

Amatola Fly Fishing Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Gubu Dam

Date: Sunday, the 11th August 2019 @ 09h00.

NOTE: AFFC Chairman, Ed Truter, had to return to his home in Port Elizabeth prior to the AGM due to a personal emergency. The meeting was then chaired by treasurer, Scott Blair.

1. Present: 21 Members were present (others were present, but fishing on the dam!).

2. Club Acknowledgements: Acknowledgements were made at the previous night's fund raising competition prize-giving, during which all of those individuals and businesses who had provided help to the club in the past year and/or sponsored prizes were listed and thanked. Please see the addendum for the acknowledgments list.

3. Chairman's Report (in the 1st person): On the 7th August. AFFC had a total of 55 paid-up memberships, and about 40 who had not renewed yet, but if they were to be renewed would show that the membership is growing at about 5% per year.

Gubu clubhouse maintenance progress continues, and significant progress has been made thank you to the team of Scott Blair and Glenn Raath and co.. The latest is the men's bathroom. Thank you to Richard and Cindy Field of Lifestyle Flooring and Decor for the materials.

On the fishing front, fishing was slow until about late June, after which it picked up significantly, and there have been catches of some especially good rainbows in the 55 - 60cm class, as well as browns in the mid to late 50cm class, there have also been at least three reports of 60cm class browns seen and/or lost. The browns are only in their third year, so it will be very interesting to see how this generation does over the next 4 years. I've had very few fishing updates from Maden Dam and this needs to be discussed.

I am very happy to see that our members have been visiting and enjoying Mnyameni Dam. The Cata agreement has now been secured but the Cata is in the grips of the drought. The Wolf River negotiations and stream improvement ideas have just begun.

4. Financial Report: AFFC treasurer, Scott Blair, has reported the club's finances as of the end of the financial year on 31/05/2019, as follows:

STAC current account:	R	122 251,02
STAC call account:	R	2 096,65
STAC 32 day account:	R	14 305,39
CASH + FLOAT + CHEQUES on hand:	R	4 949,00

5. Report-back arising from the previous minutes and new matters arising:

a.) Maden Dam: Maden is hardly visited by anglers currently due to the presence of an unruly 'boom-box'n braai brigade' over weekends that typically behave badly, litter the area and are a blemish in an otherwise haven of nature's beauty, peace and quite. Although there have been no security issues of late, perceived security issues are a concern and the water would be visited more if it was considered safer. The chairman is engaging with the Eastern Cape Development Corporation's tourism development representative to find potential solutions to the problems, but as of yet the dialogue initiated by the ECDC with the Buffalo City Municipality, who manage the dam, has produced zero.

Richard Field also mentioned he has some contacts in EC tourism that might be able to assist. The question was put to the members of whether the club should continue stocking Maden Dam or hold off until further outcomes are known? Delegates were in favour of continuing to stock for now, and a suggestion was made to perhaps make it a brown-only water. The members did not consider the overnight hut at Maden a priority.

b.) Brown trout stocking: It was reported that brown trout would not be available for stocking during 2019 as no SA hatcheries imported ova during 2019, and the only local supplier of ova was unable to spawn their fish (probably related to the unusual winter weather of 2019). That said, a plan is in progress for a Western Cape hatchery to import Danish ova in February 2019, which fish would be available for stocking in the Winter of 2020.

c.) Rainbow trout stocking: It is planned to maintain the current rainbow stocking strategy and 12500 fish are earmarked for Gubu and 3500 for Maden respectively, once the available fingerlings reach approximately 5g/8cm, which should be sometime in December.

d.) New waters: Most club members now know that Mnyameni Dam can be fished by club members (and Mnyameni-specific day ticket holders) and the dam is being visited quite regularly with good catch returns. The agreement with the Cata River community has also been ratified (verbally), but during the last meeting with the community it was decided to put fishing the Cata river on-hold until the drought was over. The chairman has begun engagement with Mark Andersen who is involved with developing tourism and fisheries in the Hogsback area and it is hoped that some form of synergy between the club and fishing Hogsback waters might be possible.

e.) Wolf River: The chairman has initiated a dialogue with the Wolf River community proposing a relationship with them similar to that in place for Mnyameni Dam. The initial talks have been favourably received. It is hoped that a stream rehabilitation program can be established on the river as well. The chairman, as well as Devin Isemonger and Rob Scott are involved with this, and though there won't be any quick-fixes, it is hoped that this initiative will continue its course. Devin further suggested that in order to help stimulate interest in the Wolf River, he would offer his services as a 'guide' for anyone interested.

f.) Gubu clubhouse maintenance and repairs including painting of bailiff's house: delegates were happy with the improvements being made to the Gubu clubhouse and would especially like to see more improvements to the kitchen and braai areas. Many delegates commented that they would like to see more of the visitors to the the clubhouse taking more responsibility for cleaning up after themselves. It was noted that the the painting of the bailiff's house, at the club's expense, was also completed recently.

