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## WESTERN CAPE REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES 2020/2021 PRESENTED BY VIVIAN DE KLERK AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 28 AUGUST 2021

### INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Management Committee of the Western Cape Transplant Sports Association, I welcome each participant to this year's Annual General Meeting. Although I would have loved for us to have this meeting in person like in the past, the current Covid-19 pandemic is forcing us to do this meeting virtually. This is necessary to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

We will certainly never do things exactly like in the past, but one thing that will never change is the dedication and commitment of our Transplant Athletes in the Western Cape. Your presence at this virtual meeting today shows your dedication for the future of Transplant Sports. What we as a Management Committee has achieved during the last year is because of the collective effort of our members and we thank each member for keeping active and fit during these trying times that we live in.

I am humbled to be here with fellow transplant athletes and stakeholders of Transplant Sports in the Western Cape and reporting on our activities since our last AGM in 2019. Since our last AGM we as Transplant Sports has been hit extremely hard by the sudden passing of many of our athletes and leaders and their families. We keep these families in our prayers, and I would like to tell you that although your loved has moved on, you are still part of our Transplant Family and will always be welcome here. We remember these athletes and legends of Transplant Sports with fond memories.

I would like to thank each member of the Management Committee for your dedication and hard work to build Transplant Sports, not just in the Western Cape, but as a recognisable brand in South Africa. We as the Western Cape Transplant Sports Association thank SATSA for their continues support and clear guidelines and we remain aligned with SATSA's vision for sustainable development and especially transformation in our sport.

My report will cover a period of 12 months. During this time, we had some changes in the Management Committee which saw our late Chairperson, Hermann Steyn, stepping down due to his increased responsibilities as Executive Secretary of SATSA and myself being elected as the Interim Chairperson until our next electoral AGM in 2022. Rentia le Roux takes over as the Interim Vice Chairperson.





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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND INITIATIVES

Committee meetings are held depending on activities and we held six (6) Management Committee meetings during the last 12 months.

## MEMBERSHIP

Number of full, Life and associate members – total 178

According to our database this morning, we have 178 members of which 128 are Full members (transplant recipients) and 50 are Associate members (family, friends, etc).

We have been placed in Category 5 of SASCOC Membership Categorization and as such we are a multi-facets sport organization. We also form part of the transformation and national plan agenda of the country, and we cater for a specific target group – “*members have all had solid organ transplants*”. This unfortunately means that unlike other Federations we cannot enrol members from the sportsgrounds of South Africa as our members are a select group of people who had solid organ transplants. We nevertheless commit ourselves to recruit as many as possible members from all over the Western Cape and build on our transformation plan.

## COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

We are regularly updating the regional page on the SATSA website. We have sent out six (6) Newsletters to our members since our last AGM and we post regional activities on the Western Cape Transplant Sports and South African Transplant Sports Facebook page, Twitter, and Instagram. We also have our own Western Cape Transplant Sports Association webpage and keep this page updated with news and information. In events where information must be communicated urgently to members, we make use of the SATSA Bulk SMS system. All official administration is done via email to our members.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Due to the ongoing Covid-pandemic and the risk of our athletes getting infected we haven't had any social activities since 2019.

We try to encourage our athletes to participate in online social discussions, workshops, and virtual sporting events.



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## SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Several of our athletes participated in online virtual events during the last year. These include events like the Virtual Cape Town Cycle Tour, the Cape Town Marathon and the *5KAnyWay* race that was organized by the World Transplant Games Federation.

Athletes adhered to the strict Covid restrictions imposed by the Government and when sport reopened for a while many of our athletes again practiced playing tennis, golf, swimming, cycling, running and athletics within the prescribed manner.

Although WCTSA did not host any organized sporting events, we encouraged our athletes to keep fit and practice their sports safely.

## MARKETING

Marketing is about communicating the value of TRANSPLANT SPORTS and our activities and facilities to attract members, funds, and other resources. Most of our members are actively living out these values daily.

A number of our members do regular presentations to Online Support Groups and platforms related to transplantation and organ donation. This includes local and international online discussions.

We have had media coverage in printed media and on television in South Africa and continuously look for opportunities to promote Transplant Sports.

As a member of the Western Cape Sports Confederation our athletes have the opportunity to be on Sport Federation TV. This show is broadcasted on DSTV channel 263 and online and has proven to be a great asset to the WCTSA with regards to marketing. A number of our athletes has been interviewed on the show and had the opportunity to speak about Transplant Sports and organ donation. We thank the Western Cape Sports Confederation for this platform.

