



*Annual Report*

**2023|24**







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## President's Report

Ladies and Gentlemen of the General Council, the Swimming South Africa Executive Committee, affiliate Presidents, all Swimming South Africa sub-committee members, we wish you a hearty welcome to the Quadrennial Annual General Meeting. Swimming South Africa (SSA) is continuing to rise, building the hopes of our nation that we can achieve at the highest level of swimming excellence. At the same time we are teaching the life skill of swimming across the length and breadth of our country. Our dreams of building world-class facilities, our strategies, and plans, all directed towards making SSA a great national federation in the context of World Aquatics and remain the number one federation in terms of podium performances in our country. SSA has consistently achieved between 50 and 70% of medals of all multi-coded teams leaving the shores of our country. This is certainly no mean feat. It's a clear indication that we are a benchmark federation. It is imperative that we, as SSA, pull other like-minded federations with us in our quest for high performance at elite level. Against the backdrop of the May 2024 elections, South Africans have renewed hope for our nation. The formation of a Government of National Unity (GNU) has injected hope for economic revival, management of crime levels, social cohesion, and addressing issues of health, sanitation, power stability, and the education sector. To provide the economy with required skills and a healthcare system that will deliver on the needs of our country. The voices of reason on the case for investment in sport is even more valid and this clearly demonstrated by talented athletes at the Paris 2024 Olympic games that has just concluded and more so for aquatic sport who really showed true potential. Our citizens are clearly seeking

solutions to our economic and political challenges that many has perceived that has failed the nation in all areas of life, our performance on the continental and internally indicate that we have the depth in our sport to produce world-class performances from junior and senior athletes. Our single biggest challenge is in fact we must retain consistent sponsorship to ensure our athletes are fully supported. I am delighted that the Minister has expressed positive views on looking after our country's athletes. Funding and sponsorship for sport, and in particularly our sport, has seen a rapid decline over the last couple of years and we hope our performances will inspire the funding sector and the corporate world. Despite the lack of resources and our own limitations, the performance of SSA at every level including the just concluded Olympic Games, has seen excellent improvement especially at junior level ensuring a healthy feed into a High-Performance Squads. The National Lotteries Commission and the Department of Sport Arts and Culture remain our biggest funders and for this our deepest gratitude for partnering with us.

Reflecting on the past year and the Quadrennial that has just come to an end, Swimming South Africa in world swimming context are punching far above our weight with exceptional results at all levels, medal performance in our zonal and continental competitions are continuously improving. We are making a substantial contribution in raising the standard of all disciplines across the continent and increasing our own standards for every discipline is clearly the right direction to take. For us at SSA it's about raising the bar at every level of our organization. The Quadrennial podium performances at events Junior World Championships, Junior Olympics, World Short Course, World Long Course, World Cups,





*"Our dreams of building world-class facilities, our strategies, and plans, all directed towards making SSA a great national federation in the context of World Aquatics and remain the number one federation in terms of podium performances in our country."*

Africa Seniors, Commonwealth Senior and Junior events, and Beach Games is testimony of our focus on our strategic imperatives and High-Performance Management Systems in action. The performance of our elite athletes at Paris 2024 was truly excellent. Our Road Map to Los Angeles is 2028 remains highly competitive but within well with our ability to make the country proud. My personal gratitude to the High-Performance Committee and our coaches, from our junior ranks to our elite coaches across all our disciplines, your dedication and loyalty to aquatics sport is almost unparalleled in our country.

SSA's Chief Executive Operational Report will deal with the competitions and operational matters relating our athletes participated at during the past year in greater detail. I would like just to highlight some of our excellent performances focused on building depth in our system, African Aquatics Junior and Seniors, World juniors, Commonwealth Youth, and the World Short Course in Australia. A good indicator of our performance, post Olympics, will be the Short Course in Budapest in a few months' time. There is no doubt in my mind artistic swimming, diving, and junior water polo had a fantastic season participating on the world stage

and a need to up the standard, organizing these disciplines must receive our immediate attention for improvement will simply augurs well for the sport. Open water has seen an increased level of participation and the discipline with huge podium performance potential. Master's is no doubt becoming a shining star in our federation and a big thanks to the committee organizing Masters. Water polo has most probably the most robust and active committee and they have taken women's polo to the next level. However, overall sport has still too many self-serving interests that must receive the federation's attention. There are still too many detractors in water polo and our inability to deal with ill-discipline will lead to our own demise. We must remember that those who think they are bigger than the sport, has no place in the sport. It is high time that the commercial value of water polo is unearthed and I hope we are able to do so over the next few seasons. I have given the matter some thought and will share the plans with the incoming SSA Executive Committee. The appointment of a commercial director for water polo and a full-time administrator is long overdue. This must now be implemented without delay so that we may soon reap the benefits. Trying to execute an operational management strategy for water polo without the required resources is counterproductive. Diving has certainly come of age and requires the SSA's executive support in terms of strategy and policy. The discipline has healthy participation at school level with transformation happening at a very good rate. There seems to be excellent junior competition, and our seniors are coming through which augurs well for the future of the discipline. A High-Performance Management strategy is necessary for diving, and we need a collegiate effort in this regard.

We are extremely proud of all our athletes for the hours of preparation; it is their dedication to achieving goals has turned us into a world-class federation. Our contribution is to remain athlete-centric and support the coach to the best of our ability within the means of our resources. Our athletes outstanding performances has received recognition at the highest level, and we express our gratitude to SASCOC and the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture with a strong partnership with the National Lotteries Commission across our provinces for their support. High-Performance Management remain one of our strategic pillars ensuring we can continue produce world-class talent our long-term vision is to have five Best in Class High-Performance Centers across the country, supported by twenty High-Performance Academies based at schools who have the infrastructure. This strategy is unfolding well in this regard with support from many quarters. The completion of the Franschoek Centre and arrangements with key universities

to support our athlete scientific initiatives is fundamental to our success on the world stage.

SSA is determined to ensure that the government understand our drive to include swimming in the academic curriculum of our schooling systems is based in our belief that swimming is a life skill. In a country like ours, with the high drowning statistics, the imperative of swimming at school level is even more important than ever before, if we take into account major climate change shifts which could lead to higher patterns of natural disasters. In addition to being a life skill, swimming has enormous health benefits for a nation beset with a very high burden of disease. Swimming can contribute to the national department of health strategy of a healthy population and the Department of Sports Arts and Culture's philosophy of driving a Winning Nation Strategy, is within our ambit of control. An active nation is a healthy nation and promoting sport among our adult population can support the country's drive for a healthy nation. SSA's biggest barrier to success is the lack of facilities for all of our disciplines, which are functional to ensure we impart the skill of swimming, diving, open water swimming, water polo, and artistic. We must ask ourselves are we doing enough for swimming schools and what is the value offered for the LTS environment. There are close to ten thousand swimming schools in the country that are teaching swimming at different levels and the risk is very high for operating outside the jurisdiction of SSA. We are in need for an urgent review and communication with this community about the dangers of being outside the system.

What lies ahead for us is to drive standards at all levels of our disciplines. Our aim should not be to merely compete, as merely being a participant is not part of our DNA. Elite sport like ours demand continuous improvement in competing against the best at all times. We need to address the integration of our school's system with greater urgency and implement different levels of competition. Greater emphasis on schools and tertiary swimming will ensure greater supply of talent to the high-performance system. We need more high-level participation for elite athletes, professionalization of water polo, strengthening of committees and governance, and collaboration with other federations across the world. All these elements, and more, appear in our strategic framework and business plans. The missing element is a sufficient budget to implement at a rate that will bring greater levels of success. The most dishearten aspect in our federation is personal conflict and undermining the authority and structures with SSA. This will not be and cannot be tolerated as the rules of the federation must apply. The message is simple: we welcome debate and criticism to



build a strong federation, challenging policies and practices are part of organizational development. However, those that bring the organization in disrepute and undermine the SSA's constitutionality must face the rulebook.

In Swimming South Africa, we have foot soldiers that work extremely hard for the federation and its athletes and contribute monetary in a great way. We owe our gratitude to those who work tirelessly to promote aquatic sport without a sense of entitlement. To our parent community, who fund many tours, SSA as an organization salutes you and yes, we are deeply indebted to you. Swimming South Africa's Executive Committee, The Office of the CEO, provincial, district and club officers your many hours dedicated support is not unnoticed. To the technical officials, coaches, and supporters without you there is no federation. Our funding partners DSAC, the Lotteries Commission, and the business community at all levels, thank you for a partnering and seeing our long-term vision. Thank you to theSABC and SuperSport for continued support in taking the sport to all corners of our country. And lastly the support from SASCOC is highly appreciated.



**Alan A Fritz**  
President  
Swimming South Africa



# Chief Executive Officer's Report

For the year under review major international competitions were resumed and as a result the international competition programme were extremely compact with dual major international competitions at world and continental taking place. This obviously had an impact on operations across the board.

## MASS PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION

The Mass Participation and Education programmes saw increased activity from the previous year as the overall recovery of our activities continued.

## COMPETITIONS & HIGH PERFORMANCE

### DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

Our domestic competition resumed to our normal calendar with all events hosted inclusive of Age Group and Senior National Competitions.

The process continued improve the presentation of our National, Regional and Provincial Competitions to ensure a standardised, effective and attractive format for participants and spectators. In particular the standard of our SA Senior National was a standard out event presentation as a benchmark for future events.

## CONTINENTAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

As mentioned earlier for the year under review our athletes competed in African Junior Championships In Mauritius in December 2023 The African Games in March 2024 and the Senior African Championships in Luanda Angola in April-May 2024.

This was also the case with World Aquatics events as our athletes competing in the World Championships with Fukuoka World Aquatic Championships in July 2023 and followed by the Doha World Aquatics Championships in February 2024.

As expected this compact programme had an impact on our operations which is evident in our financial report as presented.

## GOVERNANCE & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Governance and compliance are key pillar of the organisation, and we have continued with our efforts to ensure all Committees and Affiliates compliant with the policies and procedures of the organisation and statutory requirements. This will ensure that we are able to provide accountable feedback to our primary stakeholders and access support from public agencies.

## TRANSFORMATION

The feedback from the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) required us to review our targets and review the quality of data received from provinces for submission of our reports



A swimmer in a dark cap and goggles is seen from behind, holding a water polo ball with both hands. The swimmer is in a pool of blue water, and the scene is captured from an underwater perspective, showing bubbles and light filtering through the water. The swimmer's arms are extended upwards, holding the orange ball. The background is a deep blue, with some light reflecting off the water's surface.

*"The Mass Participation and Education programmes saw increased activity from the previous year as the overall recovery of our activities continued."*

to the secretariat. Further improvement has been evident in data collection and reporting and our next step is to finalise agreements with affiliates .

It is important that all stakeholders collectively work on transformation, and we encourage affiliates to engage with their districts and clubs to ensure we give effect to our objectives for transformation.

## CONCLUSION

In the 2023 – 2024 year we have been fortunate to receive substantial support from the National Lotteries Commission and in particular additional support from the Ministry of Sport, Arts and Culture. In addition, we received support SASCOC and Arena, which have greatly assisted us to sustain our activities.

A special thank you to our general membership, our Affiliate Presidents, Committee Convenors, Staff, SSA Executive Committee and the SSA President whose support have ensured a successful year under difficult circumstances.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Adriaanse', is written over a dark blue background.

**S. L. Adriaanse**  
Chief Executive Officer





# i. MASS PARTICIPATION



The Mass Participation Programme (MPP) is responsible for achieving the strategic objectives of “broadening the base of aquatics” as set out in the 2021 - 2024 strategic plan. During the period 1 May 2023 to 30 April 2024 the department was responsible for several programmes and projects from water safety education, learn to swim, club development, rural splash, and capacity building.

Swimming South Africa (SSA) successfully executed its MPP across eight provinces, focusing on the Easter, Spring, and December holidays. These programmes aimed to promote water safety and swimming skills among children and adults. This report highlights the achievements, challenges, and future goals of these initiatives.

We are facing the challenge of not having facilities available while some are badly maintained or simply vandalized to such an extent that the cost of repair is completely uneconomical; and the building of new facilities in an integrated manner would service communities better. As a result, our numbers continue to drop and we are not able to achieve set target for the season.

Half of township facilities, if not all, are not operational, and the universal explanation of municipalities is that the National Lockdown has left them cash-strapped and therefore they are unable to open township pools. Meanwhile swimming facilities in more affluent suburbs are fully operational. On the other hand, municipalities are continuing to build

facilities in silo without properly engaging with our National Federation responsible of aquatics activities.

The season has been the worst we faced in a long time. There were lots of challenges, and we saw more tragic drownings because of bad weather conditions (heavy rain falls) across the country, particularly in KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape and Limpopo where drownings occurred in schools swimming pools. These incidents once again highlight the importance of Water Safety Education and Swimming Lessons.

We need to meet twice a year with Affiliates for strategic sessions and to discuss the necessary paperwork that needs to be done to fast-track reporting and refunds. In recent times we have been overlooking these two processes. There is still challenges with a few affiliates as they work in isolation from the head office and this puts a strain on the programme.

As part of our remodelled focus, driven by our strategic focus to build an “active and winning nation” MPP unit, we also resolutely focus on supporting the delivery of Talent Identity Development, fostering transformation in our sport and recreation, developing talented athletes by providing them with opportunities to excel in high performance, and ultimately achieve success in the international arena. “Creating access to regular participation” Working together it would help swimming grow beyond measures, in particular African communities. (Unity is Strength).





## LEARN TO SWIM

The LTS programme focuses on children and adults in previously disadvantaged areas and teaches water safety, water orientation, and survival skills in addition to basic stroke development.

The programme suffered a set-back as most municipal pools nationally were closed for maintenance, without any prior notice to us. This really affected the programme and relationship with different schools that participate.

Recreational galas were held to assess the swimming skills of those learners who were coming for swimming lessons.

### 1. UMLAZI LEARN TO SWIM

The pool has been closed for five years now and that has put a toll in the development we have done with the schools around. Luckily they have found an alternative venue for training, and are now able to train for two days in the week. While we are thankful, this is not enough to preparing swimmers towards High Performance or any other elite programmes.

## CLUB DEVELOPMENT

The Club Development programme is geared towards introducing, new club establishment and support/strength existing clubs within previous disadvantages communities for High Performance participation.

Schools are a critical component in our overall development strategy. For next year we plan to be able to provide substantial feedback on activities within disadvantaged schools inter-house galas. This year we only manage to activate three provinces to run inter-schools galas, in KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape.

1. Umlazi Sharks
2. Cape Town City Metro Aquatics

Currently two clubs benefiting from this programme. They are following:

1. Paarl Aquarius (WPA)
2. Umlazi Sharks Swimming Club (KZN)

## SEASON ACHIEVEMENT TABLE:

CLUB	LEVEL 0	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	SA SCHOOLS	NATIONALS	OPEN WATER
Paarl	42	1	12	6	5	2	2
Umlazi	19	25	7	3	2	0	0
	<b>61</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>



## HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The programme ran from 15 December 2023 to 10 January 2024. Mainly in the Western Cape, Mpumalanga, and KwaZulu-Natal. Splash programmes were conducted highlighting the importance of water safety i.e., ocean splash, pool splash, splash polo.

