

**Mahomed Sibda**

I wish to place my very ingenuous gratitude to Bosmont Football Association for requesting a message for insertion in their brochure commemorating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

At the outset my congratulations to BFA for ensuring to remain as the BFA during the installation and unification period. This enabled it to continue as a unit and provide soccer to its residents. It was indeed a well-informed decision.

BFA was led by very illustrious administrators, who had the desire to promote the game and they truly did it in its totality. They sacrificed time and self and personal finance.

Yes, we all operated in difficult and harsh conditions during the apartheid years. We had to play in our own segregated (race) areas. If there was any resistance, the end result was to deny the use of facilities, and one would face police brutality. Despite all this Bosmont, STFU, Benoni and Pretoria Football Associations defied the local municipalities and promoted Non Racialism.

In 1972 the Transvaal Soccer Board was resuscitated as a fully-fledged board comprising all the areas in the Transvaal including Lenasia FA. It was about this time that I met Mr Barney Gaffney along with Carrim Dharsey. In my first and lasting impression of Barney Gaffney. A man who spoke his mind, straight forward, no nonsense and would stand his ground.

Barney led the BFA from the front. At the helm of affairs he had very experienced personalities in the names of Mr Chong Meyer, Fred Beukes, Carrim Dharsey, Cyril Linden, Clifford Van der Haer, Errol Beckett, Abdul Dajee among them. These men were resolute in their quest to serve a well-run

association (BFA) and generally soccer in the Transvaal.

The players that emanated from Bosmont, Noordegis, Eldorado Park, Riverlea, Westbury, Coronationville, and Newclare soccer clubs were highly talented. Barney was also a talent scout, if my recollection is correct for talented players to compete in foreign leagues. Nonetheless, my belated appreciation and gratitude to all those loyal members that served BFA and kept the flag flying – well done!!!

To Barney, your 40 years of service was no mean task. The onerous duties you performed has left a lasting legacy to the football fraternity. The discipline you had also filtered through. The new blood and the present administration led by Isaac de Jongh and Michael Kahn and the rest will live by your example. South African Sports, generally still faces a tacit form of discrimination. I do not support the present day philosophical argument based on the selection of teams on the premise of majority population demographics. This negates the meaning of democracy and the principle of merit selection. Each grouping presently selects majority players of their kind. Does this constitute strength vs. strength?? Its one main reason why we rank lowly in some codes.

Development of players is crucial, but glaringly not possible across the board. Let alone playing facilities, the majority of the population funds to buy playing gear. Billions of rands are embezzled from the fiscus through corruption. These funds would be sufficient to train players and promote sports. We have the talent to be world-beaters. But Nay.

Let me rest my case.



In conclusion to all and sundry at BFA, enjoy your celebration.

May the almighty guide you in your endeavours a wishing you a prosperous future that will bring your effort to total fruition. God Bless

**Mahomed Sibda**

President Eastern Transvaal Football Association  
Chairperson Transvaal Soccer Board  
South African Soccer Federation  
South African Football Association

**Develop the Game  
Touch the World  
Build a better future**

Mohamed Sibda  
addressing people at the  
TSB Presentation Eldorado  
Park 1984





# RANDWATER DEVASTATION OF OUR FIELDS

In February 2013, the BFA and broader Bosmont community was advised that there will be major civil works undertaken through Bosmont. Randwater was installing their new Q5 pipeline from Northcliff, joining their old infrastructure on the D pitch on the Bosmont grounds. The BFA was advised of this major earthworks two weeks before they broke ground in March 2013. Little did we know that their work would destroy 4 of our 7 fields. break down the dressing rooms and ablution facility, in the process with collateral damage.

In the meetings that followed contractors Murray and Dickson and Randwater promised to rehabilitate the area to its natural state if not better. The initial plan was that the project would take 12-18 months to complete. Two years on and the project was still incomplete. During this time the BFA and all its members virtually had one and a half football pitches to play on. The A, D, G & H pitches were devastated by the works. The B pitch was destroyed by the environmental disaster that still looms.

