

Eden Bowls

Presidents report for Executive meeting 4th July 2014

Due to the time elapsed since my last and very detailed report to Council last month, I plan to keep it short.

At the outset I must express my general concern as to the submissions for the District awards, and in fact the apathy of clubs to give recognition to those members of their clubs who serve their clubs willingly. This I will be placing before Council as to the furtherance of this recognition program. I do remember past president, Jenny Sinclair, using the word apathy in clubs' reactions to submissions and I feel clubs should be aware that for any system of recognition from District level to be successful, it can only be as successful as submissions that are made by the clubs to the District. When only three full submissions out of the possible 17 in Eden and the 3 in the Central Karoo sub district were received, Council will have to give guidance to this aspect.

The same can be said as to the submissions and nominations to serve this District and the validity of some of the nominations. Again this will be referred to Council for guidance. Administrators of our sport, stays important to our existence, just as membership growth is important. So many forget the hours these people spend ensuring that all the "behind the scenes" work and paperwork gets done and done without anybody even knowing it was done. But to all administrators at all levels, I want to personally thank you for your contribution that you bring to our sport. Here I single out Christine who does not even play our sport actively any more, yet I can assure you one of the best and most efficient administrators I have ever worked with, at any level.

At this stage I must also give recognition to both Mike Millard and Jacky Jacques for their contribution to bowls and the administration of bowls. In passing on, they have left a huge vacuum.

However the absolute positive to come out of the past month, was the amazingly successful Youth Tournament held over the week end at Oudtshoorn Club. With a joint venture between the club and the local municipality, the Municipality being totally committed to the process of transformation and development, has agreed to double the sponsorship for next year. In addition they have agreed to our schools program and agreed to ensure participation in bowls from ALL the Oudtshoorn schools and to such an extent that they will supply and ensure transport for these children. This is one huge step for Bowls in Eden. With that in mind, I must also acknowledge the years of input and dedication from George club and especially Johan Havenga, and the current group that spend so much time with our Junior bowlers, and I include Theo, Daphne, Hilton, Matilda, Betty, Geoff and so many others, keep it up.

The growth in the District is also encouraging and to every club for the initiatives to grow membership it is appreciated as it is the life line our sport requires. Growth in numbers and consistent growth is paramount to our total existence and the survival of our sport.

Congratulations go to Billy and Elma who both did extremely well at the zone camp and we trust that they will both be included in the National Camp and we wish them the best in their endeavours in achieving what they have set as their individual goals.

The Council rejected the Executive's proposal that a portion of the profits from the 2013 All Cape be used to subsidize the costing of the 2015 inter districts. There will have to be a concerted effort by the players to raise the necessary funding to ensure our participation. With the first squad practice being

cancelled due to bad weather, I am concerned that the PPA has not yet appointed responsible persons in the various zones to drive these fundraisers.

The league format and the replies received from clubs and some received from clubs being personal feedback, is again very positive in most instances. However we should keep in mind the totally congested first few months of the year and the competitions that we as a District have to complete that these winners can be forwarded to the National office. These include, the District singles, mixed pairs, and Pro 10 and then in the first few months we also have the Inter-districts , All Cape, and the Nationals, and with all this, we still get a portion of the league played. I have come to the conclusion that the Competition Secretary must have an amazing 6th sense and a possible “genie” in his corner to comply with everyone’s requests and at the same time supply our winners to Bowls SA. Not an easy job, but a job well done by Koos. My concern that, as I write this report, I am unaware of any nominations for assistant Competition Sec and Secretary, and this after notice was given at the Council meeting that both Koos and Christine are not available for further duty after next year’s AGM. It is vital that these persons be identified that they can now come on board and become part of the administration of the amazing District **EDEN BOWLS**.

I thank you

TREVOR

PRESIDENT EDEN BOWLS