

# The Falcon: August 2018

## New Committee

The Annual General Meeting has come and gone and we have a new committee in place to continue the good work of previous committees and take the Club forward. The new committee is headed by John Stamper, supported by Club Captains Maureen Mcleod and Graham Barker, Secretary Eddie Curtis, Financial Controller Jet Clark, and three additional members in Lynn Liebenberg, Heather Cawood and Butch Liebenberg.

We wish the Exco team all the best and hope that they will get the support they need to manage our Club professionally and successfully.

We also need to thank the outgoing committee under Neels Kotze for all they achieved in a relatively short time: new windows, an indoor braai, refurbished Clubhouse, re-arranged seating in the Bar area are some of the improvements which we all now enjoy.

## Noteworthy performances

Participating in the Boland Fours tournament recently, the team of Cheryl Saunders, Laurie Kevy-Venter, Colleen Marshall and Lynn Liebenberg won the Plate Division. Well done, Ladies!

## Events

Happy Nappy Campaign: Thanks to all who have already donated nappies or cash towards this campaign to help the St Josephs Home for Chronically Ill Children.

<http://stjosephshome.org.za/happy-nappy-campaign/> )

As of Saturday morning (18<sup>th</sup> August) we had 10 large packs of nappies collected. Alan Lofthouse (Snowball organiser) has pledged all fine monies collected (from Saturday onwards) to this cause – thanks Alan!! Saturday's fines collected R81.50 which is enough for half a pack. This campaign will officially run until the 20<sup>th</sup> of September this year so you still have time to drop off a packet of nappies or a cash donation. Cash donations can be handed to Heather or placed in an envelope marked "HAPPY NAPPY CAMPAIGN" and dropped in the drop safe at the club.

Trivia Evening: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September: This will be the "off the greens" round of the Battle of the Sexes. Ladies and Gents – get your teams together and enter – lists are on the Events Notice Board! Cost is R25,00 per person (not more than 4 per team). Tony will be making Lasagne and a Greek Salad that will be on sale for R35.00. Please pre-book your meal to assist with catering arrangements.

Battle of the Nations – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September (Heritage Day): Please enter your teams on the notice board and please indicate the nation that you will represent. Prizes for best dressed team. This will be a fun day so do include non-bowlers in your teams!

Bowls will start at 9am followed by an Around the World Lunch (open to all). Tickets for the lunch will be on sale soon. (A "passport" of 6 tickets will cost R60.00 and will entitle you to 6 "tastings" from tables representing countries from around the world. If you would like to host a table, please contact Heather on 082 800 5308 or

[heather.c@vodamail.co.za](mailto:heather.c@vodamail.co.za)

Our aim is to have tastings from at least 12 different countries. At present we have Brazil, Denmark, India, France, England, Portugal, South Africa and possibly Greece. How about including Mexico, China, Italy and the USA (as examples!!)

Friday Evening Meals: We all enjoy the regular Friday evening meals that a great team of volunteers have been making possible. A big thanks to Sid, TK and Tony (as well as Peter Cottrell and Linda Stringer)! In order to continue with this great initiative, we are looking for more volunteers to do the catering and preparing of these meals to enable this great team to also enjoy the majority of their Fridays!

If you are prepared to cater one Friday every second or third month, please let Heather Cawood know. We are also looking for volunteers to light the odd braai fire on some Fridays.

## Greens

C Green is desperately in need of attention. It will be closed this week, scarified, hand-cored, sodded in places and lightly topdressed. The amount of warm weather we get thereafter will determine when we can get back on this green.

B Green will come into play this week. Members will have to accept that it will be slower than what we have experienced recently and still have a few bumps!

A Green will have to keep going until Mid-November when it will be machine-cored and topdressed.

### **Banks**

We would ask members to continue to access greens via the walk-on entrances at the corners of the greens. If possible, we would also ask that players refrain, where possible, from stepping on and off the greens. The edges of the new banks are particularly sensitive. Thanks for your understanding.

### **Attracting new members**

*(This is a repeat request!)*

We promised that we would continue to highlight the need for **every one of us** to try to attract new members to the Club.

Equally important is the need to make new members feel really welcome and to go out of our way to include them in all events at the Club. With the popular Snowball running right now, this is the ideal opportunity to bring new members and potential new bowlers into play.

### **Our internationals**

John Dews pointed out that we have in our midst a number of Internationals in a variety of sporting codes. Manneljies Roux (Rugby), Alan Lofthouse (Bowls), Roy Clark (Hockey), Laurie Keevy- Venter (Netball) and Butch Liebenberg (Seniors Squash) have all participated with distinction. We can add to the list Finn Stender (badminton coach at International level), Maureen Mcleod (National Bowls Selector and Flo George and Neels Kotze (Bowls) who have played at representative level.

