

# SOUTH AFRICAN TRANSPLANT SPORTS ASSOCIATION



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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12 JULY 2018

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is with a distinct sense of gratitude and deep humility that I pen this, my 4<sup>th</sup> report. I would like to give honour and glory to God Almighty who has sustained me and all of you as we journeyed during the year since our last AGM. This report will focus on progress in regard to governance, coaching, marketing and awareness and fundraising.

SATSA is doing well and I am particularly grateful that I had the privilege to work with an amazing Excom, consisting of Anton Roux, Hermann Steyn and Dick Kruger as well as the broader Management Committee consisting of, Brian Lombard and Elene van Aswegen (Gauteng), Vivian de Klerk and Annette Kruger (Western Cape), Sean Samuj and Richard Siedle (KZN) and Robin Emslie and Heilie Uys (Eastern Cape). These were the people who ensured that SATSA functioned well and that your needs as members were met, but above all they made it possible for our athletes to walk tall among the community of nations at the 2017 World Transplant Games. We will have a new-look Mancom for the next two years that will show a combination of continuity and the blooding of new members.

We are happy to report that the national body has been diligent in the execution of its mandate to run SATSA for the benefit of all its members. We are in good standing with SASCOC, not just in terms of our legal obligations but also in terms with our engagements with the Board and staff members. Our compliance with the standards set by SASCOC and the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSRA) sets us apart from many other Federations and the ongoing financial support from DSRSA bears testimony to our excellent administration which is a reflection of the sterling work done by our Executive Secretary, Hermann Steyn. This recognition is also evident in the fact that we are invited to the Minister of Sports and Recreation's Budget speech which is also a networking highlight for SATSA. Our four regions, namely, Eastern Cape, Gauteng, KZN and Western Cape have been operating well and there was not much need for the Executive Committee to intervene. We are indeed thankful for the governance culture of tolerance and smooth transfer of leadership that occur at election time as was characterized by the recent elective AGMs in the regions. The levels of compliance to administrative and fiduciary standards have been generally good.

As we come to the close of this term of office the Excom had one last task to perform. Gauteng elected a brand new Management Committee while KZN elected a number of people who had been acting before being elected. Both committees were fairly new in terms of leading SATSA and the national Chair, Treasurer and Executive Secretary met

with the two committees to take them through an induction process which focused on governance and constitutional obligations, stakeholder management, policies and systems, transformation, managing national and regional priorities. This was received very well and we are confident that both committees will take the regions to unprecedented heights.

SATSA has reached a point in its development where we have to continue to look at ways to ensure that our national team remain competitive when we compete on the world stage. To this end we have started a process of professionalizing our preparation for World Games (as can be gleaned from the training camp before the Malaga 2017 Games). We intend (funding permitting) to arrange two training camps in preparation for the 2019 Games in Newcastle, England. We have further invited nominations from the regions for the appointment of a Team Manager who is not an athlete and who can devote all his/her time to administration and management of the national team before and during WTG 2019. The outgoing Management Committee had started the process and will leave the appointment to the incoming Management Committee to whom the person will be accountable. Plans are also afoot to strengthen our coaching capacity with a view to ensure that all athletes have access to advice and linkages to coaches in their areas. This will be a matter that the new administration will pursue further.

Most of our members are confronted with a statement like, "I had no clue that there was a Games for people who had transplant" or "why have I never heard about it?" or "why are your achievements not televised?" While we acknowledge that many of our members are doing quite a bit to promote SATSA and organ donor awareness there is still more that can be done. We are grateful to individuals who are consistently sending news to the national office or their local newspapers and I will be on thin ice if I mention names at this point. You know who you are and SATSA salute you. The Western Cape has been diligent in using the Cape Town TV Sports programme to promote SATSA in general and the Western Cape activities in particular. We want to encourage other regions to approach their regional TV channels for similar opportunities. The Executive Secretary will gladly assist with information and video footage. We also want to acknowledge the role played by some members in promoting a positive and winning lifestyle post-transplant through talks and promotional videos and literature. In this past year I have been invited to address the staff of Novartis Head Office, the second year medical students at UCT (I have done it for the last 4 years), guest speaker at the interfaith Service to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> year of Groote Schuur Hospital, making an educational video with Novartis to promote healthy lifestyle for people with living heart failure and a number of interviews on radio, and print media. It was reported in the last AGM that we were second runners' up in the Letsema Awards which came with prize money of R75 000 over two years. We decided to focus on recruiting new members from public hospitals and have allocated money according the need and potential for new members. The allocation was also in line with our transformation targets which saw Eastern Cape getting the biggest allocation followed by Gauteng, Western Cape and KZN. More information on this will be given during the AGM.

It is indeed gratifying to see that all regions have already planned for fundraising activities in the next year. This is critical to ensure that we are able to meet the needs of SATSA and its members. It is becoming increasingly difficult for members to travel with the team to international events or even attend national events and we have an

obligation to help them achieve their goals. May I say that while the management committees are responsible for coordinating these fundraising efforts they can only bear fruit if they are supported by our members. We are committed to level the playing field for all our members but must stress that we also need to see effort from members if they want to benefit from fundraising initiatives.

At the time of writing of this report we already have a Management Committee in place as the positions of Chair, Vice-chair and Treasurer will be uncontested. I am deeply grateful that we are transforming ourselves without undue pressure and without lowering any standards and I have no doubt that your new leadership will make you and SATSA proud. I cannot close this report without paying homage to you, the members, for the confidence placed in me to lead you. A big thank you must also be extended to Africape Travel who have been managing our travel portfolio with aplomb. We need to place on record our sincere gratitude for pride in the Eastern Cape region for hosting what will be a magnificent Games. Special shout-out to LOC Chair Willie Uys and his committee, The Nelson Mandela University, Eastern Cape government, Eastern Cape Sports Confederation, Nelson Mandela Metro Council and all other sponsors and stakeholders. We all look forward to experiencing the hospitality of the Friendly city. A special thanks to the outgoing management committee and especially Anton roux, Dick Kruger and Hermann Steyn for making the job of the chairperson much easier. Thank you for the support as well as the robust, yet respectful interactions. I want to thank my wife Sharon for the interest, support and patience she displayed over the last 4 years. I am deeply grateful to her for being my counsellor, encourager and motivator during the tough times and being my cheerleader and admirer when things went well. This thank you is extended to all spouses and families of people who serve SATSA. We are because of your support.

As we embark on the next chapter I want to leave you with the words of John Schaar. ***The future is not some place we are going to but one we are creating. The paths to it are not found but made and the process of making them changes both the maker and the destination.***

God bless SATSA and God bless all of you.

Your servant  
Stanley Henkeman.