

POBCC Annual General Meeting 2016-17
Presidents Report

This season saw a change in leadership at the club, I was honored to be elected as president from John Forrest, who has served the club as President for a total of four years, on behalf of the club I sincerely thank John for his efforts in this role over this time.

It has been a rapid learning curve, but as a whole the committee should be extremely proud of the effect we have had as a team in such a short period.

Grand final eve set the tone for the whole season, and was great success, many thanks to Glen Prendergast for all of his time and effort in arranging such a memorable season opener. I know many are already excited about the prospect of this year's event.

It was also great to see so many familiar faces at the past players/sponsors day, I heard many exclaim that this was the best past players event that we have put on, Congratulations to Wade Pelzer and Braden Jarrett for your efforts here.

We ran three raffles throughout the year, including reverse raffle, Toyota good for cricket and the end of season major prize draw, totaling over \$5k raised directly for the club.

We implemented an electronic newsletter and a new invoicing application. We voted to include Jack Peacock and 20/20 stats in your club overall stats, Designed new clothing range to align to the new one day formats for this season, arranged extensive repairs to the Harry Mac oval that whilst delayed our first home game appearance, was more than worth the wait, with the ground looking the best it has in my time at the club.

We also played for the first time the Forrest/House cup, an annual perpetual trophy played between Mount Eliza Cricket and POBCC forever going forward.

It was great to see the re-introduction of In2Cricket this season with 40 young and future pirates beginning their love affair with this game at our club. This is a vitally important feeder for our junior club and I thank Eivion Bowen, Tom Humphris and Josh Watts for helping with the program this year.

We began the year without a junior coordinator, with the help of Doug Van Raay, Andrew Quill and John Rowe we filled in the gaps beautifully. The junior club continues to be a shining beacon of success, having 4 of the 5 side playing finals this season, winning a total of 3 premierships. The U18 20/20 team should feel aggrieved that the opportunity to play in the grand final was taken from them. The committee will continue to make the closer integration of the junior and senior clubs a priority.

From a senior cricket perspective, our first XI probably saved their worst performance for last losing a semi-final to Mount Eliza. On a positive note 5 players from our junior ranks were given

the opportunity to debut in the first XI, this will only strengthen our depth in years to come. Unfortunately our second XI results suffered as a result of this, the boys fought gainfully throughout the year, missing out on a win against Moorooduc because of weather, and losing another 4 matches by 22 runs or less. I have no doubt that this group will be the group that shows most improvement next season.

The thirds again continued to be a week by week proposition with a total of 40 players helping out throughout the year, more often than not this team was selected via Facebook sometime between Thursday night and Saturday afternoon, coming together for 5 wins for the year. The efforts of Phil and company to keep this team going is what really extends our reach into the community and is vitally important that we get as many players representing us week to week.

The GEXI's continued their strong performances this year and were either the best or second best team all year, but were robbed of an opportunity to settle the argument due to a technicality over player eligibility. Please use this disappointment to hang together for another season, I'm sure that I'm not alone in saying, I would love sit back and enjoy a few refreshments watching you guys play in a Grand Final.

As you may be aware Matt Hyden has elected to step down from the captain's role that he has held over the past three seasons. During this time Matt has led the clubs first XI to two semi-final appearances and a premiership flag in 2015/16. It is a true credit to your leadership skills and of your maturity to managing a team full of ex-captains, coaches and leaders of our club, and still retain your sense of humor. I'm sure I am speaking for all in saying that we have completely enjoyed playing with and under you guidance and hope that you choose to play out your time with us.

I would also like to acknowledge the services of Neil Franks, Phil Solomans, Leigh Whitten and Matt Tuckett in leading our lower grade elevens.

In the off season we have been lucky to obtain the services of Darrin Thomas as head coach of our club, Daz joins us from Aspendale cricket club where he was coach for the past two seasons. Darrin has a wealth of experience, having played Victoria in the schoolboys, Melbourne Cricket Club, Aspendale amongst others, he has won something like 11 premierships, soon to be 12.

We also appointed Wade Pelzer as captain of the club again, Wade's experience and captaincy style will serve us well under the new formats being played this year. I am excited by the prospect of these two working together, the new formats and initiatives we have in place and cannot wait to see what the season coming holds.

It would be remiss of me not to congratulate Wade on being awarded Life Membership after many years of excellence on the field, on the Committee and as a Captain/coach.

I would like to formally recognize and acknowledge the committee of the past season, Matt Beggs, Wade Pelzer, Andrew Parsons, Glen Prendergast, Cameron Macauley, Dylan O'Malley, Sam Messinis and Braden Jarrett. As mentioned previously we achieved a lot but I do not expect the new and continuing members to be resting on our laurels. This club was built on a foundation on friendship and camaraderie, a club where pirates played hard on the field, but enjoyed our time with our mates once the game was over. The committee will strive to ensure that the off field culture is upheld. We will find ways to extend this great period of success we have enjoyed.

I challenge you all to get involved, help out wherever you can, the club repays you in ways that cannot be explained.

Of course none of this is possible without the support of our sponsors, whilst we try to give back and support where we can, more often than not, it's the straight generosity of the businesses and individuals that keeps us all going.

We especially thank the continuing support of our major sponsors Canadian Bay Hotel and Wolfedene Builders, Southern Partners, Crown Garden and Lawn and Casey Super clinic,

This year we welcomed for the first time Ultimate Air Conditioning, Tru Glow electrics, Go Excavate, Vinnies Pizza, Biotech engineering and Modo Builders. We welcome you all to the pirate family.

Lastly nothing would be possible without the ongoing support of Peninsula Grammar. Thank you Stuart Johnston, Kylie Maher, Kevin Docherty and Steve Brennan for your help this past season. We feel privileged to be permitted to use of such fantastic facilities, as well as access to some of the best sporting talent and people on the peninsula. We look forward to developing the bond and partnership between the club and the school long into the future.

Special mention to Robin Gailitis and Dave "Huntsy" Hunter for helping out with the seniors this year. You certainly make life much easier for me and the guys on Saturday afternoons.

For everyone else, anyone that has played for, supported, volunteered, attended functions, made lunches, looked after children, drove to games, coached without you none of this is possible. It takes an enormous effort from all to keep this little, almighty cricket club going. I just want to say thanks.

Up the Pirates,

AJ.