



RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The purpose of this document is for the Rugby Football League to report on its governance arrangements and performance during 2022.

The Rugby Football League is committed to good corporate governance and considers the publication of this statement to be an important part of its commitment to good governance.

This statement was approved by the RFL Board on 16 February 2023 and is up to date at that date.

1. SUMMARY OF KEY MATTERS

The key governance changes and matters for the Rugby Football League during 2022 were:

- Agreement was reached between the RFL and Super League (Europe) Limited for the realignment of the governance of the Sport. As part of this:
 - o a new company 'RL Commercial Limited' was established to exploit all the commercial rights in the Sport.
 - o a new RL Commercial Board was appointed.
 - o all applicable staff transferred from SLE and the RFL to RL Commercial.
- IMG became the Sport's Strategic Partner
- Sir Lindsay Hoyle was appointed as President for 2023.
- Sue Taylor was appointed as Vice President from July 2022 to the Council meeting in December 2023.
- Chris Brindley and Chris Hurst stepped down from their roles as Non-Executive Directors of the RFL. In their place Dr Cherrie Daley was appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the RFL with an initial term running to the Council meeting in summer 2025.
- Sandy Lindsay was re-elected as a Non-Executive Director for the period to the Council meeting in summer 2025.
- Ralph Rimmer and Karen Moorhouse ceased to be Executive Directors of the RFL on 31 December 2022.
- A number of governance projects were implemented across the sport including in relation to club board diversity and environmental sustainability.

2. GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

The Vision of the RFL is to be a united sport that delivers entertainment, drives commercial value, and improves the lives of our communities. The Rugby Football League is a values driven organisation with its Values being United, Respect, Excellence and Professional.


The strategy of the RFL can be found [here](#)

The current governance structure for the sport is contained within the Articles of Association of RFL (Governing Body) Limited, RL Commercial Limited and SLE; a suite of realignment agreements, and the RFL Operational Rules. Whilst each of these documents is independent of the other, they confirm an inter-related governance structure that defines and protects the rights and responsibilities of each component part of the sport.

[RFL ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION](#)

[RFL OPERATIONAL RULES](#)

[RL Commercial Articles of Association](#)

 [SLE ArticlesofAssociation.pdf](#)

The governance structure of SLE changed in 2017 / 2018 with SLE taking control of the exploitation of the commercial rights in the Men's Super League and appointing its own executive; however, the RFL and SLE have now agreed to realign the governance of the sport.

2.2 Governance Realignment

Background and Rationale

In March 2022, the RFL and SLE agreed to realign the governance of the Sport, and this was supported unanimously by the RFL Members at a special Council Meeting. Final agreements were signed in July 2022.

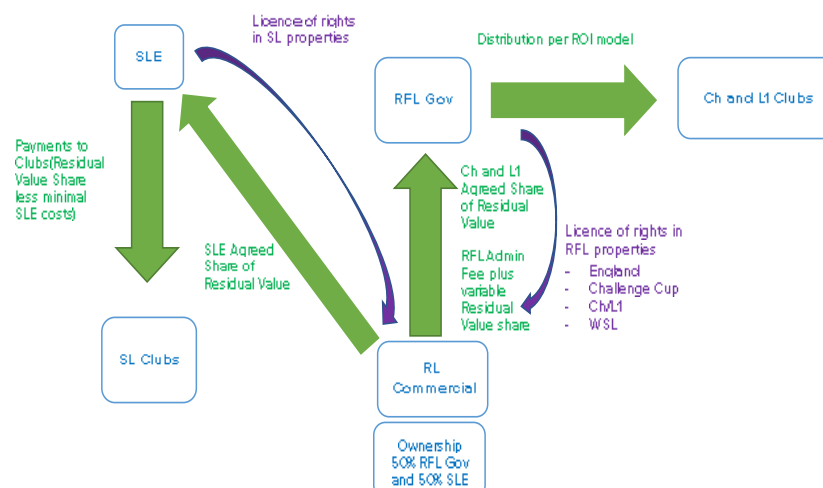
The rationale for the realignment was/is to:

