AGM Speech – Sports & Social

Welcome

Welcome to all, Logan has noted the apologies and it my job to welcome everybody who could make it to this year's AGM. As before it will be in two parts with this part concentrating on the Rugby & Sports, later tonight we will have the rugby AGM when the players come in from their final training session of this season.

Overview of Year

Overall, it's been a year of ups and down we have had great success on the pitch across all the rugby sections, the other sections, the Harriers, the Australian Rules team, the Rugby League and the Gaelic Football Club have had their own successes and disappointments, and we may hear more from them later.

As in previous years I will leave the detail of each area to the various convenors, but I will touch on these areas as an overview.

Margaret will cover the yearly accounts of the Rugby Sports and Social part of the club; the rugby accounts will be covered by Nick the rugby treasurer later tonight. It's been a reasonable year with some highs and lows; cash flow is always an issue and there were times this year when we were sailing close to the wind.

Bar takings have dipped again this year, and we are taking steps to reduce our exposure here and try to increase income in that area. Sponsorship has been steady and John has been working on developing new sponsors and supporters the most recent being the arrangement with Howdens (Lions Sponsor) to give us £500 and £50 for every insurance policy taken out by members with Howdens.

Due to non-payment of rent we had to evict the tenant of the old squash court which was operating as a gym for the past 20 years. The building has been left in a poor state, and we are looking at how we can market this to a new tenant. In the interim we have noted a significant reduction in electricity costs to the club. Elaine has been working to reduce overheads and has successfully reduce our refuse collection costs by 50%, we are looking all budget lines to see where further reductions are possible.

We are always looking for additional income sources hence the growth of alternative sports at the club. Sports that play over the summer will help

keep the bar ticking over at a time when it can be very quiet, the downside being the pitches may not get the same rest over the summer.

Some club social functions have been very successful, the ladies lunch organised by Lorretta and the Burns Supper organised by Alan were well received and attended we need more member functions from here on in.

Thanks to Scott who has done a power of work the grounds are looking great, there are areas showing the effect of overuse and he has a program of work start next month to reseed the pitches and spread long lasting fertiliser. He will tell you that volunteers are always welcome, this is your club, and you are welcome to help maintain it and the grounds.

Brian has had a difficult year with an uptick in his own work and a building reaching the point when things are starting to go wrong, lights, taps, doors etc. Brian will be standing down this year, and our new House Convenor would welcome any assistance members can offer.

Unfortunately, John can't be with us tonight with his work to America and beyond needing him to be in the office to after 9pm nightly, that is when he is not away to China, Singapore or Texas. He is standing down tonight so out thanks are with him for the work he has done for the club this year.

We will get reports from Gordon regarding the bars and from Jonny re our social events. Going forward Jonny will concentrate on senior rugby social events.

Success

On the field we have had some great success both senior and junior boys and girls. At this time, we are the winners of West 2 by one point, hopefully on Saturday, our last match of the season will see that differential improve. Some 22 supporters are travelling with the team bus to Mid Argyll, and I think we still have a couple of seats spare - please see Tom re that.

Ross and Chris will cover this in detail in their reports at the Rugby AGM

Thanks

Let me place on record my thanks to the outgoing Rugby and Sports Committee, and the many volunteers to have helped this year, the coaches both senior and junior and our sponsors and supporters.

Reports

- **Treasurer**
- **Grounds**
- **House**
- **Sponsorship**
- **Bar**
- **Social**
- **Australian Rules**
- **Harriers**
- **GAA**

AGM Speech – Rugby

Welcome

Welcome to all, Tom has noted the apologies and it my job to welcome everybody who could make it to this year's Rugby AGM. As before it is in two parts with this part concentrating on the Rugby, earlier tonight we had the rugby and sports AGM where the relevant elections took place.

President – Frank Mulligan

Vice President – Tom Mooney
Secretary – Tom Mooney
House Convenor – Ross Hardie
Grounds Convenor – Scott Harkins
Bar Convenor – Gordon Shanks
Social Convenor – Loretta Mooney
Treasurer –
Event Convenor – Elaine Farry

Overview of Year

Overall, it's been a year of great success on the pitch across all the rugby sections, as in previous years I will leave the detail of each area to the club Captain and Junior Director of Rugby, but I will touch on these as an overview.

Nick will cover the yearly accounts of the senior Rugby section. It's been a reasonable year with some highs and lows. Barney will cover the great work of the Junior rugby section covering junior finances.

We will hear from Chris and Ross on how the team has performed this year with wins in all home games and only two away losses. As it stands, we are the winners of West 2 by one point, hopefully on Saturday, our last match of the season will see that differential improve. Some 22 supporters are travelling with the team bus to Mid Argyll, and I think we still have a couple of seats spare – please see Tom re that.

The Junior boys' teams have had success at Under 15/16 & 18 and the girls at Under 14 and under 17. We have also had success in the pathway for both boys and girls. The trophies on the table are but a small measure of the great work done by Barney and his team of great coaches.

We are always looking for additional income sources hence the growth of alternative sports at the club. Sports that play over the summer will help keep the bar ticking over at a time when it can be very quiet, the downside being the pitches may not get the same rest over the summer. Donations and sponsorship are both very welcome, for every £1 a UK taxpayer donates, the club can reclaim 25% tax from HMRC, making a £100 donation worth £125.

Thanks to Scott who has done a power of work the grounds are looking great, there are areas showing the effect of overuse and he has a program of work start next month to reseed the pitches and spread long lasting

fertiliser. He will tell you that volunteers are always welcome, this is your club, and you are welcome to help maintain it and the grounds.

Unfortunately, John can't be with us tonight to cover Sponsorship. With his work to America and beyond needing him to be in the office to after 9pm nightly, that is when he is not away to China, Singapore or Texas. He is standing down tonight so out thanks are with him for the work he has done for the club this year.

The creation of a Catering Committee has been a great success with players meals for all home games provided for on a food cost only basis. Thanks go to Lou, Lorretta, Elaine, Celia and Lynn for their sterling work.

Thanks

Let me place on record my thanks to the outgoing Senior and Junior Rugby Committees, and the many volunteers to have helped this year, the coaches both senior and junior our parent helpers and supporters.

Reports

- **Treasurer**
- **Captain**
- **Coach**