

MINUTES OF THE 64th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DOON SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY HELD IN THE DOON SCHOOL AUDITORIUM AT 12.00 NOON ON SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER 2003.

PRESENT: The President, Vice President, Hony. Secretary, Headmaster, Chandbagh Representative, and 129 members. The Meeting was called to order.

I. President welcomed all members present at the Meeting.

II. A condolence resolution was passed and a two minutes silence was observed on the sad demise of the following Members:

1.	Mr. M M Kapur	(Ex -049-H)	Class of 1937
2.	Mr. Shaukat Rai	(Ex -006-H)	Class of 1939
3.	Lt Col Thakur Govind Singh(Retd.)	(Ex -065-K)	Class of 1940
4.	Mr. D. N. Sinha	(Ex -132-T)	Class of 1942
5.	Dr. M.M. Dhar	(Ex -083-T)	Class of 1942
6.	Mr.Badshah Hussein	(Ex-149-K)	Class of 1942
7.	Mr. Rathindra Nath Ray	(Ex-172-T)	Class of 1943
8.	Mr.Shahenshah Hussein	(Ex-246-K)	Class of 1944
9.	Mr. Rajendra Vikram Singh	(Ex- 056-H)	Class of 1945
10.	Wg Cdr Rajkumar J Sinhji (Retd.)	(Ex -180-H)	Class of 1945
11.	Mr. Mohinder Nath	(Ex -158-T)	Class of 1946
12.	Thakur Bikram Singh	(Ex -138-J)	Class of 1948
13.	Mr Siddhartha Sen	(Ex -237-K)	Class of 1956
14.	Kr. Gajendra S Jhala	(Ex - 089-J)	Class of 1961
15.	Mr.Sandeep Goyal	(Ex-098-K)	Class of 1972
16.	Mr Sunil Mahtani	(Ex -498-T)	Class of 1975
17.	Mr.Riju Vir Kakkar	(Ex-459-H)	Class of 1975
18.	Mr. Hanuwant Singh	(Ex -143-T)	Class of 1990

III. The Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting which had been circulated to all concerned, were duly confirmed and unanimously approved (Proposed by Mr. Pushkar N Shahi (Ex 801-H '81) and seconded by Brig B N. Singh (Ex 76-T 54) .

IV. Discussion of matters arising out of the Minutes -

Committee for Selection of Executive Committee Members of DSOBS including President and Vice President:

At the last Annual General Meeting some members of the House expressed their unhappiness on the procedures being followed and wished that these be re-examined. We had 7 volunteers from the floor of the House that together with The President, Vice President and Past Presidents formed a committee. This committee met twice and deliberated at length to come up with a set of recommendations. The recommendations were then discussed at length at two Executive Committee meetings and were approved with overwhelming majority. These recommendations had been posted on the website and this fact was announced in the Sept 03 issue of Rose Bowl. A copy of these recommendations had also been distributed at the Annual General Meeting.

Selection of new Executive Committee Members –

When a vacancy arises, the President would inform all the class representatives of the concerned age group (10 classes in total) to collectively recommend a name to fill the vacancy. In the event, that there is more than one candidate, their details should be forwarded to the President who in consultation with the Executive Committee would finalise the name of who shall fill the vacancy. If the other candidates are in any case desirous of contributing to the activities of the Society, they could assist in the committees of their interest, as could any member of the Society.

It was suggested and agreed that a record of attendance of Executive Committee Members must be published in the Rose Bowl once a year. (Preferably around the Founders' Day). The President was also requested to keep a watch on the attendance of the Executive Committee Members from time to time and if any Member was irregular, the President would speak to him personally.

