



MID-AMERICA GU 2021 AGM

Mid-America Officers & Directors

President- Sean Cox

Vice President- Andy Wenger

Secretary- Nichole Reiske

Treasurer- KJ Abel Ruch

Women's Club Director- ~~Jody Lawrence~~ (replaced by Mandy Smith for 2021-2022)

Men's Club Director- Alex Antal

At- Large - Matt Finney

MARRS Chair - Joe Rothermich

Women's College Director- Rachel Pate

Men's College Director - Doug McCauley

GU Admin - Lucas Wenger

Senior Club Council Representative- Sean Cox

GU Education Coordinator - Luke Mathews

DE&I - (Nominations are open)

2021 AGM Agenda

12:00- 12:10pm	Role Call - (Nichole Reiske - one representative from each team)
12:10 -12:15 pm	Welcome and Introduction of officers and of New GU Admin - Lucas Wenger (Andy Wenger)
12:15 12:30 pm	Membership Vote on addition of new teams (Nichole Reiske)
12:30 - 12:45pm	Synopsis : Covid-19 , NCR, Sportlomo / CMS & Fall 2021 (Sean Cox)
12:45 - 1:00 pm	USAR Senior Club Council and College Club Council (Sean Cox & Bill Sexton)
1:00 - 1:15 pm	Referee Presentation (LaChelle Coats , MARRS Treasurer)
1:15 - 1:35 pm	Treasurers Report - Budget 2021-2022 (KJ Abel Ruch , GU Trsr)
1:35 - 1:50 pm	Union By-laws Revisions - discussion and vote (Alex Antal & Nichole Reiske)
1:50 - 1:55 pm	GU Education - (Luke Mathews - GU Education Coordinator)
1:55 - 2:15 pm	Open Discussions / Final Questions & Answers
2:15 - 2:30 pm	Elections of GU Officers for 2021-2022
2:30-2:50 pm	Break-out rooms (10-15 min , Meeting for discussion Directors positions only)
2:50 - 3:00 pm	Conclusion / Wrap up
3:00 pm -	Clubs / League Meetings - may break off into rooms again discuss season, schedule, etc.

New club applications

- Tulsa Women DIII
- College Teams-
 - Drury University (Women)
 - Drury University (Men)
 - Central College Iowa

President's Address

- Welcome
- ZOOM AGM Format , same as last year . Hope to be back in person for 2022 with educational opportunities.
- 2020-2021 recap
 - COVID-19 Pandemic
 - USA Rugby
 - Senior Club Council , College Club Council, Youth and HS Club Council
 - National Collegiate Rugby (NCR) formerly NSCRO
 - Sportlomo and CMS

President's Address: Challenges & Opportunities

- COVID-19 - is and will be an on going issue. We will need to be cognizant of how we interact and progress through our season. More on this in the Return 2 Play
- Continued navigation of USAR issues, particularly in regard to National Collegiate Rugby (NCR) - Bill Sexton
 - NCR offers Liability insurance to all NCR teams, opponents and Match Officials. However this does not include Accident Insurance.
 - **USAR Accident and Liability Insurance will not cover you if you play against an NCR Team !**
- Education- Coaches and Match Officials - Luke Mathews (GU Training and Education Coordinator) will be speaking later in the agenda about upcoming and on-going courses
- MARFU and USAR continue to work on Diversity , Equity and Inclusion. Nichole Resike was worked tirelessly over the last year reviewing policies, she will be speaking about D E & I during bylaws discussion

President's Address: Additional Items

- Registration systems will remain with SportLomo
- <https://usarugbyservices.sportlomo.com>
- USA RUGBY has been working on the system and has hired a new staff member to help. There will also be videos and documents / emails to help guide members
- CMS system (Competition Management System) - USAR will be resurrecting the old system
- USAR and Sportlomo have stated that Sportlomo will transfer over the date to CMS
- GU Admin- the Exec Board have revamped the GU Admin position and after posting and interviewing , have hired Lucas Wenger for 2021-2022 GU Admin. One of Lucas's first focuses will be on a new GU website.
 - Website -<https://midamericarugby.sportngin.com>
 - Would like to have representative from Women's Club help with website design and input. Please contact Sean Cox or Nichole Reiske if interested
 - Lucas will also be helping with team and player registrations come this Fall
- GU Disciplinary Chair- currently looking for a new Disciplinary Chair . Please contact Sean Cox if interested or you know an individual who would be a good candidate (can not be current player or coach)

