



# Ohio Rugby Union

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## 2005 ORU Winter GM Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

**Roll Call** - L.M.Harvey

The following individuals and their respective clubs were present:

<b>Club</b>	<b>Name</b>
Ashland Men	Hui-Lung-Yu
Cincinnati Kelts	Brendan O' Conner
Cincinnati Youth Rugby League	Willie Griffes
Cincy-Dayton Women's Side/ ORU Senior Women's Coordinator	Kristen Johnson
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Amy Carpenter
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Jaime Barnes
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Kerry Slife
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Lyndsey Lantz
Dayton Area Rugby Club	Kevin Foley
Dayton Area Rugby Club	Eric Wittmer
Denison Men	Jeremy Heartberg
Denison Women	AnneMarie Farrell
Denison Women	June Trimble
Eastern Kentucky Women	Stacy Bautista
Eastern Suburbs Men & Women	Shannon Valenti
Kentucky Womens RFC	Mary Bosserman
Kentucky Womens RFC	Sarah Martin
Louisville Men & Women	Susan Gaunt
Marion RFC	Josh White
Marion RFC	Rick VanBuskirk
Marshall Men	Steve Landes
Marshall Women	Krissy Rogers
Miami Men	Andrew Larrimer
Miami Men	Joe Measel
Miami Women	Colleen O' Toole
NKY Grubs RFC	George Ward
NKY Grubs RFC	Kent Wells
Oberlin Women	Rachel Lindy
Ohio Northern Men	Brent Gable
Ohio Northern Men	Josh Glazier
Ohio Northern Women	Robert Kanzig
Ohio Northern Women	Jody Teresi
Ohio Northern Women	Liza Fisher

Ohio Wesleyan Men & Women	Amy Martens
Ohio Wesleyan Men & Women	Jasmin Mitchell
ORRS Rep	Joe Otten
ORU President	Lynn Harvey
ORU Secretary	Lola Akinmade
ORU Women's Collegiate Coordinator	Jen Smithhart
OSU Men	Ed Henderick
OSU Men	Lee Koontz
OSU Men	Phil Payne
OSU Women/Westerville Girls	Steve Weaver
Queen City RFC	John Klosinski
Scioto Valley Men	Kurt Nienberg
Scioto Valley Women	Robalyn Stone
Univ of Cincinnati Men	Dennis Spitznagel
Univ of Cincinnati Men	William Burwinkel
Univ of Dayton Men & Women	Sarah Kitchin
Walnut Hills Boys	Bill Griffes
Walnut Hills Girls	Amy Bruestle
Wittenberg RFC - Men & Women	Jesse Klima
Wittenberg RFC - Men & Women	Kenny Pope
Wright State Men & Women	Steve Keeran
Xavier Men & Women	Amanda Lattanzio
Xavier Men & Women	Jen McGonigle

**2. Opening Comments - L. Harvey**

**L. M Harvey** thanked Wittenberg for the meeting venue.

**3. Previous Meeting Minutes – L. Akinmade**

- i. **2004 ORU Fall GM** - All meeting minutes are available for download on the website under ORU Office.

**Klosinki** asked about the \$25 fine and **L.M Harvey** mentioned that this fine has been waived for today's meeting due to weather but will be in effect at the September meeting.

**L.M** noted that this will be the last time applying the fine will be postponed (unless unforeseen circumstances or bad weather occurs).

**4. Officer Reports**

- a. **President** - L.M. Harvey
- S. Whitney (VP) – **Absent**

**The full president's report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office**

**L.M. Harvey** thanked S. Whitney for chairing the 2004 Fall meeting.

**L.M. Harvey** noted that several instances of poor behavior occurred during the last ORU tournaments. **L.M** mentioned that clubs need to be stern with problem players.

**L.M** mentioned the implementation of more disciplinary policies to curb the system wide epidemic abuse of referees.

**L.M** talked about the Midwest Winter AGM – First time it was more business like. More work getting done, more information being shared. Ohio has a great role in the Midwest and high level representation with Tom Rooney and Chris Schreel.