Selection of New Vice President -

Approximately 6 months before the vacancy arises for the post of Vice President, the President will seek nominations from the DSOBS fraternity through the Rose Bowl and the Website plus the Executive Committee members. The key parameters to be borne in mind for the nomination of the Vice President were:

- a) He should have commitment to the objectives of the Society,
- b) Be able to devote time to its functions.
- c) Have a good standing in Society.
- d) Reached a certain level of achievement in his profession.
- e) Membership of the (Present/past) Executive Committee of the Society would be desirable, though not mandatory;

The Selection Committee felt that it may not always be possible for a suitable candidate for Vice Presidentship to travel frequently. This, however, should not debar him from the post as long as the President incumbent was in a financial position to travel for the meeting etc. outside Delhi. As long as the President or Vice President were available for outside meetings, this should be adequate to carry out the work of the Society in a suitable manner. (The Committee wanted this paragraph to be recorded for future reference.)

Once the nominations for the Post of Vice President was received by the President, the President would convene a meeting of the Executive Committee along with the Past Presidents thus essentially clubbing both the EC and the Past Presidents. The EC and the Past Presidents would then deliberate on the nominations received by the President and then, based on convention of consensus by majority, select one name for approval at the Annual General Meeting. However in case of a divided house the E C and Past Presidents would present up to 5 names at the AGM for the House to make a selection. This proposal was made by Mr. Surendra Kandhari (Ex 122-T '51) and seconded by Mr. Jaspreet Singh (Ex 285-T '76) which was subsequently passed by the House unanimously.

By this system, it was felt, that a larger number of DSOBS Members would be able to participate in the selection of the Vice President, and there would also be a greater degree of transparency.

The tenure for an Executive Committee Member in the Executive Committee of the DSOBS was a maximum of 4 years as per the prevailing convention. It was decided to continue to follow this existing convention.

As per prevailing convention, the Vice President succeeds the President. His tenure as Vice President is for two years and a further 2 years as President, making a total of 4 years.

President – It was decided that the convention of the Vice President becoming the President would continue, as it brought about stability and continuity to the post of the President.

At present the composition of the Executive Committee was as follows:-

President and Vice President	- 2
Age Group A - 50 and above	- 2
B - 40 TO 50	- 3
C - 30 TO 40	- 3
D – Up to 30	- 1
University Representative	- 1
President's Nominees	- 2

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It was decided that the current convention would continue to prevail in this matter.

Regional Representative – All Regional Representatives must be selected by the Regions concerned and the name forwarded to the Executive Committee for ratification. However, if there are more than one candidates for a vacancy, then the Executive Committee would choose from the names proposed and decide who the representative would be.

Class Representatives : Class Representatives should be selected by their own Classes and the names forwarded to the Executive Committee for ratification.

Annual Report by the President –

The past year has been an eventful and busy one. The Executive Committee of DSOBS met 6 times in the past 12 months. I would like to summarize the activities of the society, including the excellent work done by various sub-committees each headed by a member of the executive committee. I would add that other members from the fraternity, outside the E.C., have also contributed their valuable time and effort for which I wish to record my thanks.

Before I report on the various sub-committees I wish to briefly sum up some important milestones achieved by the society:

- 1) For the third time an Old Boy of The Doon School has become Headmaster. On behalf of the entire Dosco fraternity I wish to extend my congratulations to Dr..Kanti Bajpai (Ex-264-T) on his appointment. We are all very proud of him and wish him every success.
- 2) I would like to record my thanks to Mr. John Mason Ex-Headmaster, who did an excellent job in bringing up academic standards at The Doon School. In his 7 years at The Doon School he contributed admirably to the infrastructure and general development of Chandbagh.

- 3) Our congratulations to Mr. Dhruv Sawhney on taking over as Chairman of The Board of Governors. His co-operation and interaction with DSOBS and members of the fraternity is greatly appreciated.
- 4) The society has acquired an "international flair" with get-togethers being held in various parts of the globe including Singapore, U.K. , USA , Canada , UAE , Nepal & many cities in India. This interaction of Old Boys has given an opportunity for a much larger body of the fraternity to be actively involved in the society's affairs and progress. I am sure that members of our fraternity have been following these events through the website and the Rose Bowl.
- 5) Admissions of Old Boy's children. You all may recall that there was some unhappiness at the last AGM and the executive committee seriously and effectively addressed this. I wish to record my gratitude to the Headmaster and Members of the board for giving us a patient hearing. This resulted in perhaps the best result OB's children have achieved in recent years. To add to this we have established a new sub-committee "Admissions Advisory Sub-Committee" which will hopefully enable us to maintain, if not enhance, a fair advantage to OB's children.
- 6) An Old Boy Ajay Mehta (102-JA) has very kindly agreed to gift a new Photo Lab to School. The project will cost Rs.10 lacs and is entirely underwritten by Ajay Mehta. On behalf of the society I wish to record my thanks to him.

