



THE OLD SANAWARIAN SOCIETY (OSS)

THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL SANAWAR - 173202

OSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2016 - 2017)

Lt. Col Jitender S Chandel (Retd)
President - N'75

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Justice Rajive Bhalla
President Elect - N'70

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Harjyot Pahwa
Vice President - V'94

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Dr. Amber Sodhi Dhillon
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Amrita Varma
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Minutes of the 21st AGM of the Old Sanawarian Society held on 4th October, 2016 at 2.00 p.m at The Lawrence School, Sanawar.

Quorum

The Secretary informed the President that the quorum for the meeting was not complete, hence the meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes and reconvened with the member's present being the de-facto quorum, the President then called the meeting to order.

Homage

The President asked for a two-minute silence to be observed for OS both staff and students who had passed away during the year.

Welcome

Lt. Col Jitender Singh Chandel (Retd), President OS Society, warmly welcomed all the members to the 21st AGM of The Old Sanawarian Society, particularly Batch of 2016 who were inducted into the OS Society this year and were celebrating their first Founders as OS. The President also warmly welcomed the OS Batches of 1966 (Golden Jubilee Batch), 1991 (Silver Jubilee Batch) with a special welcome to the batch of 1956 who are celebrating their Diamond Jubilee.

Old Sanawarian Activities 2015 - 2016

An overview of the OS Activities during the preceding year was given by Ms. Amrita Varma.

The future upcoming OS activity details will be shared on the website - www.sanawar.com, and the Facebook page. Our endeavour will be to try and reach out to the maximum number of OS and it was requested that members in the nearby areas should attend and encourage a good turnout for these events, helping strengthen the bond of the fraternity.

Consider and Adopt Minutes of the 20th AGM

The minutes of the 20th AGM - 2015 were circulated along with the Agenda of the present AGM. The President inquired from the members present if they had gone through the same and if so, could be passed by the house. There being no queries the acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr S S Bala and seconded by Mr Sanjeev Suri.

Welcome to the Head Master

The President welcomed, Mr Vinay Pande, Head Master to the OS AGM and formally introduced him to the House.



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Mr Pande was requested to address the AGM of the OS Society. He greeted all present and expressed that it was a great honour for him to head an institution as prestigious as The Lawrence School Sanawar.

Mr Pande informed that while interacting with the batches of 1956, 66 and 1991, the topic moved to who is an Old Sanawarian and he is often asked whether he is also an Old Sanawarian. His answer to that was No and Yes. The reason for this is, if the definition is taken as someone who has studied for a particular number of years, then NO. But if the definition is somebody who considers Sanawar to be his or her home, somebody who accepts and recognises the fact that whatever he or she is today has come from Sanawar and if their thoughts are deeply rooted in the ethos and culture of the School and who can sit and talk about anecdotes, incidents and stories of the School for hours and hours. If these are the parameters then proudly YES, I am an Old Sanawarian.

He shared with the house that when this assignment of his being selected as Head Master Sanawar became public a number of people including Old Sanawarians, some of whom were his students got in touch with him. It was interesting as some of them asked him if he was sure on taking this up. Mr Pande asked them why the doubt? The response he got was that he should be careful. One of them even remarked that he was going into a hornet's nest. Mr Pande expressed that had it been someone who did not know Sanawar then that person may have reconsidered. But as he knew what Sanawar and Sanawarians are about so he brushed their concerns aside.

The Head Master requested all Old Sanawarians and parent OS to contribute in whichever manner they could to implement the development plan for Sanawar.

Questions for the Head Master

The President inquired from the members if they had any queries or suggestions for the Headmaster.

Dr Amber Sodhi Dhillon thanked the Head Master for putting her name on the honour board and requested that parents be allowed to meet their children more often.

The Head Master responded that he has worked in Sanawar earlier and also spent approximately 19 years in other boarding schools. It is his experience that too many breaks disturb the momentum of the child towards the curriculum and this unsettling, effects the overall performance of the child. Too many SOP is contrary to the concept of studying in a boarding school.

The decision of restricting SOP to one a term was taken after consulting the parents and the vast majority were in favour of having fewer breaks.



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Mr Rajdeep Chimni expressed his joy that Mr. Pande would be leading the school as the Headmaster. This was because he was well aware of his uprightness and conduct as he had been taught by Mr Pande. He also seconded the thoughts of the Headmaster as to what made him the person he is today and what made him a man capable of taking independent decisions, was the separation from mom and dad as well as the separation from the protected environment. Also this made all his relationships stronger than they had ever been before, be it with siblings or parents. He applauded Mr Pande for his efforts for trying to inculcate the same in the present Sanawarians and making Sanawar what it stands for.

The President, thanked the Headmaster for taking time out from his busy schedule to join us at the AGM to address the Old Sanawarians.

Consideration and Adoption of the Society Accounts 2015- 2016.

The Society accounts as circulated to the members along with the Agenda was discussed.

Brig. I S Chima expressed that the expenditure in the accounts over the last 6 to 7 years had been increasing and he felt that we were spending excessive amounts on activities like cricket and Polo.

The President brought to his notice that this issue was addressed during the Nominating Committee meeting also and it was a consensus to continue to do the Sanawar Polo event. Polo is associated with Sanawar for a very long time. Such events now have a higher cost as the ground fee on renting the Jaipur Polo Grounds has been exponentially increased. It is with the contribution of Mr. Jai Shergill, Col. Sandhu, and Mr Gurpal Sandhu and others that we do not pay for the players and horses.

The President expressed that a dinner was hosted by the Old Sanawarian Society specially for the 60th, 50th and the 25th batches on the 2nd night and the attendance was great but no one attended the annual OS Ball on the 3rd which is a paid event.

During the OS dinner on the 3rd many youngsters asked the President where the anniversary batches were as they wanted to interact with them.

Mr. Rajeev Gulia suggested that instead of having two separate dinners on the 2nd and 3rd we should somehow combine both and make it a semi-paid event for the Jubilee batches. There was a consensus on this and it was decided that from 2017 only one dinner would be held.

The Chair requested the house to ratify and adopt the accounts of 2015-2016 as there were no more points to be discussed in this regard. Brig. S K Lama proposed their adoption and the same were seconded by Mr Jagat Bir Singh.



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Ratification of the President Elect.

The Nominating Committee met on 03rd Oct 2016 to discuss the nomination of the President elect for the term 2017 - 2019. Justice Rajive Bhalla (N 70) was unanimously nominated to be the

President Elect and President for the term 2017-2019.

This was put to the house and was unanimously ratified.

Election for Vacant seats on the Nominating Committee

The following were elected to the Nominating Committee: -

Block 1996 - 2000 - Mr Shubh Mangal
Block 2001 - 2005 - Ms Sunandita Chandel
Mr Jatin Mehra.
Block 2006 - 2010 - Ms Aparna Mutneja.

Special vote of Thanks

The President gave a special vote of thanks to Capt. Mohanbir Singh and his team in steering the society and keeping it together during the trying times of his tenure.

Welcome to the President Elect

Justice Rajive Bhalla the President elect (2017 - 2019) was welcomed to the Executive Committee.

There being no other points, the meeting was adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Apeksha Khanna Lt. Col Jitender Singh Chandel (Retd)

S/d S/d

Secretary President
Old Sanawarian Society Old Sanawarian Society