

Issue 5
November 2017
Family Fun Day



Introduction: Family Fun Day

Our second “Family Fun day” was held on 2 September 2017 at Maryse Justin Stadium, Le Reduit. All staff and their families, and the Chairman and Directors of the Board of SIFB and their families were invited to join in to celebrate this event alongside. The impact of this event on all staff and the response to it was really positive and was warmly welcomed by all who perceived it as a moral boost. Our first fun day was organised on 19th of November 2016 at same venue.

The SIF Staff Club was generous to organize this event again in 2017; an event which reunited all staffs together to celebrate and to share quality time which was a big breaks away from the job routine. It became a memorable event for all.

Registration of Participants and guests

The ‘Fun Day’ started with the registration of all guests and participants at 8.00 o’clock. Many colleagues offered their help for the registration exercise and other formalities such as distribution of Lot No and vouchers.





After completing the registration participants and guests were offered (i) vouchers for a welcome tea and snacks, lunch and afternoon tea and cakes and (ii) a liter of water and a bottle of soft drink. They were then guided to their seats by the other volunteers who were there to assist everyone's convenience. Some two hundred and fifty persons were registered and seated on the terrace of the stadium.



The Board Directors present were the Chairman, Mr V. Lochun, Mr. J. Bundhoo, Mr. V. Dewkurun, Mr. S. Veerasamy and Mr. I. Jugroo.



Welcoming Tea

A welcome tea alongside with small snacks consisting of pain fourré, croquette samosas and gateaux piments were offered to everyone, upon presentation of a voucher.

Members of the staff club, with the collaboration of volunteers from staffs family members did a wonderful job by assuring the proper ongoing of the event and assuring safety in case of any mishaps. All the participating and non-participating staffs were dressed up in their white t-shirts and caps sponsored by the State Bank of Mauritius.

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony started at 9 o'clock. All staffs were worried about the weather, as it has been raining for the whole week. However, we were pleasantly surprise as we got a cool sunny weather, which contributed in making our event a resoundful success. It was indeed, sunny with an ideal atmosphere. It seemed that God had listened and acceded to our prayers. The ceremony started with the defile of all the participants. It was a pleasure to see all the participants dressed in their sportswear walking with great enthusiasm for a round of the stadium.



Following the defilé our National Anthem was played.



Welcoming Address by President SIFB Staff Club



The President of the Staff club, Mr. S. Tackopersad, in his address to the audience, welcomed all those present to our second Annual Fun Day. He announced the relaunching of Staff Club. He also emphasized that this was an important annual event in our calendar. He also underlined that he was pleasantly surprised to see feminine presence on the previous day for the semi-final of football match. He thanked them. He stated that it was most important to derive fun on that day rather than winning medals. For him participation was more important and he wished everyone to have a memorable day.

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr. R. Jugurnath, was then invited by the President of Staff Club to address the audience.



The CEO welcomed the Chairman, Board members, colleagues and their families. He wished a very warm good morning to all staff, Board Directors and their families. He was delighted to have such a large audience to participate in the Family Fun Day. He took that opportunity to thank them for their presence. He added that it was for the second time that the SIFB with the collaboration of the Staff Club has organised the Fun Day. Furthermore he added that we had learnt a lot from the previous Fun Day and we have tried to improve upon it for this year. The main objective of the Fun Day is for the staff to come and have fun. The idea behind this is to create an environment to enable us to come out of the stress from work and the daily routine; to have the staff to come with their family to have fun and entertainment, to get together and share their joy, satisfaction and foremost to know some if not more of the other family members, starting from the children, parents and staff. At the end of the day, when leaving the stadium everyone should go back home satisfied and happy.

The CEO elaborated that if you were to analyse the biggest companies, you would find that they all have one thing in common: a high level of morale that directly translates into a high level of productivity. Your business is much more likely to succeed when staffs are happy and they all get along because they will be performing as a team – when the whole team is pulling its weight then that will translate into efficiency and success. Events like a family fun day are particularly good at bringing people together.