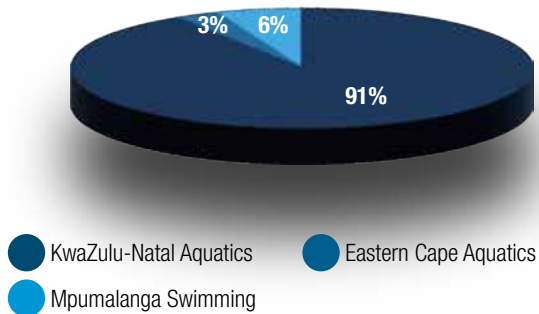
### Ocean Splash

The focus was to ensure maximum impact of the programme over the holiday period and that the children who were visiting the beach have a safe, fun experience, while learning about safety aspects and acquiring the vital life skill of staying safe at the beach as the adults are enjoying themselves both inside and outside of the water.

Numbers of swimmers per province

AFFILIATE	NO OF PARTICIPANTS
KwaZulu-Natal Aquatics	4860
Eastern Cape Aquatics	150
Mpumalanga Swimming	304

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS



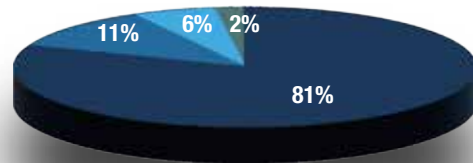
### Pool Splash

The focus was on municipal swimming pools to create aquatics awareness and talent identification to increase a pool of swimmers that are involved at our clubs. A vital life skill was learnt while kids were enjoying themselves at the different pools.

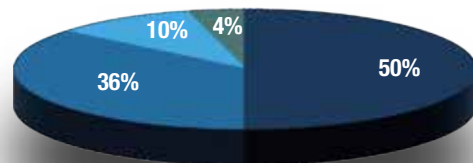
Great interest was generated by both children that participated in the activities and parents who supported their children. Different activities were conducted on a daily basis from water safety, introduction in water for beginners, stroke corrections splash polo, and synchronised swimming.

AFFILIATE	FEMALES	MALES	TOTAL
Gauteng Aquatics	801	354	1 155
KZN Aquatics	112	257	369
Northwest Aquatics	57	69	126
Eastern Cape Aquatics	14	26	40

FEMALES



MALES





## ii. COMPETITIONS, DISCIPLINES & **HIGH PERFORMANCE**



# Domestic Competitions

## GRAND PRIX

The SSA Grand Prix consisted of two meets, Nelspruit (12 – 13 January 2024) and Durban (23 – 25 February 2024). Swimmers from the senior squad were invited to attend these competitions and selected swimmers received funding to participate.

The first one was held in Nelspruit, in conjunction with the annual training camp held there in the first week of January.

The second one was held at the Curro School in Hillcrest, KwaZulu-Natal. The KwaZulu-Natal Operational Team and LOC were great, transporting all the equipment as well as the timekeepers and volunteers. There were challenges regarding the timing system, but with the expertise of Mr. Dion Bosman, the data collection ran smoothly.

This competition was approved by World Aquatics.

## AGE GROUP

### LEVEL 3 AND LEVEL 2

Venues for these levels have been established on a three-year cycle. All the levels were well attended. The Level 2 in the Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and North West region remain the largest entry, this has necessitated an extra day to allow for all the heats to be completed.

Due to challenges experienced at some venues, there must a closer monitoring system in place. Experienced Technical Directors must be appointed to ensure that a high standard is maintained. Many swimmers participate at these levels at a high cost to parents, only to have a negative experience.

## SA NATIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, KINGS PARK, DURBAN, 15 – 19 MARCH 2024

KwaZulu-Natal hosted the Junior National Age Group Championships very successfully. It was well attended, though some of the equipment at Kings Park, is in dire need of replacement.

## SA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS– NEWTON PARK, GQBERHA, 8 – 13 APRIL 2024

This was a ratified World Aquatics qualifying event for the Paris Olympic Games. NMBA hosted a very successful championship, making every effort to accommodate the needs of all participants.

## SA NATIONAL OPEN WATER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS, JEFFERY'S BAY, 8 – 10 MARCH 2024

These Championships were hosted by NMBA at the Marina Martinique venue, in Jeffery's Bay. Once again the organization was very efficient.

## SA NATIONAL DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS, DURBAN, 11 – 14 APRIL

These championships were held in Durban.

## SA NATIONAL ARTISTIC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS, GQBERHA, 21 - 24 APRIL 2024

The championships took place in Gqberha 21 - 24 April. This competition was well organized, however the numbers remain low.

## SA NATIONAL WATER POLO, BUFFALO CITY , MARCH

The Senior Championships were cancelled.

The u16 (24 – 26 March) and u18 (14 – 16 March) Championships were held in Buffalo City.

## TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

The education and mentoring of Technical Officials in all disciplines is ongoing. Training Manuals must be reviewed to ensure that the information is current.

# International & Continental **Competitions**

## CONTINENTAL MEETS

### AFRICAN AQUATICS JUNIOR SWIMMING AND OPEN WATER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

These championships were held in Mauritius during December 2023. South Africa performed well, coming in second to Egypt in both the Swimming and Open Water Swimming Competitions.

### AFRICAN GAMES

These were held in Accra, Ghana, in March 2024. The South African Swimming Team excelled, placing first in the Swimming Competition, with the highest medal tally. Caitlyn de Lange was the top female medal winner.

### AFRICAN AQUATICS SWIMMING AND OPEN WATER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were held in Luanda, Angola during April and May 2024. The Egyptian team proved to be too strong and South Africa came second overall. The female team came first with Lara van Niekerk achieving the highest World Aquatics performance points in the 50m Breaststroke event.

## INTERNATIONAL MEETS

### WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS, FUKUOKA, JAPAN - JULY 2023

These championships were held back to back with the University Games, Chengdu, China. This resulted in many of the selected swimmers opting to participate in China, as this tour was fully funded.

### COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - AUGUST 2023

South Africa achieved seventh place. Earning one gold, two silver, and three bronze medals.

Jessica Thompson broke the Women 50m Butterfly Record.

### WORLD AQUATICS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, NETANYA, ISRAEL , SEPTEMBER 2023

Two swimmers progressed to the finals, no medal placing were achieved.

### WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS, DOHA, QATAR, FEBRUARY 2024

South Africa participated in all disciplines except High Diving. Julia Vincent achieved a 9th place in the 3m Springboard event. In the Open Water Swimming, Amica de Jager achieved 22nd in 5km and 27th place in the 10km event. South Africa came 15th in the Mixed Relay event. The highlight of the Championships was the 3rd place medal in the Men 200m Backstroke by Pieter Coetzé.





# High Performance

The 2023/24 season was one of the most important seasons in the swimming calendar as it was the year that preceded the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The objective of this year was to give our swimmers maximum international competition experience. We achieved this as you can see below the numerous International events SSA participated in.

## ANGOLA – CANA ZONE IV

The Cana Zone IV Swimming Championships was held in Lusaka, Angola from 3 to 6 May 2023. This competition was very successful for South Africa.

The team of 24 swimmers comprised of 19 swimmers and 5 open water swimmers. Swimmers were split 10 females and 9 males. The age group spread was 8 swimmers (14 and younger); 8 swimmers (15 to 16) and 3 swimmers (17 to 29).

The Open Water swimmers excelled and came home with 8 medals and the swimming team won 40 medals.

## WORLD CHAMPS

The World Swimming Championships was held in Fukuoka, Japan, from 14 – 30 July 2023, where Swimming South Africa was represented in all disciplines.

The swimming results were as follows:

### OPEN WATER

- **10km** – SA men placed 43rd and 52nd in the Olympic event
- **5km** – SA men placed 23rd in the non-Olympic event
- **10km** – SA Women placed 40th and 51st in the Olympic event
- **5km** – SA Women placed 24th and 42nd in the non-Olympic event

## SWIMMING

Finalist as follows:

- Tatjana Schoenmaker - Silver medal in the 100m Breaststroke Tatjana Schoenmaker - Gold medal in the 200m Breaststroke
- Lara van Niekerk – 4th place in the 50m Breaststroke – non-Olympic event Semi finalist
- Rebecca Meder – 10th place in the 200m IM

## WATER POLO

SA Men's team placed 16th out of 16 teams SA Women's team placed 12th out of 16 teams

## ARTISTIC SWIMMING

Solo free placed 22nd and technical paced 26th Duet free placed 28th and technical placed 38th

## DIVING

Julia Vyncent placed 10th on the 3m Olympic event and 11th on the 1m non-Olympic event

## COMMONWEALTH JUNIOR CHAMPS

This competition was held from 6 – 9 August 2023 in Trinidad and Tobago and South Africa was represented by three female and three male swimmers.

We secured five medals and the medalists were: Gold – Jessica Thompson

Silver – Simone Moll Silver – Kian Keylock Bronze – Kian Keylock Bronze – Jarden Eaton x 2

## IRELAND

A team of 20+ swimmers represented South Africa at the LEN European U23 Swimming Championships from 11–13 August 2023 in Dublin, Ireland. Olympic hopefuls Matthew Sates and Pieter Coetze showed their class.

Pieter Coetze won gold in all three backstroke events, with Matthew Sates winning gold medals in both IM events.



### **JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPS**

The Junior World Aquatics Swimming Championships were held from 4-9 September 2023 in Netanya, Israel. A team of 25 swimmers was announced – 15 woman, 10 men of which 13 woman and 11 men participated – total of 24 swimmers.

The management team was: a team manager and three coaches.

It was the 1st World Champs since the COVID-19 pandemic, with all teams from around the world represented.

The South African team did well with Mila Drakapoulus making the final in the Women 100m Backstroke and Thomas Truter made the final in the Men's 100m Breaststroke. Several of our young swimmers did exceptionally well by making semi-finals. This includes Jarden Eaton and Tai Pearson.

### **NATIONAL NAMIBIAN SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023**

The National Namibian Short Course Championships took place in Windhoek from 28 September to 1 October 2023, where the South Africa's team junior swimmers delivered a series of outstanding performances.

The team, consisting of ten talented athletes, dominated the competition, bringing home an impressive collection of medals and emerging as the top performers of the gala.

### **WORLD CUP SERIES 2023**

Several of South Africa's top swimmers used World Aquatics World Cup competitions to start preparing for Paris Olympics. Our Olympic hopefuls, Matthew Sates and Pieter Coetze, shone in their respective events.

Pieter Coetze won one gold and two silver medals.

Mathhew Sates was the star of the show, winning seven gold and two silver medals.

### **BRICS GAMES 2023**

The first BRICS Games were held at Kings Park, Durban from 18 – 21 October 2023.

Countries represented were South Africa, Brazil, India, Russia, and The People's Republic of China.

Team SA consisted of 36 swimmers, with 18 male and 18 female swimmers.

We won a staggering 34 individual medals and seven relay medals.

Medals won by men: three gold, seven silver and, eight bronze.

Medals won by females: two gold, six silver, and eight bronze.

Relay medals: one gold, four silver, and two bronze.



## 8TH AFRICA AQUATICS ZONE III

The Zone III competition was held in November 2023 in Kigali, Rwanda.

This event showcased the talents of young swimmers and was a valuable learning experience for athletes and coaches.

Team SA won 12 individual medals, including: one gold, five silver, and six bronze. The relay teams also secured three silver and one bronze medals.

## KZN CHAMPS AND WORLD CHAMPS TRIALS

The trials for World Champs were incorporated with KZN Champs from 14 – 18 December 2023 at Kings Park pool, Durban. The trials were also for the selection of relays to compete at World Champs in Doha.

Top individual performance at the trials was Chad le Clos who achieved the “A” Olympic Qualifying time in the 100m Butterfly.

## NELSPRUIT TRAINING CAMP / GRAND PRIX

The annual Nelspruit training camp culminating in the first Grand Prix for 2024 was held from 8 – 13 January 2024.

This was one of the biggest camps we have had, with a total of 154 attendees. The accommodation was at The Premier Hotel the Winkler as well as Bundu Lodge.

We had pool – as well as open water swimmers, and six young female swimmers from development clubs.

## WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 21st World Aquatics Championships were held in Doha (Qatar) from 2 – 18 February 2024 and all aquatic disciplines were represented.

Diving – Julia Vincent retained her qualification for Paris 2024 Olympics in the 3m Springboard event.

Swimming - The swimming team were represented by eight swimmers, five female and threemen.

Best SA performer was Pieter Coetze winning a bronze medal in the 200m Backstroke.

## AFRICAN GAMES

The African Games were held in Accra, Ghana from 9 – 13 March 2024. The South African team comprised of 23 athletes, 13 Men and 10 Female.

A total of 46 medals were won: 17 gold, 16 silver, and 13 bronze.

Top performers were:

- Catherine van Rensburg won three gold medals and one silver medal.
- Caitlin de Lange just missed the 50m Freestyle Olympic qualifying time by 0.1sec. Caitlin won two gold and two silver medals.

## SA NATIONALS

Newton Park Swimming pool in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) hosted the Sa National Senior Championships from 8 – 13 April 2024, and was also our official 2024 Olympic Trials.

The trials went exceptionally well with Tatjana Smith recording a 2:19 for the 200m Breaststroke, which is the fastest time in the world for the current year.

## XVI AFRICAN SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The competition was held in Luanda, Angola from 30 April to 4 May 2024. Team SA consisted of 10 Men and 10 Female swimmers.

Team SA won 38 medals in total: 13 Gold, 24 Silver and 11 Bronze.

Best Individual female performer was Lara van Niekerk and the best male performer was Chris Smith.

Team SA's Female team was awarded the Best Female team trophy.



### iii. EDUCATION & **TRAINING**



Despite challenges, the Education and Training team has worked tirelessly to provide high-quality education and training programs to coaches, officials, and athletes across the country. Through workshops, seminars, and certification courses, we have equipped individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in aquatics. Despite the obstacles presented by the global pandemic, we have adapted our programs to ensure continuity and accessibility for all participants.

Swimming South Africa (SSA) has played a major role in supporting members through online workshops and courses, and there is no doubt that they are time saving more and make training more accessible. It is important to note that there is a lot of preparation that goes along with online workshops, the creation of a link is important and the adherence to certain basic rules is equally important for the unit to prepare the CPD certificates. One of the main challenges is members are not complying with the verification process to enable the unit to prepare certificates. The process of double checking the chat registration, the devices used, and the Zoom back-end often leads to discrepancies that cannot be verified making very it time consuming to finalise the process. The Education and Training team took a principled decision to not entertain those members, but to teach them to follow the instructions that are also highlighted at the beginning of every workshop.

Additionally, there have been challenges with the Transformation courses aimed at empowering black instructors and coaches. Recruitment has been a challenge simply because swimming is not yet a popular sport in black communities and the unit spends a lot of time following up

on POE's. Lack of resources makes it difficult to log hours, commitment from individuals and support from affiliates are some of the challenges identified. The lack of support from affiliates has led to frustrations and requires Education and Training to do some of the work to ensure that candidates complete the courses.

On a positive note, safeguarding initiatives have picked up momentum, with all affiliates participating in awareness campaigns and education for instructors and coaches. The focus will soon shift to the training of safeguarding offices in the districts. SSA is planning to train more trainers to increase manpower on the ground and to ensure that when the safeguarding officers training commences in July there will be more manpower at district level.

Although there has been some level of progress in material development, it is a slow process, there has been progress on the reviewing of the Learn to Swim (LTS) course, the online safeguarding to include newly trained members, safeguarding video content to geared at younger and older athletes. The bridging course has been finalised and after piloting it will be ready both face to face and online. The revised artistic swimming Level 1 coaching course is also ready, and the Level 2 coaching course will be ready by the end of 2024.

