

# PBCC AGM 23 Aug 2014 - Minutes

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## *Agenda*

Opening remarks

Chairman's address

Captain's address

Treasurer's report

Outgoing committee Q & A

Announcement of new Committee

Incoming committee Q & A

Any other business

## *Present*

Ben Petter, Jonathan Hodgson, Gary Pettman, Matthew Hynes, Nicholas Taylor, , Terry O'Connor, Francis Costelloe, James Dean and Bruce Loxley.

## *Apologies*

Stephen Elder, Ricky Yates, David Hughes, Navoneil Bhattacharyya, Allan Schoenherr, Yash Salian, Vikas Seth, .

## *Meeting started at 15:15*

### *Opening remarks*

Ben (Chairman) welcomed everyone, Terry (secretary) read out apologies.

### *Chairman's address*

Ben thanked everyone for being a part of the club. He specifically thanked Navoneil for his captaincy, and his commitment and effort. He also thanked Francis for his work on the committee and him often being a voice of reason. He also added general thanks to the outgoing committee and stated he was looking forward to seeing what the new committee shall do.

He spoke of the challenge to retain and bring in new members as well as getting older players more active on and off the field.

### *Captain's address*

Ben read out the following on behalf of Navoneil.

Am writing to share that, much as I would like to, I'm unable to attend today's AGM today owing to infrastructural constraints on my end. Hence, am sharing below some of the key points I request you to please share with the membership at the AGM today on my behalf. Thanks much.

1. Heartfelt thanks to the membership for their faith and support in giving me the opportunity to captain the club.

2. Many thanks to the entire committee for their support throughout.

3. Focus areas this year have been, as shared in the manifesto at the start of my tenure: cricketing skills and league results, recruitment of new members, ensuring opportunities for all members to play cricket, club communications, online and social media, and sponsorship.

4. Key achievements this year:

a. Winter League: 2nd position for the Vndals after a close final; 4th position for the Visigoths (both Barbarians teams in semi-finals for the second year running; 1 team in final); participated in Dresden indoor tournament for the 2nd consecutive time and won a match against Dresden for the first time ever

b. Summer League: first league win (v PCC 2nd XI in 40-over) after a long gap; participated again in the 40-over league after a 1-year hiatus; 1-run loss to Bohemians; some excellent individual innings especially Yash's 96 score v Vinohrady in T20

c. Friendlies: a number of friendlies organized versus both Czech and foreign teams - focus on giving all Barbarians a chance for some good matches, sadly this opportunity was not made best use of by many

d. Recruitment: several new promising recruits resulting in stronger league teams and performances (e.g. Javed, Anas, Vikas, Sameer, Kurian, Henry, Pradeep, Rishabh, Sunny etc.) as well as re-introduction of an older Barbarian after a hiatus (Shadi)

e. Club communications: creation and clear communication of the year's manifesto and goals, re-introduction of captain's reports, match and tournament reports, continuation of stats collation and communication, channels of communication expanded to include FB and Twitter more effectively

f. Online and social media: excellent work done by the social media sub-committee (thanks to Terry and Allan, with support from Gary for Twitter) resulting in new initiatives such as FB weekly quiz, work started on improving our club website, greater usage of Twitter

g. Kit: Thanks to some excellent work done by Nick Gary, Terry and Allan, we have obtained new kit including club shirts, bats, first aid stuff

h. Sponsorship: retained CANZA sponsorship, thanks to Richard, and got some individual sponsorships, work ongoing by Gary and Francis on more opportunities

i. Financials: As a club, we are slightly better off than when we started, and remain strong financially. Thanks to Gary for his efforts as treasurer, and to the entire membership for their timely payment of membership fees, match fees etc.

j. Membership: Gary would be able to confirm the exact number, but I believe we have 25-30 paid-up members, which is a significant improvement on this metric; equally importantly, we have a decent corpus of players available for matches, especially in the early summer season, which required some tough selection choices to be made for a number of matches

5. Some things am not proud of during this period:

a. While a lot of new players have joined, the participation level of several longer time Barbarians have fallen, for various reasons

b. Had to forfeit a couple of matches in the 40-over league owing to lack of players and played a couple of other matches with less than 11 players (although our win was one of these)

c. Friendlies haven't served their intended purpose owing to lack of availability / interest from players who might have benefited the most from these opportunities - new committee may want to review our policy towards the organization of friendlies

d. Couldn't deliver on all the goals we'd set ourselves, such as online feedback survey, summer league cricket goals

6. Thoughts on the future / Work in Progress:

a. Continued focus on developing our cricket levels in leagues - I believe we're well poised and have a good platform to build on for greater achievements on the cricket field going forward, but this will need continued focus frm every member over the next years

b. Integration: the club membership is in a state of transition with the introduction of several new players - I would request all of us to work hard to integrate both the new and longer-time Barbarians together to realize our true potential as a club and team

And, finally, the very best wishes to the new committee, every member of the club, and the club and the teams we field going forward. Thanks and all the best from Bangalore, India :)

### *Treasurer's report*

Gary (Treasurer) informed the meeting that the club finances are stable we have 25,000 CZK in the bank, the same at the last AGM.

