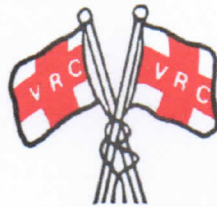


VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB

(ESTABLISHED 1849)
(INCORPORATED 1964)

Chairman-in-Charge: Wu Kam Shing
Hon. Treasurer: James A Fok
Hon. Secretary: Gordon Loch

Honorary Life President:
The Hon. A. de O. Sales, G.B.M., J.P.



Mail: P.O.Box No. 5019, GPO, Central, HK
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36th Floor, Tower Two,
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Hong Kong

EMERALDBAY, SAI KUNG – NEW TERRITORIES
DEEPWATER BAY – HONG KONG ISLAND

NEWSLETTER

Fellow Members,

My apologies for taking so long to write to all of you, but as many issues have come up since our last AGM. As you know, the General Committee is new and we need time to have more understanding between the Committees for cohesive action for the club.

First let me report that our new General Manager, Mr. Robert Cook came on board in January and has been busy learning about the club, meeting members and starting to implement action to improve our two club houses. Early in January, Mr. David Knight, had to resign as Chairman from the General Committee for personal reasons. We thank him for his services to the club and wish him the best. Further bad news came in February, with Mr. Heinrich Verhuel, Chairman of the Membership Sub-Committee, has had a stroke that has left him in hospital since. Our best wishes go to him and his wife, wishing him a swift recovery and hope to see him around his beloved club soon.

Of much concern to you all must be the EGM and the subsequent implementation of increases in our subscriptions and fees which came into effect on April 1 2016. Let me try to explain our reasons for them. As you all know, the club is very small in numbers and very 'laid-back' in our outlook. This has been the way we are since most of us joined. From mid 2015, we had a series of major issues to deal with at both our locations. There were structural problems with the hill sides at Emerald Bay (EMB) as well as problems that have arisen with the side-court at Deep Water Bay (DWB). Both these matters needed the club to engage professional surveyors/engineers and contractors to access the work needed and to implement rectification. Both items alone have so far cost us nearly \$2,000,000.00 with further out going in the coming months. The negative publicity generated by one of our own members concerning trees in EMB has also cost us deeply in Arborist fees resulting the Lands Department spotlight on us.

The aforesaid item has caused huge strain on our already fragile finances and the totally unforeseen expenses that have thrown our past budget out-of-kilter. At the same time, our reserves were severely depleted with the current and ongoing softness in the local stock market where all our money previously invested. We must, for such huge expenditure and have to sell to cover some of our bills, we are simply not earning enough revenue to meet our spending spree over this financial hump.

Basing on such circumstance, the Committee has no way but to ask for your support for a modest increase in revising our quarterly subscriptions and fees. But that itself is not enough. We are actively seeking more positive ways to improve our position.

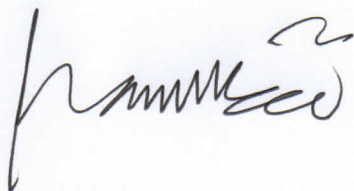
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Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association Ltd.
Life Member: The Royal Life Saving Society, England

We are trying to improve and expand our F&B offerings hoping that generate more income. We have cut down the number of our staff. We will have to call yet another EGM to allow us to change our Auditors which will save us 50% of that cost with no marked change in quality. We have been streamlining our accounting procedures, both to help make essential payments more efficient, but also to try to consolidate and to minimize loss and waste.

We are liaising with the Home Affairs Bureau with regards to our leases and involvement of Ms. Jo Jones has specifically help to generate enough hours of usage by government approved outside bodies; such as NSA's, Schools and other Social groups in compliance with the leases.

Finally, with the coming Spring and Summer, we need your help to come and patronise your club especially at EMB where we need more volunteers to help keep the premises clean, tidy and safe. We need you members to be more aware of our environment and help cut down on wastage of general utilities. We are now open to your fresh ideas on how we can overcome our current problems and most of all, we need your willingness to engage with the club, to lend us your expertise and your suggestions to the committee. Enjoy yourselves at V R C.

Wu Kam Shing
Chairman-in-Charge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wu Kam Shing', written in a cursive style.

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EMERALDBAY, SAI KUNG – NEW TERRITORIES
DEEPWATER BAY – HONG KONG ISLAND

尊貴的會員:

由於近期委員會內的各項變動，以致會訊發佈延誤，造成對各會員的不便，本人謹在此致歉。然而，委員會目前正在努力趕上進度，專注投入各項會務。

本會訊的報告事項如下:

1. 新一任總經理 Mr. Robert Cook 已於一月式上任，並已投入會中大小事務，聯絡會員及為兩會所的發展擬定各項新方案。
2. 於一月十四日，Mr. David Knight 基於個人理由，辭退了主席的職務。對於他在在位的日子裡為本會的貢獻及付出，本會深表感激。
3. 另一個壞消息，於二月中，會籍小組主席 Mr. Heinrich Verhuel 突然中風，現仍留院接受治療，本會謹在此祝願他早日康復並能愉快地重臨會所。
4. 近期較受關注的無疑是緊急會員大會中通過的四月份開始增加會費，而構成這輪加費的主因，就是以下所述事項:

4.1 年前政府對 EMB 發出之斜坡拱固令而地政署則對 DWB 會所右則部份燒烤空地懷疑與原本測量圖則不符，就這兩個項目已在測量、顧問、建築等範疇上花費二百多萬，由於項目尚未完成，總的開支暫未能實報。

4.2 EMB 在保護樹木方面，亦因為其中一位會員作出的負面宣傳而付出沉重的代價更被地政署指定監察。在這個範疇上在聘用園藝師的花費亦是不菲。

基於上述4.1 及4.2 的事項，已令本會本來繃緊的財政狀況雪上加霜。在考慮到迫在眉睫的財政壓力，及長遠的業務改良和發展，委員會決定：內部方面，出售部份股票以作流動資金使用。

對外方面，將會增加會費及迫切的增加會員數目，為了提供長遠的穩定收入，本會亦決定擴大餐飲部的售賣方向，改善現時的銷售大綱，以引入較為可觀的收益。除此之外，本會會縮減員工人數、更換審計公司以即時減低五成的審計費用支出同時亦簡化會計程序以節省不必要的開支。

以上的各項措施，均以開源節流為目標，使本會營運得以維持並能為各會員提供更好的服務。

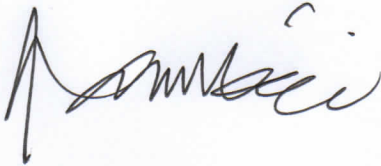
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5. 目前與民政事務署洽談有關租約事宜亦困難重重，為使本會有更多的談判空間，本會已配合政府要求開放會所給多個運動團體、學校及慈善機構舉辦各類型活動，項目經理 Ms. Jo Jones 正努力不懈地為此工作。

總括而言，在接下來的日子裡，各會員無論在行動上及精神上的支持，對本會都非常重要。我們需要各會員熱衷參與會所的各项活動，善用資源及保護環境。另外，在新的業務發展上，我們很歡迎會員提出自己專業的、有創意的意見，希望能藉此提升服務並能促使本會跨越重重考驗，繼續為各會員提供一個舒適而美麗的會所。

此致

胡金城
委員主席



日期：二〇一六年四月七日