g.) Annual competition fundraiser: there was a discussion about growing the competition. Mandy Isemonger, and Cindy and Richard Field offered assistance in this regard to making arrangements, sourcing sponsors and promoting the event, especially via social media. It was mentioned that an event similar to the "old days" might generate more interest and raise numbers. Ideas that were proposed included spreading the fishing over two days, having a 'historic' big name sponsor like Bells or Nedbank, as well as look at concepts that will promote more of a social, 'club feel' with focus on the club aspect.

h.) AGM and committee responsibilities: there was a suggestion and consensus that the burden and responsibility of running the club should be shared by more people, and which could be achieved by formalising the committee structures and procedures, in other words following conventional protocols. Most delegates agreed that the AGM should be held before the competition, and some suggested it be totally separate to the competition weekend and held in East London, with other general meetings also in East London, as and when required. Richard Field offered to assist with a

venue and arrangement if necessary. Another potential idea is to have the AGM on a Saturday morning, followed by the start of the competition at 12h00, running to 12h00 on Sunday, followed by an afternoon prize giving.

5. Committee for 2019/20:

Chairman and current secretary	Edward Truter
Vice chairman	Devin Isemonger
Treasurer	Scott Blair
Records clerk & membership admin	Colin Levey
IT admin & website	Justin Thackeray
Without portfolio	Mandy Isemonger
Without portfolio	Richard & Cindy Field
Without portfolio	Rob Scott
Without portfolio	Bela Fao & James Fortmann

ADDENDUM

The following is a list of all those individuals and businesses who have provided assistance to the club in one way or another. Take note of these names and give them your support wherever possible, without them, we'd be dead in the water. Please forgive us if we've erroneously omitted your name.

<u>Sponsors and General acknowledgements - 2018/2019</u>
AFC / Rance Timbers / Craig & John Rance Jr. - general support and assistance
AFC / Rance Timbers / Craig Warren, Ian Taylor, Jonathan Norman, & Andre van Deventer - general assistance
African Waters (Tourette Fishing) / Keith Clover & Rob Scott - prize sponsor
ANCA Foods / Tony & Devin Isemonger- catering sponsor
Awesome Tools (Leatherman, Opinel, LED Lenser, Atka, Picquic, etc.) / Liz Woodroffe - prize sponsor
Barkly East Angling Society / Cloete Du Plessis - prize sponsor
Bela Fao & James Fortmann - prize sponsor and general assistance
Brendan Croney - catering sponsor and general assistance
CB4 Retail / Malcolm Klein & team - sponsoring all printing, signage, stationery, etc.
Cloete Du Plessis - prize sponsor and general assistance
Colin Levy - records clerk, membership admin, and general assistance
Dave Marais - 'legal council', maintenance and general assistance
Devina & Mandy Isemonger - committee duties, catering, and general assistance
First Class Power / Ryan Smith and - electrical maintenance and general assistance
Flyz Inc. (Flyz Inc. Flies, Shilton Reels, Cortland Lines, etc.) / Murray Pedder - prize sponsor
Gareth Webster - general assistance

Glenn Raath - carpentry, maintenance, and general assistance
Global Plumbers / Shama Bachar & - plumbing and general assistance
Ha Liphapang Village / Chief Jobo (Lesotho) - prize sponsor
Jacqui Mauer & Ricky Goldsmith - prize sponsor
Justin De Preez - maintenance services at discounted fees
Justin Thackeray - website and general assistance
Karl, Victor, & Noah Krull - catering sponsor, general assistance and stocking
Kirstie Eastwood - general assistance
Lifestyle Flooring and Decor / Richard & Cindy Field - prize and maintenance materials sponsor and general assistance
Martin & Ryan Von Holdt - stocking and general assistance
Natural High / Forestway / Stan and Helen Dugmore - general assistance
Nqabara Eco Lodge / Tim Hammond & Pierre Swartz - prize sponsor and general assistance
Omnispool / Alex Mcleod - prize sponsor
Queenstown Fly Fishing Club / Reg Morgan and - prize sponsor
Reel Fly Fishing / Shaun (EC ambassador Robbie Millar) - prize sponsor
Robbie Millar - maintenance and general assistance
Robin & Ronald (club bailiffs in the house on the hill) - general assistance
Sandile Trout Farm / Andre De Bruyn & Grant Wylie - hatchery and stocking operations and general assistance
Scientific Fly / Arno Laubscher - starter pack and prize sponsor
Scott Blair - treasurer, committee duties, maintenance and carpentry, and general assistance
Shaun Peterson - general assistance
Shilton Reels / Murray Pedder - prize sponsor
Stutterheim Pick n' Pay / Lyle & Debbie Mundell - catering sponsor
Target Line / Malcolm & Dean Stoltz - prize sponsor and general assistance
The Shire Eco Lodge / Rob Scott - prize sponsor and general assistance
Thrift Sport Fishing / Martin Davies - prize sponsor
Twizza / Stan Andrews - catering sponsor
Victor Oelofse - maintenance and general assistance
Viv Schroeder - general assistance
Walkerbouts Country Inn / Dave Walker - prize sponsor
Wayne Haselau & Jane Hosegood - general assistance
Wild Trout Association / Dave Walker - prize sponsor
Xplorer Fly Fishing / John Geils & Dayle Mack - prize sponsor and general assistance