

# THE UNITED CRICKET CLUB

C/O ANDERSON'S AUTO ELECTRIC  
2091 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT 06706  
<http://unitedcricket.2ya.com>

(203)243-1000

(203)437-0051

**President: Arnold Arnajallum**

**Vice President: Rafique Abba Secretary: Cecil Agimudie**

**Treasurer: Naraish Rampersaud Team Manager: Azam Rahamat**

**Disp. Chairman: Yadram Sumair Selection Chairman: McCarthy Punter**

**Captain: Kawal Prashad Vice Captain: Veerasammy Virappen**

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference

**CEDARS HALL**

**WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT**

**December 1, 2018**

**GOLD SPONSOR: ALTAMIRANO AGENCY – FARMERS INSURANCE**

**BRONZE SPONSORS: AMERICAN MOTOR LODGE \* ANDERSON AUTO ELECTRIC**

**DONORS: RYAN A. ARNAJALLUM \* DYNASTY SOUNDS \* RAHOUFF KHAN \* LYNNE I ARNAJALLUM**

**ALFONSE LADYGA FAMILY \* CT SUPER KING**

**The United Cricket Club  
President's Report  
Arnold Arnajallum**

**FOR PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2017 - NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today, we come together to celebrate our 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary. We should indeed celebrate because we are reaping the fruits of two years of hard work. I can now declare that our Club is back on track and it is cruising.

We are strong organizationally, structurally and financially. Thanks to the united effort of the Executive Members who were all determined to work with me to rebuild. Now we can redirect our focus on rebuilding our Team. I am sure they will deliver once gain. I thank them all most sincerely.

Let me also thank all of our Members, Players, Fans, Supporters and each of you present here today, for always being willing to help when asked.

**ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Last year, you unanimously re-elected:

Arnold Arnajallum	-	President
Rafique Abba	-	Vice President
Cecil Agimudie	-	Secretary
Lakeram Nankoo	-	Treasurer
Azam Rahamat	-	Team Manager

These Officers then proceeded to complete the formation of the Executive Committee by reappointing:

Selection Comm. Chairman	-	McCarthy Punter
Disciplinary Comm. Chairman	-	Yadram Sumair.

In April of this year, our dear Friend and Brother - our beloved Treasurer for twenty years, Lakeram Nankoo, was called home to be with the Lord. We are still battling with his loss. We all miss him! I personally will forever miss him! We thank his family for loaning him to us over these years. Know that we will always be there for you!

Following his passing, The Executive Committee appointed Naraish Rampersaud as Acting Treasurer for the unexpired term. He is no stranger to the functions of the Executive Committee as he has been an executive candidate in waiting for several years. He has done a great job!

At our customary Special Meeting Kawal Prashad and Veerasammy Virappen were elected Captain and Vice Captain respectively. Additionally, Michael Kean was appointed by the Executive as Assistant Team Manager.

Considering the complex dynamics of our Team with Brass City as our surrogate Team, I must say that they did a wonderful job leading the Team in the field. It was tough but they managed.

Let me at this time congratulate our veteran and prolific Player, Veersammy Virappen for completing 50 years as a Cricket

Player in Guyana and the U.S. combined.

Please join me in thanking the Executives for performing with a high degree of excellence! They have made my job easy.

## **MEETINGS**

During the year, the following Meetings were held:

- One Annual Conference/General Meeting
- One Officers' Meeting
- One Special Membership Meeting
- Four Executive Committee Meetings and
- Innumerable Ad Hoc Meetings

Our Meetings were all free, frank, democratic and healthy with civil discussions and debates. We always came out united and on the same accord. After all, our culture dictates that it is not about us but all about "what's best for the Club".

## **MEMBERSHIP**

In the past two years we managed not only to maintain the Membership of 52, but increased it by 12. Today, our Membership stands at Sixty-four (64) - 46 Non-Players and 18 Players. This is a sign not only of recovery but also of growth and stability. I must also highlight the fact that among the Membership are seven female Members. Let us thank them loudly!

During the year, quite sadly, two beloved Members departed to the higher calling: as mentioned before, our Treasurer

Lakeram Nankoo and then one time Team Manager, Naglen Armogan. We all miss them! May they rest peacefully in eternal glory.

What is unique about our Members is our continued ethnic, racial, religious and cultural diversity. This is one reason we stand apart; and that is why I am personally proud. Our members are dedicated, committed and united. They stand with us side by side – in good times and bad. I thank you.

I know there are a few of us here who are not yet Members. We do not want to leave you behind. And so I encourage you to come on in, join and be part of us.

Let us work together to make a difference in our community, provide cricket entertainment and at the same time ground together with our brothers and sisters from within and without the immigrant community.

## **FINANCE**

The Treasurer will present his report shortly. But let me disclose to you that after paying all bills, we realized a *Net Surplus* of \$4,206.

After my return as President, we had a scary Bank Balance of \$1,650. That was a major concern. Our existence was on the on the line. And so together with your Executives, we worked tirelessly to improve our finances. Today I am happy to report that our Balance at bank is now \$7,837. We have recovered; we are financially sound!

However, we must continue to spend conservatively and continue to vigorously generate income.

This miraculous turnaround could not have happened without \$1,000 from Gold Sponsor Altamirano - A Farmers Insurance Agent, \$500 from Bronze Sponsor Anderson's Auto Electric and \$500 in cash and kind from American Motor Lodge.