As predicted in previous meetings, the project was not completed on time. There was always another problem or excuse for the overrun. Then the contractor Murray and Dickson and Randwater tried to renege on the rehabilitation process and what needed to be done. JHB Metro Sport officials and the local councillor failed to advance our demands for total rehabilitation. BFA then engaged Randwater Management directly, MP Edwin Makue to press our demands. This approach did yield the desired outcomes.

These include amongst other things

- That the boulders that replaced concrete palisade fencing was set in concrete
- That the A & D pitches and embankment was levelled and re-turfed
- That the practice lights on the D pitch was replaced and commissioned
- That the steel railings along Maroela Street was replaced

The only outstanding item remains the building of the new ablution facilities and dressing rooms as well as meeting room and caretakers quarters. BFA demanded that we be part of the planning of this. We duly met with the appointed architects and approved



the design in line with our canvassed needs and that of other sporting bodies in the area. This process consumed a great deal of our time and energy over the last two years. We still feel the effects of the devastation caused. We lost membership because of the fact that we only had two and a half fields for almost two seasons. It is uncertain if we will ever be able to recover the G & H pitches. However the A & D pitch as well as the B pitch is now being rehabilitated and maintained.

We must express our serious disappointment in the officials of Johannesburg Metro Department of Sport and Comdev, local councillor of Ward 82

Susan Stewart who are meant to be the custodians of our fields. If the BFA did not fight for and demand the complete and proper rehabilitation directly with Randwater the community would again have lost a facility fought for over so many years ago.

We pray that the local community will engage more in active citizenship and engage and support the structures that have taken on these fights directly. We need the support of all in the community to ensure that all our facilities are maintained for the benefit of our children and the people of Bosmont.

**Michael Kahn**

Deputy Chairperson



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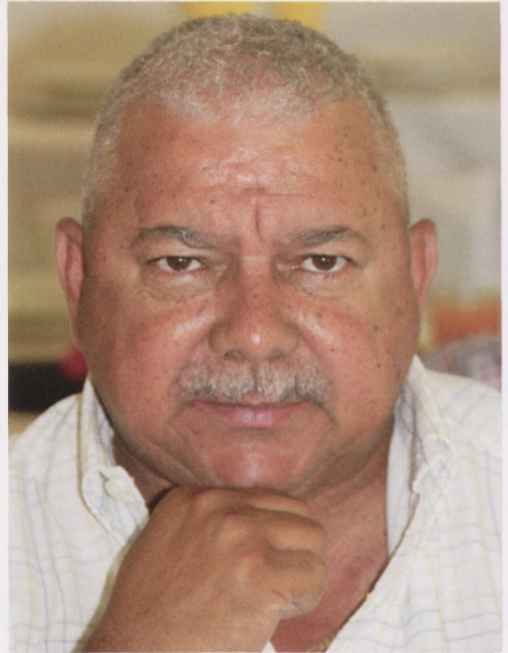


SOVIET



# DAZZLERS

## O My Dazzlers



### Dereck Eastwood

My involvement with Dazzlers goes back to 1966 where as a 6 year old I joined Dazzlers and played for this Family, Community Club right up until 1976. I then went on to play semi-pro for Aston Villa and eventually Professional soccer with Vereeniging Old Boys, Swaraj and Bluebells under the Federation Professional League. My memories of playing for Dazzlers F.C. as a junior brings to mind the following;

- BG continental soccer boots
- Toeing (Tooning) all free kicks and especially corners and when one played with the wind, a corner goal was definitely on the cards
- As a striker or rather centre forward, Derby Days was a great occasion to score many goals. The rules for these games were seven a side and no offsides. Hence as a centre forward I would camp out in the oppositions 18 area and wait for the ball and score many goals
- the famous red and white kit, the one with the white stripe across the middle
- the hard soccer grounds (no grass) that was the Bosmont Football Association (BFA) grounds
- The stadium as we know it today, in my

time was referred to as F pitch, a sand ground that was upgraded to grass and later gym lights were connected to this ground. Later the pitch was turfed, enclosed and better lights fitted as is the present status.

My involvement with Dazzlers is what this memo is about and I intend to stick to the story line.

My playing days came to an end but little did I realize that my two young sons, were being primed by Mr. Neil Beckett (Dada) to play for the mighty D's.

