



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2004



PRESIDENT LANCE BLACKLEY

Rustlers

Cheltenham Baseball Club Inc
AGM – Fri Aug 6th 2004
Presidents Report

The Board of Management has again had another active year. One of the key issues facing the Cheltenham Baseball Club was the City of Kingston's 10 year plan for the Kingston Heath Reserve and the effects this would have on our Club.

After the KHR 10 year plan was put out for public comment the BOM needed to re-affirm it's position on the Clubrooms and our plans for the future. In addition the Kingston Heath Cricket Club was also trying to establish itself as a tenant within the Ron Brownlees Pavilion and therefore we needed to be extremely proactive to avert this.

A response to the 10 year plan was drawn up reasserting the issues we face with additional tenants and outlining our 10yr plan proposal. This was returned to council and sent to all councillors and CEO of the City of Kingston.

A series of meetings were established with City of Kingston, and with the added push from Robyn McLeod, these meeting established a number of key issues for decisions by the C of K.

The meeting resolutions included:

- Lobbying of all local Councillors and MP's through an invitation to the Club,
- Upgrade of Security Issues including installation of alarm,
- Pavilion to remain as 2 tenant premises,
- Funds to be made available to upgrade the pavilion including external landscaping,
- Acknowledgement of CBC's intensions to improve it's facilities including the lighting program.

Security alarm has now been installed at C of K expense.

C of K have been slow in finalising it's 10 year plan, however funds have been budgeted for the upgrade of the pavilion.

A new Club dress tee shirt with logo was manufactured, and although we initially sold our first consignment, the take up of these shirts by Club members has been rather disappointing. This project is one that could continue with hats, mugs, key rings etc as merchandising and requires further development an support by the summer and winter committees. This project also proposed to give the BOM funding for future upgrades of facilities.

A combined committee working bee was organised by the BOM and this was highly successful in maintaining the main diamond, clearing rubbish from the Club Rooms, installing additional bench seating and general cleaning and maintenance of our facility. The remaining junior and 2nd diamonds, including the scorers box are still in need of urgent attention.

The BOM also attended to the matter of the burglaries by a Club Member and a satisfactory resolution concerning the member by the Summer, Winter & BOM Committees was reached.

A joint meeting of the BOM, Summer & Winter Committees was also held to reaffirm the Clubs business plan to continue developing the Clubs facilities and in particular how funding of the program was to be achieved. It was decided that both committees would contribute financially towards the program and how the funding was arranged would be determined by each committee.

One of the key criticisms that members have of the Club is its ability to communicate with its members. The Club Web site was set up to assist in this area, and it has been extremely under utilised since it has been available. This has been partially due to my current work load, and other areas of involvement, however the lack of commitment by both committees to embrace the web site as a means of communication is evident.

We have now handed over the administration of the Web site to Russell Ferguson and we thank him for taking on this task. Russell now has the access to the site and is ready to go so please utilise this service and regularly give him information to be posted onto the site. If the committees make the Web site the key information centre, the members will regularly access the site for the information. It's now up to the committees.

Greg Blaskett in his role as Club Secretary and Grant's coordinator has applied for and secured 2 grants and has two further applications pending. These are as follows:

- 1 Protective equipment (**\$2,000**): this grant has been **approved**. Collection is pending attendance at a VicHealth info session next month. Money is to be spent on specified list of leg-guards, chest protectors, helmets etc.
- 2 Portable sunshades (**\$1,120**): this grant has been **approved** for the funding of four "enviro-shades" by the end of October. Receipt of funding is pending - expected within 3-4 weeks.
- 3 Volunteer equipment (**up to \$5,000**): for new line markers (heavy duty); umpires kits; plastic cones and armor glass for 2nd scorers box. This was knocked back but were invited to reapply - decision pending.
- 4 Village Grant (**\$5,000**): this grant is currently in the approval stage, we are hopeful of success to fund a new, portable PA system and for a contribution to erect dugouts and extend fencing on Diamond 2. This application is pending.

Greg's work since joining the BOM and then taking on the Secretarial role has been outstanding and it's great to see a new comer to the administration with such enthusiasm and reliability.

Brad has now formalised our Food Safety Plan with the City of Kingston. This has been a very important step as the Canteen is a key fund raising business for the Club.

The past 4 years have been an extremely busy period for the BOM and all the members of the team have worked extremely well together in creating a unified Club.

I would like to thank all BOM members during my time as Club President (Di Adams, Graeme Ainscough, Colin Upfill, Dave Stenhouse, Jenny Babidge, Katrina O'Neill, Alan Gribbin, Jenny Heenan, Brad Lark, Greg Blaskett) hope I haven't missed anybody. I have enjoyed working with a dedicated team with a common goal of building a better Club with outstanding facilities.

I wish the new team every success in the future.

Yours faithfully,



Lance Blackley
**Club President Board of Management
Cheltenham Baseball Club Inc.**