Family Fun Days are a great aid to work- family life balance that encourages colleagues to bring their professional and personal lives together in a positive way that give employees the opportunity to engage with each other in more enjoyable and personal level, outside of the work environment.

In these big companies employees have a high level of commitment, a high level of friendship but what is important in an organization is the “Team Spirit”, that is why all big companies organize fun day to unite all families, to thank the employees for all that they are doing, for their contribution in the success of the company and also their spouse and children for their contribution in helping us for the success of

the company. He thanked all those who were present, and stated that we were all here to enjoy and entertain. Before ending he expressed his gratitude to members of the Staff Club and all those who so generously helped in making this event happen. He thanked all the companies who have generously provided their sponsorship to make this event successful. Special thanks went to SBM Ltd. He wished all a memorable wonderful day.

Activities

Domino & Carom Tournaments

The games of Domino and Carom started in September in the Mess Room of SIFB. It took some two months to reach the finals. These games were carried out during our lunch time. Members of the Staff Club and staff volunteers had a tough time in the organization of these two games. There were over seventy five participants for the Domino and some twenty for the Carom game. As the tournaments were organised for double mixed, the participants were arranged in teams of two players by the organisers, for each game to ensure fairness i.e. not to have very strong or very weak teams. This was to encourage all staff to participate. Both tournaments were held on a knock-out system. Each game started with the preliminaries, to ultimately reach the semifinal and finals. The finals were played before the Family Fun Day.

Domino



The winners of the Domino Tournament were:

Gold Medal: Mr. Kadoo & Mr. Arsadi

Silver Medal: Mr. Sookun & Mr. Teeluck

Bronze Medal: Mr. Hulkua & Mr. Lutchmun

The medals were given to them by Mr. Jimmy Newkfonheyto

Carom



The winners of the Carom Tournament were

Gold Medal: Mr. Sohabul & Mr. Greedharree

Silver Medal: Mr. Sandean & Mr. Bansy

Bronze Medal: Mr. Moossa & Mr. Khoodeeram

The medals were given to them by Mr. G. Gooroochurn.

Petangue

Like the Domino & Carom, the Petangue game had to be started well beforehand. 54 participants registered for this tournament which went on for four consecutive Fridays. The participants were organised in teams of three by the organiser, Mr Gooroochurn, through drawings of lots. The tournament was held at the Boulodrome, Les Saline on a knock-out system. In the first three Fridays, six teams, each comprising of three players participated. Each week only two teams were qualified for the final. On the fourth week six teams played for the final.



The winners of the Petangue tournament were

Gold Medal: Mrs. Ramlall, Mr. Seegolum & Mr. Pydiah
 Silver Medal: Mrs. Gunesh, Mr. Gooroochurn & Mr. Greedharee
 Bronze Medal (Exequo): Miss Payet, Mr. Buton & Mr. Nundun
 Mrs D Jankee, Mr R Ballgobin and Mr. R Arsadi
 The medals were given to them by Mr. Jimmy Newkfonheyto.

Football Match

This 'seven-a-side' tournament was held on a knock out system. The preliminary rounds were played at the Maryse Justin Stadium itself on the eve of the Fun Day, that is on the afternoon of Friday 2 September 2017. The participants were arranged in four teams of seven participants in each team, namely the Red, the Blue, the Yellow and the Green. Mr Gangoo, a retired staff of SIFB, and a MFA professional referee volunteered, as was the case last year, to be the referee of all the matches. There were two matches for the preliminary round and the winner team of each match, the Red and the

Yellow qualified for the final to be played on the Fun day. The loser teams, the Blue and the Green teams were to play for the third position on the Fun Day.

Staffs were invited to the stadium to support their team. Many staffs responded to the invitation and came to encourage their team despite the bad weather.

Activities held on the Fun Day

1. Spoon and golf ball race

As per our program the first activity was the spoon and golf race in three categories namely (i) for children between 4 and 7 years (ii) for children between 8 and 9 years and (ii) for children between 10 and 13 years. 10 children participated in each of the above first two categories and in the third category there were 5 participants. From the start to finish, it was really a joyful funny scene to see the little ones struggling, holding a spoon in their mouth with a golf ball, running with lots of precaution to win the race. Nevertheless, as expected, for some of the participants their golf ball kept falling and they had to stop and pick up the ball, placed it in the spoon and start to run again for the race. Parents of the participants were more excited than their children. They kept shouting to motivate and encourage their children. As expected the winners were happy but it was indeed sad to see the faces of those who came after the third place.