This obviously led to my involvement in coaching at Dazzlers F.C. Dada was the one man machine running from ground to ground, the length of Maroela Street. This

concerned me and I offered to assist. This particular under 8 team had immense talent. Players such as Ashwin Malgas, Lyle Bennett, Cheslyn Constance, Craig Neethling, Ryan Eastwood, Roland Desai to name a few were outstanding talents. It is such a pity that the majority of them lost interest in soccer. I coached this team from under 8 – under 16. Post 16 years, our kids loose interest in football and fade away.

My involvement continued with Dazzlers and a second bite at the cherry presented itself when I then coached a new set of players, also from under 8. This was now a team of keen youngsters with limited skills. These youngsters were extremely committed and made it impossible not to attend matches. We picked up hiding upon hiding,



**Dazzlers Football Club** was started in 1948 by Cliff Jousten and Willie Mooi in Albertsville. Dazzlers FC a founding member of the BFA, celebrates its 57th Anniversary this year. **The Moyce family pays tribute to all those Dazzlers members that have ensured that the legacy continues.** Dazzlers remains one of the biggest and most successful clubs in the BFA today.

Sponsored by the Moyce Family



yet they would be back at gym trying harder. The games lost did not deter them from coming back and playing week in and week out. There is no substitute for hard work and hence this team kept me interested and as the coach I kept on and with perseverance we changed from the whipping boys to the team that everyone wanted to play for and with. A colorful group of upstarts that include the following; Iqraam Swartz, Tyrone and Tyrell Tarrentaal, Kyle Eastwood, Ziyad Henry, Eddie Khumalo, Lavern Adams and Enrico Forbay to name a few. . Our main opposition were the likes of Rangers F.C and Westbury Arsenals. When we met, old time rivalries were kindled. These games lacked nothing. Hard yet fair competition was the order of all our games.

In 2003, as an under 17 outfit, we reached our second K.O. Final when we met the league winners Westbury Arsenals. After a hard fought game and level pecking at 1-1, we were awarded a corner in the dying minutes of the game. Kyle Eastwood rose majestically and headed home the winner. The belief that this victory left the boys with was enormous. However, it also led to our downfall as a team. The majority felt that they were good enough to play in the senior team the next season. However, I was not convinced about this. I felt that we should move up to the under 19 league before we ventured into the senior league. This did not happen for me, and I basically took a sabbatical from coaching.

Dazzlers F.C still remains an integral part of my life albeit not as active. Dazzlers F.C's role in the sporting community needs to be commended. However, most importantly the important role of Mr. Neil Becket in the running of this club cannot go unmentioned. Dada is the rock that Dazzlers F.C. is built on. I am yet to meet someone who remains so committed to youth sport (especially of the under-privileged) like Dada. He is the inspiration that ensures that youngsters come back year in and out to play for the mighty D's.

### **MY FOOTBALL STORY UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE BOSMONT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION(BFA)**

I started playing Association football for Dazzlers F.C. who was affiliated to the BFA. I started playing as a 6 year old. Looking back on my playing days, I realize that the teams afforded us the opportunity to play football but just as important were the officials that administered the sport, the BFA officials. Football was organized and fixtures were played week in and week out. Different competitions, league games, derby days,

knock outs and tournaments were organized by these dedicated officials together with the clubs that were affiliated to the BFA. Clubs that I played for in the BFA after Dazzlers were Aston Villa under Mr. Dharsey, Thames Football Club under Mr. Faizel Van Doorsen (Manager), Everton F.C. under Mr. Calvin Tracey. Honours received through BFA were the following; Carrim Dharsey K.O Champs on numerous occasions/ BFA League Champs/ Top Goal Scorer/ Elected to represent BFA- allowing me then to be elected to represent the Transvaal Soccer Board (TSB) at a tournament in Cape Town.

The BFA's structured approach to football allowed clubs also to become organized. We would train on a Tuesday and Thursday, but Wednesday evenings were for club meetings. At these constituted meetings subs were collected and fund raisers planned so that equipment could be bought to sustain the smooth running of the club. Playing club football was therefore an education on its own outside of official school. This schooling set me up to become a teacher and a sports administrator at provincial and national level. I became an executive member of both the Transvaal Primary Schools Sports Board and of the South African Schools Sports Association.

