



Ohio Rugby Union

2004 ORU Fall Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Roll Call - Scott Whitney

The following individuals and their respective clubs were present:

Akron RFC (ORU VP/Disciplinary)	Scott Whitney
Cincinnati Kelts	Benjamin Johason
Cincinnati Kelts	Elizabeth Scolah
Cincinnati Wolfhounds	Standish Fortin
Cincinnati-Dayton Women	Kristen Johnson
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Jaime Barnes
Cleveland Iron Maidens	Kerry Slife
Collegiate Coordinator	James Kaminsky
Dayton Area Rugby Club	Eric Wittmer
Denison Men	Mike Craig
Denison Men	Tom Lipton
Denison Men	Paul Pegher
Denison Women	Krista Reese
Denison Women	Dawn Walker
EKU Men	Ian Wilcoxson
EKU Women	Stacy Bautista
John Carroll Men	Dan Woods
Kent State Men	Mike McClusky
Kent State Men	Mike Vasinko
Kent State Women	Heather Peairs
Kent State Women	Rachael Miller
Lexington Blackstones	Bob Brown
Lexington Moths	Mary Bosserman
Marion Rugby	Josh White
Marion Rugby	Caley Brooks
Miami Univ Women	Julie Auberger
Northern Kentucky Men	Jamie Glahn
Oberlin Rhinos	Jody Ahlm
Oberlin Rhinos	Magdalene Dale
Ohio Northern Men	Brent Gable
Ohio Northern Men	Chad Dagenfield
Ohio Northern Women	Abby Kusnerik
Ohio Northern Women	Annie Baldwin
Ohio State Women	Steve Weaver
Ohio Univ Men	Blake Regan

Ohio Univ Men	Ryan Huffman
Ohio Univ Women	Julie Zaylor
Ohio Univ Women	Kyra Eversman
Ohio Wesleyan Women	Nikki Talianko
Ohio Wesleyan Women	Melanie Hill
OSU Women	Lindsey Bartlow
Queen City RFC	John Klosinski
Scioto Valley Women	Heather Ekey
Secretary	Lola Akinmade
Treasurer	Chris Schreel
Univ of Cincinnati Men	Jonathan Grant
Univ of Cincinnati Men	William Burwinkel
Univ of Dayton Men	Paul Tabernik
Univ of Dayton Women	Kathleen Kress
Walnut Hills High School	Amy Bruestle
Wittenburg Men	Frank Riegler
Wittenburg Women	Jessie Kilma
Wright State Men	Austin Balogh
Wright State Women	Monica McKitterick
Xavier Men	John Gregg
Xavier Women	Jen McGonigle
Xavier Women	Kayla Murphy

2. Opening Comments - Scott Whitney

S. Whitney thanked **Paul Pegher** (Denison Univ.) for setting up the conference room. Clubs were also thanked for attending the meeting

3. Previous Meeting Minutes – L. Akinmade

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

L. Akinmade mentioned that all meeting minutes and officer reports are available online for download.

4. Officer Reports

- a. **President** - L.M. Harvey (presented by Scott Whitney)

L.M. Harvey was unable to attend the meeting due to personal commitments (getting married same weekend), and so **S. Whitney** (VP) led the meeting and summarized the president's report below.

He mentioned that **L.M. Harvey** was very proud of the union in terms of the pace of progress. Special thanks went to **T. Rooney** and **C. Schreel** for their Midwest appointments and commitments.

The full president's report is available at <http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org> under ORU Office.

- S. Whitney (VP)
- Incorporated with the president's report

b. Treasurer - C. Schreel

i. Year-to-date Financial Report

C. Schreel mentioned that we are ahead of schedule in terms of collections, and may invest in select side programs or invest any additional monies in the referee society.

C. Schreel was not available at the last meeting and had already drawn up the invoices before the \$2 per player tax was levied. And so Schreel will take care of the billing during the next invoicing period.

J. Kaminsky suggested putting the extra money towards select side programs.

ii. CIPP Compliance

8-10 clubs still out of compliance

a. Secretary - L. Akinmade

i. ORU Phone List

A comprehensive phone/address list is available online for clubs to print out once they log in

ii. ORU Club Checklist

For the newer clubs, a club checklist is available to help guide in the process

iii. ORU Website

Please send emails to the webmaster if you need access Email suggestions for new functionality and tools.

iv. CIPP Forms (Print out) – All online now

USA Rugby will now have online submittals beginning January 1st. They will still need hardcopy versions with signatures for insurance liability issues.

J. Kaminsky noted that CIPP is an individual responsibility. It is not negotiable. The grace period for incoming freshmen will be the first four weeks of the semester.

C. Schreel noted that the online registration may have a more flexible registration schedule calendar. Ex. August to August

5. Coordinator & Director Reports

a. Youth - K. Ford

Kenneth Ford was absent.

b. Collegiate

i. Women D1 & D2 – J. Smithhart

Jen Smithhart was absent due to prior commitments. Her report was sent through Univ of Kentucky Women, who were also absent from the meeting.

ii. Men D1 (OSU) – T. Rooney

Tom Rooney was absent.

iii. Men D2 & D3 – J. Kaminsky

J. Kaminsky mentioned that D1 & D2 collegiate teams are required to have 25 registered players because they are required to be playing 2 games a week.

