



**NORTHERNS**  
BLUES HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL  
REPORT

2022



# NORTHERNS BLUES HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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PRESIDENT : John Wright

VICE – PRESIDENT	:	Tarryn Fourie
TREASURER	:	Robyn Learmonth
COACHING & HIGH PERFORMANCE	:	Colin Mendoza
DEVELOPMENT & TRANSFORMATION	:	Sammy Kekana
PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS / TEAMS	:	Tarryn Fourie
REGISTRAR	:	Kokkie Sieling
RULES & TECHNICAL	:	Andre Kachelhoffer Kathleen Faling (Resigned)
TOURS & TOURNAMENTS	:	Tarryn Fourie
SPONSORSHIP & MARKETING	:	Tarryn Fourie
ADMINISTRATION & HOCKEY OFFICE	:	Kokkie Sieling

ADDITIONAL PORTFOLIO'S (Non Executive Members)

- MASTERS : Gavin Briggs
- COUNTRY DISTRICTS : Nelia Stone
- SCHOOLS : Erdine Coetzee (Primary)  
Omari Pienaar-Geyer (Senior Girls)  
Chadwin Peterson (Senior Boys)

**AGM**

**Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Blues Hockey Association will be held on Thursday 27 October 2022 at 18:00 at venue tbc**

**AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- Welcome
- Presentation and approval of Credentials
- Approval of Notice of Meeting
- Apologies
- Ratification of Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting
- Matters arising from the Previous Annual General Meeting
- President's Report
- Matters arising from the Annual Report
- Financial Report and Appointment of Auditors
- Confirmation of Appointment of Delegates of the Members
- Election of Honorary Life Members
- Election of Office Bearers
- General
- Closure

Please submit credentials of delegates for the meeting by **17 October 2022**

**Awards function will be held directly after the AGM.**

Kokkie Sieling  
Executive Committee: Administrator  
on behalf of  
NORTHERNS BLUES HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 18:15 ON 11NOVEMBER 2021****1. Welcome**

John Wright welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. Still a very different year.

**2. Presentation and approval of Credentials**

John Wright	President	Tarryn McCreedy	Vice-President
TP Motloutse	Executive	Robin Learmonth	Executive
Sammy Kekana	Executive	Colin Mendoza	Executive
Kathleen Faling	Executive	Kokkie Sieling	Administrator
Rob Anderson	Chippas	Manette Anderson	Chippas
Jacques Klopper	Chippas	Mdlalifa Sigasa	Dangerous Darkies
Nicolene Terblanche	Harlequins	Marthinus Gouws	CD
Graham Johnson	Nova	Ayrton Matthews	Nova
Mathapelo Pitso	Phoenix	Cobie Odendaal	PHSOB
Alexia Wheatley	PHSOB	Ansebe Prinsloo	TUT
Tebogo Kgarume	Tuks	Kgothatso Maboea	TUT
Gavin Briggs	Masters	Duffy Herhold	Masters
Andre Kachelhoffer			

**3. Approval of Notice of Meeting**

The meeting approved that the required notice of the meeting was given.

Proposed: Tarryn McCreedy Fourie (Executive) and Seconded: Manette Anderson (Chippas)

**4. Apologies**

Nelia Stone (CD), Omari Pienaar-Geyer (School Girls), Tinus van der Merwe (Denbeys), Johan Pretorius (Nova), Shaun Hulley (NWU).

**5. Ratification of Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were accepted by the council.

Proposed: Marthinus Gouws (CD) and Seconded: Rob Anderson (Chippas)

**6. Matters arising from the Previous Annual General Meeting**

Marthinus asked about Graham Johnson's question on Indoor. John Wright replied that Ayrton Matthews and Hendy Seerane were responsible for Indoor and run a successful league in the beginning of 2021.

**7. President's Report**

The President, John Wright, presented his report for 2021.

The report was accepted by Manette Anderson (Chippas) and seconded by Colin Mendoza (Executive).

**8. Matters arising from the Annual Report****9. Financial Report and Appointment of Auditors**

The Draft Audited Financial statements were only received on 9 November 2021.

Cannot approve the 2020 Audited financials. Meeting approved that it can be approved through e-mail once it has been signed off.