- Enable the value of the Sport to be maximised by aggregating all commercial, events and broadcast rights enabling rights across the Sport to be offered to potential commercial partners.
- In turn, maximise revenues and therefore returns to the RFL and SLE and Clubs.
- Provide long term financial clarity for all Members and avoid the need for time consuming and resource intensive negotiations in relation to each Super League broadcast contract.
- Enshrine a financial model which means all Members share a destiny with all celebrating and participating in growth of revenues in the Sport irrespective of which asset delivers that growth. As the revenues of the Sport grow, all Members benefit.
- Provide stability and certainty within the Sport.
- Create efficiencies and avoid duplication of function.
- Create 2 operating companies with distinct but mutually aligned goals.
- In RL Commercial, create a vehicle that will be attractive to a strategic partner.

Structure

The new structure is as follows.

GOVERNANCE MODEL





In determining which functions sit with which company, the key drivers are ensuring that:

- RL Commercial is in the best possible position to maximise the value of the Sport across all revenue driving areas.
- the RFL remains a high performing national governing body driving participation, performance of the England teams and independently regulating the sport.
- The 2 operating companies have distinct but mutually aligned goals and have a culture of working collaboratively.

The table below summarises where functions will sit.

RFL	RL Commercial	SLE
Core Governing Body Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - England teams - Development and Sport England programmes - Regulation and operation of the Sport - Compliance - Match Officials (including the Pathway) - Participant Membership - International relations (IRL and ERL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All broadcast activity - All sponsorship activity - Delivery of events - Merchandising - Marketing - Ticketing - Digital and media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distributions to SL Clubs
Supplemental Services (to RFL and RL Commercial) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central services – IT, HR, Finance and Facilities - Legal - Data and Insight - Campaigns and Public Affairs 		
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our League Life - Relationship with RL Charities 		

All employees of the 2 operating companies work primarily from the sport's Etihad Campus office. The above required the transfer of staff from SLE and the RFL to RL Commercial (and a small number to the RFL).

Finance

The overriding principle of the financial aspects of the Realignment is that of 'shared destiny' with all Members celebrating and participating in the successes of RL Commercial with all benefiting from growth in RL Commercial irrespective of which asset delivers that growth. This is delivered by all profits of RL Commercial (not just broadcast) being divided on the basis of pre-agreed percentages to each of: SLE to distribute to the SL Clubs; the RFL in relation to its function as governing body; and to the Championship and League 1 Members (via the RFL). This long-term deal provides clarity to the RFL and all clubs to enable planning. This certainty is in line with previously expressed wishes of Members and avoids the requirement for negotiation in relation to each broadcast term.



Competition Structure and Format

The Realignment did not involve any change to the existing competition structure and nor does it change who ultimately holds the decision-making powers; however, there is provision for the role of RL Commercial to advise on these matters. Moving forward, RL Commercial will determine fixtures and branding of Competitions.

2.3 IMG

In May 2022, IMG entered into a strategic partnership with the Sport.

The agency will initially focus on competition restructuring, content production and innovation, domestic and international distribution of media rights, digital transformation powered by IMG's digital sports arm Seven League, brand strategy delivered by Endeavor's cultural marketing agency 160over90, and streaming through Endeavor's OTT platform Endeavor Streaming. As part of a second phase of work, IMG will also provide data collection, betting product development and streaming rights.

As part of the partnership, IMG has the right to nominate a director to the board of RL Commercial and an observer to the board of the RFL.

2.4 RFL Council

The RFL Council is made up of all UK based professional clubs and 7 representatives of the Community Game (British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA); Combined Services Rugby League and representatives from Education rugby league settings; Higher Education rugby league settings; Tier Four Leagues; Tier Five and Tier Six Adult Leagues; and Tier Five Youth and Junior Leagues).

