



Wellingborough RFC

28 May 2020

Dear member

The early ending of our rugby season and subsequent closure and 'mothballing' of our clubhouse, plus government shielding and social distancing guidelines, has meant a lot of challenges for the past 3 months.

Our Club rules require the Club to hold an Annual General Meeting once a year; the main objectives being to elect a Chairman, elect officers of the club and to review and approve the accounts.

The coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic and the impact this has had across many organisations and business has led to the publishing of the 'Corporate Insolvency and Governance Bill' – (relating to holding AGMs). It is expected to be passed in its current format to resolve many clubs/businesses issues with holding AGMs. In particular:

- i. It applies to companies, registered societies and charitable incorporated organisations **(including WRFC)**;
- ii. It will apply from 26 March to 30 September **(the time we hold our AGM)**;
- iii. It means a meeting can be held virtually and those participating do not need to be in that same place.

This should mean that any issues with 'quorums' and the ability to hold the meeting virtually are addressed. This is a significant change and although not law yet, the RFU understanding is that this will be fast tracked.

Options considered at WRFC, after having taken part in an RFU 'Virtual AGM webinar' with Faye Bargery of Irwin Mitchell, RFU official partner:

1. Postponing a meeting until a time (as yet unknown) when we can advertise and hold an AGM in person; or
2. Holding a virtual AGM (your committee has met virtually in April and May)

The Committee has decided to hold a virtual AGM to elect officers to take the club forward in these challenging times, but also to allow a second or 'part 2 AGM' when we are eventually permitted to do so.

Quorum (***WRFC rules requires 20 members***): the changes set out above in the new Bill should mean that each person forms part of the quorum no matter where they are. This should help meet quorum requirements 'virtually'.

Managing discussion – please submit any questions you have in advance to help manage the virtual meeting. **Please send your question to elaine.addy@hotmail.com.**

Nomination Board – our 'mothballed' clubhouse and social distancing guidelines has meant that the nomination board has had to be completed 'electronically' and by text/phone calls and not the traditional signature. Team captains will be chosen when we are able to start rugby activity again (pre-season training).

Yours faithfully

Elaine Addy | Wellingborough RFC Honorary Secretary