

## Uitsig Squash Club - Chairman's Report 2016

Wow! What a year 2016 has been. I said 2015 had proven to be the most successful in Uitsig's history. I think 2016 eclipsed that.

Thank you to my Exco, Ralph, Duane, Sharon and Deon. Thank you to my committee, the Exco plus Maryna, Siyanda, Gerhard, Andre, Reinhardt and Jaco. The teamwork has been phenomenal and we rank as the most active and cohesive committee's in the province.

But the biggest accolade goes to the members for believing and trusting in the committee. Thank you.

A summary by the numbers:

- 2 Blitz Men's & Ladies winners
- 2 Successive Woody Kaiser wins
- 3 Top 10 SA ranked players representing Uitsig
- 5 Leagues wins: 1<sup>st</sup>, Res, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> leagues
- 7 Jarvis / Kaplan representatives
- 23 League sides: The largest by any club in the NSA
- 27 Juniors representing Northern Schools
- 36 Juniors under 21 playing league
- 138 League players representing Uitsig
- 403 Members

Our association with Centurion Juniors Squash is as strong as ever. I am sometimes criticized for the strength of my support but I will continue. The amount for families who are Uitsig members is testament to this. 3 / 7 section winners in the recent Club Champs are juniors. Over 25% of our league players are under 21 years old – that equates to 1 per team. Our 12<sup>th</sup> league went unbeaten with a combined age of the top 3 players of just 34, yip average age 11! Maryna, thank you for your dedication, always behind the scenes ... just making it happen one step at a time

Tournaments this year are growing from strength to strength. Satellite Series, Double Trouble, Club Championships, Summer League and the Strawberry Pot Doubles (SPD) certainly keep the calendar extremely busy.

A club cannot survive without its loyal members and sponsors. To this end I wish to thank

- Francois Olivier. A stalwart and ambassador to the club. His contribution is immense. Francois, thank you for everything. The wonderful garden display to welcome our guests and the SPD, which is a tournament that has become the talking point of Gauteng.
- Karla Hunt. Our Customer Loyalty Summer League sponsor.
- Brett Summers from Wilson who makes 2 kids dreams come true every year with a full kit sponsor.
- Cara Muller from MyBroadband, always contributing to a cause within the club.
- BioKinetic for their outside braai area sponsor

Our high court usage has resulted in the club spending in excess of R150,000 on court maintenance with new flooring and front wall repairs. Unfortunately, this has been spoilt by the few members not adhering to the shoe policy, resulting in stricter measures being laid out for non-adherence.

New 45 min timeslots were introduced, reducing each session by an effective 15 minutes, allowed for more peak hour play. A court cancellation fee was brought in and has proven to help eradicate unnecessary bookings. This was backed by a no-show penalty during peak time that was applied.

Financially we flat lined on revenue for 9 months ending Sept at R877k however the Summer League and Strawberry Pot Doubles is still to run and should take our revenue close to R1m! However our net revenue has grown 90% from R40k to R76k. But we do have roof repair work of around R35,000 for Q4.

2017 has new projects in the pipeline including extending the kiosk and damp concerns.

Retaining the Club of the Year is no mean feat. Fielding 2 1<sup>st</sup> league and 2 Reserve league sides for 2017 will be a tough challenge but I know it will be one that the teams will cherish. 2017 promises to be yet again a cracker year but we must take cognizance of our membership capacity vs court availability and it is time to now target that 5<sup>th</sup> court.

To you, our members, I repeat again what I said in 2014. Pleasing 400 guests at a dinner is not an easy feat, having to continuously do it every night for a year is near to impossible. But you have made it possible, you saw the abilities of the committee, allowed them to do their work, walked through the good and the bad and you have made it an absolute pleasure, joy and honour to serve you.

I trust the members will continue to believe in the committee they elect and continue to play in the Uitsig spirit.

**Play hard, Play to win but Play fair and Play in the Uitsig Spirit!**

Thank You  
Brett Cousins  
Chairperson