**L.M** also mentioned that the USA Board of Directors is now enforcing that USA Rugby account for wasted funds.

The position of ORU Youth Coordinator is currently vacant and **L.M.** noted that Casey Schnieber (Cincy Wolfhounds) came as a suggestion.

**Kevin Foley (DARC)** requested a job description for the Youth Coordinator. **L.M. Harvey** mentioned that there is no description and it is the responsibility of the coordinator to define the responsibilities. The HS are non-dues paying members. LM mentioned that something will be posted on the website regarding this.

**L.M.** is proposing a constitutional change to the current by-laws to avoid current dilemmas of vacant positions. If a position is left open, there is no one to take over. He proposed a constitution similar to that of the Midwest.

**L.M.** proposed to create 2 new positions – Amend current VP position to VP of competitions and VP of collegiate and youth.

- VP of competitions – Scott Whitney
- VP of collegiate and youth – Steve Weaver

This will mean 5 executive officers instead of 4, and will guarantee an odd number of votes.

**L. Akinmade (ORU Sec)** asked if the position covers all leagues and genders. L.M. said yes.

**L.M.** Mentioned to have S. Whitney as the VP of competitions as the interim.

**Jen Smithhart (ORU Coll. Women Coordinator)** mentioned with the new structure, will VP of collegiate youth be the source of issue resolution?.

**L.M.** mentioned Smithhart and J. Kaminsky can still work together but if there was an issue to be resolved at a higher level, the VP of competitions will be the go-to guy.

**K. Foley (DARC)** asked if the coordinators still do all the work?

**L.M.** mentioned that the coordinators do all the work. The executives just coordinate the work.

**L.M.** asked if the clubs have any objections to the new structure. No objections.

**L.M.** provided a handout on his thoughts on Athletic Trainers. They are very affordable. Resources include local universities, including graduate students.

**L.M.** mentioned about the guy who was injured and died without an athletic trainer

**J. Klosinki (ORU DII Men)** mentioned that the guy is still alive.

**L.M.** reinforced that his point still stands – athletic trainers are extremely beneficial.

**K. Foley (DARC)** mentioned DARC had a retired athletic trainer so clubs can solicit old players

**Susan G (Louisville)** asked about trainers' insurance. Do they need to be insured?

**L.M.** noted that the trainers do have their own insurance, and if they don't, they need to be enrolled in the CIPP program.

**Denison** - Creating a pilot program with local EMT programs if a professional trainer is not readily available is also an avenue.

**L.M.** mentioned it was a great idea, but that EMTs can't assist with the ongoing treatment of a diagnosis or help in selecting players to return to the field.

No further comments on the President's report.

- b. Treasurer** - C. Schreel
  - i. Year-to-date Financial Report**
  - ii. CIPP Compliance**

**L.M.** praised Schreel for doing a great job of keeping us in the black.

**L. Akinmade** read that Schreel suggested they (Marshall Women) be dropped from the union.

**J. Smithhart** mentioned that any on-field issues have been resolved, but is solely financial at this point.

**L.M.** asked if there were any objections to giving Marshall Women another chance to get things resolved before they are voted off.

There were no objections.

**Shannon (Eastern Suburbs)** – They (Marshall Women) show as paid on a portion of Chris' report, but still showing as not paid on another.

**L.M.** clarified that they did pay ORU dues but no Midwest.

Referee development fees - \$2 per player. LM mentioned that it was never implemented.

**K. Johnson** mentioned that she was on the committee. She said Bob Caudy dropped the ball. The proposal was never revised and should be resubmitted.

**J. Smithhart** mentioned travel expenses to locations like Iowa isn't sufficiently covered by the current select side funds, and that the ORU executive office needs to increase select side budget.

Schreel forgot to add U19 select side program to the budget.

**L.M.** suggested that Chris discuss the issue with Steve Weaver and the EC to figure out expenses for the U19 women's program. Schreel recommended that Steve cover the expenses this year, and plan on working it into the budget.