Concern is the number of players debtors and the huge amount it adds up to. It was agreed upon by Council that they sign a new payment agreement. Any player not honouring this agreement will not be allowed to participate until debt has been paid in full.

Appointment of Auditors:



Currently GBM Pretoria Financial Services CC are the Auditors of the Association, it was proposed that the Executive look for other auditors or make a recommendation of continuing with the current auditors. Communication on approval of the auditors for 2021 will be done via e mail.

**10. Confirmation of Appointment of Delegates of the Members**

As per attendance register

**11. Election of Honorary Members**

No nominations were received.

**12. Election of Office Bearers**

Following Members have served the full term:

Sammy Kekana

TP Motloutse

Peter Wright, now staying abroad, has resigned as Treasurer.

Only one nomination received for Treasurer – Robin Learmonth – no voting is needed. JW congratulate him and thanked him for making himself available to serve as Treasurer.

Six nominations were received for additional members. Voting to be done for a minimum of 3 additional members. Graham Johnson has withdrawn his nomination leaving 5 nominees.

Manette Anderson suggested that all nominees are appointed – seconded by Cobie Odendaal.

Sammy Kekana proposed a system of one person as the portfolio holder and a sub-committee to assist.

Voting on proposal by Manette Anderson and Sammy Kekana and the vote is for the status quo to remain and voting took place for the 3 additional members.

Additional members to serve for 2022 and 2023:

TP Motloutse

Sammy Kekana

Kathleen Faling

**13. General**

- Manette Anderson asked in what league the teams that had withdrawn in 2021 will play in 2022. John Wright replied they will start in the bottom league again.
- Sammy Kekana – thanked John Wright for the hard work done and steering the ship under difficult circumstances.

**14. Closure**

John Wright thanked everyone for attending and contribution throughout the season.

Thanked Club administrators for their work at their respective Clubs and for assisting the committee.

Wishing everyone and their loved ones a Happy festive season and to stay safe.

The meeting was closed at 19:08

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 2022

Once again it is my pleasure to present the 2022 Annual Report. I am pleased to report that hockey and the World seems to have returned to normality, following the COVID 19 pandemic, which really in many ways forced us to change and do things differently. On many occasions we were pushed way out of our comfort zones, which too had its advantages and disadvantages.

Without being repetitive, I again pose this question to our membership, as highlighted in the 2021 report. "Our Sport is at the point and some may argue way beyond the point, that it requires and probably demands some major changes to happen from the top down, otherwise we are going to be in more serious trouble than what is currently being experienced. I am concerned that the current approach and reference to how things were done some years back is no longer appropriate nor applicable. We need to create events and activities that service the needs of our hockey community." Personally I'm far from convinced that we have made any major inroads into trying to address the pertinent "low hanging fruit" that often is just before us.

At the beginning of the season, the Executive Committee undertook a "Think Tank" Workshop to try to highlight the opportunities and threats facing the sport in our Province. Some good ideas and plans came from the Indaba. The real proof however will be in the implementation there of moving forward.

### **COUNCIL**

The role of the Council is a critical one in our organisation, and without the optimal functioning of our Clubs and affiliates we as an Association are doomed. This said there are a number of committed and dedicated people that serve the game, for which I am really grateful. Can we do better? Most definitely. However considering what the World has recently been through, from the pandemic perspective, in addition to the continuing strain of our economy which in turn relates to a severe tightening of spend by individuals as disposable income becomes a thing of the past. I feel we can and should gain a certain amount of accomplishment for the successes of our Sport despite the tough times.



## **FINANCE**

Whilst we continue to operate in a fluid scenario our finances are starting to feel the strain. At this time of the year we still record that some clubs have yet to settle their financial commitments with the Association. Understandably as highlighted above the current financial environment could have had an impact on this scenario.

Council voted in favour of the writing off of the outdoor player debt, which amounted to around R150k. This was the one and only time that such a decision will happen. We will not be held to ransom by players who renege on their payment agreements and commitments. Defaulting players are in essence stealing from every paying member of this Association, which is not fair nor right. As an Association, we will not be drawn into such arrangements moving forward.

Understandably I am not sure if there is an ideal funding model for every member. The implementation of the new funding model has proven to be challenging, in particular for smaller entities and is something we need to be cognisant of, especially with regards to future player/team entries. The hosting of IPT meant we could tightly manoeuvre around the budget with the addition of our B sides in tournament. Again moving forward this may not be possible with the financial position.

