HERMANUS TENNIS CLUB

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HERMANUS TENNIS CLUB HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 17H30

Opening and Welcome: The Chairman John Cowan opened the meeting and welcomed the other members present: Anneke Joubert, Dries vd Merwe, Betty Moore, Danny Grib, John Cowan, Nicky Smit, Carien Gooding, Katinka Ladewig, Lyn Bouchier, Lynn Kranz, John King, Stephan Fourie, Malcolm Green (13)

Apologies: Margy Wakefield, Glynis Madden, Sheila Owen-Smith, Pieter Joubert, Willie Bloem, Koos Venter, Phillip Smit, Marianne Redlinghuys, Louise van Ludwig

Notice of Deaths: We remember those members who have passed away in the past year, especially Rusty Clement and Charles Naude.

Approval of Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting: The minutes of the previous AGM were made available and were approved. Proposer: N Smit Seconded: Carien Gooding

Matters arising from minutes: None

Chairman's Report :

Well, we've now arrived at the sixth annual AGM of the Hermanus Tennis Club.

Thank you for attending the meeting, or at least forgetting that last year you said to yourself that that was the last AGM you would go to. It is important that members know that the committee is working on their behalf and that their membership fees are being well looked after.

The club is still going strong when many clubs around the country are struggling. There is no doubt that we enjoy a wonderful facility, with lawns and gardens and trees in a beautiful setting. We have a facility that is the envy of so many visiting players, not only South African but from all over the world.

In terms of our membership, I believe our numbers are holding up. Of course, at the end of every financial year, some members decline to renew their membership, but that is largely compensated by the new members that join during the course of the year. We expected that the newest racquet sport sweeping the world, that is Padel, would affect the Tennis numbers, but at this stage, there have been few defections.

We have had only a few social match-ups this year, though we have tried to entice clubs to come our way. We visited Kleinmond and Pinelands ladies are due here in a few weeks' time.

The mid-winter weather has put paid to many Wednesday and Saturday social days, but loyal social members have filled at least 3 courts for a greater part of the year. This is always boosted by swallows who enjoy our company and facilities in the summer months. (As an aside, I learnt that in France and at many clubs in England, visitors are not welcomed unless brought by a member. Swallows are delighted that we welcome them so willingly.)

As an enticement to get more social members to Saturday tennis, we held a 'bring 'n braai' one Saturday, but it was only attended by 12 people.

Champs : We had two lots of Championships this year – the 2024 Championships were held in November and the 2025 Championships were held at the new time of year in May. This change seems to have proved successful and so it is likely that this will continue next year. The results of the Championships are given elsewhere,

The 2024 Senior championships were held simultaneously with the main Championships in November, but various problems meant that only the Ladies doubles was completed. The next Senior Championships will be held later this month. (Those of you who haven't entered, please do so straight after this meeting!) BTW, The Senior Championships is open to non-members, so if you know of players who would like to play, please invite them to sign up.

Friday Ladies : Report by Lynn Kranz : This group has now been running 5 years, still with some original players. Injury has forced some retirements. Majority of the 30 odd players are members of the club. Thanks to John and Anneke who try to provide extra courts, especially on Tuesdays. Thanks also to Anneke for the Christmas coaching session. Fewer visitors this year (maybe influence of Padel). Social outings were held.

Grateful thanks to Lynn for running this valuable group.

League : Last year I raised the issue of league, of how organisers struggle to fill teams after initial enthusiasm at the beginning of the season and of how disappointing it is that some players fail on their commitment. Unfortunately, this has persisted into this year. Organisers struggled to put out teams both during the Mixed Season in October and November, and especially in the Men's and Ladies season in February and March.

After polling the membership, there was little appetite to play Mixed league this season. This means that Hermanus is not represented in the current league season. Personally I feel this is a great shame, as does the committee, but the committee has given the members the opportunity to play league and the members have declined the opportunity.

We can but hope that the mood will change and that members will want to play league again in the near future.

Racathon : Earlier in the year, together with the Squash Club, we hosted a Racathon. This hectic evening, wherein players played Tennis, Squash, Padel, Pickleball, Table Tennis and Darts, was very well supported and greatly enjoyed, by all accounts. We had over 50 players, which was a scheduling nightmare, but much energy was expended, and a good profit was made. This has forced us to host another Racathon, on Friday 3rd October, so mark that down in your diary. If you feel you can't manage to play all sports, you can opt out of one or more.

