

Dear Members,

The Club has experienced a flurry of activity in the past few months. The 50th Anniversary Carnival, which marked the end of year-long celebrations, was a resounding success. We have reached broad agreements in principle on many issues in our land lease discussions with the labour movement. The renovation of the Bukit Men's Changing Room is complete and we look to commence refurbishment works in the Bukit Ladies' Changing Room soon. We also welcomed onboard the new General Manager / Secretary in July.

Club Financials

On the operating performance for the financial year 2013/14, it is forecasted that the Club will end the year with an operating deficit of below \$2.5m. It will be better than the budgeted operating deficit of \$3.31m, a reduction of 24.5%. We will continue to strengthen our financials through effective revenue and cost management practices.



Land Lease Renewal

In my Message to Members dated 17 July 2014, which is reproduced on Page 5 for your benefit, I have provided an update on the progress of discussions with the National Trades Union Congress. Please be assured that the General Committee will negotiate with the best interest of the Club and its members at heart. We will continue to update you as soon as we have more information to share.

Golf Course Improvement Works

As stated by the Captain in the June 2014 issue of *Islander*, the improvement and repair works at the New Course are ongoing. The turfgrass at the New Course greens is healthy and putting quality has begun to show signs of improvement. Going forward, we will take a measured approach to ensure that we do not jeopardise plant health that would lead to decline of turfgrass. However, we do understand members' expectations for improvement of putting standard, and our objective is to balance turfgrass sustainability with putting quality. At the same time, an effort is being made to catch up on course tidying up maintenance practices.

We are also finalising plans for a new putting green to be constructed in front of The Lookout. This green will feature TifEagle[™] turfgrass and a SubAir[™] system. Further details on the golf course maintenance can be found in this magazine.

A Redevelopment Task Force of Island golf courses has been set up to look into the future redevelopment of golf courses at Island location. Broadly, the task force will look at reconfiguring the existing golf courses to create five 9-hole layouts.

In addition, the Land Transport Authority has commissioned a contractor to construct a new road off Lornie Road. This will require the building of a 100m stretch of bored pile retaining wall along SICC's Bukit location. Further details are under the Club News section.



Improving Club Facilities

The Bukit Ladies' Changing Room will also undergo refurbishment works in the coming months. The condition of the room is dated and requires minor works to enhance the practical and functional use of the facility.

50th Anniversary Celebrations

The Club's 50th Anniversary celebrations climaxed with a carnival, which was a fitting commemoration of our past and present. Over 3,500 members attended the fun-filled event, which boasted something for everyone. Games, food and entertainment, it was all there for members to enjoy. This was the Club's way of giving back to the members, and provided a good platform for them to celebrate this milestone. The feedback after the event was resoundingly in favour of similar events being held at the Club on a more regular basis.

In conjunction with the carnival, the Club unveiled the time capsule. It contains memorabilia which are representative of the Club today, and which will serve as a reference and resource for future generations of members of the Club.

New General Manager / Secretary

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Mr Casper Schönfeldt, whom we welcomed aboard in July. Casper brings with him more than 25 years of valuable Club and hospitality experience. His hands-on management style, attention to detail and emphasis on high standards have helped him build exceptional membership and guest relationships in his career. I wish him every success and I hope that you, the members, will extend a warm welcome to him and give him your utmost support.

Conclusion

While many changes have already taken place, there are several others underfoot. We are constantly working to improve the Club's facilities for our members, and we encourage all members to come and support the Club activities and events for your enjoyment.

Yours sincerely,

Tay Joo Soon President