

# **Bowls Southern Cape**

## **Presidents report to Council meeting 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

In the past 2 months since my last report it feels as if a life time has passed with both good, bad and concerns to report on, this month.

So let me report on the bad first. We remember a player, irrespective of his age, who passed away at a Bowls SA tournament. I am sure we all realise that it was a tragic accident and don't wish it on any team, manager or District; yet Bowls SC had to experience it and had to deal with this tragic loss.

Let me say from the outset that this was a total freak accident and could have happened at any time as all the players were in the pool with supervision and control. So I must correct so many wise men who made up their own version of the incident and caused so much trauma and heartache to those of us dealing with the incident and the family.

Both Elma and I travelled to Klerksdorp and relieved the managers so that they could continue with their task at hand to give their 100% focus and attention to the entire team and especially those traumatised by recovering the body on the bottom of the pool. I can assure you that I attended and met with the Police at the highest levels and were able to return to George within two days with all the paperwork done and the body released for burial the next week end. The funeral was attended by between 550 and 600 people including the Mayor of George who attended the first part of the ceremony at the home of the family. A personal call and letter from Dr Ivan Meyer minister for Sport in the Western Cape was also received. To everyone that contributed to the fund created that the family could be assisted with the cost of the funeral, may I express my total gratitude and appreciation. May I say that the family consisting of about 30 members living in two shacks on a single erf, are destitute after losing their father 9 months before this incident and we as a district had no option but to assist with the arrangements. We as a District and Bowls SA should be aware of the implications of such an incident and should be taking the necessary precautions as we travel on roads with irresponsible drivers using them and I shudder to consider the implications of a tragic accident on the way to or from a tournament of similar nature.

### **GOOD NEWS**

#### **All Cape.**

What can I say to a tournament committee under the leadership of Kallie Haupt, Akker vd Merwe, Jenny Sinclair, Christine Lombaard and Koos Louw. Well done on a great tournament. No tournament would be successful if it were not for willing hosting clubs, helpers, Umpires and just so many to mention. To everyone who contributed to a great tournament, we in Southern Cape are proud of what was presented and the number of willing people that came aboard and just got stuck in and did whatever they did FOR BOWLS. We thank every last helper for keeping Bowls SC name high, WELL DONE.

#### **Management Committee.**

Again a huge THANK YOU for your dedication to the sport of bowls, your time and efforts do not go unnoticed and are unsurpassed in BOWLS. I must however warn that it is time to start getting the younger generation involved and that we start to train those that will take

over in the years to come. in 3 years' time a new All Cape committee will have to be appointed and it's here that one can get so much valuable experience and I urge persons willing to assist to speak to me that we can make use of your experience and willingness. The future of Bowls is not in our hands; it's in the hands of those who are to follow.

### **Communication.**

Communication can still improve and even after all the checks and balances we have put into place, one still hears people saying "I don't know or did not know". Les has built a data base of players with their cell numbers who have played in competitions this year and that will soon be used to get information right down to players at ground level.

### **Website.**

This site has been an amazing job well done. We have had so many positive comments and the comments regarding the All Cape results were all positive. The site is administrated by Elma and is a full time job. Club information cannot be placed on our home page but can be placed on the club events if requested. So if you want your club winners with a report and not just a number of photos and open day notices, it can also be published under club events. We still have to put the links in place to other websites like BSA, WB, and many others. Then at a press of a button everything will be on the BSC website.

I again appeal to everyone: come on board and let our website be a success. Let's make it a show piece for all clubs and districts, to want to log in. Remember the more hits, the more advertisers want to be part of the web page, the more money generated for the district. "Face book" is also available but members must click on 'like' to get the news.

### **Standing Committees**

All are functioning well and we thank them for their hours of work put into their portfolios. I personally donated a trailer to Membership Growth and Development who is currently in conjunction with the Bowls SA committee kitting it out and doing the branding of the trailer. This trailer will then be used for the Western Cape region where the other districts can use our trailer and pay us a fee still to be negotiated. The insurance and licence, etc. should also be taken over by Bowls SC.