Pimbledon : On the second Wimbledon weekend, we held a Pimbledon day, with strawberries, ice cream, scones and of course Pimms. Appropriate tennis wear was encouraged. 12 players played and the winners were Surita and a visitor from Gansbaai Lee.

Once again, Carien organised with great efficiency and aplomb her Family Fun Days. I think it was run twice, and is always popular with members and visitors. Especially the chocolate brownies. Funds raised go to the 'Garden Fund'. Thank you Carien.

Floodlights : After receiving the assent from the members attending last year's AGM, we have made a start at converting the floodlights to LED lights. We have converted courts 1 and 2, and having assessed their effectiveness (though not the durability), we have decided to go ahead with converting courts 3 and 4. This should happen within a few weeks. Our thanks go to Pieter Joubert and Craig Bredenkamp for enabling this change-over. It is essential that members must have easy access to these lights (though there will be a charge for electricity) and a suitable system will have to be put in place. The approximate cost of conversion is about R15K per court.

Academy : Hermanus juniors are spoilt for choice when it comes to choosing activities and sport to participate in. It is heartwarming to see our tennis courts being enjoyed by junior tennis players. And yes, we know they can sometimes be a hand full, a little annoying and often very loud. However, they

are the future of tennis, and the next generation of tennis club members, and it is therefore also a privilege to be able to nurture and teach these young ones the joy of the game and the fun of belonging to a club.

The life skills these juniors learn on a tennis court cannot be underestimated, and plays a vital role in building strong and independent adults. The ball skills the little ones learn, they carry on to all other sports they play, and will even help to develop the next Springbok rugby players!

We have seen quite a few of our juniors participating in the club champs and also playing league matches when they are available.

In the 2024/2025 season Hermanus had 33 players representing the Overberg district team in trials and tournaments and 12 players representing Boland (Cavaliers).

We also have some of our juniors playing ITF tournaments.

Thank you to the club members who take the time to support these young ones, who often stand and watch and compliment them- this does not go unnoticed, and encourages them to work even harder. Thank you for teaching them tennis "manners", etiquette and showing them that age is but a number and that a 12 year old and a 70 year old can share a court and still have fun. (Thanks to Anneke for this report.)

Clothing: The Tennis Club still has some HSC clothing. This was bought to promote the club and show off the best club in the Western Cape. We still intend to hold hostage all those who have not bought a club shirt. To avoid this, if you do not have a club shirt, please approach Judy with your Credit Card. All credit cards accepted except American Express.

State of the courts : We started using the courts in 2019, that's 6 years ago. We were advised that the life of courts is anything from 6 to 8 to 10 years. The courts are still in pretty good condition, with just a few cracks here and there. We are monitoring the condition closely, with a book that notes down all blemishes. How much longer before we have to consider resurfacing. My guess is, and it's only a guess, is about another 3 years. We have also seen that some of the fencing is rusting badly and we will watch this too.

[Nicky will give a short report about the grounds. See below.]

Thanks and congrats to Nicky.

Judy / Staff : On long cold winter's day, the Erica room must seem a lonely place, and on summer Saturdays the Erica room can be a very busy place. Throughout the year, Judy holds the fort, with a smile and a firm grasp of what's going on at the club. Serving drinks, taking visitor fees, advising potential members of the joining process, fixing a grazed knee, putting up with impossible demands by the Chairmen, Judy does it all. We are all very grateful for her work and energy.

Killanie the cleaner always has a smile and a greeting and gets on with her excellent work tirelessly and efficiently. George in the grounds and Adam on maintenance continue to do a sterling job, ever helpful and proactive. The grounds are far too big for just 2 staff, but they manage admirably. Our thanks go to them too.

Committee : The committee has met formally five times in the year and many times informally. During the year, Mervyn tendered his resignation as he felt he lives too far away from the club. A couple of months ago, we approached Willie Bloem and co-opted him onto the committee. He has many years of experience as Chairman of his club in Nylstroom and he already made his mark in practical ways at the club. Warwick also has tendered his resignation as he is just too busy in his business. Sadly we must also

report that Phillip will give up his position on the committee, though we have warned him that we will still call on him…

Even though this meeting will elect the new committee, I would humbly remind members that you still have a role to play. We need members to come to events, to support socials, to make suggestions, and to offer their help. We have some members who are wonderful at helping and supporting, but we need more to make this an even better club.