Education and Training is committed to overcoming the above challenges and continuing to provide valuable education and training opportunities for the members. Looking ahead to the future, we remain committed to expanding our offerings and reaching even more individuals within the aquatic's community. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and look forward to continuing to make a positive impact.



LEARN-TO-SWIM COURSES												
AFFILIATE	TOTAL NO OF COURSES	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
CGA	3	41	3	4	7	21	1	2	2	1	13	28
EGA	6	79	31	22	11	15	0	0	0	0	42	37
NTS	4	71	3	7	13	42	0	3	1	2	17	54
KZNA	10	123	16	19	10	57	3	4	5	9	34	89
OR TAMBO	2	17	7	5	0	0	4	1	0	0	11	6
CTMA	3	21	1	0	1	4	11	4	0	0	13	8

LTS COURSES NATIONAL SUMMARY												
NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
28	352	61	57	42	139	19	14	8	12	130	222	

COACHING LEVEL 1 COURSE NATIONAL SUMMARY												
NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
1	9	3	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	7	2	

LTS QUALITY ASSURANCE												
	TOTAL APPLICATIONS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	TOTAL FEMALES	
CGA	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	
EGA	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
KZNA	6	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	4	

LTS QUALITY ASSURANCE SUMMARY												
TOTAL NATIONAL APPLICATIONS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	TOTAL FEMALES		
10	2	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	3	7		

COACHING QUALITY ASSURANCE LEVEL 1 ,2 & 3												
AFFILIATE	LEVELS	TOTAL NO OF APPLICATIONS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
CGA	L-1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
EGA	L-1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
CTMA	L-1	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	1
BCA	L-1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
KZNA	L-1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	L-2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	L-3	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	2



## COACHING QUALITY ASSURANCE NATIONAL SUMMARY

TOTAL NATIONAL APPLICATIONS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	TOTAL FEMALES
16	0	0	9	7	0	0	0	0	7	9

## NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES PRINTED

AFFILIATE/ DISTRICT	CGA	EGA	NTS	MPS	LIMPOPO	KZNA	NCASA	FSA	SWD	CTMA	OR TAMBO	BCA	NMBA	NATIONAL STATS
LTS	15	26	36	4	7	65	10	18	1	26	0	9	10	345
LTS RPL	3	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
ARTISTIC SWIMMING	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	2	0	
TODSWIM	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
COACHING LEVEL 1	11	6	17	2	0	7	1	2	0	13	0	7	12	
COACHING LEVEL 1 RPL	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	
LEVEL 2 RPL	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
LEVEL 3 RPL	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL PER AFFILIATE/ DISTRICT	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	

## COURSES & WORKSHOPS COORDINATED BY SWIMMING SOUTH AFRICA

OTHER TOPICS	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
Severe allergic reactions / Anaphylaxis workshop	132	0	3	24	100	0	5	0	0	24	108
High Performance workshop	33	3	6	15	5	3	0	1	0	21	12
Social cohesion	33	3	6	15	5	3	0	1	0	21	12
Open Water technical officials' clinic	153	4	9	17	91	13	15	1	3	35	118
Tailored insurance for Aquatic sport (ORENCO)	89	5	6	12	52	5	6	1	2	23	66
Financial & Business advice for small business owners (ORENCO)	87	5	6	12	50	5	6	1	2	23	64
SAIDS workshop for school teachers	22	3	2	6	9	2	0	0	0	11	11
Water Polo Referees course for beginners	125	1	0	53	63	3	2	0	3	57	68
LTS update for facilitators	21	2	2	1	12	0	0	1	3	4	17
Annual registration workshop 1	357	5	15	43	231	26	34	2	1	76	281

## WORKSHOPS SUMMARY

TOTAL WORKSHOPS DONE	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
<b>10</b>	1052	31	55	198	618	60	68	8	14	295	757

NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING STATS														
AFFILIATE/ DISTRICT	TOTAL NO OF WORKSHOPS	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
AG/CGA	1	8	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	5
AG/NTS	3	133	4	14	29	84	0	1	0	1	0	0	33	100
FSA	5	190	4	7	56	119	1	2	0	1	0	0	61	129
ECA/OR TAMBO	3	35	9	20	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	24
ECA/BCA	2	44	1	2	9	26	3	2	1	0	0	0	14	30
ECA/NMBA	2	66	5	2	14	36	5	1	2	0	1	0	27	39
NWS	1	27	1	6	7	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	19
KZNA	10	235	18	24	24	151	2	3	7	6	0	0	51	184
WCA/CTMA	3	119	2	3	15	69	12	18	0	0	0	0	29	90
MPS	5	55	0	7	12	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	43
LIMPOPO	1	19	0	0	3	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	16
SSA	3	84	9	9	32	25	6	0	0	3	0	0	47	37

TOTAL NO OF SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOPS	TOTAL NO OF WORKSHOPS	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
39	1015	53	94	206	583	29	27	10	12	1	0	299	716	5

OTHER WORKSHOP NAMES/TOPICS														
OTHER TOPICS	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	AFFILIATE
1 Is it OK to lose	21	0	0	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	14	NTS
2 Workshop	19	0	0	6	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	13	
3 Talent Management	17	0	0	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	11	
4 Nutrition, hydration and supplementation	16	0	0	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	12	
5 Curriculum course	25	2	5	0	16	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	23	
6 Ear health	41	1	3	5	31	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	35	
7 Autism and LTS	44	1	3	6	33	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	37	
8 Core strength and LTS	44	1	3	6	33	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	37	
9 Breast and Fly progressions	51	2	9	7	32	0	0	0	1	0	0	9	42	
10 The coach's role in creating the ideal training environment	14	0	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	
11 Energy systems and the use of carbohydrates	12	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	
12 Club structure	13	0	0	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8	
13 The difference between training and practice	9	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	
14 Create your own swim school curriculum	26	1	0	2	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	23	
15 Curriculum development	9	0	3	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	
16 Coaches Development and updates	17	2	1	8	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	11	6	
17 Workshop: Preparing swimmers for Competitions	44	2	3	5	28	0	2	2	2	0	0	9	35	
18 Timekeeping Course	74	5	6	18	30	1	4	2	3	0	5	26	48	CGA
19 Workshop: Staying safe during the storm with ELPA (Part 2: Lightning Workshop)	19	1	2	2	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	16	
20 Swim Series	24	0	0	13	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	11	



OTHER WORKSHOP NAMES/TOPICS																
OTHER TOPICS		TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	AFFILIATE	
21	High Performance coaching. Coach mentorship	20	1	0	10	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10	NIMBA	
22	Social cohesion	17	3	1	5	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	8	FSA	
23	SA National training camp	19	0	1	0	14	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	19	ECA/BCA	
24	Fun and engaging Learn to Swim lessons	61	0	1	3	56	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	58	KZNA	
25	Development coaching clinic	27	16	8	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	16	11		
26	Progression for an efficient body position	147	2	4	12	117	2	8	0	2	0	0	16	131		
27	Progression workshop for effective leg and arm action Freestyle	149	2	4	12	117	6	8	0	0	0	0	20	129		
28	Progression for effective leg and arm action backstroke	151	2	4	12	117	6	8	0	2	0	0	20	131		
29	Progression for efficient Dives -	151	2	4	12	117	6	8	0	2	0	0	20	131		
30	Progression for efficient Tumble turns - 3484 - 30th June	151	2	4	12	117	6	8	0	2	0	0	20	131		
31	Building mindfulness into swim lessons - for swim coaches	90	0	0	3	74	4	5	1	3	0	0	8	82		
32	How to help swimmers overcome performance anxiety	39	0	0	2	36	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	36		
33	Diversity and Multiculturalism	9	0	1	1	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	7		
34	LTS - SCULLING WORKSHOP	35	0	0	3	30	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	32		
35	Paperless admin for your swim school	30	1	0	1	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	28		
36	EDA swimming clinic	18	6	6	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	8	10		
37	Progression arm and leg action - breaststroke	44	0	5	2	34	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	41		
38	Transitioning age group swimmers to elite	16	2	0	6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8		
39	Distance and IM Coaching	18	1	0	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	10		
40	Learn to Swim target group	13	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10		
41	Water	12	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9		
42	Rule discussion	11	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8		
43	Pressure Talk	17	0	0	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	14		
44	IM as an additional stroke	17	0	0	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	14		
45	Pace work = Time per stroke	17	0	0	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	14		
46	Foal time break down	17	0	0	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	14		
47	Keeping the training program interesting	11	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8		
48	NCASA Bye - Laws	13	0	0	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	6		
49	NCASA Policies and Procedures	13	0	0	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	6		
50	NCASA Constitution	13	0	0	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	6		
51	Social cohesion	9	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6		
52	Webinar: Swimming club administration - systems to ensure smooth running clubs	27	0	0	3	20	1	3	0	0	0	0	4	23		
53	Workshop: Backstroke & Freestyle LTS ages 3-7 years	30	0	0	1	24	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	28		
54	Webinar: How to include parents in club structures?	23	0	0	1	19	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	22		
55	Workshop: Breaststroke & Butterfly LTS ages 3-7 years	29	0	0	0	22	2	5	0	0	0	0	2	27		
56	Webinar: World Class Swimming: Feedback from World Champs, World Para Champs, World University Games	17	0	0	3	11	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	13		
57	Webinar: World Class Swimming: preparing age group swimmers for top level swimming	22	1	0	5	12	1	3	0	0	0	0	7	15		

### WORKSHOPS SUMMARY

TOTAL WORKSHOPS DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
57	2042	59	81	275	1461	39	86	9	27	0	5	381	1661

### CONFERENCES

AFFILIATE	PROVINCIAL OR NATIONAL CONFERENCE	CONFERENCE DATES	TOTAL NO OF PART.	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALE
AG/ EGA	Mini Conference	01 May 2023	129	10	5	10	100	0	2	1	1	20	109

### WORLD AQUATICS

AFFILIATE	NAME OF THE SCHOOL/CLINIC	DATES	TOTAL NO OF PART.	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	NON-SOUTH AFRICAN MALE	NON-SOUTH AFRICAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
SSA	World Aquatics swimming Level 2 development course for technical officials	10-11 June 2023	33	0	2	9	5	1	0	0	0	8	8	18	15

### SWIM SCHOOLS

	NAME OF SWIM SCHOOL	AFFILIATE
1	USC Littlies	ECA
2	Trompie Torpedo's Swemskool	FSA
3	Bonny's Water World GV	CGA
4	Happy Feet Swimming School	
5	Aquatic Achievers	EGA
6	Little Fishes Swimming School - Bedfordview	
7	Bonny's Water World Eastgate	
8	Aquatic Achievers	
9	Irena's Swim School	
10	WaterBears Swim School	NTS
11	Mighty Mantas Swimming School	KZNA
12	How To Swim the Foggy Swim Club	
13	Odette's swim school	
14	Odette's Swim School ST CHARLES COLLEGE	
15	Gemini Pre Primary	
16	Harrismith Seals	
17	Bubble Blowers Swim School	
18	Just keep swimming	
19	Rita's Swim School	
20	Aquabody Works Swim School	
21	Sundale swim school	
22	Nitty Gritty Swim School	
23	Leatherback SS	
24	Water Warriors Swim Academy	





NAME OF SWIM SCHOOL		AFFILIATE	
25	Nitty Gritty	KZNA	
26	Kimmys Swim school with Peak fitness and Aquatics		
27	Sujani's Swim School		
28	Little Sharks Swim School		
29	Rapid Aquatics Swim School		
30	Ann's Swim School		
31	Carol Swim School		
32	WeSwim School of Swimming		
33	Caltym swim School		
34	The Swim Academy @ St Dominic's		
35	Kauthar's Swim School		
36	Daisys Swim School		
37	Diving Dolphins Swim School		
38	School of Splash Newcastle		
39	C & S Swim School		
40	Swim Studio CC		
41	School of Fishies Swimming School		
42	Dolfie Swim Joy		NWS
43	Fishdom Swim School		NCASA
44	Kalahari Splash		
45	Kalahari Country Club NPC Learn to Swim		
46	Kalahari Splash Postmasburg Swim School		

## TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

TIMEKEEPING COURSES														
AFFILIATE	NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALE	ASIAN FEMALES	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
CGA	1	74	5	6	18	30	1	4	2	3	0	5	26	48
ECA/NMBA	2	44	2	5	6	22	2	7	0	0	0	0	10	34
KZNA	1	97	6	8	12	63	1	4	1	2	0	0	20	77
WCA/CTMA	5	100	0	2	7	12	32	47	0	0	0	0	39	61
NWS	2	48	3	8	7	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	38
NCASA	3	31	2	0	4	22	1	2	0	0	0	0	7	24
MPS	6	98	1	9	13	73	0	0	0	2	0	0	14	84

TIMEKEEPING COURSES NATIONAL SUMMARY													
NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	ASIAN MALES	ASIAN FEMALES	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES
20	492	19	38	67	252	37	64	3	7	0	5	126	366

JUDGES COURSES													
AFFILIATE	NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
ECA/NMBA	1	8	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	3	5	
KZNA	1	19	4	0	0	13	0	0	2	0	6	13	
NWS	1	18	1	3	4	10	0	0	0	0	5	13	
WCA/CTMA	5	72	0	0	17	37	9	9	0	0	26	46	
NCASA	2	7	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	0	4	3	
MPS	5	62	0	4	13	44	0	0	0	1	13	49	

JUDGES COURSES NATIONAL SUMMARY												
NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
15	186	5	7	40	112	10	9	2	1	57	129	

REFEREES COURSES													
AFFILIATE	NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
ECA/NMBA	1	42	1	0	36	4	1	0	0	0	38	4	
NCASA	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	
NWS	1	9	0	1	6	2	0	0	0	0	6	3	
WCA/CTMA	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	
MPS	1	5	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	

REFEREE COURSES NATIONAL SUMMARY												
NO OF COURSES DONE	TOTAL NO OF PARTICIPANTS	AFRICAN MALE	AFRICAN FEMALE	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	COLOURED MALE	COLOURED FEMALE	INDIAN MALE	INDIAN FEMALE	TOTAL MALES	TOTAL FEMALES	
5	61	1	2	42	14	2	0	0	0	45	16	





## iv. DISCIPLINES





# ARTISTIC SWIMMING

It gives me great pleasure to present a report on the activities of South African Artistic Swimming for the above period.

## COMMITTEES

### SSA 2022/23 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Moira Norden (White F), Kelly Sloley (White F), Cathy Bester (White F), Courtney Musson (Black F)

### SSA 2022/23 SELECTION COMMITTEE

Jenny Naidoo (Black F), Wendy Buitendag (White F) and Lucille Pequena (White F).

## WORLD AQUATICS AND AFRICA AQUATICS REPRESENTATIVE

Jennifer Naidoo

## SSA EXECUTIVE LIAISON

Louise Blignaut.

The committee had regular Zoom meetings during the period, since these meetings are effective, we have no plan to have meetings in person. Transformation

Artistic swimming continues to grow in popularity amongst all race groups in South Africa. However, this growth is restricted by lack of suitable swimming pools in many areas. CGA has introduced artistic swimming with a

pleasing response, and KZNA, Northern Tigers, ECA and WCA continue to show an increase in numbers. Sadly, the cost of competing internationally with the weak Rand, has made it impossible to send adequately sized teams away. Many parents cannot afford to spend about R70 000 on a sports trip. A team requires eight swimmers plus a reserve, and we frequently cannot fill these numbers. We had several previously disadvantaged swimmers in the original squad for Doha Worlds, but only six swimmers eventually competed in the team event. While SA solo and duets have competed internationally, this does not grow our base for transformation. What is encouraging is that many schools are now introducing artistic swimming as a summer sport. An increase in numbers of swimmers at schools level show that transformation is happening.