**Jaime Barnes (Iron Maidens)** asked when this will be done.

**L.M.** said that Chris will get on it as soon as possible.

**L.M.** reviewed the current 2005 budget so far, besides working out the financials for the collegiate and youth programs. Having clubs give up money to none dues paying members.

- a. **Secretary** - L. Akinmade
  - i. **ORU Phone List**

The current phone list is available online. It is only as current as the clubs make it so it is imperative that clubs update their information regularly.

- ii. **ORU Club Checklist**

The new club checklist is online.

- iii. **ORU Website**
  - iv. Compiling list of modifications/additions - Kaminsky, Jay Lee, Harv
  - v. Currently working on new functionality
  - vi. Post announcements – officers only
  - vii. New Messageboard
  - viii. Upload club photo
  - ix. General clean up

**L. Akinmade** mentioned that the Indiana Rugby Union is impressed with the ORU's level of organization, the discipline of its clubs, and its website. L. Akinmade is now the webmaster of the Indiana Rugby Union site at <http://www.indianarugby.org>

x. **CIPP Forms (Print out)** – All online now at <http://www.usarugby.org>

**L. Akinmade** reminded clubs (according to Schreel's latest email) not to use the online CIPP registration form until February. USA Rugby is trying to work out the kinks.

## **5. Coordinator & Director Reports**

### **a. Youth - (Vacant)**

**L.M.** opened the floor up to HS teams to voice concerns and issues.

**Shannon V (Eastern Suburbs)** – Mentioned that there is a new girls team (Mayfield). Cleveland Youth Rugby is improving. She said that they (Cleveland Youth League) will be getting together to put together a structure.

### **b. Collegiate**

#### **i. Women D1 & D2 – J. Smithhart**

The full D1/D2 Collegiate Women's report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office

### **J. Smithhart Summary**

- Problems with schedules should go to Kaminsky. Other issues should come to Smithhart.
- Denison Women has been moved up to Division II.
- OSU & UD will be going to Nationals Sweet 16.
- OU has served their suspension.
- The camp will be rescheduled for Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 65+ ladies to participate.
- Current plans to send both U23 teams to NashBash to compete.
- LAUS – April 9-10

**EKU** asked if players will be refunded if they register for the camps, but drop out? Will they be refunded?

**J. Smithhart** answered that they can send in replacement players or get refunded but that clubs that register are reserving spots that could otherwise be filled by other players, so they are responsible for the allocated slots.

#### **ii. Men D1 (OSU) – T. Rooney**

### Summary by L.M. for Rooney

- No major issues in Division I.
- Concerned about LAUs conflicting with Nationals. So key players going to Nationals will be unavailable for LAUs and they will be missing key staff members.

**J. Smithhart** mentioned that she has her coaching staff that will not be affected.

**iii. Men D2 & D3** – J. Kaminsky

The full D2/D3 Collegiate Men's report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office

There were no comments on his report.

**a. Women** – K. Johnson

### K. Johnson Summary

- 5 teams from Ohio competing in D2.
- Lexington/Louisville combined to form Kentucky Women's RFC.
- Akron Women still not in league competition.
- Issues with current scoring system - 3 separate conferences with different number of teams. Schreel brought up the scoring system at MWFRU AGM.
- Scioto Valley only team to advance from ORU.
- 2 ladies invited to Midwest camp.
- Camp dates are pending.
- Looking into scrimmage with Alleghany.

**b. Men**  
**c. D1** – (Midwest, L.M. Harvey)

Both Scioto and Wolfhounds are in

**d. D2** – J. Klosinski

The full D2 Senior Men's report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office

### Klonsinski Summary

- 3 out of 8 D2 mens teams in relegation playoffs. (Lexington, Kelts, and Dayton)
- Louisville down on numbers.

**L.M.** asked if travel was still an issue because now we have 3 clubs within the same geographic region in relegations? Is this a case anymore?

