



**Ras Al Hamra Recreation Centre
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 9th December 2014**

The Annual General Meeting of the Ras Al Hamra (RAHRC) was held in the Marlin Hall on Tuesday, 9th December, 2014 at 16:30.

Present Members:

There were 54 ordinary and external members present

(Patron and Main Committee):

Mr. Raoul Restucci	PDO Managing Director and RAHRC Patron
Mr. Khalid Al Khabouri	President (Chair)
Mr. Bert Michels	Vice President
Mr. Ahmed Al Marhoobi	Honorary Treasurer
Mr. Hamood Al Tooqi	RAHRC Manager
Mr. Martin Healey	Bar Secretary
Mr. Hamood Al Shaqsy	Social Secretary
Mr. Iain Liversage	Liaison RAH Development & General Secretary
Mrs. Karen Thijs	Community Member

Agenda for the AGM:

1. HSE Rules
2. Welcome
3. Approval of 2013 AGM minutes
4. Receipt of Main Committee report for 2013 – 2014
5. Receipt of accounts for 2013 – 2014
6. Patron's Message
7. Nomination of Company appointed Main Committee members
8. Voting for elected Main Committee Members
9. Company nomination of Honorary Auditors
10. Voting on any resolutions
11. Announcement of winners of RAHRC Main Committee Award
12. Any other Business - Question and Answers

HSE Rules: The Assistant General Manager for RAHRC drew attention to a few HSE rules.

Introduction to the AGM (Iain Liversage – General Secretary and Projects Secretary):

The General Secretary welcomed all members present. He led the members through to the agenda of the AGM: to approve the minutes of the 2013 AGM; to present Main Committee report and report of Financial Accounts for 2013 - 2014; to nominate company appointed Main Committee members, message by the MD, voting for elected Main Committee members, voting on any other resolutions, announcement of winners of RAHRC Main Committee Award and question and answers.

Approval of Minutes of the 2013 AGM: The General Secretary stated that since there were no comments on the Minutes of the 2013 AGM which had been posted on the web and the notice board they have been accepted and approved.

Presentation by Mr. Khalid Khabouri – President:

- The President introduced the Main Committee members.
- This club is unique and although it is run by the Committee, it is really the members who run it. If you look at all my messages that I send out, it's always the simple message that this club provides a very safe and family friendly environment where people can come and enjoy themselves and I would really like to keep it that way. It is very diverse group offering a lot of activities with 42 sections, a mini United Nations and there have been members around 87 nationalities in the club.
- I would like to share a recent example on the barbeques. There was an e-mail sent around about the plugs. People use it and abuse it as well and that causes a bit of a problem. Remember it is our stuff, our club and if we don't take care of it nobody else will. The other very important element is housekeeping for individuals who

are enjoying the beach and the barbeques. It's fun time, people really like it but in the morning somebody has to clean their mess, which is not very nice. Let's promote a clean and healthy environment.

- Introduction of all the staff working in the club who make it run and keep it nice

Sports and HSE Report (Vice President - Bert Michels)

November 2013: we had the serious incident with the dive club, member fell unwell, response from dive club was exceptionally good

February 2014: incident that happened at the coffee shop, there were high winds and suddenly the wind picked up unexpectedly and one of the parasols fell over and it hit one of the members in the neck. The coffee shop staff has been instructed to immediately fold up the parasols in times of high wind.

September 2014: Heart attack life guard in MAF pool

November 2014: Runner collapsed during weekly fun run, Clinic expects a lack of water caused this

Sports (Vice President - Bert Michels):

- High activity level, Kayaking is picking up, sailing and diving going strong, Biathlon/Triathlon getting more participants
- Tennis – revival of the tennis that had started two years ago is an absolute success. We have many tournaments, competitions, social events and a fantastic accomplishment.
- ORAC – a different story – it's not happening at the club, but they do a lot of events – the Wahiba challenge, the extreme Wahiba challenge, family trips, training sessions, they had a special ladies event.
- Golf – just opened a few weeks ago. Raoul and HE Minister of Oil and Gas opened the golf course. It's looks fantastic and everybody will agree on that and let's hope a lot of people will start playing.

Receipts of Accounts for 2013 – 2014 (Deputy Treasurer – Zahir Al Wahaibi):

- The financial position of the club which is very good and sound.
- The financial assessment of the Ras Al Hamra club was for the year end June 2014 was completed and signed off by our external auditor.
- During the year funding facilities was provided to the contract staff in terms of medical insurance
- Overall surplus and comprehensive income for the year is three hundred and sixty eight thousand Omani Rials.
- The 2013-14 budget is seven hundred ninety nine thousand and the actual was slightly lower at seven hundred and thirty six thousand. Budget was available, but every activity there was slight reduction. The next year budget has been increased to nine hundred and thirty eight thousand, mainly due to the increase in repairs, maintenance of main centre and then having social activities as there are more activities compared to last year.

Presentation by Bar Secretary - Martin Healey:

- Sale of alcohol in Oman is an extremely sensitive issue and something that we have to be very careful of.
- The team that is run by Tony Dias and ten bar staff runs very well and very smoothly.

Presentation by community member – Karen Thijs:

- We have 19 social sections, that are very active. We have seen the revival of the Indian and Pakistani Section
- We have also formed a new section which is the Study group, which is a group of people who want to study together
- The Toddler hut is a bit of a different story this year. It ran perfectly but it has adopted Karavaan. Karavaan for all kinds of good reasons had closed this September in its old format
- The Dance section – is one of the most rapidly growing sections that we have.
- The Stampede – this year was the 22nd Stampede in a row, which I think is quite an achievement
- Still running strongly is the Arts and Craft centre.
- Library – is serving over 120 families a month, so there is an amazing amount of effort that goes in making that happen and luckily there are a lot of people who love this so if you are interested in reading books go there.

