

# WESTERN PROVINCE CRICKET CLUB

## MINUTES of the 153<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the WESTERN PROVINCE CRICKET CLUB held in the BOWLS CLUBHOUSE on THURSDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2017 AT 18h00

### 1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the Club President, all Vice Presidents, noting special thanks to Brian Biebuyck, who celebrates 50 years of membership, Members and representatives from our business partners, sponsors and advertisers of the Club to the 153<sup>rd</sup> AGM

### 2. Apologies

Daphne Louw, Richard van Hoeslen, Allan Lacey, Tom Smith, Terry Wallace, Dr Andrew Golding, Shaun Nortier, Kim Commins, Di MacDonald, Ray Howell, Lenore Fuller, D Loubser

### 3. Obituaries

3.1. The following members passed away during the year:

A Ashforth, PJ McGee, EJ Rood, JB van Gend, JA Tucker, DJ Morcombe, D O Neil, D Reed, ML Parkin, M Phuhl, D Barnes, G Dommisee, R Jeffery, L Labaschagne, RW Kea, C Jacobs, J Kennedy, G Milne, A Jardine, M Murray, RL Kroucamp,

3.2. The meeting stood in silence and remembered those who had passed away.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

4. The minutes of the 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 25 August 2016 were approved as tabled.

Proposed as accepted by Andre Ross and seconded by Graham Todd.

### 5. Matters Arising From the Minutes

No matters were raised.

## **6. To receive and consider the Executive Committee Reports**

### **6.1. Committee Report**

- 6.1.1. The Committee is pleased to report that the Club has done well again, with finances covered in the Finance Report with Duncan. The cricket season saw us hosting Sri Lanka and Australia, although not as England in 2016, it was well attended. We look forward to hosting the Global T20, and plan towards India and Australia for the new cricket season. Although doubts over the start of the India fixture.
- 6.1.2. We hosted the World Blind Bowls at the Sports Centre, the Golden Oldies Hockey Festival at the Club, while we will host the Last Man Stands World Championships in December.
- 6.1.3. In March we hosted an event for members who have been members at the Club for 50 years or more. It was a special evening for all in attendance.
- 6.1.4. Our partnership with RBHS continues to work well and we this year replaced the surface on the A Astro.
- 6.1.5. Membership has shown a drop in numbers, by about 2.5%, 116 members, which is far less than other clubs, but is still a concern. The promising item to note is that the Sports Sections membership base remained roughly the same within about 10 members. The cricket section improved the section growth, Thanks to Trevor Pape. Growth in hockey section, while figures in the cricket section drop.
- 6.1.6. The storm in June caused significant damage to the Club property, we are pleased to confirm that all the damage was covered by our insurers.
- 6.1.7. Catering is still a concern, while maintenance is ongoing in order to maintain the world class facility.
- 6.1.8. Thank you to our committee, Duncan, Chris, Lenore, Scott and Bruce for their considerable efforts this year. A special mention to Bruce Risien, who has added impetus to the Oaks evenings for the year. A special thanks Further thanks to our management team of John, Bradley, Tracey, Nashura, Errol and their staff, admin staff, bar staff and our duty managers.

### **6.2. Finance Report**

- 6.2.1. Duncan de Groot tabled the Financial Report as at 31 May 2017.
- 6.2.2. Duncan stated that the full financial report was included in the Annual Report and the end of year financial statements.

DDG noted that there is a discrepancy in the budget compared to the budget summary. The difference was due to the Indian teams showing signs of not coming to the country for the tour. Hence, reducing the budget by R300K