I would now like to briefly report on the various sub-committees and their activities over the past 12 months:

- 1) BURSARY -- This sub-committee is chaired by Mr. Chudamani Ratnam and assisted by Mr. Ravibir Singh. This year DSOBS awarded bursaries/scholarships to 13 Old Boy's children including 8 bursaries amounting to Rs.24000- to The John Martyn Memorial Trust, which runs Salangaon Primary School. The total sum disbursed was Rs.4,34,000/- as compared to Rs.190000- in the previous year. I am very pleased to inform you that the Singapore Chapter Old Boys, under the enthusiastic drive of Himmat Singh (Ex-20KB – Class of 1989) have donated a sum of Rs.6.85 lacs to the Bursary Fund . On behalf of the society I wish to record my thanks to the Singapore Old Boys for their exemplary work and generous contribution. I would also urge Old Boys to donate as much as possible towards the DSOBS Scholarship Fund and to The John Martyn Memorial Trust.
- 2) CREDIT CARDS – This sub-committee is chaired by Anoop Bishnoi and actively assisted by Ravibir Singh. Presently the society has successful Affinity Card programmes with Citi Bank for the Diners Club Card and Standard Chartered Bank for a Visa/Master Card. At present we have a total of 460 cardholders, which is less than 20% of the Dosco OB's community within India. As you may be aware we have a voluntary contribution scheme whereby an Affinity cardholder contributes Rs.250- per month to the society. Of the total 460 cards issued ONLY 40 have signed up for this monthly contribution. I would request more Old Boys to come forward and apply for the affinity cards and sign up for the monthly Rs.250- contribution. This will help support your society as well as the School.
- 3) DSOBS PERMANENT SECRETARIAT- This sub committee is chaired by The President and assisted by The Vice President Anoop Bishnoi, Chudamani Ratnam , Rajbir Singh(Honr. Secretary) , Gautam Chadha , Gurmeet Singh and Ajay Mehta. This project has been a subject of discussion for the past many years and I am happy to report that over the past months the society has confirmation from a total of 20 sponsors for an amount of Rs.1 crore. Of this committed sum an amount of Rs.60 lacs has already been received and the balance Rs.40 lacs is expected to be received within this quarter. The sub-committee has over the past

few months seen various sites in Central/South Delhi and at least 2 of these are seriously under consideration. I am hopeful that once we get in the committed funds we can finalize a suitable property and have our own secretariat. With growing activities of the society and the increasing numbers in our fraternity I feel that having our own premises has huge merit and will help strengthen our fraternity even more. We also propose to engage the services of a fulltime paid secretary. This is perhaps the correct time to record our very sincere thanks to Mr. Arun Bharatram whose hospitality the society has enjoyed for so many years. I would now like to read out the list of sponsors who have pledged Rs.5 lacs each for this project:

Ajay Shriram (161 KA)
 Analjit Singh (132-J)
 Anoop Bisnhoi (112 JA)
 Arjun Mathotra (325K)
 Dhruv Sawhney (37 K)
 Eckhard Schuetze
 Enbee Group
 Gautam Thapar (200 H)
 Harpal Singh (322 H)
 J.J.Masani (6 J)
 Kamal Nath (366 H)
 Lalit Nirula (142 K) & Deepak Nirula (165 K)
 Rajan Nanda (12 H)
 Raman Kapoor (69 J) & Nitam Kapoor (151 J)
 Ranjit Pandit (297 H)
 Som Group
 Sunil Munjal (180 KB)
 Swarup Vegetable Products Industries Ltd.
 Vikram Srivastava (345 J) AND
 Old Boys of United Kingdom.

I wish to record my sincere gratitude on behalf of the entire Dosco Fraternity to these generous donors.

