

Spring General Meeting 2017
English Summary of Minutes





Suomen Rugbyliitto ry.

Spring meeting 21.4.2017 – English summary of minutes

Venue: Gasum Oy, Miestentie 1, Espoo

Participants:

Ville Siiskonen	HRC	Chairman
Steve Thorne	FRRA	Vice chairman
Eerik Oja	Kalev	Board member
Jaakko Salo	Pori	Chairman
Leena-Maija Vanha-aho	Tampere/SRL	Board member (SRL)
Janne Lumme	SRL	Board member
Jens Willadsen	SRL	Chairman
Mathieu Nicodème	SRL	General Secretary
Oskari Tenhunen	Linna	Chairman
Linus Backman	Porvoo	Board member

1. Opening of the meeting

- SRL chairman Jens Willadsen opened the meeting 13:18

2. Election of a chairman, a secretary and two scrutinizers and if necessary, two vote-counters for the meeting

- Chairman: Jens Willadsen
- Janne Lumme: Secretary
- Oskari Tenhunen and Jaakko Salo: Scrutinizers vote counters

3. The regularity and the quorum of the meeting

- confirmed

4. Agenda

- agreed

5. Minutes of previous meeting (autumn GM 2016)

- approved

6. Annual report 2016

Main points:

- The official and legally required SRL reports will henceforth be written in Finnish. An English version (or summary) may also be produced, but this will be purely for information, and the Finnish version will be the official one
- Discussion: why were the documents for the meeting made available so late. The circumstances that lead to this were presented at the meeting and discussed. Lessons were learned, and a check-list with deadline dates will be compiled to aid timely



preparation for the next meeting (autumn 2017). The intention was to sent the 2017 spring meeting documents together with the invitations, but circumstances prevented this. Although the constitution does not actually require the documents to be made available prior to the meeting, all are in agreement that this is good meeting practice and all efforts will be made to see this happens in the future.

- Thorne (FRRA) asked has the SRL made any official report to Rugby Europe regarding Turkey's conduct at the Turkey – Finland international in 2016, where Turkey had, contrary to RE host nation requirements, neglected to arrange bus transport for the Finnish squad. An official complaint was not submitted, but RE was copied on communication between the Finnish team manager and the Turkish union, so are aware of the happenings. It was noted, that any further report by Finland will not be submitted.
- Work is continuing in Myllypuro (Helsinki), to rebuild a new pitch for rugby (and possibly other sports), which will benefit not only clubs but also the nation teams.
- The possibility to reactivate the under 20 national team was discussed. Action: find out what level requirements etc. World Rugby might have set.
- The annual report was approved.

7. Financial Information

7.1 Update from new treasurer

Willadsen presented the update in the absence of the SRL treasurer:

- Prior accounting practices have not always fulfilled all accounting and society legal requirements, making finalizing the 2016 financial report very challenging, which was not helped by a change of treasurer mid-term. We now have a better understanding of the requirements, and future action will be in line with the requirements, which will in turn aid and enable timely financial reports.

7.2 2015 Approval and closing of the accounts 2015

- The 2015 accounts were already presented at the spring 2016, but as they had not been formally audited, they could not be approved and closed at that meeting. Ville Siiskonen accordingly presented the auditors' report and the 2015 accounts were duly approved.

7.3 Releasing the board from liabilities of the accounting year 2015

- Approved

7.4 Approval and closing of the accounts 2016



- Willadsen presented the 2016 financial reports. The meeting was informed, that SRL had (unwittingly) acted erroneously regarding VAT payments. Due to this the SRL has a potential tax debt of approximately 9 k€ from 2016.
- A question was raised about national team finances: are national team travel grant applications submitted as general grants, and is it possible that these applications lower possible grant revenue for other, genuine general grant applications.
- it was requested, that national team finances should in future be itemized in more detail to improve transparency.
- Auditor Ville Siiskonen proposed, that as the SRL finances and accounting are becoming increasingly complicated, we should consider securing the services of a professional and nominally competent auditor.
- 2016 accounts were approved.

7.5 Releasing the board from liabilities of the accounting year 2016

- Approved

7.6 Election of an auditor for 2017 accounts

- The meeting was unable to nominate persons to audit the 2017 accounts, so the board was charged with finding and confirming a suitable (possibly professional) candidate to audit the 2017 accounts. This will be revisited in the 2017 autumn meeting as necessary.

8. Domestic season 2017 update (if needed)

- Pitch requirement and availability for Åland's possible home games in Pori are at present not confirmed.
- Finals day: is it practical or at all possible (in regard to logistics and possible deterioration of the playing surface) to play 4 matches during the course of the day?
ACTION: needs to be discussed with competition manager and appropriate decisions made.
- Question about Kalev match kick off times: each match will be scheduled case by case taking into consideration ferry timetables etc. travel logistics.

9. AOB

- Announcement: HRC will be playing an international 7s club invitational for national champions in May in St. Petersburg. HRC would like to thank all other clubs for an enjoyable and competitive domestic 7s competition, and hope that international tournaments of this nature will encourage more clubs to put more resources into their own 7s development.
- Ensi talven 7s sarjat: Next winter's 7s series:



- will try to improve coordination between the various 7s tournaments and other SRL events
- clubs will be soon be asked to indicate if they are willing and able to organize 7s competitions next winter
- Ville Siiskonen offered to act as coordinator for mens domestic 7s competition. Ville's offer was enthusiastically accepted
- Communication software (Hailer):
 - we have not really been able to benefit from this as expected, but the application still has promise
 - a volunteer to take ownership of commucation software issues need to be recruited
 - It is worth looking into also other possible software/application options
- KPIs/commissions:
 - the board's plan that each SRL KPI will have a dedicated commission nominated
 - we will try to integrate more people from the general rugby community to contribute to the commissions
- A deal is being negotiated with Elisa Viihde/Fanseatin to stream 10 group stage matches plus the finals. Clubs will be informed further as the deal is finalized.

10. Closing of the meeting

- The chairman closed the meeting at 16:03

Jens Willadsen
Puheenjohtaja

Janne Lumme
Sihteeri

Oskari Tenhunen
Pöytäkirjan tarkastaja

Jaakko Salo
Pöytäkirjan tarkastaja