A list of debtors has recently appeared pertaining to 2017-2020 Indoor Hockey/PSI financials. These debtors are not the responsibility of the Association and will be dealt with as such.

## **LEAGUES**

A Northern Senior Indoor League again took place, albeit an abbreviated affair considering the Indoor IPT that took place in Durban. I wish to thank the sub-committee of Aryton Matthews and Hendy Seerane for having arranged all matters Indoor. Suitable venues continue to hinder the appropriate development of indoor in Northern both at club and school level.

Numerous league meetings took place involving club representatives to determine suitable league fixture dates, times and venues. Whilst this process is of benefit, it does become very annoying when fixtures are further moved or adjusted after they have been published. I have a major concern that by moving, cancelling or postponing fixtures we are doing an injustice to league and the teams and players that play in the league. In the new season we have to take measures to ensure that we have a credible product on offer for our paying members. To achieve this, everyone has to offer his or her buy-in and commitment to ensuring we have something of value.

It is becoming clear that our season lingers on for too long, and should ideally be wrapped up before the Senior Inter Provincial (When held in August/September) if possible, well at least for the Premier league. The limited number of artificial surface pitches available for league matches is also of concern, and something that Clubs need to address when determining their home venues and the accessibility thereof for league commitments. A possible return to centralised fixtures needs to be looked into, again in an endeavour to bring unison add credibility to the league/s.

As an Association I wish to remind our constituents that we have a zero tolerance level for any form of racism, sexism, bullying or defamation of any kind. We will not hesitate to take the necessary action against perpetrators seen to be transgressing in this regard.

Congratulations to respective league winners, and well done to everyone that competed in the leagues.

## **RULES & TECHNICAL**

Kathleen Faling resigned from her portfolio and the Executive in June. Andre Kachelhoffer was duly elected to the portfolio, and I thank him for his commitment to the position. R&T has proven to be one of the more difficult portfolios to administer and run.



There are a number of umpires that unselfishly commit their time to the game. The following umpires officiated in the 20 or more matches. Andre Kachelhoffer (39), Michael Tarr (39), Cailen-Ann Luus (35), Kathleen Faling (26), Robbie Johnson (24). Whilst on the technical side, I wish to express my appreciation to Emma Franken (23), Manette Anderson (27) and Lauren Johnson (22) for their invaluable contribution. Thank you

Sean Rapaport officiated in the Manchester Commonwealth Games, as well as the Pro League fixtures held in Potchefstroom. Sean has now relocated to the USA, to take up the position of Head of Match Officials for the USA Hockey Association. Whilst his stay in Pretoria was a short one, few can doubt his commitment to umpiring in the Province, never shying away from helping the game and others. We wish him well in his endeavours.

TP Motloutse was appointed as the Tournament Director for the SA Indoor IPT that was held in Durban. He also officiated at the Africa Cup of Nations tournament held in Ghana, as well as the Senior IPT held in Pretoria. Kokkie Sieling was appointed to the Senior IPT as well as the Masters World Cup that was recently held in Cape Town. Kathleen Faling took on the role as an umpire manager at the same event in Cape Town

**International appointments:**

Sean Rapaport Darren Hubach	FIH Pro League , Manchester Commonwealth Games Azlan Shah Tournament, Ipoh Malaysia - November
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**DEVELOPMENT**

Numerous development projects were again implemented under the guidance of Sammy Kekana. No fewer than 540 players benefit from the development league initiative. Unfortunately funding and equipment remain problematic. We express our appreciation to the Gauteng Department of Sport and Recreation for the financial support given to the Dangerous Darkies Hockey Club for transport expenses to league matches.



**TRANSFORMATION & GOVERNANCE**

All premier league teams supported the transformation initiatives implemented to ensure a more transformed league representation, and need to be encouraged to continue striving to improve the representation.

Further work is required on the following:

1. Provincial teams overview, including team management
2. Various operational policies
3. Safeguarding policy

## TOURNAMENTS

Senior Indoor IPT took place in Durban, Northern's entered a men's and women's team into the competition. The u21 men's and women's tournament took place in Gqeberha. Concern was raised around the quality of the playing venues and their facilities. I congratulate the women's u21 side on having won the tournament, with a sterling performance.