**Klosinki** mentioned that based on the Midwest's structure of 24 teams per league, they burst up clubs and have them join LAUS closest to their unions regardless of geography. There is currently an odd number - 25

**Cincy Kelts** voiced their concern that back to back weekends of travel to Michigan, etc, is the reason why they're in relegations because they can't even get their A-side to travel.

**Klosinski** mentioned that the teams are so equally matched that it is a lot of competition.

**Kelts** noted that they're having problems with scoring system that put them in the relegation. Different point system for the playoffs.

**K. Johnson** mentioned that Schreel was aware of it and that it was brought up at the Midwest.

e. **D3**

- M. Miller

**The full D3 Senior Men's report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office**

**Shannon V** - There were problems with the Eastern Divisions scoring system. The coordinator dropped off the face of the earth. Cleveland (Eastern Suburbs) was incorrectly seeded. Eastern Suburbs choose NOT to contest this.

**K. Johnson** asked if relegation was trimming down Division II or forcing D3 clubs to move up?

**Klosinski** mentioned that to stick to 24, something has to give. Competitive D3 teams need to be forced up, instead of sand bagging at D3.

**L.M.** mentioned that Rick Collins is trying to keep it simple by sticking to a number - 24.

**Shannon V** – Isn't there a requirement distinguishing D2 and D3 teams? Do they have to maintain both A and B sides.

**Eric Wittmer (DARC)** – Doesn't it making the travel requirement tougher on the B-side team?

**L.M.** mentioned that discipline and performance is what sets a D2 team from a D3 team. There are no formal requirements.

**Klosinski** reinforced LM's comments. No requirements.

**Kenny Pope (Wittenberg)** asked if it applies to collegiates as well.

**L.M.** said yes.

**Klosinski** mentioned that Kaminsky has his own requirements for his collegiate teams.

**f. Select Sides/Technical** - L. M. Harvey

**L.M. Harvey Summary**

- Going to Fort Wayne for the senior select side. Interesting to see how CARFU travels. Blaze did not renew their contract.
- Extending a hand to the women in terms of sharing resources. ORU needs to send a select side to every LAU tournament. We need to focus on our programs and offer assistance and help.

**Phil Payne (Midwest men's forwards coach) Summary**

- Ohio Classic Dates – April 23-24, half way through registration.
- Phil will be taking over Kenneth's spot as coach.
- 90% of the team will be D2, D3 players.
- Kaminsky will like to take a team to Nash Bash, a scrimmage with OSU, and then LAUs.

**Shannon V** noted that the Berliner Park venue for the Classic is under water.

**Steve Weaver** mentioned that the board is having a review to determine if the venue is in fact under water.

**g. Referees** - D. Kendall/J. Lee  
**Financial Report from ORRS** - D. Kendall/J. Lee

The full referees report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office

**Joe Otten** represented the ORRS.

**Joe Otten Summary**

- 47 club teams
- 24 high schools
- Travel costs a huge problem with the ORRS budget. Problem to intensify. More refs traveling to Kentucky, West Virginia.

**Standish Fortin** – Aren't travel costs covered by the host team?

**Otten** – The teams pay only the ref fee. The ORRS covers mileage.

**Marshall Men** - Do we have to submit our schedules before we get invoiced?

**Eric Wittmer** - Deadline for submission?

**Otten** – ORRS will post a deadline on the website

**Otten** – Clubs need to be current to get assignments. Jay Lee also mentioned that no monies came from the ORU referee sponsorship program. Otten noted that the reason was explained by K. Johnson in previous discussions.

**Otten** - Monies collected will used for new referee certifications.

**Louisville** – Asked for clinic dates?

**L. Akinmade** – Jay will send out clinic dates soon.

**L.M.** mentioned that ORU will reimburse the ORRS for referee certifications through the sponsorship program.

**Otten** – IRB changed the referee certification so the email notices will be sent once clinic dates are set . The new training materials just arrived.

**Steve Landes (Marshall Men)** – mentioned that he was present at the last meeting and asked if new refs will be reimbursed their certification monies after 3 matches?

**L.M.** – In response to Steve Landes, there are 2 programs to fund potential recruits: ORU scholarship and ORRS reimbursement.