Presentation by Social Secretary – Hamood Al Shaqsy

- You've heard all the good things – these guys are making money I spend the money, that's my job.
- My objective is to create events on behalf of the club and also to attract people to these events and join the fun. At the last New Year's Eve party we had around 600 people attending the party.
- We had a successful firework with more than 3000 people who attended it. Safety wise we had no incidences.
- We had a successful youth party. This is something that we started this year.
- We also do local DJ every Friday, who plays in the boat club

Presentation by Iain Liversage – Liaison RAH development and the RAH club:

- The new club which was revised earlier this year when we did a review of it is under redesign and we are currently expecting to complete it this month so we can start to review that. With that design in place we are looking at the tender construction package with a plan to award in Q3 next year. This is also subject to current economic times and how we moving forward with our current plan.
- The plan that we've devised during construction is to keep the club open by introducing some early permanent works by boarding some temporary facilities so that we can stay on this site, keep the association with the sites we're constructing, so we never really leave RAH site home. These early works will include the establishment of beach, new swimming pool at the gym and some temporary restaurant so that all the current facilities that are used will be retained in a slightly different format through the redevelopment.

Company appointed Main Committee Members:

The company appointed members are Khalid Khabouri who will remain the President for the next year, Bert Michels will remain as Vice-President, the Honorary Treasurer will change to Ghaniya Rashdi who will replace Ahmed Marhoobi and Martin Healey will be retained as Bar Secretary.

Voting for elected positions:

There are three positions – Social Secretary nominated Hamood Shaqsy as there is no other nomination. Our Community focal point will remain as Karen Thijs and Iain Liversage replacing Kerry as the RAH redevelopment member.

Message from Raoul Restucci – Managing Director of PDO and Patron of RAHRC

I think the committee members have spelled that pretty clearly. What an incredible year. It's good to see a bigger turnout. It's not just the committee, organisers and sub-committee members, but I can see a lot more others have joined. We have doubled the representation. In the last few years we have had very small numbers. It's a great start. There are around 3000 members, so there are still 2950 people out there that expect you to run, coordinate and sort out everything that you've heard all about. I really want to thank you for the enormous commitment and passion that the people on the front row, but also the people at the back row, fitness, social and other clubs show which is incredible. We also have a brand new golf course that is incredible as well. We see many events taking place there. So this place is going to be the one and only place to be in town. Lot of focus is on establishing a new club and you've seen some drawings. We've gone back and forth a lot, because the original design look very much like a complex that would be built in Dubai, loads of glass, fancy stuff, but actually we want to have a very Omani architecture development. You will see it will be very special when you see the model it is really exciting. It's a tough environment out there and I guess it's going to get worse before it gets better, so that puts a pressure on tightening the belts everywhere, but so far we've got a lot of support from the board to save the costs and I've no doubt you'll see a number of projects slowly starting up. The important stair that the club and the engineers are working on is that every facility will be available. There will be some disruption but you'll continue to play tennis, you'll continue going to the gym, you may have only half the beach but you will still have the beach and temporary catering facilities, arts facilities, whatever it takes we will continue to provide all the services as much as possible within Ras Al Hamra.

I close by thanking Committee members, sub-committee members for the fantastic work you're doing. Ahmed you've been brilliant. It was the understatement of the year. You really cleaned up the books. Iain is on board and thank you Kerry for the help in the liaison. Committee members fantastic job, keep it up and thank you for joining us.

The Main Committee Award (Bert – Vice Present):

Sports Awards:

Third prize - Swimming section

Second prize – sailing section

First prize - ORAC

Social Awards:

Third Prize – Arts and Crafts

Second Prize – Holland Committee

First Prize – RAHADS

Question and Answers:

Q: Saada Aufeya – I want to know the issue of the swimming pool. For the last 10 years we have been requesting for a swimming pool. Is there any indication when we can expect the new pool to come up?

A: Iain Liversage: The plan is to build a swimming pool at the gym. The format that will take is part of the temporary facilities we are planning during reconstruction, but the long term aim for that would be potential ladies only pool at the gym. So it's in the planning, it's in the budget.

Q: Saada Aufeya : when can we expect this to happen? We've been waiting for 10 years.

A: Iain Liversage: the plan is we build it as part of the temporary work, pre construction. So it would be one of our early works that we would deliver.

Q: Saada Aufeya: Regarding the issue of awards. The committee are the ones who make the decisions. Does the committee know all the section activities that are running through?

A: Bert Michels : Of course we don't know everything, but you know that I go to the gym quite a lot, so I know what's going on there. I run at the Biathlons/Triathlons at the boat club. So I can say 90% I'm aware of.

Q: Saada Aufeya: Do you have the criteria which these awards are based on? Can we have these criteria?

A: Bert Michels: Yes, we do have these criteria. We look at the activity level, the events, HSE aspects and then we vote. This year of course there have been three new members in the committee, so you will see a variation. Don't forget it is main committee appreciation, so main committee votes.

Q: Ray Prescott: Regarding the club chits and the monthly statements, we no longer get them. Is there an on line or another way we can get access to see what our chit break down will be for the month?

A: Ahmed Marhoobi : this activity is not functioning as it is supposed to. But as part of the new club systems, we are looking for ways at automating, so that this will be online. Bear with us, this is something on the plan and we want to automate this online so that even members can access.