

## Hamilton Old Boys Cricket Club Incorporated.

### Presidents Report – 2009/10 Season.

It is with pleasure that I submit my report for the last season.

From a senior perspective it would be easy to record that we had a disappointing season and in some respects that is so, however this should not cast a shadow over the many positive outcomes from this season.

Our senior team seemed to muddle through the season with some encouraging and some disappointing results, regardless, up until the last round were contenders to make the Howden Cup final.

We struggled even more so than last season to keep a consistent unit of players together and in one instance required no less than nine senior A players to make up the Premier numbers. This was a disappointment and was reflected in poor attendance at club events, although there was a loyal core that we could rely on.

The senior A team performed with credit when we reflect on their ability to keep a solid squad together but I am sure would have performed better with a little more determination in the batting. The positive to the season is that like our Premier side there is the ability to bring together a squad of players that will gel into a tight unit.

Our senior B Red side performed in phases starting poorly in the limited over's matches but excelling during the middle and latter part of the season before falling away badly to miss out on a deserved finals position. This team for most part played well as a unit and we can expect even better things from them next season.

The Senior B Black side had a fair season for a team that meets only once a week, one wonders what they could achieve with some match preparation.

The club took on board the need to engage a professional coach and we acquired in conjunction with Hamilton Cricket the services of Cedric English a South African who had represented Scotland. Unfortunately his stay with us was short and he left before the end of his contract, regardless it was agreed that the concept was a good one which bought some meaning to club practices. The club must continue in this direction.

Another significant achievement has been the development of a new website and we are very grateful to the Ottaway team who have set this up and installed material.

This site has the potential to provide comprehensive information to members and prospective members but needs a system for data collection and inputting.

Volunteers need to offer assistance. Team Captains will also be required to file reports and assistance will also be required with photographs of matches and club events.

The spin off could mean sponsors being attracted to the site.

The club continues its strong relationship with HBHS. This season we have provided many coaching hours and have representation on the School's Cricket committee. Richard Dodunski the cricket coordinator is very committed to cricket at the school and we must look to building a relationship with all the cricket providers.

We have undertaken some capital projects at the school which encompass removal of the two old concrete artificial pitches and their replacement as well as installing new run ups at the practice nets.

Next season I would like to see the club follow up with the refurbishment of the old practice nets by the tennis courts.

We must continue to grow our numbers and our objective this coming season should be to enter a team in the Senior C grade, I am sure many of our recently retired players would enjoy playing in this grade which caters for 35 over cricket.

I believe that all elected captains should be members of the Board, which at worst will ensure that players are kept abreast of club matters and at best we have greater expertise on the Board who can contribute by organising social gatherings and providing news for our website.

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

New Zealand: Bradley John Watling.

New Zealand under 19: Andrew Mathieson.

Northern Districts: Bradley John Watling.

Northern Districts B Side: Andrew Mathieson and Anurag Verma.

Hamilton teams: Steve Martin; Andy Mathieson, Cameron Weight, Anurag Verma, Sam McLeod, Cedric English and Ben Wilcock.

Waikato Valley: Jake Bezzant.

The following were recipients of awards at our prize giving which was a great success under the new formal format. We must continue with new ideas to make the prize giving the special occasion that it is.

Carl Choat most valuable senior B player, Isaac Perenise most valuable senior A player, Cameron Weight most valuable senior player, Cameron Weight most outstanding club contribution, Nolan Hagoort most 6's, Caitlin Ottaway best clubman, Steve Martin most outstanding club fielder, Cameron Weight most valuable club player, Carl Choat most club wickets and Cameron Weight most club runs.

I would like to thank the nine person committee for their contributions this season; seven meetings in all were held. Position descriptions were drawn up and this will assist new comers to establish themselves in respective roles. Also team captains will be required to sign an agreement regarding the club's expectations of the team they are charged with leading. I remind you all that clubs operate on the services of volunteers and as club members you can all assist in some way.

The club continues to provide coaching, organisation and equipment and competition games to a large number of Hamilton children.

Numbers have increased from the previous season. We now have 104 registered players comprising of 10 teams with a shift in ages to older children.

There is a waiting list and most recent schools joining the club being Te Rapa and Knighton.

We need to make some serious decisions regarding our growth in particular sustainability of that growth.

Parental involvement is good with only one team lacking a parent/manager.

Under Caitlin Ottoway's leadership Kerry Calnon's and Kath Macleod's assistance once again junior management was run in its usual professional manner.

There has been extensive advertising including the Sport Waikato notice board (Hamilton Press) and public notices posted but our new website hopefully will gain a greater return.

It is pleasing to see that with the return of playing shirts and with greater care and control of equipment the costs of replacement has been reduced dramatically.

In 2009 a free "Development training" was held on a weekly basis for our hardball players. This proved to be a huge success with a 90% attendance.

A team of 11 players was selected to attend the Riverbend Camp in January (Hastings). Thanks to all the organisers of this with a special thanks to Gallaghers who sponsored the trip. A report was published in the All Sports magazine. We must plan to make this an annual event.

From finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in the competition last season our 1<sup>st</sup> X1 is currently first equal this year. This is purely down to player retention and development. Kerry Calnon (coach) and Andrew McNally (manager) must take credit for their commitment to the team.

We have built up a good data base of coaches among our parents and are appreciative of the Kelvin Johansson's continued help with the junior teams. Of the current ten teams more than half have coaches who have attended a level 1 or Getting Started course. Two are enrolled to attend this year's level 1 course.

Our prize giving's continue to grow in popularity and support. This year there was a 75% turnout. The facilities at HBHS are now being stretched with the numbers in attendance.

Medals and certificates were awarded to players and gifts given to coaches and managers.

It is good to see senior representation and hopefully as word gets around we can turn the event into a real club day.

Team photos were organised for March and will be distributed in term 4.

Support and communication with HJCA continues to be less than desirable. We attend their forums and express ways and means of improving our lot with little taken on board; however with our direct approach this season hopefully they have listened.

I have enjoyed my role as President, however due to commitments am unable to continue in this position and will instead make myself available as a Board member only. I would like to thank each and every of you for the enjoyment I get by being associated with the club.

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  
Gallagher's  
Furnace  
Dinsdale Office  
Youth town  
New Zealand Community Trust  
New Zealand Cricket Foundation

Finally, lets all strive to make this coming season a memorable one, one with plenty of individual and team successes and one with lots of silver ware for the club.

President



Date

16-8-2010.