



# SOUTH COAST PIRATES

## MEMBERS CLUB NEWSLETTER NUMBER 4

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### Committee Members

**George Barbour (Chairman), Chookie Lane (Secretary), Malcolm Hunt (Treasurer), Dave Nolan (Coach), Paul Thompson, Tim Jackson (Asst. coach), Tracy Barbour**

It's been an exciting few weeks for the Pirates. On January 3<sup>rd</sup> we hosted two Kenya international players: Joshua Chisanga, Kenya's number 8 who plays for Kenya Cup side Homeboyz and Edwin Achayo, Kenya's scrum half who plays for Kenya Cup side Kabras. They had agreed to visit Diani to run a training camp for the Pirates. Edwin was called back by Kabras after 5 days but Joshua stayed until 11<sup>th</sup> Jan. From day 1 the turnout of the Pirates was very impressive, 25 came for the first session on the beach and to meet the play-



ers. More later from the coach and chairman but suffice to say the improvement in the teams skills, work effort and attitude has been amazing. Unfortunately the game against TUM at the end of training was postponed. All was not lost as we held an inter Pirates competition at the Base Titanium sports field. The teams had the privilege of playing alongside Joshua for part of the game. Our last home game



First day of the training camp with Joshua and Edwin on the beach

against Spartans from Mombasa saw the improvement continue and we achieved a resounding 34 to nil win. This was even more impressive when you consider that last

season Spartans beat us 40 to nil and were one of the pre-season favourites to top the league. Pirates finished the season top of the league and the Coast play-offs are next with the winners going through to the national quarter finals for a place in the Kenya Cup.

**South Coast Pirates**  
Rugby Club - Diani Beach - Kenya

*"Together united with the same passion for Rugby"*

## CLUB NIGHT

Club Night was a different format this month as the low tide coincided with a home game. It was decided that Club Afternoon at the game was more appropriate. This meant that no raffle was held but the prize draw was made as usual. A good turnout enjoyed the afternoon in spite of the late appearance of the Spartans. The kick off was delayed to 3.30pm but their tardi-

### From the Chairman



Another month has passed marking a giant step forward for SCP. We have had some very hard and rewarding training sessions with our two Kenya players down from Nairobi - Joshua and Eddie - who have helped Dave and Jacko with the fitness and technical side of the game. A practice game was arranged at the Base Titanium ground as the league game scheduled for that day was postponed. We had 35 players at this session which just shows the support that we are now creating. It was a very good turnout and a major improvement in standards in a month - Joshua, Dave and Jacko all played. Tommo and Base Titanium - thank you for hosting the lads, very much appreciated by all. A few words were spoken during the lunch by Dave, Joshua, myself and Colin Forbes, who outlined the Base Titanium commitment to community development with

rugby playing a major role. This last Saturday we had a chance to put our serious training to the test with a game against Spartans from Mombasa. SCP showed what an improved side they are by winning 34-0. The whole atmosphere was so different to the previous fiasco, the lads were well on time, keyed up and so keen to get on with the job, which they did. One worrying aspect of the game was that again they seemed to slacken off in the second half for 20 vital minutes, before they scored two very good tries to seal the game. This second half trend has to be changed and they must start it as they have done the first, with a bang.



## From the Treasurer

In spite of proposals being sent to all the banks in Diani, and constant reminders, no donations have yet been forthcoming; we'll not give up though. A proposal has also been presented to the Msambweni sub county administrator who has given it to the appropriate MCA (Member of the County Assembly) and we're hopeful of some support from Kwale County. The prize money the lads won at the Kilifi tournament is yet to appear. Dave is in weekly contact with the organisers to try to get this money paid to the club. We're still looking for more people to join the South Coast Pirates members club whether it's as a full member or a social member. If you'd like to join us to help the club achieve their potential please contact the Treasurer or Tracy Barbour. If anyone would like to make a donation of used kit we would use this for training or in the JRAK (Junior Rugby Association of Kwale). Any prizes for the monthly raffle would help us out too.

## From the Coach

The training camp with the two Kenyan international players marked a turning point in the evolution of the Pirates. Up to recently the focus was on developing basic rugby skills like tackling, passing and rucking but now the team has graduated to more advanced training sessions with an emphasis on strategy and tactical awareness in our game play. The two early areas of focus were 'Exit Plays' i.e. knowing how to clear our lines in various situations and 'Strike Plays' i.e. the finishing off moves, scoring tries when on attack. In the win over Spartans the players executed our team plays with conviction which was very gratifying for the coaches on the side-line.

## Players to watch

### *Richard Amaye*

At the Pirates we are lucky enough to have one of the strongest back rows in the league. Richie is our open side flanker, Number 7. His hunger for the ball is insatiable. You can't miss him with his fluorescent boots. He is no stranger to the try line and bagged four tries in the recent victory over the Spartans, testament to his support play and his desire to get his hands on the ball.