Critic - While the committee does not claim to get everything right, or rather I do not claim to get everything right, there has been criticism levelled at the committee – mainly that the committee does not listen to new ideas , does not change things away from the status quo, is too concerned with not spending money etc. These criticisms seem to come from certain quarters. I would like to make it clear that the committee does consider new ideas, but when the new ideas do not stack up, we will not make changes. We serve the membership, but we were elected to make the best decisions possible, and we will continue to do that.

Members are encouraged to come to the AGM, as this is where issues can be raised or matters sorted out. Of course members can contact the committee between AGMs, and issues raised will be brought up at the next committee meeting. We do not sweep under the carpet.

If you would like to raise issues, please do so when we get to 'Other business'.

Talking about the Netball courts. The netball courts were built for netball and the courts belong to HSC. Tennis spied that the courts were underused during the summer, and HSC gave permission for Tennis to put up fencing and turn the courts into 'dual use' courts. In the summer months, when netball ends, tennis is able to utilise the netball courts exclusively.

During the winter months, various netball groups make quite heavy use of the courts, mainly in the afternoons. It is quite an arduous task to change the courts from netball to tennis, and back again, and this is not something done easily by members. It can be done, and is done, say when a tennis tournament requires extra courts.

There is pressure on the tennis courts in the early mornings. If members want to play in the early morning, and no courts are available on the booking system, they can approach Judy the day before to see if one of the staff (George or Adam) can put up a net at 8am when they come to work. This cannot be done the night before, usually, as there is netball the night before. This does take away from the work George and Adam should be doing, but we will see how this temporary arrangement works.

Last but definitely not least.

I'd like to again sincerely thank the committee, Anneke, Carien, Katinka, Nicky, Marianne, Mervyn, Philip, Warwick and Willie for all their efforts this past 12 months. They have steered the ship through calm waters, choppy waters and even through big swells, with good cheer and a steady hand.

They have all made a valuable contribution in various ways. Please join me in giving them a round of applause in appreciation.

Thank you

John Cowan

Report on the grounds

Good progress has been made on the gardens, mainly due to having some extra days of work for the gardener, and having a handyman who works in the garden when he doesn't have handyman work.

George, the main gardener, is fantastic – strong, willing and has good ideas. A lot of time spent on areas that were damaged by the building work, and also creating new gardens, especially near the cricket field. Anyone removing plants from their own garden, please remember the club – we are always begging, borrowing and growing. We are happy to collect, especially water-wise plants. Build It sponsored us a lorry load of compost, but this is now depleted. We are very keen to install an automated watering system. Soil is poor and the plants need water. Again, if you are removing or replacing your irrigation systems, please remember the club. Lastly, if anyone is willing to help in the gardens, that would be fantastic.

Nicky Smit

Tennis Report

Club Championship : 2024 Championship was held in November. The format was changed to Doubles – 1st weekend, Singles – 2nd weekend, Mixed – 3rd weekend. (But Mens doubles final was played on 3rd weekend) A lot of entries, but it went very well. Jean Joubert and Lukas Calitz were Men's finalists. Isabel Fauel and Marianne Redelinghuys contested the Ladies Final. Francois Barnard and Stewart Taylor beat Sam Stelzner and Warwick Addison in the doubles. 8 Couples entered. Ladies Doubles was a round robin, won by Isabel and Charlotte Setzkorn. Ben Loots and Surita Lamprecht beat Eddie Theron and Esmare Morkel in the Mixed final.

Seniors Championship – Mixed final (Carien and Mervyn) is still to be played. Men's doubles also did not come to a conclusion (rain!), Ladies final was won by Isabel and Rene Taylor.

2025 Championship was held in May. Surprisingly, fewer entries. 12 men entered the Singles, played as a knockout competition. All finals held on Finals day, which was better. Jean Joubert again beat Lukas Calitz in the Men's finals. More entries in the Ladies singles than previously. Surita and Heike Keulder played the final, won by Surita. Ladies doubles was won by Surita and Michelle Buekes who beat Anja Joubert and Heike. Mens doubles was won by Jean and Lukas, who beat Jakkie and Liam Swart.

