

CABINET REPORT

4th Cabinet Meeting - Thursday 2nd of May 2024

Cabinet Officers' Name – DGE Jose Braga Borges

DG Neville, fellow Cabinet Officers, here is my report.

The third quarter has been a challenging one where the main concern involves around membership where the smaller clubs have been the main targets. There is no silver bullet to reverse this situation, as it is quite a lengthy process, but not an impossible one. We have a capable team but in order for us to achieve the goals we want to achieve, it will have to be a concerted effort by all of us, starting at the bottom and all the way up. Communication, education and information are no doubt the main ingredients for not only good governance but also towards the development and success of any organization or institution, and we, as Lions are no different. It is important that starting from the President, a culture of belonging, passion and pride has to be built within clubs, so that a strong foundation can slowly being erected where members will enjoy being part of Lions.

The other important point I have been mentioning in my previous reports, is the crucial role of the ZC's where they should monitor more closely the status of the clubs within their Zone. They should be the first ones to notify the Cabinet, via the RC's, the problem that they suspect might be brewing in a particular club, at the very beginning. I am not only referring to the administrative duties to be performed, but also and not less important, the starting of a click in the club, the presence of an experienced and mature Lion who tends to run the show from behind (thus upsetting members) or the way how meetings are conducted. I know that this is not something that will happen overnight, but it is something that we should give relevance during training and make sure that there is a "buy in" from the Presidents, ZC's and RC's, as well as from the Guiding Lion or Mentor allocated to a specific Club.

The other concern is the average age of members of certain clubs where 50% of their members are in their 80's! It is not easy for them to attend meetings, let alone getting involved in certain projects. That's why we should focus on younger members, and my visit to Namibia in order to attend their Indaba, was a really eye opener, as all of us who were present were quite impressed with the drive and enthusiasm shown by their Leo members, as well as their program. I can see a bright future for Lions in Namibia, going forward.

Having said that, I am not for a minute only referring to Leos per se, but generalizing that we should concentrate in recruiting younger members, preferably between the 40's and 50's bracket, who have a bit more experience and are established in life.

With all the above in place, and in my humble opinion, we will have the right ingredients towards the achievement of not only our goals but also towards Mission 1.5, apart from strengthening our District.

We have the right team, so let's create a culture of positiveness amongst all of us so that there will be no reason why we should not "BELIEVE IN OUR DREAMS".

Yours in Service

J. Braga Borges

DGE 2023/2024