D3 clubs are required to have at least 15 but it is strongly recommended to have at least 20 players.

J. Kaminsky reminded the clubs that he was responsible for scheduling the fall league play for both collegiate women and men, and that by **March 15**; clubs should let him know of any issues. He is willing to work with the clubs to reschedule games.

J. Kaminsky also explained that the reason he has to be stern about this is because of referee shortage in Ohio. He tries to schedule the men and women from the same college at the same venue to make it easier for referees.

There are certain weekends when ORRS refs are taken by the Midwest so send any conflict dates to Kaminsky by deadline date.

October 16th – All D2 men and women clubs are going to OU to play.

All league play and D3 championships will be done in the fall. **J. Kaminsky** will not be scheduling spring games.

In terms of the Collegiate Men's select side program, **J. Kaminsky** mentioned that next year, they will go to Rockford for LAU, scrimmage

against OU, and possibly attend a tournament for St. Paddy's Day. The women U23 team will play a similar schedule

The whole select side program is designed for improve player development in Ohio.

S. Whitney asked what most of the select side budget was spent on.

C. Schreel and **J. Kaminsky** both responded that most of the costs incurred where travel and lodging related.

OU Men asked about building posts for the championship weekend as they were hosting all those collegiate teams.

C. Schreel suggested they get in touch with Dayton Rugby to borrow goal posts as well.

iv. Women - K. Johnson

a. Spring

Last fall, Cincy-Dayton was the only team that qualified for Midwest, D2 Nationals (unsanctioned). Detroit won both.

Over the summer, Cincy-Dayton won Rock and Roll 7s as well as Kentucky fried 7s. Cleveland Iron Maidens won the social bracket of the Cleveland Rock and Roll 7s.

Regarding select side, 34 women tried out, 22 were taken to LAUs. The women played in the 2nd tier. They lost the first match in the tier.

This fall league season, Lexington combined with Louisville for this fall. Cleveland Iron Maidens will play league this fall.

b. Men

c. D1 - (Midwest, L.M. Harvey)
L. M. Harvey was absent.

d. D2 - J. Klosinski
J. Klosinski mentioned that D2 Men's league play is run by the Midwest for the fall. Louisville played the sweet 16s.

The full DII Men's report is available at <http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org> under ORU Office.

e. D3 - M. Miller
M. Miller was absent but he sent his report below

League Realignment:

Canton dropped to join Moritz Law and Marion as teams who will not take part in league play. Therefore, after consulting with the Midwest and ARU it was decided to recombine the ORU and ARU DIII men's divisions to form a more competitive schedule.

Format:

Everyone plays once

Super 12 scoring format

There will be no play offs at the end of the season (only Midwest in the spring)

2 make up weeks were set for make up games

No one challenged the schedule as posted early in the summer, so the schedule is set.

Recruiting:

Findlay and Toldeo have both shown interest in rejoining the ORU. Talks are open and remain encouraging.

Congratulations to the **Cleveland Rovers** for placing 3rd in the Midwest in DIII. That is 2 years in a row that the ORU has put a team in the top 4.

- f. **Select Sides/Technical** - L. M. Harvey (presented by Scott Whitney)
J. Klosinski encouraged collegiate players to consider the senior select side programs. Very talented D3 players can have the opportunity to try out for the camps.

The ORU Senior Men Select Side won LAUs 3 times in a row.

The full ORU Men's Select Side report is available at <http://www.ohiorugbyunion.org> under ORU Office.

- g. **Referees** - D. Kendall/J. Lee
No representatives from the ORRS were present.

J. Kaminsky mentioned that there still is a shortage of referees especially in the fall season. If clubs are in good standing, they get referee assignment priority.

Lexington Blackstones asked if the ORRS can send invoices like the ORU?

J. Kaminsky explained that contact information needs to be updated for all clubs and that the email sent by Jay Lee has a link.

Financial Report from ORRS - D. Kendall/J. Lee

C. Schreel presented the 2003 referees financial report so clubs can get an idea of where their monies are being spent.

The ORRS promised to prepare and provide a 2004 financial report to the ORU.

- h. **Disciplinary** - S. Whitney, J. Lee
S. Whitney mentioned that the first half of the year posted on the website.
The only two outstanding disciplinary issues are with the Cleveland Rovers & John Carroll
- i. **Marketing** - [Vacant]

6. Break

J. Kaminsky noted that October 16, every D2 & D3 team is going to Athens, Ohio. Women's games will start at 11 am, and Men's A side games at 1pm.

J. Kaminsky explained how the Midwest pool play works. Top 24 collegiate teams sent into pool play. D1 – Miami Men, UD Women, OSU Men, and OSU women will advance if they beat their two teams. If you get promoted to a division, you play in that division all year round. D2 clubs are playing 5 league matches each.

