

# BOURNEMOUTH RFC



## 2010 AGM MINUTES

The meeting took place at 19.30 on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at Bournemouth Sports Club

### 1. Apologies for absence

The meeting opened with 37 members present. Apologies had been received from: David Richardson, Nigel Yeoman, Brian Ford, Roger Reeve, Anthony Williamson, Richard Llewellyn, Nigel Brunning, Tim Seward, Al Manning, David Dunn, Dan Thomas, Matt Kiely, Tim Hillard.

### 2. Minutes of the 2009 AGM.

It was proposed by Brian Smith and seconded by Simon Farrow that these were a true record of the meeting and there were no matters arising.

### 3. Chairman's Report

In giving this report for those of you young enough to remember your school reports this reads in a similar vein - very good in parts - some satisfactory areas - and leaves room for improvement or could do better in others. Let's start with the very good part as it is always easier to talk about things going well. When I assumed the chair from David Richardson I wished to build on those areas where I wanted BRFC to be recognised as a beacon in both local and regional rugby. The first area was on the playing field, which after all is why we are all here. We wanted BRFC to play the game with flair and ambition and provide fun for players of all ages and ability. I think on this point we have scored very highly in the season just ended. You will hear from the team captains on their successes and from a spectators viewpoint the rugby we played was exciting and extremely watchable. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV finished in the top half of National 3SW and earned respect from all our opponents. The Dorset & Wilts Cup winning performance showed just how far we have come over the last couple of years in distancing ourselves from the local and regional opposition. Alan Manning will put the flesh on this skeleton but a very well done to him and his group of players. Not only were the side a pleasure to watch they were a very friendly and sociable group of people to be associated with. In fact it is invidious of me to single out the 1<sup>st</sup> XV in this regard as all teams generated an excellent atmosphere both on and off the pitch and reflected great credit on all who took the field in BRFC colours. It was very satisfying to receive an e-mail from one of our guests at last weeks players dinner namely Simon Thomas of the Hampshire Referees Society saying how much he had enjoyed the dinner and complimented the club on "being a proper rugby club with proper values". The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XV's both won their respective county cups and indeed the 3<sup>rd</sup> XV did a Chelsea by performing the double of league and cup success. What perhaps gave me even greater pleasure was the fact that we were regularly able to put another senior side on the park and Simon Farrow as manager and Craig Dean as Captain seem to have developed a terrific team spirit from virtually nothing. Well done both of you and your group of regulars. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV despite Captain Jo Burns strenuous efforts continued to cause concerns with both their fixture list and availabilities. Steps are in hand to rectify what has been a running sore for the last couple of seasons and more of this later. So the very good parts are both on the field and the atmosphere around the club. What about the Good parts, well despite some of the oft quoted concerns about being a Sports Club and not a Rugby club exclusively giant strides have been made with the Sports Club Management to improve the working relationship between us and reflect the importance of BRFC to BSC. On the good side is the number of young players coming through from the Y&M section, in one 1<sup>st</sup> XV game we fielded five players under 20, a remarkable achievement considering the level we are playing at where most of our opposition have players with professional first class experience in their ranks. The desire to work closely with the Y&M section in growing our own is beginning to bear fruit and the Academy set up by Phil Todd is showing the way to other clubs that it is not all about poaching their best players but genuinely trying to offer first class coaching to all. Our coaching team is the envy of clubs far senior to ourselves and I would like to thank them all for their level of expertise and commitment. Paul Joy who stepped into the breach as Y&M Chairman when Guy Newton had to step down due to work pressures has been very co-operative in trying to ensure the two sections of the club work together to create a one club seamless approach, an approach which from

conversations I have with numerous Chairmen around the country is not being regularly achieved.

For the areas in which we need to improve the most obvious will be demonstrated when Mark Valentine presents the accounts. We had a difficult experience with an outside sponsorship company, which is still subject to legal discussions so my report is restrictively bland in this area. Mark will give a little more detail but our pre-season sponsorship expectations were dealt a severe blow by the non-performance of the appointed company and only the generosity of several individual members allowed the club to continue operating and meet its commitments. More on this from Mark.