Return to Play (R2P)

- Following USA R2P Guidelines, found on Mid-America GU website
- World Rugby course link is below. Club coaches and officers should complete the 'R2P Awareness for Coaches & Players'; it is not required, but could become a requirement of R2P
<https://playerwelfare.worldrugby.org/covid-19-courses>
- <https://assets.usarugby.org/docs/medical/USAR-R2P.pdf?v=1594522116637>
- There are no further requirements at this time. However we all need to be able to adjust to ever changing environment

USA Rugby Reorganization Update

- Senior Club council also includes 9 person Executive Committee, which has 7 functional committees (Audit & Risk, Competitions, Discipline, DEI, Eligibility, Governance/Operations, and Training & Development)

Senior Club Executive Committee

Senior Club Council Officers

Chair | Kirk Tate – Texas Rugby Union

Vice Chair | Ken Pape – Empire Rugby Union

Treasurer | Jill M. Williamson – Pacific Northwest Rugby Union

Secretary | Rick Humm – Northern California Rugby Union

Senior Club USA Rugby Director | Al Lucas – Midwest Rugby Union

Senior Club Standing Committee Chairs

Ken Pape | Governance Committee

Jill Williamson | Audit and Risk Committee

Megan Braun | Discipline Committee

Mid-west

Tam Breckenridge | Eligibility Committee

USA Rugby At Large

Erik Geib | Competitions Committee

Rocky Mountain Rugby Union

Nichole Reiske | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

Mid-America Rugby Union

Katie Wurst | Training & Development Committee

Carolinas Rugby Union

- **Current Mid-America GU Representative to Council - Sean Cox**
- **KJ Abel Ruch (Governance Committee) , Jody Lawrence (Competitions Committee)**
- **August 29th 2021 will be the SCC AGM via Zoom - if anyone is interested in running for a position please contact Nichole Resike**

Men's & Women's College Programs:

- Bill Sexton - College Club Council
- American College Rugby (ACR)
- College Rugby Association of America (CRAA)
- National Collegiate Rugby (NCR)
 - Formerly known as NSCRO [small colleges]
- American Collegiate Rugby Association (ACRA)
- National Intercollegiate Rugby Association (NIRA)

MARRS

MID-MERICA REFEREE SOCIETY

- Joe Rothermich, Chairman
MARRS
- Barry Tantarisis , Vice Chairman
- LaChelle Coats , Treasurer
- using Refup Platform, we will
have link for Refup and schedule
on website
- MARRS AGM looking at Jan /
Feb 2022



Mid -America Referee 2021 GU AGM update

1. Referee Abuse Policy
2. Field setup Policy
3. 2021 Law Trials
4. Ref Up assignment Software

Referee Abuse Policy

- Formal document outlining actions that will be taken in regards to referee abuse during matches, after match reports, documentation and sanctions against offenders.

- All teams/organizations using MARRS referees must agree to this Policy .

Match day Sanctions Overview

Abuse by Players

- 1st instance: PK + 10 meters
- 2nd instance: YC, PK + 10 meters
- 3rd instance: RC, PK +10 meters and removal of the offending player from the playing enclosure.

Abuse by non-players

- 1st instance: Offending person(s) will be asked to stop and given a verbal warning.
 - 2nd Instance: Offending person(s) will be ejected from the playing enclosure.
 - If offending person(s) refuse to leave, referee reserves the right to abandon the match.
-

Reporting & sanctions

- After receiving report of abuse, MARRS & Discipline Chair will conduct an inquiry and hearing.
- 1st Offense: Offending team/person will receive a written and/or verbal warning notifying of the reported abuse and possible sanctions if further abuse is reported.
- 2nd offense: 1 game suspension of offending person OR removal of assigned match official for offending club's next match.
- 3rd offense: 3 game suspension of offending person OR removal of assigned match officials for next 3 scheduled matches
- 4th offense: Minimum 6 week suspension of match officials for offending clubs.