Before October 30th, D3 teams need to finish all their league play.

7. Old Business - Scott Whitney

- **Ongoing Referee Recruiting Proposal** – Bob Caudy
- **Review current status of referee recruiting plans**

Excerpt from Winter AGM Minutes

- *Accept the proposal in its entirety as written but with the following changes:*
 - o *Change 2004 spring season -> 2004 season (John Klonsinski)*
 - o *Change 'mandatory' to 'strongly recommend'.*
- *Charge \$2 per person*
- *Make it retroactive for 2004*

Roll call to vote – L.M. Harvey.

Yay – Most of the members voted so it was passed.

J. Klosinski asked how the money will be collected and which CIPP lists will be used.

C. Schreel answered that the previous year's CIPP list or 15 per club may be charged.

The following new referees were added to the pool.

- Blake Reagan - OU
- OSU Women put in 2 women into the referee program

C. Schreel re-explained the purpose of the proposal.

J. Klosinski emphasized that the program is geared towards collegiate programs that have lots of players that may be able to ref B, C side games.

Standish Fortin (Cincy Wolfhounds) asked if the tax has been included in the invoice

C. Schreel explained that the invoices had been drawn up for the year and so it will be part of the next invoicing period.

8. New Business - Scott Whitney

C. Schreel announced the USA 7s competition taking place Feb 12-13, 2005 in LA. He mentioned that USA Rugby was looking for volunteers to be team chauffeurs, etc

- a. Membership review – club and divisional issues

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**

Second Motion – That ORU endorse the Wolfhounds to host the National 7's invitational championships (ITT)

C. Schreel motioned to accept it. Seconded by **Cincinnati Kelts**.

Lexington Blackstones asked if the ORU will be financially responsible for supporting the ITTs, and **C. Schreel** said probably not.

The second motion put forward by **Standish Fortin** was voted in by all the present clubs.

b. Other outstanding issues?

Lexington Blackstones asked about instructional camps

S. Whitney mentioned that in the winter, there were talks (**with T. Rooney**) about holding instructional camps.

Standish Fortin (Cincinnati Wolfhounds) mentioned that they were interested in hosting a youth camp for U19 program.

4) **Next ORU General Meeting date** (2nd/3rd weekend in January)

A tentative date was set for January 23rd (3rd weekend)

Denison Men mentioned that anything earlier than the 22nd might be difficult for collegiate teams.

Cleveland Iron Maidens (Jamie Barnes) mentioned that clubs not present at the meeting should be penalized.

Jamie Barnes motioned to fine each club \$25 for each meeting that is missed. Seconded by **Steve Weaver**

Marion Rugby mentioned that why would clubs care if they can't even pay their invoices.

C. Schreel mentioned that the \$25 fine if you're not at both meetings will be added to the invoice.

J. Klosinski mentioned that there are some clubs that do not benefit from these meetings.

J. Klosinski also mentioned that there should be the opportunity to have a proxy by sending another team to represent your club.

S. Weaver mentioned that clubs could easily abuse the privilege of proxies (i.e 12 teams with 1 proxy)

C. Schreel mentioned that D1 clubs don't have to be at the meetings and D2 clubs don't even have to come to the September meetings.

S. Weaver mentioned that this was taxation without representation.

Jamie Barnes set the motion in place – 1st motion -\$25 fine added to their invoices.

S. Whitney put forth an amendment – Allow clubs to use proxies according to the style used by the Midwest at their meetings.

The motion was voted in by all present member clubs.

9. New ORU Memberships

- Northern Kentucky Men's Rugby Club (Men Club)

Jamie Glahn represented NK Men (Grubs). He mentioned that there were 28 players recruited. They had bylaws, Have jerseys, fund raisers set up, and 4/5 social games this fall. They are trying to pull members in from NKU but they plan [would love] to see the collegiate program come back.

Cincinnati Wolfhounds asked what percentage of the NK Men players were collegiate age?

Jamie Glahn said about 75%, and that they are also looking to get into D3 league.

J. Klosinski mentioned that Queen City Rugby lost players to the new emerging NK Men's team but in the long run, it would be great for rugby in Ohio.

NK Men were voted in as new members of the ORU.

- Cleveland State University

Cleveland State University was a 'no show' at the meeting and obviously not voted in.

10. Officer Elections

- J. President

Lynn Harvey was nominated by **Lola Akinmade**

Standish Fortin nominated himself. His nomination was seconded by **Marion Rugby**

L.M Harvey was voted in unanimously as ORU president.

- K. Secretary

Lola Akinmade was nominated by **S. Whitney**. Seconded by everyone.

Lola Akinmade was voted in unanimously as ORU Secretary.

Volunteer Positions

- Marketing Coordinator
- Nominated by J. Klosinski – **Standish Fortin**

Standish Fortin is now the new Marketing Coordinator for the ORU

11. Closing – Scott Whitney

S. Whitney thanked the clubs for attending.

L. Akinmade mentioned that she will get in touch with Wittenberg University about possibly hosting the next semi-annual ORU GM