the organizers.
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Asked if the pressure on women could be eased by letting captains go back to 5-2 ratio.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Indicated that most other ultimate leagues have a 4-3 ratio.
 - A variety of discussions ensued about the benefits of having a more equal ratio. Further discussion deferred to General Discussion on Agenda.
- c) Budget:
- i. The 50 team number was an estimate. Prior to the rain, we expected to have more teams this year than next. We expect that CUC is taking some members away.
 - ii. The open league is one place for us to have growth.
 - **Dan Ford:** If promotion is a target, why aren't there more funds set aside for promotions?

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- **Todd MacAulay:** We've maxed out our field space and leagues, so advertising for more players isn't what we need.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Promotion is on getting recognition for the sport.
 - **Joanne McRae:** Can also consider in-kind promotion.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Other low-cost promotion is parents through HUI.
 - **Todd MacAulay:** The money might be better spent by having us write the articles and pay for the space for them in the newspaper.
- iii. Questions arose around the cost of an audit versus a financial review.
- iv. Any indication of interest income? **Bruce Roosen:** Still currently in the bank account. Need to come up with a more formalized approach to where the funds will be going. **Greg VanSlyke:** Part of the plan has to involve the bulk of the funds that we receive relative to the special resolution.
- v. Discussion ensued on how and where to invest the HURL funds.
- Motion by **Ezra Edelstein:** to create a committee to investigate options for investing in a growth fund and report back to the board in 3 months. Seconded by **Joe Williams.**
 - Hand vote ensued. Results: 33 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.
- vi. Discussion ensued about either renaming line "Touring Team Sponsorship" or adding a new line item for grants. Conclusion was to have separate \$1000 line item for grants. HST line should be the budget to say if the membership line items and team fees include HST in the budget lines or not.
- Motion by **Mandy Wintink:** \$1000 as a separate line item titled "Grants". Seconded by **Ezra Edelstein.** **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.
- vii. **<Unidentified Member>:** Suggest that the previous year budgets be presented in the future.
- viii. **Peter Lewis:** thought that we should change the advertising line to say something else. **Greg VanSlyke:** suggested changing advertising line to say "Marketing".
- ix. **Todd MacAulay** moved to approve budget with corrections. Seconded by **Chris Forgeron.** Vote taken. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.

VIII. Election of the Board of Directors for the Ensuing Year

- a) No e-mail nominations.
- b) **Greg VanSlyke:** Joanne Mcrae, Greg VanSlyke staying for re-election. Need at least 3 more nominees. Maximum of at least 5 more nominees.
- c) **Greg VanSlyke:** General information: Started with 7, Paul Gorman resigned last year. Would like to have 7 members.
- d) **Mark Beasy:** Nominated Chris Forgeron, Joe Williams, Ezra Edelstein and Tera Winter. Tera Winter declined, all other nominees accepted.
- e) **Ezra Edelstein:** Nominated Mandy Wintink, declined.

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- f) **Greg VanSlyke:** Nominated Tom Bettle, declined.
- g) **Joanne Mcrae:** Nominated Andrea ?, declined.
- h) **Tera Winter:** Nominated Monte Stevens, declined.
- i) **<Unidentified Member>:** Nominates Bryce Sharman, accepted.
- j) Discussion ensued about who would be willing to go onto the Board of Directors and who would be willing to work on subcommittees.
- k) Written ballot ensued for new Board of Directors consisting of: Joe Williams, Ezra Edelstein, Joanne Macrae, Greg VanSlyke, Chris Forgeron, and Bryce Sharman. Votes: 35 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. **Greg VanSlyke** declared all nominated members elected.