Males are now able to participate in artistic swimming. It was pleasing to have our first male athletes compete at NAG.

## SOUTH AFRICAN TEAMS

The SA senior team attended the World Aquatics Championships in Doha. After several withdrawals due to cost, the team swam two short and incurred a penalty. Leading up to the Olympics, there was some confusion as to whether Japan or Doha served as the qualifier for the Olympics. In the end Egypt gained the African spot and their team and duet was sent to the Olympics.

This season we selected national squads at Age Groups in December and started training via Zoom. A two-day training camp was also held after Nationals.



## SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAM

Artistic swimming remains popular with schools that have water polo pools. In other areas, facilities remain a problem, as the sport needs deep water. CGA, ECA, KZN and WCA have active schools programs. The option for a novice athlete to register through the school has also encouraged school swimmers to compete in more competitions.

## CLUB DEVELOPMENT

The following affiliates currently have active clubs with the number of clubs in brackets: WCA (1), ECA (2), CGA (1), NTA (1) and KZNA (2).

## DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

SA Artistic Swimming staged the following national events:

### 1. SA NATIONAL AGE GROUPS

Border (ECA) hosted NAG in December 2023 in East London. The event was well-supported. Congratulations to Border on a well-run and successful event.

We used international judges in our panels by means of videos on Telegram.

The Masters section again enjoyed support.

NAG served as a first set of trials for the SA senior team for Worlds in February 2024. The SA Junoir team competed in final trials in Peru during August and September 2024.

### 2. SA LEVEL 1

Affiliates hosted this event in their own areas.

### 3. SA LEVEL 2

Affiliates hosted this event in their own areas, often together with Level 1.

### 4. SA LEVEL 3

The TASC again decided to combine SA Level 3 with SA Nationals. The event took place in March 2024 and was hosted by ECA. SA Masters athletes again competed.

### 5. SA INTERMEDIATE NATIONALS

We held this in March 2024 at the Newton Park pool in Port Elizabeth with SA Nationals.

SA Intermediate Nationals comprises two age groups, 13-15 years (Youth), and 15-18 years (Junior). The figures and technical elements set by World Aquatics are not the same, so the competitions have to run separately, unlike swimming.



## 6. SA NATIONALS

SA Senior Nationals took place in March 2024 at the Newton Park pool in Port Elizabeth. From these results, the team to compete at the WA 2024 Championships, as well as the WA Junior solo and duet, were finalised.

Congratulations to all the winners.

Many thanks to ECA and NMBA for their support.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AFRICAN AQUATICS (CANA)

No competition took place. We are hoping to hold a competition in conjunction with NAG 2024 in Cape Town.

## SA SQUADS/TEAMS

Again preparing teams was difficult due to late ratification of teams. Artistic swimming teams need to train together over a period of 6 to 18 months minimum to prepare properly. We have now introduced a standard technical team for all affiliates to use, and want to do the same for the free team going forward. We hope this will assist with the preparation.

We had a team compete at World Aquatics in Doha but as mentioned only six finally participated. .

## MASTERS

For the first time we had solo and duet entries at the World Masters Championships.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

WA continues to change the judging and scoring systems as they look to introduce a better assessment platform. Several courses have taken place via zoom.

Courtney Musson, the only SA qualified technical controller, judged at World Cups in Egypt and China. She has been included as the African representative in the panel for the Olympics

Kerry Norden Smith is the only SA A judge. She judged at the World Championships in Japan.

Moira Norden judged at World Masters also in Japan.

Sue Manners Wood in conjunction with SSA Training Department has completed a coaches' course which will be available in the new season.

Skye MacDonald and Xera Vegter Maharajh received a scholarship from World Aquatics to assist with their training. They relocated for a period to Egypt for coaching.

## MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

Louise Blignaut is our SSA executive member. Louise remains actively involved in all our activities. We appreciate her assistance.

## CONCLUSION

Thanks to all those who supported artistic swimming over the past season, including swimmers, parents, officials, and administrators.

In particular, sincere thanks to the SSA Technical and Selection Committees, our WA rep, and the hardworking staff at SSA for their patience and help.





## DIVING

**T**his report has been compiled without direct information from the affiliates. As the Convenor of South African Diving, I am able to compile an overview of the season, but the information that relates to the affiliates is from my observation, alone or from conversations with the people involved.

### TRANSFORMATION DIVER DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic transformation continues at school level, both at primary and high schools, mostly in the Johannesburg area in private schools for girls. KwaZulu-Natal has increased the number of schools participating in their interschool league at both primary and high school level. Western Province has some diving at two schools in Cape Town, and we are collaborating with them to selecting a team for SA Schools. This means that the SA Schools Diving Championship continues to have a much improved transformation profile.

A few public schools for girls participate in the Johannesburg high school league, but there are not many, and a few girls from co-ed primary public schools participate in the primary school league. As can be seen from Appendix B (fixtures), both the primary and high school events, run a thriving league. League fixtures run on a weekly basis, culminating in a final interschool event, at which all the seven or eight schools compete. Lightning still affects fixtures, but with the high school fixtures taking place on a Saturday morning, this is alleviated somewhat, as lightning seems to occur more frequently in the afternoon. Please see Appendix A for the

results of the Interprimary event held in November 2023 and the Interhigh event held in March 2024.

The names of black divers have been highlighted for ease of reference. In the weekly interschool leagues, which precede these two events there are more black divers participating, as the numbers are obviously bigger at this level. The South African National Schools Championship for Diving was run in December 2023, and again the number of black divers at this event is increasing, and more importantly, black divers are still achieving places on merit – please see Appendix B for results; black divers highlighted.

The numbers of black divers participating at club and provincial level are lower, as this relates to the fact that the number of white divers is correspondingly lower, as the required rate of commitment at those levels is always concomitantly higher. As can be seen from the SA National Age Group event and SA National results, the number of black divers participating has increased, here too, and, again, are achieving places on merit. See Appendices C and D.

Disabled divers are not encouraged to participate in diving, as World Aquatics does not make provision for them; the reasoning being that they could hurt themselves too easily.

### EXECUTIVE DEMOGRAPHICS

The Technical Diving Committee consisted of Ms. Loredana Raccanello (Aquatics Gauteng) as Convenor, Mrs. Kim Boustred (Kwazulu-Natal) with the portfolio of Education & Training and Ms. Athi Diliza (Aquatics Gauteng) with the

portfolio of Development & Transformation, as members. Ms. Justine Heydra (Aquatics Gauteng) remained in her co-opted position as the National Competitions Secretary, and Ms. Dominique Philippopoulos (Aquatics Gauteng) remained on the Committee as World Aquatics Representative. The remainder of the Committee consists of various co-opted members who have taken on the different portfolios – please see Appendix E for the full list.

The Selection Committee was made up of Ms. Jane Davenport (Aquatics Gauteng) as Convenor and Ms. Tristan Crawford (Northern Tigers) and Ms. Debbie Cummings (KwaZulu-Natal) as members.

As of 2024, the diving technical committees still visibly active in the affiliates and sending divers to national events are Central Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. Mrs. Kim Boustred from KwaZulu-Natal however, continues to struggle with diving training as her funding from the government has still not recovered to previous levels. This makes it difficult for her to pay the coaches and have money available for transport for the divers, who are all from previously disadvantaged (currently still disadvantaged) communities. Northern Tigers no longer offers diving, as the De Jong Diving Centre has been closed due to issues at the municipality level with keeping the pool running. The coach and divers have either retired or joined other clubs.

Free State is no longer even operating at a school level, as no schools continue to dive. The coach who was attempting to start a club, Ms. Luzanne Swanepoel, has given up, as the municipal facility is completely not up to standard. Western Cape has, again, not registered their diving club, but we are in meetings to set up a Schools Committee so that trials can be held, and a team will attend the SA Schools Championships in December. Mr. Imraan Mess is coaching between six and eight divers at present, and has organised to bring them up in August to train in Johannesburg, in preparation for the Schools event at the end of November, and NAG in December. Some progress is being made.

The SA Schools Executive Diving Committee remained the same as the Constitution calls for biannual elections. Thus, Ms. Athi Diliza (Gauteng) remained Chairman, Ms. Colleen Kelling (KwaZulu-Natal) remained as the Secretary, and Ms. Loredana Raccanello, Ms. Kim Boustred and Ms. Melanie Dunn retained their positions as members. The Committee successfully ran SA Schools 2023 in Pietermaritzburg, and are planning the 2024 event in Gauteng, for the end of November.

## DEMOGRAPHICS: DIVERS, JUDGES AND TECHNICAL

PROVINCE	SCHOOLS	CLUB	AFFILIATE
<b>Central Gauteng</b>	D 500	4	D 40
	J 20		J 15
	TO 22		TO 20
<b>Northern Tigers</b>	D 0	0	D 0
	J 0		J 0
	TO 0		TO 0
<b>Western Cape</b>	D 15	1	D 6
	J 2		J 2
	TO 3		TO 3
<b>Eastern Cape</b>	D 0	0	D 0
	J 0		J 0
	TO 0		TO 0
<b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>	D 58	2	D 12
	J 7		J 7
	TO 10		TO 8
<b>Free State</b>	D 0	0	D 0
	J 0		J 0
	TO 0		TO 0



## 2023/2024 SEASON

The 2023/2024 season ran well, with most stakeholders working hard to make it a success. The use of the online video conference tool, Zoom, has continued, which has helped with increasing communication within the Committee and allowing for longer, more in-depth discussions, partly fulfilling two of the objectives that we had set ourselves.

1. To continue to improve communication between all members of the Technical Committee and between the members of the Selection Committee, and then between the two committees and to make the decisions taken as transparent as possible, whilst trying to keep confidential information, confidential.
2. To continue to improve and expedite communication between the diving community and SSA.
3. To continue to encourage all members of the diving community to work towards a common goal.
4. To continue to ensure that all events were run professionally with a minimum of unprofessional behaviour on the part of judges and technical officials.
5. Selection of teams to various international events.
6. Set a Selection Policy for 2021 – 2024 that everyone believed was for the betterment of SA Diving and would encourage support of divers in their endeavours to compete at the highest level.

In response to the above aims, we:

- We did our best to try and keep a balance between these aims, and it is an ongoing process; we are now being accused of not publishing selection criteria, despite there being a plethora of emails, with the criteria, with the names of people on the email.
- As what we believed to be clearer communication between the Technical Committee and Selection was perceived as undue influence on Selection, we carefully separated the two, with the Selection Convenor communicating the team selection directly to SSA, without notifying the TDC Executive at all.
- Point 2 and 3 both continue to be a work in progress.
- Point 4 is still an issue, as unprofessional behaviour by officials and parents cannot be regulated if people witnessing the offence are not prepared to report it in writing.
- Again, teams for international events were selected this year and divers attended the events for which they were selected. It was unfortunate that Crusaders Diving Club chose to work around the TDC and the Selection Committee, when it came to the selection of divers for the Dresden Youth International. They entered their divers as a Club team, instead of waiting for the published team. This meant that divers who had



qualified for this event were effectively excluded. Their disrespect and disregard for the TDC Executive was on display, and this needs to be addressed going forward to prevent it from happening again. Regrettably, these actions were made possible by SSA's late response on the submission of selected teams.

- Point 6 is under review, as some circumstances have changed. The recording of events to improve judging levels is still not an official procedure, as we do not have a dedicated person to manage this.

## SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAMME

There is both primary and high interschool competition in schools in Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, and Cape Town. Individual children from various primary schools that do not have diving as a school sport, join the Johannesburg schools to compete. The high schools compete in the January to March term and the primary schools in the September to December term. Those provinces that have coaches who run clubs are then able to take the divers from school level to club and provincial level. Some of the high schools are part of a "National Aquatics Festival", which is held in the 2nd or 3rd week of February each year. The high schools in Johannesburg compete in an Interhigh event in March, where around ten schools are involved. The primary schools in Johannesburg run an interschool event every year in November comprising of eight to nine schools.

As mentioned above, the SA Schools event was run in Pietermaritzburg in December 2023, before NAG.

## CLUB DEVELOPMENT

Aquatics Gauteng carries four clubs, however, one of the clubs will be moving to East Gauteng Aquatics, having moved training venues. In KwaZulu-Natal, the Kings Park Diving Club and the Maris Stella Diving Club still run. Northern Tigers no longer run a club, while the Western Cape still run one club. Although Cape Town Diving Club has not yet registered, but hopes to register for the coming season. The remainder of the provinces do not have clubs because there is either no coach, or the resident coach is not prepared to run a club, preferring to work at school level. Other reasons include that those who are prepared to run a club, do not have facilities from which to run a club, as many municipal facilities are either no longer open, or the diving facilities are so badly maintained that it is dangerous to use them.

## DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

### 1. RSA Cup and National Age Group

The above event was run in December 2023 by KwaZulu-Natal Aquatics: Diving. The event was remarkably successful. The two sections used at NAG, renamed Elite and Novice in 2020, were again well-supported with several divers competing in each age group.

### 2. South African Nationals

The South African Youth Games and Senior National Championships were held at Kings Park Swimming Pool in Durban. To date, this is the best venue to run the event as it allows us to dive both springboard and platform at one venue. It is unfortunate that we still do not have the correct facilities elsewhere in the country.

Attending the event, besides all the Aquatics Gauteng divers, were three from KwaZulu-Natal. This number is low due to the fact that one coach was pregnant and was unable to prepare her divers for the trials. Again, there were no divers from Western Cape. Thus, there were insufficient men competing to make the men's events competitive. Overall, Aquatics Gauteng won the Women's Shield. KwaZulu-Natal Aquatics was not awarded the Men's Shield, as the divers did not score sufficient points to qualify, as per the rules. Aquatics Gauteng thus was awarded the Overall Trophy. Full results are given in the appendices attached to this report.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Junior divers were selected at NAG 2023 for the competitions in Dresden. As explained above, this team did not attend, as Crusaders took it upon themselves to enter their divers as club divers, instead of a Junior Federation Team, as has been done in the past, since the event was inaugurated.

An Olympic Trial was held at SA Nationals, where Ms. Julia Vincent was selected for the 3m event. She went on to make South Africa proud by making the finals, and lying in 3rd place for two rounds. She placed 11th in the end. Her achievement must be lauded, as it is the first time that a South African diver has competed in the 3m finals at the Olympics.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### JUDGES

Ms. Fiorella Barberini continued in her role of National Judges Convenor this past season. She ensures that





judges are “kept on the straight and narrow” by revisiting rules during pre- and post-event meetings, by reminding judges of specific rules. The recoding of events, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, although useful, is still not something we can use due to lack of skilled manpower.

#### SECRETARIAT

Ms. Colleen Kelling continued in her role as National Secretariat Convenor this past season. She has ensured that table secretaries are competent in both manual and computer skills when recording. She also ensured that secretaries were punctual for the events for which they were working and were professionally attired when doing so.

#### COACHING COURSES: LEVEL 1 (LTD)

Mrs. Kim Boustred and Ms. Loredana Raccanello put together a course, which after being presented to Mrs. Eileen Xhakaza, in her role as SSA Education and Training, went back to be tested, so that the identified weaknesses could be shored up. The Course should be ready to be into general use by the start of the 2024/25 Season.