And of course our Donors: Ryan A. Arnajallum, Rahouff Khan, Lynne Arnajallum, Alphonse Ladyga & Family, CT Super King and last but not least - Dynasty Sounds.

Let me now congratulate Dynasty Sounds on the occasion of their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Theirs is a story of two young Brothers - Adrian and Andrei - embarking on a musical journey and kept on amazing us as they excel. Andrei continue to hit the air waves, play in the tristate area and is being heard in close to forty countries. We have been fortunate to have them play at our conferences and on special occasions for fourteen years on a pro bono basis. Let us give them a huge thank you!

I also wish to especially thank everyone who supported our Casino Trips and other Fund-raising drives. Know that you have helped enormously in our financial state.

May I also take this opportunity to thank each of you for your help and contributions.

### **CITY MILLS PARK**

As always the Office of the Mayor and the Parks Department continued to partner with us to promote the game of cricket.

The City Mills Park and its Facilities have been properly prepared and maintained to make our Ground one of the best.

I thank Mayor Neil O'Leary, Parks Supervisor Mark Lombardo and Foreman assigned to City Mills Bob Gaetano for their unswerving help and support.

I expressly want to thank outgoing Chief of Staff, Joe Gairy, for always being ready to help for the past twenty-one years. Joe has always been a gentleman, a man of integrity, a man of excellence. He will always remain a dear friend of The United Cricket Club.

While we wish Joe a blessed retirement, we look forward to working with his successor, Mckenzie Demac. We congratulate him on his appointment.

### **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

The Disciplinary Committee was headed by Chairman, Yadram Sumair, and included Naraish Rampersaud and Roypen Karpen, The President and Team Manager. I am happy to report that there was no indiscipline to report. Thanks to the Members for making their job an easy one.

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

The Selection Committee comprised Chairman McCarthy Punter, Veerasammy Virappen, Imran Rana along with the President and Team Manager.

The inclusion of Brass Cricket Team made the selection quite

complicated. But the Committee navigated their way quite impressively. I thank them and you should too.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

We continue to showcase the Club at all possible avenues, including our Website at: **unitedcricket.2ya.com**". I encourage you to visit the site. You will find it useful. Thanks to our Website Engineer Ryan Arnajallum for volunteering his service.

## CONNECTICUT CRICKET LEAGUE

After 7 years as a Member of the Commonwealth Cricket League of New York, and having renewed relations with both Leagues in Connecticut, we made the tough decision to return back to Connecticut. It was hard to say good-bye as we had a great time playing with this League. We had a very strong and warm relation with its President, Leslie Lowe. Rest assured that our relations with him and his League is sound and secured.

Then came the other tough decision - choosing one of the two Leagues in Connecticut. I thank both Leagues for being eager to welcome us back into their folds.

After much thought and discussions, your Executives decided to return to the Connecticut Cricket League. We have learned and adjusted on our first year with them. We look forward to many years ahead. I thank the President and all the Teams for their accommodation.

I also wish to thank Southern CT Cricket Association for their understanding and continued relations.

## JOINT AGREEMENT WITH BRASS CITY CRICKET CLUB

The lack of a strong List of Players was a serious concern of the Executives. We were worried but then felt some relief learning that quite a number of Clubs were experiencing this same problem. But, we refused to be complacent and went out of the box.

In December 2017, we entered into a written Agreement with Brass City Team adopting them as a Surrogate Team. By this arrangement we complemented each others' List of Players to make for full and competitive Teams.

I want to thank the Leader of Brass, Mr. Imran Rana, along with his Management Team for working to make this venture, despite a few hiccups, one of tremendous success. It is our mutual intention to renew and better this arrangement.

## GAMES

This year was certainly not our best in terms of Team Performance at both the 40 Overs and T-20 Games. We did not win enough games to earn a spot in the Play-offs. But I will not stand here and place blame on the Team or to make excuses for them. However, I must commend the Captain and Vice-Captain for giving their level best in light of the new dispensation brought about by the arrangement with the Brass Team. It was a challenging and enlightening experience. I am confident that with a better chemistry of the two teams and the

valuable experience gained, we will do better next year.

## FANS

As you know, we place keen interest on our Fans and Supporters. We are happy when they are around. Their attendance this year averaged 65 - the same as last year. For this coming year, I personally appeal to you to come and join us at the ground. Let us make it "family picnic day" every week-end at City mills Park.

## INCENTIVE PROGRAM

For 17 years we ran a unique Incentive Program based not only cricket performance; It was based on a Points System with 70% assigned to Batting, Bowling and Fielding while 30% is assigned to Discipline, Task Accomplishment and Team Work. It was designed to reward everyone commensurate with performance.

This Program has been successful over the years. However, we recognized that there was need for a holistic review. With input from the players directly, we reintroduced the traditional form of Awards in varying Categories. We look forward to your feed-back and comments after witnessing the Presentation today.


I congratulate all recipients today.

## CONCLUSION

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sure you will agree that this year has been a tremendously successful year. I am very pleased.

There is still hard work ahead. Let us not be complacent. Let us stay the course! Let us unite! Let us march - Forward ever, backward never. Long live The United Cricket Club!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

  
**Arnold Arnajallum**  
**President**  
**The United Cricket Club**  
**12/01/2018**