Field Policy & Technical Zones

- All teams/organizations using MARRS referees must have fields and technical areas set up per USA Rugby Guidelines.
 - ALL Goal posts in the playing enclosure MUST have padding. This includes any goal-post support beams that may be part of a goal post.
 - All venues must have technical zones set up and marked.
 - Team benches and spectator area should be opposite of each other.
 - Referees will be instructed to NOT start matches unless goal post pads are up and technical zones and team benches are established.
 - Referees will be instructed to NOT officiate a match if host organization refuses to set up technical zones properly.
 - Reasonable accommodations may be made due to weather and/or field conditions.
-

Ref Up assignment software

- www.refup.io
- Allows for electronic payment to referees 7 days after match report is submitted.
- All teams need to have someone registered as a team Admin. This allows:
 - Team admin will receive notification on their assigned referee.
 - Team admin will be able file a referee feedback report if desired.
 - Full assignment link will be posted to GU and MARS websites.

2021-2022 Law Trials

Law Trials to be adopted in all levels beginning Aug. 1, 2021

50:22:

If a team kicks the ball from inside their own half indirectly into touch inside their opponent's 22, the kicking team will throw into the resulting lineout. The ball cannot be carried or passed back inside the kicking teams half for the 50:22 law to apply.

Goal Line drop out:

If the ball is held up in-goal, an attacking player knocks-on in goal, or an attacking kick goes into the opposing teams in-goal and is grounded by the defending team the resulting restart will be a goal-line drop out anywhere along the goal line.

Flying Wedge

Flying Wedge is redefined as an illegal formation having more than 1 team-mate latched onto the ball carrier before engaging the opponent.

Latched: Bound on a teammate prior to contact.

Any player latched to the ball carrier must observe all requirements as the first arriving support player to a tackle or ruck. And must be latched behind the ball carrier

Clean out & safety of the Jackler

Jackler is defined as the first arriving team-mate of the tackler at the tackle. They must remain on their feet to contest for the ball, and if they are tackler assist, they must have C&O release before contesting for the ball.

Law 9.20(d)

A player may lever the jackler out of the contest at a ruck. But must NOT drop their weight onto the jackler or target the jackler's lower limbs.

<https://assets.usarugby.org/docs/refereeing/Global-Law-Trials-2021.pdf?v=1628264560037>

<https://www.world.rugby/the-game/laws/global-law-trials>

Current Financials

Banking Summary - Year to Date

9/1/2020 through 7/17/2021

Category	9/1/2020- 7/17/2021
INCOME	
1 Income	
2 Misc Income	115.34
TOTAL 1 Income	115.34
TOTAL INCOME	115.34
EXPENSES	
Uncategorized	0.00
2 Operating Expenses	
400 Director & Officer Insurance	550.00
600 General Business Expenses	69.19
600.2 Confernce Calls	149.90
600.3 Website	1,049.00
600.4 Bank Fees	
600.4.1 CashFlow Fees	16.55
600.4.2 Bank Maintenance Fees	50.00
TOTAL 600.4 Bank Fees	66.55
600.5 Accounting Fees	60.38
TOTAL 600 General Business Ex...	1,395.02
TOTAL 2 Operating Expenses	1,945.02
4 Grants	
903 Referee Grants	0.00
TOTAL 4 Grants	0.00
5 Referee Expenses	
1000 Referee Stipend	1,820.00
1000.1 Ref.up Fee	139.82
TOTAL 1000 Referee Stipend	1,959.82
1001 Referee Mileage	1,274.86
TOTAL 5 Referee Expenses	3,234.68
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,179.70
OVERALL TOTAL	-5,064.36

