

Calcutta Cricket & Football Club

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - 19TH AGM 2022.

Dear Members,

I welcome you to the 19th Annual General Meeting.

This year, we celebrated 230 years since the inception of the Club. It was a very significant milestone, one that few other Clubs can lay claim to.

I would like to thank each one of you for your generous and spontaneous support to the General Committee for another vibrant year of sports and events in our Club – your support has indeed been gratifying.

Unfortunately, the pandemic had claimed the lives of many of our members. Our deepest and heartfelt condolences to their families. We will miss them dearly. May their souls rest in peace.

After a two year break due to the pandemic, we started opening the Club slowly with the improvement in the Covid situation – and we could manage almost a full season of Sports and Events.

I wish to highlight the tremendous achievements our ladies have made on the sports field. For the first time in our Club, so many girls and ladies have been taking part in outdoor sports – mainly Rugby, Football and Tennis

We have a good sports season with the ground withstanding the tremendous usage. Lot of work has been done on the ground to improve the playing surface. – Some new lights have been added to the high masts for the benefit of members playing evening matches.



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It was a successful cricket season. Apart from playing normal weekend matches, our pro team reached the knock out stage in all three competitions, including the final of the one day tournament.

Other sports like tennis, football, hockey also had successful seasons. The game of Cycle Polo got a boost with our Club hosting an All India Tournament.

We are particularly pleased to reintroduce the sporting interactions with Army – both in football and cricket. They also hosted the Club teams to return matches. We plan to introduce more sporting disciplines with them in our sporting calendar.

There has been a lot of enthusiasm among members in respect of all indoor sports, with the Darts section leading the charge winning 3 inter club tournaments and excelling in other competitions, there were increased participation on other disciplines like table tennis, badminton, basketball, bridge, poker etc.,

For the first time ever, we had 88 participants in the Bengal Rowing Club Carnival and the number went upto 121 in Saturday Club Sports Carnival.

A special mention must be made for **Yan Law**, (Asia's youngest 'A' Licence holder for football coaching). **Kiyan Nassiri**, (ISL Derby – youngest to score hattrick). **Jackie Khanna** (Ladies' National Darts Champion). **Tanisha Dhar (** excelled in swimming in Junior / Senior State Championship & Junior Nationals) and **Aryaveer Chokhani** (India's No.1 Youth Darts Player and Men's Singles Runner Up). – they are all youngsters of our Club and who have excelled in their field.

They will be felicitated, alongwith other sports personalities on the Club's birthday.

We have had some great entertainment events and I thank members for their participation in these, although we had to call off the New Year's Eve celebrations in the last moment due to pandemic. We were extremely happy that during our Club's 230th birthday celebrations this year, we could felicitate members who had completed 50 years of membership. They have been pillars of this Club and deserve all the recognition for their immense contributions over the years.



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Inspite of the difficult times and the after effects of the pandemic, we could get over Rs.1 Cr from various sponsorships and we could add close to Rs.5 Cr to the reserve fund during the calendar year. The total reserve of the Club now stands at close to Rs.38 Cr.

Due to the effort of the General Committee, we could achieve a surplus of Rs.61.38 Lacs for the year ended 31st March, 2022. This was a result of improvement in operation surplus across all departments, increased sponsorship and control on costs, reduction of other expenses and judicious investments.

We have also settled the Charter of Demand with the Club staff, which was lying pending since one year and could not be negotiated earlier due to the pandemic.

We have a long pending list of permanent membership – lot of work have been done by the membership screening committee and the Club office in categorising them age wise. Some previous committees also had worked on this list. The new committee can discuss this matter and take it forward.

The lease of the Club expired on 31st March, 2021. Although we had submitted all relevant documents and application well in advance, the renewal process in now with the Defence Estate, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi. We hope that the lease will be renewed as soon as possible.

Your committee has worked tirelessly towards running the Club smoothly. My appreciation and gratitude to each member of our team.

Our dedicated Staff – be it in the Club Office, Security, on the grounds, in the Kitchen and the Bar – are our pride and joy. Their service with a smile makes all the difference. These silent warriors deserve a hearty round of applause.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have an election in our hands – I take this opportunity to wish each candidate all the very best.

Thank you and God Bless our Club.