Each Member is entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Council and, in the case of Clubs, share in the profits of the RFL or any distribution of its funds and participate in RFL competitions.

Council Meetings must be held at least twice a year, with the Annual Council Meeting approving the accounts of the RFL, appointing/approving auditors and nominating a Vice President and President. Changes to the Articles of Association of the RFL can only be made upon a Special Resolution approved by 75% of voting Members.

The Articles contain provisions such that, irrespective of the number of Clubs in the Super League, the Championship and League 1, the votes of the Super League Clubs (on the one hand) and the votes of the Championship and League 1 Clubs (on the other hand) carry equal weight. In addition, any resolution must be passed by at least 4 Super League Members and at least 4 Championship or League 1 Members.

Below are links to the Council Agendas for the 2022 Council meetings and the presentations delivered at those meeting.

[2022 COUNCIL AGENDAS/PRESENTATIONS](#)

2.5 RFL Board

The Board is the ultimate decision-making body and exercises the powers of the organisation. The Board is responsible for:

- setting the strategy of the organisation;
- approving the long-term financial plan and annual budget;
- monitoring delivery of the strategic plan and objectives;
- periodic review of the financial plan and performance against annual budget;
- periodic review of major risks;
- discussion of, and engagement with, stakeholder proposals and concerns.



Day to day management of the RFL is delegated by the Board to the management team under the leadership of the Chief Executive. Financial authorities are in place for each level of the Executive structure.

2.6 SLE

Super League (Europe) Limited (“**SLE**”) is a separate legally entity which holds the commercial rights in the Men’s Super League.

During the course of 2018 and 2019, the RFL and SLE agreed a deal between the parties relating to funding; competition structure; and the structure of the SLE Board (with the board consisting of the SLE Executive Chair, nominated representatives from each Super League Club and a nominated representative of the RFL).

As part of the Governance Realignment, all SLE commercial rights have been exclusively licenced to RL Commercial; all SLE staff have transferred to RL Commercial (or the RFL); and the SLE Board structure has changed to being 2 independent directors.

The Articles of Association of SLE still specify which matters are determined by the Clubs, which matters are determined by the RFL and which are joint decisions; however, as part of the Governance Realignment, certain rights have transferred to RL Commercial.

2.7 RL Commercial Limited

As set out in Governance Realignment section above, RL Commercial holds and is responsible for exploiting all commercial rights across the Sport.

The shares in RL Commercial are held equally by the RFL and SLE.

The Board of RL Commercial is responsible for overseeing the revenue generation within RL Commercial. The board is made up of:

- a Chair jointly appointed by the RFL and SLE (currently Frank Slevin)
- 2 directors appointed by the RFL (currently Simon Johnson and Anna Chanduvi)
- 2 directors appointed by SLE (currently Peter Hutton and Jonathan Murphy)
- a director nominated by IMG (currently Ed Mallaburn).

The RFL and SLE worked collaboratively in relation to the appointment of the Board to ensure it had an appropriate range of skills and experience.

2.8 Championship and League 1

The Championship and League 1 competitions are owned, managed and operated by the Rugby Football League: there is no separate entity responsible for any aspect of the same.

The Championship and League 1 Chief Executives or Chairman meet at least 3 times a year. In addition, there are also a number of business area meetings held throughout the year.

2.9 Community Game

The game competitions are a mixture of Affiliate Leagues (leagues run by separate legal entities – bound by the operational rules, with the provision of services by the RFL) and Member Leagues (leagues owned, managed and operated by the Rugby Football League).



The Community Board (a sub-committee of the Board) is accountable to the Board for the management and development of all aspects of the community, grassroots and amateur game of rugby league (see Section 5.5 below).