Finally I must put on record an enormous vote of thanks to all who have served both on committee and helped in non-committee roles to ensure that BRFC has functioned as smoothly as it has despite the usual difficulties. I will speak later regarding our desire to incorporate but hopefully that gives you a flavour of what has been a very enjoyable and successful season for BRFC .

In finishing I must single out some people who are stepping down or moving on :

Dave Richardson  
Junior Paramore  
John Hardcastle

#### **4. Questions to chairman:**

There were none

#### **5. Treasurers report:**

The Treasurer presented and explained the accounts pointing out that it had again been a difficult year for sponsorship, especially with the problems we've had with the sponsorship company. Hopefully, by taking the sponsorship back in-house we won't have the same problem next season.

#### **6. Questions to treasurer:**

A question was asked about the apparent high cost of pitch hire but it was pointed out that we pay a blanket cost and this covers all our usage throughout the year and not just match days.

A second question of the high cost of expenses and it was pointed out that a large portion of these were for one of the coaches. They will be much reduced next season.

#### **7. Team reports.**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> XV.**

I would like to start by saying it is a great honour leading out the Bournemouth side, but with my role as captain came my first major injury in 5 years. This kept me out for 8 weeks and found it really tough watching from the sidelines.

This season saw many new faces joining the side, players from other clubs and colts coming through from the youth teams. It is always good to see the amount of players at training. When the snow hit we had at least 25 turn up for train to run about in the cold conditions. Nobody can fault this clubs dedication to the game and this showed throughout all 4 teams and it is always a pleasure to see.

This was a season that saw many injuries to key players but with this the players all pulled together to pull out some amazing performances. The team's attitude when our backs were up against the wall was something to be proud of, this especially showed in our home match against Old Pats. Late pull outs due to injury and sickness, a thrown together side pulled off one of the best performances of the season.

Having said that inconsistency cost us this season, just as we get a good string of results together an injury or unavailability would disrupt the flow of the team. At times we struggled to field a full strength side, looking to the fourth team for support.

I don't like to dwell on our losses but we had a few this season, more than I would like. Big losses to

Redingensians, Coney Hill and Barnstaple, teams which we are capable of beating really damaged our season. Just before Christmas we played Exmouth, we were hearing that most games were being called off due to the cold weather and frozen pitches, Exmouth assured us before we left that the pitch was playable. When we arrived we found a pitch that was rock solid in most parts, with a lot of deliberation we decided to play only to end up losing, definitely a loss we will want to put right next season. Probably our best loss of the season (if there is such a thing) came when we played the unbeaten Taunton away. They started very strongly and scored within minutes. They had some very dangerous players and we struggled to contain them at times. With that said we gave them a run for their money, scoring 4 tries and losing within 7 points gave us two losing bonus points the first team to do so at that point of the season.

Moving on to our victories, most of our games were hard fought. The new bonus point system meant that teams never gave up as they always had something to play for which meant winning wasn't as easy as it could have been. It is important to note we truly do have match winners in the form of our young wingers both scoring 16 tries each this season. And with Karim Lynch at full back we rarely leaked tries. We have to do our best to hold on to young talent like them. Each victory was down to hard work by the whole team. An example of this is when we dominated Maidenhead for 80 minutes winning 71-0 even though they are bottom of the league not many teams had niled them. For the most of the season the pack dominated and took pride in the set piece this set a great platform for the backs to attack with their pace and skill, this showed in our last home game against Chippenham.

To finish of another good season we had another meeting with our old rivals Swanage and Wareham in the cup final. With the pressure on the team as the 2nds and 3rds had already won their County Cups, the club were looking to us for a clean sweep and we did not disappoint. This was a sweet victory for us putting 40 odd points on them. Since joining the club I only ever remember the matches being close always within 10 points or so. It was an excellent team performance to win the cup for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. If the referee hadn't loved his whistle so much I am sure we would have scored a lot more than we had done.

