

Hamilton Old Boys Cricket Club Incorporated.

Presidents Report – 2008/2009 Season.

It is with pleasure that I submit my final President's report on the events of the last season.

I am no longer available for the post of President and wish to thank the other Board members for their commitment to the Old Boys Cricket Club.

It must be recorded that we had a disappointing season all round as far as senior cricket performances went.

The senior team got off to an encouraging start winning the 20/20 but failed to perform in both the Limited Over and two day competition.

We seemed to struggle to a consistent unit of players throughout the season and relied too heavily on senior reserve players to make up the numbers. This is extremely disappointing from a club perspective. Lack of commitment and loyalty coupled with selections taking place on a Friday evening compounded our problems.

We must source a coach for the club and return to some basic disciplines, these disciplines hopefully will instil commitment to practice and play. We must also ensure that all teams have been completely selected by the end of Thursday practice.

The senior reserve team performed dismally, suffering from the same issues that plagued our senior team, however it was a predominately new team and I am hopeful that as the team builds as a unit we will compete in this grade.

Our senior B side struggled through the season with lack of numbers and finished last in the competition, they are however an example to us all in that they accepted that the senior teams must be complimented with numbers as a priority and just got on with playing the game. I wish them all the success for the coming season.

I will repeat my sentiments from previous seasons and stress that the club must focus on quality in training. It is important that all Senior players and members set an example. If funding and a suitable coach can be sourced the club will look for this assistance to structure our practices. It is imperative that our practice sessions are productive and well received by our members. Player development is a function in the club that we must all take seriously.

The club is proud of our players who were selected for higher honours.

New Zealand emerging players: Te Ahu Davis and Bradley John Watling.

New Zealand under 19: Andrew Mathieson.

Northern Districts: Bradley John Watling and Janice Fraser.

Northern Districts B Side: Te Ahu Davis.

Hamilton teams: Ryan Shutte; Greg Steele; Brad Perrett; Shane Raupita; Steve Martin; Andy Mathieson and Cameron Weight.

Hamilton under 19's: Andrew Mathieson and Steve Martin

The following were recipients of awards at our prize giving.

Robbie Searle most valuable senior B player, Nolan Hagoort most valuable senior A player, Lindsay Weight most valuable senior player, Shannon Mackey most outstanding club contribution, Ben Wilcock most 6's, Shane Holyoke best clubman, Cameron Weight most outstanding club fielder, Nolan Hagoort most valuable club player, Andre Hume most club wickets and Greg Steele most club runs.

I would like to thank the ten person committee for their tireless work this season; nine meetings in all were held. It is good to see that position descriptions are being drawn up and this will assist new comers to establish themselves in respective roles. There are always new challenges for the committee and I have every confidence that the club will continue to move forward in all respects of the game. We must also focus on obtaining someone to upgrade our website as this is a huge communication tool to members and interested parties alike.

The club provides coaching, organisation and equipment to a large number of Hamilton children.

Whilst numbers are down slightly from the previous season we fielded eight teams and remain the largest club in Hamilton. The age groups continue to shift and we now have five teams year 6-8 instead of teams spread throughout the ages. Retention has improved with 30% of members being with the club for more than 2 years. A significant improvement has been parental involvement with now only one HBHS coach required to assist.

The organisation of these teams is a credit to the club, enrolments, playing itinerary, meetings, prize giving, photos and uniform distribution is all managed efficiently and promptly. Kath McLeod has been of great assistance to Caitlin Ottaway and a welcome addition to the Board.

This season we must ensure that team managers take more care in looking after team equipment otherwise the club will need to increase fees to cover this ongoing loss.

Collection of subscriptions has been outstanding with only one fee due.

Many juniors attended the National Cricket club day at Melville High school and got to meet Black Caps and also a team played in a demonstration game between innings in the India versus NZ game at Seddon Park.

Six club parents attended the National Cricket Club Coaching seminar; Caitlin Ottaway attended the National Cricket Club Administration seminar, three parents attended the Getting Started coaching course and three parents attended the Level 1 coaching course which ensures that the junior players are getting quality coaching and service.

Thirty five per cent of the children who are in the current HJCA development squads play for Old Boys

The prize giving at the HBHS pavilion was a success and am sure as word gets around will grow in attendance. A pot luck lunch, bar service, medals, certificates and sponsored gift baskets (for coaches and managers) were well received. Thanks to Data Plan Waikato (John Ottaway) for sponsoring the gift baskets.

Team photo day was also very popular.

Support and communication from HJCA is still lacking. These issues have been taken up with HJCA staff.

Special thanks to those on the Board who have provided assistance and to John Ottaway for his advice and assistance. Finally but most importantly to the team coaches and managers who make everything work so smoothly on the day.

I have enjoyed my time with the club as President and I would like to acknowledge some members who have helped the club to where it is today.

In just a few years the club will be 100 years old, that is a major milestone and it is members like Rupert and Guy Hodgson and Maurice Stevens and John Andersen who have helped the club along with many others to get it to where it is today.

All members must remember that the club is based on volunteers, and it is time that some members put up their hand to assist as there is a lot of work that goes into running a club. Times are tough and the club needs everyone to pull together to survive these times. I have no doubt that the majority of you will do this, and you as members and the club will come out better off for all your efforts. Remember to support your board and help out where you can.

On the 20th March 2009 Rodney Fergus Jardine Hickey (son of Fergus Hickey) passed away. He had been a valuable member of the Old Boys club in the 1950's and had always retained his support of the club, retiring to Hamilton a few years past.

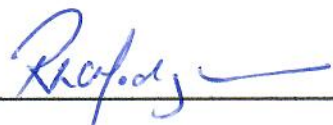
I would also like to thank the many organisations that have supported our club this year.

Hamilton Cricket Association.
Lion Foundation
Southern Trust
Perry Foundation
Data Plan Waikato

Finally, I wish you all an enjoyable season and the successes that I know as individuals; teams and a club we all strive for.

All the best,

President



Date 24.8.09