### **Members' Book**

Ian Saunders will be collating the Members' Book this year. Finding sponsors is not easy. If you have a suggestion for a potential sponsor in a business that our members may well support, please let him know. And when you have occasion to make use of the services of a sponsor, please let them know that you are a member of Constantia Bowls Club.

### **Robertson House**

Those who participate in the Annual "Army Day" are aware of the need to support this really worthy organisation. It is wonderful to record that through the interventions of Peter Jerome and Keith Ingram, an estate managed by Peter was able to contribute R500 000 to Robertson House.

### **Snowball**

We congratulate Alan Lofthouse on his sleight of hand in managing to ensure that the winning number doesn't come up every week. The jackpot should be close to R3 000 this week.

### **Sharing of facilities**

Arising from a difference of opinion regarding our multi-discipline Club, we asked Peter Brown to provide some background. His comments follow: Thirty nine years ago we entered into a clubhouse lease agreement with the Divisional Council of the Cape. This expires in 2019 and is now up for renewal. Much has changed in that long period of time. Firstly that Council no longer exists and the replacement authority is the City of Cape Town Government. Secondly, and well noted by the City, is that the membership and bowling activities at our club have declined significantly. With limited budgets and ever increasing demands the City is obliged to see that their property assets are optimally used and it is to this end that they asked us during 2014 to meet the Varsity Old Boys Running Club (VOB) with a view to sharing the clubhouse facilities. Well, from day one this has been a "love at first sight" relationship. Both parties initially, seriously and cautiously, spelt out our current positions and future expectations of an unknown future occupation of what we regarded as "our space". Immediately we found one another as likely occupants with mutual issues and concerns. There were no points of conflict. We entered into a one year Agreement of Association which has since been extended.

This has proved to be a Win – Win relationship and never has a clash occurred. We generally use the clubhouse during the day and VOB have their activities in the evening. Clubhouse improvements have been costly and VOB have generously dipped into their purse with contributions. They have always stood by our side in representations to the City and we talk with one voice in future lease negotiations. It is the view of the three parties that VOB and CBC are

mutual occupants of the clubhouse. We no longer regard them as sub-tenants and they have full use of the clubhouse and we expect our bowling members to fully respect that.

The City requires us to make the clubhouse available to the wider community. In this regard we have three other regular respectable organisations who have contracted to use our facility.

The Silver Valley Bridge Club on Monday and Friday mornings, the Rotop Prayer Group early every Wednesday morning and Weigh Less on a Thursday evening.

It is in everyone's interest that we keep this clubhouse as a facility serving the bowling, running and wider community. We don't want to go the way of some clubs. Let's enjoy our friends.

### **Obituary**

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of one of the characters of our Club, Tony Catt. We will remember his constant cheerfulness, his positive outlook on life and his handshake! Years of county and provincial wicketkeeping, broken fingers and all, had only served to strengthen his grip.

We express our condolences – and love – to Jenny.

### **Training**

Graham has confirmed that training will commence on Tuesday 4 September at 16:30. It will take place every Tuesday thereafter.

### **Flag/Muter**

The composition of sides and the scoring for the new season was confirmed at the WPBA AGM last Saturday. Sides will comprise two teams of eight players, except for the Mixed League where they will play Trips.

The matches will be played over three sets of 7 ends. Each team (of four players) will score 1 point per set, and 2 points for the game, totalling 5 points per team and therefore 10 in total, with an additional 2 points going to the side with the higher aggregate ( a grand total of 12 points). Other decisions taken by Exco regarding Flag are the following:

No Club may have more than one side in the Premier League.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Division will comprise three sections of 10 sides, with Clubs permitted to have two sides in this Division.

The bottom side in Premier will automatically be relegated.

The second bottom Club in Premier will be involved in a Round Robin play-off with the winners of each of the three 1<sup>st</sup> Division sections.

### **Bar hours**

The new EXCO Committee would like to draw the attention of all members to the operating hours of the Bar which are prominently displayed. At the discretion of the Bar Manager or any Exco member, these hours may be extended should the case arise ie visiting clubs or special events. From a security point of view it is not advisable to keep the bar staff on duty beyond these hours. We ask for your understanding and cooperation in adhering to this arrangement.

### **Sick Bay**

Our thoughts are with Mike Patton who has had a rough time recently. First he cracked two ribs, then he started bleeding internally, was rushed off to hospital, given three pints of blood , examined internally, prescribed with medication and is now slowly regaining his strength. I told him that in his absence, Trevor, Clem and I are trying to make up for the noise deficit! While he is unable to drive at present, he hopes to make arrangements to visit the Club in the next week or two.

### **Website**

Mark Vadas is in the process of updating the site. He needs your suggestions. He has created a chat room in which you can list your ideas. Please go onto this site and offer some comment. This is another medium through which we can market our Club.

Mark, with your help, will ensure that this site is kept constantly informative and updated.