#### VOLUNTEER PROGRAMMES

Mrs. Kim Boustred in Kwazulu-Natal continues to run a volunteer programme. In Johannesburg, an effort was

made to re-start the Learn-to-Dive programme twinning with some of the Water Polo schools, but it is hard going and needs to be looked at again to see if it can be reinstated in a different format. Again, part of the problem is the lack of municipal facilities.

#### SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT AND TALENT IDENTIFICATION

There is no structured scientific support; coaches access what they can on an individual basis. Talent identification is done ad hoc by teachers who engage in the sport at some level, referring divers to clubs. Thereafter, club coaches work with the divers within clubs.

#### MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

There is no organised marketing strategy for diving. The only way SA Diving is able to get out to the public is via Mr. Chris Moolman and the SABC, who comes through to film at the RSA Cup, NAG, and SA Nationals.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, although much has been addressed within diving in order to uplift and develop diving in this country, there is much that still needs to be done. I hope to continue working towards making diving more popular and more successful.



## OPEN WATER SWIMMING

**T**he past season presented several challenges for event organizers in South Africa's interior due to the ongoing La Niña climate phenomenon, which started in 2019. This weather pattern brought about a wetter and cooler summer season in southern Africa, a typical trait of La Niña.

Over the last three seasons, the South African interior has experienced heavy rains induced by La Niña from 2019/20 to 2023/24.

On the other hand, coastal event organizers enjoyed clean water and had plenty of suitable venues to choose from. However, while the wetter conditions were welcomed by many, the excessive rainfall significantly affected water quality in the interior. Unfortunately, this led to the cancellation of several Swimming South Africa (SSA) "Approved" Open Water Swimming events because the water quality didn't meet the necessary safety standards.

This situation had widespread consequences for the sport, but has since been addressed with the Swimming South Africa Open Water Swimming Technical Committee. They are working to ensure fair and favourable solutions are available to SSA members in the future.

### SSA APPROVED OPEN WATER SWIMMING EVENTS

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly reduced the number of events during the 2020/21 domestic open water season, and this trend has continued into the 2023/24 period, compounded by the negative effects of La Niña on inland venues.

SSA requested that all open water swimming events seeking SSA Approved status be submitted by the end of August 2023. This was to ensure that the SSA Approved Open Water Swimming Event calendar, published in September 2023, was well-organized so that coaches and athletes could plan their training programs accordingly.

The response from most affiliates and event organizers was positive, leading to the publication of a comprehensive, though limited, SSA Approved Open Water Swimming Event Calendar. Most submissions were in line with SSA's protocol.

However, there has been a decline in Open Water Swimming events in the Western Cape, a region that was once a stronghold for the sport in South Africa. Unfortunately, some event organizers in this region refuse to adhere to SSA regulations, which has been inconvenient for Federation members who now have to travel to other regions to qualify for National Competitions.

An event was hosted by the Tygerberg ASC late in the season in an effort to provide an opportunity for members to post qualifying times for 2024SANATOWS. This event proved to be a success.

Moreover, some organizers continued to disrupt the process with late submissions and unrealistic expectations, which were not considered. This issue was thoroughly discussed with the Swimming South Africa Open Water Swimming Technical Committee, and the capitulation of participants at Open Water Swimming events was addressed. The updated regulations were submitted to SSA Management in September 2022 for publication and circulation to affiliates,



which dealt with all these concerns. To date no capitation has been recovered this past season.

The excessive rainfall, typical of La Niña, had a severe impact on water quality in the interior, leading to the cancellation of several SSA Approved events. This was mainly due to excessive runoff from informal settlements and neglected, ineffective water treatment plants, which polluted rivers that feed into dams and lakes in the interior.

In one alarming case, water samples from a popular recreational waterway were so polluted that an independent authority warned the Federation that ingesting the water could be fatal. Several cases of participant illness at Open Water Swimming events were also reported across the region.

These issues had far-reaching consequences for the sport and were addressed with the Swimming South Africa Open Water Swimming Technical Committee.

This situation highlighted the importance of event organizers adhering to SSA's regulations for Open Water Swimming Event Approval, including the submission of correct documentation and a suitable water sample history of the venue. The safety of Federation members and participants is paramount, and maintaining the integrity of the Federation is essential.

## **2024 SA WORLD AQUATICS OPEN WATER SWIMMING TRIAL**

In light of the World Aquatics Swimming Championships that were to be hosted in Doha in February 2024, which effectively was a 2024 Paris Olympic Games eliminator, it was decided at the 2023 South African National Open Water Swimming Championships in March 2023, that the 2024 SA World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Trial would be hosted at Marina Martinique in Jeffery's Bay from 8 to 10 December 2023.

The Eastern Cape Aquatics, through their Nelson Mandela Bay Aquatics (NMBA) district, hosted a successful SSA compliant 2024 SA World Aquatics Open Water Swimming Trial.

Because the competition targeted the elite open water swimmers, only the 5km and 10km events were presented, while the inclusion of the 1.5km "sprint event" was introduced to encourage relay race specific participation which is in line with the revised rules published by World Aquatics at the championship event in Budapest.

The SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee approved a document, which catered for concession entries relating to times posted in pool events if athletes were unable to post qualifying times in a SSA Approved Open Water Swimming Event as well as a pathway for potential relay athletes to be able to participate.

With the African Championship event being hosted in Mauritius, much of the administration, entries etc. was handled by NMBA's Michael Canter, who did a stellar job.

The program saw the 10km events being contested on Friday, 8 December, with the 1.5km events taking place on the Saturday, 9 December. These events were followed by a recreational program in support of the Jeffrey's Bay chapter of the National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI). The program concluded on 10 December with the 5km events.

Due to the numbers, the event was scaled down significantly in respect due to the minimal fiscal availability. The Local Organizational Committee (LOC), however, presented an event that maintained the "look and feel" of a championship event that everyone has come accustomed to at this pristine venue.

Unpublished proposed criteria for the 2024 World Aquatics Swimming Championships scheduled for February 2024 in Doha were circulated at the Managers Meeting on 8 December 2023 at Marina Martinique.

Participation at the competition was as follows:

### **Men**

- 10km – 10
- 5km – 17
- 1.5km – 19

### **Women**

- 10km – 9
- 5km – 13
- 1.5km – 16

### **Any other relevant information:**

- Medal presentations per category.

### **Incidents reported:**

- 10km Woman – two x yellow cards – Hannah Neilson and Tory Earl both received a yellow card for continual unintended contact. Michelle Weber was requested to go back to a missed turning buoy. She subsequently withdrew from the event.



- 10km Men – one x yellow card – Byron Kimber received a yellow card for obstruction at the feeding platform.

SSA queried whether it would be possible for sponsorships and advertising space at venue prior to event taking place. A comprehensive response from the NMBA service provider, Zsports was provided and submitted to SSA Management.

Members of the SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee that were present at the competition had a meeting at the conclusion of the event on 10 December to finalise the draft submission to SSA High Performance

pertaining to the “5-Year Plan” for the discipline. All present provided positive input and the final document has been circulated to all parties.

Based on the results, a squad was submitted to the SSA Open Water Swimming Selection Committee for consideration. While the initial submission included Byron Kimber, he was ultimately excluded due to World Aquatics residency rules. The final group that was selected to represent Team SA at the 2024 World Aquatics Swimming Championships in Doha, were the following:

ATHLETES – 10KM				
	NAME	SURNAME	PROVINCE	DEMO
1.	Ruan	Breytenbach	AG - TS	White
2.	Henre'	Louw	AG - TS	White
3.	Callen	Lotter	AG - TS	White
4.	Amica	De Jager	AG - TS	White

ATHLETES – 1500M				
	NAME	SURNAME	PROVINCE	DEMO
1.	Ruan	Breytenbach	AG - TS	White
2.	Rossouw	Venter	AG - TS	White
3.	Amica	De Jager	AG - TS	White
4.	Callen	Lotter	AG - TS	White

ATHLETES – 5KM				
	NAME	SURNAME	PROVINCE	DEMO
1.	Connor	Albertyn	AG - TS	White
2.	Rossouw	Venter	AG - TS	White
3.	Amica	De Jager	AG - TS	White
4.	Tory	Earl	AG - TS	White



## 2024 WORLD AQUATICS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS – OPEN WATER SWIMMING

Open Water Swimming at the 2024 World Aquatics Swimming Championships was held from 2 tot 19 February 2024 in, Qatar, Doha.

The Open Water Swimming Competition was held at the Old Doha Port from 3 February 2024 and concluded on 8 February 2024. It provided a captivating waterfront location steeped in history and charm. Situated along the picturesque Doha Corniche, the Old Port provided a unique and memorable setting.

Thian de Jager represented South Africa as an International Technical Official. His participation at this prestigious event allows him to bring back much information and guidelines for our domestic competitions.

The performances of the women were good, with Amica de Jager posting the best finishes – in relation to the winner – since 2008 World Championships in Seville, when Natalie du Toit secured a top 10 finish in the 10km event. Both Tory Earl and Callan Lotter did exceptionally well to finish so close to the winners in their respective events. All three woman have international racing experience in open water swimming and/or surf lifesaving.

Bearing in mind, that time recorded is paramount against the position finished.

Our men had tough competition and were exposed due to their lack of experience in international competition.

While opportunities have been presented in the recent past for all our elite swimmers to participate internationally, their coaches have declined these offers.

### RESULTS

WOMAN 5KM		
1: Sharon van Rouwendaal	Netherlands	57:33.90
22nd: Amica de Jager	RSA	+ 01:32.10
25th: Tory Earl – RSA – 5	+1:32.40	+04:56.20
<i>START 65 – FINISH 57</i>		
WOMAN 10KM		
1: Sharon van Rouwendaal	Netherlands	1:57:26.80
27th Amica de Jager	RSA	+ 01:11.80
29th Callen Lotter	RSA	+02:41.10
<i>START 71 – FINISH 67</i>		
MEN 5KM		
1: Logan Fontaine	France	51:29.30
47th: Connor Albertyn	RSA	+ 03:35.40
63rd: Roussouw Venter	RSA	+ 06:11.50
<i>START 76 – FINISH 72</i>		
MEN 5KM		
1: Kristov Rasovszky	Hungary	1:48:21.20
53rd: Hanre Louw	RSA	+ 06:11.90
58th: Ruan Breytenbach	RSA	+06:20.00
<i>START 79 – FINISH 77</i>		
MIXED 4X 1.5KM RELAY		
1: Australia		1:03:28.00
15th RSA		+ 05:14.00
<i>START 22 – FINISH 21</i>		

While Amica de Jager qualified to be the African representative, at the 2024 Paris Olympics by virtue of her placing in the event, this was declined by SSA due to her not finishing in the top 20 as per a document dated 13 November 2023.

The men's African position was secured by Namibian Phillip Seidler, who finished the 10km in 48th place in a time of 1:54:04.20 some +05:43.00 off the pace. His strategy was to fish ahead of the South African so he could secure the African position at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

## **2024 SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL OPEN WATER SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Eastern Cape Aquatics, through their district, NMBA, hosted a successful and professional SSA-compliant 2024 South African Open Water Swimming Championships from 8 to 10 March 2024.

Many praised the event as the best SA National Open Water Championships (SANATOWS) in recent memory. Congratulations to Chairman Thian de Jager and Liz de Vrey, their efficient LOC, as well as everyone from SSA who provided guidance and expertise.

The LOC successfully extended and increased sponsorship for the event from the local Kouga Municipality, along with contributions from the Body Corporate and Homeowners of Marina Martinique, a national drinks provider, and other service providers for mobile homes, tents, and gazebos.

An ablution block was also constructed at the venue by the Marina Martinique Body Corporate, providing clean ablution facilities for athletes and spectators, reducing the dependence on portable units used in the past.

All these efforts ensured a world-class event, much to the delight of competitors, officials, and spectators.

All referees at the competition were FINA-listed Technical Officials.

However, the limited number of SSA Approved Open Water Swimming events continued to have significant consequences, leading to numerous concession entry requests being submitted to the SSA Competitions Manager for entry into the competition.

In the past only the 3km age group event has allowed concessions but this was extended to all events based on the pool times confirmed by the SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee.

This issue was addressed with the Swimming South Africa Open Water Swimming Technical Committee at 2024 SANATOWS to ensure fair and favourable solutions for the Federation's members for the future.

A revised set of Competition Rules has been formulated and approved by the SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee which will be published before the onset of the 2024/25 Open Water Swimming Season, so that all members are aware of the requirements to participate in the 2025 South African Open Water Swimming Championships

## **HIGH PERFORMANCE – DOMESTIC**

In 2021, the Swimming South Africa National Open Water Swimming Squad system was revamped to align with the Swimming South Africa National Swimming Squad program, providing a streamlined and progressive model for our aspiring Olympians and World Championship contenders.

The model was submitted to the Swimming South Africa High Performance Cluster, approved, and accepted, but it has not yet been implemented due to time and financial constraints. This despite squad nominations being submitted to the High Performance Manager for the past two years.

The annual Swimming South Africa National Camp in the Mpumalanga Lowveld was attended by 25 open water swimming athletes. The camp focused on the Tier 2 and Tier 3 athletes / squad nominations and an Open Water Swimming event was hosted at Longmere Dam to accommodate these athletes.

Lack of a full complement of Technical Officials at this event led to some unnecessary, unsavoury incidents regarding the times posted during the event. This led to a protracted reassessment of the results.

The consensus amongst the SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Committee is that a Championship Series should be considered and presented to coincide with the Affiliate Open Water Swimming Championships, culminating with the finale at the South African National Open Water Swimming Championships.

This would be an exciting development for the sport.

The structure of the Swimming South Africa National Open Water Swimming Squads has been revisited, rationalized, and updated before the onset of the 2024/25 season. These details have again been presented to the SSA High Performance Manager.





## EDUCATION & TRAINING

A three-part two-hour virtual SSA Open water Swimming Technical Officials Clinic was presented by Thian de Jager during September 2023.

The clinic mirrors that of the World Aquatics Clinic presented by Bill Ford from Australia and that of Neville Smith from South Africa. By utilising De Jager, the process of building capacity within the SSA structures is being embraced.

This clinic was well attended by a wide range of Open Water Swimming enthusiasts from South Africa. The clinic concluded with a short multi choice examinations, in line with the World Aquatics Clinic requirements and protocols.

It is envisaged that prior to the 2024/25 Open Water Swimming season, that a similar SSA Open Water Swimming Technical Officials Clinic will be presented in September 2024, by Thian de Jager.

While De Jager's virtual clinic was a success, face-to-face training sessions are highly recommended for future clinics. They allow attendees to participate actively in discussions and share experiences, enhancing their learning experience.

A further three pertinent Open Water Swimming virtual presentations will be presented by Neville Smith during the course of the season.

## SAFEGUARDING

SSA successfully trained 22 safeguarding officers in Johannesburg on 29 and 30 October 2022. On 28 and 29 November 2022 five of the 22 were further trained to assist in training the other trainers nationally. A follow-up training session was held virtually from 17 to 19 January 2023.

A total of 24 people, including 15 from the initial group who participated in the "train the trainer" sessions.

The roll out was implemented in August 2023, with a prerequisite of conditions that include a wide range of compliance amongst the members of the Federation.

As per the SSA Capacity Building the requirement for clubs, districts, and affiliates to all have Safeguarding Officers has been encouraged.