Bruce Paterson and Malcolm Green won the plate final. In the Mixed doubles, Lukas and Heike beat Johannes and Surita (11-9 in the 3rd set). Stephan Fourie and Netarie Verwey won the Mixed plate.

Carien Gooding

League : League in Spring 2025 – it was noted that, after a poll was put out, to gauge interest, insufficient players were interested in playing in the coming Mixed league.

(Question : should the club subsidize travel cost? Answer – this was discussed by the committee, but cost of travel has never been raised as a problem.)

Leagues in the past year : In the Mixed League in October and November 2024 we entered 3 teams. The third team was entered in order to try to accommodate social players who were keen to play. However, with results not going their way, enthusiasm in this group for league fell away. The higher teams were eager and competitive in more challenging leagues. We came 3rd in 2nd League, 5th in 4th league and 5th in 6th league. In Ladies Summer League, we entered just 1 team. Even though we asked to enter 2nd league, we were put into the 1st division, which was a struggle. The players enjoyed the encounters, when they could play, but availability was a challenge. We came 6th out of 8 teams. In Mens Summer League, we also entered 1 team. We were also placed in 1st division, and players found the matches extremely challenging but fun. The organiser, Phillip, struggled to fill teams as players were not available on a regular basis. Some matches had to be forfeited, which is something that Hermanus is strongly opposed to and very, very rarely is forced into.

Stephan Fourie

FINANCES MAY 1st SEPT 2024 – 31ST AUG 2025

Hermanus Tennis Club

Income Statement for the period: 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

		Expenditure	Income	2023-2024 Expenditure	2023-2024 Income	
Tennis Subs (Aug 2024-Aug 2025)			96160			
Court Hire			78042		47016	
Tuck Shop	30496	83782	114278		27000	approximate figure
Interest Received			21403		10337	
Social Tennis - Members			16770		13910	
Social Tennis - Visitors			13627		9030	
Friday Ladies Visitors			10143		9200	
Club Champs May2025	1455	6172	7626		2296	Quizzical Event
Tennis Balls	-11169	18586	7417	12210	4754	
Racathon			6633		7800	UCT Event
Club Champs Nov2024	-1514	7065	5551		460	Surplus
Racquet Hire			2313			
Clothing			1684		10394	
Fun Round Robin			1419			
Pimbledon	-91	966	875			
Membership Fees received/paid over to HSC	2692	7300	9992			
Paid on behalf of HSC	300	5100	4800			
Tea Money Received	558		3307		3020	
Tea-Coffee-Milk-Sugar		2750		1828		
Salaries, Wages, Bonus & Commission		47380		28698		
Flood Lights		33083				
Skedda Court Booking System *** R10536		29162		9900		
Repairs & Maintenance		10086		5326		
Court Squeegees		9142				
Sage Accounting Fees		4800				
Kitchen Utensils and Equipment		2917		1920		
Printing & Stationery		2046		381		
Cleaning Material & Consumables		1906				
Catering		1209				
Boland League Fees		1100		800		
Bank Charges		424		240		
				11519		to Squash
Totals:		**274975**	**402040**	**72822**	**145217**	
Surplus for the Year		127066		72395		
		402040	402040			

*** R36767 was only paid out after September 2024, (which includes R18626, for two installments of the Skedda Booking System from the previous two years)

BALANCE SHEET:		
Opening Balances: as at 1 September 2024		
Nedbank Current Account		19826
Nedbank Money Market		387188
Petty Cash		3628
		410641
Surplus for the Year		127066
		537707
Current Assets: as at 31 August 2025		
FNB Business Call Account		452464
FNB Gold Business Account		28179
Nedbank Current Account		2766
Nedbank Money Market		42088
Petty Cash		12209
		537707

Subs Due from HSC for 2025-2026 75000

Carien presented the Income and Expenditure Statements for the year and went through the line items.

Points of particular interest: The Club is now using the Sage Accounting package.

The Club has moved banks to FNB, although the Nedbank account is not yet closed. At FNB we get a better interest rate on our investments.
Biggest income was the Membership subs (R96).
Court Hire was R78K. The tuck shop earned R30K, but that included alcohol sales which we no longer sell. Racathon is a good earner.
Cost of balls seems high, but this cost is covered by income in Social, Champs etc.
November Champs was a loss, but some things are done for the sake of the members rather than just the bottom line.
The latest membership subs have yet to be paid over to Tennis by HSC.