Since our last AGM, SATSA has also done a total rebranding of Transplant Sports and all its regions. We are proud of the new Transplant Sports logo and branding and had only positive feedback with regards to this rebranding. It's a fresh new look for Transplant Sports and we are especially proud of Jeandre Geldenhuys, a member of the WCTSA, who designed this logo and the rest of the SATSA Marketing Committee for their hard work during the rebranding Transplant Sports.



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## ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER SPORTS BODIES

On a provincial level, we are a member of the Western Province Sports Confederation. Members of our Executive Committee attend regular meetings and ensure that relevant information is communicated to the relevant athletes and stakeholders.

The relationship that exists between the Western Cape Provincial Sports Confederation and us must be regarded as outstanding. Through this medium, I wish to thank their Committee and their President, JP Naude. We have a similar relationship with Cape Town Sports Council Committee and appreciate their support and hard work towards sport in the Cape Town area. We are also affiliated members of the Winelands, Eden Sports Councils.

We are in good standing with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and have a healthy interaction on a regular basis. I must make mention of the funding we have received from them again this year. Thank you to Crystal Pather and Alison Leo and please convey our sincere appreciation to the Minister Anroux Marais and the Department.

Our Association are dedicated to implement and build on the transformation policy of Government and our Constitution. In this regard, I want to emphasize that this opportunity does not only reside with the Executive members, but it is the responsibility of all involved in transplant sport and that I will encourage the commitment of each member. We have admittedly progressed in this regard, but it will demand extra effort to fulfil our obligation. Due to our lack of access to local transplant clinics and sporting event as a result of Covid, we have not been able to achieve the transformation that we would like to, but I am glad to see growth in our membership and I thank each and every member who spreads the word of Transplant Sports and organ donation in the Western Cape.

## GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Although it seems to be impossible to plan anything during times like these, we as Management Committee are hard at work planning for the future. We trust that there will come a time when we will all be able to return to play. There will come a time when our families and friends will be next to the track or court cheering us on. Because of this we need to be ready when that time comes.

We are looking forward to hosting a Regional Games and a Golf Day during October or November 2021. You have already received communication about this planned event. We commit ourselves to hosting a safe event and will keep our athletes well informed.

As a non-profit organization we are dependent of sponsors and grants. We are continuously engaging with sponsors and organization and investigating ways of supporting our athletes. We



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have established a Fundraising Committee and work towards a sustainable income source for our Federation.

We will continue to build on our current strong relationships with organizations and departments like the Western Cape Department of Sport and the National Lotto Commission in order to ensure that our athletes get the opportunity to compete on an international stage in the future.

## FINANCES

Our finances are well managed. The last year has proven difficult in optimally spending our budget as planned due to the pandemic and the fact that we cannot host sporting events like in previous year.

Regardless of this, we are confident that we will be able to spend our budget on our athletes as soon as it is deemed safe to do so.

Dick Kruger, our Treasurer will report on this very important aspect of the Association in his Treasurers Report that was audited and available.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CONCLUSION

The last few months has been a steep hill for all of us to climb. Personally, I have sometimes found myself in unfamiliar territory as the new chairperson of a sporting federation during a worldwide pandemic. We are contently weighing the risk of getting infected against the risk of not returning to active sport and time and time again we come to the conclusion that our athlete's safety far out ways a sporting event.

I am tremendously grateful to my predecessor, Hermann Steyn for his continuous support and guidance during the last six months. I only realize now how many hours Hermann dedicated to Transplant Sports. He is truly an example to me, and I thank God that he was a mentor up until he last days before he sadly passed away on 11 August 2021.

I would especially like to thank Rentia le Roux, the Vice Chairperson, for always being willing to listen and give advice. During the difficult time of Hermann's passing, Rentia was a strong pillar of support to me and the Steyn Family.

To the rest of our Management Committee: Dick, Merrick, Gawie, Lloyd, Sharon and Lauren, thank you for all the evenings that you dedicated to Transplant Sports. Every one of you are an essential piece of this well-oiled machine that makes the Western Cape Transplant Sports Association a Federation to be proud of.



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I wish all our members the best with the year ahead. This has been, and still is, an extremely difficult time that we are finding ourselves in. I trust that we will come through this storm stronger and and that we will be re-united as a Transplant-family when this storm passes.

Until then I urge you to stay safe, sanitize, wear your mask, and follow all Covid-protocols as prescribed by Government and our Health Departments.

I thank you for your time.

May God protect all of you.

**(VIVIAN DE KLERK)**  
**WESTERN CAPE TRANSPLANT SPORTS ASSOCIATION: INTERIM CHAIRPERSON**