

## **Hamilton Old Boys Cricket Club Incorporated.**

### **Presidents Report – 2010/11 Season.**

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

Until the final of the Howden Cup it could be argued that the club was looking at another disappointing season. However at the completion of one of our most extraordinary finals the Premier team was crowned the champion Hamilton side.

Well done to Captain Cameron Weight and Coach Nick Horsley and the squad who had added our name to the Howden Cup for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time, just one less than Hamilton Star.

Our club goal must be to be number one by 2014 the year of our 100 year anniversary.

During the season the Premier side looked certain to win the 20/20 competition only to stall against Melville in the finals. This practice was repeated against HBHS in the limited over's final in which we tied but lost by virtue of not being the top qualifier.

Again, this season we struggled with numbers, but this time due purely to the number of team members selected for higher honours, it is a tribute to the lower grade players and selectors who all stepped up to this challenge and not only retained teams on the field but for most part performed admirably under the circumstances.

There are areas that we must work on and they are attendances at Tuesday/Thursday practices, attendance at the club rooms after matches, commitment to play the season and pay subscriptions by due date.

Our Senior A side performed poorly finishing last in the Jim Bailey and Sigley Cups. There was simply no cohesion in this side and too many players failed to grab the many opportunities provided them. There is some off season work to be done with this team if we are to emulate the performances of our peers, putting together a cohesive unit must be planned during this off season. They must start training as a unit again and show some signs of unity on and off the field.

Regardless, we lost some players on occasion to the Premiers during the season and did lose a score of players for various reasons at the Christmas break. The stand in captain Kelvin Johansson did an excellent job and must be commended (apart from not practicing) for keeping the team together.

Our senior B side again performed erratically finishing fourth from six. This was a team that had a reputation for attendance at practices; sadly this fell away badly this season and am sure reflected in some lack lustre performances. Thanks to Scott Cromarty who took over the captain's role late in the season. I am sure with this experience and the season to prepare he will bring the best out of this team as they are very capable of winning this grade.

The Senior C side performed admirably for a team playing in its inaugural year and although they do not practice play hard and well. Their involvement in club events was well received.

They had only lost one match in the round robin series and were looking to take out the trophy with good quarter and semi-final performances, but were beaten by a more determined Suburbs side. Good luck to them next season, we know they have a score to settle.



This season Nick Horsley was appointed club player/coach; the members benefitting from his experience and sound advice.

The club also provided six coaches to Hamilton Boys High school and have been doing this regularly for the last eight seasons. This service forms part of the close relationship we enjoy with the school. In addition to upgrading their artificial wickets (last season) we are commencing phase 2 of refurbishment of both three lane practice nets. This is a major financial exercise which bares testament to our commitment to HBHS.

Thanks again to the Ottaways for the fantastic work they have done on our website. It is truly a testament to them that it is without equal as a club website in Hamilton. The Board needs to ensure that the senior members organise themselves and provide a similar service. We also need to ensure that this job is farmed out in our junior ranks as too much work is being placed on a few. We also need to market this site with sponsorships. Club members are the most suitable people to identify friendly sponsors.

This season we lost our second B side but gained a new team in the C grade. The bonus is that we have gained a team of players who are true contributors to the club. We must still seek to grow our club membership; too many clubs have succumbed to mediocrity through complacency. In this respect you can all contribute by recommending friends to our fraternity.

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

New Zealand: Bradley John Watling.

New Zealand Emerging: Bradley John Watling.

Northern Districts: Bradley John Watling, Owen Ivins and Andy Mathieson.

Northern Districts B Side: Andrew Mathieson, Owen Ivins, Mitchell Santner, Nick Horsley and Anurag Verma.

Hamilton teams: Steve Martin; Mike Martin; Andy Mathieson, Cameron Weight, Anurag Verma, Jake Bezzant, Ross Fitz-John, Nick Horsley, Mitchell Santner, Owen Ivins and Peter Bocock.

Our prize giving was a resounding success with a record 63 in attendance. Special thanks to all those who made this evening such a memorable one.