**Otten** – As more teams become members of the ORU, it adds requirement for new teams to provide a certified referee?

**Klosinski** asked how many referees are part of the ORRS? Adding 4 new referees increases the active referee pool by close to 25%

**Otten** – Abuse policy needs to be set in place – A “No Referee Abuse” Policy was brought up to the Columbus Youth League and they were against it. Kaminsky added the Welsh policy to his report and would like the ORU to review this policy and think about adopting something similar to thus policy.

ORRS is requesting that the ORU set up a referee abuse policy.

**Standish Fortin (Wolfhounds)** asked if it was a motion.

**Klosinski** asked if different leagues should come up with different policies: because these policies may be different per league.

**Eric Wittmer** – It is easier to empower the referees to use their red cards more on the players.

**Otten** – We don't want the refs to be too liberal with the use of cards, but they also need to be proactive.

**Otten** mentioned the need for one umbrella policy for Ohio referees.

**L.M.** suggested that clubs actively remove problematic players. ORU should take some time to figure out what we need to do, but need something in place for the upcoming league season.

**L.M.** mentioned that a committee be formed – 1 ORU, 1 ORRS, 1 Club member from every level.

The following individuals volunteered

- Standish Fortin (Wolfhounds)
- AnneMarie Farrell (Denison)
- Joe Otten (ORRS)
- Susan (Louisville)
- Scott Whitney (or Lynn Harv)

**L.M.** suggested 2 weeks for getting to get a policy together. A policy will be loosely adopted at the discretion of the disciplinary chairman this season and the official policy will be voted in at the next meeting.

**Standish** asked if there will be any clinics in Ohio this year?

**Otten** mentioned that Jay will send out dates

**Otten** also mentioned that ORRS needs feedback regarding referees.

**L.M.** asked who the clubs go to with referee problems? Who do they report to?

**Otten** mentioned that he was in charge of that on the ORRS side.

**Akinmade** suggested that clubs get in touch with the ORU disciplinary chairman.

**Shannon** – How often are referees reviewed?

**Otten** – Not often enough. Heavy schedule, thin referee pool. 6 referees were reviewed this year. They purchased a camcorder to tape games for them to review their games.

**Klosinski** mentioned the headsets. That there was a decreased interest in headsets.

**Otten** – ORRS mentioned that a team of 3 is required for that and we don't get that that often. There are several radios (12 radios).

**Akinmade** asked how much equipment the ORRS owns? If they own tons of equipment that may not be in use and shouldn't be included in future ORRS budgets.

**Standish** asked if there is a list of touch judges within the ORRS?

**Shannon V** reminded everyone that the proposal to have clubs submit a certified referee was dropped but can the same principle be applied to touch judges?

**L.M.** mentioned that the proposal also included touch judges but was dropped as a package. May require further discussion but can't be addressed at this point.

**Steve Weaver** – does the ORRS required quality touch judges or are they okay with the state of touch judges in Ohio?

**Marshall Men** – Isn't the current need the certification of referees, do we need all those level of touch judges?

Motion to have a touch judge course set in place by **Steve Landes, Marshall Men**. Was actually more of a request than a motion.

**Walnut Hills** – Will having the course on the weekend of a tournament like the Ohio Classic when most of the teams will be there, be a wise idea?

L.M. suggested that it can be a part of any camp or tournament as well.

**h. Disciplinary** - S. Whitney, J. Lee

The full Disciplinary report is online at [www.ohiorugbyunion.org](http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org) under ORU Office

**i. Marketing** - S. Fortin

#### **Standish Fortin Summary**

- Standish talked about Balls Out Rugby.
- Under contract, need to carry 9 items, but they currently carry only 2 items.
- Looking to switch to American Rugby Outfitters - \$2500 worth of gear for select side.

