



# East Cape Regional Chapter

E mail : fosafeastcape@gmail.com

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## **Chairmans Report – 2018 AGM** **Amatola Club House – Gubu dam** 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

Dear Members,

Firstly, thank you for attending our AGM and for showing your continued support for FOSAF through the East Cape Chapter. Once again, a big thank you to Edward Truter and the Amatola Club for allowing us to make use of this great facility for our AGM, it is the perfect setting and the bonus is that we can all go out and catch some Trout after we are done with the talking. This will be a brief report and most of what I need to say will be covered in more detail in the Agenda items to follow.

- As the elected Vice Chairman, I am currently Acting Chairman after the resignation of Martin von Holdt in March of this year. So today we will need to elect a new Chairman for our Chapter and I would urge whoever is nominated to understand and accept what the role of the Chairman is, before you accept your nomination. You will be the Chairman of a Federation of Clubs and Service Providers and your primary role will be to ensure harmony amongst affiliated members and to ensure that consensus is achieved on any issue raised through negotiation and never through attempting to impose your own views on Chapter members. That is not your role.
- The drought has been broken in some areas of the Eastern Cape, in other areas it persists. This has resulted in a mixed bag of catches noted in the various Club Reports received.
- Another major issue this past year was in the ability to access hatchery Trout for stocking. After Martin Davies' retirement from Rhodes University at the end of 2016, not a single fish has been produced for sale ex the Rhodes University Experimental Fish Farm. This year alone, 50 000 free eggs ex Queenstown waters were lost and a further 50 000 bought eyed ova ex Lunsklip hatchery all died after hatching. So what we have left in the East Cape is the Sandile hatchery which hatches out Rainbow eyed ova ex Molapong and Ventnor hatchery in the Winterberg which hatches out Thrift strain Rainbows.

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- Due to significant mortalities at Ventnor last year, this resulted in a shortage and Trout had to be imported from other Provinces in 2017. If all goes well, this should not be the case in 2018. The other problem is that neither of these hatcheries are able to supply Yearling Trout for stocking, as they do not have water chiller facilities to “over Summer” the Trout. Martin Davies is busy setting up a third facility and he will enlarge on this later under item 9 (Fish Supplies) in the Agenda. Another exiting development is the current and future sourcing of Brown Trout fry and fingerlings by Edward Truter of the Amatola Club. These Brown have been made available to other Clubs on a pro rata basis and Amatola need to be applauded for arranging this.
- In my 2016 Chairman’s report (my last report before stepping down) I mentioned that FOSAF were on the brink of winning the “Trout Wars” and that the Trout Mapping process was complete and that we were waiting for a final report from the DEA. As most of you already know, Guy Preston and the DEA once again reneged on this agreement and we are back to square 1. Our National Chairman Ilan Lax will inform us where we are now with a NEM:BA update, item 8 on the Agenda.
- The current FOSAF National Full Membership fee is R300 per annum. In an effort to boost membership and support, FOSAF National EXCO have agreed on a new Club Membership Class at a lower fee of R150 per annum. This will be discussed under Membership, item 10 on the Agenda.

That is about all, thank you once again for your participation.

Brian Clark

Vice Chairman

FOSAF EC Chapter

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