

# **Eden Bowls**

## **Presidents report for Executive meeting 25<sup>TH</sup> September 2014**

It must be a positive that at our meeting we will now make use of the furniture purchased with the funding from the George municipality. We have also purchased the material to start erecting shelving in both the trophy room as well as the store. This will then give us the storage space required that all documents currently stored at our homes can be moved to the District office. It is my desire that within a month we will have the shelving completed as well as the history and photos of all past presidents and Protea players displayed in the office. To everyone that has contributed, may I express my gratitude.

Koos and I are currently completing the necessary documentation for provincial funding which is a huge task but without this funding we would not be able to afford the various projects in the District.

The League remains a concern. The Council with a full majority accepted the format for next year, but afterwards I received an email requesting changes. I, as President and the Executive only carry out the desire and wishes of the majority votes at the Council meeting, and that decision must stand. We do accept that in any new system there will be fine tuning. Therefore it was decided, that in the preparation for the 2015 year, the second half of the 2014 League will be consolidated into a shorter time, to ensure that this phase will not interfere with any club's schedule of yearly maintenance of their greens.

The 2015 fixture book is in an advanced stage of planning. I thank Koos for this mammoth job, a job that I am sure not many appreciate or understand the extent of planning and communication between all the clubs and Koos. It takes fine planning to create a good balance within the year's competition schedule and also ensure that every club's needs are accommodated within the hectic and overcrowded BSA and Eden District schedule.

The work on the District Development trailer is progressing well and I hope will soon be completed. This will assist the clubs with their schools drive and the University drive. The trailer will soon be registered in the district's name and, once stocked, will be insured accordingly. I would like to thank our Vice President Theo for his input and enthusiasm behind making this dream a reality.

The preparation for the 2015 Inter Districts is progressing well with most of the bookings done and here I must give thanks to Elma and Koos for the hours spent ensuring the correct and affordable accommodation is sourced and booked. I am presently in negotiations with a possible sponsor for the supply and use of vehicles for the duration of the tournament for both the A and B sides.

The highlight for the next few weeks must be the staging of the District Masters Tournament at George Club and the Envar Buys tournament in Oudtshoorn. Here we expect a full field of players given the opportunity to get the skills required for the Bowls SA U19 and U25 tournament that we will support next year by entering as many teams as financially possible. We already have teams from most of our neighbours and I am sure that this tournament will be a great success. We hope to have Envar's mother at the final to present the trophy to this year's winners. The Masters again this year will not take place if clubs don't assist with markers. I make an urgent appeal to all markers and umpires to come forward and make their services available to ensure the success of this year's Masters.

Membership growth again took a tumble this month and I am not sure that every club regards membership recruitment seriously. We have to stop this downward curve. I trust that all the posters that were brought back from the BSA AGM have been put in prominent places to gain maximum benefit from our Protea players doing so well at the recent Commonwealth games.

The attaining of Protea colours by Elma Davis and the inclusion of Arlene Bosse in the SA Senior Masters, the inclusion of Elma in the Gold squad as well as her inclusion in the SA Masters do reflect well for our ladies in the District. I am sure one and all in the District support these players as they represent all our bowlers in the Eden District.

From my side it was a wonderful feeling sitting in the grand stands in Glasgow at the Commonwealth Games and people approach me and introduce themselves as members of Knysna, Plettenberg Bay, and Leisure Isle clubs, who play and live in SA for 6 months of the year. What a small world we live in.

I again make a plea to anyone who would like to get involved with administration to contact me. Let us ensure that we are always aware of the importance of these persons who give freely for the growth of our sport. Come and join the ranks of some of the best administrators in the country and again here I give credit to our Secretary, who is currently on a very well deserved holiday out of the country, and Koos with the amazing workload that he gets through, with the portfolios of Treasurer and Competition Secretary and at this time of year the Fixture book for 2015. So many of us take for granted what they do and to many, the only time that they will appreciate what they do, is when they are no longer there. In EP with the Pro 10 I was fortunate to meet one of these people by the name of Annette Herselman, who took on the job of secretary and rose to the job, with distinction and brought a new vibe to the game. Let us see if we can find that "Annette" in our District and get involved and give that something back to Bowls. I again bring it to the attention of all clubs that both Christine and Koos have indicated their wish to step down next year, and this will leave a huge gap in the administration of this District. So again let's identify those with a passion to ensure the further growth of the game to come forward and join us and we will ensure the administrators of the future have the knowhow required in serving Bowls.

Bowls is a passion to me and after many years I still have that passion to try and find that something new in Bowls. Let's all contribute to take bowls to that next level.

I thank Petro for taking on the position of assistant secretary in Christine's absence, to ensure the daily mass of communication gets processed.

I thank you  
TREVOR DAVIS  
PRESIDENT EDEN BOWLS