IX. General Discussion

- a) **Todd MacAulay:** Have we been filling in all field closure forms for rebates?
 - **Bruce Roosen:** Bruce Roosen has been filling them in.
 - **Joe Williams:** Should fees returned on closed fields be returned to the players?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** No, especially given that the summer is the period when HURL generates funds. We're reinvesting in field time to make up the games.
- b) **Todd MacAulay:** C League has missed the most games this year. Know about the weekend tournament this year. Not all of them can make 4 games in a day. He appreciates the effort to give alternates, but not all teams can make it. Maybe 2 games on the Sunday. Some teams being rescheduled through Monte. Mark Beasy could make a pseudo-tournament rather than a full tournament.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** We have been trying to schedule the Wanderer's grounds as compensation as well. Could play double-headers on Sunday. Looked to get some all-weather fields; our problem is short notice, Saturday morning fields, and we want the team to play for sure. Note to convenors: if you have extra field time, e-mail the captains; convenors have free-reign to use the unused fields. The city double-booked CUC 2006 and summer league playoffs, assuming that they were the same, and this caused us to not have playoffs.
- c) **Paul ? :** Is the league tournament a replacement for CnR? Or for finals?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Both. We don't have the Commons and Brunside is not open yet.
 - **Louie Ghiz:** How about having a playoff in September? Will games be rescheduled from the Pit to the wanderer's grounds?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** A lot of teams disband at the end of the season, so it wouldn't really fly.
 - **Tom Bettle:** Would like to be the head volunteer for the league tournament.
- d) **Todd MacAulay:** extend the C league into September? Will the BoD decide on this?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** We could do this, since fall doesn't usually get started until later in September anyway.

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- e) **Mark Beasy:** Frustrating is the lack of respect from the city or other organizations.
- **Todd MacAulay:** Disagrees HRM treated him much better than any other organization. Soccer has far more time on all-weather fields and knows about fields in advance. The extra field guarantees comes from the higher fees.
 - **Bruce Roosen:** Yes they're disorganized but they do try as much as they can.
 - **Joanne Mcrae:** Bruce Roosen will remain the field contact, so that continuity should improve our relationship with HRM.
 - **Mark Beasy:** Stadacona gave us bad service too.
 - **Pete Lewis:** The advertising money is supposed to address all this. One goal to articulate is specific goals to build on the legacy of CUC 2006, through the business associations or visibility. Can that be part of the short/long/future goals?
 - **Mark Beasy:** Soccer teams seem to get better service and communication.
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Some of this due to grandfathering status.
 - **Todd MacAulay:** Some of this is also the higher soccer fees.
- f) **Mark Beasy:** What goals do we have for building on the legacy of CUC? Maybe this should be made explicit.
- g) **Mark Beasy:** What can we do to increase the number of women? Especially in leadership positions?
- **Liane Johnson:** The beginner women league in the fall was good until the weather hit. A 5-2 ratio sounds like a good response, but we'd shoot ourselves in the foot; you won't have as big a roster on a team, new players may also be intimidated playing with so many men. How do we target DAL and SMU?
 - **Todd MacAulay:** A lot of women don't want to play at a higher level for fear of "looking bad".
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Beyond beginner leagues, need to foster competitive levels for women. Trying to recruit competitive players from hockey, but this doesn't work out well. Juniors have targeted Sacred Heart and working to build that venue; the girls playing there were great; didn't care about image.
 - **Mark Beasy:** Should we make this an official goal to grow women's involvement in HURL?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Should we start a women's committee?
 - **Mandy Wintink:** Should we have a women's representative on the BoD?
 - **Greg VanSlyke:** Summary: need the competitive and women's programs, they will help build leadership. Too many men is separate issue from not enough women. Separating the leagues might address the too many men issue. If we have a women's committee then a board member will serve on that.
- h) **Mark Beasy:** The ratio problem is also in organization, volunteers, etc.
- i) **Liane Johnson:** For the next AGM, can we have a strict timeline? Meetings need to be more efficient.
- **Greg VanSlyke:** We can try, believes that it may be an exercise in futility.

X. Adjournment

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- a) **Chris Forgeron** moved to adjourn meeting. Seconded by **Bryce Sharman**. Vote taken. **Greg VanSlyke** declared motion passed.

- b) **Greg VanSlyke** adjourned the meeting at **10:45pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Joanne Mcrae, Secretary HURL Board of Directors

Minutes approved by: (At the next AGM in 2007)