### **MY FOOTBALL STORY AS A PROFESSIONAL**

After A successful amateur career that include many accolades, I was approached by Douglas Carelse to join Vereeniging Old Boys (VOB) as a professional football player in the Federation Professional League (FPL) in 1981. I played a debut friendly for VOB against Botofago F.C. and scored 5 goals. This obviously sealed the deal with VOB and thus my professional career kicked off. At VOB we really had a true non-racial squad consisting of a Jew, a few Christians, a Greek, a Boer seun, a few African Players, A few Indian players a real rainbow nation. We obviously were oblivious to this fact. We enjoyed each others company, shared each others pain and enjoyed each others successes. Under Dougy' guidance we performed admirably and put professional football on the map for Roshnee a small predominately Indian community in Vereeniging. In our three years at the club we won the Federation Professional League Seven Seas K.O. Cup.

In 1984, I signed for Swaraj from Lenasia still under the coaching of Dougy. Here my professional career took off. We were league champs in 1985 and in 1984 I was the top goal scorer with 24 goals. This was a personal milestone, but one that I would not of achieved without my fellow players and coaching staff and Managers. We competed

across the length and breadth of South Africa, viz. Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg, Newcastle, Dundee to name a few cities. The few paper clipings I have as mementos includes the following:

- Derek 'Bomber' Eastwood the Swaraj striker
- Sean (a close friend) inspires Swaraj (playing against Aces United in Chatsworth)
- Swaral ring Bluebells out (playing against Bluebells in Lenz and winning 4-0, I scored two)
- Swaraj mission accomplished
- Swaraj hit back at Maritzburg United (beating them 3-0 after they took us out of the K.O. Cup)
- Derek's goals sink Glendene United (beating Glendene in Cape Town 4-2 and scoring two goals)
- Stiff hurdle for Swaraj against Dynamos and the follow up article was ;Brave Dynamos go down
- Neck and neck for top goal scorer with Keith America
- Eastwood hat-trick sinks Maritzburg
- Eastwood set to take title
- Swaraj made to battle whiles Eastwood looks for more goals
- Swaraj romp home third while Eastwood is king

To have played professional football in the Federation Professional League (FPL) was indeed an honour and also a principled position for me. The FPL afforded me an opportunity to play football at the 'mecca' of non-racial sports venues, Curries Fountain. The history of this venue is documented and I was a part of that vibrant history.

Playing football in the FPL also allowed me an opportunity to meet with players of similar ability and some great footballers with skills that left me in awe. Although I grew up in Bosmont, I never played for Bosmont Chelsea even though that decision was not a conscious one. I enjoyed the rivalry and Chelsea was one of the most skillful teams in the FPL.

To all who played a role in my football path, I THANK YOU for giving me the opportunity to play this great sport.



# THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

## IN BOSMONT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

### Chris Fortuin

Football is the most played and spectated sport in the world. According to the FIFA Big Count Research survey completed 2006, there are 265 million male and female football playing players in the world. They are supported by five million referees, coaches and other officials, bringing a total of 270 million people directly involved in the "The Beautiful Game", approximately 4% of world's entire population. There has been a steady growth in participation of 10% since the last FIFA Big Count Research survey in 2000. The FIFA Big Count survey further reflects that of the total players, 22 million players are youth players and phenomenally, 46 million football players are from the African Confederation (CAF).

Personally, I have experienced "The Beautiful Game" on various levels. My most sound and enjoyable memories was playing organized football in the Bosmont Football Association (BFA) as a junior. I credit the BFA for grooming me into my football career as a player, administrator, coach and now researcher. I fondly cherish and remember the rivalry between Dazzlers and Aston Villa from senior's first division to junior under ten. The appearance of teams on the Bosmont Football scene such as Burnley, Yorkshires, Bosmont Pirates and Birmingham City added to the flavor of young promising footballers exposing their football prowess on the sandy, dusty fields of Bosmont grounds.

