



May 2017

PV Rugby Newsletter

Dear Parents

Saint Francis de Sales said, "Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them – every day begin the task anew."

This has been the underlying factor in our recent successes against DF Malan, Milnerton and Hermanus High. This is year 3 of our year-round high performance programme, and for 10 months a year, our boys work hard on their rugby imperfections and consistently go about remedying them.

2016 vs. 2017 is an excellent example; a 216 point turn around!

<u>PV 2016 scores</u>	<u>PV 2017 scores</u>
PV Under 14A lose 00 - 10	PV Under 15A win 33 - 00
PV Under 14B lose 05 - 43	PV under 15B win 40 - 00
PV Under 15A lose 13 - 14	PV under 16A win 29 - 18
PV Under 15B lose 13 - 14	PV under 16B win 45 - 00
PV Under 16A loses 00 - 52	PV Under 19A lose 23 - 30

That makes it a total of 182 points for and only 48 against in 2017. The future of Bulldog rugby looks great!

This is in stark contrast with our tour results. We lost 11 of 12 matches. Hopefully, all understand the bigger picture. Titles like last year's SA Rugby School of the Year, results against established rugby schools like DF, Milnerton and Hermanus firmly places the bullseye on our back.

A noteworthy fact is that sending all our A teams on tour nationally and internationally was another first in Parel Vallei's rugby history! That said, at our recent rugby committee meeting, the feeling was unanimous that it would be of benefit to work in at least 1 friendly match before going on tour. The week earmarked for this will be the days leading up to Father and Son's 2018.

All in all, the tours, Dad's and Lads, our rugby braai and our results to date have been absolutely wonderful. Parel Vallei Rugby is well on track; our 5 year development plan beautifully at work!

I would like to touch base on the following:

- Team selections and reserve bench policy: Our current policy is being revised as it was felt it served its purpose in the building phase. I do ask that whenever you have questions regarding your child's selection or playing time from the bench that you contact the respective team's coach first. Please, feel free to speak openly to the applicable coach and seek their input on their decisions. The coaches are well aware what is expected of them. If

you feel that you need to take matters further, write or contact me and I will happily investigate the matter.

- B-team coaching & matches: There is a MINIMUM standard to which all coaches must be qualified in order to coach at Parel Vallei. This includes the following:

BokSmart, WR Rugby Ready, WR Laws of the Game, Level 1 First Aid, WR Player Welfare certification & World Rugby Level 1 coaching. This is over and above playing experience, which is a must. In certain cases which in fact is at u14B, 15B & 16B level, there are currently WR Level 2 coaches at the helm, making them more qualified than their A team counterparts in certain instances.

At all times, I endeavour to have all our teams compete together on a Saturday. Sadly, as you may have noticed, no school, including DF Malan, Milnerton, Hermanus or HHH, has been able to field an under 14B side for us. The schools where rugby programmes do have more than two under 14 teams are predominantly Premier B & Premier A schools. On a Saturday, they compete against the other schools that have rugby programmes equal their size, in essence making a Saturday match by a visiting team few and far between. The Wednesday match fixtures are already a solution to this problem.

Last but not least, I would like to ask our new rugby parents to please take note of the following. I have now received several complaints from referees about remarks or advice shouted from the touchline at referees. These gentlemen are part of Parel Vallei's rugby referees of choice. Some have been with us for 3 years and longer now. Below is a general Code of Conduct that we expect all parents to adhere to. Please familiarise yourselves with the following:

- Parents and supporters are requested to refrain from directing negative comments at referees, or other officials, players or opposition supporters.
- Parents and supporters are asked to position themselves well clear of the touch lines and stay behind any barrier erected.
- In the event of an injury or altercation between players, parents and supporters are not allowed on the field under any circumstances.
- PV Parents and spectators are always to maintain a code of behaviour which is above reproach.
- Always help to raise the standard of the game at all levels off the field and assist in advancing the enjoyment of the game by players, spectators and others.
- Maintain his/her personal standard, no matter what level the game or spectators fall to.
- Never allow your attitude or behaviour to bring the game or Parel Vallei into disrepute.

Thank you for your continued support of all things Parel Vallei Rugby! More so, the incredible opportunity to develop your son and maximize his potential in life using the amazing vehicle that is RUGBY!

Yours faithfully
Thinus Pienaar and the PV rugby team