**Minutes: Bath Saracens RFC AGM 2025**

**Location:** Bath RFC Club House, Lambridge

**Date:** 11/07/25 at 19:30

**1. Previous Minutes**

Accepted

**2. Secretary’s Report**

**Overview**

* 11 monthly meetings were held at the Devonshire Arms, with variable attendance from committee members. However, despite this, business ran smoothly.
* In total Bath Saracens played 12 league games in Dorset and Wilts Central 2 finishing sixth in the league, sadly we were forced to award our opponents with walkovers on 3 occasions. Once again we struggled for numbers at home and away games, and it is a credit to all involved that many of the games were finished (and on occasions started) with less than 15 players. It should also be noted that our opponents (on most occasions) were sympathetic to our situation, appreciated our efforts to host and travel to games with reduced numbers, and complied with the league’s rule on levelling up.

* We continued our relationship with Bath RFC through an annual contribution for use of the Lambridge training ground for our Thursday night training sessions. The Odd Down sports ground has continued to be our temporary home ground as the renovation of the Sulis club changing rooms still remains unfinished and there is no completion date in sight. We have therefore secured the Odd Down sports ground as our home venue for the 2025-26 season
* Lambridge - We continue our relationship with Bath RFC through the use of the Lambridge training ground and continue to aim to build on this to the benefit of all parties
* Post-match entertainment has once-again been hosted by Graham and Carol at the Hadley Arms, who continue to provide both a warm welcome and tremendous food.
* Our coaches, Matty Tomes and Rob Langan, have done an excellent job and vice-captain ‘AJ’ Johnson stepped in on the occasions that neither could attend. Between them they did an excellent job with sessions that were always enjoyable and beneficial. Thanks is also recorded to Sarah Rowe for her support through as Safeguarding officer & match day first aider. Finally to Captain Jamie Navarrete for his admirable efforts in leading the players on matchdays early in the season and his regular presence and touch line support when his season was cut short by a bad injury. Thanks once again to his vice captaining AJ Johnson for stepping up and leading the team in Jamies absence from the matchday squad
* Post-match entertainment has once-again been hosted by Graham and Carol at the Hadley Arms, who continue to provide both a warm welcome and tremendous food.
* CSSC Bath have continued contribute to our cost of training and matchday pitch hire. As always, we are grateful for this valuable source of income and hope that this can continue in future seasons. Note - we have not recovered the latest subsidy in time for this seasons accounts
* Although playing in D&W and associate members of the county RFU, we continue to be affiliated to the Somerset RFU and also the Civil Service RFU’s.
* **International Tickets**

Dean Taylor has made an excellent job of managing the international tickets over the past 12 months. Despite the disappointment when let down by an organisation who had agreed to purchase our excess allocation, Dean was able to avoid any financial loss by off-loading tickets to our members and associates. The club are grateful to Dean for all his efforts during a process which was at times rather frustrating

* **Social Activities** The club held a number of social events including a well attended curry nights, the infamous Xmas draw at the Hadley Arms, a super Saturday event and the end of season dinner and awards night held at the Ring o Bells, and a very successful a well-attended end of season tour to Cardiff. Thanks were extended to all who made these events a success, and were highlights in an otherwise challenging season

* **Recruitment**

Like all clubs and societies Bath Saracens can only continue to exist with a life-blood of new players joining the team. We have had a good number of new recruits join the team however as in previous season match day numbers were often below the number required for a full squad and this was reflected in the results which often ended as narrow losses due to less than 15 players on the pitch at the final whistle. Once again the focus this season needs to be continued recruitment with a further emphasis on retention and regular availability.

**3. End of Season Awards**

 The worthy recipients of this year’s awards were:

 The Robin Luxmore trophy for ‘Players Player’ - Alex Johnson

 The Andrew Blackburn trophy for ‘Most Improved Player’ – Xander Flakelar

 The Royal Liver trophy for ‘Captain’s Award’ – Nick Williams

 The Wilf Chippendale ‘Clubman award’- Rob Langan

**4. Captains Report**

Jamie reported that whilst it had been a challenging and at times frustrating season, there had been a great effort made by all involved in playing the majority of our scheduled matches, with some really good team and individual performances. It was great to see a number of new players joining over the course of the season and that going forward, the outlook was positive. He expressed his thanks in particular to coaches Matty Tomes and Rob Langan, and vice-captain Alex ‘AJ’ Johnson.

**5. Treasurers Report**

**a. Presentation of Report**

The treasurer has provided a full set of reports for review. These are available here:

As expected we have made a loss this season. This was attributable in particular to the purchase of a new set of club ties, and a metal storage shed for the Lambridge training ground. Also attributable is the pitch hire subsidy, which is currently outstanding from the CSSC, and the subsidising of the end of season tour to Cardiff. The amount received via membership and the match day subs due to the small playing squad and fewer games played also contributed to the loss. Some of this loss is expected to be recouped and Mark reported that the club remains financially secure and able to meet this seasons expenditure and beyond.

**Opt-out of requirement for full audit.**

Under the provisions of RFU Rule 5.1.5(c) the Club agreed to opt out of a formal audit or examination, by a qualified accountant, of the Clubs 2024-25 Annual Financial Statement.

**The option to opt out was proposed and unanimously agreed**

**6. Changes to the Constitution and Rules**

There were no proposed changes to the constitution received:

**7. Election of Officers**

The following officers were elected:

**Chairman –** Ed bell

**General Secretary** – Robbie Lawrence

**Honorary Treasurer –** Mark Boxall

**Fixture Secretary** – Robbie Lawrence

**Social Secretary** – Dominic Fiore

**Membership and VP Secretary** – Owen Swabey

**Publicity Secretary** – Mike Yeatman

**Captain** – Jamie Navarette

**Safeguarding Secretary –** Leo Pike

**General Committee**

Dean Taylor

Nick Williams

Jon Bradley

Jim Biss

2 further general committee posts are currently vacant

The committee may co-opt further members as necessary.

**The above appointments were proposed and unanimously accepted.**

**8. Any Other Business**

The first committee meeting of the forthcoming season will be held online on **Wednesday 23/07/25.**

It was confirmed that the format of subsequent meetings would be held at the Devonshire Arms, with occasional use of on-line meetings if this is required to ensure that meetings are quorate.

August meeting will be held at the Devonshire Arms on **Monday 18/08/25**

September meeting will be held at the Devonshire Arms **Monday 8/09/25**

Subsequent meetings will take place on the first Monday of each month unless agreed overwise

A vote of thanks was proposed to all officers and general committee for their work over the course of the 2024-25 season, and to Carol and Graham at the Hadley Arms, Mick and Liz at the Ring o Bells with their excellent hospitality for our match day and social events. Thanks was also extended to the staff at the Odd Down sports ground

**These motions were unanimously accepted.**