The club is in a healthy situation. The year's surplus was R127066, though this is expected to be less next year, due to reduced membership numbers.
Total assets amount to **R537707,** up from R410641.
The accumulation of funds is important as we anticipate a very big expense when the tennis courts need to be resurfaced.

Two questions : The Friday Ladies income shown is not a round number. Answer : One or more amounts were received via a credit card and therefore there is a 3% commission deducted.
Q: What is the breakdown of Judy's salary (with Squash). A: When Judy came to the HSC from 'the old club', the restaurant paid 50% of her salary, HSC 50%. As her work load changed in nature, Squash and tennis have taken over a larger responsibility for her salary. HSC now pays her about 20% of her salary and Squash and Tennis split the balance equally.
Carien Gooding

Huge thanks to Carien for the mammoth task of managing the Club's finances so efficiently and thoroughly.

Membership Fees:

At the year end, the Committee decided on an increase of between 5 and 6% in membership fees. Retrospectively, the meeting approved this increase. [Tennis and Squash clubs do not have to align – this is decided year on year.] It must be borne in mind that we are the only Tennis club in Hermanus.

HSC Matters:

Restaurant : The new restaurant Bossa has opened up – it is important that we support the restaurant. The rental paid to HSC ultimately benefits the Sports Sections. The liquor licence now includes the Erica and Protea rooms and the patio outside those rooms. We cannot have a separate licence downstairs. Bossa recognizes that we are a sports club and are doing their best to accommodate us. We can braai at prizegivings etc.

Question : Is Bossa in 'good standing' with the club and is it sustainable? Answer : For the most part , yes – a bit behind on rental. Bossa has a 10 year lease, and we have no reason to believe it is not sustainable.

We now operate a small tuckshop downstairs, a service to members, selling cooldrinks and snacks.

The Northwest corner of the clubhouse building has been completed and is now occupied by an Occupational Therapist.

New Indoor development : A serious investor wants to build a Indoor Sports Hub, parallel to the astroturf and incorporating the Cricket Clubhouse. This is proposed to include a 25m swimming pool, Action Cricket/Hockey/Netball hall, climbing wall, indoor Padel courts, Simulated golf and also the Cricket Clubhouse. In addition, floodlights and advertising boards on the cricket field. A borehole will be drilled very soon and this will benefit the grounds around the tennis courts.

Structure of HSC now and to be : John explained that HSC is currently being run by a 'Steering committee' (originally initiated in about 2011), who are largely professional people. The day-to-day management is done by Adre Smit (Chairman), Pieter de Jager (recent Chairman) and himself. As soon as the clubhouse building is completed and signed off by the municipality, the proper constitution of the HSC kicks in, and an Executive committee will be elected by the members to run the club. (The first executive committee must be formed from the current steering committee, but as soon as a Special meeting is called, the Executive will be elected.) A second body, the Sports Committee will be formed with a representative (probably Chairman) from each affiliated Sports Club. This body will be represented on the Executive committee.

Question : Are members getting new membership cards? Answer : Yes

General :

Sometime during the year, a member queried why players in the championship have to provide their own balls. The meeting agreed that higher membership fees to cover the cost of balls is unfair to members who do not play in the championships. The club does pay for league balls. The cost of Championship semi-finals and finals balls is covered by the fees charged for the championship.

The cost of tea/balls at Social will remain at R20 for members, R50 for non-members.

Election of new management:

As mentioned before, we have 3 resignations (Mervyn, Warwick and Phillip) from last year's committee.
The other 5 members are available to continue (Carien, Marianne, Nicky, Katinka, and John).
These members were duly elected.
We have approached members who have indicated willingness to serve on the committee.
The nominations are : Malcolm Green, Willie Bloem, Kobus Theron and Stephan Fourie.
All the nominated members were duly elected.

Willie Bloem, John Cowan, Stephan Fourie, Carien Gooding, Malcolm Green, Katinka Ladewig, Marianne Redelinghuys, Nicky Smit, Kobus Theron,

Thanks : The Chairman thanked everyone for their ongoing support, generally and at this meeting.

Meeting closed at 18h43