**Jen Smithhart** – Will they provide free jerseys to the union? All select sides get jerseys – 1 set every 4 years for every select side, 1 set a year for the ORU

**L.M.** – Nobody (Balls Out, ORU) is fulfilling their end of their bargain. Are those annual numbers or for 2 years?

**Shannon V** suggested that we need to look through the contract to make sure there are no liability problems.

**Klosinski** – need to review any other contracts we have every 5 years to see if the ORU is on target.

## **6. Break –**

### **7. Old Business** - L. Harvey

**Miami Univ Men** suggested breaking up the meetings because it runs too long and some of the collegiate clubs find it too time-consuming.

**EKU** - Meetings may be useful to a certain point. Not all matters concern D3 clubs.

**Standish** – What about exercising our proxy?

**L.M.** – This is ORU business so every club needs to be represented. But with the new constitutional changes, we can start to streamline things.

**Akinmade** – It's a matter of driving 4 hours to sit for an hour or driving 4 hours to sit for 4 hours.

**L.M.** – It can be argued both ways.

**Shannon V**- Clubs question what their dues are for; these meetings are for addressing that.

**L.M.** – The meeting is important to the officers, can't qualify for clubs.

**Walnut Hills** – Last year, Kaminsky had the collegiate come in an hour earlier before the general meeting.

**L.M.** mentioned that a \$25 due was voted in based on the current meeting structure, and will be enforced starting this fall if clubs decide on no-shows.

End of discussion.

### **2005 Summer 7s Qualifier bids**

- Cincinnati Wolfhounds
- Eastern Suburbs
- Dayton

- Louisville

### Excerpt from 2004 Fall ORU Meeting

**Standish Fortin** (Cincinnati Wolfhounds) had 2 motions to set in place

**First motion** - Summer Qualifier 2005 - Cin-City 7s. The wolfhounds are looking to make this event a qualifier.

**K. Johnson** asked how many qualifiers per union?

**C. Schreel** explained that each union had 1 qualifier. ORU were able to have 2 because IRU never had a qualifier and the geographic distances is much greater than most of the other unions.

**K. Johnson** motioned to table it. Seconded by **Jamie Barnes, Cleveland Iron Maidens Women**

**L.M.** – Every LAU has 1 bid, but you can submit 2 bids. A choice and B choice for Midwest qualifier bids. Put in 3 teams – 2 qualifiers and 1 championship bid.

**Standish** - What if Wolfhound's bid for a championship was denied? They would still like to bid for a qualifier. But they are primarily interested in the qualifier

**Shannon V** – Feb 15 deadline for A choice qualifier. Then available open qualifiers are announced and then the LAUs can put in their B choice.

**L.M.** asked clubs interested in bidding to discuss and present themselves to the ORU.

### Wolfhounds - Standish

- Brimelow Fields.
- Best facility in the union.
- Cin City 7s was a last minute qualifier (D1, D2 Men, Women)

### Eastern Suburbs - Shannon

- Been a qualifier since 1999
- 11 men, 8 women
- 39 teams in 2004
- High School
- Initiating improvement on the land.
- 4 fields
- Cleveland Metro Parks for alternate location
- Feel like they've met the Midwest criteria.

### **Dayton – Kevin Foley**

- For the last 5 years, have held the Riverfest tournament
- 4 venues to choose from.
- Smaller registration entries because it has not been a qualifier
- Best fields for sevens
- Lots of sponsorship
- Wanted to be a qualifier for the last two years but didn't know the official process of going about it

**Klosinski** – Was Louisville not interested?

**L.M.** – Should add Louisville to the list because of their years of service.

**K. Johnson** – Does the Wolfhounds have a date?

**Standish** – Want to coordinate their date with the select side program.

**K. Johnson** – Having a qualifier very late in the season could affect the team registration. Eastern Suburbs tournament was too big and was not well handled.

**Shannon** – This was due to a referee shortage. There were only 4 referees to run the whole day. They are working to limiting the size of the qualifier to prevent this same issue in the future.

### **Louisville - Susan**

- 8 years for the Fried 7's
- Goes well without a hitch
- High level of play
- Very nicely planned tournament.
- Has been a men's qualifier in the past
- Adds a degree of geographic diversity that clubs don't normally play.
- Strongest aspect – Historically one of the oldest tournaments with lots of experience.