The Senior IPT was hosted in Pretoria at TUT, Hoerskool Eldoraigne and Sutherland High School. Our sincere thanks to the venues that offered their facilities to the tournament. Live streaming happened at TUT and HS Eldoraigne, whilst the final two days of the matches involving the semi-finals and finals of the A Section competition were broadcast live on SuperSport. Many congratulations to the Ladies A Side that won the A Section tournament defeating Western Province in the final.

Congratulations to the Tuks men's and women's teams on having won the Varsity Hockey Festival that was held at Tuks and broadcast live on SuperSport.

Pretoria will host the FIH Indoor World Cup from the 5-11 February 2022 at the Heartfelt Arena. I would like to encourage the locals to get behind the event and support both the tournament and the South African teams. Organising an event of this stature takes a lot of behind the scenes work and we will be calling on many interested parties to assist. Preparation time is extremely limited.



## SPONSORSHIP AND MARKETING

Our Association's webpage continues to be a valuable source of information and engagement for those that utilise it. The page however is in dire need of a facelift which should form part of the New Year plans. The Association's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media platforms continue to attract a good following and interaction.

The sponsorship of the **OPRO Mouthguards** for our senior IPT teams was gratefully appreciated, hopefully further growth and expansion with this deal can happen moving forward. SPAR again supported us in a big way with the hosting of the Inter Provincial Tournament, helping to alleviate some of the operating expenses with the support of vouchers.



#### **TSHWANE SPORTS COUNCIL & GAUTENG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

Kokkie Sieling and Thapelo Motloutse attended the Tshwane Sports Council AGM, which unfortunately seemed to be rather disorganised. Funding remains an issue this organisation.

There has been little development and activity pertaining to the Gauteng Hockey Association.

#### **SAHA**

Marissa Langeni the former CEO resigned to take up a role as the USSA CEO in June 2022. Shaune Baaitjies has been appointed as the Interim CEO of SAHA. It has been an extremely busy year for the organisation, more especially on the playing front with the FIH Women's Junior World Cup having taken place in Potchefstroom in a very successfully hosted event. The senior men's side took part in the FIH Pro-League in Potchefstroom, London, Argentina and Spain. The senior women's team took part in series against Wales, before moving onto the World Cup that was hosted in the Netherlands and Spain. Nations Cup in Potchefstroom awaits the men's senior side in late November, whilst the senior ladies will travel to Spain for their equivalent. All this on top of a Commonwealth Games competition in Manchester where the men's side exceeded expectation and performed phenomenally well.

Two Events planning meetings were held to which I was invited to attend. Unfortunately I feel progress is slow and foresight is lacking, along with a will for change!

In December SAHA will hold the AGM and Council meeting of the Association. The following positions are up for election: Presidency, Rules & Technical and Events. John Wright has been nominated by WPHU for the R&T portfolio.

#### **NATIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

Northerns are well represented in most spheres of the game. I thank the following people for their continued involvement and willingness to offer their expertise at National level:

Kokkie Sieling (SAHA R&T Technical Chairperson & TD), John Wright (SAHA R&T Umpiring sub-committee Chairman), Kathleen Faling (umpires managers), Omari Pienaar Geyer (SASHOC Girls Executive Committee), Inky Zondi (Assistant Coach & Coach SA Ladies team), Guy Elliot (SA Men's u21 Coach), Sihle Ntuli (SA Men's Assistant Coach), Kagiso Mathaba (SA u21 Men's video analyst), Tarryn Fourie (SA Ladies team manager)

## HIGHLIGHTS

This Association and its members have excelled in numerous fields and I congratulate the following persons. Noteworthy achievements include:

- **National Representatives**

**Men: Commonwealth Games 2022 & SA Men's team:** Peabo Lembethe, Billi Ntuli, Tim Guise-Brown, Tyson Dlungwana, Guy Morgan, Brad Sherwood, Cameron le Forestier, Sigle Ngobane, Mark Chong, Trevor de Lora, Sihle Ntuli (assistant Coach)

**Women: Commonwealth Games 2022 & SA Women's team:** Edith Molikoe, Onthatile Zulu, Jean-Leigh du Toit, Hanrie Louw, Inky Zondi (Assistant Coach), Tarry Fourie (Manageress)

