

# **Savages Athletics Club**

## **Chairman's Report 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

### **Committee**

A warm welcome to everyone, excuse the pun. It is a great privilege for me to report on the club and its activities. To the Committee Members who gave up so much of their time and skills in making this a successful year. Thank you. (Standing applause please) I would like to specially thank a number of people, Robin Honneysett for his time and services that he has offered to the Committee & as the Accountant, Sharon Hodgkinson for her time and services standing in as Secretary, Mike Rook for his time and services organizing our Cross Country League Event and Filippo & Jacqui for their time and services taking the tent to different races. To the members who have constantly been available on Tuesday nights for setting up and lighting the braai and to the many other members who have contributed in so many different ways in helping, we, the committee thank you all very much.

### **Membership**

We have about 175 registered members for 2008/9, of which 30 are new members. We still at present have people joining the club, most possibly for the Comrades 2010 we now have over 200 members. Welcome to all the new members who joined in 2009 and those joining for 2010. If you have contact details of past members, please forward them to us as we are updating our database.

### **Sponsorships & Development**

We have a few sponsored athletes, of which some have achieved some great results. However we are not happy with the attendance of these athletes at races and their correspondence with the committee, therefore we have drawn up contracts for the forthcoming year 2010. Renewals will depend on them submitting their results from 2009 races.

# **Running**

## **General**

There have been a number of events where the club has made weekend away of events to Sani Pass, Ronnie Davel and Mtunzini Bush run just to name a few, look out for other events as we can negotiate price on accommodation.

## **Time Trials**

The SportsZone/Brooks TT league is starting to be well attended. The seniors are 8<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> out of 27 teams. Veterans are 6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> out of 26 teams. Keep it up everyone.

After changing the Savages route last year, we were hoping to have seen an increase in participants, we had Adidas coming onboard sponsoring our own club league event, however after 2 events badly attended, Adidas decided to pull out. This event will however need your participation to achieve its former glory. We have other sponsors interested in hosting this event however I will not venture into it without seeing an increase at our TT. I suggest the next committee look at re-instating the roster system again, allowing those who want to run TT to run instead of marshalling.

## **Cross Country**

League events have been well supported by our Savages members, with comebacks from Don Colborne & Dave Flatley. The following achievements were achieved at KZN Champs, Blanche Moila Gold medal, Makhosi Mhlongo Gold medal, Raymond Meyer Bronze medal and Sibusiso Madikizela Bronze medal. The following were selected to represent KZNA at SA Champs and achieved these results, Raymond Meyer 12<sup>th</sup> overall, Makhosi Mhlongo 18<sup>th</sup> and Bronze medal team, Sibusiso Madikizela 40<sup>th</sup>, Blanche Moila 4<sup>th</sup> and Gold medal team, Delani Sithole 58<sup>th</sup>, Monwobisis Cele 18<sup>th</sup> and Silver medal team.

Mike Rook organized our League Event, I believe it went off well and was well attended. Mike and his team of helpers a big thank you.

In my conclusion of both Time Trial & Cross Country events, we all know it is hard, but nothing is achieved in life without hardwork.

## **Comrades**

Once again our club had a bigger attendance this year, 60 entered, of which 11 were novices, 56 started and 48 finished.

**Silvers:** Nsikelelo Silangwe 07.07.40 & Filippo Faralla 07.19.36

**Permanent Number:** Sithembiso Luthuli & Vusi Yika

We had a tent at Cowies Hill and it was well supported and a welcome source of motivation for our Savages members running.

Congratulations to all who completed and better luck to those who didn't finish.

At short notice, Filippo brought it to our attention that he was unhappy about there been no tent at finish. As I explained, the Comrades Association has been forwarding emails to a previous email addresses not in use and the past committees have not kept in touch with Comrades or booked tent sites either, hence when this committee took over last year we did not know about it and the procedures as to when to book. I tried to see if I could get a tent site at short notice and could not. I have been in contact Bronwyn (Comrades house) regarding tent site for next year, along with catering and physio beds.

