

Results this year I think were outstanding. Being league champions in two and nearly three grades I think was acknowledgement of all our efforts for many years, but in particular the recent years where we all know improvements have been made. The calibre of Ohope kids deserve continued support and development from this club.

There have been many initiatives achieved by this committee that need congratulating.

- **Budding Beckhams.** Nothing provided more satisfaction for many watching these young kids buzz around. We must take all steps to keep this initiative going!
- **Combined training.** I think there was many benefits with this approach that need to be developed further. Probably the most unexpected was the odd time that coaches post training would congregate for a de-brief/compare notes session.
- **Coach training/mentoring.** A key issue to continue is development for all coaches especially within the younger grades. A forum needs to be developed to allow coaches to socialize, get together on a monthly basis (complete with appropriate refreshments of course) perhaps monthly Thursday session.
- **Trials.** The need to trial our entire 8th grade and above players has often been discussed as the only way to grade teams ready for league play. I am now convinced of this having formed teams for the last two years. The only way forward is to adopt this approach.
 - Starting at 8th grade will cut the emotional ties with coaches and other players.
 - It will align players of appropriate skill with the more skilled coaches.
 - It will provide an incentive for kids to perform rather than be complacent.
 - Best of all it should result with league performances that provide trophy results for both premier and 1st divisions.
- **Reps squads.** Without doubt the caliber of our reps players is missing an opportunity for enhancement. We need to form these squads early with the view motivate fitness, skills and attitude tuning. All grades could be merged within a training camp type approach from as early as May with selection by default from the previous year's squad. Nomination pre EBOP trials could allow new players. We know these kids and usually it is obvious within the teams normal league play.
- **Policy.** Although talked about at occasions I believe there is a need for policy that will guide the efforts of all involved. Although bureaucratic it provides a baseline from which to discipline those that disrupt the basic needs for players, coaches and administrators. We shouldn't however waste effort re-inventing the wheel.
- **Web Site.** The club has finally been given a face that has provided a wonderful interface for all involved. Examples such as Kenny McCracken's weekly reports highlights the diverse potential it has. The hidden value however that has emerged is the unique visitor numbers that will provide incentive for more sponsors.
- **Sponsorship.** Needs to be pursued with a long-term view to encourage relationships with business that assist with funding on going. Positive feedback on the billboards should see that approach continued.
- **McMecking.** Having promoted this tournament now for three years without doubt there is a demand to continue. We are still committed to hoist a McMecking early 2009; but thought should be given to making this a bi annual event to help lessen the burden on the committee.
- **Exhibition matches.** Obviously there is scope to use this approach for sponsorship or general public spending. The enthusiasm that had grown from the public to watch the Vanuatuan match was so hot that only two successful bouts of rain could have extinguished it.
- **Summer soccer.** It is crazy that we ignore a summer league both for funding and for on-going skills. The only obstacle is portable goals and willingness. Perhaps a sub committee approach would work here.

- **Incorporation.** Having incorporated the stage is now set for an alternative approach to club business. I believe initially funding should be applied for.
 - **Equipment.** Rebuild of our existing goals and the purchase of nets for all goals. Provision of corner flags for all fields and wheelie bins just like Whakatane. The manufacture of aluminum goals for both the McMecking tournament support and the possibility of summer soccer.

The club has never been stronger with a wonderful committee strong parent support and good strong membership to move forward with. Funds are being maintained and managed prudently to support many more initiatives and years to come.

Thank you.

Committee Achievements.

Strong for two seasons now.

New storage cupboards

Sideline flags

Logo

Info folders in bags

Newsletters

2007 McMecking \$2000

Achieved record enrolment at 131 + 12 budding Beckhams – 15th grade. 4 x 7th

Budding Beck hams Huge foundation for future years.

11 coaches trained at level one certification

Sponsors of billboards

Beanies & caps More newsletters

Web site

Thursday combined coaching

McMecking 48-52 teams committed.

Vanuatuan exhibition match lined up Hundreds of boots donated.

Team photos

Incorporation pending.