

## Halfmoon Leadership Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2026

Time: 7:08–8:19 PM

Location: In person and Zoom options

### Attendance

In Person: Jacqueline Congdon ('25-'26 President); Alex Morris ('25-'26 Vice President, '26-'27 Mardi Gras Tournament Director); Sylvie Reydams ('25-'26 Treasurer); Adrianna Damato ('25-'26 and '26-'27 Fundraising Director); Olivia Sastry ('25-'26 Social Director); D Glover ('26-'27 President); Kelsie Lewis ('26-'27 Vice President); Aaliyah Stewart ('26-'27 Treasurer); Victoria DeBarbieris ('26-'27 Secretary); Ren Maheu ('26-'27 Recruiting Director); Brooke Kelly ('26-'27 Social Director); Keiliana Rodriguez ('26-'27 Social Media Director); Cyndy James

Zoom: EJ Morris ('25-'26 Secretary)

Absent: Malia Haskovec ('25-'26 Co-Captain & Social Media Director); Stefanie Borger ('25-'26 and '26-'27 Match Secretary); Natalie Antonelli ('25-'26 Recruiting Director); Sabine Marlowe ('25-'26 Co-Captain)

### Call to Order

President D Glover called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM. Roll call was conducted and quorum confirmed.

### Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the May 6th, 2026 leadership meeting were reviewed. No corrections were raised.

### Shout Outs

None were mentioned at the meeting.

### Officer and Committee Reports

#### President – D Glover and Jacqueline Congdon

D reported that the updated crest design has been submitted and is awaiting further updates. D will take over IGR responsibilities, with an IGR meeting scheduled for June 23, 2026, at 7:30 PM. Additional upcoming events include the Bingham/Amanda Marks meeting on June 20, 2026, and Bat City on October 31, 2026. Passwords in the Halfmoons spreadsheet will be reviewed to ensure they are current. Rugby For All AR flags have been ordered, and planning for a Rugby 101 clinic in August is ongoing, with Cyndy coordinating possible guest coaches once dates are finalized. The website will auto-renew on July 8, 2026,

and members were reminded to watch for information regarding the upcoming True South AGM later this summer.

#### **Vice President – Kelsie Lewis and Alex Morris**

Alex shared that she and Nine discussed ideas for strengthening the team, particularly by increasing alumni engagement. The team was unable to participate in Longview Garden this year, but members plan to revisit the opportunity next year. Alex also reminded members to watch for the upcoming AGM meeting for Kelsie's participation. Successful past community service efforts, including the tree planting event, were highlighted, and interest was expressed in reconnecting with East Jefferson High School's rugby team. Additionally, Alex encouraged Kelsie to explore volunteer opportunities with the Reign Rugby program, which includes youth tackle practice support and opportunities for both coach-certified individuals and general volunteers.

#### **Treasurer – Aaliyah Stewart and Sylvie Reydams**

Sylvie shared that she plans to meet with Aaliyah to transition financial and organizational information, while work continues on the 2026–2027 budget and MGT financial reconciliation. Discussions included sponsoring a youth participant for the All Blacks Clinic through Reign Rugby, with Tanya offering sponsorship support and members encouraged to refer interested youth ages 13–19 to Cyndy. The team also reviewed payment platform options due to ongoing issues with the club Venmo account being tied to a former board member. Zeffy was discussed as a possible alternative for fundraising. Other payment platforms, including Square, Zelle, and Cash App, were also considered. Financially, the club remains in good standing, with funds still pending transfer from PayPal, Venmo, and GiveNOLA Day. Additional discussions covered reimbursement for party expenses, compensation for coaching certifications and Reign Rugby coaching, early tournament registration planning, and coordination between the treasurer and match secretary for upcoming MGT logistics. Alex also noted plans to work closely with Aaliyah on preparations for the upcoming MGT.