3. RFL BOARD

3.1 Current Directors

During 2022, the Non-Executive Directors of the RFL are/were:

- Simon Johnson (Chair)
- Chris Brindley – stepped down at the July 2022 AGM
- Chris Hurst - stepped down at the July 2022 AGM
- Sandy Lindsay
- Rimla Akhtar
- Cherrie Daley – appointed in November 2022

During 2022, the Executive Directors were Ralph Rimmer and Karen Moorhouse. Both ceased to be employees of the RFL (and therefore ceased to be directors) on 31 December 2022. From 1 January 2023 the interim Executive Directors are Tony Sutton and Robert Hicks.

The biographies of the current directors can be found [here](#)

3.2 Composition

The Articles of Association of the RFL provide that:

- the number of Directors shall be not less than three and not more than nine;
- the Directors shall be a minimum of two and a maximum of 4 Executive Directors and a maximum of five Non-Executive Directors;
- the majority of the Directors will be Non-Executive Directors.

3.3 Non-Executive Directors (including Chair and Senior Independent Director)

Each Non-Executive Director (including the Chair) serves for a two, three or four-year term from the Annual Council Meeting at which he/she is elected or re-elected to the Annual Council Meeting in the last year of that term, provided that the maximum cumulative term of office shall be nine years.

The combination of possible terms reduces the sports' exposure to multiple NEDs all having terms finishing at the same Council meeting.

The only exceptions to the above are that:

- in exceptional circumstances (for example to assist succession planning) a Non-Executive Director may hold office for a further year; and
- An existing Non-Executive Director may hold office for up to 12 years (i.e. 4 three-year terms) if he/she is appointed as chair of the RFL or as a director of the RLIF.

The Chair of the Board is now Simon Johnson. Whilst the role specification is different, the Chair is appointed in the same manner as all other Non-Executive Directors.



In accordance with the Sports Governance Code, a further Non-Executive Director is appointed as the Senior Independent Director (usually the longest serving of the other Non-Executive Directors). The additional responsibilities of the Senior Independent Director include:

- Providing a sounding board for the Chair;
- Serving as an intermediary for the other directors when necessary;
- Acting as an alternative contact for stakeholders to share any concerns if the normal channels of the Chair or the organisation's management fail to resolve the matter or in cases where such contact is inappropriate; and
- Leading on the process to appraise the Chair's performance.

The Senior Independent Director is Sandy Lindsay.

At all times all of the Non-Executive Directors were 'independent' as defined in the RFL Articles of Association and the Code for Sports Governance.

3.4 Executive Directors

The Executive Directors are appointed by the Non-Executive Directors (by a simple majority vote). The NEDs have agreed that the Executive Directors should usually be the Chief Executive and Company Secretary.

3.5 Secretary

The Secretary is appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and may be removed by the Board.

During 2022 the Secretary was Karen Moorhouse.

3.6 Code of Conduct

Each director is required to sign a Code of Conduct. In addition to setting out required standards of behaviour, it also details the mechanism which will be followed in relation to any breach. A copy of the Code of Conduct can be found [here](#)

4. BOARD MEETINGS

The Articles of Association provide that the Board must meet at least 4 times in a year and the quorum for meetings is 3 directors. During 2021 there were 7 formal Board Meetings. There was 100% attendance at these meetings by all directors.

In addition, there was a number of Board meetings held virtually and further decisions made in writing.

Papers are circulated 7 days' in advance of all formal Board Meetings to ensure the Board have time to fully review them.

Below are links to the Board Agendas for the 2022 meetings.

[RFL BOARD AGENDAS](#)

5. BOARD SUB COMMITTEES

5.1 General

The Articles of Association provide that the Board may delegate any of their powers to any sub-committee consisting of such of other number and such other persons as they think fit. The current formal sub-committees and their current members are set out below. The Terms of Reference for each of the Sub-Committees (which include the structure and purpose of the Committee) can be found [here](#).



5.2 Audit and Risk

The purpose of the Audit and Risk Committee is to: (a) consider the appointment of the external auditors and their independence; (b) consider the appointment of the internal auditors and review the RFL's internal audit programme; (c) review the Group's financial statements; and (d) review the effectiveness of the internal control systems of the RFL including the process for managing risk.