**K. Johnson** – Will it be a women's qualifier as well? Louisville to put in bid for that as well.

**K. Foley** – There wasn't enough interest but Dayton wants to make it a women's qualifier. Dayton has people calling back for tournament dates.. The fields are ready to go as of the Friday before the tournament.

**L.M.** – Need to come up with a ranking. The 1<sup>st</sup> choice will be the 1<sup>st</sup> choice for a men's qualifier and the recommended qualifier for the women.

**Klosinski** – How many fields does it take to run both a men and women's qualifier?

L.M. – All 4 clubs have adequate field space for the tournaments.

**Wittenberg** – Do we have to vote?

L.M - No.

### **Voting Results**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Choice**

Wolfhounds – 4

**Dayton – 17 ✓**

Louisville - 3

Eastern – 2

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Choice**

Wolfhounds – 11

**Louisville – 13 ✓**

Eastern – 2

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

**Wolfhounds - 21 ✓**

Eastern – 4

L.M. – On Eastern Suburbs behalf, they're a long running tournament and so Dayton needs to do an exceptional job of representing Ohio.

### **Official ORU 7's Bids**

1<sup>st</sup> Choice – **Dayton**

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice – **Louisville**

3<sup>rd</sup> Choice – **Wolfhounds**

4<sup>th</sup> Choice – **Eastern Suburbs**

Championship Bid – **Cincy Wolfhounds.**

### **Other Old Business**

- Eagles camp – March 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- International players assembling at OSU – March 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
- OSU coaching support staff.
- \$125 fee for 2 days of camp per player, including instructions from the Eagles.

### **8. New Business**

- L. Harvey

- a. Bi-law structure changes

Changes in place – VP – collegiate and youth, and VP of competitions.

- b. Referee relations

Formed a committee (discussed under Referees Report)

- c. Trainer usage

Already discussed under President's Report

- d. Membership review – club and divisional issues

**K. Johnson** – Are Bowling Green and Toledo planning to join the union?

**L. Akinmade** – Just a rumor, haven't heard from any of the clubs.

- e. Addition of ORU wide award

**L.M.** – Award outside of on field play, which club embodies the spirit of the ORU? Ambassadors of the game award?. Could go as far as naming an award after someone who has passed away and who has contributed to rugby and its development.

Everyone agreed that it was a great idea.

**K. Foley (DARC)** – Can it be broken down by division?

**L.M.** – Sure, including high schools. Any thoughts on direction of award?

**K. Johnson** – Are clubs going to nominate this?

**L.M.** – An online nomination form will be provided by the webmaster. Like to think about rugby as rugby and not men, women, division, etc.

- Senior
- Collegiate
- Youth

Motion set in place by **L.M.**

Seconded by **K. Johnson**

A new "ORU Ambassador of the Game" Award was created.

**L.M.** – Based on the nominations submitted, it will be at the discretion of the executive committee to choose the recipient.

f. Other outstanding issues?

No other issues

g. **Next ORU General Meeting date** (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in September)  
i. 2<sup>nd</sup> week in September – September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Klosinski** voted for September 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Meeting Dates

1<sup>st</sup> Choice – September 18<sup>th</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice - September 11<sup>th</sup>

### Venue Choices

- Xavier Univ.
- Univ. of Dayton

## 9. New ORU Memberships

- Cleveland State University – No show. Not voted in
- Walnut Hills Girls Rugby – No objections. Voted in.

## 10. Officer Elections

- Vice President – Scott Whitney voted in unanimously
- Treasurer – Schreel voted in unanimously (after L.M. **humorously** threatened any other potential contestants)

### **Volunteer Positions**

- Youth Coordinator – Steve Weaver may have to handle it by default.

### Nominees

- Casey Schnieber (Wolfhounds).
- Andre – coach of Lakewood HS. Very busy but could be convinced.
- Liz – Scioto Valley Women

## 11. Closing – L. Harvey

L.M. thanked the clubs for braving the bad weather.