FAC 1503

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES FOR LAW PRACTITIONERS



PRESENTER

C Modise CA(SA)

TOPICS

- Bank Reconciliation
- **☐** Trust Accounting
- Practice Management



General (see TL101/3/2012)

- Textbook 4rd edition (unfortunately not available in Afrikaans)
- Admission to exam: Submission of 1st assignment
- Year/examination mark:
 - Ass 1: 50% of 10%
 - Ass 2: 50% of 10%
 - If you obtain 60% for Ass 1 and 0% for Ass 2, your year mark will be 3%, your exam mark contribution must be 47/90 which is equal to an exam mark of 52%
 - (47 0.9 [OR] 52 x 0.9) to pass.
 - If you submitted both assignments but scored 0 in both, you will require an examination mark of 56% to pass.
 - Exam sub-minimum is 40%.



GOLDEN RULE 1

Accounting CANNOT be studied

by merely reading/memorising.

You need to understand the

concepts/principles thereof

and then practice, practice,

practice!!



BANK RECONCILIATION (TEXTBOOK Par8.5)(SG PAR7.3)

What is the meaning of reconciliation in the context of BRS? 2/03/11 Money is deposited into a business bank account,R50 000. 6/03/11 Cheque issued to pay for office equipment, R30 000.

Records of the business		Records of the bank	
2/03/11 Deposit	50 000	2/03/11 Deposit	50 000
6/03/11 Cheque issued	<u>30 000</u>	6/03/11 Cheque	<u>30 000</u>
Balance on 31/03/11	20 000	Balance on 31/03/11	20 000
Nothing to reconcile = ba	alances		
agree			



Example

- 2/03/11 Money is deposited into a business bank account, R50 000.
- 6/03/11 Cheque issued to pay for office equipment, R30 000.
- 4/03/11 A debtor paid his account –direct deposit into the bank account of the business,R10 000



Records of the business		Records of the bank	
March 2011		March 2011	
2/03/11 Deposit	50 000	2/03/11 Deposit	50 000
		4/03/11 Direct deposit	15 000
6/03/11 Cheque issued	(30 000)	6/03/11 Cheque	<u>(30 000)</u>
Balance on 31/03/11	20 000	Balance on 31/03/11	35 000
Need to reconcile= balance	ces disagree		

There are two main reason why a reconciliation is done, viz.;

- Update business records from the bank's records; and
- Record those transactions that should be brought to the attention of the bank to rectify

What is been reconciled?

The business records (BANK ACCOUNT) and the bank records (BUSINESS BANK ACCOUNT with the Bank)

How is the RECONCILIATION performed?

Identify the differences (reconciling items) between records of the business and records of the bank AND deal with them, in order to make the balances in the two records to be the SAME.

Common reconciling items (8.5 Textbook)

Items in cash journals, but not in bank statement:

- Outstanding deposits;
- Outstanding cheques; and
- Outdated / Stale cheques.

Items in bank statement but not in cash journals:

- Direct deposits from third parties;
- Bank Charges;
- Interest received;
- Interest paid;
- Debit orders;
- Stop orders;
- Unpaid cheques (R/D)
- Post dated cheques



Common Reconciling differences (8.5 Textbook)

Errors

- made by the entity
 - Overstatement of amounts
 - Understatement of amounts; and
 - > Any other type of error (eg., a transaction recorded in the wrong journal)

made by the bank

- errors involving amounts (overstatement / understatement);
- crediting the entity's bank acc with other bank clients' deposits;
- debiting the entity's bank acc with cheques issued by other bank clients;



RECONCILIATION PROCEDURE

- Know the framework of presenting solution
- ☐ Items in entity's cash journals, but not on bank statement (except business errors)

These items should be recorded in the Bank Reconciliation Statement

- If entry in cash receipts journal
 - enter on credit side of bank reconciliation statement
- If entry in cash payment journal
 - enter on debit side of bank reconciliation statement
- ☐ Items on bank statement, but not in entity's cash journals (except bank errors)

These items should be recorded in the Cash Journals

- If entry on debit side of bank statement
 - enter in cash payments journal
- If entry on credit side of bank statement
 - enter in cash receipts journal