#### **Secretary – Victoria DeBarbieris and EJ Morris**

EJ and Victoria do have plans to meet to discuss the transition. There is a document of a conversation with an original Halfmoon player that needs to be finished transcribing. Victoria will look within the drive to see if she can finish this. The website should be up to date now.

#### **Match Secretary – Stefanie Borger**

Cyndy raised the possibility of providing gas reimbursement for drivers traveling to Summer 7s tournaments, including a potential tournament in Atlanta, Georgia on August 25, 2026. Officers emphasized the need to determine genuine player interest before approving travel plans and costs, while members expressed hesitation to commit without reimbursement details and confirmed tournament dates. Estimated travel costs were discussed at approximately \$220–255 per car for a 1,200-mile trip. Members noted that finalized dates are needed for planning, and Jacqueline was asked to update the Summer 7s spreadsheet

with missing tournament dates. Additional tournament opportunities, including Mobile, were discussed, though some members may already be committed to other teams. Practice will temporarily continue at the Lakefront while the regular location remains closed, with a possible move to the opposite side of the canal being considered.

#### **Fundraising Director – Adrianna Damato**

Adrianna discussed the need to establish long-term goals for the MGT Guide, with Alex agreeing to assist in planning and also coordinate a future team outing with Pals. Adrianna still needs to send Thank You messages related to GiveNOLA. It was also noted that the team will not sell jello during the Pride Parade since members will be participating in the walk. Decadence fundraising was highlighted as very successful last year, with jello selling out quickly. Additionally, Adrianna introduced the idea of a virtual popcorn “double dip” fundraiser, where members would set individual goals and share ordering links, with proceeds going directly to the Halfmoons and potential promotion support from local businesses.

#### **Recruiting Director –Ren Maheu and Natalie Antonelli**

Natalie and Ren plan to meet to assist with transitioning responsibilities, while officers discussed improvements to the rookie coach and rookie camp programs. Members agreed the program was beneficial but would work better if implemented earlier in the regular season and condensed to avoid separating rookies from veterans for too long. Suggestions included rotating the rookie coach role, gathering feedback from past participants, and encouraging veteran-rookie integration more quickly. Additional discussions included plans for Pride Parade participation, promotional “Wanna play rugby, ask me how” shirts, and recruitment materials, with several members volunteering to assist. Officers also reviewed parade logistics, training support, and reimbursement considerations, with Sylvie noting that budgets would need to be reviewed first.

#### **Co-Captains – Malia Haskovec & Sabine Marlowe**

Captains are in charge of tracking equipment located at the end of the availability spreadsheet. Cyndy currently has all of the equipment for the summer. New captains will be voted on at the end of summer.

#### **Social Media – Keiliana Rodriguez and Malia Haskovec**

A 2025 season wrapped for social media, with sponsors, is still in the works. Jacqueline feels that this isn't the most necessary, but would be nice to have. Keiliana will reach out to Malia to see if there is an update on this. Malia will need to send over Halfmoons materials from her personal Canva for Keiliana to use. Malia also left a list for Keiliana to follow, which is located within the meeting agenda.

#### **Social Director – Brooke Kelly and Olivia Sastry**

Olivia found that for events, people liked to give suggestions for things they would like to see. When suggestions were given, Brooke should follow along with them, within the approved budget.

### **Mardi Gras Tournament Director - Alex Morris**

Alex has a list of every rugby club in America. Her goal to have an only women's rugby tournament. If not confirmed by August, she will then open to men's teams. Alex promises to stay for us. We need a field and volunteers ahead of time. In regards to the Borgenmouth fields, we haven't signed anything for the upcoming tournament yet. There are fields available on the West Bank that have 4 field spaces available, but prices are not known of yet. We did make verbal commitments with Borgenmouth, but we might test run the West Bank Field. The MGT will be on January, 30th, 2027! Victoria also offered to make custom drink koozies for merch items.

### **Special Topics**

None.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:19 PM.