And the winners of the category children (4 – 7) years were:



Gold Medal: Ishika Coondiah
Silver Medal: Yajna Nuckcheda
Bronze Medal: Rishi Coondiah

The medals were given to them by Mrs. Ramdhony.

And the winners of the category children (8 – 9) years were:



Gold Medal: Mayur Seegoolum
Silver Medal: Diooshant Jhurkut
Bronze Medal: Sherydane Motee



The medals were given to them by Mrs. Jugurnath.

And the winners of the category children (10 – 13) years were:



Gold Medal: Rownak Motee
Silver Medal: Satianand Pydiah
Bronze Medal: R. Ramasamy



The medals were given to them by Mrs. Ramdhony.

2. Race 15m (4 – 7) years:



All children aged between 4 and 7 years were invited to participate in this race. There were 11 participants for this mixed race. The winners were

Gold Medal: Rishi Coondiah

Silver Medal: Ishika Coondiah

Bronze Medal: Yajna Nuckcheda



The medals were given to them by Mrs. Ramdhony.

3. *Tirs aux Panier – Below 12 years*

The third activity was the “Tirs aux panier”. This game, are played in pairs. It consists of partners facing each other at a certain distance. One partner holds a plastic basket and tries to catch the ball thrown by his partner in the basket. Each pair were given 6 balls to play.

The ones holding the basket had a very tough time as they had to move in different direction to be able to catch the balls in the basket. Some of them even fell down while trying to catch the balls. The pairs having the maximum of balls in their basket were the winners.



The game was for children under 12 years of age. There were nine pairs participating. And the winners were

Gold Medal: Kushi Rambhojoo & Satianand Pydiah
 Silver Medal: Mayur Seegoolum & Laxana Seegoolum
 Bronze Medal: Rishi Coondiah & Ria Coondiah



The medals were given to them by Mrs. Ramdhony

4. Musical Chair

(1) Children under 5 years



9 little kids were participating in this game. It was such a funny scene to watch the little ones going around chairs and running to have a seat when the music stopped. Parents were more excited than those children. As expected those remaining were happy but it was indeed sad to see the faces of those who had to leave the game. And the winners of this game were

Gold Medal: Kenisha Ramdhony

Silver Medal: Rishi Coondiah

Bronze Medal: Rheeya Boodhoo



The medals were given to them by Mrs. Ramdhony.

(2) Children between 6 and 12 years



This game had 20 participants. It was so funny to see them dancing around the chairs while the music was playing on. As soon as the music stopped we could see each one running to catch a seat. The one who could not have a chair was out. It was indeed surprising to see how these children had a competitive mind. They could not accept their defeat but unfortunately they had to as it was part of the game. The winners were

Gold Medal: Rownak Motee
Silver Medal: Rishi Coondiah
Bronze Medal: Koshmila Ramsamy



The medals were given to them by Mr. V. Dewkurrun, Board Director.

5. **Women Race 100m – Above 50 years**



All ladies above 50 years were invited to participate in the race. Six ladies participated in this race. The winners were

Gold Medal: Mrs C. Ramlall
Silver Medal: Miss V Ramaswami
Bronze Medal: Miss K. Sooben



The medals were given to them by the CEO, Dr. R. Jugurnath.

6. Tirs aux Panier – Above 12 years and adults



The second game of “Tirs aux panier” was a mix game which included youngsters over 12 years and adults. We had many participants and we had to go through three elimination rounds. The two winners of each round were qualified for the final round. And the winners in this category were

Gold Medal: Mr. Nuckcheda & Miss S. Koonja
Silver Medal: Mr. S. Kathapermal & Mrs. R. D. Boodhoo
Bronze Medal: Mr. N. Pydiah & Mrs. S. Motee



The medals were given to them by Mr. J. Teeluck, Mr. R. Sookun & Mr. R. Ballgobin.