RECONCILIATION PROCEDURE

- Errors made by the entity
 - These items should be corrected in the Cash Journals

 Journal to be used, will depend on the nature of the error.
- ☐ Errors made by the bank
 - These items should be corrected by way of entries in the Bank Reconciliation Statement (and brought to the attention of the bank)
- **☐** Bank Reconciliation Statement completed for the previous month
 - Compare current month's bank statement with previous month's BRS ascertain whether the outstanding items and corrections have been done by the bank (outstanding deposits credited + outstanding cheques**, bank errors corrected).
 - Dr column bank statement compared with debit side previous BRS
 - Cr column bank statement compared with debit side previous BRS



- Bank statement received from the bank shows transactions that occurred during month
- Bank reconciliation
 - Ascertain that the bank account in books corresponds to bank statement
- Balances
 - <u>Favourable/positive</u>
 (debit on <u>bank account</u>)
 - (credit on bank <u>statement</u>)
 - <u>Unfavourable/negative</u> (debit on <u>bank statement</u>)
 - (credit on bank account)



Example

The following information was obtained from the accounting records of Basson Traders

1. Bank reconciliation statement as at 31 May 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		2 732
Deposit not yet credited by the bank		6480
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 090 – dated 17/12/20.6 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	
No 170 – dated 29/05/20.7 (BA Traders)	4 502	
Debit balance per bank account	2 650	
	9 212	9 212



Required:

- 1.1 Complete the cash **receipts and cash payments journals** of BassonTraders, **bank columns only**, at 30 June 20.7.
- 1.2 Prepare the **bank account** in the general ledger of Basson Traders, properly balanced, on 30 June 20.7.
- 1.3 Prepare the **bank reconciliation statement** of Basson Traders as at 30 June 20.7. Begin with the balance as per bank statement.



- 2. Totals of the bank columns in the cash journals at 30 June 20.7
- Cash receipts journal, R20 000
- Cash payments journal, R20 054

Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>			<u>Bank</u>
30	Total			20 000



Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054



3. At 30 June 20.7 the bank statement showed a favorable balance of R7 630.	
5. At 30 Julie 20.7 the <u>bank statement</u> showed a <u>lavorable</u> balance of 117 050.	

Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630



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No 170 – dated 29/05/20.7 (BA Traders)	4 502	
Debit balance per bank account	2 650	
	9 212	9 212



Dr		Baı	nk	Cr
20.7 June 1	Balance	2 650		

4. Cheque no 090 was issued in favour of the Red Cross on 17 December 20.6 as a donation. On 30 June 20.7, it was decided to cancel this cheque and replace it with cheque no 221. No entries have yet been made.

Example

The following information was obtained from the accounting records of Basson Traders

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No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	
No 170 – dated 29/05/20.7 (BA Traders)	4 502	
Debit balance per bank account	2 650	
	9 212	9 212



Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 000
	Donation (Red Cross) cheque <u>no 090</u> out dated	1 200



Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross) cheque no 221	1 200



Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 221 – dated 30/06/20.7 (Donations)	1 200	



5. Of the cheques outstanding at 31 May 20.7, only cheque no 170 was presented for payment

Example

The following information was obtained from the accounting records of Basson Traders

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Debit balance per bank account	2 650	
	9 212	9 212



Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 221 – dated 30/06/20.7 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	



- 6. The following items appeared only on the bank statement:
 - cheque book, R96;
 - ledger fees, R14;
 - cash handling fees, R16;
 - interest on credit (favorable) balance, R50.

Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126



Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 000
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Interest income	50



7. The outstanding deposit on 31 May 20.7 was credited by the bank on 1 June 20.7, R6 480.

Example

The following information was obtained from the accounting records of Basson Traders

1. Bank reconciliation statement as at 31 May 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		2 732
Deposit not yet credited by the bank		6480
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 090 - dated 17/12/20.6 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	
— No 170 – dated 29/05/20.7 (BA Traders)	4 502	
Debit balance per bank account	2 650	
	9 212	9 212



- 8. The following items appeared only on the bank statement:
 - A stop order for R2 000 representing the payment on the mortgage loan from Africa Bank.

Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126
	Mortgage (African bank)	2 000



8. (CONTINUED)

- A stop order in favour of Fix-it Motors, being an installment on a motor vehicle, R1 700.

Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126
	Mortgage (African bank)	2 000
	Creditors control/Fix-it Motors	1 700



9. Cheque no195 in favour of Handy Wholesalers, a creditor, was correctly issued for R1 578. However, on the counterfoil it was recorded as R1 758 and recorded in the cash payments journal as such. The amount on the bank statement is correct.

Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 000
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Interest income	50
	Creditors control/Handy Wholesalers	180



10. An unpaid cheque for R500, appeared only on the bank statement. This cheque was previously received from S Steward in settlement of his account of R530. The cheque was marked "R/D – insufficient funds".

Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126
	Mortgage (African bank)	2 000
	Creditors control/Fix-it Motors	1 700
	Debtors control/ S Steward (R/D)	500
	(The cheque is cancelled in the cash payments journal and the discount in the general journal)	



11. A direct deposit by a debtor, Y York, for R4 500, was found on the bank statement. On investigation it was found that the account of Y York had previously been written off as irrecoverable.

Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 000
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Interest income	50
	Creditors control/Handy Wholesalers	180
	Credit losses recovered	4 500



12. An unpaid cheque for R780, received from a debtor, Estcourt Traders dated 24 July 20.7 in payment of this account. The bank returned the cheque on 30 June 20.7 marked "postdated".

Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126
	Mortgage (African bank)	2 000
	Creditors control/Fix-it Motors	1 700
	Debtors control/S Steward (R/D)	500
	Debtors control/Escourt Traders(post dated cheque)	780



13. A deposit made on 30 June 20.7 of R3 850 was not credited by the bank on that day.

Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630
Deposit not yet credited by the bank		3 850
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 221 – dated 30/06/20.7 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	



- 14. Cheques that did not appear on the bank statement:
 - No 211, R3 532 dated 20/06/20.7 to Swift Suppliers
 - No 216, R3 668 dated 28/06/20.7 for Water and electricity
 - No 221, R1 200,00 dated 30/06/20.7 to the Red Cross

Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630
Deposit not yet credited by the bank		3 850
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 221 – dated 30/06/20.7 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	
No 211 – dated 20/06/20.7 (Swift Suppliers)	3 532	
No 216 – dated 28/05/20.7 (Municipality)	3 668	



Cash receipts journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 000
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Interest income	50
	Creditors control/Handy Wholesalers	180
	Credit losses recovered	4 500
		25 930



Cash payments journal - June 20.7

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Bank</u>
30	Total	20 054
	Donation (Red Cross)	1 200
	Bank charges (96 + 14 + 16)	126
	Mortgage (African bank)	2 000
	Creditors control/Fix-it Motors	1 700
	Debtors control/S Steward (R/D)	500
	Debtors control/Escourt Traders(post dated cheque)	780
		26 360



General ledger

Dr	Bank account			Cr	
1	Balance	2 650	30	Total payments	26 360
30	Total receipts	25 930		Balance c/d	2 220
		28 850 =====			28 580
1	Balance b/d	2 220			



Bank reconciliation statement as at 30 June 20.7

	R	R
Credit balance per bank statement		7 630
Deposit not yet credited by the bank		3 850
Cheques not yet presented for payment:		
No 221 – dated 30/06/20.7 (Donations)	1 200	
No 168 – dated 28/05/20.7 (P Mbeki)	860	
No 211 – dated 20/06/20.7 (Swift Suppliers)	3 532	
No 216 – dated 28/05/20.7 (Municipality)	3 668	
Debit balance per bank account	2 220	
	11 480	11 480



Approach when answering BRS question

- Read your required part of the question and make sure that you understand what is required.
- Allocate time to the question based on marks
- Objective is to score maximum marks
- Know your frame work
- Use two pages for answering this question (face to face)
- Draw your framework (use freehand to draw framework(practice this)- on one page, the two Cash Journals and on the other page, bank account and Bank Reconciliation Statement.
- Look for easy marks
 - provisional totals of Cash Journals
 - opening bank balance (check previous month's BRS)
 - balance per bank statement
 - outstanding deposit
 - >outstanding cheques, bank charges, R/D cheques etc.



