



Ayr Rugby Football Club Ltd

Applications for Board of Directors/Trustees

Please find the following eight applications for Director/Trustee for Ayr Rugby Football Club for 2024/2025. This will be voted on at our AGM at Millbrae, 7pm, Monday, September 23rd.

Name	Brian D.R. Williamson
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Managing Director Ekko Waste Solutions Ltd, Managing Director ABC 4D Ltd, Director WMA Group Ltd, Director Cambusdoon Ltd.
Skills (Primary)	Business Management, Marketing/P.R., IT/Digital/Social Media
Skills (Secondary)	Financial/Accounting, Legal/Law, Human Resources, Grant Funding/Fund Raising, Health, Cultural/Community, IP/Trademark experience.
Charity	Chairman, Director/Trustee Ayr RFC (2022-present) Trustee Whiteleys Retreat (March 2020-October 2023) Project Lead, Macdonald Legacy (2021-present)
Experience	I am currently Chairman of the board of Directors for Ayr Rugby Football Club Ltd and former Vice President and committee member of the previous club set up. Played rugby mini/midi//U'18 section and senior rugby at a social level when not living away or working. From 2017 I was involved in the commercial side of the club developing revenue streams through events & online sales before joining the committee. I was strongly against selling Millbrae for housing and secured the support of Alan Macdonald leading to the creation of The Macdonald Legacy. I am project lead for the development overseeing all aspects of the project including securing land from the NTS and SAC for the access road, securing Dam Park stadium and leading the design, planning and construction project team. I led on incorporating the new companies, defining the new articles of association and securing OSCR approval turning our club into a recognised charity.
Contribution	My priority is to make Millbrae inclusive and accessible for all our teams. We are developing our facilities to enable this with an all-weather pitch, new floodlighting (both pitches), additional parking and a new access road. My vision is to make the club self-sustainable to secure its long-term future with all profits being reinvested into the development of our players and coaches to produce winning teams and keep Ayr at the top of Scottish Rugby.

Name	David Beattie
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Retired
Skills (Primary)	Business Management
Skills (Secondary)	Financial/Accounting
Charity	Commercial Director/Trustee Ayr RFC
Experience	Owned and operated successful businesses in the Food & Drink sector. Chairman of Partick Thistle F.C. for over 11 years attaining Premiership status and reversing substantial debt. Was involved in organising Glasgow Warriors to play at Firhill as home ground for a number of years.
Contribution	Utilising my experience as former Chairman of Partick Thistle F.C. to develop strategies that enhance current and new income streams at the club. Use my business experience to develop the structure and people within the commercial side of the club.

Name	Neil P. Reid
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Partner, Dains Accountants
Skills (Primary)	Financial/Accounting
Skills (Secondary)	Business Management
Charity	Director/Trustee Ayr RFC (2024-present) Former Trustee, Ayr Storm Basketball Club
Experience	I am an existing Director/Trustee of Ayr RFC and have been instrumental in bringing the accounting records up to date, establishing a reporting regime that will keep the trustee's knowledge of the financial position up to date. I have also been involved in the first audit process for the charity, with good results.
Contribution	I have an established family connection with Ayr RFC having played mini/midi and U'18 rugby. My late father and brother also played for Ayr at all levels. I have charity background knowledge that I can bring to board meetings, but my time is limited. The Finance Director role is currently shared with my fellow board directors and I am happy to continue in this until a Finance Director who can devote more time to the day to day operations can be recruited. In this scenario I would still offer my services to the club as an external accountant and charity advisor.

Name	Graham Duncan
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Retired Police Officer
Skills (Primary)	Business Management
Skills (Secondary)	Human Resources, Grant Funding/Fund Raising
Charity	No previous position as Director or Trustee of a charity.
Experience	Played Rugby for 23 years, Level 2 Rugby Coach, Coached for 11 years, current Club Secretary, extensive experience in chairing multi agency meetings, leadership roles in the police – both uniform and detective deployments, project work etc.
Contribution	<p>I am writing to express my interest in the Director position of Rugby Club Secretary at Ayr. I have a strong background and passion for rugby, I played for 23 years and while playing held committee and club captaincy roles. I am a certified rugby coach and coached at Ayr with my son's side from P1 up to U18s. I was then elected onto the committee at Ayr and presently perform duties as the Club Secretary. I am a part of the walking rugby group and this season will also be helping out with the clubs 2A XV side.</p> <p>Outside of rugby I served as police officer for 30 years and retired from that role in 2023, I served in both local and national departments, with the majority of my service in the CID. During this time, I carried out several specialists trained roles, I also chaired multi agency meetings, represented Police Scotland on UK wide forums and participated in project work. I gained experience in working with internal and external partners and appreciate the need to work cooperatively to succeed.</p> <p>I am particularly drawn to this opportunity as I thoroughly enjoyed my time as a player and the many happy memories this has given me, I am keen to use my experience to help others on their rugby journey. The success of the club on field helps the club and its community to thrive, the more positivity we can generate the better and I believe the charity objectives of Ayr are something we should strive to develop and deliver.</p> <p>I look forward to the possibility of continuing to contribute to Ayr RFC.</p>

