

**MINUTES OF THE 69th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
DURBAN UNDERSEA CLUB**
HELD AT THE POINT WATERSPORTS CLUB HOUSE DURBAN
ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 18h00

AGENDA

1. To establish the presence of a quorum.
2. To approve the minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting held on 30 September 2020
3. To receive the Chairman's Report.
4. To receive the Vice-Chairman's Report.
5. To receive the Treasurer's Report, Audited Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account of 2020/21 Financial Year.
6. To receive the reports from the Portfolio Committee Members.
7. To elect the Auditor
8. To elect Office bearers.
9. General.

MINUTES

The DUC Committee has requested, and Ryan Hansen chaired the meeting.

1. PRESENCE OF A QUORUM

As per the attendance registers, a quorum was reached.

2. APPROVE THE 2020 AGM MINUTES

Proposed: Glen Smith

Seconded: Steve Evans

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Good evening members and invited guests.

In particular a welcome to Bruce Jackson and Mark Setterberg, our fellow Directors on the PWC Board, and to Roy Wienand and Representatives from the NSRI and Grant Smith from Siyaphambili Paddling Academy.

I welcome you all and thank you for your support of this report back session of the Club's activities this past year.

My name is Geoff Phillips, and I was not your elected Chair at last year's AGM, that was Louisa van Staden.

Due to the many pressures of the position and an acrimonious relationship at PWC Board level, Louisa decided to step down and the DUC Committee asked me to help out in this position effective end of January this year.

Other changes were made to the Committee at that time, with both Louisa and Butch resigning as the DUC representatives on the PWC Board.

Ryan Hansen and I have filled these positions for the remainder of this past year.

For those members who do not know me, I had previously served DUC for 12 years as Vice-Chair with then Chairman Cuane Hall, up until 2018, as well as representing the Club on the inaugural PWC Board during that time.

PWC

It has become apparent that the majority of members are unaware of the structures and workings of PWC and to all intent and purpose think we are all members of one club.

Unfortunately, this is not the case.

I hope to shed a little light on this for you.

The PWC is a unique entity.

- It is a registered non-profit Company
- Its structure and operations are determined by a MOI that was agreed to between the 2 Clubs and signed in October 2019
- PWC is the home clubhouse for DUC & DSBC members
- PWC holds the main lease on these premises, with the 2 Clubs, the signatories to that lease.
- PWC only has 2 members – those being the entities of DUC & DSBC
- PWC is responsible for providing the F&B services and club house facilities for the members of both clubs.
- DUC and DSBC contribute funds received from membership subscriptions, to PWC, so that PWC can provide these facilities and services.
- The funds that PWC receives from the clubs is determined by means of projected PWC operational budget that would be agreed to between DUC and DSBC and PWC management.

Like all Clubs, PWC cannot and will never trade at a profit and is totally reliant for its operation and survival, from contributions from the clubs' subscriptions.

The financial aspects of PWC are controlled by a Finance Committee, which is made up jointly by 3 senior members of both Clubs together with the PWC General Manager, Paul Smit and the Admin Manager, Lynda Lavery

Here lies the biggest challenge to PWC and the offering it is able to give the members of both Clubs.

How much contribution should PWC receive to run its operations efficiently, while offering the best in F&B and facilities to the members of both clubs?

A conservative approach to budgeting that puts enough money into PWC to run its operations at its optimum, will mean that the clubs have to contribute more to PWC and retain less for the Club.

An optimistic approach to budgeting means paying less in contributions, keeping more cash for the club, but which also in turn restricts the operational ability of PWC.

This is where the biggest difference of opinion is experienced between the clubs, and in our opinion causes the constraints of operation to the management of PWC.

The PWC budget for the new year has not been finalised at this moment.

On to more positive matters.

The highlight of our DUC year has been the completion of our DUC Dive Centre and Compressor room.

When we started this project in February it was hoped for an Easter completion, but as for all good plans, construction is never that simple.

The actual build being a PWC leasehold improvement, was funded equally by both clubs, while the fit out and decoration costs were borne by DUC.

We are of the opinion that we now boast the best Dive Centre in Durban, if not KZN.

Bryan Hart will elaborate during his diving presentation.

Also on Diving, we have been informed that this last weekend saw 3 of our DUC spear fishermen represent SA at the 32nd world spearfishing championships held in Sardinia, Italy.

They managed a very good 5th place overall. Congrats to Angelo Spada, Jaco Blignaut, Gerhard Vosloo.

DUC is a multi-disciplined sporting club offering 11 different water sport codes.