I think with youth players getting their chance in the team and new players joining every season we have every right to be confident about next season. If we can get another good pre season under our belts and keep players fit our squad will be extremely strong going into the season and I look forward to it.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> XV**

It's been a fantastic season for the Wanderers, winning the league, the 3<sup>rd</sup> team cup, and scoring over 1000 points in the process.

The effort and commitment put in by the players this year has been superb, and this has shown in the rugby we've played over the course of the season. The forwards have again dominated every pack they've come up against this year with some disciplined work in the set-piece, and the backs have put together some great moves on the odd occasion that the forwards let them have the ball.

As in previous seasons, the most impressive thing about the Wanderers is the team spirit. The team really pulled together and put in the effort when the chips were down, and snatched a number of victories in the closing stages of matches. The most memorable of these being the 3<sup>rd</sup> team cup final against Salisbury, when the team scored a converted pushover try in the final minute of the match.

There have been outstanding performances from several players: Alistair Raworth played in every game this year, the evergreen Mark Petrie has had another great year, and Phil Todd who joined us this year has had a superb season at canter and open side flanker.

We've welcomed in a few new young players into the team, all of whom have had a positive impact on the team. Bournemouth University student Adam Dean, who joined us in January, made a great contribution with some fine performances at fly half. Unfortunately, Adam suffered a fractured skull in the game against Sherborne in April, and is now sidelined for 6 months or so. We'd all like to wish Adam a speedy recovery.

I'd like to thank the players for their commitment over the course of the season. It's been a privilege to captain such a great bunch of guys.

### **Stats for the season**

Played: 28

Won: 24

Lost: 4  
Points for: 1061  
Points against: 350  
Tries scored: 173  
Top try scorer: Phil Todd - 19  
Top points scorer: Dan Mallard – 147

#### 4<sup>th</sup> XV

Before starting my report, I just want to say that the 4th team is only here today because of all the hard work and effort put in by team manager Simon Farrow. He, more than anyone, deserves the credit for working so hard every week in order to field a fourth team in Dorset and Wilts 3 South. On behalf of all the Bedouins I want to thank him wholeheartedly for his tireless enthusiasm and support. The endless phone calls and emails he has made, the hundreds (if not thousands) of extra miles he has driven picking up and dropping off players without transport, his pioneering selection and substitution strategies and last, but by no means least, the now legendary "doughnut of the day" awards.

When it was confirmed that BRFC would be fielding a fourth team playing league rugby in 09/10 we sat down and thought long and hard about what we wanted to achieve and could reasonably expect from this virgin season. Several objectives became clear:

- We wanted everyone involved to be and to feel an integral and important part of the team. Regardless of age, size, level of rugby experience or ability.
- We believed that rugby union is predominantly a ball-in-hand game, so, wherever and whenever possible, we would look to run with the ball. Consequently with players free to express themselves, we uncovered many strike running options that wrought havoc on defences all over D&W3 South.
- The lads (and even some lasses) give up their precious Saturday afternoons to "chase the egg" around a field so it should be a) fun and b) a team game. We worked hard as a fledgling outfit at the start of the season to build and cultivate a real Bedouin team spirit and the results have exceeded all our expectations. The frequent nights out (most recently in "Wurzels" regalia), the pre and post match banter, the final whistle port 'n cheese, the man-of-the-match hat and doughnut of the day awards have all contributed to an unrivaled camaraderie within the team and this has been demonstrated many times throughout the season on the field of play.

But at the end of the day all these extras are irrelevant if the lads aren't doing the business on the field. So, just how did they get on in this first season?

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Game played (league and friendlies)           | 25  |
| Games won                                     | 14  |
| Games lost                                    | 11  |
| Games drawn                                   | 0   |
| Points for                                    | 696 (2nd highest in league)                             |
| Points against                                | 431   |
| Tries per game (average)                      | 4.36  |
| Conversion success rate                       | 57%   |
| Total number of players to represent Bedouins | 101 (S. Farrow was Bedouins player number 101)          |
| Top points scorer                             | Ramon Mallette (19 T, 26 C, 3 P)                        |
| Yellow cards                                  | 9   |
| Red cards                                     | 1   |
| Fractures                                     | 7 (3 on one leg to centre B.Gardiner in Weymouth 17/10) |
| Lost teeth                                    | 1 (get a gumshield, Dan)                                |

