



'OLD PIRATES'

Meeting No.3 - June 2018



Minutes of "Old Pirates" Meeting held at the Clubrooms on 19th June 2018

Present: Big Buccaneer (BB), Heather, Gypo, Rick, Fairy, Witty and Ash as observer.

Apologies: A full attendance except for Rex and Bex. Gypo said that he understood that anyone can be in a romantic affair, but Rex was clearly abusing the privilege. Missing 3 meetings, commented Gypo, was an excessive period of absenteeism. Heather said that she thought Gypo's comments were sexist and unacceptable. She added that when she and Murray first met up at Willoomangoo up on the Table, they also had extended periods of romantic entanglement but that was natural and Rex's enthusiasm for female company should not be any reason to raise disciplinary matters. BB agreed with Heather and said that the topic was closed although he was of the view that Rex was pushing the envelope a bit far and perhaps a bucket of cold water or two might bring him around!

Minutes last meeting: Read and approved.

Matters arising:

Heather noted that recently several financial payments had been made to injured players. She said that such payments were in-line with the stated objectives of 'Old Pirates' and are a demonstration of how the club valued the remarkable efforts of its Development and Premiers teams. She continued saying that 'Old Pirate' members can be proud of the fact that their subscriptions are being used to the benefit of these teams.

Rick commented that work has started on up-grading the image of the clubs' exterior. This is another 'Old Pirate' initiative and members will notice the striking club colours on the road end of the clubhouse. This is just the start of a continuing project.

BB said that before the meeting got underway he would like to draw the Crews' attention '*yet once again*' to the level of alcohol consumption at meetings. He stated that the social impact of excessive alcohol intake had multiple effects on all sectors of society and in this regard the 'Old Pirates' Crew should not consider themselves an exception. He said that in his capacity as a 'Community Leader' he had a responsibility to point out to the Crew that their behaviour was often not in keeping with the club's values and indeed the standards that he personally wished to encourage. He said that controlling 'Old Pirates' meetings was becoming very burdensome for him and the stress was taking a severe toll on his health. He said that he preferred not to get personal but when Witty started slurring his words, when Gypo became 'giggly', when Fairy started to doze-off and Rick began talking his usual gibberish, it was particularly hard to have a productive meeting. Heather said that she very

much sympathised with BB and that she often felt 'on-edge' mainly due to Doddsy's 'wandering-eye'. She commented *"although I prefer not to sit next to Doddsy at meetings, Rick also has some very unusual habits which are better not discussed."* She continued saying that all-in-all the drinking culture that pervaded meetings was a sad reflection on society generally. She concluded by saying *"that societal-decay was an endemic issue and that we all have a responsibility to address what is becoming a global dilemma"*. BB said that whilst supporting Heathers synopsis, he had little more to say on the topic and if past performance was an indication, he would anticipate a further deterioration and decline of meeting standards. In closing the topic, BB noted that as a Community Leader he did have options open to him in a disciplinary sense and that the Crew should not sleep easily as he intended to invoke certain punitive measures that he has at his disposal.

Rick said that whilst he didn't want to inflame the situation further - and clearly BB was currently overly touchy, he did want to suggest that 'Old Pirates' adopt a theme-tune for it's meetings. He said his suggestion could be listened to by Googling <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKk0Nf5n1BM>

Financials: 'Old Pirates' currently has \$3250.00 in the Bank.

Correspondence Inward:

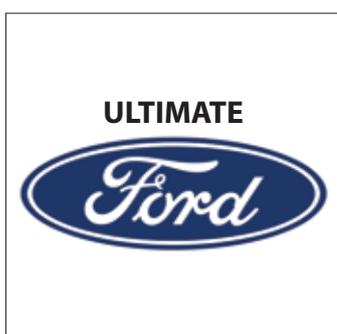
A letter received from the Secretary of the Te Puna RFC stating: *"Our club is disappointed that during Te Puke Sports last visit to Maramatanga Park, we made several loud-speaker announcements requesting that alcohol not be consumed outside of the clubrooms but in spite of this request, one Te Puke Sports supporter disregarded the announcements and continued to imbibe on the side-line"*. The Te Puna letter requested that the individual concerned be told not to be so disrespectful.

A letter-of-complaint from Mark Borland which said that his red-band gumboots had been stolen from the back-door after the Rangataua game. He said that like Lewy who had his umbrella stolen, he was very disappointed and considered that the club has a responsibility to members to keep personal possessions safe. He said that he had searched on Trademe under footwear and had seen his gumboots for sale. He said that he had been forced to do a 'Buy-Now' bid on them and had to pay more than the original retail price. He concluded by requesting that the club reimburse him.