Approach when answering BRS question

- Total Cash journals and post to the Bank account
- Balance bank account and BRS



Preparation for the Exam

- Practice as many questions as possible per topic and make sure that you master the topic.
- Do the questions without looking at the solution and thereafter mark yourself, continue to do so until you obtain maximum marks in the question.
- It is not advisable to study using the Oh / Yes method.
- Please start studying now, do not wait until it is too late. There is too much work to be covered.



- 1. Difference between the accounting records of a law practice and those of other professional enterprises is the way in which
 - **TRUST MONEY** is handled and recorded.
- 2. Business transactions vs Trust transactions
 - Business money represents own funds of the law practice. Business transactions are for the benefit of the law practice
 - Trust money is money received to be held in trust and handled according to client's instructions. Trust transactions are for the benefit of the client.



- 3. Transactions encountered in a law practice
- 3.1 Cash received from clients (held in trust or dealt with according to the express instructions of the client)
- 3.2 Cash received from clients for fees charged and expenses incurred on their behalf.
- 3.3 Trust money paid to clients, or the rightful recipients, after deduction opf moneys due to attorney.
- 3.4 Expenses paid on behalf of clients which must subsequently be recovered from such clients.
- 3.5 Payment of general office expenses, and personal withdrawals

 Under no circumstances should these be paid from the trust bank account.



- 3. Transactions encountered in a law practice (continued)
- 3.6 Charging of fees for services rendered
- 3.7 Transfer of money from the Trust bank account to the Business bank account.(eg., for fees charged) Client's trust account (creditor) >>> Client debtor account Client's trust account may never have a debit balance. NB
- 3.8 Transactions with correspondents instructing attorney-law practice issuing the instruction executive (or instructed attorney)-law practice receiving orders payments may give rise to both business and trust transactions.



HANDLING OF TRUST MONEY

Trust money is money entrusted to an attorney, to be held in trust by the attorney and to be dealt with according to the client's instructions.

Trust money, inter alia, comprise:

- Deposits by clients with regard to services still to be rendered, as well as related expenses;
- Money paid in by a third party(the buyer) in respect of purchase transactions;
- Payment to executive attorney i.r.o correspondent transactions;
- Transfer of money from the trust bank account to the business bank account i.r.o the amount owing to the attorney in connection with which a legitimate debit entry is entered after services have been rendered.



Other important issues relating to trust money:

- Trust money does not form part of the assets of an attorney's practice because it belongs to a third party.
- Section 73 of the Attorneys Act 53 of 1979 requires a legal practitioner to keep a separate trust bank account with a banking institution in the Republic and must deposit any money held or received on behalf of any person in this account.
- Interest earned on trust money is applied to cover
 - bank charges on trust bank account;
 - Insurance of trust creditors against fraudulent use of their money; and
 - Audit fees relating to trust accounts.



Accounting for trust transactions

- Trust Cash Receipts Journal
- Trust Cash Payments Journal
- Transfers Journal
- Trust bank account
- Trust creditors' ledger

Accounting for business transactions

- Cash Receipts Journal
- Cash Payments Journal
- Business bank account
- Fees Journal
- General Journal
- Client's Ledger



Trust transactions

Example:

The following trust transactions for August 2011, relates to the law practice of MMA Attorneys:

- 2 Received R 7 500 from M Mokone in respect of the registration of a bond in October 2011
- 6 Received R25 000 from Senzo Manzini, a client, who requested to be represented in a forthcoming court case.
- 24 MMA Attorneys invoiced Senzo Manzini for work done on 15 August 2011, for R15 000.
- 26 The trust paid MMA Attorneys R15 000 in respect of work invoiced on 24 August 2011.
- 30 Paid ABC Inc, conveyancers, R7 500, for registration of the bond of M Mokone

REQUIRED:

Prepare the following in the books of MMA Attorneys for August 2011

- 1.1 Trust Cash Receipts Journal
- 1.2 Trust Cash Payments Journal
- 1.3 Fees Journal
- 1.4 Transfer Journal
- 1.5 Trust bank account
- 1.6 Trust creditors' ledger
- 1.7 General ledger
- 1.7 Client (debtors) ledger



Trust Cash Receipts-August 2011

Date	Rec No	Details	Fol	Trust Creditors	Bank
2	001	M Mokone	TCL1	7 500	7 500
6	002	Senzo Manzini	TCL2	25 000	25 000
				32 500	32 500



Trust Cash Payments Journal – August 2011

Date	Doc No	Details	Fol	Trust Creditors	Bank
26		Senzo Manzini		15 000	15 000
		(MMA Attorneys)			
30		M Mokone		7 500	7 500
		(ABC inc)			
				22 500	22 500



Trust Bank Account

Aug 2011	31	Total Receipts	TCRJ	32 500	Aug 2011	31	Total payments	ТСРЈ	22 500
							Balance	c/d	10 000
				32 500					32 500
Sep 2011		Balance	b/d	10 000					



Trust Creditors Account

Aug 2011	31	Trust bank	ТСРЈ	22 500	Aug 2011	31	Trust bank	TRCP	32 500
		Balance	c/d	10 000					
				32 500					32 500
					Sep 2011	1	Balance	b/d	10 000



Trust Creditors Ledger M Mokone

Aug 2011	26	Trust bank	ТСРЈ	7 500	Aug 2011	2	Trust bank	TCRJ	7 500
				7 500					7 500



Senzo Manzini

Aug 2011	30	Trust bank	ТСРЈ	15 000	Aug 2011	6	Trust bank	TCRJ	25 000
	31	Balance	c/d	10 000					
				25 000					25 000
					Sep 2011	1	Balance	b/d	10 000



Business Fees Journal – August 2011

Date	Doc	Details	Fol	Clients Control	Fees
24	IN001	Senzo Manzini		15 000	15 000
				15 000	15 000



Business Cash Receipts Journal-August 2011

Date	Doc	Details	Fol	Clients Control	Bank
26		Senzo Manzini		15 000	15 000
				15 000	15 000



Business bank account

Aug 2011	31	Total receipts	BCRJ	15 000			



Client Control Account

Aug 2011	31	Fees	FJ	15 000	Aug 2011	31	Business bank	BCRJ	15 000
				15 000					15 000



Senzo Manzini

Aug 2011	24	Fees	FJ	15 000	Aug 2011	26	Business bank	BCRJ	15 000
				15 000					15 000



Other trust transactions

- Transfer journals + alternative (discussed in example)
 - Requirements to be met before a transfer is made from a trust account(trust creditor) to a business account (business client)
 - Client should owe an amt to practice on business account;
 - If amt owing on BA > amt avl on trust creditor's acc, amt to be transferred is limited to amt avl on trust creditor's acc;
 - If amt trust creditor > amt owed on client acc, amt to be transferred is limited to amt owed on business client acc; and
 - Consent of the client giving permission for the transfer.
- Unpaid cheques of trust creditors;



Other issues

- Info to appear on the receipt issued by the recipient of trust money.
- Balance of the trust bank acc = sum of the balances of trust creditors' accounts (important)



PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

- Different entities under which a law practice can be operated;
- Contents of a partnership agreement;
- Factors the partners should take into account when determining their compensation system;
- Contents of an engagement letter;
- Factors to be taken into account when determining fees to charge to clients;
- Elements of the Human Resources Management cycle;
- Key elements of an effective disciplinary system;
- Elements of financial planning;
- Ways in which technology enhances the services rendered by the law practice; and
- Elements of a law practice system.



Examination Technique

- The examination paper consists out of 5 compulsory
 questions that you must answer in 2 hours- Time allocation is important
 Make sure you stay within the time allocation per question.
- Start each question on a new page.
- You may answer the question paper in any order(easy to difficult)
- You don't have to use the columns drawn in you exam answer book.
 You can ignore them and draw your own columns. Solution big enough.
 Legible handwriting.
- Number each question clearly on the top of the page.
- Show all calculations.



We whish you all of the best for the examination!!!