We set out thinking that a top half finish in the league would be a fair result for our first season, especially given that at the start we were a completely new outfit with a few players either new to BRFC or indeed new to rugby! In the end the record books will show that we finished third in the league just outside the automatic promotion places that were filled by East Dorset firsts and Poole firsts. A remarkable achievement for all involved and never more evident than in the final game away to Oakmedians thirds where all Bedouins players, regardless of normal playing level, applied themselves with selflessness, pride, skill and determination in a spectacle of rugby that was, frankly, a pleasure to behold.

It is only right that I acknowledge and give my earnest and sincere thanks for all the support the Bedouins have received throughout the club this year. From the Committee and club officials, ground staff, support staff, through to the excellent and encouraging coaching staff and indeed the players and managers in the higher teams themselves. We have made friends and contacts throughout BRFC and I look forward with enormous optimism to building on this BRFC "family" foundation in the 2010/11 campaign.

So, how would I sum up the 09/10 season?

Well, we started out as a group of lads with a shared love of rugby. But, we finished the season as a group of friends with a shared love of rugby...and that, in my opinion, is the best result of all.

## Colts Richard Pearce

After much discussion, pre season, it was decided to play two teams so that the maximum number of players could play. Undoubtedly quite a few players would have given up had there only been one Colts team. Sadly we had to pull out of a few league games to concentrate on the U18s Cup games where we lost in the semi finals. Many thanks to Steve Boyd, Mark Balchin, Simon Thomas and numerous parents for all their hard work, without them reluctantly stepping forward and we would not have had the success we did. A great effort has been made to introduce this year's U16s to the U17s so that they feel less intimidated and will gell as a Colts squad when the season starts in September when we intend to run two teams in the D&W Merit Tables.

The 17s won the D&W cup and went on to play in the National cup where we managed to let a win slip through our fingers in the last 10 minutes against Newquay in the regional semi finals

| DORSET & WILTS UNDER 18 MERIT TABLE DIVISION 1 (SOUTH) |           |     |       |      |          | Points | Points  | Points     | Bonus  | Table  |          |
|--|-----------|-----|-------|------|----------|--------|---------|------------|--------|--------|----------|
|  | Played    | Won | Drawn | Lost | Conceded | For    | Against | Difference | Points | Points | Position |
| Sherborne  | 9         | 9   |       |      |          | 324    | 49      | 275        | 6      | 51     | 1        |
| North Dorset A   | 9         | 6   |       | 3    |          | 269    | 71      | 198        | 8      | 41     | 2        |
| Wimborne A   | 9         | 6   |       | 3    |          | 180    | 117     | 63         | 4      | 37     | 3        |
| Bournemouth A  | 9         | 4   |       | 2    | 3        | 154    | 138     | 16         | 3      | 19     | 4        |
| Salisbury  | 10        | 2   |       | 6    | 2        | 86     | 308     | -222       | 2      | 14     | 5        |
| Bridport   | 10        | 1   |       | 7    | 2        | 64     | 394     | -330       | 1      | 9      | 6        |
| Dorchester   | Withdrawn |     |       |      |          |        |         | 0          |        |        | 7        |
| Totals   | 56        | 28  | 0     | 21   | 7        | 1077   | 1077    | 0          | 24     | 171    |          |