Over many years our club has enjoyed a close relationship with the NSRI.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for always being on hand to assist all watersports enthusiasts in their time of need, and as a token of our appreciation I would like to ask Roy Wienand to come up and receive a cheque for R25000.00 for Durban Station 5.

This year also saw DUC formalising of an agreement with Siyaphambili Paddling Academy.

Siyaphambili is a paddling development initiative for disadvantaged kids, that was started by members of our surf ski section, and DUC has been an active sponsor in Siyaphambili since its inception.

Siyaphambili is now a formalised registered institution with its own board of trustees.

I would like to ask Grant Smith to come up and say a few words about this initiative. (See attached powerpoint presentation)

MEMBERSHIP

A recent breakdown of our membership shows:

Members	3 520	
Scuba Divers, UWH, Spearos	1 088	30.9%
Surfski, SUP	821	23.3%
Boating, Jetski, Sailing	320	9.0%
Open Sea Swimming, Water Polo	232	6.6%
Social, Pensioners, Country, Honorary	1 059	30.0%

We have had 213 resignations this year to date.

Covid has had a huge impact on our sports this year.

Restrictions on participant numbers, cancelled events, pool closures etc have all played a big part in curtailing our normal activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank this committee for remaining positive and for continuing to maintain and in some cases grow their disciplines during this past year.

To my Executive Committee. Thank you for your support and the time and effort put into working for the members of DUC.

Lastly, on behalf of this Committee and the DUC members, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the PWC Management and Staff for your service to the members of DUC.

Thank you

4. VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Butch Murray could not attend due to covid – no report

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Good evening DUC Members

The Audited Financials have been up on the DUC website.

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year under review 01 August 2020 to 31 July 2021.

DUC finished the year with a surplus of income over expenditure of R1.5m as well as Bank balances of just over R9m. This is a great achievement for our club in a year which has seen us assist PWC with loans to finalise the new building, carry out extensive repairs on DUC1 and kit out our fabulous new Dive Centre.

Subscriptions are the primary funding income for all the Club activities with the main expense being the almost R3m paid to PWC for its operating expenditure.

Other expense items to note are:

The development and implementation of the new DUC website and the funding of Siyaphambili which is the development initiative of the Surf Ski Section.

Increase in "other Financial Assets" refers to the loans to PWC for payroll from last year, and the large amount loaned for the build and final finishes as well as the development of Lot 5.6. The loans from DUC & DSB are equal for the main clubhouse build at R4.5m which includes the Dive Centre construction.

However, DUC has an additional loan to PWC of R2m for the clubhouse finishes which DSBC refused to pay towards as this was over and above the original Bill of Quantities.

The loan agreement between DUC and DSBC – DSBC has once again paid this year's instalment and the loan now stands at R2 450 000

It must be noted here that Interest Received on investment is down due partly to the low interest rates currently on offer by the banks but also due to the non-interest bearing loans to PWC and DSBC.

Increase in Property, Plant and Equipment includes the new motor for the safety boat as well as the DUC sponsored fish tank and the sun-protection blinds in the PWC clubhouse. I would like to particularly thank Tommy and Nikky Felgen for the time and effort they put in to looking after the fish tank which gives much enjoyment to all PWC members.

Once again, I wish to thank Ian Agg for all the advice and assistance he gave me during the year.

Thank you

The financials were accepted

Proposed: Glen Smith

Seconded: Geoff Phillips

6. PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

Most sporting sections were not at all active during this year of lockdown and only those sections who had reports presented.

6.1 PHOTOGRAPHY – BRYAN HART

See attached presentation

6.2 BOATING - RYAN HANSEN

Tractors

DSBC costs of tractors were quite expensive. DSBC proposed the concept of implementing a levy to both DSBC and DUC members who owned boats of R1 200.00 per annum last year – this was reasonable as it working out to R100 per month. The levy paid by members meant that your card was loaded, you swiped your card at the launch office and upon receipt of a generated ticket, the tractor driver would tow the boat in and out.

DUC agreed to this policy for 2020/21 as well as that the shortfall of expenses of tractors not covered by the income generated would be split between DSBC and DUC in a ratio based on fleet size – estimated to be about 20%.

However, the tractor expenses went from R800 000 in 2020 to R1 300 000 during this year – almost double??????

After the first year, DUC re assessed the actual usage of the tractors by DUC Boats. Many DUC members did not pay as they did not use the tow system – self-launching, boat moored in harbour, used on dam, currently out of the water or repairs etc. The DSBC policy states that all S or DUC numbers HAVE to pay for the tractor levy whether or not the tractors are used. DUC accepted (unhappily) that because the policy had been agreed to, we would have to pay for those members who had numbers but in fact were not using the tractors and therefore had not paid the levy.