There are currently 22 paid-up members. With 7 promising to do so. We received approximately 15,000kc in membership fees. The Pre-paid match fee system was successful once again, although there are still 6,000kc outstanding. Total income for was 65,700kc while expenditure was 63,000kc.

The main expenditure being CMKS fees along with some kit and clothing purchases.

A copy of the accounts will be sent to the membership.

### *Outgoing committee Q & A*

Ben asked if any one present had any questions they wished to put to the outgoing committee regarding anything from the past year.

Jon thanked the committee for their work, in particular Navoneil. He then spoke at length about what he saw as being a few issues from the previous year that affected the clubs relationship with the CMKS and other Prague clubs and asked if this was due to a shift in a general club attitude.

Ben stated that historically we have been a laid back club not known for causing issues, that it is important to maintain a good relationship with the CMKS and other clubs. He also stressed that we must follow the principal of not questioning the umpire's decision whether you like it or not.

Gary added that we can learn from these situations going forward, both in how to and not to act.

Jon felt that the club attitude had changed and not for the better.

Matt asked if this was due to trying to be more competitive.

It was felt that this was unclear.

Ben spoke about we should be aware of the different cultural attitudes within the club, but also adhere to rules set out by the CMKS.

Francis mentioned that while others escalated certain issues we were more measured and less culpable.

Ben agreed though also added that in another issue we were culpable.

Jon asked about the issue of inclusiveness with the club.

Ben stated that the direction of the club was clearly set out by Navoniel at the start of the season, so everyone was aware of where we were headed. The question is did this contribute to some people not wishing to play for the club as much or anymore?

Terry pointed out that in practice picking the strongest 11 only occurred on one or two occasions due to a lack of availability.

It was agreed that there were no clear difference in results due to the selection policy.

Ben asked those present which they preferred as a basis of selection, the best available 11 or a more inclusive approach?

It was thought that trying to select teams on the basis of strongest 11 was a good thing to do, to see if we could, but our lack of strength and numbers seems to make it hard to do this.

James mentioned that to be more inclusive it is important to make people feel involved on and off the field; giving them roles to ensure they feel welcomed and included.

### *Committee 2014/15*

Terry announced the incoming committee including the election results which are as follows:

President: Nicholas Taylor (uncontested)

Chairman: Ben Petter (elected by ballot)

Secretary: Terry O'Connor (uncontested)

Treasurer: Allan Schoenherr (uncontested)

Captain: Gary Pettman (uncontested)

Officer: , Jonathan Hodgson (elected by ballot)

### *Incoming committee Q & A*

Jon raised the issue of the lack of involvement of Asian members at an administration level both within the club and the CMKS, he they needed to be given a voice.

Ben suggested inviting Vikas to the first committee meeting to perhaps give his perspective, as he showed an interest in being involved by standing for the committee.

Jon suggested a sub-committee.

It will be discussed by the new committee.

Terry will invite Vikas to the first committee meeting once the date and time is set.

### *Any other business*

Francis asked about the venue for the next Winter League, Gary stated that it will be at the school behind the tennis centre at Olsanske Namesti. We will investigate the possibility of using it for training once the contract between the CMKS and the school is signed.

Matt asked if anything special was done in 2010/11 to recruit new players as many did join the club at that stage. Nothing was done, although Terry mentioned that we did have business cards that were given out to anyone we met, these were effective and we should get more.

Matt then asked Gary if he could say a few words about the direction of his captancy.

Gary stated that he feels that the club is in a strong position, his focus will be on maintaining good relations with the CMKS and other clubs, which will be assisted by him being on the CMKS committee and he has a good relationship with other clubs. He will also work to ensure that cliques are not formed with in the club, that everyone is involved and feels a part of the club and added that we all take the field wanting to win.

Jon mentioned that the CMKS big top meeting is in Spetember (25<sup>th</sup>9 and that it is important that as many members attend as possible.

He also mentioned that there are expected to be proposals coming from other clubs to change the 40 over league so that each team plays eachother twice. As well as a proposal to increase it to a 50 over league. As a club we should consider whether we are in support of either of these.

### *The AGM closed at 16:22*