



SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS SPORTS ASSOCIATION (SAMSA) PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 2004

The South African Masters Sports Association (SAMSA) since its inception in 1993, continues to pursue its objectives – the promotion of Masters Sport both at national and international level, while emphasising and encouraging participation by more master codes and individual athletes in Masters events. Approximately 60 Master codes in the country are actively involved in club / regional competitions and in annual national championships. Many teams and individual athletes continue to participate in the biennial South African Masters Games, in own World Championships, in the quadrennial World Masters Games and in the many International Multi-sport Masters events, hosted by various countries worldwide.

The only criterion for participation is the minimum age, as determined by codes for their own competitions and by the organisers for multi-sport events.

The fundamental ideas of Masters Sport are based on the ideologies of “**Sport for Life**”, “**Fit for Life**” and “**The Challenge Never Ends!**”

Ten years ago South African sportsmen and women re-entered the world's sports arena, after being left out “in the cold” for decades. Since then many masters athletes had participated internationally and had brought home Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.

MEMBERSHIP AND MACRO SPORTS BODIES

SAMSA, as a member of the SA Sport Commission and an Associate member of NOCSA, has recently become a member of the newly established single South African Macro Sports Body – the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC).

SASCOC's newly elected EXCO to govern and lead South African sport in the future:

- President – Moss Mashishi
- Vice-Presidents – Hajera Kajee and Barrington Mkhize
- Additional Board Members – Mark Alexander, Sylvia Dale, Bob Tucker, Dave van der Merwe and Vusi Mgobhozi.
- Headquarters – Olympic House, Johannesburg

Meetings of the various Macro Sport Bodies were regularly attended by SAMSA's President and members of the EXCO.

MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee quarterly meetings were held with good attendance.

An Annual Council Meeting was held on 24 March 2004 in order to keep member codes informed on the activities of SAMSA in between the official Biennial General Meeting, held during the first quarter on every odd year.

The President and Secretary held a most fruitful meeting on 26 March 2004 with members of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA). The meeting was chaired by Professor Denver Hendricks (Head of Department), and attended by Mr Greg Fredericks (Chief Director) and Ms Rita Horn (Manager Funding and Monitoring). SAMSA received great support and co-operation from

Professor Hendricks and his staff for its planned projects to promote Masters Sport among more South Africans, especially in rural areas and local communities. It was agreed that Masters should play a bigger role in mainstream sporting activities. The amount of R43,200 for administration and promotion of the Annual Masters Sports Day was granted to SAMSA for 2004.

The President held two preliminary meetings with members of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro, in Port Elizabeth, host city for the 2006 5th SA Masters Games.

MASTERS 2004 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Most Master codes staged Annual Tournaments and Championships during the past year and many participated in World events.

Results received from codes were regularly published by SAMSA in “**The Masters Voice**”.

- The Pan-Pacific Games, Gold Coast (Australia) was attended by individual athletes from South Africa – Water Skiing and a Netball team.
- The Annual Masters Sorts Day, held on Saturday 30 October 2004 was celebrated countrywide in clubs, towns and local communities. SAMSA had made a vast effort in promoting the 2004 event.

Information was distributed to all 284 Metro Municipal Councils and many local councils countrywide. To all member codes and Macro Sport Bodies, by means of SAMSA’s newsletters and website, by email, fax, mail and on Radio SAFM and RSG.

Good response was received from Metro Councils, many participating for the first time.

Two thousand “Certificates of Participation” were printed, and either mailed to organisers or collected from SAMSA’s office before the event.

SAMSA’s Official Handbook (2004 – 2006) was distributed to all existing and new contacts before and after the event.

The Masters Sports Day could become another major sports event annually, only if all Master Codes in the country would diarise the last Saturday in October and distribute the relevant information to all their members. SAMSA’s main objective is to motivate and encourage the leaders in small communities, country towns and clubs to organise their own competitions and festivities on the day, honouring the Masters belief in “**SPORT FOR LIFE**”.

SAMSA’S PUBLICATIONS

- “The Masters Voice” – SAMSA’s official newsletter
Free distribution by email, bi-monthly to every member and individual master.
Subscribe NOW – give SAMSA your email address!
- SAMSA’s Handbook
Reprinted every two years, contains all information relating to SAMSA’s activities together with World Masters events.
3,500 Copies have been distributed to date.
Codes to order (no charge) or to collect from SAMSA’s office for distribution to own members.
- Information Brochure – SA Biennial Masters Games
Printed for distribution nine months prior to the event.
- Games Flyer
First publication of forthcoming Games one year prior to the event.

- Full Page advert
Advertising the 5th SA Masters Games in the World Games programme.

SPONSORSHIP

SAMSA continues to generate sponsorship for future events. Various possible sponsors for the 2006 5th Masters Games have been contacted. SAMSA had positive hopes that financial sponsorship for this major event will be generated.

The Nelson Mandela Bay Metro including Port Elizabeth, Dispatch and Uitenhage, is SAMSA's partner in the 2006 event, and has already confirmed its financial obligations as the official host for the Games.

CANVASSING YOUNG MASTERS

It remains the responsibility of all Masters Codes to encourage and to motivate its future Masters to continue with participation, in the Masters new age category, either in their own sport or by joining one of the many other popular codes – for life!

SOCIAL EVENTS

Members of the EXCO attended the following festivities:

- The Farewell Gala function for the 2004 Olympic Team.
- The 2004 SABC TV SA Sport Awards.
- The Farewell Dinner for NOCSA's outgoing President, Mr Sam Ramsamy.
- The President attended closing ceremonies and prize giving functions of various codes.

FUTURE EVENTS – 2005 / 2006

- World Masters Indoor Cricket – March / April 2005 (Port Elizabeth)
- World Masters Games – 22 to 31 July 2005 (Edmonton, Canada)
- 15th Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival – 15 to 2 May 2005 (San Diego, USA)
- Golden Oldies World Netball Festival – 7 to 14 May 2005 (Rarotonga, Cook Islands)
- 12th Golden Oldies World Cricket Festival – 23 to 30 April 2005 (Colombo, Sri Lanka)
- Pan-Pacific Games – May 2005 (Sacramento, California, USA [odd years])
- 5th South African Masters Games Nelson Mandela Bay Metro – 27 April to 1 May 2006 (Port Elizabeth, Dispatch, Uitenhage)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of myself and the SA MASTERS SPORTS ASSOCIATION, I wish to pay tribute to:

- Every member of the Executive Committee for their dedicated service and loyal support during the past year.
- All Member Codes for their co-operation and service to fellow masters.
- Sport and Recreation South Africa for their financial support and co-operation in the promotion of Masters Sport.
- The National Olympic Council of South Africa for its role in the promotion of high performance by every South African athlete.
- The South African Sports Commission for its service to all South African sport codes.
- To every individual Masters Sportsmen and women for pursuing SAMSA's motto – **“THE CHALLENGE NEVER ENDS!”**



RITA OOSTHUIZEN

President

30 March 2005