

REDACTED – FOR PUBLICATION

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH RUGBY COUNCIL
HELD AT 5.30pm ON WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL 2022
HELD BY MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Present:

Ian Barr	(IB)	President
Colin Rigby	(CR)	Vice-President
Alistair Forsyth	(AF)	Borders Regional Representative
William Gardner	(WG)	Glasgow North Regional Representative
Murdo Gillanders	(MG)	Edinburgh Regional Representative
Ian Rankin	(IR)	Co-opted (United Rugby Championship Limited)
Jim O’Neil	(JON)	Glasgow South Regional Representative
John Halliday	(JH)	Co-opted (Rugby Europe)
Kenneth Knott	(KK)	Referees Representative
Gordon Thomson	(GT)	Premiership Representative
Gerry Tosh	(GT)	National 1 Representative
Bob Richmond	(BR)	North Regional Representative
Bobby Frazer	(BF)	National 3 Representative
Eric Hugh	(EH)	National 2 Representative
Hazel Swankie	(HS)	Midlands Representative

Apologies:

Gavin Hastings	(GH)	Co-opted (British & Irish Lions)
Rosy Hume	(RH)	Women’s Forum Representative

In Attendance:

[NAME REDACTED]	(XX)	Senior Solicitor & Council Secretary
Lorne Crerar	(LC)	Independent Chair of SCOG
Mark Walker	(MW)	Secretary to SCOG

1. Introduction**ACTION**

The President noted that a quorum was present and opened the Meeting.

The President welcomed L Crerar and M Walker to the Meeting. He noted the purpose of the Meeting was for the Council to consider an SGM motion in respect of SCOG governance proposals.

3. Governance

The President referred to the proposed motion and rationale which had been circulated to Council Members. He noted that the document reflected the proposals that had already been supported by the Council at its previous Meeting.

The President highlighted that the key points of the proposal were:

- The formation of a company limited by guarantee to hold the shares of SRUL on behalf of the members.
- The implementation of an agreed strategy for the domestic game, along with the oversight of budgetary spend on it, would be devolved to a Club Rugby Board.

- It was hoped that the new structure would bring a clarity through the use of a transparent Relationship Management Agreement between those acting on behalf of members as “custodians” and those charged with managing and developing the business of Scottish Rugby.

The President explained that if the Council were supportive of the content of the motion and rationale, the intention was to requisition an initial SGM in due course to gain members approval for the motion.

If approval was received, further detailed work on the necessary legal documentation would commence for approval at a second SGM. It was anticipated that the second SGM could take place on or about the same date as the 2022 AGM.

It was noted that at the first SGM, the members were being asked for approval of the overarching principle behind the governance proposals which, in itself, did not amend the Bye-Laws therefore the approval threshold at SGM1 would be a simple majority.

If the motion was passed at SGM1, the Council would remain in place for the time being and would continue to be consulted and updated as work by SCOG continued.

The President acknowledged the hard work of the SCOG members in reaching this point and he noted his gratitude for the recent support given by Scottish Rugby in progressing matters.

The President emphasised that he believed the proposals were balanced and workable, fit for purpose and he was confident the proposals would serve the membership well in the years to come.

During questions the following points were noted:

- The North Representative noted that the documents had been drafted well and he was glad with the progress. He highlighted that it was evident there was substantial work to do and asked whether it was achievable to have the necessary documentation in place ahead of the second SGM proposed for August.

L Crerar noted that work was already underway and he was confident it was an achievable timeline.

- The budget allocated to the domestic game was discussed. It was noted that the allocation had been in all the consultation documents from the outset of the process without any material feedback. It was a figure which would be set out in the Articles of Association.

After discussion and consideration, the Council **APPROVED** the motion and rationale and it was agreed the President would requisition an SGM on behalf of the Council once availability had been checked.

With all business concluded, the Meeting was closed at 5.50pm.

Date of next meeting: 23 May 2022.