### **Provincial sports councils and SASCOC requirements and meetings.**

This is again a very difficult portfolio with demands that don't take any of our personal previously arranged games practices or anything into account. I attended a meeting of the members of the SWDSC on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May in Cape Town again with very short notice. We have the federations SWD AGM tonight that Koos and I will attend.

The DCAS Cheque handover was on the 8<sup>th</sup> April which Christine, Koos and myself attended, and we are very grateful for the development grant.

### **Western Cape Bowls Board/Association**

Koos and I attended a meeting with Boland and WP at Riversdal to form the Western Cape Bowls Board, which will foster relationships between the 3 districts and at the same time give a forum for joint decisions concerning the 3 districts. At this interim meeting I was elected as President and Koos as secretary. I request that this forum approve the structure. This is nothing new as both Natal has a Natal Bowls Board and Gauteng has the Joint Gauteng Bowls Board. We are currently drawing up the constitution for the Western Cape Bowls

Board. In this week all 3 districts will be having council meetings and it is expected that the formation will be ratified.

### **District Academy.**

**This has been an ideal of the Executive and is going to place huge commitment on the coaches as their time and dedication is going to be tested as it is time that they have given to the bowlers and we trust that players will appreciate the commitment from our coaches and attend these practises**

Squad and emerging players.

This was discussed at length at the feedback meeting (10<sup>th</sup> April) and a follow-up meeting (4<sup>th</sup> June) with selectors and management committee.

The squad players received an SMS on Wednesday at approximately 15h00 inviting them to the first squad training as indicated in the fixture book as Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at George Club. Players then will reply to THAT SMS indicating their availability or not. On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June the final 36 players will be announced. The balance of the players will go into an emerging squad that will practice on separate days but still under the guidance of the District Coaches.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July Emerging squad practice -----Oudtshoorn??

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August Emerging squad pm (after BSC AGM) at Outeniqua Club

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August men 36 squad at Outeniqua am and pm

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August Ladies 36 squad at Outeniqua am and pm

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September emerging squad at George am and pm

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September men's 36 squad at Oudtshoorn am and pm

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September Ladies 36 squad at Oudtshoorn am and pm

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October men's 36 squad at George am and pm

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October ladies 36 squad at George am and pm

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October men's and Ladies teams to be announced

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November men's Team practice at George am and Pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November ladies Team practice at Outeniqua am and pm

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November emerging squad practice Oudtshoorn am and pm

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December team challenge day Outeniqua am and pm

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December Team Practice day George am and pm

As can be seen the Ladies day has not changed as per the fixture book. On the request of the Technical Director Coaching, Peet Badenhorst we split the Ladies and Men to different days as the group was just too large to give individual attention.

Weekly skills will continue from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July for only the members of the 36 squad at George on Monday afternoons from 15h00 till 18h00. All other players skills practises will be at Outeniqua on Tuesdays from 15h00 till 18h00. Once the teams are announced these teams will do skills on the Monday at George and all other players will be at Outeniqua. Squads in the other Zones will be arranged with the coaches in that area much like was done this year.

### **Borge.**

Tot op hede het niks nog gerealiseer nie en dit raak al hoe moeiliker om 'n borg vir die Distrik te bekom, aangesien ons dringend aandag moet skenk daaraan om die kleredrag van die distrik te verander, sodat wanneer ons reis, ons kan reis met twee stelle "moisture management" klere, wat vinnig droog word en lig is. Die rolbalsakke bly ook 'n groot

probleem en moet ook vervang word. Daar het ook, na 'n definitiewe ja vanaf 'n borg, niks van gekom nie. As discussed and accepted on 10th April a change in dress was accepted by the Executive and we are awaiting an appointment with the SWD sports council for ratification and guidance. New Bowls bags will have to be sourced and it was agreed by the Executive that each player will now purchase his/her own bag as the current bowls bags have not been looked after and it would be better that each player purchases and looks after their own bowls bag

### **Media**

This stays a grave area of concern and I need some guidance as the District is not getting the necessary media coverage. We are very fortunate to have had Hugo who covered the All Cape for the George Herald and we need to nurture this connection.

### **U19 and U25**

The U19 tournament under the circumstances was well arranged and I would personally thank the managers who under very difficult circumstances stood by the players and returned safely to George. Anri combined with the Southern Free State U25 and positive feedback was received from SFS.