- 6.2.3. Look back at 2016 report, a successful with England touring allowing for pleasing financial results. Noted in last year, it was important back this up in the next financial year and that we can operate within our means and provide steady financial support year in and year out. We are pleased to announce that this was achieved.
- 6.2.4. Areas of strong performance was bar trade, suite hire and control of central services.  
Against these performers in 2017, suite hire saw a lower as Sri Lanka is not a big draw card as England. We did though budget for this accordingly. Bar trade performed strongly due to events like Masters Hockey, better control with Nashura Johannes and differential bar pricing has added to this. Operational team under Bradley Seconds and bar staff have worked well and continue to drive strong financial performance in this area.
- 6.2.5. Central services was well controlled even though expenses increased by 3% like for like. A great thanks to Lenore Fuller for her proactive work and along with club staff, have put in place preventative maintenance schedules to improve and manage the facilities through the year. To provide context, the Clubs central services expense is R1M/month.
- 6.2.6. We are investigating options for alternative water solutions, which would allow for substantial savings on our water bill per year.
- 6.2.7. Membership growth has not been as robust as was the case in previous years. It has shown growth, but slightly under budget. The finance committee along with the membership committee are working on strategies to grow this. Bruce Cruickshank and his members committee with Tracey Hugo and Megan Dobson must be thanked for the work put in to manage this major aspect of the Clubs income. The Sports Sections have reached budget for the year and thanks to all sports chairs for their commitment throughout the year.
- 6.2.8. We made progress on attracting additional advertising in the last financial year, and this will remain a focus moving forward. Premises and ground rental has improved with increased function revenue at the Members Pavilion and we expect this to continue.
- 6.2.9. A major capital project for the year was the resurface of the A Astro. This was a significant undertaking. Capital expenditure totaled R4.4m while the previous financial year it stood at R630K. We also retiled the reception area, re carpeted the stairs to the bar, tiled in the tennis club house, re-surfaced 2 tennis courts, re did the artificial nets and relayed the A green at Bowls club house. The Club remains unencumbered.
- 6.2.10. From a cash basis, the A astro absorbed quite a substantial amount of the cash flow and at this morning we stand at we were R1m down at year end, at just over R500k, but as of this morning, we stand at R1.7 in the bank.

- 6.2.11. We saw an overall profit of R262 150 for year ending 31 May 2017, against a profit of R533. We have tabled a budget of R10 795, which includes the Global T20 and inbound tours of India and Australia.
- 6.2.12. The focus will continue on maximizing revenue opportunities.
- 6.2.13. DDG thanked John Vicars and his finance team for the prudent work in the year past.

### 6.3 Club Captain's Report

- 6.3.1 CB noted the pride of being able to walk through the Club facilities and be in awe of the world class facilities. Our sections have hosted both local and international tournament and events this year. On the sporting front, the sections have had a great year, with special mention to Bowls and importantly Trish Young who represented SA at the Champions of Champions in Australia.
- 6.3.2 The All Cape Bowls, Landmarks, 150<sup>th</sup> Tennis tournament were again well run events by our sporting codes. We thank her for her short stint as Chairperson and to Graham Todd for taking over.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket side had a successful season, with a chance to win the league all the way until the final fixture, well led by Derek Mitchel. The 3A must be mentioned for their amazing season, sweeping aside all sides for the season.

The Club honoured Allan Lacey by naming the Grand Stand after him. The men's first side lost out at the end of the season, and the hockey section continues to be a massive contributor both on and off the field. We welcome Mark Bryant on board as Chairman.

The Running Section continue to host a successful Landmark Road Race, and this year was awarded the Race of the Year by WP Athletics.

Paul Atkinson has this year taking over the chairman position at the Squash Section. The section again dominated the leagues in their respective categories. Alex Fuller must be congratulated for winning Swiss Open for the second year running. Siyoli Waters runs a development clinic at the courts and has had great success with player growth.

The Tennis section have performed well, with ladies, men's and doubles sides have all won their leagues, and are promoted for the year ahead.

The Sports Committee started with 4 new chairs for the year, who have all slotted in nicely. The Club staff structure has also recently changed, and these have all happened seamlessly over the past months.

I thank the dedication of both committee members and management staff.

CB noted the results of the recent hockey and squash results at the season break.

Question raised on low revenue on suites for the season. DDG noted that there is a vast difference for sales for and England tour compared to a Sri Lankan season.

Reports were proposed

Proposed: Mr Ross

Seconded: Mr Taylor

**7 To consider and if thought fit, to pass any other notice of motion of which due notice has been lodged with the Club Management not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting**

No motions lodged

**8. To elect the Honorary Club President and Vice President who shall be recommended by the Committee**

8.1 President

No such election was required as this position is held by Dr Andrew Golding, who is re-elected.

