

Bowls Southern Cape

Presidents report for Executive meeting 20th September 2013

It is again a privilege to report to this forum, and every time that I sit down to reflect on what has happened in the past month I am so proud to be associated with an amazing group of administrators, each one, in their own right, going beyond the call of duty virtually on a daily basis for the betterment of Bowls and I am sure that without you, the committed and dedicated administrator this sport would not be what it is. What a privilege it is that we as a group are able to use one another as a “sounding board” when any of us has an idea or vision outside of the box and together we can use the electronic media to get to the best solution for BOWLS. It is an absolute pleasure to be part and especially the leader of such a group that has bowls, and at times, at a higher priority than their own private lives and I thank each of you for your contribution and at times done with nobody even taking notice that it was done.

While Christine and I were away, may I thank Koos for the mammoth job done, also quietly in the background. The Bye-laws, the fixture book for next year, the grant application the finalization of the accommodation and travelling for the Inter Districts next year. Koos we are very privileged to have someone like you that just get on with it and will always do it in a professional manner. Your ability to communicate with bowlers at any level astounds me and I thank you. BSC has no idea of your value and what you bring to this Executive.

To every member of this Executive, who has settled in and just gets the job done, and done in such a professional manner, I thank you; it's the likes of you that will ensure that bowls continues to grow.

It is very apparent that there is no doubt in my mind when speaking to club presidents that there is new enthusiasm in the District and that desire to ensure that GROWTH in numbers is priority number one this year and it is amazing to hear some of the amazing “out of the box” ideas that some clubs have to attract new members. In attending the AGM of Heidelberg it is very apparent that even in the outlying areas there is still hope to grow and your enthusiasm and the positive “vibe” will be rewarded and your efforts will pay off and growth achieved.

BOWLS SA AGM

This was attended by Japie and me and we thank the Council for the opportunity to be able to attend this meeting and at the same time “network” with other Districts and share what they envisaged for the year ahead.

To report on the meeting there is nothing really to report on except that the formation of the Provincial Bowls structures was accepted as discussed at our AGM with overwhelming support from the Gauteng bowls board. We can continue with the structure formed at the founding meeting at Riversdale and so ensure our funding from government is continued and with the formation of the Western Cape Bowls that bowls in the entire Western Cape can together grow, with joint ventures to ensure that our great-grandchildren will also play bowls.

ALL CAPE BOARD MEETING

1. Prize monies will be the same for men and ladies (25% of total entry fee)
2. No burnt end will be allowed
3. Games will still be 21 ends
4. Entry fee was set at R440 per team
5. Green fees payable will be R25/day and will include tea and sandwiches
6. Eastern Province will host 2015
7. Dates in Border for 2014 are as follows
8. Men's 5th – 12 April 2014
9. Ladies 3rd – 10 May 2014
10. Constitution will be amended and it will be placed on the web

HEIDELBERG AGM

To the new executive, it was a pleasure to have attended your AGM and trust that together we can ensure growth in your club. Your hospitality to me and Susanna van Niekerk the Executive member responsible for communication and support to your club, we thank you for the opportunity to attend and for the open and frank discussions. I must point out that their men's singles champion is a person from the previously disadvantaged community who has been playing bowls for 3 years. May I again remind clubs that this is news that should be passed onto myself or Les Johnston through the district secretary that this can be published widely as its these kind of reports that assist the district in ensuring transformation and growth in transformation.

PPA

Let me express my appreciation to the PPA and its members for the positive way that the fundraisers have started; it is again a sign of the positive atmosphere in the district. This task is not an easy task but for the continuation of our entry into the Inter Districts we will have to grow and the responsibility will rest more and more on the players under the guidance of the PPA to raise the necessary funds. With a quick reconciliation with the treasurer it would appear that even with every saving negotiated there will still be a shortfall of at least R20000.00 for 2014 over 2013. With the ever spiralling cost of accommodation and travelling, a solution for these costs will have to be sought together with the Executive and PPA to find the way forward that we don't start to cut back when it's too late, we now together need to take proactive steps to ensure that the correct balance is obtained with least amount of negative financial drain on the district.

WEB SITE

I am very pleased that through our web site we have been able to direct enquiries on membership to clubs and clubs have reported new members joining from enquiries on the web site from new members.

COMMUNICATION

Again I am pleased to see that so many clubs have adopted the bulk sms system to communicate with its members. Well done as this system has worked wonders in the district and can only work wonders in any club. Without members not being informed we are not going to GROW.

DISTRICT CLOTHING

Samples as worn by me today are the samples that have been supplied for approval to the SWD. To the sponsor ASSEAL, I again express my appreciation and they have already paid their amount of R30 000.00 over to the person manufacturing our clothing thus relieving the district of paying a deposit over. The shortfall (of about R250.00) per player will be collected from the players as soon as the teams have been announced. Each player will receive two shirts and two long pants. The total value of the opening order is approximately R43000.00 depending on the team sizes once announced as the XXL sizes are more expensive.

BOWLS SOUTHERN CAPE – OFFICE

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to becoming a very privileged District in being able to say that we no longer run our district out of our homes or boots of our cars when we, with the very kind gesture of Outeniqua Club move into our new offices kindly donated by the club. To be able to say that we a very small district will for the first time have our very own board room and offices is a very great privilege and personally our gratitude goes to Outeniqua club and also to their sponsors who have made this possible.

BOWLS SOUTHERN CAPE vs BOLAND etc

I trust that at today’s meeting we can put to bed the problems regarding the long standing tournament that have for years been an institution between the two districts and take a BOWLS decision as to the way forward and that in the end bowls will be the winner and that personal differences are put aside and that under the banner of the Western Cape Bowls we can move forward with mutual agreement and to mutual benefit. I will be in Boland next week end to assist with a Coaches course and Stoffel Lambrecht will be on the course and trust that our decision taken today can be finalized with him next week end. The Loerie tournament should not be lost as this too has come a long way and so many Inter District players found their roots in this tournament and careful consideration should be given in reaching a final decision.

SCHOOLS LEAGUE

I am very concerned to hear that this has declined to only two schools and there is mention that others are in the process of being resurrected. I cannot express my concern enough as this is the only “youth” program and at times the only opportunity to increase transformation numbers and I appeal to our membership and growth committee which under it has the schools league to investigate and submit a full report and planning report on the ways forward with schools league.

COACHING REFRESHER COURSES

As a coach qualification is only valid for 4 years there are many coaches that require doing a refresher course.

Still bay/Riversdale/ area----- 17 October at 10h00 at Still Bay

Knysna/Sedgefield/Plett area ----- 24 October at 10h 00 at Knysna

George area and that includes both George clubs, Mossel bay, Vista, Groot Brak and Oudtshoorn at George club -----31 October 10h00

Beaufort West-----5 November at Beaufort West club 10h00

REGIONAL TRAINING ---CLUB ADMINISTRATORS

I look forward in seeing and attending these training sessions and hope that the clubs will support this initiative from the District.

I would in closing thank everyone on the Executive, management committee and I include my selectors and standing committees for the difference they have made to the administration of the district.

Let's keep moving forward together and lets always be aware of thinking "out the box" to make a difference.

I thank you

TREVOR DAVIS
PRESIDENT BOWLS SOUTHERN CAPE