The Audit and Risk Committee consists of at least 4 members, 2 of whom have to be Non-Executive Directors and one of whom has to be the RFL Executive who is the chief risk officer for the RFL (currently the Chief Operating Officer – Tony Sutton).

The Audit and Risk Committee is chaired by Non-Executive Director Rimla Akhtar and its director members during 2022 were Rimla Akhtar and Chris Hurst. From December 2022, Chris has been replaced by Simon Johnson.

The Audit and Risk Committee met on four occasions in 2022 and its members had the following attendance.

- Rimla Akhtar (Chair) – (4)
- Chris Hurst (2) (Left office part way through the year at the expiration of his term)
- Tony Sutton – (4)
- Ian Roberts – (3)
- Jeremy Carr – (4)
- Wajid Shafiq – (2) (Joined part way through the year.)
- Daniel Mensah – (3) (Joined part way through the year.)

5.3 Remuneration

The purpose of the Remuneration Committee is to: (a) ensure that there is a formal and transparent policy on Board and Senior Executive remuneration; and (b) determine the remuneration packages of the Chairman, other directors and senior executives.

In 2022 the director members were Chris Brindley (Chair) (until July 22), Chris Hurst until July 22), Rimla Akhtar and Sandy Lindsay (Chair from July 22).

The Remuneration Committee met on five occasions in 2022 and all members had 100% attendance in accordance with their term of office.

5.4 Nominations

The purpose of the Nominations Committee is to: (a) ensure that there is a formal and transparent procedure for appointing new directors, re-appointing directors to the Board of Directors and appointing senior executives (being the Chief Executive Officer and any executive it is envisaged will have a basic salary of £100,000 or more); and (b) keep under review the composition of the Board and Board sub-committees and make recommendations to the Board in relation to the same.

In 2022 the director members were Simon Johnson, Chris Brindley (until July 22), Chris Hurst (until July 22), Rimla Akhtar and Sandy Lindsay.

During 2022 the Nominations Committee led on the appointment of a new NED for the RFL Board and ultimately recommended the appointment of Cherrie Daley. In addition, the Nominations Committee, is leading on the appointment of the new RFL CEO.



5.5 Community Board

By virtue of Article 79 of the Articles of Association, the Board has established a Community Board. This Board is accountable to the RFL Board for the management and development of all aspects of the community, grassroots and amateur game of Rugby League. The role of the Community Board is to assist in the organisation and management structure of the RFL, and to bring together all areas of the British Rugby League community, grassroots and amateur game under the governance of the RFL.

The Community Board is made up of representatives of the various sectors of the community game being BARLA; Combined Services Rugby League; Education rugby league settings; Higher Education rugby league settings; Tier Four Leagues; Tier Five and Tier Six Adult Leagues; Tier Five Youth and Junior Leagues and the Foundations. The RFL nominates 1 Director to act as Chair, a person to represent Active Participants and 2 other Independent representatives. The current Chair is Sandy Lindsay (who assumed the Chair in September 2020).

The Community Board met on four occasions during 2022 and members had the following attendance:

- Sandy Lindsay (Chair) – 4
- Trevor Hunt (Tier 4 Adult) – 4
- Stuart Prior (Tier 5 Adult) – 4
- Jan Robinson (Tier 5 Y&J) – 2
- Sue Taylor (BARLA) – 4
- Damian Clayton (Armed Forces) – 2
- Neil Ashton (Schools) – 3
- Steve Curtis (Universities) – 4
- Lois Forsell (Participants) – 1
- Lee Mitchell (Foundations) - 3
- Peter Moran (Independent) – 3
- Fred Baker (Independent) – 4

The biographies of the Community Board Members can be found [here](#)

5.6 Laws Committee

The purpose of the Laws Committee is to review the current laws of the game whilst also fully considering the potential impact of the introduction of new laws based on criteria such as; game spectacle, player safety and also the international landscape.