Each district and affiliate has a nominated Safeguarding Officer. In most instances, two. One male and one female.

There has been an enthusiastic uptake from many members with most districts and / or affiliates hosting numerous informative clinics so that members are informed about Safeguarding.

Currently the SSA Safeguarding team is headed up by Eileen Xhakaza and Neville Smith.

While resolving concerns at a local level is encouraged, some cases that warrant further investigation and intervention.

These cases are dealt with by the SSA Safeguarding team. Information is gathered and then presented to an independent group of external individuals called The Case Management Group (CMG) who then deliberate on the evidence presented and the provide a non-biased independent recommendation on what should transpire to SSA Management.

The autonomy of the CMG maintains the transparency and integrity of the Federation.



## WATER POLO

**T**he 2023/24 season has been a challenging, yet productive year for the SSA Water Polo Technical Committee. Our commitment to unifying the domestic water polo program remains steadfast, and with the unwavering support of the SSA Executive, CEO, and SSA head office, we are making strides toward a cohesive and inclusive water polo community. The Technical Committee is dedicated to refining the water polo structure, rigorously evaluating current frameworks, and ensuring that all provincial and district affiliates adhere to the SSA constitution and by-laws. Our ultimate objective is to establish a unified structure for both women's and men's water polo, addressing and bridging the gaps that have persisted across various independently run programs.

While this endeavour is monumental, the Technical Committee remains resolute in its mission to standardise systems, criteria, and policies. With the help of SSA, an extensive audit of the existing structures within each district and provincial affiliate to align them with our overarching goals is currently underway.

### **PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Water polo participation among primary and secondary school students has remained robust throughout the season. However, the Technical Committee recognises the need to engage university students and seniors more actively in the sport. Our aim is to foster a stronger and more competitive senior league that encourages continued involvement in water polo beyond high school. It is crucial for

South African universities to support water polo programs and provide necessary assistance to student-athletes, ensuring the sport's growth at the tertiary level.

The conclusion of the 2023/24 season also marked the end of the four-year Olympic cycle. As such, the Technical Committee has embarked on the development of a long-term strategy for water polo over the next 4, 8, and 12-year Olympic cycles. After several consultations with the SSA President and CEO, the Technical Committee has been mandated to create a comprehensive strategy that encompasses all aspects of the sport, from High Performance to Learn to Polo/Splash Polo. The development of the Long-Term Strategic Development (LTSD) plan is currently underway, with input being gathered from stakeholders and officials. We anticipate completing the LTSD plan within the next few months, after which it will be presented to the water polo community for feedback.

Key contributors to this strategy include Mr. Brad Rowe, Director of Coaching, and Mr. Ryan Weidemann, Head Coach, who will focus on a National High Performance Program aimed at positioning our national teams within the top 12 globally over the next four years. An outline of their plans for the National High Performance Program will be included in the LTSD.

We would also like to recognise the outstanding contributions of Mr. Dion Willis, Director of Referees/Technical Officials, who has organised numerous referee courses, workshops, and clinics across South Africa. The Technical Committee extends its deepest gratitude to Dion for his unwavering dedication to educating and training referees.



Similarly, Ms. Galidjah Hendricks, Head Team Manager, has been instrumental in enhancing the qualifications and proficiency of our team managers. Her tireless efforts ensure the seamless coordination of our national teams, and we are immensely grateful for her commitment.

Mr. Rhynie Van Schoor, Convenor of Selectors, has played an instrumental role this year by meticulously selecting teams for international competitions. His efforts at the SA Schools Inter-Provincial Tournament in Port Elizabeth, followed by the U18 and U16 Championships in East London, have been pivotal in identifying and nurturing exceptional young talent. For the senior teams, Mr. Van Schoor led the selection process for the World Championships in Doha during the senior selection camp, which took place immediately after the IPT in Port Elizabeth. This camp was highly successful, featuring a series of rigorous fitness tests and competitive matches designed to assess players in strength-on-strength scenarios. Mr. Van Schoor's commitment to developing young talent was further exemplified in his careful assembly of men's and women's teams for the 2023 U20 World Championships, where our teams proudly showcased their potential on the global stage.

## **NATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

### **SA SCHOOLS INTER-PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT, PORT ELIZABETH, DECEMBER 2023**

The SA Schools Water Polo (SWPSA) Inter-Provincial Tournament, held in Port Elizabeth, was the highlight of the year for age-group players. The tournament brought together over 1,500 players across U13 to U19 age groups, with participants from Central Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Gauteng, Winelands, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, Northern Gauteng, Western Province, and Eden. The tournament was a resounding success, and we commend SWPSA and the Local Organizing Committee in Port Elizabeth for their efficient management.

### **SSA SENIOR NATIONAL WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIP**

Unfortunately, the Senior National Championship did not take place as scheduled due to a lack of participation by affiliates and clubs. For the 2025 National Championship, we will revert to provincial competitions, with affiliates supporting their best teams. The TC is optimistic that this change will revitalise interest among our senior players and strengthen the sport as we implement the new LTSD plan.

### **SSA WATER POLO U18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, EAST LONDON, MARCH 2024**

The U18 National Water Polo Championship, hosted by Buffalo City Aquatics at the Joan Harrison Aquatics Centre, was another standout event. Under the leadership of Mr. Vaughn Meecham, the LOC executed the tournament with exceptional competence, and we express our sincere appreciation for his efforts. We also acknowledge the support of the East London municipality in preparing the facility, which boasts two water polo pools, enabling simultaneous men's and women's tournaments over three days.

Participating provinces in the Men's tournament included KwaZulu-Natal, Central Gauteng, Northern Gauteng, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, and Western Cape. Central Gauteng clinched the gold medal with KwaZulu-Natal taking the silver and Western Cape the bronze.

The Women's Section saw participation from KwaZulu-Natal, Central Gauteng, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, Western Cape, and Eastern Gauteng. Central Gauteng also took the gold medal in the women's section with KwaZulu-Natal taking the silver and Western Cape claiming the bronze.

### **SSA WATER POLO U16 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, EAST LONDON, MARCH 2024**

Similarly, the U16 National Water Polo Championship, also held at the Joan Harrison Aquatics Centre, was a great success. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Vaughn Meecham and the LOC for their exceptional planning and execution, as well as to the East London municipality for their support.

Participating provinces in the Men's tournament included KwaZulu-Natal, Central Gauteng, Northern Gauteng, Eastern Gauteng, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, and Western Cape. The top three finishers were again Central Gauteng for the gold, KwaZulu-Natal for the silver and Western Cape for the Bronze.

The Women's Section saw participation from KwaZulu-Natal, Central Gauteng, Buffalo City, Nelson Mandela Bay, Western Cape, Eden, and Eastern Gauteng. The top three finishers were again Central Gauteng for the gold, KwaZulu-Natal for the silver and Western Cape for the bronze.

Overall, the SA Schools IPT, the SSA Water Polo U18 National Tournament, and the U16 National Tournament were standout events on the South African water polo calendar, showcasing the high level of talent, dedication, and organisation within the sport.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Our national teams have been active in various international tournaments, showcasing the talent and dedication of South African water polo players. By the end of the season, SSA Water Polo had competed in eight international tournaments across different age groups. Highlights include:

MAY 2023			
Women:	World League Division 2 Qualifier	Berlin, Germany	8th place
Men:	World League Division 2 Qualifier	Berlin, Germany	7th place
Women:	World Aquatics Beach Polo Qualifier	Hurghada, Egypt	3rd place
Men:	World Aquatics Beach Polo Qualifier	Hurghada, Egypt	8th place
JUNE 2023			
U20 Men:	World Aquatics Youth Championship	Bucharest, ROA	18th place
JULY 2023			
Men:	World Aquatics World Championship	Fukuoka, Japan	16th place
Women:	World Aquatics World Championship	Fukuoka, Japan	12th place
SEPTEMBER 2023			
U20 Women:	World Aquatics Youth Championship	Coimbra, Portugal	17th place
FEBRUARY 2024			
Men:	World Aquatics Championships	Doha, Qatar	15th place
Women:	World Aquatics Championships	Doha, Qatar	14th place

## PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

One of the Technical Committee's most significant undertakings has been the re-alignment of all affiliates with the SSA constitution and by-laws. With various factions within the water polo community, the current Technical Committee is dedicated to unifying these groups under a common framework. Ensuring the proper administration of the sport from district to provincial level, establishing efficient lines of communication, and defining clear roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders are crucial for the future success of water polo in South Africa. With the support of the SSA Executive and SSA head office, we believe this task is achievable. The recent Governance and Affiliate Audit provided by head office will be instrumental in furthering our efforts to unify the water polo community.

In addition to this re-alignment, several other projects have been identified as critical for the sport's advancement:

### SENIOR PROVINCIAL LEAGUE: PROMOTING CONTINUED PARTICIPATION

The Technical Committee is prioritising the creation of a vibrant senior provincial league. Despite the success of the school-age program, we face the challenge of

players discontinuing their involvement after high school. Establishing a dedicated league for senior players is essential to ensure continuous participation. While USSA hosts an annual university tournament, participation remains disappointingly low. Encouraging more universities to embrace water polo and establishing senior clubs within affiliates are key strategies for revitalising the senior league and enhancing the sport's competitiveness.

### ADVANCING TRANSFORMATION, DIVERSITY, AND EQUALITY IN WATER POLO

Water polo presents a unique opportunity to promote transformation, diversity, and equality within aquatics. SSA Water Polo has implemented targets for the inclusion of black players in National Teams, with progressive increases until representation aligns with South Africa's demographics. The Technical Committee also intends to conduct a comprehensive study on equal playing time, collaborate with coaches and managers, and develop a holistic approach to achieving our sport's transformation mission. The development of black coaches and referees, along with encouraging more women to pursue coaching and officiating roles, are vital components of this initiative.





### ENHANCING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and training are central to the Technical Committee's efforts to realign affiliates with SSA. The TC is working closely with Mrs. Eileen Xhakaza, SSA Head of Education and Training, and Mr. Ryan Weideman, Head Coach, to implement registration requirements for coaches, managers, and officials, with a focus on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points. A comprehensive pathway to accreditation for coaches, starting from the introductory level to advanced coaching, is being developed. This pathway will ensure that coaches receive the necessary education, mentorship, and experience to effectively nurture talent across all levels of play. The Technical Committee is also exploring partnerships with international coaching bodies to provide additional resources and opportunities for South African coaches to gain exposure to global best practices.

### GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT: LEARN TO POLO AND SPLASH POLO PROGRAMS

Grassroots development remains a cornerstone of our strategy. The Learn to Polo and Splash Polo programs are designed to introduce young players to the sport in a fun and engaging way, fostering a lifelong love for water polo. These programs are currently being piloted in some districts, with plans to expand them nationally.

The Technical Committee is committed to working with schools, community organisations, and local swimming clubs to ensure that water polo is accessible to all children, regardless of their background.

### REFEREE AND OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Technical Committee recognizes the vital role that referees and officials play in upholding the integrity and fairness of water polo. Under the leadership of Mr. Dion Willis, significant strides have been made to enhance the qualifications and skills of our referees. These efforts include the introduction of advanced courses and workshops, as well as opportunities for referees to gain valuable international experience. Additionally, Mr. Willis is actively exploring the integration of technology to support referees in their decision-making processes, ensuring that our officiating standards remain at the highest level.

The Technical Committee would also like to highlight the outstanding achievement of Mr. Lucky Letshabo, who was appointed as a referee representing South Africa at the 2024 World Championships in Doha, Qatar. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Lucky on this prestigious appointment, which reflects both his dedication and the quality of officiating in South Africa.



## WOMEN IN WATER POLO

Promoting and supporting women's participation in water polo is a priority for the Technical Committee. We are committed to increasing the number of women involved in all aspects of the sport, from players to coaches, referees, and administrators. The Technical Committee is exploring initiatives such as mentorship programs for female coaches and possibly leadership training for women in administrative roles. We believe that by empowering women within the sport, we can create a more inclusive and dynamic water polo community.

## CHALLENGES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

While the 2023/24 season has seen many successes, it has also highlighted several challenges that need to be addressed as we move forward. The lack of participation in senior leagues is a significant concern, and the Technical Committee will be focusing on strategies to re-engage former players and attract new ones to the sport. Financial constraints remain a challenge, particularly in funding travel and participation in international competitions. The Technical Committee is actively seeking partnerships and sponsorships to alleviate these burdens.

Another challenge is the need for greater collaboration between affiliates and the Technical Committee. While progress has been made, there is still work to be done to

ensure that all stakeholders are aligned with the goals of the SSA Water Polo program. The Technical Committee will continue efforts to engage with affiliates, offering support and guidance to help them meet the standards set out in the SSA constitution and by-laws.

Looking ahead, the Technical Committee is optimistic about the future of water polo in South Africa. With the continued support of the SSA Executive, CEO, and head office, we are confident that the strategies and programs outlined in this report will contribute to the growth and success of the sport. We are committed to building on the foundation laid this season, with a focus on unity, development, and excellence.

## CONCLUSION

As we conclude the 2023/24 season, the SSA Water Polo Technical Committee reflects on a year marked by both progress and challenges. Our journey has been driven by a steadfast commitment to unifying and elevating South African water polo, and while we have made significant strides, we recognise that much work still remains to be done.

This season has underscored the importance of collaboration and alignment within our water polo community. The efforts to unify the sport under a standardised structure, as outlined in our long-term strategy, is a monumental task,







requiring the dedication and cooperation of all provincial and district affiliates. We will lay the groundwork for a more cohesive and effective water polo program, one that aligns with the principles of the SSA constitution and by-laws, and we are optimistic that this will lead to greater success and sustainability in the years to come.

Our focus on grassroots development, education, and training has been a cornerstone of our efforts this year. By investing in the Learn to Polo and Splash Polo programs, as well as the comprehensive coaching pathways, we will ensure that the next generation of players and coaches have the skills and support they need to succeed. The emphasis on referee and official development is equally crucial, as it strengthens the integrity and professionalism of the sport at all levels.

The challenges we have faced, particularly in re-engaging senior players and securing financial resources, have highlighted areas where we must redouble our efforts. The decline in senior league participation is a pressing concern, and the Technical Committee is committed to finding innovative solutions to revitalise this critical component of the sport. We are also acutely aware of the financial pressures on our athletes and teams, particularly when it comes to international competition. The search for new partnerships and sponsorships will be a key focus moving forward, as we strive to provide our athletes with the opportunities they deserve.

Transformation, diversity, and inclusivity remain at the forefront of our mission. The progress we have made in promoting women's participation and advancing the representation of black athletes, coaches, and referees is encouraging, but we recognise that there is still much to be done. We are committed to creating a water polo community that reflects the rich diversity of our nation, where every individual, regardless of background or gender, has the opportunity to thrive and contribute.

Looking ahead, the Technical Committee is filled with optimism and a renewed sense of purpose. The plans we have set in motion—whether in the form of planning long-term strategic goals, proposed innovative programs like Beach Water Polo, or upcoming leagues, national and international tournaments—are all geared towards one ultimate goal: to see South African water polo flourish on both the domestic and global stage.

We are deeply grateful to the SSA Executive, CEO, and head office for their unwavering support and guidance throughout this season. Their belief in our vision has been instrumental in driving our efforts forward. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the players, coaches, referees, officials, administrators, volunteers, and supporters who have dedicated their time and energy to this sport. It is your passion and commitment that keep the spirit of water polo alive in South Africa.

