

Minutes of the Quins Supporters' Association (Quinssa) Committee meeting held at the Cabbage Patch Public House on 29th September 2004

In attendance: 5 Committee members

Apologies for absence: DF & AHK

Suzi Gurney from the club office attended the meeting and began by discussing the club's plan for the next few weeks:

- Pub night – 20th Oct – directions to the pub. The pub night will be every 6 – 7 weeks; future nights will be held at the Tup and the White Swan;
- The club would like to have a Quinssa linked even, possibly in February or March; and the Ladies team could be involved.
- WW made the point that the tannoy announcements at the ground could be improved. Suzi said anything to be announced should be emailed to the club for the Tuesday morning before a home match in time for the club meeting.
- Idea: if a Quins away match is on Sky, the club could try to arrange some non playing players to go and watch the match with supporters at a pub local to the Stoop
- Quins vs Wasps quiz – there will be two teams from the club office, the club can provide prizes, decorations; Premier Rugby would like to help – tickets for the ZP final as a prize.
- Discussion about the Members meet the Players evening. The club is reviewing the event.
- Discussion of the comedy night
- Jester magazine: new issue out soon; Suzi is writing an article for it about what goes on at the club apart from the rugby..
- Suzi said that the Stoop or a Green King pub would always be available for events.
- WW asked about membership of Quins: there are approx 3000 Season Ticket holders which include membership and another approx 1500 people who pay for membership. A valuation of the Season Ticket is ongoing by the club.
- SC asked about the timing of events: something should be held as near to the start of the season as possible, possibly a preview of the whole ZP. A journalist could be invited or a referee to talk about changes to the rules.

We are still planning the event with Will Carling and Ian Robertson. Suzi said that Ian Robertson would probably be keen on it being in aid of one of the charities he particularly supports;

- Balloon race: organised by Barbara and Anne McCarthy – at the Leeds game 28th Nov. The club have some helium, and something should be put in the programme.
- Auction of promises for the BPA. hopefully some of the Paralympic athletes will be at some events.
- Suzi mentioned the CAW messageboard – SC pointed out that it is quite separate from Quinssa. The club needs contact numbers for Quinssa to pass on to people who are phoning the club because they are confused about HFC and Quinssa. SC asked about the Club's plans to deal with HFC – Suzi said it was Tony Copsy's responsibility.
- Munster vs Quins @ Twickenham: The 30,000 seats in the lower bowl will be used, Quins will have the East/North, Munster the West/North, Quins will have the best seats, avoiding the front rows in case of rain. Season Ticket holders will have free tickets plus a 10% discount for extra tickets. The Stoop will be open after the game.
- Merchandise: thundersticks – we should speak to the club shop about help with ordering.
- There was a discussion about the food at the Stoop

Suzi left the meeting with our thanks and we continued to discuss other business

Events

- Discussion about what events have worked and what haven't. Need to think about a Feb/Marc Quinssa pub night and pursue the Carling/Robertson night.
- Christmas meal at the Snooker Club – need to check numbers, can arrange tables and there will probably be a buffet. There is wheelchair access.
- The picnic did not go well – the club withdrew facilities at a very late stage, people did not know when to turn up

Fundraising:

- Balloon race
- Auction
- Calendars – idea to get pictures from supporters
- 100 club – possibly to start January 2005 – EJK & BR
- Merchandising – WW will get quotes from for thundersticks
- ES – the last of the Quinsbins have been sold – there will be more next season
- Coaches – WW – 2 coaches for Worcester – 1 full the other has 11 so far, there will probably be a loss of £250. Gloucester – still tickets available – main coach has 20, should be more nearer the game for the second coach – cannot justify the loss – could offer a discount if they go on the first coach,

otherwise SC offered to make other arrangements for them. Places on the Ospreys coach going well. WW will check the costs of coaches for Saracens and Sale

Membership

- Last number issued - 499, 367 paid for the season, 110 yet to pay – could chase them with a reminder and a SAE giving them deadline to pay.
- Quinssa have received a thank you letter from Tosh for his bursary and one from Mark Evans for the BPA money from the calendars
- Discussion about Flyerday @ the Stoop – volunteers should have a clipboard and pen so people can fill in forms, need to fix a date for getting the flyers printed, best if its after Christmas

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 10th November 2005.