7. Girls Race 50m



All girls present were invited to participate in this race. However, only four participants came forward to participate. The winners were

Gold Medal: Rishika Luchmun
Silver Medal: Tejeshweenee Motee
Bronze Medal: Doorvashi Nistar



The medals were given to them by the CEO Dr. R. Jugurnath.

8. Boys Race 50m



All boys were invited to participate in this race. Again only four participants came to participate in this race. The winners were

Gold Medal: Musheer Moossa
Silver Medal: Rownak Motee
Bronze Medal: Chiranjivesing Luchman



The medals were given to them by Mr. S. Buton.

9. Walking Race 400m Women



For this race there were many women who showed interest for participation. Some twenty one women took part in this race. They had to walk a full round of the stadium. It was really funny to see them walking, each one had her own style. Most important for them was participating in the game for the fun and not to win or lose. The winners were

Gold Medal: Miss N. Sooriah
Silver Medal: Miss V. Ramaswami
Bronze Medal: Mrs. K. Doolub



The medals were given to them by Mr. J. Bundhoo, Board Director.

10. Walking Race 400m Men



For this race all men present were invited to participate. Many showed interest for this event. Some seventeen men took part. They had to walk a full round of the stadium. For the men it was a challenge and fun at the same time. Each was determine to win the race. The volunteers who were acting as judge had a difficult time as it was not easy to decide who was walking and who was running. This rendered the decision to determine the winners difficult. Ultimately, the declared winners were

Gold Medal: Mr. N. Pydiah
Silver Medal: Mr. G. Gooroochurn
Bronze Medal: Mr. A. Moossa



The medals were given to them by Mr. J. Bundhoo, Board Member.

11. Lunch

At noon, it was lunch time. We had a break for lunch. Lunch for the big SIFB family and guests, was prepared by Mr B. Appadoo and his dynamic team. The menu consisted of pain fourrés (vegetarian chop suey, sautéed chicken and fish vindaye). Vegetable salad was served with the pain fourrés. Everybody enjoyed the food, it was so delicious.

After lunch the activities continued. The next item as per our program was the:

12. Girls Race (14-25 yrs) 100m

All girls were invited to participate in this race. There were many participants for this race. And the winners were

Gold Medal: R. Luchmun
Silver Medal: T. Motee
Bronze Medal: S. Koonja



The medals were given to them by Mr. I. Jugroo, Board Director.

13. Boys Race (14-25 yrs) 100m



All boys over 14 years of age were invited to participate in this race. Five participants came forward for this race. The winners were

Gold Medal: Erekiel Batiste
Silver Medal: Gael Batiste
Bronze Medal: Maheer Moossa



The medals were given to them by Mr. V. Dewkurun, Board Member.

14. Men Race 100m – Above 50 years



All men above 50 years of age were invited to participate in this race. As there were many participants they were divided into two teams. Each team comprised eight participants. We therefore, had to have two heats to determine the finalists. The winner and the first and second runner-up of these two races were qualified for the final race. The winners of the final of this race were

Gold Medal : Mr. R. Rambhojoo
Silver Medal : Mr. B. Ramkissoon
Bronze Medal: Mr. V. Coondiah



The medals were given to them by Mr. V. Lochun, Chairman of the Board.

15. Musical Chair Men



Male participants were called upon to participate in the musical chair. For this game there were 21 participants. This game set the tone for a full ambience with some of the participants dancing around the chairs while the music was playing on. As soon as the music stopped each one was running to have a seat. Unfortunately, as per the rule of the game the one who could not find a chair was out of the game. All those watching this game had a very entertaining time. They could not stop laughing as Mr. Coopamah was dancing to lift up the ambience. He was a real entertainer. The game continued till two participants namely Mr. B. Coopamah and Mr. S. Nistar were left with one chair and of course the winner was the one who sat on the chair. The winners were

Gold Medal: Mr. B Coopamah
Silver Medal: Mr. S. Nistar
Bronze Medal: Mr. R. Rambhojoo



The medals were given to them by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. V. Lochun.