The following were recipients of awards at our prize giving:

Gillies trophy	(Senior C)	R Stevens
Mathieson trophy	(Senior B)	C Gallagher
R Hodgson trophy	(Senior A)	K Johansson
G Hodgson trophy	(Premier)	C Weight
Burton trophy	(contribution)	C Weight
Icke trophy	(6 hitters)	D Icke
Carter trophy	(clubman)	R Hodgson
Fuard trophy	(fielder)	P Bocock
Giles trophy	(MVP)	P Bocock

Pattenden trophy	(wickets)	C Weight
Harding	(runs)	P Bocock

This year end the club provided for 112 children making up eleven teams catering from age groups year one to year eight and increase of three teams. Retention rates are good and we have a waitlist in place to cater for the inevitable overload of players wishing to play for the club.

In term four we entered an additional three teams into a Wednesday year 7/8 grade, for unknown reasons HJCA did not offer this competition again in term 1.

This year three children who started with Old Boys at age 5 will leave to attend secondary school.

Sarah Hoskin joined the Board along with current member Kerry Calnon who both supported Caitlin Ottaway admirably.

We still look to advertise in the traditional manner; however the website is beneficial for new recruits. In this regard the incoming Board needs to formalise a policy regarding junior growth as we have the ability to increase numbers dramatically.

Pressure on team managers to account for team gear has paid off with a minimal loss of equipment recorded so far this year.

This has meant that we have increased fees by only a minimal amount, however collection of fees is becoming an onerous task, and we must seek ways of spreading this workload.

Communications through the website and junior coordinator has been excellent.

Kiwi kids on the park was an enjoyable day for two teams of year 1-5 children at the ODI held at Seddon park.

13 players and families made the trek to River bend in January, special thanks to the organisers and Gallaghers who once again sponsored the tournament. This tournament should become part of the Old Boys calendar each year.

Our first X1 team is currently placed 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of nine) in the 2011 competition. Holding the trials the same day as the prize giving worked well as our team was named prior to Xmas and could prepare for the forthcoming term. Thank you to Andrew McNally who sponsored the team shirts. Once again HJCA has changed the format of the competition with little forethought and even less communication with their stake holders.

We are fortunate to have a good crop of supporters who take on coaching and managing roles, all teams are catered for. A special thank you to our club President for also coaching a team. Many of our coaches have attended various coaching courses that are offered from time to time.

There was an 80% turn out for the junior prize giving. This event is well organised with lunches; medals and certificates for players and coaches and managers rewarded for their service. Team photos were provided for all players.



I would like to thank the ten person Board for their contributions this season, six meetings in all were held and the position job descriptions that were adopted will have been of much use. The team captains were also required to sign agreements regarding the clubs expectations of them and next season we must ensure that they adhere to these rules.

The Board members are as follows:

President	K Johansson
Club Captain	R Hodgson
Secretary	J Fraser
Treasurer	M Stevens
Member	J Anderson
"	C Ottaway
"	S Hoskin
"	K Calnon
"	J Bezzant
"	D Irwin

Many thanks for your contribution to the club, the achievements and enjoyment the members derive from the game can be directly attributed to your contributions.

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

Hamilton Cricket Association.  
Lion Foundation  
Southern Trust  
Gallagher's  
Data Plan  
New Zealand Community Trust  
New Zealand Cricket Foundation  
Ale Ways  
Dinsdale Office

It is timely that I record a very significant event that the club members will all wish to be a part of; the celebration of 100 years of cricket activity at Hamilton Old Boys.

As the 2013-14 season nears so will the many volunteers need to come together to plan an event which is of great significance to the club. This will be such a memorable occasion for us all.

Finally, we all revelled in the exploits of our Premier side in winning the Howden Cup this season. The feeling in the club is high and there is an expectation that the club will repeat the double which is a traditional feat, this needs to be backed up in the lower grades and I know that you are all ready for the 2011-12 season. Let's young and old make the coming season a memorable one.

President 

Date 29-06-2011