Its membership is made up of representatives of all different stakeholders and is chaired by the RFL CEO.

The Committee met three times in 2022.

5.7 Whole Game Board (formerly Professional Game Board)

The purpose of the Whole Game Board is to consider and make non-binding recommendations to the Board in relation to the regulation and operation of the Game on matters that directly or indirectly have impact on rugby league clubs who play in: (i) the Super League; and (ii) the Championship and League 1 and which may have a whole game impact (including potentially on the Community Game). The overriding aim being to drive the Game's objectives.

Its membership is made up of representatives of the RFL, the Super League Clubs, the Championship and League 1 Clubs and the Community Game.

The Committee meets as required. It met twice in 2022.



5.8 Inclusion and Diversity Board

The purpose of the I&D Board is to provide guidance on all equality matters and to monitor the delivery of the RFL's Rugby League versus Discrimination Tackle It Action Plan (the plan). In addition, the Inclusion Board provides support to the Executive in delivering programmes within the plan and seek to promote a culture of respect for Inclusion, Equality and Anti-Discrimination across Rugby League.

Its present composition is nine external and one internal member, and it is chaired by Rimla Akhtar.

The committee met 4 times in 2022.

5.9 Clinical Advisory Group

In February 2021, the Clinical Advisory Group was formally made a Board sub-committee.

Its purpose is to make recommendations to the Board; and provide guidance to the Game, on all medical issues impacting the Game.

The core membership drawn from all clinical roles in the Game and levels within the Game (Community and Professional Game). The CMO and Covid Medical Officer are members of the Committee.

The committee met 5 times in 2022.

6. CODE OF SPORTS GOVERNANCE

In December 2017 Sport England confirmed that the RFL complies with the then Code of Sports Governance. The RFL carries out regular reviews of its compliance with the Code (at least twice a year) and believes that it remains fully compliant.

The RFL is in the process of carrying out a review against the new Code of Sports Governance and is committed to full compliance.

7. INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

The RFL is committed to Inclusion and Diversity throughout the organisation and the sport. Progress against TACKLE IT action plan objectives is regularly reviewed by RFL I&D working group members and overseen by the Inclusion Board, whose members also provide strategic direction to the working group. The RFL I&D Action Plan Tackle It: Rugby League versus Discrimination is published on the RFL website [here](#). I&D is a formal Board agenda item at least twice a year.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The RFL is committed to Environmental Sustainability in the organisation and the wider sport. A game wide review commenced in 2022 which will conclude in 2023. Action plans will be in place across the sport with objectives and core aims agreed by the RFL Board. The action plans and objectives will be regularly reviewed by RFL via the ROI model, and the RFL Sustainability working group. The RFL has appointed BASIS to conduct a whole sport review of the current status in relation to Environmental Sustainability. The next steps will see BASIS support the RFL and the sport to produce policies and procedures to improve our Environment Sustainability commitments and responsibilities.



9. BOARD EVALUATION

In line with the Sports Governance Code the Board is committed to having the Board externally evaluated at least every 4 years. In October 2018 Value Alpha carried out an external evaluation of the RFL Board. This was completed in early 2019 and the report circulated to all Members and published on the RFL Website [RFL Board Evaluation](#)

To support the embedding of the new governance model, the RFL and RL Commercial Boards are currently ongoing a 'joint board working project' to ensure aligned cultures and behaviours.

In line with the Code of Sports Governance, in addition to individual evaluations, the Board undertakes an internal evaluation of its collective skills and performance each year.

In 2021 the RFL was audited by Sport England's assurance partner (BDO). The RFL was rated as good across both governance and finance. Each of the recommendations made by BDO has been actioned.

10. BOARD INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Any new Director is subject to a comprehensive induction process meeting with the existing Board, Executives and stakeholders. In addition, all Board members have access to a Board Induction Pack.