| DORSET & WILTS UNDER 18 MERIT TABLE DIVISION 2 (SOUTH) |        |     |       |      |          | Points | Points  | Points     | Bonus  | Table  |          |
|--|--------|-----|-------|------|----------|--------|---------|------------|--------|--------|----------|
|  | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | Conceded | For    | Against | Difference | Points | Points | Position |
| Swanage & Wareham                                      | 12     | 10  | 1     | 1    |          | 352    | 83      | 269        | 8      | 62     | 1        |
| Oakmeadians  | 12     | 7   |       | 5    |          | 187    | 148     | 39         | 3      | 43     | 2        |
| Wimborne B   | 12     | 6   |       | 6    |          | 238    | 200     | 38         | 6      | 42     | 3        |
| North Dorset B   | 12     | 6   | 1     | 4    | 1        | 235    | 227     | 8          | 4      | 39     | 4        |
| New Milton   | 12     | 6   | 1     | 4    | 1        | 194    | 230     | -36        | 4      | 39     | 5        |
| Bournemouth B  | 12     | 4   | 3     | 2    | 3        | 201    | 184     | 17         | 4      | 29     | 6        |
| Lytchett Minster                                       | 12     |     |       | 9    | 3        | 37     | 372     | -335       |        | 3      | 7        |
| Totals   | 84     | 39  | 6     | 31   | 8        | 1444   | 1444    | 0          | 29     | 257    |          |

## Y&M Paul Joy, Chairman

- Took over chair part way through season although a hectic start we have ended up having a good season.
- Most sides got to semi finals of Dorset cup, the U14's were Dorset champions and emphatic Dorset and Wilts champions with the game being stopped part way through second half as they were 50 points or more ahead of the opposition.
- The section has grown to some 300 registered players and looks to continue to grow next season
- Girls rugby looks to continue next season with an U15 & U18 team combining with Ringwood and Ellingham to maintain numbers.
- U16's started training with the U17's to make the transition to Colts easier. It has been a great success and we will look to continue this towards the end of the coming season and future seasons.
- Seal of approval is well underway and is looking to be completed by the start of the coming season
- Very successful tournament again this year, there were some 3000 players across the two day event. We have received very positive feedback from teams that attended over the weekend.
- A mention for Paige Darvill (U15 last season) who has had a successful season. She has attended the Bristol Schools of Rugby, is part of the regional talent development group and is playing regional rugby.
- A mention for Charlie Ewels (U15 last season) is part of the county school of Rugby, has played county

this season also. He has been selected to attend the Bath Bronze Academy and is attending their training camp in August. Bath put him forward for regional front 5 training at Clifton College taken by the England U18 forward coaches. He played for Bath at Harrow School against other academy sides and from that is one of 35 players who has been asked to attend a National U16 Performance Camp in Leeds run by John Fletcher the National Academy Coach.

## 8. Incorporation

The Chairman spoke about the need for the Club to become incorporated and mentioned the problem experienced by Weymouth recently, when a legal case against the Club by a local dog walker resulted in an out of court settlement of many thousands of pounds. As the Club was not incorporated it was the Club officers who were deemed responsible. The RFU now recommends that all Clubs become incorporated so that should a similar situation ever arise, all the Club members are collectively held responsible but that their total liability will never exceed £1 each. Incorporation documents are in the process of being drafted and, when they are completed, they will be circulated to all members for comment. Once comments have been received the Club will take the final steps to become incorporated.

## 9. Election of club officers.

The following members were either elected or co-opted:

|   | <b>Position</b>                         | <b>Current Holder</b>  | <b>Nominations</b> | <b>Proposed By</b> | <b>Seconded By</b> |
|---|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   | <b>Officers of the Club</b>             |  |                    |                    |                    |
| 1 | Chairman                                | Denis Eveleigh   | Denis Eveleigh     | John Arthur        | Niall Gaffney      |
| 2 | Vice Chairman                           | Niall Gaffney (retiring)   | Anthony Williamson | Phil Thomas        | Paul Harrison      |
| 2 | Vice Chairman                           |  | Paul Joy           | Phil Thomas        | Paul Harrison      |
| 2 | Vice Chairman                           |  | John Hardcastle    | Phil Thomas        | Paul Harrison      |
| 3 | Head of Administration/Secretariat      | John Hardcastle (retiring)   | Stacey Ricketts    | Bob Strickland     | Phil Thomas        |
| 4 | Head of Finance sub committee           | Mark Valentine   | Mark Valentine     | Bob Strickland     | Jo Warren          |
| 5 | Head of Playing sub committee           | Denis Eveleigh   | Denis Eveleigh     | John Hardcastle    | Paul Joy           |
| 6 | Head of House sub committee             | Simon Farrow   | Simon Farrow       | Brian Smith        | Craig Dean         |
| 7 | Head of Ground sub committee            | Richard Llewellyn  | Richard Llewellyn  | Brian Smith        | Craig Dean         |
| 8 | Head of Marketing/Fundraising committee | Simon Farrow   | Simon Farrow       | John Webber        | Doug Warren        |
|   | Marketing/ Fundraising committee        |  | Dan Thomas         | John Webber        | Doug Warren        |
|   | Marketing/ Fundraising committee        |  | Holly Morgan       | John Webber        | Doug Warren        |
|   | <b>Co-opted Members</b>                 | No requirement to be voted in at the AGM but all present were in agreement with their appointments |                    |                    |                    |
|   | Fixture Secretary                       | Mike Dedman  | Mike Dedman        |                    |                    |
|   | Membership Secretary                    | Jo Warren  | Jo Warren          |                    |                    |
|   | Chairman Y&M                            | Paul Joy   | Paul Joy           |                    |                    |
|   | Referee Secretary                       | Richard Williams   | Richard Williams   |                    |                    |
|   | Club Captain                            | Vacant   | Dan Cawley         |                    |                    |
|   | Club Vice Captain                       |  | Simon McFarlane    |                    |                    |

|  |  |                             |                |  |  |
|--|--|-----------------------------|----------------|--|--|
|  | Press & Publicity                              | Doug Warren                 | Doug Warren    |  |  |
|  | International, D&W rep and County Games member | Wally Wright (retiring)     | Phil Todd snr  |  |  |
|  | Social Co-ordinator                            | Greg Hilton (retiring)      | Bernie Flynn   |  |  |
|  | New Player Liaison                             | Denis Eveleigh              | Denis Eveleigh |  |  |
|  | Lions captain                                  | Alan Manning                | Alan Manning   |  |  |
|  | Lions manager                                  | Steve Buffery (retiring)    |                |  |  |
|  | Nomads captain                                 | Jo Burns                    |                |  |  |
|  | Nomads manager                                 | Bob Strickland              | Bob Strickland |  |  |
|  | Wanderers captain                              | Dave Upton (retiring)       | Phil Todd jnr  |  |  |
|  | Wanderers manager                              | Alistair Raworth (retiring) | Phil Todd snr  |  |  |
|  | Bedouins captain                               | Craig Dean                  | Craig Dean     |  |  |
|  | Bedouins Manager                               | Simon Farrow                | Simon Farrow   |  |  |
|  | VPs Liaison manager                            | Nigel Yeoman                | Nigel Yeoman   |  |  |
|  | Web Site manager                               | Bob Strickland              | Bob Strickland |  |  |
|  | Assistant Web Site Manager                     |                             | Dan Thomas     |  |  |

## 10. Any Other Business

It was suggested that work parties, using the expertise that exists within the Club, should be formed to carry out work within the Sports Club.

A special vote of thanks was proposed to David Richardson who stepped up to the post of Chairman at short notice. Everyone present agreed to this and wished him and Jackie well when they move back to Worcester. It was unanimously agreed that David be offered Honorary Life Membership of the Rugby Club.

Phil Todd reported that the pilot Academy scheme had gone really well but the Club should be asking what it wants the Academy to achieve, a lead in to the senior teams or a stand alone to develop individual skill? The Chairman stated that he didn't really want to fully answer this at this time but did say that he sees the Academy as an important part of the Club's future.

Little mention has been made of girls rugby but it was pointed out that the girls are currently part of the Y&M section. Considerable effort is being put in to recruiting more girls with Junior being offered to schools to coach both boys and girls. The benefits should be seen next season.

The draw took place for the 100 Club, the winners:

Richard Williams        £150

John Hardcastle        £100

Doug Warren            £50

**More members of the 100 Club are needed. You have to be in it to win it!!!**

## 11. Date of Next Meeting.

The 2010 AGM will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 19.30

The Club Dinner will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009

It was requested that ALL members note these dates and try to avoid organising events on them that will mean large numbers of members will be unable to attend.