	Actual 2018-2019	Actual 2019-2020	Budget 2020-2021	Actual 2020-2021	Recommend 2021-2022	Annotations	Notes
INCOME							
OPENING BALANCE	\$93,603.81	\$94,338.92	\$129,000.00	\$128,799.98	\$123,886.77		
Per Player Dues	\$67,589.50	\$58,883.10	\$28,000.00	\$0.00	\$22,210.00		Last full season estimate was 1000 club, 500 College player dues estimate 60% return rate (2019- \$40 club, \$20 college, team \$275) -
Miscellaneous Dues	\$5,499.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,870.00		NCR Teams -Refs Covered by NCR- Player Dues \$15
Team Dues		\$15,938.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,075.00		Team Dues \$275
Reimbursement for Services		\$4,697.20	\$11,000.00	\$115.34		Reimbursed for charged fees	
Sponsorship		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Fund raising		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Merchandise		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Camp Fees		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Dues Refunds		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Disciplinary Fine	\$300.00	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
TOTAL INCOME	\$67,889.50	\$85,668.67	\$39,000.00	\$115.34	\$33,155.00		
OPERATING EXPENSES							
President	\$151.50	\$663.04	\$200.00		\$200.00		
Vice President			\$50.00		\$50.00		
Executive Director Men			\$50.00		\$50.00		
Executive Director Women	\$250.00		\$50.00		\$50.00		
Secretary			\$50.00		\$50.00		
Executive Director College Men			\$50.00		\$50.00		
Executive Director College Women			\$50.00		\$50.00		
At Large			\$50.00		\$50.00		
Treasurer	\$25.90		\$50.00		\$50.00		
Treasurer Stipen		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Executive Director Referees	\$248.00		\$50.00		\$50.00		
USA Rugby Club Council	\$754.61	\$860.57	\$1,000.00		\$750.00		If travel Involved
USA Rugby College Council		\$1,126.42	\$0.00		\$750.00		If travel Involved
GU Admin	\$10,279.19	\$5,412.25	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00		
GU Admin Benefits Overhead			\$0.00				
Director & Officer Insurance	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$600.00	\$550.00	\$600.00		
Office Supplies	\$154.63	\$126.00	\$200.00		\$200.00		
AGM-Meeting Rooms	\$1,891.81	\$383.54	\$750.00				
AGM- Travel Reimbursement	\$5,636.82	\$556.00	\$3,500.00				Holding Summit vs AGM?
Bank/Filing Fees	\$157.00	\$146.75	\$200.00	\$66.55	\$200.00	Cash Flow=\$15.55	
Accounting Expenses	\$109.08	\$97.00	\$150.00	\$60.38	\$150.00		
Web Site		\$749.00	\$700.00	\$1,049.00	\$700.00	additional fee for service- looking at new site	Looking at new site
Conference Calls	\$374.08	\$584.00	\$500.00	\$149.90	\$200.00		
Other Operating Expenses			\$0.00	\$69.19		Flowers for Maeli	
NSCRO - Host Fees & Expenses	\$1,650.00		\$600.00				NSCRO now NCR- collect fees separate
NSCRO & Leagues - Referees	\$922.00	\$80.00	\$600.00				NSCRO now NCR- collect fees separate
NSCRO Dues							NSCRO now NCR- collect fees separate
Competitions & Leagues - Host Fees & Expenses	\$1,344.68		\$3,150.00		\$3,000.00		
Competitions & Leagues - Referees	-\$1,037.06		\$1,650.00		\$1,650.00		
College Competitions - Host Fees & Expenses	\$865.67	\$1,331.00	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		
College Competitions - Referees	\$3,477.66	\$2,642.00	\$2,500.00		\$2,500.00		
Tournaments (7s) - Host Fees & Expenses		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Tournaments (7s) - Referees	\$70.00	\$1,047.02	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00		
SUB TOTAL	\$27,675.57	\$16,354.59	\$29,250.00	\$1,945.02	\$23,850.00		
SELECT SIDE EXPENSES							
Men's Select Side			\$0.00		\$3,000.00		
Men's Select Side - Developmental			\$0.00				
Men's Collegiate Select Side	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00		
Men's 7s Select Side							
Women's Select Side	\$2,517.93	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00		
Women's Collegiate Select Side			\$3,000.00				
Women's 7s Select Side			\$0.00				
SUB TOTAL	\$5,517.93	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00		
EQUIPMENT EXPENSES							
Men's Select Side			\$0.00		\$500.00		
Men's Collegiate Select Side					\$500.00		
Men's 7s Select Side			\$0.00				
Women's Select Side			\$0.00		\$500.00		
Women's Collegiate Select Side			\$0.00				
Women's 7s Select Side			\$0.00				
SUB TOTAL	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00		
Other							
Coaching Clinics	\$554.00	\$205.00	\$0.00				
Player Development Clinic		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Referee Clinics	\$650.00	\$1,475.00	\$0.00				
Youth Rugby			\$0.00				
Player Grants	\$1,755.00		\$0.00				
Administration	\$600.00		\$0.00				
Other Grants	\$2,000.00		\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00		
SUB TOTAL	\$5,559.00	\$1,680.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00		
Referee Expenses							
Referee Stipends	\$24,610.99	\$14,615.60	\$15,000.00	\$1,820.00	\$15,000.00		Numbers are variable due to Colleges changing alignments and some matches being covered by NCR.
Referee Mileage		\$7,006.40	\$10,000.00	\$1,274.86	\$10,000.00		Mileage vs game fees was greater %. Kept to what was seen traditionally
Referee Expenses for Matches (Tolls, etc)		\$200.00	\$500.00		\$200.00		
Referee Administration	\$5,096.50	\$744.75	\$0.00		\$500.00		Part of the fees has included a stipend for some years. Summit was also included in past
Banking Fees			\$0.00	\$139.82	\$1,000.00		Ref.Up includes a fee. This is estimated based on trend.
Referee Summit		\$3,535.00	\$0.00				
Referee Development	\$645.85	\$500.00	\$2,500.00		\$1,500.00		
Referee Coaching		\$50.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00		
SUB TOTAL	\$30,353.34	\$26,651.75	\$29,000.00	\$3,234.68	\$29,200.00		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$69,105.84	\$50,686.34	\$72,250.00	\$5,179.70	\$68,550.00		
Opening Balance	\$93,603.81	\$94,338.92	\$129,000.00	\$128,799.98	\$123,886.77		
Income	\$67,889.50	\$85,668.67	\$39,000.00	\$115.34	\$33,155.00		
Income - Expenses=	-\$1,216.34	\$34,982.33	-\$33,250.00	-\$5,064.36	-\$35,395.00		
Reserve	\$24,497.97	\$43,652.58	\$90,750.00	\$123,735.62	\$88,491.77		