- 4) DSOBS WEBSITE – This recently expanded sub-committee is Chaired by Mr. Ajay Swarup. Other members are the Vice President Anoop Bishnoi, Sharad Sharma , Ravibir Singh & Ajay Mehta. The DSOBS website is undoubtedly the most powerful medium of communication for all members of the fraternity. It is therefore the endeavor of the society to keep improving this facility so that our widely spread fraternity can be in touch with activities of the society and be able to share information on a daily basis. The website is constantly being redesigned to meet current needs but a lot more work needs to be done. The Doon School directory has been integrated with the website and an online search facility is available using either the name, roll number, batch, city etc. The Rose Bowl is also added to the site almost simultaneously when the publication is mailed to members. Three Old Boys – Hemant Sharma (459 JA), Sidharth Swarup (635 KA) and Nalin Khanna (563 HB) have contributed greatly in revamping our website . I wish to record my thanks to them.
- 5) JOB PLACEMENT – This sub-committee is handled by the Hony Secretary Rajbir Singh. The society is in constant touch with old Boys requiring placement. We have appointed a couple of placement agencies and hope to make this activity more effective.

- 6) MEMORABILIA – This sub-committee is chaired by Jayant Sahai and assisted by Ajay Mehta. Dosco memorabilia is available from Ajay Mehta's office in Safdarjung, at School and on-line through dsobs.org. A few new items have been added and some more are in the pipeline. The sub-committee has done a lot of work and members can expect to see many new Memorabilia items in the near future. I would request Old Boys to buy memorabilia regularly wherever possible and use these as corporate or personal gifts. With on-line sales being made possible we expect to increase the sales of memorabilia considerably.
- 7) ROSE BOWL – This sub-committee is chaired by Ratan Kapoor and assisted by Sharad Sharma. The excellent work done by this sub-committee is reflected in the quality and content of this publication. This year we have published 3 issues with the fourth due towards the end of this year. Gautam Thapar (200-H) has very kindly donated high quality paper for a total of 5 years and I wish to thank him for his very generous contribution. Each issue of the Rose Bowl is financed by means of strip ads and I would urge members of our fraternity to come forward with ads and more importantly send in articles/photographs to the editor. I wish to thank those who have contributed towards advertisements in the past year and others who may come forward. As you all may already know a copy of the Rose Bowl is mailed free of cost to all members of the Society whose addresses are current and updated. I would like to thank Manu Vohra (289- JB) for assisting the Rose Bowl Sub-committee – he had done an excellent job in coordination and getting the issues printed.
- 8) SPORTING ACTIVITIES – This sub-committee is chaired by Gautam Chadha and assisted by Gurmeet Singh. Another year of excellent sports events which included the 6th. Inter House Golf Tournament at Jaypee Greens Golf Course in Greater Noida on September 27th. 2003. There were 146 who played at this challenging course. Congratulations to Jaipur House on winning the trophy. Hyderabad House was runners up. The tournament was followed by a well-attended dinner at Maurya Sheraton on September 28th. 2003. On behalf of the Society I wish to record my thanks to ICICI for sponsoring the tournament for the second year running and to the Murugappan Group for sponsoring the dinner. In March this year the Inter-house Cricket Tournament was held in Delhi. The match was won by "H" House with "K" House as runners up. The cup was presented by the Head Master Dr. Kanti Bajpai, who was also the chief guest. In December last year the first "Gibson Goodwill Golf" was held. It was a Doon vs Mayo event at Jaypee Greens, Greater Noida. The result was a tie. The chief guest was Mr. R.D.Singh. To sum up it has been a very interesting and active year on the sports front and this sub-committee has excelled in their endeavors. Both Gautam and Gurmeet have given us some great events.
- The 9th. Vicky Bawa Memorial Golf Tournament was held at Hatfield Country Club, London in June this year. Of the 39 participants 9 were Old Boys. The tournament was won by Vijay Thapar (295-J) the DSOBS Rep in U.K.
- 9) ADMISSIONS ADVISORY – This sub-committee is chaired by the Vice President Anoop Bishnoi and assisted by Chudamani Ratman, Sharad Sharma and Gurmeet Singh. Past President Kanwar Prem Lal has very kindly helped the sub-committee at their various meetings. Many Old Boy Parents have contacted the sub-committee for help and guidance. I would like to mention that this sub-committee can in no way assure admissions but can merely help in giving out information and providing past papers. The onus is entirely on the parents to prepare their wards well so that there are fewer disappointments. With the fraternity growing one can only expect that the exams will be more and more competitive mainly because of the numbers involved. Old Boy's children do have an advantage of 10 marks in the written exam over others.