For this next year 21/22 we tried to get a better, more equitable system. If a DUC Member is not using the tractor, or is self-launching, they don't have to pay. Last year about 30 /100 did not use this.

We don't want to force our members to pay the levy if they do not want to. There are great expenses and lots of negative ramifications in changing a boat number.

Conflict. DSBC would not compromise and are NOT prepared to adjust their policy for DUC boats. Things got very testy and on 30 July Ryan Hansen asked for DSBC for time to resolve. This was not given by DSBC. DUC proposed then that DUC would levy only our relevant members and that DUC would pay on their behalf the "cash tow fee" charged by DSBC to visitors – at the time this was R300 both ways and we would NOT pay the shortfall DSBC encountered.

Suddenly this daily fee went to R350 and was then increased to R450. All in a matter of a few days. An increase of 50% WAS not taken well by DUC!

Next fight was how to pay the R450. Came up against brick walls. DSBC took all the DUC members off the system and when asked to allow DUC members to have a special "account" created, DSBC said no – they had paid for the Jonas modular so no tampering.

Only option – we have to pay and get re imbursed. Very frustrating and no cohesion. We have reached a brick wall and after a Committee meeting, we feel that the only way forward is to get our own tractor.

A vote was taken on this and unanimously agreed to get a DUC tractor.

7. TO ELECT THE AUDITOR

No objections to Viljoen & Associates being appointed auditors.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following people were elected to the DUC Committee for the 2021/2022 year

Chairperson – GEOFF PHILLIPS
Vice-chairperson – BUTCH MURRAY
Treasurer – LEIGH PHILLIPS
Secretary – LOUISA VAN STADEN
Scuba and Underwater Photography – BRYAN HART
Spearfishing – CHRIS WEST (New Appointment)
Underwater Hockey – WESLEY REARDON
Boating & Safety – RYAN HANSEN
Surf Ski – DAVID AIKINS
Environmental & Conservation – LINDSAY HOPKINS
Paddle Ski Fishing – GLEN SMITH
SUP – BRANDON READ
Water Polo – SID GREY
Open Water Swimming – STEVE EVANS
Extra Ordinary position 1 – DOT MARITZ (New Appointment)

Unanimously accepted.

9. GENERAL

Nikky Felgen

Thanked DUC Committee for time and effort in spite of getting slammed from all directions
Big concern – 70-80 % of people coming to the PWC Clubhouse don't know which club they belong to – DUC/PWC/DSBC?
Saga with tractors – petty nonsense. Need to invest and put our resources together
Make club as one.

Danie Maritz

No-one belongs to this nice outfit called PWC. We should be ALL be members of PWC not separate clubs.
Suggestion to have MOI of PWC to be reapproached and corrected to allow all to be members of PWC and thereby have a say in the facility. MOI of PWC re addressed.

GP – there is a process that will need to be followed to change the MOI. You would need to call for a SGM of the DUC Membership, outlining and describing the changes needed to the MOI. Similarly, this process would have to be done by DSBC. If the majority of members of both clubs are in agreement, then MOI could be changed.

Wally Bodin

Wi-fi in the club – what is the issue.

GP – will look into this but think its to do with supply of fibre in the area.

Colin Steenhuizen

Hears what members saying.
Great sympathy with Committee. This is nothing new. One club is well off and the other one isn't.
Problem when combine 2 industries. Always going to be a difference. Hard to manage that. DUC had to pay R2 500 000 for fixtures!

What are the loan accounts outstanding? remaining lease. Loans are great idea provided we get them paid back.

GP - the lease is for 15 years with 10-year extension. The DSBC loan from DUC has a balance of R2 450 000 after the first 2 repayment of R450k

Kirwin Paulsen

Re DSBC – does not seem like much appreciation is shown. Application members of DUC are now put on as DSBC members – we're giving them money to pay back the loan. Chess game with numbers! Not official as it's our money. Seconded by Nicole Felgen.

We say we're equal but we are always trying to make it work.

GP discussed parity of memberships – parity in numbers. Unfortunately this is in the MOI.

Michelle Dempsey

As per the MOI we can add 4 extra members on the PWC board, suggest that this may work

Debbie Majoor

DSBC could not afford to be here if it weren't for DUC and it's annoying that they are so ungrateful, cannot get over it and have one club.

Paul Shannon

Need to get a message to all 7000 members requesting that they vote if in favour of one club. If more than half respond then it must be taken as such.

Nothing further was raised or discussed and the meeting closed at 20h40