

# EASTERN CAPE TRANSPLANT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

(Region of South African Transplant Sports Association - SATSA)



**Chairperson:**  
Robyn Emslie  
Florence Ave.  
London, 5247  
082 491 2462

[robynemslie@yahoo.com](mailto:robynemslie@yahoo.com)  
[ecape@transplantsports.org.za](mailto:ecape@transplantsports.org.za)

SATSA is a Registered Public Benefit Organisation: Section 18(A) and NPO No: 004-595

**Secretary:**

Dr. Heilie Uys  
PO Box 577, St Francis Bay 6312  
Tel: 042 298-0014

Mobile: 082 465 0935

E-mail: [huys@ibi.co.za](mailto:huys@ibi.co.za)

Website: [www.transplantsports.org.za](http://www.transplantsports.org.za)



## EASTERN CAPE REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF 2017/2018 PRESENTED BY ROBYN EMSLIE AT THE ECTSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018

### INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to our 4<sup>th</sup> Eastern Cape Transplant Sports Association AGM, & I thank you for this opportunity to present the Chairman's report.

Our region is now just over 3 years old (founded March 2015), & we have grown steadily over the past few years. And we are hosting the Nationals in a little over 1 month's time – WOW! That's all I can say.

The present Management Committee, as elected at our first AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2016 are as follow

Chairperson: Robyn Emslie

Vice-Chairperson/Secretary: Heilie Uys

Treasurer: Willie Uys

Members: Susan Burri / Carlo Prince

This report starts, & is inclusive of all events/activities, as of our previous AGM date, 12<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017, held at Savages Restaurant, Port Elizabeth.

### ACTIVITIES & INITIATIVES:

It feels like so long ago, but I have to just recap on an amazing WTG that took place in Malaga, Spain, from 25<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017. 51 SA athletes brought home 71 medals, placing us 3<sup>rd</sup> on the medals table: 5 of these athletes coming from the Eastern Cape – Heilie Uys, Susan Burri, Mpumi Damane, Dean Arnolds, and myself. (Full report of WTG 2017 available on request)

In August 2017, the World Transplant Games Federation (WTGF) launched the "Fit for Life" initiative, to help transplant recipients re-engage in physical activity & organised sport; & to demonstrate to the public the importance of organ donation & transplantation. SA has 4 Ambassadors, one of them being our own Heilie Uys, assisted & supported by Willie Uys.

A sub-initiative within the Fit for Life initiative was the "Billion Steps Challenge" to raise awareness of organ donation & transplantation. A team consisting of mostly EC athletes & friends entered a team (SA Footsloggers) & finished in 30<sup>th</sup> place out of over 200 teams.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017, the SATSA AGM was held at Christian Barnard Hospital, Cape Town. (Minutes of meeting available on request)

On the 27<sup>th</sup> December 2017, the annual Hat & Hound Classic Golf Day was held in St Francis Bay. Thanks to the continued support of the Ferrans family, ECTSA is the beneficiary of the amazing day, with the funds being used to assist with developing transplant athletes in the challenging regions. Heilie Uys took part in the golf, & 3 EC athletes (Dean Arnolds, Mpumi Damane, & myself) attended the event & socialised with

the golfers, sharing our stories as we chatted with all. A huge thank you to the Ferrans family once again. (Report available on request)

World Kidney Day: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017. 3 ECTSA members spent the day at Greenacres Hospital giving information to visitors on kidney disease, organ donation & transplantation. Heilie Uys, Susan Burri & Dean Arnolds were assisted by NRC staff, who offered free visiting to the visitors as well.

Another initiative launched on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 is the 90-day step challenge. Our EC team, Baby Elephant Walkers, consists of Willie & Heilie Uys, Susan Burri & Ken McGreggor. These amazing participants are averaging 12 000 steps a day & have walked over a million steps to date. Their 90 days finishes on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – let's keep supporting them all the way. Well done to you all!

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

The SATSA AGM was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017 in Cape Town. We have held 2 ECTSA Management Committee meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017 & 16<sup>th</sup> Apr 2018, via Skype. We have also had 2 Management Committee meetings, one on the 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017, attended by HU via Skype, & the other in Port Elizabeth on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018. We discussed finances, fund raising, Sports Confederation Affiliation, membership drive initiatives, marketing strategies & awareness projects, athlete development, & World Transplant Games. Mention of some of these items will be made in this report. (Minutes of meetings available on request)

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Number of Full, Honorary Life, & Associate members - total 42 (slight growth vs last year). According to the latest figures, of the 39 members, we have 27 Full members (transplantees) & 15 Associate members (family, friends, etc). 2 members are Honorary Life members to date.

