



GAUTENG

TRANSPLANT SPORTS
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

October 2024

Message from the Chairperson

Dear GTSA Members and Friends,

As we reflect on the past few months, we are filled with pride and excitement. This year has been full of incredible achievements for our athletes. In April, we had a successful Golf Day in Mbombela, which brought together our community and raised much-needed funds. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported this event!

In May, we held a meeting with GTSA provincial representatives to discuss the challenges they face in their respective regions. Together, we worked on strategies to strengthen the GTSA footprint across the provinces under GTSA, with the aim of increasing awareness of our work and further promoting the vision and mission of GTSA and SATSA. We are committed to supporting these efforts to continue the growth of GTSA in each of these provinces.

In July, we held our Annual General Meeting, where we welcomed new members to the committee. **Jan Marais** was elected as Vice-Chairperson, **Jaco Potgieter** was elected as an additional member and Mpumalanga representative, and **Iaan Burden** was elected as an additional member to assist with social media and fundraising. We also appointed **Liz Kriegler** as Secretary. A big thank you to Jan, Jaco, Iaan, and Liz for their willingness to serve on the committee—we look forward to working together to grow and strengthen GTSA and our gratitude to Frans Maluleke, Lebohang Moabeng, and Stella De Kock who served on the committee previously.

In September, 32 of our athletes competed in the National Transplant Games, demonstrating not only their athleticism but the incredible spirit of transplant sports. Congratulations to all who took part and thank you for representing GTSA so proudly.

Looking ahead, I'd like to remind our athletes to complete their requalifying events by the 8th of December. For those who need to complete extra or extraordinary qualifiers, please ensure these are done by the end of October. This will help ensure eligibility for next year's World Transplant Games in Germany in August 2025.

We also have a special event coming up—the **End-of-Year Thanksgiving and Donor Tribute Lunch** on the 30th of November. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together, reflect on the year, and honour the donors whose generosity makes our journeys possible. I encourage all members to attend and be part of this meaningful celebration.

Finally, I invite all members to get involved with our upcoming events and initiatives. Your participation and support are essential in building a strong, united GTSA community.

Best of luck to our athletes as they continue their training! Let's finish this year strong and look forward to what lies ahead in 2025.

Yours in Transplant Sport,

Alta Withers

Chairperson, GTSA

Events

Mbombela Golf Day

On the 5th of April, GTSA hosted its first-ever Golf Day in Mbombela, raising awareness about organ transplantation as well as promoting GTSA and SATSA.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jaco Potgieter and Ista van Zyl for their efforts in organizing this successful event and to all the sponsors and players who supported the event.

We look forward to many more activities and future golf days in the Mpumalanga region.





GTSA Provincial Representatives meeting - May



In May, the GTSA committee held a day-long meeting with provincial representatives from the Free State, Limpopo, North West, and Mpumalanga to discuss the challenges faced by members and representatives in these regions.

The committee explored ways to address these issues, aiming to grow both SATSA and GTSA membership, while also encouraging more active participation from members residing in these provinces.

It was a valuable opportunity to learn from one another, and we trust that the insights gained and the action plans developed will help us continue to grow and strengthen our community.

GTSA AGM



At the GTSA AGM held in July 2024, we welcomed the election of new committee members to key positions. Jan Marais was elected as the new Vice-Chairperson, Liz Kriegler as the new Secretary, Iaan Burden as the Additional Member for Social Media and Events, and Jaco Potgieter as the Provincial Representative for Mpumalanga. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the outgoing Vice-Chair, Frans Maluleke, outgoing Secretary,

Stella De Kock, and outgoing Additional Member, Lebohang Moabeng, for their dedication and contributions to GTSA during their tenure.

With the new team in place, we look forward to continued growth and success in the future

GTSA Management Committee 2024 – 2025:

Chairperson: Alta Withers

Vice-Chairperson: Jan Marais

Secretary: Liz Kriegler

Treasurer: Greg Serradinho

Additional Members: Velile Dube, Iaan Burden, Itumelang Phoshoane, Jaco Potgieter

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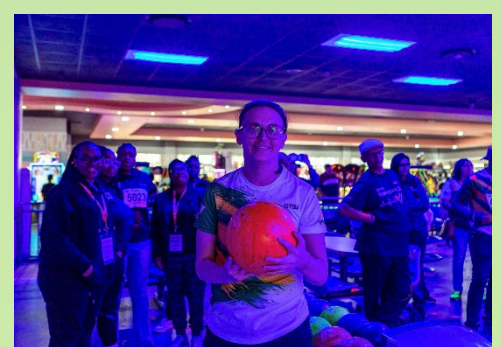
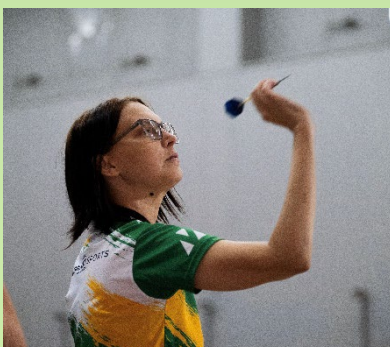
National Transplant Games

The National Transplant Games were held in Cape Town from the 26th to the 29th of September, with 32 athletes proudly representing GTSA. For many of our athletes, this was their first time attending the games, making it a particularly special experience.

We extend our sincere thanks to all who participated and hope everyone enjoyed the event, met new team members, and formed lasting friendships.

These games also served as a first-round qualifier for athletes aiming to be selected for Team Transplant SA, which will represent South Africa at the upcoming World Transplant Games in Germany next year. We wish these athletes all the best as they compete in requalifier events between October and December.

We look forward to seeing you all at future events!





Upcoming events

Save the date for the following upcoming GTSA events in the last quarter of 2024. Be sure to keep an eye on our social media platforms and our members WhatsApp group for further information and for additional upcoming events.

Date	Event	Contact person
Saturday, 30th of November	GTSA end-of-year Thanksgiving and Donor Tribute lunch	Jan Marais/Alta Withers