

FOSAF Western Cape – Clubs Report 2020

CAPE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY:

Membership:

- We have approximately 453 paid up members at present, including full members, country members, overseas members, seniors and juniors.
- We have taken a bit of a knock as many members who normally renew over this period have held off. We assume this is down to financial constraints brought about by lockdown. We sent out a mailer encouraging those who could to pay their dues and that resulted in a solid bump in renewals, but for now we do not want to phone members to remind them about this as we understand it is not a priority for many people at the moment. A lot of people will hopefully still renew.

Finances:

- Our assets stand at R457 658.00.

Waters:

- Due to lockdown we lost the last couple of months of river season so our waters have been very quiet. Prior to lockdown the Elandspad and the Smalblaar/Molenaars were fishing well and the size of the fish has been impressive.
- The Holsloot has been improving and by the beginning of river season in September we hope it will be back to its best.
- Very few reports coming from the JDJs this year as so many of the 'lottery' winners have not been able to take their allocated time slots.
- We have investigated the proposed weir on the Holsloot and can report that it is downstream from the fishing area so should not have an impact on our beats.
- Our chairman, Herman Potgieter has an agreement in place with farmer Albe Nel for the CPS to acquire Rocklands Dam in the Koue Bokkeveld. This dam has bass in it and we are deciding whether we attempt to introduce trout (or perhaps indigenous species) or keep it as a destination bass dam.
- Lakenvlei is doing well and we have recently stocked it again. We are investigating whether it is feasible to add a second hut to Lakenvlei as there is intense competition to book the existing hut. There are a lot of ifs and buts involved, but if we were to gain the necessary permissions, approval and support from the various authorities and the society, the idea would be for the second hut to be far off from the first one so there would be hardly any overlap if both huts were booked for the weekend.

Events:

- Until lockdown, our clubroom events like the Vice Squad (fly tying) and Slide Nights continued to be well attended with the last one being on the World Champs in Tasmania. All events for the rest of the year are postponed until we receive the Covid-19 green light from government.

- Our AGM is in August. We are still figuring out if that will have to be virtual via something like Zoom or not.
- We have begun planning our 90th Birthday event for next year November. The idea at present is to have a smart gala dinner at Kelvin Grove, a venue where we have secured very reasonable rates due to our NPO status. The evening would celebrate not only the society, but also its luminaries like Tom Sutcliffe, Ed Herbst, Tony Biggs etc. Clem Booth is the guest speaker and a portion of the funds raised from raffles/auction will be going to the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

CAPE FLY FISHERS

- I have one connection at the Cape Fly Fishers who gave me this update on condition of anonymity as for whatever reason they prefer to operate under the radar.
- Their waters were devastated by the drought of a couple of years ago.
- They have stocked their Bokkeveld dams more to maintain relationships with farmers than for the actual fishing. The feeling is that those dams won't go dry this season.
- The growth rates of fish in this area is phenomenal, with weight gain of 2lb per season.

HERMANUS FLY FISHING CLUB

- No response received so nothing to report.