### **Central Karoo Zone.**

The Central Karoo Zone has been finalized and we wish the young committee everything of the best in all their endeavours. We as Bowls SC extend a helping hand with any training or assistance, they may require. To Jan Stadler the President and in such a member of the Bowls SC Executive, well done and we look forward to a long and fruitful working relationship

### **Triangular tournament:**

The tournament has been cancelled in 2012 and will not take place in 2013. The SC Team Challenge will substitute this event.

### **League**

The league after the workshop will be voted on at the AGM as a straight vote of the clubs.

### **Inter districts feedback meeting**

A very good feedback meeting was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April where the teams, managers and coaches were commended for their achievements and the manner in which the players conducted themselves.

A number of decisions were taken and have been ratified by the Executive and I trust that the council will endorse them.

1. Players will pay R100 per month and not a lump sum in January
2. Should a player withdraw for any reason the money in total will be refunded in total
3. Teams will be announced earlier on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October

### **Players contract**

This has been rewritten and will be signed at the squad practice on the 21<sup>st</sup> October. We have had it checked by an independent Legal expert. The secretary will keep all signed contracts and a copy of the document will be placed on the web site for reference and scrutiny by all players.

### **Selection Criteria 2013/2014**

As approved by all Selectors managers and Executive present at the feedback meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> April are as follows.

1. A player must play in at least 4 District competitions in one calendar year. Special dispensation will be considered in exceptional circumstances
2. A players record over a 3 year period will be considered, but will serve as a GUIDE only
3. A player must have a consistent delivery on the correct line
4. COMPATIBILITY within the team is a high priority
5. Commitment to weekly skills practice. Minimum 70 % attendance is required.
6. A level of fitness that will be attained and maintained in order to play 5 consecutive days.
7. No senior player will be considered for the B sides

### **Lastly-----concerns**

Fellow Council members we need to take control of our own future and if each of our clubs are not going to be proud of their members achievements for the year then we will be moving backwards.

1. At the Capping ceremony I spoke of Recognition and we as clubs should take the opportunity to endorse the BSC awards system which I will discuss in detail later. Last year not one club nominated themselves for CLUB OF THE YEAR. This is bad when we think so little of our own clubs, so let's take this opportunity to support this venture this year.
2. Nominations for the Executive have been sent to you and surely there are members that you feel can serve you the bowlers. So let's have the nominations.
3. We need nominations for a men's selector. Again there must be someone out there that would like to give something back to this amazing game and become involved with selection.
4. Data base: we as administrators constantly use information on the Bowls SA web site only to find that what we are looking for is not there and only minimum detail are listed. Just yesterday we were looking for cell phone numbers to invite players to the District Squad only to find the columns blank. Every one of us carry a cell phone with us daily, yet the numbers are not on the web. May I ask that each club ensure that all players' details, especially the cell phone numbers, are correct on the Data base.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in closing, I would like to make a statement and please see it in a positive light. If we do not start to get younger administrators, that aspect of the game will kill off this game before the lack of numbers destroys this game. We require and will appreciate anybody who wants to get involved with administration. We will train and take you along this road that can be so rewarding. Yes, it is hard work, but again rewarding to

see growth and the forward movement to protect and nurture what we all love most THE GAME OF BOWLS.

I have again included the table for reference purposes.

**Executive members clubs of responsibility**

	CLUBS	FROM END FEB
1	BEAUFORT WEST	Central Karoo
2	CARNARVON	Central Karoo
3	GEORGE	Japie
4	GREAT BRAK	Philip
5	HARTENBOS	Phillip
6	HEIDELBERG	Phillip
7	KAROO PARK	Central Karoo
8	KNYSNA	Japie
9	LADISMITH	Philip
10	LEISURE ISLE	Johnny
11	MILITARY SPORTS	Johnny
12	MOSSEL BAY	Japie
13	OUDTSHOORN	Johnny
14	OUTENIQUA	Japie
15	PLETTENBERG BOWLING	Claudia
16	PLETTENBERG COUNTRY CLUB	Johnny
17	RIVERSDAL	Claudia
18	SEDGEFIELD	Claudia
19	STILL BAY	Johnny
20	VISTA	Claudia

TREVOR DAVIS  
PRESIDENT