



EASTERN CAPE

**TRANSPLANT SPORTS**  
ASSOCIATION

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2020 - 2021

### INTRODUCTION:

What can we say about the past eighteen months! We have all experienced the effects of lock down, loss of lives and economical challenges. One positive thing that stood out was that our members stood together and supported each other via all social platforms.

ECTSA express our condolences to the family members who lost loved ones during this pandemic, especially the family of Mthunzi Fatyi, ECTSA member who passed away.

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE & MEETINGS:

The Management Committee elected till 2022 consist of the following persons:

- Interim Chairperson: Heilie Uys
- Interim Vice-Chairperson: Willie Uys
- Treasurer: Willie Uys
- Interim Secretary: Susan Burri
- Members: Robyn Emslie & Nombuyiselo Skafu

The Committee met on the following dates via Zoom:

- 2020: 8 February, 4 June, 27 August
- 2021: 12 April, 26 July

The Management Committee is fully aware of the need of members to meet and socialise, but we also know that it is our responsibility to protect our members against any Covid-19 contamination.

### MEMBERSHIP:

Our thanks go to our members who promote our Association in the different areas of our Region. Our current membership status is as follows:

- Full members: 38
- Associate members: 17                      **Total: 55**

### COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS:

Newsletters were sent out to members quarterly where the focus was on encouraging our members to stay positive and fit during the Covid-19 lock down period.

Regular Facebook postings, Bulk SMS and WhatsApp messages keep members updated about activities and instructions on how to keep fit. Thanks to our coaches, Johann van Greunen and Nic Human who frequently post exercises and encouraging messages.

### SOCIAL, SPORTS & PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

#### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Due to the Covid-19 lock down regulations no social activities were possible. The Committee also decided not to arrange any social activities with limited numbers in order to protect our members against contamination.

#### SPORTS ACTIVITIES:

##### Regional Games:

SATSA requested the Regions to host local Games during October 2020. These Games were cancelled due to Covid-19 regulations as well as another attempt during March 2021. The Committee decided to host a Sports Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 – Covid-19 dependant. Invitations to members were sent via email and WhatsApp.

##### Billion Steps Challenge:

Thanks to all ECTSA athletes and supporters who participate in the virtual Billion Steps Challenge 2020. It was wonderful to have a target to chase and it gave all of us a purpose to exercise.

South Africa participated with 41 teams consisting of 153 individuals. Eastern Cape had 3 teams with 14 persons – that is 9% of the total persons participating but we contributed 14% of the total steps made by SA individuals. What an achievement!

The Eastern Cape Teams were:

- Footsloggers
- Kidney Awareness Network PE/ZA
- PE Buzy Beez

Three EC individuals ended the Challenge under the first 4 South African participants:

Second: Liezel Ellis 1 219 789 steps

Third: Marcus Burri 1 213 213 steps

Fourth: Ken McGregor 1 188 097 steps

#### **5K Anyway:**

The global pandemic has prevented the World Transplant Games 2021, 28th May till 4th June to take place. To still celebrate The Gift of Life and to promote organ donation and transplantation, Houston organised a 5k Anyway virtual event. Transplantees, their families and friends and donors could take part in this race to go around the World!

ECTSA members Susan Burri, Christina Rautenbach, Dean Arnolds, Lynn Landmann, Willie & Heilie Uys took part by running, walking, playing golf and even climbing the Seal Point Lighthouse. Willie Uys won a bronze medal in the category **Most Engaged on Social Media**, and SATSA won a bronze medal in the category **Best Team Fundraisers Country**.

ECTSA thanks Bernadine Blom from Ride for Hope for compiling a video of this event. To watch it go to <https://www.facebook.com/bernadine.blom.39/videos/3528572807246304>

There were also opportunities to participate in "Coffee Chats" where Willie and Heilie Uys and Hermann Steyn were regular participants.

#### **PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

The last promotional day ECTSA members physically participated in was the 2020 World Kidney Day. Since the first Covid-19 lock down period in 2020 all promotion was done on social media.

#### **MARKETING:**

SATSA embarked on a new marketing strategy starting with designing a new logo. We commend SATSA for this initiative and are excited about the new logo. New promotional brochures were printed and will be distributed soon.

Our focus these past months was on marketing ECTSA through social media.

Our thanks go to our members who promote ECTSA at hospitals and clinics. Without the support of personnel in renal and transplant units/clinics this would not have been possible.

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

ECTSA plays an active part in the activities and communication with the Eastern Cape Sports Confederation and thank them for their support.

#### **FINANCES:**

This matter is in the capable hands of our Treasurer, Willie Uys and we thank him for his commitment to keep ECTSA on the straight and narrow. (See Financial Report),

#### **FUTURE GOALS:**

It is difficult to make any long-term plans because of the unstable situation with the Covid-19 pandemic. SATSA is planning to host the National Transplant Games in June 2022. The membership of ECTSA can be assured that activities will resume within the aloud safety parameters.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the following:

- Management Committee for their support and guidance during these challenging times.
- The members of ECTSA who are always willing to support and participate in activities. Thank you for the messages of encouragement. We are a Family of grateful people.
- SATSA's Management and especially Hermann Steyn who's professional, ethical and friendly support were always available.
- To God for upholding our arms, health, and safety on a daily basis.



**HEILIE UYS**  
**INTERIM CHAIRPERSON: ECTSA**

**21 AUGUST 2021**