11. RISK

The RFL has a comprehensive departmental Risk Register which is updated regularly by each Risk Register owner and reported to the Audit and Risk Committee and in turn to the RFL Board. Each risk is rated (based on probability and severity) and mitigation and/or appropriate actions are logged and reported.

The Board report on its Internal Control frameworks or systems annually via the Directors Report contained in the company's Financial Statements. A link to the report can be found [here](#)

As part of its annual work plan the Audit and Risk Committee review the annual draft Financial Statements and meet with the external auditors with and without the Executive present, to discuss the annual audit and its results. Those results cover the findings of the external auditors work on both financial and internal control matters. The external auditor is reappointed at each Annual General Meeting following the discussions held by the Audit and Risk Committee which cover the effectiveness of the external audit process.

The external auditors are selected periodically by holding a tender process, the last tender was held to cover the provision of external audit services for 2019 year end onwards. Garbutt and Elliott were successful in this tender.

The current external auditors also provide taxation compliance services. This service is provided by a completely separate department than audit services with separate management structures and reporting staff members.

The Board also runs an internal audit programme which reports to the Audit and Risk Committee with a rolling programme of internal audit work based on three areas of focus each year as recommended by the external provider of internal audit services.

12. INTERNATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE

12.1 IRL (FORMERLY RLIF)

The RFL was a founding member of the Rugby League International Federation ("RLIF" and now renamed International Rugby League), the international governing body of the sport. Along with the Australian Rugby League Commission ("ARLC") and the New Zealand Rugby League ("NZRL") it is currently entitled to appoint two directors to the Board of the RLIF.



IRL controls the broadcast and commercial rights to the Rugby League World Cup. It has traditionally used the commercial revenues generated by this tournament, with levies on gate receipts at other international matches, to fund its activities (including grants to developing nations).

11.2 RLEF

The RFL was also a founding member of the Rugby League European Foundation (“RLEF”). The RLEF is the governing body for Rugby League in Europe and the Northern Hemisphere. It oversees and co-ordinates the development of the sport in all its Member and affiliated countries and territories, as well as neighbouring organisations that choose to link to the RLEF. The RLEF is an Associate Member of the RLIF and is therefore entitled to appoint two directors to the Board of the RLIF.

11.3 Rugby League World Cup (2021) Limited

RLWC21 is a wholly owned subsidiary of the RFL which was responsible for arranging and running the 2021 Rugby League World Cup (due to Covid, held in 2022). The Board of RLWC is made up of:

- A Chairman nominated by the RFL;
- 3 independent directors appointed by an open recruitment process;
- 5 nominated directors appointed by each of HM Government, UK Sport, the RFL, RLIF and RLWC21.

Since July 2019, the RFL nominated directors have been Chris Brindley (Chair) and Karen Moorhouse.

13. RUGBY LEAGUE CHARITIES

12.1 GENERAL

The RFL works closely with a number of Rugby League Charities.

12.2 RUGBY LEAGUE CARES

RL Cares mission is to enhance and enrich people’s lives through the power and positive influence of Rugby League. The charity seek to ensure the sport’s most important stakeholders, its playing community, get the most out of their involvement in the game, both during their careers and post-retirement.

During 2022, Karen Moorhouse was the RFL’s nominated trustee.

12.3 RFL BENEVOLENT FUND

The RL Benevolent Fund is a charity that provides assistance to players and the families of players who have suffered life-changing injuries playing Rugby League.

During 2022, Karen Moorhouse was the RFL’s nominated trustee.

12.4 RFL FACILITIES TRUST

The RFL Facilities Trust is a charity whose principal activity is to provide such financial and other assistance as the Trustees shall deem fit for the provision, establishment, development and improvement of facilities for the playing of Rugby League or Rugby League in conjunction with other sports.

Tony Sutton, Kelly Barrett and Robert Hicks are the RFL’s nominated trustees with and Robert Graham is the secretary.