

LANGA CRICKET CLUB | LETTER

30 January 2021



Langa Cricket Club est. 1976

To Club Cricket Committee and WPCA Board: Langa Cricket Club Stance

As Langa Cricket Club we respect the recommendations from the Club Cricket Committee and the decision that has been taken by the WPCA board.

Yes, the virus has taken many of our loved ones in and out of the cricket community.

While we do live in uncertain times thanks to the Covid19 pandemic the drastic decision taken to cancel the season is somewhat uncomfortable to fathom, we as Langa CC do not believe such a decision will help our club or any of the community cricket club. We can't be the mouthpiece of other communities in the Cape Flats but being from disadvantage communities, our socio-economic problems faced by our youth are similar to almost every cricket club within the Cape Flats district and possibly overall the Western Province.

With a season of no cricket, unlike the privileged schools and clubs, our members (players) won't just lose interest in cricket but lose the intensity of the keen interest in the sport overall. Players will look for other unfavourable methods to fill the space left by cricket in their lives. While Covid19 may not kill them, the environment that they were able to escape through cricket will kill the morale and enthusiasm to the game.

We have a young girls team that is losing faith in cricket as it stands. This decision will surely mean that some of them will lose interest and drop the sport. This is an aspect of the game that Langa CC has made it clear to WPCA that we want to focus on it, the development of girls within cricket.

Children will soon go to school. Tertiary students will soon go back to tertiary. Many senior players that work have already returned to work. Almost all club members go to supermarket stores, shops, spaces with people who might or might not have symptoms of the virus. You may have considered this, but all of these are examples of essential services and spaces. The truth is, amateur sport is an essential part of humankind and skills development. The need to compete is a basic human need. It teaches humans to find ways to prevail in whatever circumstances they find

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themselves in. Cricket is just that sport that not only teaches mindfulness but also dedication and strategic decision making.

We ask the Club Cricket Committee and the WPCA board to rethink their decision in this matter but also find alternative ways to at least have a bit of cricket for this season.

Give clubs the option to choose to participate in games or not, the club's that do wish to play some cricket this season and clubs that want to sit out the season as well.

We as Langa do recommend that there should be no 50 over cricket this season as it keeps players for too long. A T20 game is 3 hours and this format should be the one that is used for this season. In leagues where there are 12 teams, those leagues should be broken down into groups of 4. The winners of those groups would ultimately play in the semi-finals and the best second-place team based on their net run-rate should also make the semis. This will result in teams at least having 6 matches.

Another option is to give clubs a grace of two months to organise friendly matches amongst themselves.

With the estimated third and fourth wave on the way. We can't be sure that the coming season won't be affected by the pandemic. We need to find ways to live with the pandemic without it affecting the whole cricket season and beyond. Use 20/21 as the season where clubs determine their abilities to manage their ability to take safety precautions during Covid19. This season needs to be used as means to prepare for next season. This is an opportunity for the Cricket Committee and the WPCA board to work on measures that can be used next season and for the future. Covid19 is not about to end, lets be practical in planning ahead.

Having some sort of cricket for interested clubs is critical and we as Langa CC are one of those clubs that need games to keep going while observing all Covid19 protocols. From our clubs perspective, it is a unfortunate that this pandemic came at a time where we are finally sorting our house.

The no cricket policy for this season, will surely not leave our club in a better position as we are a club faced with challenges many of which include non-confidence from former stake holders and members of the club, those of which have worked for the club or hub and work as WPCA employees.

A group of people which consistently seek flaws within LCC even in light of progressive strides being made by this current Exco. Right now, we are faced with our chairperson being humiliated by this handful of people both for her gender and her "never having played" cricket. We are, according to these individuals, not fit via our leadership to grow or develop the Langa Cricket

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Club. We do not wish to be the committee that never had a chance to prove that all decisions we have taken in preparation for the season will not be visible on the field of play. Ultimately cricket clubs or teams are about playing cricket no matter the quality of the administration, for our club, the field of play counts as it is a reflection on the administrations ability to create a holistic realisation of team spirit, club culture and motivated players.

Cricket Regards
Langa CC, Club Secretary.
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20/21 EXCO : A Team Serving the Redevelopment of LCC, Rebuilding the Legacy.

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