As we prepare for the next season, we are more determined than ever to build on the foundation we have laid. The challenges we face are not insurmountable, and with unity, perseverance, and a shared vision, we are confident that we can overcome them. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence, foster a sense of community, and ensure that water polo remains a vibrant and thriving sport in South Africa for generations to come.

In conclusion, the 2023/24 season has been a pivotal chapter in the story of South African water polo. It has been a year of learning, growth, and laying the groundwork for future success. The Technical Committee is committed to continuing this journey with renewed vigour, inspired by the achievements and setbacks of this season, and motivated by the possibilities that lie ahead. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to create a brighter, more unified future for water polo in South Africa.





## v. AFFILIATE **REPORTS**



# Limpopo Province Aquatics

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Records Officer
Louise Blignaut	Vashti Brandt	Vacant	Denzil Haynes	Therese Bruwer
Sekhukhune	Capricorn	Sekhukhune	Mopani	Mopani
Development Officer	Education + Training	Technical officer	Schools	Officials Rep
Edwina Mbite	Edwina Mbite	Ilize du Plessis	Elma de Beer	Jean Mari Venter
Capricorn	Capricorn	Mopani	Sekhukhune	Sekhukhune

## OVERVIEW

### THE REGION

The province covers five geopolitical district areas:

- Capricorn
- Vhembe
- Mopani
- Waterberg
- Greater Sekhukhune

Coaches	2022/23	2023/24
Coach (C1)	8	8
Coach (C2)	2	7
Coach (C3)	1	2
LTS Instructor (O)	4	3
LTS Instructor & Coach (OC)	3	2
Senior LTS (SLS)	1	1

## AFFILIATED CLUBS

- Limpopo TuksSwimming (Sekhukhune)
- Ellisras Aquatics (Waterberg)
- Shamu Swimming (Mopani)
- Polokwane Swim Club (Capricorn)
- Warmbad Swim Club (Waterberg)
- Dolphins Swim Club (Mopani)
- Tzaneen Amateur Swemklub (Mopani)
- Limpopo TuksSwimming (Waterberg)
- Action Swimming Club (Capricorn)

Swimmers	2022/23	2023/24
Club swimmers (A)	233	262
Club swimmers (3R)	132	109
LTS swimmers (AL)	225	145

Officials	2022/23	2023/24
Officials (B)	263	303

## PARTICIPATION

### SA COMPETITIONS

	2022/23	2023/24
SA Senior Nationals	4	4
SA Junior Nationals	6	12
Level 3	41	52
Level 2	63	62
Level 1	144	123
SA Open Water Champs	0	0
SA Short Course	0	0

## EVENTS AND GALA'S

Limpopo Aquatics hosted the following gala's:

- Seven age groups competitions
- Two sprint gala's
- Provincial Championships
- Open water competition Ebenezer Dam
- Provincial School Championships

## SCHOOLS

Number of schools participating	37
Primary learners participating	649
High School learners participating	402
Recreational swimmers	264
Learn to Swim participants	1860

## DEVELOPMENT & TRANSFORMATION

Limpopo is struggling with development in the province. To name problematic areas:

- Lack of facilities,
- Lack of delivery of water and the availability of water,
- Dams and rivers are unsafe because of crocodiles,
- Learn to Swim teachers, and
- No school structures in township areas.

Solutions for our slow transformation situation:

- Lotto funding,
- Running of water safety programs,
- Holiday program to take place,
- Training and assist educators in rural areas, and
- Clubs to adopt a school and do development,
  - Only two clubs adopted schools. One in Waterberg and one in Sekhukhune District.

## MASS PARTICIPATION

### CLUB DEVELOPMENT

No new clubs were established. Lack of funding and trained Learn to Swim instructors.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### FACILITATORS TRAINING

Two ladies, one white, one black attended the training.

### LEARN TO SWIM INSTRUCTORS COURSES

1. Sekhukhune District
  - Nine participants – six black teachers and three white
2. Capricorn District
  - Six participants – four teachers
3. Vhembe District
  - 15 participants – all teachers

In total only five completed the practical and theory exams.

We made use of two facilitators coming from Gauteng.







## CHALLENGES

- Lack of availability of practicing LTS instructors to help candidates log their hours.
- Cost of bringing a facilitator in the province to present the course.

## JUDGES AND TIMEKEEPERS

One judges course was held. Eleven officials attended and successfully completed the course.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The holiday program took place in two districts in December 2023.

### 1. GREATER SEKHUKHUNE – ELANDSDOORN

Because of a lack of a facility, the children were transported from Elandsdoorn to Groblersdal. The program was held over ten days in December.

In total 78 children attended the program. Ages from 4 years to 12 years old.

### 2. IN POLOKWANE – CAPRICORN DISTRICT

A holiday program took place at the Municipality pool in December.

36 children participated.

## FACILITIES

Limpopo has 50-meter pools in the following areas:

- Polokwane – Capricorn district
- Tzaneen – Mopani District

The pool in Polokwane is no longer used for competitions due to the vandalism of the terrain. The electronic score board is still there, but not in use.

Tzaneen pool is in a good condition due to Limpopo Federation's assistance and financial contributions.

Limpopo has 25-meter pools in the following areas:

- Lephalale - Waterberg
- Vaalwater - Waterberg
- Bela-Bela - Waterberg
- Mokopane – Waterberg
- Groblersdal – Sekhukhune
- Polokwane – Capricorn
- Tzaneen – Mopani
- Phalaborwa – Mopani
- Hoedspruit - Mopani



## VI. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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# General Information

**COUNTRY OF INCORPORATION AND DOMICILE** South Africa

**NATURE OF BUSINESS AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The principal activity of the association is to develop, control and promote all aquatic disciplines in the Republic of South Africa. The association is a non-profit sport organisation. The association had been approved as a public benefit organisation in terms of Section 10 of the Income Tax Act and the receipts and accruals are exempt from Income Tax under Section 10(1) (cN) of the Income Tax Act.

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

The Executive Committee was elected at the Annual General Meeting held on the 15th January 2022 and certain members have been co-opted, as per the provisions of the Swimming South Africa Constitution.

The following members served on the Executive Committee during the year under review:

NAME	POSITION
Mr Alan Fritz	President
Mr Zikie Molusi	Vice President
Mr Jace Naidoo	Vice President
Mr Emile van Veenhuyzen	Vice President
Mr John Ellis	Treasurer
Mrs Louise Blignaut	Member
Mr Llewellyn Coetzee	Member
Ms Lerato Ramatsa	Member
Ms Asmeralda Motau	Member
Mr Chad Ho	Member
Mr Sam Ramsamy	Honorary Life President
Mr Gideon Sam	Honorary Life President
Mr Ronald Andrews	Honorary Life Member
Mr Shaun Adriaanse	Chief Executive Officer (ex-office)

**LEGAL FORM**

Association governed by a constitution

**REGISTRATION NUMBERS**

NPO registration 088-206-NPO  
PBO registration 18/11/13/3206

**REGISTERED OFFICE AND BUSINESS ADDRESS**

Ground Floor, North Wing  
Johannesburg Athletic Stadium  
124 Van Beek Street  
New Doornfontein  
Johannesburg

**WEBSITE ADDRESS**

swimsa.org

**PRINCIPAL BANKERS**

ABSA Bank Limited

**PREPARER**

The annual financial statements were internally prepared by B. Morar.

**LEVEL OF ASSURANCE**

These annual financial statements have been audited independently in compliance with the constitution.

# Executive Committee's Responsibilities and Approval

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The Executive Committee are required by the association's constitution, to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the association as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with its accounting policies and International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium - sized Entities. The external auditors are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium - sized Entities and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The Executive Committee acknowledge that they are ultimately responsible for the system of internal financial controls established by the association and place considerable importance on maintaining a strong control environment. To enable the Executive Committee to meet these responsibilities, the Management Committee sets out standards for internal control aimed at reducing the risk of error or loss in a cost - effective manner. The standards include the proper delegation of responsibilities within a clearly defined framework, effective accounting procedures and adequate segregation of duties to ensure an acceptable level of risk. These controls are monitored throughout the association and employees are required to maintain the highest ethical standards in ensuring the association's business is conducted in a manner that in all reasonable circumstances is above reproach. The focus of risk

management in the association is on identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring all known forms of risk across the association. While operating risk cannot be fully eliminated, the association endeavours to minimise it by ensuring that appropriate infrastructure, controls, systems and ethical behaviour are applied and managed within predetermined procedures and constraints.

The Executive Committee are of the opinion, based on the information and explanations given by management, that the system of internal controls provides reasonable assurance that the financial records may be relied on for the presentation of the annual financial statements. However, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Executive Committee have reviewed the association's cash flow forecast for the year to 30th April 2025 and, in the light of this review and the current financial position, they are satisfied that the association has or has access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Although the Executive Committee is primarily responsible for the financial affairs of the association, it is supported by the association's external auditors.

The external auditors are responsible for independently auditing and reporting on the association's annual financial statements. The annual financial statements have been examined by the association's external auditors and their report is presented on pages 55 to 56.

The annual financial statements set out on pages 58 to 70, were approved by the Executive Committee on the 27th July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



**Alan Fritz**  
President



**John Ellis**  
Treasurer



# Independent Auditor's Report

## UNQUALIFIED OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Swimming South Africa set out on pages 58 to 70, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 April 2024, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in reserves and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements fairly present, in all material respects, the financial position of Swimming South Africa as at 30 April 2024, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with its accounting policies and International Financial Accounting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

## BASIS FOR UNQUALIFIED OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (IRBA Code), together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical requirements in accordance with these requirements and the IRBA Code. The IRBA Code is consistent with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Part A and B). We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## OTHER INFORMATION

The management board is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Supplementary schedules set out on pages 71 to 72. The other information does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially

misstated. If, based on the work we performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## EMPHASIS OF MATTER

We draw attention to the matter below. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

As is explained in note 18 to the financial statements, the association needs ongoing donor support if it is to continue operations. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting practices applicable to a going concern which assumes that the association will generate sufficient funds by way of grants from donors to continue funding its activities in the ensuing year. Accordingly they do not include any adjustments, relating to the recoverability and classification of assets or to the amounts and classification of liabilities, that would be necessary if the association were unable to continue as a going concern.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with their accounting policies, the International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium - sized and the requirements of the Constitution, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

## AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS


Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error,

and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the association to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the association audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit. We have communicated with those charged with governance on all relationships and other matters, which may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and, where applicable, related safeguards.



**Rev Vincent Bhengu** CA (SA), RA (IRBA 507361)

**Douglas & Velcich**

Chartered Accountants (S.A.)

Johannesburg

7 August 2024



# Report of the **Executive Committee**

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The Treasurer has pleasure in presenting this report on behalf of the Executive Committee on the financial activities of the association.

## **GENERAL OVERVIEW**

The principal activity of the association is to develop, control and promote all aquatic disciplines in the Republic of South Africa.

The association is a non-profit sport organisation. The association has been approved as a public benefit organisation in terms of Section 10 of the Income Tax Act and the receipts and accruals are exempt from Income Tax under Section 10(1) (cN) of the Income Tax Act.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The association has adopted the principles in the King IV on corporate governance as it applies to non-profit organisations.

This was done in the previous year and is retained in the year under review.

## **RESULTS**

The results for the year are fully disclosed in the attached annual financial statements.

## **POST FINANCIAL POSITION EVENTS**

Swimming South Africa has entered into an Agreement with World Aquatics to build a High Performance Facility at Franschhoek, Western Cape. Work has already started in the previous financial years. (As per note 13, funds received to date from NLDTF have been disbursed to this project). The facility will comprise a 50 meter and 25 meter swimming pool plus full high performance facilities.

Funding has come from World Aquatics (+R8.5m), The Sports Trust (R6.2m) and the National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund (R35m). Swimming South Africa will co-ordinate the overall project. Final details and agreements are still subject to negotiation and will be finalised in the current year.

## **EQUIPMENT**

During the year under review, the association acquired equipment costing R30,346 (2023 - R162,045).

## **AUDITORS**

During the year under review, Douglas & Velcich were retained as auditors.

# Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 April 2024

	NOTE	2024 R	2023 R
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>15 210 531</b>	<b>11 441 161</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>148 433</b>	<b>278 897</b>
Equipment	3	148 433	278 897
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>15 062 098</b>	<b>11 162 264</b>
Inventory	4	3 273 474	2 492 953
Accounts receivable	5	3 842 492	2 660 656
Accrued income	6	-	236 586
Cash and cash equivalents	7	7 946 132	5 772 069
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>15 210 531</b>	<b>11 441 161</b>
<b>RESERVES AND LIABILITIES</b>		<b>15 210 531</b>	<b>11 441 161</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		<b>315 788</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>
Accumulated surplus		315 788	1 265 518
<b>Current liabilities</b>		<b>14 894 743</b>	<b>10 175 643</b>
Accounts payable	8	4 451 495	3 636 455
Deferred income	9	10 371 559	6 486 207
Provision for leave pay	10	71 689	52 982
<b>Total reserves and liabilities</b>		<b>15 210 531</b>	<b>11 441 161</b>



# Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 April 2024

	NOTE	2024 R	2023 R
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>40 851 887</b>	<b>30 645 018</b>
Fees received	11	14 766 163	13 047 995
Sponsorship received	12	5 193 412	2 427 725
Grants received	13	19 701 524	14 588 671
Interest received	14	871 204	466 347
Other income		319 585	114 281
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>41 801 617</b>	<b>31 999 921</b>
<b>Programme costs</b>		<b>37 063 818</b>	<b>27 822 180</b>
Competitions and disciplines		3 159 725	2 603 158
High performance		19 355 333	13 049 681
High performance Centre (Franschhoek)		6 780 565	5 578 999
Marketing		2 452 614	2 414 949
Mass participation		2 378 465	1 474 536
Training and development		1 342 051	1 798 694
General expenses		1 595 064	902 165
<b>National office costs</b>		<b>4 737 800</b>	<b>4 177 741</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>(949 730)</b>	<b>(1 354 904)</b>

# Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended 30 April 2024

	<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS R</b>	<b>TOTAL R</b>
<b>Balance at 30 April 2022</b>	<b>2 620 421</b>	<b>2 620 421</b>
(Deficit) for the year	(1 354 904)	(1 354 904)
<b>Balance at 30 April 2023</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>
(Deficit) for the year	(949 730)	(949 730)
<b>Balance at 30 April 2024</b>	<b>315 788</b>	<b>315 788</b>



# Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 April 2024

	NOTE	2024 R	2023 R
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Cash receipts from donors, sponsors and affiliates		42 140 266	24 142 722
Cash paid to programmes, suppliers and employees		(40 807 060)	(31 441 141)
<b>Cash (utilised in)/generated from operations</b>	16	<b>1 333 206</b>	<b>(7 298 420)</b>
Interest received	14	871 204	466 347
<b>Net (outflow)/inflow from operating activities</b>		<b>2 204 410</b>	<b>(6 832 073)</b>
<b>Cash flows (utilised in) investing activities</b>			
Acquisition of equipment, at cost	3	(30 346)	(162 045)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		2 174 064	(6 994 118)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		5 772 069	12 766 186
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	7	<b>7 946 132</b>	<b>5 772 069</b>

# Accounting Policies

1. The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium - Sized entities. The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for financial instruments and incorporate the principal accounting policies which are consistent, in all material respects with those applied in the previous year :-

## 1.1 SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS

In preparing the annual financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts represented in the annual financial statements and related disclosures. Use of available information and the application of judgement is inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from these estimates estimates which may be material to the annual financial statements. .