I still picture families spending the whole



day on the Bosmont football fields, cheering and sometimes arguing referees decisions but at the end of the day football was the winner. Stern rivalry between communities such as Corrie, Riverlea, Noordgesig and Newclare was strong which added to the competition and development of the players, many who would don the jerseys of prominent professional teams. Alliances with different teams from the same families resulted in heated debates and in some extreme cases unfriendly results.

More admirable was the concerted and passionate efforts of the "backroom boys". The likes of Carrim Dharsey, Cliffie van der Haer, Barney Gaffney, Ghandi Adams, Mr. Jansen, Vernon Fortuin and many more who dedicated their undivided attention to the development of the game and players.

*“ I still picture families spending the whole day on the Bosmont football fields, cheering and sometimes arguing referees decisions but at the end of the day football was the winner. ”*

They did not only impact on us as players but the growth of our communities through the "Beautiful Game".

I would like to congratulate the BFA on their 50th Anniversary and can proudly say that I am from the BFA Academy not only of football but of life. To the present administrators in BFA continue the trajectory of changing lives and impacting on the youth in our Communities.



# What happened to the **CORRIDORS OF FREEDOM MONEY?**

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*"The City of Johannesburg is embarking on a new spatial vision for the City in line with the GDS 2040 Strategy, based on corridor Transit-oriented Development. The shape of the future City will consist of well-planned transport arteries – the "Corridors of Freedom" – linked to interchanges where the focus will be on mixed-use development – high-density accommodation, supported by office buildings, retail development and opportunities for leisure and recreation. In this future Joburgers will live closer to their workplace and be able to work, stay and play without having to use private motorised transport. Safe, affordable and convenient buses, cycling and pedestrian activity will replace the carbon-burning private car. The "Corridors of Freedom" will transform entrenched settlement patterns which have shunted the majority of residents to the outskirts of the City, away from economic opportunities and access to jobs and growth. In this way we will be re-defining and re-stitching our City together to create a new future."*

Clr Mpho Parks Tau  
Executive Mayor - City of Johannesburg

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It is a fact that there has been no development or proper maintenance of the Bosmont Sports facilities and the Barney Gaffney Stadium since the dawn of democracy in 1994. After campaigning and pressing for our right to proper maintenance and the upgrade of our sports facilities for a number of years, the BFA was invited to a meeting at the BFA Offices Barney Gaffney Stadium in November 2013. BFA officials, Ward 82 Councillor Susan Stewart, JHB Metro Sports representative Jonathan Van Rooyen and officials from COMDEV were present. These officials announced to the BFA that an amount of R5.6m was allocated to upgrade the sports facilities and Barney Gaffney Stadium over two financial years, 2013/14 R2.2m and 2014/15, R3.4m. This a project of the Corridors of Freedom of JHB Metro.

On 31 March 2014 we directed a letter of concern over a lack of progress to councillor Stewart. On 10 June 2014 a meeting was convened with Linah Dube of

Development Planning. In that meeting it was confirmed that the budget was available and that a service level agreement was signed with JDA in March 2014 for the role out of the project. This without any consultation with BFA. On 13 June 2014 BFA directed a letter to Councillor Stewart requesting that all the undertakings made in the meeting, including budget confirmation, scope of work and a copy of the SLA be reduced to writing as agreed in the meeting of 10/6/2014. We still await a response.

On 27 March and 28 April 2015 we enquired from the Deputy Director Facilities Enhancement Projects Nico Loubser requesting a report. No response from any official or councillor.

A tender was advertised and adjudicated upon for the refurbishment and upgrade of the BFA offices, ablution facility and dressing rooms. An upgrade valued at R1m. In a letter to Nico Loubser on the 22 May 2015 the BFA on behalf of the people of Bosmont

rejected this scope of work and demanded that they seize any of the planned work.

In a series of meetings with various officials and management we discovered that a R1m was spent on consultants that never consulted BFA or the people of Bosmont. Architects were quickly assigned to consult us on the scope of work, which we provided and they still failed to deliver on despite agreeing to do the work before the year end 30 June 2015.

Naturally many questions abound. A R1m on consultants? Who did they consult? A R1 to upgrade to the office and changerooms that we maintain? Really?

Most importantly what happened to the rest of the budget and why is no one prepared to answer in writing?



