

9 April 2026

Comments from the Board Chair



We hope that all had a wonderful Easter and that the goodies provided by the Easter bunny have not resulted in sugar boosts and chocolate withdrawal symptoms!!!

BOARD MEETING

The Board's latest meeting was held on 30 March 2026 – the Board approved the upgrading of the CCTV system and is also looking at the possible replacement of its current courtesy coach, as maintenance costs have been increasing recently.

The lease of the land utilised by the Croquet Club is due to terminate on 30 June 2026 and the Board has made an approach to the Central Otago District Council for a new ground lease from 1 July 2026, in order to preserve the opportunity for the Croquet Club to continue in its current location. As agreed between the District Club and the Croquet Club in 2016, the District Club is the tenant of the land and

will be responsible for negotiating a new ground lease, although the Croquet Club will be represented as part of the District Club's team to meet with the Council.



Very many thanks to our members who managed to pay their 2026-27 subscriptions by 31 March 2026. If you have yet to pay the 2026-27 membership subscription, the full membership fee has now increased from \$45 to \$50.

However as previously advised, **if any subs are unpaid by 30 April 2026, then membership will lapse** – if that happens, it will be necessary to re-apply for membership before membership entitlements are reinstated.

Membership Cards & Subs



Courtesy Coach

With the ever-increasing costs of fuel (and maintenance) for the courtesy coach, the Board is looking at options to rationalise the operations of the courtesy coach which of course is offered as a service to the Club's members. Who knows what will happen to the price of fuel over the next few months, but the Board is considering a timetable of service instead of an "at will" service as currently offered.

One such option is to allow for "pick-up" of patrons on the hour (say 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm) and for "drop off" of patrons on the half-hour (say 6.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, and 9.30pm). The Board would be interested in receiving feedback on such a proposal (or for an alternative proposal, should a member have one) – any such feedback can be given to any of the Board members and/or the Manager, but should be offered in a respectful manner.

In the event that the Board decides to change the courtesy coach pick-up and drop off systems, members will receive plenty of notice before any changes are implemented.

Raffles



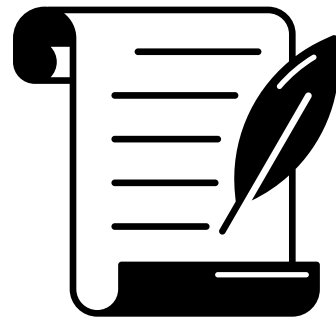
The weekly raffles are an important part of the entertainment provided at the District Club and the Board is keen to ensure that members feel that the raffles are appropriate. Meat raffles are generally considered to be “good value” but we need to ensure that the product is attractive. Of recent times, we have changed our source for the supply of meat raffles and in so doing, the number of raffles per colour draw has been reduced, to ensure that the quality and quantity of the meat raffles remain attractive to our members.

We used to have four draws per colour raffle but more recently, we have increased the size of the individual prizes but in so doing, have reduced the number of prizes. At the end of the day, we need to make sure that the raffles are “profitable” to the District Club as it uses the proceeds to purchase the prizes as well as to provide funds for the cash draw which occurs just after 6pm on Thursdays and Saturdays.

What do members think about the raffle prizes on offer at the moment? If more prizes are expected, then the value of each raffle prize will need to be reduced so as to provide more prizes; or are we better off by having fewer prizes but having better value prizes of meat?

Again, the Board would like feedback on the raffles – should we stick with what we have (fewer raffles per colour draw but more value in the prize) or increase the number of raffles prizes (but reducing the value of each meat prize)?

Constitution Amendment



The Board is investigating whether to change the quorum requirement for the Annual General Meeting – at last year’s AGM, the new Constitution was adopted which now requires a minimum of 80 members to attend the AGM. A check of recent AGMs’ attendance would suggest that unless there is a controversial matter involved, it can be difficult to get more than 60-70 members to attend the actual meeting.

Having said that, there is the opportunity for members to submit their votes [on the membership of the Board] prior to the meeting. Last year, there were around 50 members who voted early but did not attend the AGM.

The Board is wondering whether the Constitution should be amended to allow for those voting members to be included as part of the quorum – a similar provision occurs in other organisation's Constitutions and if it was part of the District Club's Constitution, it should ensure that we meet the quorum requirement, thereby avoiding the need for the AGM to be rescheduled through lack of a quorum.

If the members were supportive of this suggestion, it would be intended to introduce the amendment over the new couple of months so that members would have plenty of time before the 2026 AGM to consider the proposal. The suggested change would be formally addressed at the AGM and it is important therefore for the AGM to first meet its current quorum requirement [80 persons attending].

Pat Cooney

BOARD CHAIR

9 April 2026
