

Magnolia Road Runners

Chairman's Report 2018

It has been a privilege to serve as Magnolia's chairman during this the 37th year of our club's existence. We are an established club with a rich history of achievements and values which we all cherish. Every year offers its own challenges to the serving committee to ensure that the club's values and traditions are upheld and improved in the changing environment of modern-day road running and walking.

I would like to thank my entire committee for their relentless efforts during the year to uphold these values in a manner that would make all Magnolia members, past and present, proud.

I had to do without a vice chair during the year but was blessed with the close presence of our experienced club captains Freddie du Plessis and Tinus Marais. My sincere gratitude to them.

Magda Grobler was co-opted to the committee as secretary when it became apparent that Haffie Mahomed would not be able to continue in this position due to health issues. Thanks, Magda, for standing in at short notice to ensure that the minutes of our meetings were well kept and accurate.

I would also like to thank Haffie for decades of unselfish service to the club and its members. We miss your presence at the club dearly and wish you a steady recovery from the surgery you had towards the end of last year.

Hannes Nel (newsletter editor) and Jean-Marie Gaudie (social & clothing) did a stunning job during their first year as committee members. May there be many more committee years for both of you.

Thank you to Noel Young (statistics & website) and Glenn Frost (clubhouse) for your continued support and hard work as committee members.

The following events and initiatives continued successfully during the past 12 months:

- Our Christmas Charity run with The Lemon Tree as beneficiary
- The Lawley Street lights social walk
- The McCarthy Toyota Race
- The Magnolia Long Run
- Our Comrades Goodie Bags & T-shirts
- The Chairman's Run and Captain's Braai a week before Comrades
- Our Comrades club tent at Moses Mabida Stadium in Durban
- Our Comrades waterhole on the route at Winston Park
- Comrades Aches & Pains (with Elana Meyer as our guest)
- The Spring Run
- Our continued presence at local and other races through our Club Tents
- Our Sunday club runs
- Our monthly social and braai

- Our frequent newsletter
- Our Magnolia member of the month recognition initiative
- Our updated website
- Our notice board in the club house displaying actualities and activities
- Our Wednesday speed training sessions presented by Clint Hunt
- Our Tuesday afternoon training runs

Every year has its surprises. Shortly after our race in February Bidvest McCarthy informed us that their 35-year-old sponsorship of our race would be terminated. We were, however, blessed to secure a new sponsor and would like to welcome Intercare, who committed to sponsor our race for at least the next three editions, starting in 2019. Thank you to club member, Martin Gouws, for his awareness in initiating an introductory meeting with Intercare's marketing manager.

Our financial position stayed steady during the past year as disclosed in our financial statements. It is our intention to increase our subscriptions for the 2019 year by an inflation related percentage depending on the increase of ASA licenses for the 2019 year, which has not yet been announced. I would like to thank Retha Mare, our treasurer, and Chris Greyling, our honorary auditor, for their contributions and efforts in this regard.

I would like to thank our only employee and caretaker, Andries Msiza, for his loyal and dedicated service to the club. Your friendliness and the responsible way that you serve the club is appreciated.

Congratulations to everybody who will be rewarded in some form or other for their achievements through the past year tonight. You have all worked hard to achieve your goals in this sport that we all love so dearly.

It is my sincere hope and wish that every member of our club will enjoy a blessed and joyful 2018 Festive Season with family and friends.

I trust to see you all back at the club we hold so dearly in 2019.

Charl Crouse

17 November 2018