# NAMBITI TECHNOLOGIES (PTY) LTD

## KEY SERVICES & OVERVIEW

Nambiti Technologies was formed on 20 March 1997, by its founder and current Managing Director, Mr. Kevin Paul. Nambiti Technologies is a wholly Black Owned and Managed ICT company. Since its inception as a company, Nambiti Technologies has provided professional ICT services to a number of large private and public sector companies in South Africa.



Mr. Kevin Paul – Managing Director  
Nambiti Technologies (Pty) Ltd

### KEVIN PAUL

An entrepreneur, Kevin Paul has more than twenty years' experience in the IT industry in various management positions. Some of his experience involves his contributions to shaping the industry, where he was instrumental in the formation of industry related associations that were established to capitalize on the economic opportunities for black IT companies. These include BLITEC (Black Information Technology Empowerment Company), which is the investment arm of the BITF (Black Information Technology Forum).

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# ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER LOOMING

The Bosmont Spruit was diverted more than 10 years ago reportedly by the Johannesburg Roads Agency (JRA). This diversion and the blocking of the tunnel leading through the N1 Highway has resulted in untold devastation to the sportsfields in Maroela Street and all the properties along Langeberg Avenue, Bosmont. The diversion has resulted in the wetlands encroaching onto all the properties on either side of the spruit. The diversion was affected just beyond the bridge behind St Lukes Anglican Church and a wall was built under the N1 Highway bridge.

The wetlands have encroached as much as 40-50 meters in certain areas. During the summer rainy season, the sportsfields are flooded, which has resulted in the loss of

the B pitch. Flood water coming down from old Bosmont further compounds the problem as there is nowhere for the water to flow. Because the natural flow of the water has been affected there are four "new dams" that have formed, one behind the Barney Gaffney Stadium, one close to the diversion and two east and west of St Barnabas. The water no longer flows freely under the highway.

In summer the waterflow from the north floods the spruit, bursting the banks, filling the 4 false dams and clearly results in the growth of the wetlands and reeds. It has caused erosion just beyond the concrete walling that ends behind the Mosque. The biggest soil erosion is behind the Catholic Church. The reeds have grown so close to the sportsfield

our children can no longer retrieve the balls. The wetlands and reeds have grown so close to all the properties on Langeberg that it has now caused serious damp, foundation deterioration and cracks in the walls.

This problem also poses a serious health problem to all in Bosmont. The BFA have found that there was a sewerage leakage into the spruit. We found that there is toxic chemicals being dumped into the spruit. During the summer because of the stagnant water there creates more mosquitos and other insects. The smells are there for all to experience.

All three tiers of government, local, provincial and national must work together to resolve the problem. It is a water,



environmental and health problem. Various departments and tiers of governments must clearly form a task team to make radical changes and rehabilitate the entire area.

A "Master Plan for the Parklands area" was commissioned and released earlier this year, so commissioned by City Parks. On studying and engaging the authors of the report we found that there were simple cosmetic changes proposed in the report regarding the wetlands and spruit. We advised them that this then does not deal with the fundamental problems of the waterflow. They conceded this much. However we are seriously concerned that despite this and other flaws in this Master Plan, the role out of the same can be seen in the rehabilitation of the Park, and ongoing work to the cemetery. These superficial changes does not address the serious underlying problems threatening our environment and properties in Bosmont.

The BFA reported this problem to the authorities six years ago and nothing has

been done. The BFA has consistently reported the same to the current Ward 82 Councillor and nothing has been done. We have escalated the problem to many more senior officials in local and national Government. Nothing has happened.

On the 26 August 2015 the BFA convened a meeting of all churches, schools and community organisations advising them of the looming environmental problem, and calling for their support. All stakeholders in that meeting urged the BFA to continue applying the pressure for a resolution on the matter. The meeting expressed its full support, for the BFA efforts in this regard.

Officials agreed to meet with the BFA on the 12 November 2015 with a full report on a way forward on this serious environment problem and other matters such as the building of the new changerooms by Randwater, Corrdiors of Freedom money and the ongoing maintenance problems. These officials have now requested that

the meeting be postponed to the 19 of November 2015. After meeting with Council on the 19 November 2015 we will again convene a meeting of the community to advise what steps are going to be taken moving forward, on all these matters.

