

# JOHANNESBURG NATIVE ATHLETIC CLUB.

The nine acres of ground presented by Mr. Howard Pim and Mr. John Hardy to the Bantu Men's Social Centre to be used as a playground for Johannesburg Natives, is situated on the southern side of Johannesburg and is bounded on the east and west by Polly and Von Wettigh Streets. The B.M.S.C. is only a few hundred yards away.

The ground will meet the athletic and recreational needs of some of the town Natives provided it is well equipped and conducted, and it is possible that the following suggestions may be of service to the council of the B.M.S.C. which will be the directing body:—

1. The ground should be enclosed within an iron wall 8 feet high. This should be the first business of the directors, because if the ground is not enclosed there can be no "gate" and consequently no revenue.
2. The regulation which forbids a charge for admission to sports grounds on Sundays should be withdrawn or a dispensation granted in favour of the Native Athletic Club. It is on Sundays that the playground will serve its highest purpose.
3. There should be provided:—
  - (a) A Cricket Ground.
  - (b) A Football Ground.
  - (c) A Cycle Track.
  - (d) Tennis Courts. (Three)
  - (e) A Band Stand.
  - (f) A Pavilion and Shelters
  - (g) A Refreshment Kiosk.

The first four items are immediately necessary, but the structural items could be delayed if the initial fund is

inadequate. The whole cost of items (a) to (g) might be kept well within £2000, inclusive of games material. Cage Ball, Push Ball and other mass games could be played on the cricket and football fields.

4. A Native Band should provide music every Sunday without charge. Many instrumentalists will volunteer their services.

5. The annual membership fee should be 10/. The club should provide a badge which every member should wear regularly.

6. The charge for admission to the ground should be 3d. on ordinary days, and 6d. on special match days.

7. All services, except those of the Groundsman and his assistants, should be honorary.

8. Police should not be obtrusive. Club members might appoint a Department Committee, members of the committee being responsible for the general behaviour. The personnel of the Department Committee might be frequently changed. Each member of the Department Committee should wear a conspicuous armet.

9. Officers of the club should be chosen for their experience and tact. The keynote of all club proceedings should be tolerance.

10. The club should be used for play purposes only. Members must be taught to "play the game," but it is important that religious or other teaching should be rigorously excluded.

A public meeting will be held at the Bantu Men's Social Centre, Johannesburg, on the 15th inst. at 7.30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the proposed formation of a Native Athletic Club. The meeting is open to all Natives interested.

Governor-General is now to be a direct representative of His Majesty the King towards the Natives, but it was later superseded by the Bantu Men's Social Centre.

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