Submit letter as well. [Find it](#)

## **Savages Challenge 2009**

Once again Savages hosted there annual race in some trying circumstances and once again Savages members came to the fore and put on a successful event and can be proud of themselves. I want to thank the sub-committee for there great effort "Thank you". I also want to extend a big thank you to all members and there families who gave so generously of their time and expertise to put this event together.

Without a major sponsorship, a number of members contributed financially, I am not going to select specific individuals simply because an omission with its associated consequences is inevitable. Without a Sponsorship we will face another daunting task next year, so if anyone has contacts, please let the new committee know. I also want to thank those who donated there time manning our tables, Sportsman's Warehouse, Northland Girls, Northwood Boys for 3 tables, Moses & Kwa Mashu AC, Quattro Finances, and Barlow World.

This race normally generates huge revenue for the club however without a major sponsorship we made a loss of R14.00. We also made a decision to donate R5.00 from every runner to SPCA, in which SPCA advertise in local newspapers and East Coast radio for free to encourage more participants. We donated R4100.00 to SPCA, a worthy fund too.

The race dates for 2010 have not been finalized by KZNA office yet however it looks like we will be hosting our race on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May. We will also be placing a full page advert in the KZNA race fixture booklet another opportunity for sponsor to get huge exposure.

### **Other Sporting Codes**

Well done to all Savages members who have participated in a number of events from paddling Dusi Canoe Marathon, swimming Midmar Mile, cycling Argus & Ama Shova Shova, Cape Odyssey and different adventure races and the Ironman.

## **Special Achievements**

### **2009**

SA 10km Champs–Stellenbosch 30<sup>th</sup> August, KZNA selected Makhosi Mhlongo, Sibusiso Madikizela and Ackim Mhanzi along with Blanche Moila as a manager.

SA Cross Country-Pretoria 12<sup>th</sup> September, KZNA selected Makhozi Mhlongo, Sibusiso Madikizela, Monwobisis Cele, Delani Sithole, Raymond Meyer and Blanche Moila along with JP Stewart as a manager.

## **Social Events**

### **Illovo Christmas run**

Once again, Savages come together in showing there unity in Winning for the 10<sup>th</sup> time, the best bus award. Club members socialized afterwards with breakfast under the tents.

## **Pub to Pub**

Yet again a well supported annual social event and running in Xmas clothing.

## **Year End Christmas Party**

The event was held at Europa Dbn North and was well supported as we danced into the early hours of the morning.

## **Fundraising Events**

There were a number of fund raising events throughout the year, Halloween, Valentines and rugby matches. These were also well attended, raising R2181.00 which has been raised for 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee Dinner.

## **General**

### **Website & Cleft Stick**

I want to thank Kevin Bradfield for getting our Website & Cleft Stick up and running. This has been a huge benefit and source of information for our members. It has also been a source of raising some funds and has a huge potential. If you need info on the site or know of someone wanting to advertise please inform the committee. The funds from advertising on the website, I reckon should be used for our Sponsored athletes.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

As you are all aware March 2010 is our 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee.

- We already have some special clothing for sale.
- We are looking for a sponsor for our publication of our 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee book. **(look at our past race sponsors)**
- We are looking at having a Dinner Function inviting all past & present members. At present we have about 100 people who have mentioned that they would attend. So we are looking for people who wish to get involved in a sub-committee to help.

## **Golf Day Fundraising**

This is an ideal opportunity in our 50<sup>th</sup> year for us to raise funds to purchase our own clubhouse or to use towards our 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations. We are also looking for a sub-committee to arrange this event.

## **Clubhouse Premises.**

At present our club house is in a great venue, as the turnout to the club shows. As we only have a monthly lease with the Council, a sub-committee has looked at various venues. Once again a premise with no connection to the municipality is the way to go. Kevin B will discuss this issue later on.

## **Finances**

Savages showed a profit of R12 000.00 considering, we had no race sponsorship. The income from fundraising this year should be set aside to be used for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Robin H will discuss this issue later on.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, I would like to ask for other members to come forward and help in the relevant sub-committees. I would like to wish the incoming committee the best of luck and good wishes for a successful 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee year in 2010.

Thank You