Correspondence Outward:

A letter sent to Club Captain Kim Hinaki asking him to refrain from consuming quart bottles of Waikato at Maramatanga Park or at least keep the bottle under his coat whilst on the side-line.

A letter to Mark Borland thanking him for his complaint and pointing out that the club regretted the loss of his gumboots however could not reimburse his loss - although he might find some comfort by Googling: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tAWwqKNI7g>



General Business:

The 'Old Pirates' initiated "**Grandstand Preview**" evening is quickly approaching. The function commences at 6.30 pm on Friday night 13th July. The evening is a 'no-charge' event and will include finger-nibbles which will be served throughout the evening. The function will be opened by MP Todd Mc Lay and will include the drawing of the Ultimate Ford sponsored Webber BBQ, raffle and the auction of 2 framed limited-prints signed by a number of international test captains. These valuable and highly sought after limited-editions have been donated to the club for grandstand fund-raising by Paul Robilliard a descendant of **All Black Invincible** Alan Robilliard. These limited editions are genuinely signed and would make the perfect wall mounting for a business or a home collection. A highlight of the evening will be the awarding of **Life Membership to Deborah Keenleyside** to coincide with her 21st year as Club-Administrator. We will also have presentations to special guests who assisted in transporting the Lancaster Park seats to Te Puke – and of course every supporter who purchased a seat(s) will be awarded a **Certificate of Ownership**. Don't miss this milestone event which will unveil the Grandstand plans & drawings for the very first time!



BB said that on behalf of the Crew he offered congratulations to Doddsy for winning the Jack Gray cup. This cup is presented annually to the 'Old Pirate' considered the 'worst performer' of the season. BB said that Doddsy was probably the most rounded non-performer of the last 3 seasons 'displaying a staggering degree of incompetence'. He commented that *"the decision as to who to award the cup to for 2018 was a very simple one"*. BB continued by explaining that Doddsy was awarded the cup because when informed that he had not paid either his 2017 or his 2018 subscription he had strongly protested that he had paid both and had vigorously accused the club of having an incompetent accounting system. Heather said that she was forced into conducting an audit of her accounts – and proved beyond doubt that Doddsy's sub was not paid for both years. Heather said that she was pretty aggrieved about Doddsy's accusations and she had much pleasure in congratulating Doddsy on being the cup's 2018 recipient and that she hoped that he would retain the cup for 2019.

In conceding that he had been somewhat foolish in his appraisal of Heathers accounting system, Doddsy stated that all his money is handled by Jacky and that he was very disappointed that she had obviously made a few errors and that there would be an internal family enquiry on the matter. He added that given his unquestionable value to the club over many years he was deeply disturbed by the aggressive attitude displayed toward him. In a more conciliatory manner however, he commented, *"The only trophy I have ever won was at the Paengaroa school calf-club day in July 1958 so I'm not going to look a gift-horse in the mouth"*.

The last item on the meeting agenda was a report that involved a Motion that *"we move into*

committee for a sensitive topic". The Motion was passed, and the Crew agreed that the subject to be discussed would be treated as strictly confidential.

Apparently, Arthur Ball, club Historian and outstanding captain and No 8 during the 1970's and 1980's raised the matter of 'Old Pirates' payments to injured players. As reported, Arthur is wanting to enquire whether he might be eligible to apply for a payment for an injury he suffered during a game against Eastern Districts in 1974. He told two 'Old Pirates' Crew members at the Tauranga Sports game that *"I chipped a knee-bone on my left leg and now I suffer re-occurring bouts of Arthritis"*

BB said that Arthur's request raised questions as to the parameters surrounding payments for injuries and that he had reviewed the Minutes and found the guidelines to be very ambiguous. Rick however noted that Arthur was an Accountant and as such he would know about the seven year limitation on such claims. BB said that it would be unusual for Rick to be correct on anything and that he would rather refer the matter to Undies who could adjudicate on such legal matters. BB said that Arthurs' request is somewhat unusual, but given that he is a rather peculiar person, somewhat in the mould of Basil Fawly, we kneed to take such matters seriously.

The meeting closed with the Crew having enjoyed copious quantities of Barossa and Hawkes Bay Reds. As per previous Minutes, Doddsy was required to drink his own low-cost \$6.99 bottle of Corbans which did not assist his unpredictable behaviour and irritable mood.