16. Musical Chair Women



Female participants were called upon to participate in the musical chair. Some 32 participants took part in this game. It was a pleasure for the eyes to see the participants dancing around the chairs while the music was playing on. As soon as the music stopped everyone was running to catch a seat. Unfortunately, the one who could not find a chair had to leave the game. The audience watching this game had a very entertaining time. Again the game continued till two participants namely Mrs. S. D. Basant Rai and Mrs. Appiah were left. The winners were

Gold Medal: Mrs. S. D. Basant Rai
Silver Medal: Mrs. J. Appiah
Bronze Medal: Mrs. R. Surjoo



The medals were given to them by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. V. Lochun.

As these games were lengthy and time consuming the tug of war competition had to be annulled. Participants who were waiting eagerly for this event were disappointed but they don't have to be disheartened as next year they will surely have their tug of war.

It was nearly two o'clock, time for a **tea break**. Everyone had alouda and a pastry cake.

17. The Football Match



The most anticipated event of the day was the football match. We had the two semifinalists, namely the Blue team and the Green team, playing to secure the third place.



And the winner of the bronze medal was the Blue team. After a short break it was time for the Grand Finale.



The Yellow team and the Red team were on the playground, ready to play for the final. Supporters were on the ground, each encouraging their favourite team. At the end of the game the Yellow team came out the winner and of course the Red team won the silver medal.



The medal for the winning team Red was given by the CEO Dr. R. Jugurnath.



The medals for the second and third winning teams were given by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. V. Lochun.

A medal was given to Mr. V. Gangoo who voluntarily offered his service as referee for all the football matches played.



The medal was given to him by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. V. Lochun.



Medals were given to all children participating but who did not win. The medals were given by Mr. G. Gooroochurn.

The Chairman of the Board, Mr. V. Lochun, was requested to say a few words.



The Chairman welcomed the Board Directors, all staffs and family members present for the Fun Day. He stated that this Family Fun Day has become an annual ceremony at SIFB and that we will meet every year. He congratulated all the winners and participants, a special mention for the CEO as this Fun Day would not have been possible without his support and guidance. He asked for a big round of applause for the CEO. He wished a happy ending for that day, a long life to the SIFB and wished that such events to continue in the future.

A medal was offered by the Chairman to Mr. Kathapermal as the best player.



One of our staff's husband gifted the CEO a ball for his football team. It was the CEO who motivated the staffs to form their football team.



Shields were awarded to:

1. Domino Team
2. Petangue Team
3. Carrom Team
4. Football Team



A shield was given to the winners of the Domino game by Dr. R. Jugurnath, CEO



A shield was given to the winners of the Petangue game by Mr. J. Bundhoo, Board member.



A shield was given to the winners of Carom game by Mr. V. Lochun, Chairman of the Board.

Surprise of the Day

It was time for the big surprise of the day. It was the drawing of lots and there were three prizes. The prizes were:

First prize: one ticket for Rodrigues Island,

Second prize: a dinner for two at the Hilton Hotel, and

Third prize: a make-up kit.

The AS, CEO and the Chairman drew out the lots.

The first prize was won by Mr N. Kissensing.



The second prize went to Mr. R. Sookun



And the third prize to the Chairman himself.



The Chairman was pleasantly surprised as it was so unexpected for him and it was the first time in his life he has won a tombola.

Closure

At around 15:00 hrs the CEO closed the ceremony and he thanked all those who were present and participated. He stated that without the audience and participants there would have been no fun. He also expressed his gratitude to the Chairman for his support which contributed to make the Fun day possible. He also outlined that all expenses were borne by the Board. He felt that this Fun Day was better than the last one and he hoped that it would be far better the upcoming years with the participation of all.

Conclusion

Seeing the successful outcome of this event, we hope to have many more such events with the objective of maintaining a strong family like atmosphere within the SIFB which is something fundamental in overcoming new challenges awaiting us within the professional field and also in personal life. All participants, guests and family left the stadium with a smile on their faces. Their expressions were enough to understand how memorable and wonderful the day was.