Our members are widely spread, from PE, EL, Grahamstown, Jeffries Bay, Cradock, Middleburg, Humansdorp & St Francis Bay. We are continually contacting transplantees in the PE, EL & surrounding area in the hope of increasing awareness & growing our numbers.

Sports achievements by our members is reported on via our SATSA website page/FB/news letters etc.

#### **COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS:**

There are regular updates on the regional page on the SATSA website, & the EC page has continuous updates each quarter. Likewise with the news letter, updates are done each quarter. Thank you goes to Heilie for keeping all the updates going, & for the report on the Hat & Hound Gold Day

Other social networks are continually being updated by EC, & all SATSA members, namely Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.

#### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:**

The launch of the National Transplant Games 2018 in Port Elizabeth took place on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the Marine Hotel on the beachfront. This was very well attended by our members & was a huge success.

#### **SPORTS ACTIVITIES:**

Athletes need to belong to a sports club for their discipline. This does not apply when athletes take part in the National Transplant Games, but is relevant for the World Transplant Games.

Some of our members are currently active members of their respective sports clubs, & play golf/cycle regularly, & also take part in competitions. Other members have joined the Park run, & take part on a regular basis.

Since Jan 2017 Eastern Cape (PE) athletes have had the privilege of being trained by 2 top coaches, namely Johan van Greunen for track athletes, & Nic Human for Master's field events.

After our first Training Camp this year in Bloemfontein, 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017, we can't wait for the next one, which will take place after Nationals, & before the WTG 2019.

## **MARKETING:**

Our aim is to market the association, as well as raise awareness of organ donation & transplantation, to patients, as well as the public.

For visual media, we have two banners, one for PE and one for EL. We also have brochures, and these are available for members to take with and distribute. We also now have a data projector.

We have also managed some media coverage within the EC, with WTG articles appearing in some of the free/local newspapers. We hope to see this still grow in our region to gain more exposure.

Our participation in other related initiatives that are ongoing, include:

- working with Livingstone Hosp, & visiting the Transplant Clinic (Susan Burri) -
- working with Frere Hosp to visit their Transplant Clinic: Sr B Elgin (Robyn Emslie) -
- working with Nelson Mandela Academic Hosp to visit their Transplant Clinic (Robyn Emslie) -
- work with NRC throughout the EC region (Robyn Emslie) -
- work with K.A.N. via their website & Facebook page (Kerry White)

## **ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER SPORTS BODIES:**

Following a lot of hard work from Willie Uys, we now have a good, strong relationship with the EC Sports Confederation AGM, & we look forward to our future association with the them.

## **FINANCES:**

This matter is in the capable hands of our Treasurer, Willie Uys, & he will be giving the Financial Report.

## **GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR:**

Our goal, as mentioned under our marketing report, is to market the association, as well as raise awareness of organ donation & transplantation, to patients, as well as the public.

We are looking forward to another Golf Day in St Francis Bay, & are still hoping to possibly hold one in East London / Fish River in the future as well.

We would like to host events in both PE & EL to introduce transplanted patients to the association, as well as to the WTG. We would like to hold Fun Run/ Walks to raise awareness to the public. We will continue to work together with government, as well as private sectors, & K.A.N., to raise awareness of organ donation/transplantation, & our association (SATSA).

And we will continue to look at ideas to raise funds for SATSA, & ways to grow our region.

And our biggest focus for next year is the upcoming WTG 2018 in Newcastle, UK. Our athletes are already preparing & training hard - & we are certain our EC members will bring home many medals again.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Once again, I would like to say how proud I am of our region, & how privileged & honoured I am to be the Chairperson of this amazing region. But I also have to say if it wasn't for everyone here today, & some of those absent, I wouldn't be standing here giving this report.

So thank you to every single one of you that made this a reality – & have been involved in the growth ECTSA region – to my committee, to all the ECTSA members, & most certainly – to Heilie & Willie Uys.

In conclusion, I'd like to say well done to our ECTSA – we are growing so well and showing the other regions what we are capable of...I am so proud of every single one of you here today, & all our ECTSA members. I continue to pray for good things ahead, in our lives, our health, & our region.

Thank you

**ROBYN EMSLIE**  
**CHAIRPERSON: ECTSA**

**9 JUNE 2018**