8.2 Re-elected Vice Presidents

Brian Biebuyk, Louis de Waal, Jeff Phillips, Paul Burton and John Bissett.

8.3 All the above nominated members were proposed by Garth Murphy and seconded by Carol Nash.

8.4 The Committee further recommends that Brendan Commins be elected as a Vice President.

**9 To elect a Club Captain**

9.1 One candidate was proposed being Chris Boyes

9.2 Chris Boyes was elected.

**10 To elect the Executive Committee**

10.1 The members of the retiring committee are Neil Strybis, Duncan de Groot, Lenore Fuller, Scott Fraser and Bruce Cruickshank

10.2 There are five members available for election, being, Neil Strybis, Duncan de Groot, Lenore Fuller, Scott Fraser and Bruce Cruickshank.

10.3 Neil Strybis, Duncan de Groot, Lenore Fuller, Scott Fraser and Bruce Cruickshank were elected to the Executive Committee.

- 10.4 Neil Strybis thanked our business partners and major sponsors – Growthpoint, Pam Golding Properties, Personal Trust, Vodacom, our suite holders and Section sponsors.

## 11 General

- 11.1 Question raised the outsourcing of catering facilities, the Club is possibly missing an income potential for catering at the Sports Centre. Mr Taylor noted that it is not a quick fix solution, but that club members would enjoy coming to the Club for a meal.
- 11.2 NS noted it is a concern and that the cost to find the best solution is a factor. The current model at False Bay Rugby club is a good example how it can be run.
- 11.3 DDG noted the reality of the financial strain, noting when the Club ran the function, making a loss for the 3 straight years. The kitchen is a stumbling block to find the best solution, which will need to be a well thought strategic plan. Suggestion to form a strategic committee to tackle the catering situation.
- 11.4 Question raised on ticket bookings for the Global T20, NS noted that it is still premature at this stage with pricing. DDG noted that we cannot have an empty stand for the matches and must take the opportunity to make the event a success. Our members will have first rights to purchase tickets for the fixtures. Members noted to have a long term view when negotiating with parties on ticket sales. Question was raised if Special membership will remain with the addition of the new
- 11.5 Question raised on dual pricing at the Club, and why does it not apply at Newlands. DDG replied, noting that the problem is not the higher prices at Newlands, but rather the low prices available to members at the Club compared to the rest, DDG noted comparison to Kelvin Grove and the like after research. The prices can be maintained, if we decide to increase the lower member price. If we only have member prices at Newlands, we will have no non-member sales on match days, which will affect bar sales. Tim Leavey questioned the sale of drinks on a Friday during Happy Hour. DDG noted it is an institution within the Club and it acts as a marketing exercise.
- 11.6 Tim Leavey noted that we have 24% less members since 2004. Noting the facilities are under used by members. DDG noted that we have more than just league playing members, but also a big social playing component. NS also noted that the sports club environment is struggling at the moment, and that the fact the Club is still maintaining players and members in the current environment is actually impressive, looking at lifestyle changes over time.
- 11.7 Tim would like to disagree with Tom Taylor on catering remarks, noting that there has been numerous attempts at making a success of the catering portfolio, but rather that members don't support the efforts of the caterer. Chris Leavey supported this statement. Also noting that there was a price difference at bars during match days.

- 11.8 Security concern on the premises, ADT letting cars in during the day. Parking concern on match days. NS noted that it is an ongoing concern, Bradley and management are continually looking at solutions. Parking with derby days is unacceptable and parents and visitors need to take more responsibility when parking.
- 11.9 Mr Murphy: lives across the way from YMCA, saying that there is too much unauthorised sports played on the YMCA field. NS noted that ETA do make use of the fields for various sports, while if any other sports are played, we encourage this to take place on the FMC field, which is meant for community use.
- 11.10 Is there a concern on the average of the attendance of the AGM, as bulk of members are young in age, while those in attendance at the AGM are more mature. DDG noted that each section hosts their own AGM and the committee takes notes of these needs at that point.
- 11.11 Kevin Nash, who controls who plays on the astro during the day. It is the responsibility of the duty manager at the Club during the day.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19h00



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Neil Strybis

August 2017