Name	Richard Longmuir
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Creative Director at Launch Digital Ltd
Skills (Primary)	IT/Digital/Social Media
Skills (Secondary)	Marketing/P.R.
Charity	No previous position as Director or Trustee of a charity.
Experience	<p>Lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University Board Director at Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>I have with charities and sports clubs through my career and voluntary efforts. I have supported Cluarankwai Judo Club (Registered Charity No. SC033323) helping to organise events, classes, and fundraising activities. I also mentor students at Glasgow Caledonian University (Registered Charity No. SC021474) in Marketing and Digital Design, which earned me the GCU Community Champion and Alumni of the Year award in 2020. Additionally, I serve on the Board of Directors at Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce providing strategic guidance and contribution to the direction and growth of the chamber.</p>
Contribution	<p>I am excited to express my passion for becoming a Director/Trustee for Ayr Rugby Football Club. Growing up in Ayrshire, rugby has always been a part of my life. I've seen how rugby brings people together, fosters teamwork, and encourages personal growth, values that resonate deeply with me, both professionally and personally.</p> <p>My background in digital marketing and creative strategy would be a valuable asset to the club. With over a decade of experience in brand development, digital campaigns, and community engagement, I believe I can contribute by enhancing the club's visibility and reputation, both locally and beyond. In an increasingly digital world, I see opportunities to grow the club's online presence, attract new sponsors, and engage with the younger generation through innovative content strategies. I can also assist in promoting events, developing outreach programmes, and strengthening the connection between the club and the wider Ayrshire community.</p> <p>What truly motivates me to become a Director/Trustee is my deep commitment to the local community. I'm passionate about supporting initiatives that not only benefit the club but also uplift Ayrshire as a whole. Sport has an incredible power to build confidence and resilience, particularly among young people, and I'd love to help Ayr Rugby Club continue fostering these opportunities.</p> <p>Ultimately, I want to give back to a club and a sport that has given a lot to me and my friends. I am confident that my expertise, combined with my genuine love for rugby and Ayrshire, will allow me to make a positive, lasting contribution to the club's future success.</p>

Name	William McHarg
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Accountant
Skills (Primary)	Business Management, Financial/Accounting
Skills (Secondary)	
Charity	Director/Trustee of Ayr RFC to Sept 2023.
Experience	Past President of Ayr RFC for 13 years. Past Treasurer of Ayr RFC for 25 years. Own my own Accountancy practice for 38 years.
Contribution	Well known in Scottish Rugby Circles by press, club presidents and SRU employees. Wish to become Director/Trustee to ensure "Ayr Rugby" stays at fore of Scottish Rugby.

Name	Andrew B Young
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Farmer
Skills (Primary)	Business Management, Marketing/P.R
Skills (Secondary)	
Charity	Director/Trustee Ayr RFC 2022-present
Experience	Current President of Ayr RFC, 2022- present For 40 years I have been involved with Ayr Rugby Club. Starting as a supporter then a coach for the youth teams and progressing to ground convenor for over 20 years. I have been a committee member for as long as I can remember. Through this time I have introduced a number of new sponsors to the club through my business connections and most recently, our main sponsor, Albert Bartlett. I have over 30years experience of sitting on the board of Girvan Early Growers, including being Chairman for the past 16 years. I have dedicated a substantial amount of time over the years helping the club to become what it is today. Specifically, the past 2 years where the first XV won promotion to the Scottish Premiership, the acquisition of dam park and the start of the Millbrae site regeneration.
Contribution	I would be honored if the members would consider me as a Director/Trustee of the board. I would hope that both my business connections and experience would be beneficial to the position.

Name	Neil T. Howie
Member	Yes
Current Occupation	Retired Company Director
Skills (Primary)	Business Management, Children & Young People
Skills (Secondary)	Grant Funding/Fund Raising, Cultural/Community
Charity	Founded the Ayr Community Rugby Trust Leading Trustee for ACRT (10 years)
Experience	I have been associated with Ayr RFC for many years. I coached my son's age group from P6 to U'18's. I then formed Ayr Community Rugby Trust and ran it for 10 years. Funding came from organizing the Oval Ball which was then extended and became the Long Lunch.
Contribution	I am now retired and I feel that I would be able to devote time and experience to Ayr RFC.