- 10) THE DOON SCHOOL BOOK --- This sub-committee is chaired by Lalit Bhadwar and assisted by Ajay Swarup and Ratan Kapoor. The last Dosco register was published in 2002 and the sub-committee plans to begin work on the 2004 register in January next year. It is proposed to bring out a new comprehensive Dosco register by Founders 2004. This register will incorporate most of the information printed in the Dosco Record published way back in October 1987. If there are any suggestions from the House please contact Lalit Bhadwar.
- 11) The Class of 1966 has presented the school with a new ambulance. The old one, which was also presented by the same class, has been sold and the amount donated to school for equipment of the new ambulance.
- 12) The Class of 1979 is preparing to celebrate their Silver Jubilee next year. They have very kindly informally committed to donate generously to the DSOBS Bursary Fund. On behalf of the society I wish to thank them for this offer.
- 13) During this year the following DSOBS Reps have been appointed:
- a) REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES :
- Mr. Gurpreet Singh (325 TA – Class of 1975) for Chandigarh
Mr. Vikram Pradhan (227 TB – Class of 1984) for U.A.E.
- b) CLASS REPRESENTATIVES :
- Mr. Raghuvendra Singh (878 TB) for THE CLASS OF 1982.
Mr. Abhenav Khetri (159 JB) for THE CLASS OF 2003.
- I would like to welcome the new representatives and wish them the very best in future. Their role in arranging get-togethers and generally motivating camaraderie is the underlying strength of our fraternity.
- 14) Class get-togethers were held for Classes of 1953, 1963 , 1966 , 1979 , 1983 & 1993 during the year.
- 15) I would like to congratulate the following classes who celebrate their respective Jubilees this year – Class of 1943 – on their Diamond Jubilee , Class of 1953 – on their Golden Jubilee , Class of 1963 – on their 40th. Year jubilee , Class of 1983 on their 20 years jubilee and Class of 1993 on their 10 years jubilee.
- 16) Regional get-togethers were held in Delhi, Jaipur, Chennai, Chandigarh, Dehra Dun , Lucknow, Hyderabad , Kolkata , Kerela , Singapore , U.K. , Canada , USA, Nepal and UAE.
- 17) During the last year, the DSOBS & Old Boys have contributed Rs.22 lacs to The Doon School. Over the past 10 years the total contribution by DSOBS & Old Boys to the School has been 1.52 crores.
- 18) The Board of Governors have established a committee under the enthusiastic drive of Mr. Sunil Munjal to raise funds for Technology Development at The Doon School. This is one area, which needs to be addressed very seriously, and I would call upon members of our fraternity to come forward and donate generously to this fund.

19) Proposed tie-up between DSOBS & INSEAD – This has been a topic of discussion over the past 8 months and I am pleased to report that some progress had been made. The Executive Committee has given a mandate to Mr. Eckhard Schuetze who has done a lot of groundwork and there remains plenty more to be done. Prior to this meeting there was an informal meeting of Insead representatives and DSOBS -- the outcome of this meeting will be reported in the next issue of Rose Bowl.

20) Meeting of DSOBS Executive Committee with Board of Governors --- Over the past 12 months it was not possible to have a joint meeting. However, we propose to arrange such meetings on a regular basis.

21) MEMBERSHIP OF DSOBS –

Associate membership of the society was offered to and accepted by Mr. John Mason , Ex-Headmaster, The Doon School. I would like to welcome him as a member of DSOBS.