Unless something drastic is done the entire sportsfield along Maroela Street, Barney Gaffney Stadium will be lost. The Mosque, Catholic Church, Anglican Church, Saint Barnabas College and all the houses along Langeberg Avenue are also in serious danger.

The BFA will be looking for the entire community to unite around this serious problem that will eventually affect all the people of Bosmont. It will destroy what we have built over fifty years. Are we going to stand by and allow this to happen?

**Michael Kahn**

Deputy Chairperson



## Messages of support

To be a professional footballer you have to begin from a place of having a goal and a dream. Something to aim for, to strive for and ultimately to achieve.

As coaches we are always looking for players with excellent technical ability. Players that stand out and are able to perform at a very high level irrespective of age. Players of today need to be excellent technicians to be able to perform at the highest level.

For me the most important aspect, even more so than playing

ability is the mental side of the game. I am always looking for clever players. Players that see things others don't and possess the self-belief to try it. I am always looking for players that have that x factor. Something you can't quiet define but sets them apart from their peers. Players that can change a game in favour of their team and have the bravery and leadership to try it!

Have your dreams and goals and then follow them passionately.

**Cavin Johnson**



















# THE WAY FORWARD

**Michael Kahn**

The last twenty years has taught us that democracy has come with its own challenges. To assume that democracy and the freedom will solve all our problems is folly. Given the experience of hindsight it is clear that we are still going to need to be vigilant, and we will need to build our own communities. No government, or sports organisation is going to come and wave a magic wand and our problems are solved.

To prepare us for these challenges the BFA organised a TRANSFORMATION workshop with the University of Johannesburg in 2009, facilitated by Professor Paul Sing and Chris Fortuin a lecturer and ex member of the BFA. That workshop resulted in us adopting a Transformation document and a new constitution. In these two documents we used best practice worldwide to examine how best we can provide a service to the people we serve and organise association football for. We must admit that we have found it more difficult to bring that much needed transformation to our every day operations. In truth we have failed. Why? Yes there are reasons.

There are many reasons for the failure. Firstly we have been consumed with fighting for the very facility we play association football on. The council has failed to properly maintain the sports fields and Barney Gaffney Stadium, in the past twenty years. This, despite the fact that we have been petitioning senior officials and the various Ward 82 councillors responsible. Then the fight to bring awareness to the looming environmental disaster that has destroyed large parts of our sport fields and has brought so many dangers to our children that play sport on these same fields. An environmental problem that threatens the very existence of the Bosmont sports fields.

The last three years we were engaged in a fight with Randwater laying their Q5 pipeline devastating four of our playing fields, causing collateral damage to others. This rehabilitation fight thankfully coming to an end now.

After years of petitioning for the upgrading of the facility, in November 2013



we were advised an amount of R5.6m was allocated through the Corridors of Freedom project for the upgrade of the facility. Two years later and we're still waiting.

BFA officials still serve on an honorary basis. These fights consumed hundreds of hours in meetings, writing over 100 letters, and making thousands of rands worth of desperate telephone calls over the past 6 years. Time that could be better spent on transforming association football, organising the game.

The next serious problem we have encountered is the clear lack of technical officials and club administrators. Over the past 15 years now there has been a rapid decline in the number of technical officials in the BFA. It has been customary that once you have stopped playing you would get involved with your old club and become a coach, referee, manager, or official. Now what we have found is all those ex players that have stopped playing competitively, now play in over 35 or over 50 leagues. Others would migrate to indoor facilities. Then there are those that have simply migrated to the living room with their DSTV and live English Premier League games. Who must then organise association football for their children or grandchildren? That's where the technical officials disappeared.



Then there are those that have migrated to the suburbs and because they are financially better off, involvement in their old club is no longer desirable. The status and class distinction that comes with playing there is too attractive even though it costs ten times more, breakfast with a beer and socialising in ready upmarket facilities in the leafy white suburbs is far better. The fact that our clubs never had those privileges and were denied access to their own clubs but had to share a centralised sports field like the Bosmont sports facility clearly no longer good enough. Never mind the poor kids that cannot afford, to travel or pay the exorbitant fees and clear upper



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