



OLD PARKS SPORTS CLUB CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

September 2024

Dear Fellow Members,

The year seems to have shot by, and we are at Old Parks looking towards the year end and holidays! The club has kept its successful rhyme through the year with much having been achieved and built on.

The club has led in Bowls with the recent National and Gauteng champs staged at our venue. Soccer has built a strong and resilient model and is a success story versus 3-4 years ago. Well, done! LPL Cricket has gone off well and Old Parks Cricket will start the new season in October. RAC continues to have internal debates and is working toward the annual Tough One Race in November.

The club has enjoyed various major company events which included Sun International and Vumatel hosting their staff at the club. Great exposure and more events are being finalised. Year-end bookings will receive a 20% discount if booked before 15 October! We provide what big corporates need for their teambuilding days, so spread the word!

A couple of months ago The Exco and Manco recommended and agreed that an interim Club Director be appointed. This was taken up By Dave Nosworthy who with Lizette, our Club manager, has already achieve more focus and delivery against specific objectives.

Amongst these are:

- The rewiring of our automated irrigation system on the bottom field.
- The soccer clubhouse was finished. It too can be hired for events or meeting via the clubs' offices.
- Energy saving and lighting are a priority and quotes for implementation are in hand.
- For the first time in about 17 years the field will be especially treated by professional to rejuvenate them and December will necessitate closing them for use. A big step but care of this major asset is vital. Field usage is always a subject of contention as demand for their use rises weekly.
- Of major concern has been the inevitable deterioration of some of our infrastructure, in particular the sewer servicing the club and their flow. To this end it has been essential to commission industrial plumbers to rectify our system for health and safety reasons. This will carry a substantial bill of more than R100k. Expensive but essential!
- The bar has continued well post the relaunch and the warmer weather will no doubt see many visitors.
- A new business and conference centre is being consider for the Members Lounge as a revenue generator, there after the office relocation are to be considered.
- Dave has focussed on our staff and the development programme instituted a few months back. This is having a noticeable impact on performance, delivery and positive response from members. Our staff are the glue that holds all together.
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Key challenges for the leadership team to manage and/or action in the next few months.

- The sale of a section of the property, by the Association, for the building of a residential development, and which will give the Association and Club financial security. The Due Diligence process is reaching finalisation.
- City of Johannesburg - Rates penalty. The Ombudsman has completed his work, and a final report has been requested by the end of September. The penalties imposed are challengeable and we await the final report before any further steps are initiated.
- A major initiative that has taken some time to complete has been the creation of an NPC (Not for Profit Company) which will be able to manage the club's affairs and reporting to a board made up from the Association and Club. This is progressing well, and we will revert shortly to start consultation on this step.
- Revision to the Constitutions of the Club and association and the establishing of a Not-for-Profit Company are nearing finalisation. With checking and legal advice required before these can be put to yourselves the members. We hope before the calendar year end.

Remember: This is your club, and we, the committees, are only the custodians on your behalf. Please do contact us whenever needed, through the club offices.

Your home and club!

Ken McArthur
Old Parks Chairman

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