The society has in the past months received applications for membership from three Old Boys of the school -- Arvind (Tiny) Chowdhry (Ex- 89-J) , Vijay Dev Datt (Ex- 94-T) and Lalit Bhardwaj (Ex- 273-K). All three have spent less than the stipulated 3 years required as per our Articles of Association. The executive committee has in three separate meetings considered these applications and unanimously recommended that all three applicants be considered for membership. It was felt that they be made members of DSOBS as they had all contributed in good measure to the society in terms of time, guidance, sponsorships and more importantly been an integral part of our fraternity. I would add that our Articles of Association do have a provision which reads as follows : “ In additional to Old Boys who become members of the society by right of the above qualifications, any other boy who has studied at The Doon School may be elected as Member of the Society at the Annual general Meeting. I would like to request the house to endorse these applications so that we can grant membership to the three applicants.

Gentlemen it has been a privilege to work with members of the Executive Committee and many other old boys over the past year. The electronic media has contributed greatly in enabling me to interact with the Dosco community worldwide. I would especially like to thank the Past Presidents whose guidance has helped me in performing my duties.

THANK YOU.

VI. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS :

The Accounts for the period ending 31st March 2003 showing a surplus of Rs. 5.97 lakhs had been circulated to all members. Kr. Prem Lal Malhotra (Ex 155-H '43) proposed and Mr. Tilak Badhwar (Ex 178-H '66) seconded and the House unanimously resolved to approve the Accounts.

VII. RE-ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS-

The President informed the House that in accordance with the accepted conventions and the existing rules of the Society, all the members of the Executive committee were eligible for re-election. The House unanimously resolved that all the 12 members be re-elected for another year (proposed by Mr Deepak Nirula (Ex 165-K '68) and seconded by Mr Sumanjit Chaudhry (Ex 7-J '63).

After elections, the Executive Committee for the year 2003-2004 was declared constituted by the President as follows:-

1. Mr. Nitan Kapoor	(Ex 151-J)	President	-	-
2. Mr. Anoop Bishnoi	(Ex 112-J)	V. President	-	-
3. Mr. Chudamani Ratnam	(Ex 79-T)	Member	A	Above 50 Years
4. Mr. Lalit Badhwar	(Ex 173-T)	Member	A	-do-
5. Mr. Jayant Sahai	(Ex 36-H)	Member	B	40 - 50 Years
6. Mr. Gautam Chadha	(Ex 389-H)	Member	B	-do-
7. Mr. Ajay K Swarup	(Ex 245-J)	Member	B	-do-
8. Mr. Gurmeet Singh	(Ex 883-T)	Member	C	30 - 40 Years
9. Mr. Sharad C Sharma	(Ex 334-J)	Member	C	-do-
10. Mr. Ravibir Singh	(Ex 19-K)	Member	C	-do-
11. Mr. Ratan Kapoor	(Ex 124-J)	Member	D	Under 30 Years
12. Mr. Prateek Khurana	(Ex 554-J)	Member		(University Rep.)

VIII. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

Mr Deepak Nirula (Ex 165-K '68) proposed and seconded by Mr. Surendra Kandhari (Ex 122-T '51) and it was resolved unanimously that M/s V. Sahai & Company, Chartered Accountants, G-68, Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001 be and are hereby reappointed as the Statutory Auditors of The Doon School Old Boys' Society for the Financial Year 2003-2004 on an honorary basis.

IX. POINTS TAKEN UP WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR:

DSOBS MEMBERSHIP:

The President informed the House that the Secretariat had received 3 requests from the following Old Boys for DSOBS Membership:-

1. Vijay Dev Datt (Ex 94-T 1962-1964)
2. Lalit Bhardwaj (Ex 273-K 1959-1961)
3. Arvind Chowdhry (Ex 89J 1961-1963)

As the above Old Boys contributions to the DSOBS will be very helpful, the House approved their Membership (proposed by Mr. Gobindar Singh Chopra Ex 76-T '63) and seconded by Brig B N Singh Ex 76-T '54)

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting came to an end.


(RAJ BIR SINGH)
HON. SECRETARY.

6 Jan .2004