GU Dues

- Team Dues - The GU Exec. Board voted to suspend team dues for 2020-2021 season. This will be reinstated at \$ 275.00
- Club Player Dues - The GU Exec. Board suspended these dues for 2020-2021 as there was no return to competition. These will be reinstated at \$ 40.00
- College Player Dues - The GU Exec. Board suspended these dues for 2020-2021 as there was no return to competition. These will be reinstated at \$ 20.00
- Non- GU Member Dues - \$15.00 per player
- _____
- USA Rugby registration (CIPP) will be \$35.00 per player
- USA Rugby Club Dues will be \$50.00
- USAR Senior Club Council (SCC) dues will be \$15.00
- _____
- Totals:
- GU Club will pay - \$325.00
- GU Club Player will pay \$ 90.00
- GU College Player - (not finalized but expected to be \$50.00)

Bylaw review & proposals

- Proposed changes were put forth by By-laws revision Committee
- Exec. Board has reviewed proposed revised By-laws
- Questions fielded by Alex Antal

- Amendments -

Section 5.01 Groups

Men's USAR National Small College (NSCRO) rugby should be changed to **Men's National College (NCR) rugby;**

Women's USAR National Small College (NSCRO) rugby; should be changed to **Women's USAR National College (NCR) rugby;**

There is also a **Women's USAR Division 3/Social College** rep in our Competition Committee TOR, but no such rep listed in our By-laws. If there are teams in this division then it should also be added to our By-laws, but I don't know if there are.

Section 4.01 Officers and Terms

ADD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director voting position.

Section 4.06 Powers and Duties of the Officers

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director

Shall oversee that all Union policy and procedures are as inclusive as possible for all Union members. (Nichole - has final verbiage)

- Vote and approval of By-law revisions by the membership

Elections

- Nominations received and presented
- Voting format and guidelines (Nichole)
- Proxy Votes - who has a proxy and who is their proxy?
- Any floor opposition?
- Any floor nominations?

Break-out Rooms 2019-2020

- Mens D2-
- Mens D3-
- At-Large Men-

- Womens D2-
- Womens D3-

- College Men -
- College Women -
- Referee

Discussion

- Topics of discussion -
- Items not covered -



AGM Conclusion