



February 2008

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**The February newsletter contains the minutes of the AGM held last week. If you have any comments on anything raised please don't hesitate to contact anyone on the board.**

Minutes of the AGM of the UK Seahawks Booster Club held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Wing Village Hall, Buckinghamshire.

**Present:** Mark Storr, Paula A'Bear, Matt Cheesman, Andy Steele, Chris A'Bear and Dave Bailey

**Apologies:** Mark Limb, Andrew Robinson, Paul Higgins and Phil Hanson

Thanks were put forward for everyone making the effort to come along to Wing.

### **Andy Steele**

We need to push the Seahawks Booster club. Pester people to become members to build up our numbers. We need to let them know what we can give them and what the advantages of being a Booster Club Member is.

The BBQ was okay last year but now that we know that we can organise it, we need to do a lot more during the day. We need a place that means that we have sole use of the place so that we can do what we want. The BBQ will be free to members but if you are a forum member only then you have to pay £5 per person. This will be a benefit of being a member.

It was discussed that we should send a questionnaire to members and forum members– a short survey – if they are not members why not. What do people want in the future?

A private forum may alienate people but we thought this might be a good idea for Booster Club Members only. This could include membership stuff etc.

We have to advertise outings, meets, BBQ with our members more. We have realised that people need constant reminding and a lot of notice. If we are going to get bigger we will need regional people i.e. Scotland, North, South West, Midlands and South East.

A welcome letter was discussed to send to anyone who starts on the forum – push that we are official and ask them to become a member. Welcome letter will have to be read before they come on the forum.

### **Presidents notes - Matt Cheesman**

We've been ok but it has not been a fantastic year. Games have not been on at a good time but the future does look bright which may give more opportunity to interact with people. Membership growing steadily – 2/3 a month. We should have funds to do a lot more now.

We need to get to Scotland etc. and make an effort to meet with those of us who aren't always local.

BAFL Game – Sheffield – this would be a good day to have a get together, watch a game and get to know everyone.

It was discussed if the AGM should be moved to December but it can get tricky in mid season. Field Pass - needs a trial run to make sure that it works before we invite people for a meet. There maybe an NFL network expansion in the UK.

### **Vice President Notes – Dave Bailey**

We have 80 members but 27 members have not paid for 2007. Payments seem to come in dribs and drabs. We will send out a letter to remind people of payment and who to send money to and how.

Subs -

Single membership will go up to £12 on Draft Day

If people renew before the end of March then we will charge them £8

Between April 1<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> =£12

End of Draft 25<sup>th</sup> April if people have not renewed then they are no longer a member.

Then we know where we stand.

We need these funds for:

- ◆ Paying for our website
- ◆ Postage
- ◆ Funding our BBQ
- ◆ Funding any other events
- ◆ We give the bulk to a charity

**Please note** – we do not make a profit and all monies over go to our nominated charity.

We are all volunteers and do not get paid to run this club. We do it because we are passionate about the Seahawks.

The BBQ will be on August 10<sup>th</sup> where we hope we may be able to show a pre-season game - we hope somewhere in the Midlands – venue will be announced when we know it.

### **Newsletter Report – Paula A’Bear**

I currently send a newsletter out every month and try to get it out before the 15<sup>th</sup>. My remit was to let people know of any meets, news etc about members not about team news, players. This means that depending on what time of year it is my newsletter can be very short or long and full of pictures.

The competition was a success and I would like to do something similar this year.

I currently send out 30 birthday cards to children – either a card from Blitz or for the older children a card with the team on. This seems to be appreciated. If I have any merchandise I send this with the cards.

### **Treasurer’s Report Andy Robinson via a spreadsheet**

Matt’s Charity Half Marathon was not very well sponsored so did not raise as much as he had hoped for. It was agreed to send £400 to our Charity from last year – Rainbows. Matt to organise this and get a photo.

Two charities were talked about at the AGM for 2008. One is for Abbeyfield Court which is a school in Kent for children with cerebral palsy. This was nominated by Chris whose nephew spent 14 happy years there.

The other charity spoken about was for the Air Ambulance. Most regions have an Air Ambulance and if a lot of money was raised – we could send donations to all parts of the UK.

Any other ideas or suggestions from members?

### **Website – Mark Storr**

All ok until 24 hours ago. One of the files was corrupt. All Mark did was delete it and it was okay. Website went down completely. There was an internal server error. All we had was a white page of death.

Forum upgrade after Tuesday and will switch from one to another – no-one will have to re-register. Delete ppb2 and rename the new one 2. All previous posts will remain. Talked a lot of computer jargon. Change colour of forum. Don't have a cash flow to do a lot. Nothing will happen until Mark is happy that it's working.

### **Election of Officers**

President - Mark Storr

Vice president and Membership Secretary – Dave Bailey

Newsletter Secretary – Paula A'Bear

Treasurer – Andy Robinson

Website Forum and general upkeep – Mark Storr

Website content/updating profiles etc – Chris A'Bear

Committee member – Matt Cheesman, Andy Steele

In the future years Mark has suggested that we have an honouree President each year.

### **AOB**

**Game for next year** - Seahawkblue.com will not make a decision until they know fixtures. Things will be done differently this year with money up front for tickets. This is open to members.

**Wembley 2008** – can we get block booking? It might be prudent to send an official letter to see if we are kidding ourselves.

**Business Cards** – to be done – Dave Bailey's wife can do some and with club name on for committee members to hand out.

3.40pm ended

## ***Love Pops***



**Notes from our President**