

Botak

From: The Botak [sibotak@ozemail.com.au]
Sent: 04 August 2003 14:19
To: 'Nicholas Pappas'
Subject: RE: A Clarification of position

Nick,

I am a Souths member, have been for some time. However, I am not about to reveal my identity to a club that has an acknowledged history of threats, intimidation and standover tactics. Again – you and I both know that what I say is true. You may choose to ignore what I write and do what seems to be the Souths way in shooting the messenger.

But I would urge you to heed the message, understand the message whether or not you know who or what I am simply does not enter the equation.

The problems are there, the problems can be solved by the right action. Be advised that this is not some game, it is deadly serious.

Again, if you choose to ignore what I have written then so be it, I have not corresponded with you before this and based on this latest response I will not do so in the future. But you need to understand very clearly that your actions now and at the board election will determine my own actions.

I sincerely hope that one day in a successful Souths future we may share a moment together where we both knew we made the right decisions and did so with only the future of the club as our motives.

The Botak

-----Original Message-----

From: Nicholas Pappas [mailto:ngpappas@ozemail.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 4 August 2003 12:53 PM
To: The Botak
Subject: Re: A Clarification of position

Dear ?,

Before I reply to your e-mail (and I would very much like to respond to some of the inaccurate comments you have made), I would like you to tell me who you are and whether you are a member of the Football Club. As you will appreciate, I cannot reply to anonymous communications.

Nicholas Pappas

----- Original Message -----

From: [The Botak](#)
To: ngpappas@ozemail.com.au
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2003 12:42 PM
Subject: A Clarification of position

Dear Mr Pappas,

It is with great concern that I write to you now and I do so only to clarify some points that I fear may be misunderstood.

It is quite obvious to me that you have done some form of deal with the Piggins' clique at Souths. I am not sure what it is, for how long or exactly why – but I can surmise. Just before the board election was due to be held in April a vile piece of trash appeared in the media, straight from the Piggins' camp, speculating on your role in a financial loss at a Greek club of which you are an executive. It was shortly after this that you embarked on the ill-conceived compromise that has led Souths to its current diabolical situation. The reason I have come to this

conclusion is that you only had to look at the swell of support you had following the public release of the Grusovin, Albanese, Sullivan resignation letter. Your ticket would have romped in and Souths would not have had to endure the pain of this disastrous 2003 season

While I appreciate your positive motives for wanting to allow George to go quietly with his reputation intact, you are no doubt well aware by now that there are forces out there that will not lie down and let this happen.

You have chosen to keep David Tapp as CEO, The man is plainly incompetent and far too arrogant to be in the position he holds. His relations with other NRL officials, other clubs, players and player managers are dreadful. He uses the media to shore up his own position just as George Piggins did. He was appointed through the nepotistic practices of an incompetent and corrupt board. While David Tapp remains at Souths, I will continue to pursue him.

You have chosen to keep Paul Langmack as coach. Again this character – loathed at other clubs he has come from as a whiteant – is plainly incompetent and does not command the respect of his own players let alone others in the NRL. Again Paul Langmack was appointed by the practices of nepotism by an incompetent and corrupt board. While Paul Langmack remains at Souths, I will continue to pursue him.

You have chosen to side with the Piggins camp in writing to Inside Sport (though I am not convinced that someone else did not write on your behalf). That article was the truth, you and I both know it. The suggestion that the article was the product of a couple of disgruntled ex-directors is laughable and was plainly shot down by the author Andrew Webster when he stated that 22 people were interviewed.

You have chosen to side with the disaster of a leagues club when you and I both know that it is insolvent and is a lever used to maintain Piggins' power.

Alan Jones continuing influence at Souths is plain and must be completely choked off – you and I both know this. He is not respected outside of the clique that still believes in Piggins and the growing number of voting members will see these people off in the near future.

What this displays is that you perhaps have had poor political advice. For one I am merely a Souths supporter, who arose independently of anyone else to challenge what I saw were practices and a culture that was killing the club I love. I nor many of the others now asking the hard questions are controlled nor manipulated by anyone else.

As such you need to be aware of this - When the AGM and election for the board is held there will be independent candidates stood to force an election. These candidates will absolutely not allow a compromise. They are standing with a singleminded purpose of simply ensuring that a ballot is held.

It is my assessment that his gives you a choice:

Stand your own ticket to clean out the Piggins' clique appointees currently on the board

Stand with your current board.

Stand down and hope that someone else can fight the good fight.

Personally I hope you choose the first option because the second one will see you come firmly into the sights of The Botak and the 'renegades'

The third option will only give the Piggins' clique an excuse to come back and 'save' the club.

While this may appear to be an ultimatum of sorts it is not. It is merely an outline of a series of logical progressions. I have deliberately left you alone throughout this year. I have given you the space to try to achieve what I firmly believe is in your heart – changing Souths culture and achieving professionalism and in the end success. However it is of great concern to me that you may perceive that a compromise board will again be tolerated at the upcoming election. I believe it to be in your best interests to stand good candidates and call this election and AGM at the earliest available opportunity to take advantage of the situation that sees Piggins' support at its very lowest ebb.

While I firmly understand that what you have tried to achieve is a positive outcome through reconciliation you must now be patently aware that such reconciliation is not possible with these people. I urge you to make a final hard decision to leave these people behind and allow those with the wherewithal to do so, to place them where they belong. In the end you can be remembered as the man who saved Souths or the man who allowed the dreadful past to overcome him and who saw Souths die or move to the Central Coast.

Your choices will largely determine my own actions in the future. You have had my full support and continue to do so, but the upcoming election will see a crossroads situation. I sincerely hope that it will allow me to simply disappear, however that is now in your hands.

The Botak