

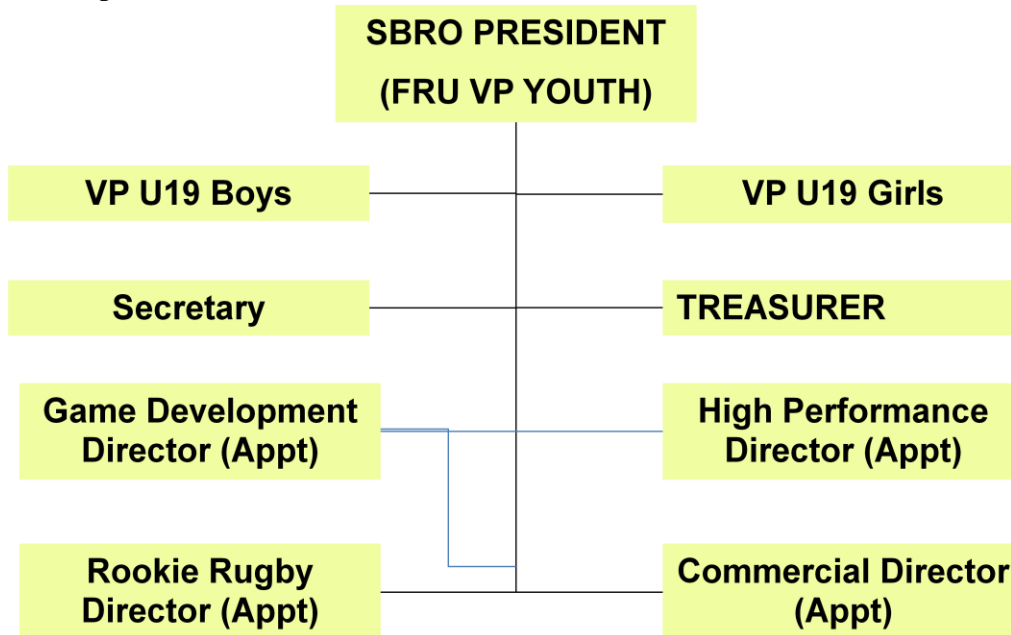
January 20, 2011

FLORIDA RUGBY UNION  
YOUTH REPORT  
2010

First off, this is my last report as the VP Youth. As you will recall last year we welcomed the FYRU as an associate member of the FRU and changed the Bylaws so that the elected President of the FYRU is also the VP of Youth on the FRU executive Board. I am therefore delighted to introduce Jeff Oxenrider, or 'OX' as he is known as my successor.

Some highlights of 2010 then

- The Florida RU/FYRU was officially made a USAR State based Organization (SBRO) as a Level 3 member. This gave us the status of full membership and some significant grants from USAR.
  - \$2,000 of equipment
  - \$1,500 towards promotion of Rookie Rugby
  - \$1,500 towards positive Coaching Alliance seminar
  - Travel and hotel expenses to attend Youth Conference
- The FYRU, with many thanks to Lisa O'Donnel achieved status as a 501(c)3 organization.
- FYRU organization and new bylaws in place, with officers elected and appointed positions filled.



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- Select side, boys U19 travelled to Denver to play in one of the USAR selection tournaments. Great work by Donny Stramanak in fund raising and organization. The FL boys did find out what it takes to play the western teams and at altitude. We're going back in 2011 with both a U19 and a U16 boys team. 2011 will also see the inauguration of a girls U19 select side program.
- Rookie Rugby, continues to grow in the Tampa area with schools phys ed. Program launched in Sebastian River area in middle schools, many thanks to Peter Dobson for getting that going. Coconut Creek has a parks and rec program started in 2010 with about 40 kids, running this spring with expectations of 60+.
  - Out of the equipment grant we have 4 'Rookie Rugby' start up kits that we will be soliciting bids for. If you commit to start a Parks and Rec program and submit a bid, we will award the best 4 bids the start up kits. (Balls, flags, bibs, ball bag, pump, cones). Watch you e mail and the website for details.
- U19 and U16 teams played Cayman Islands at the Ft Lauderdale Ruggerfest (won both)
- 2011 initiative is to target Rookie Rugby in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach market to elementary and middle schools.

I'm sure there are things I have missed. OH YES... WE NEED MORE YOUTH COACHES. The following areas are falling behind.

ORLANDO  
JACKSONVILLE  
PALM BEACH  
MIAMI

It's been fun helping with the youth program, if you have never been to a HS game, you need to go watch and see how professional the programs are run and what great fun the players have.

I will be continuing my involvement with the FYRU as the Commercial Director and acting as the liaison with USAR.

Lastly, congratulations to Charlie Hutchins of Tampa Barbarians who played for the USA High School All American team who gave Canada a good hiding in there December international.

Martin Gardner  
VP Youth (retiring)