### *Kenny Mwema*

Kenny "the Cop" is our main man trade Kenny marshals the line-ball well in the air and disrupting terrier in defence, especially at tative at halting the opposition game of course!).



in the lineout. A policeman by out with authority, securing our the opposition's throw ins. He is a the rucks where he is very effective attack (all within the rules of the

## PLAYERS PROFILE

### *Senior - Ferdinand Ombache, Flanker, aged 26*

Originally from Koderia Village in Nyanza, Ferdy moved to Ukunda in 2008. He is the Manager of Loi Enterprises, a hardware store on the Ukunda Road. Ferdy played rugby in high school and then for Blak Blad (Kenyatta University) in the Kenya Cup. He brings a lot of experience to the team and is the pack leader. Ferdy has a fiancé and is due to marry later this year.

Quote: "I love playing for the Pirates. It's a new team with great players. We will definitely make Kenya Cup. This is one of the strongest packs I have ever played with"



### *From Joshua Chisanga*

The South Coast Pirates - I had no idea such a team existed. Then somehow they found me and that for me was the beginning of a new phase in my rugby life as well as my social life. The first ever time I had a session with the pirates I was shocked at the level of understanding and potential the area owned, which is why I had to come do a week of training with the boys, not only because they wanted but also because I personally wanted to be part of the transformation and development of this monster team to be. I honestly think without a doubt that this team is, and will be, a force to be reckoned with in the near future. The resilience and passion they exhibit during training, the number of potential leaders within them, the thirst to learn and to work hard. If we keep putting in the hard yards we will get there and see our dreams come true. It gives me great pleasure to know such a group of lads. I wouldn't conclude without mentioning the support system behind this team, it is evident that without each one of you getting behind this boys none of this progress would be. I would like to say a huge thank you from the deep bottom part of my heart on behalf of the entire rugby fraternity. Last but not least I would love to come back n work with you all again. Thank you for having us. PS. Malcolm is an amazing



## From Edwin Achayo

What can I say about my experience with the pirates? The best word for it would have to be a 'fulfilling' experience. Having grown up at the coast and done some coaching clinics I was well aware of the potential in the region and the challenges as well. The biggest challenge for me has always been attitude. How do we get the boys from the coast to embrace the sport of rugby in a region better known for soccer? Then I met the



boys and I was immediately impressed. It had been awhile since I last experienced such excitement and a willingness to learn. The buzz was amazing. I must commend the teams support group as well for everything they are doing behind the scenes to help the boys out and it's that sort of energy that the lads are feeding off. During my short time with the team I shared as much as I could on the technical and tactical aspects of the game, which am sure your coaches have done and are doing still. However, it is my hope that we realize the bigger picture and appreciate the little things that make a huge difference. Rugby is a culture, a way of life. It's more than infield training and after all is said and done, I have to say the strength of the pirates is their ability to pull together. You may not be the most skilled team out there, or the have the heaviest forwards and the fastest backs, but you've got a desire to perform and a work ethic that few can match.

### Full Membership Prize Draw

Biggie, our number 1, picked the first name from the jar and Marcos, our Captain, the second name for the prize draw. The 2 winners were Bernard Rivers and Jenni Pierce. Congratulations

### Membership Fees

**Full** – 2,000 per month or 20,000 per annum (SCP cap, T shirt and polo shirt given), names in the monthly cash draw - 4,000 Kes and 2,000 Kes for first and second prize

**Social** – 500 per month (SCP cap or T shirt given)

**Junior (under 17)** – 200 per month (SCP cap or T shirt given)

## Diary Dates

**31st January** - Coast League playoff quarter-final

**7th February** - Coast League playoff semi-final

**13th February** - Club Night at Flamboyant, 5pm

**28th February** - National quarter finals

**NB Club night is on a Friday in February**



*Strengthening — Geoff sprinting with 3 tyres strapped to him*

## *Finally*

A special thank you to Joshua Chisanga and Edwin Achayo for spending so much time with the players. They arrived after an eventful journey which involved their bus catching on fire, hitching a ride in a lorry, getting motor bikes, a matatu then finally another bus. This has not deterred them from promising a return visit to work the lads even harder. The training day started at 6am in the gym and continued from 3pm on the field. The Pirates players turned up in great numbers to learn from the internationals and showed total commitment during the week. Even the punishment regime was well received. During the training camp week we had three new players join us from the local gym and several requests via FaceBook. This demonstrates the impact that Joshua and Edwin made to the rugby scene in Kwale. A reporter from Standard Media came along and did several interviews. The article has not yet been published but we're told it will be after the Africa Cup of Nations has been played. All of the planned sessions in Child Rights, Drug/alcohol abuse and HIV/AIDS went ahead and were well received by the players.

## *Footnote*

The TUM game was hastily re-arranged to be played in Ukunda on 25th January. Pirates played a B team which included many players who had not started before. Although several first team players got a run out in the second half the Pirates went down 7 to 17 which was not a bad score against our main rivals. It also gave heart to many of our younger up and coming players.

Check out the following website [www.modernafricanguy.com](http://www.modernafricanguy.com), you'll see an article entitled Top 30 Kenyan Rugby Players Of All Time. Someone very familiar is featured



Action against the Spartans



Pirates captain Marcos with our new mascot

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TEAM - SUPPORT THE PIRATES!**

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