## 1.2 TANGIBLE ASSETS

The cost of an item of tangible assets is recognised as an asset when:

- it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the association; and
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Costs include costs incurred initially to acquire or construct an item of tangible assets and costs incurred subsequently to add to, replace part of, or service it. If a replacement cost is recognised in the carrying amount of an item of tangible assets, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

Tangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets other than freehold land, to write down the cost, less residual value, by equal instalments over their useful lives as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Useful life</b>
Computer equipment	3 years
Furniture and fittings	6 years
Hi Performance equipment	5 years
Leasehold improvements (Kings Park)	3 years
Motor vehicle	5 years
Office equipment	5 years

The depreciation charge for each period is recognised in surplus or deficit unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of equipment is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised. The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of equipment is determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item.

### 1.3 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

#### Measurement

Financial instruments carried on the statement of financial position include bank balances, accounts receivable and accounts payable. Financial instruments are initially measured at cost as at trade date, which includes transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, the following instruments are measured as set out below :-

#### Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at cost less provision for impairment losses.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk in change in value.

Cash and cash equivalents are measured at fair value.

Foreign currency petty cash is revalued at the spot rate for each foreign currency denominated balance at the year end. The revaluation exchange differences are accounted for through profit or loss.

#### Accounts payable

Accounts payable which are short - term obligation, are stated at their nominal value.

### 1.4 IMPAIRMENT

The carrying amounts of assets are reviewed at financial position date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If there is such indication, the assets are written down to the estimated recoverable amounts. The recoverable amount is the higher of the net selling price and the value in use.

### 1.5 INVENTORIES

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

### 1.6 LEASES AS LESSEE

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Finance leases are recognised as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value on the minimum lease payments.

The discount rate used in calculating the present value of the minimum lease payment is the effective interest rate.



Any initial direct costs are added to the amount recognised as an asset.

The lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Any contingent rents are expenses in the period they are incurred.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## **1.7 PROVISIONS AND CONTINGENCIES**

Provisions are recognised when:

- the association has a present obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation.

Where some or all of the expenditure required to settle a provision is expected to be reimbursed by another party, the reimbursement shall be recognised when, and only when, it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the entity settles the obligation. The reimbursement shall be treated as a separate asset. The amount recognised for the reimbursement shall not exceed the amount of the provision.

Provisions shall not be recognised for future operating losses.

If an entity has a contract that is onerous, the present obligation under the contract shall be recognised and measured as a provision.

After their initial recognition, contingent liabilities recognised in business combinations that are recognised separately are subsequently measured at the higher of:

- the amount that would be recognised as a provision; and
- the amount initially recognised less cumulative amortisation.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised.

## **1.8 REVENUE RECOGNITION**

Income from fees, grants and sponsorship is brought to account in the financial period to which it relates.

All other income is brought to account as and when received.

## **1.9 INTEREST INCOME**

Interest is brought to account as and when received.

## **1.10 EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure is accounted for on the accrual basis of accounting.

## **1.11 PROJECT ACCOUNTING AND EXPENSE ALLOCATION**

In terms of its contractual obligations to donors, the association's policy is to allocate project expenses that are clearly identifiable as such, directly against project funds.

Indirect and shared costs are apportioned on the basis of management estimates.

Accrued and deferred grant income is based on the balance of the project fund after taking into account the direct, indirect and shared costs as described above. The unexpended surplus of the project fund is deferred to the following year or the deficit is accrued in the year under review.

## **1.13 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

### **Short-term employee benefits**

The cost of short - term employee benefits, (those payable within 12 months after the service is rendered, such as paid vacation leave and sick leave, bonuses, and medical aid contributions), are recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and are not discounted.

The expected cost of compensated absences is recognised as an expense as the employee renders service that increases their entitlement or, in the case of non-accumulating absences, when the absence occurs.

The expected cost of bonus payments is recognised as an expense when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make such payments as a result of past performance.

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

### 2.1 Financial risk factors

The association's activities could expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including fair value interest rate risk), credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow interest rate risk. The association's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the association's financial performance.

Risk management is carried out by the executive committee, who evaluate financial risks..

**(a) Market risk**

The association has no significant exposure to foreign currency risk.

**(b) Credit risk**

The association's credit risk is attributable to accounts receivable, accrued income and liquid funds.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counter party is a bank with credit rating assigned by international credit - rating agencies. The association has no significant concentration of credit risk, as accounts receivable is subject to rigorous credit control.

**(c) Liquidity risk**

The association manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate cash reserves are maintained to cover anticipated expenditure.

**(d) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk**

The association has minimal exposure to interest rate risk as surplus funds are invested in local interest - bearing accounts.



# Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

## 3. EQUIPMENT

	Computer equipment R	Furniture & fittings R	Hi Performance equipment R	Leasehold improvements Kings Park R	Motor vehicle R	Office equipment R	Total R
<b>30 APRIL 2024</b>							
<b>Balance at 1 May 2023</b>	<b>146 676</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32 083</b>	<b>26 406</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>73 730</b>	<b>278 897</b>
At cost	960 324	429 221	998 312	250 000	125 439	301 502	3 064 798
Accumulated depreciation	(813 648)	(429 220)	(966 229)	(223 594)	(125 438)	(227 772)	(2 785 901)
Additions during the year	17 303	-	-	-	-	13 043	30 346
Depreciation for the year	(69 864)	-	(32 082)	(26 405)	-	(32 459)	(160 810)
<b>Net book value 30 April 2024</b>	<b>94 115</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>54 314</b>	<b>148 433</b>
At cost	977 628	429 221	998 312	250 000	125 439	314 545	3 095 144
Accumulated depreciation	(883 512)	(429 220)	(998 311)	(249 999)	(125 438)	(260 231)	(2 946 711)
<b>30 APRIL 2023</b>							
<b>Balance at 1 May 2022</b>	<b>58 980</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>87 083</b>	<b>76 406</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>104 667</b>	<b>327 139</b>
At cost	798 279	429 221	998 312	250 000	125 439	301 502	2 902 753
Accumulated depreciation	(739 299)	(429 220)	(911 229)	(173 594)	(125 438)	(196 835)	(2 575 614)
Additions during the year	162 045	-	-	-	-	-	162 045
Depreciation for the year	(74 349)	-	(55 000)	(50 000)	-	(30 937)	(210 286)
<b>Net book value 30 April 2023</b>	<b>146 676</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32 083</b>	<b>26 406</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>73 730</b>	<b>278 897</b>
At cost	960 324	429 221	998 312	250 000	125 439	301 502	3 064 798
Accumulated depreciation	(813 648)	(429 220)	(966 229)	(223 594)	(125 438)	(227 772)	(2 785 901)

<b>4. INVENTORY</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>
ARENA stock		
Balance at beginning of the year	2 429 682	2 233 679
Value in-kind sponsorship	3 625 815	1 230 748
Stock issued to swimmers	(2 872 351)	(1 034 745)
<b>Balance at end of the year</b>	<b>3 183 145</b>	<b>2 429 682</b>
Competition medals	24 462	17 779
Learn to Swim manuals	65 867	45 492
	<b>3 273 474</b>	<b>2 492 953</b>

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

#### **5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Debtors	1 472 935	906 539
Less : Provision for doubtful debts	(284 272)	-
Prepaid expenses	764 290	454 723
Sundry receivables	1 889 538	1 134 129
VAT receivable	-	165 265
	<b>3 842 492</b>	<b>2 660 656</b>

#### **6. ACCRUED INCOME**

National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund	-	236 586
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#### **7. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash at bank - current accounts	2 101 204	
Cash at bank - call accounts	5 807 245	105 059
Cash at bank - credit card	37 684	5 601 099
Petty cash	-	63 410
	<b>7 946 132</b>	<b>2 500</b>

5 772 069

#### **8. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Trade creditors	2 239 961	1 392 784
Credit card accounts	195 504	247 533
Income received in advance	167 018	534 978
Payroll liabilities	90 346	104 047
Other accruals	1 673 078	1 357 113
Sundry payables	80 204	-
VAT payable	5 384	-
	<b>4 451 495</b>	<b>3 636 455</b>

#### **9. DEFERRED INCOME**

Arena - Value in kind inventory sponsorship	3 183 145	2 429 682
Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation South Africa	2 983 677	4 056 525
National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund	4 204 737	-
	<b>10 371 559</b>	<b>6 486 207</b>

<b>10. PROVISION FOR LEAVE PAY</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>R</b>	<b>R</b>
Balance at beginning of year	52 982	53 969
Additions during the year	221 650	164 679
(Utilised) during the year	(202 943)	(165 666)
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b>71 689</b>	<b>52 982</b>

### 11. FEES RECEIVED

Membership fees	4 476 525	4 131 242
Athlete contributions	7 317 849	5 907 395
Entry fees	2 620 007	2 292 533
Course fees	351 782	561 575
Other fees	-	155 250
	<b>14 766 163</b>	<b>13 047 995</b>

### 12. SPONSORSHIP RECEIVED

<b>Arena</b>	<b>2 872 351</b>	<b>1 034 745</b>
Value in kind inventory	3 625 815	1 230 748
Deferred to 2023	-	2 233 679
Deferred to 2024	2 429 682	(2 429 682)
Deferred to 2025	(3 183 145)	-
<b>World Aquatics</b>	<b>2 321 060</b>	<b>1 392 980</b>
Received	2 321 060	1 392 980
	<b>5 193 412</b>	<b>2 427 725</b>

### 13. GRANTS RECEIVED

<b>Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation South Africa</b>	<b>5 722 848</b>	<b>4 135 160</b>
Received	4 650 000	4 300 000
Deferred to 2023	-	3 891 684
Deferred to 2024	4 056 525	(4 056 525)
Deferred to 2025	(2 983 677)	-
<b>World Aquatics - High Performance Centre (Franschhoek)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5 578 999</b>
<b>National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund - # M19797</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4 466 826</b>
Deferred to 2023	-	4 466 826
<b>National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund - # M56061</b>	<b>13 978 677</b>	<b>236 586</b>
Received	<b>18 420 000</b>	<b>-</b>
Accrued in 2023	<b>(236 586)</b>	<b>236 586</b>
Deferred to 2025	<b>(4 204 737)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>171 100</b>
	<b>19 701 524</b>	<b>14 588 671</b>



#### 14. NET INTEREST RECEIVED

	2024 R	2023 R
<b>Interest received</b>	<b>871 204</b>	<b>466 347</b>
Interest received - call accounts	871 204	466 347
	<b>871 204</b>	<b>466 347</b>

#### 15. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S EMOLUMENTS

As an employee	793 904	732 943
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#### 15. CASH GENERATED FROM/(UTILISED IN) OPERATIONS

(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(949 730)	(1 354 904)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Interest received	(871 204)	(466 347)
Depreciation	160 810	210 286
Decrease/(increase) in accrued income	236 586	(236 586)
Increase/(decrease) in deferred income	3 885 353	(4 105 982)
Increase/(decrease) in provision for leave pay	18 707	(987)
<b>Changes in working capital</b>		
(Increase) in accounts receivable	(1 181 836)	(466 347)
(Increase) in inventory	(780 521)	210 286
Increase in accounts payable	815 041	(236 586)
	<b>1 333 206</b>	<b>(4 105 982)</b>

(987)

#### 17. TAXATION

The association is exempt from income tax under section 10(1)(cN) as read with Section 30 of the Income Tax Act.

#### 18. GOING CONCERN

The existence of the association is dependent on the continued support of its donors and sponsors, by way of grants and sponsorship.

Should the grants and sponsorships be withdrawn it is highly unlikely that the association will be able to continue as a going concern.

# Fund Statement

for the year ended 30 April 2024

	2024 R	GENERAL FUND R	NLTF Operations R	NLTF Facilities R	SRSA Programmes R	SRSA SCHOOLS R
<b>INCOME</b>						
Fees received	14 766 163	14 766 163	-	-	-	-
Sponsorship received	5 193 412	5 193 412	-	-	-	-
Grants received	19 701 524	-	7 198 112	6 780 565	3 619 828	2 103 020
Interest received	871 204	871 204	-	-	-	-
Other income	319 585	319 585	-	-	-	-
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>41 801 617</b>	<b>23 805 458</b>	<b>7 198 112</b>	<b>6 780 565</b>	<b>3 619 828</b>	<b>397 655</b>
<b>Programme costs</b>	<b>37 063 818</b>	<b>21 365 493</b>	<b>7 198 112</b>	<b>6 780 565</b>	<b>1 596 715</b>	<b>122 933</b>
Competitions and disciplines	3 159 725	2 858 284	223 516	-	-	77 925
High performance	19 355 333	13 640 752	5 223 654	-	490 927	-
High performance Centre (Franschhoek)	6 780 565	-	-	6 780 565	-	-
Marketing	2 452 614	1 946 127	506 487	-	-	-
Mass participation	2 378 465	1 137 141	869 480	-	368 637	3 208
Training and development	1 342 051	189 441	373 660	-	737 151	41 800
General expenses	1 595 064	1 593 748	1 316	-	-	-
National office costs	4 737 800	2 439 965	-	-	2 023 113	274 722
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus For The Year</b>	<b>(949 730)</b>	<b>(2 655 095)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 705 365</b>
<b>Transfer Between Programme Funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 705 365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1 705 365)</b>
<b>Balance at beginning of year</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b>315 788</b>	<b>315 788</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

# Fund Statement

for the year ended 30 April 2023

	2023 R	GENERAL FUND R	NLTDF Operations R	SRSA PROGRAMMES R	SRSA SCHOOLS R	HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE (FRANSCHHOEK) R
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>30 645 018</b>	<b>16 227 447</b>	<b>4 703 412</b>	<b>3 285 148</b>	<b>850 012</b>	<b>5 578 999</b>
Fees received	13 047 995	13 047 995	-	-	-	-
Sponsorship received	2 427 725	2 427 725	-	-	-	-
Grants received	14 588 671	171 100	4 703 412	3 285 148	850 012	5 578 999
Interest received	466 347	466 347	-	-	-	-
Other income	114 281	114 281	-	-	-	-
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>31 999 921</b>	<b>18 146 194</b>	<b>4 703 412</b>	<b>3 285 148</b>	<b>286 169</b>	<b>5 578 999</b>
<b>Programme costs</b>	<b>27 822 180</b>	<b>16 479 843</b>	<b>4 460 558</b>	<b>1 272 548</b>	<b>30 233</b>	<b>5 578 999</b>
Competitions and disciplines	2 603 158	2 573 192	18 000	-	11 966	-
High performance	13 049 681	9 899 012	3 069 661	81 007	-	-
High performance Centre (Franschhoek)	5 578 999	-	-	-	-	5 578 999
Marketing	2 414 949	2 389 411	25 538	-	-	-
Mass participation	1 474 536	526 925	675 947	268 812	2 853	-
Training and development	1 798 694	189 139	671 412	922 729	15 414	-
General expenses	902 165	902 165	-	-	-	-
National office costs	4 177 741	1 666 351	242 854	2 012 600	255 936	-
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>(1 354 904)</b>	<b>(1 918 747)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>563 843</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Transfer from equipment fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>563 843</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(563 843)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance at Beginning of Year</b>	<b>2 620 421</b>	<b>2 620 421</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Balance at End of Year</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>	<b>1 265 518</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>







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