

## **Presidents Report 2019**

I have now completed my first year as president and I can say the past year has been exciting. I have to say a big thank you to the past presidents and Kevin McLaren who I took over from. They laid great foundations which allowed us to strengthen on and off the pitch last year;

- Progressing our juniors' section through All Stars and Kwik Cricket
- 1<sup>st</sup> XI Winning the Scottish Cup and Masterton T20
- 3<sup>rd</sup> XI ESCA Division 3 Champions

We fielded 3 senior elevens every weekend and fielded our under 12s and 14s against teams across Edinburgh. Over 40 kids participated in our All Stars programme week in week out. This credit must go to the junior convenor (Hayes Van Der Berg) the coaches and the parents.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI had a successful season winning the Masterton T20 after 20 years, the Scottish Cup after 7 years, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Eastern Premier League and finishing runners up in the Murgitroyd T20. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI competed in the Championship and secured another season after a difficult start. The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI continued their success story and were crowned champions of ESCA Division 3.

Off the pitch we had a we had great season were more active on social media platforms, and our social calendar was a great success. This saw many new faces and many old familiar faces back to the club. The club then ended the season with a great annual dinner which was held at the rugby club and was a fantastic night. I would like to thank everyone who was involved with organising the dinner for doing a fantastic job. I would also like to thank the membership for showing their support.

It was also evident the amount of hard work put in by a large number of committed and dedicated volunteers. I would like to thank Charlie and Lawrence for all their efforts on the scoring side of and Charlie for doing another great job as secretary. Barbara More for all her efforts during the week and on the weekends and a big thank you to Simon the Groundsman and his team for preparing the pitches to highest of standards week and week out.

Going forward we putting motions in place to strengthen our grass roots cricket and build on the platform we already have in place for our senior teams to strengthen. The committee has been working effortlessly to get things in place for going forward and we have managed and are looking to do the following;

- We have agreed with Wardie Primary and Holy Cross Primary to provide cricket lessons – this had been headed by Joe Kinghorn Grey.
- We have a 4<sup>th</sup> XI who will compete in ESCA Division 7. This will see a mix of senior players and juniors involved which will help with the junior development and will be headed by Alan Hogarth
- We will be looking to strengthen our All Star and Kwik Cricket offerings by building on the numbers we had last year.
- We have signed Matthew Cross from Bexley Cricket Club and Sam Flett from Royal High Corstorphine and Ewan Hutchison.
- Our pre season games have been confirmed and we will be playing Ferguslie and West of Scotland at Goldenacre on the 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> April
- We will have a touring side from down south coming up on the 30<sup>th</sup> July to play a T20 game

We have a few people stepping down from their roles this season and I would like to say big thank you to them from the club;

Barbara More, Barbara will be stepping down from the committee this year, I would like to thank Barbara for all her efforts, she has been a great asset to the club with time and effort she has put in.

Ali Farooq, Ali did an amazing job with the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and got them promoted to the Championship. Thank you, Ali, for all your time and effort.

Keith Morton, Keith steps down as one of the most decorated captains the 1<sup>st</sup> XI has seen. Keith led his teams to the Eastern Premier League, Scottish Cup, Masterton T20 and Murgitroyd T20. Big thank you to Keith for all his time and efforts.

In conclusion, the club continues to provide a great opportunity for recreational enjoyment, as well as offering a pathway for those who wish to pursue cricket as an elite sport. With the plans we have in place and the continued hard work and commitment of our members and supporters, the future of the club is very bright indeed.

I will endeavour to answer any questions you may have or take on board any observations and recommendations.

Thank you  
Bilal