**SA U/21 Men:** Joshua Davies, Cameron le Forestier, Sigle Ngobane, Guy Elliot (Coach), Kagiso Mathaba (Video Analyst)

**SA U/21 Ladies:** Jean-Leigh du Toit, Hanrie Louw, Laiken Brisset, Cerian Fourie, Kutlwano May

**SA Indoor:** Celia Seerane, Edith Molikoe, Cerian Fourie, Tegan Fourie

**SA Masters:** Nelia Stone, Elsie Gouws, Inke van Wyk, Hanlie Podd, Kirsten Wood, Paula Benade, Annelize Moore, David Reid-Ross, Halloran Kearns, Leonel Spinel, Grant Hewitt, Gavin Briggs, Reg Marais, Spencer Januari, Daryll Koker, Craig Garrett, Chris Oertel, Frances Denton, Andre le Roux, Robbie Pullen

- **International, National Senior Umpires & Technical Officials.**

Umpires: Sean Rapaport, Darren Hubach

Umpires Managers: Kathleen Faling, John Wright

Technical Officials: Kokkie Sieling, Thapelo Motloutse

Allow me to express our sincere thanks to the following persons or organisations for their support of the province.

- SA Hockey President, Board and Staff
- Northerns Executive Committee
- Clubs & The Club Chairpersons
- Masters Chairman, Gavin Briggs
- Country Districts Chairperson, Nelia Stone
- Schools Chairpersons, Ordine Coetzee, Omari Pienaar Geyer, Chadwin Peterson.
- The photographers that have superbly captured so many moments: Ludi Vogel, Arnold Dippenaar

## EXECUTIVE

To the members of the Executive Committee, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to you all.

As another season comes to an end allow me to extend my sincere appreciation to all that have committed themselves to hockey in our Province. Well done on some amazing achievements both on and off the field.

A Very Happy and Prosperous Festive Season to you all.

Best wishes and be safe.

Thank you.

**John Wright**  
**PRESIDENT**

## TOURS & TOURNAMENTS

### Decisions to be made:

- Hosting of Galaxy League 2022 in Oct/Nov

### Areas of concern & recommendations:

- Full Events Calendar: Various formats, events etc on the calendar combined with demands of schools and varsities on players makes consistent future event planning strained. Event information must be obtained as far as possible at the end of the year to start planning for the following year's calendar. Contingencies should then be put in place to account for the fluidity of external entities like the variance of SAHA Calendar
- Sustainability of IPT in future: High cost of IPT continues to negatively impact the players and the Association. As the cost of 'doing business' increases our source of income has become strained which reduces the budget for IPT, increases the financial load on players and/or reduces the 'high performance' nature of the tournament as teams must take short cuts to ensure attendance. This reduces the credibility of the tournament which

then creates a downward spiral of high-performance hockey in the Province & Country.

### General Portfolio Report:

Indoor IPT (2 - 5 March) – KZN: 6<sup>th</sup> place for men and women U21 IPT (18 - 12 April) – Port Elizabeth  
USSA B-Section (4-8 July) – Cape Town: Women – TUT, 4<sup>th</sup> place; Men – TUT, 5<sup>th</sup> place SACD Women  
(3-9 July) – Durban: 6<sup>th</sup> place

SACD Men (10-16 July) – Pietermaritzburg: 6<sup>th</sup> place Masters IPT (28 April - 1 May) – Cape Town  
Senior IPT (28 Aug – 3 Sept) – PTA: Women A -1<sup>st</sup>, Men A - 5<sup>th</sup>, Women B - 2<sup>nd</sup>, Men B – 5<sup>th</sup>

### International Tournaments 2022:

FIH Women's Junior World Cup (2-13 April) – Potch, South Africa FIH Women's Hockey World Cup (1-17  
July) – Spain/Netherlands Wales Series (16-19 July) – Cardiff, Wales

Commonwealth Games (28 July-8 August) – Birmingham, England

Masters World Cup o35/o40 (12-21 August) – Nottingham, England: Men o35 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Women u35  
– 10<sup>th</sup> place

### International Tournaments 2022:

FIH Nations Cup – Men (22-29 October) – Potch, South Africa FIH Nations Cup – Women (10-17 December)  
– Valencia, Spain International Tournaments early 2023:

FIH Men's Hockey World Cup (13-29 January) – Bhubaneswar, India Africa Cup of Nations (3-11 February) –  
South Africa (tbc)

Indoor Hockey World Cup (5-11 February) – Pretoria, South Africa Africa Cup for Club Champions  
(February) – Potch, South Africa

### National Tournaments for early 2023:

Indoor IPT (2-4 March) – Western Province

Hockey 5's IPT (20-22 April) - tbc

### **SENIOR IPT 2022:**

Northerns hosted the Senior IPT in Pretoria from 29 August to 3 September. 2022 IPT saw the return to the norm with the Competition returning to including both the men's and women's competition as well as the inclusion of both A and B sections since 2019 IPT in Bloemfontein. The scale of the tournament required that it be hosted across three venues.

The fixtures at TUT and Eldoraigue were streamed on the SuperSport Schools App and the semi-



finals and finals were aired live on SuperSport.

A Local Organising Committee was appointed to run the event and consisted of the following:

Northerns Representatives:

1. John Wright (Chair)
2. Kokkie Sieling (Logistics, Technical)
3. TP Motloutse (Venue)
4. Tarryn Fourie (Marketing)

Venue Representatives:

5. Chadwin Petersen (Eldoraigne)
6. Peter Stone (Sutherland)

Thank yous:

7. TUT
8. Hoerskool Eldoraigne
9. Sutherland High School
10. Spar (Retha Ingenbeek)
11. BSA Events (Charl Heyns)

Being the host province also allowed us to enter B-sides at a low cost to the players and association. The A-sides stayed at the Pretoria StayEasy while the B-sides remained at home to save on costs. The provincial floating kit was used for the women's teams, and the men received new floating kit for the tournament.

ROLE	MEN A	MEN B	WOMEN A	WOMEN B
Head Coach	Nic Berichon	Steve Smulders	Warren Sangster	Inky Zondi
Assistant Coach	Chadwin Peterson	Brandon Kirk	Omari Pienaar	Essex Mbekeni
Manager	Brett Vlok	Marthinus Gouws	Hayli Soal	Manette Anderson
Trainer/Assistant	Marnu Buys	-	Bradly Joynt	-
Final Standing	5th	5th	1st	3rd

## SOCIAL MEDIA & MARKETING

### Areas of concern & recommendations:

- Close Out for 2022
- Rebrand website with recent photos
- Exposure of the League and Clubs on the Platform: The platform needs to do more to promote our league and the clubs as this will be an effective way of educating the public on, promoting and assist in strengthening Club Hockey in Pretoria.

## CAMPAIGNS

The following campaigns were run in 2022:

- IPT 2022
- U21 IPT
- Indoor IPT

The most significant campaign of 2022 was that of IPT as we were the host province. The approach to the campaign was to focus not only on our team's performance, players and fixtures but to promote the event as a whole. Therefore the content sharing included inclusive posts of all the

provinces teams and the event fixtures with a similar look and feel as well as separate content that focused on the Northerns teams with its own visuals. Content included reels to the first time on our platform which was a good media for promotion of the event. The event was further promoted by the streaming and live broadcast platforms, while they were limited to certain venues and certain fixtures, it was a solid step in the right direction. Northerns was also approached by a local filmmaking entity to shoot behind the scenes footage of our Men's A side and the final result was strong showing the potential to video content in future.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

Sponsorship Marketing requirements included Aquella SA (Indoor IPT) and OPRO Mouth guards SA (Senior IPT). The marketing run for these campaigns ensured the representation of the sponsors on all our social media posts, with the larger sponsor requiring tailored posts and stories to promote their products. Feedback from the sponsors was positive – a point of note from the feedback from OPRO was that Northerns Blues as well as Western Province was selected for sponsorship based on their strong social media presence.

## **INDOOR**

### **Decisions to be made:**

- Round 2 of League after Outdoor Season
- HP start dates in October 2022: : awaiting final proposal from the Indoor Sub-Committee regarding the dates and logistics for these training sessions

### **General Portfolio Report:**

Indoor IPT (2 - 5 March 2022) – KZN: 6<sup>th</sup> place for men and women

Completion of the Round 1 of the Northerns Indoor League hosted at ACPP – congratulations to the Indoor Committee on hosting the league.

No further Indoor League has been hosted to date in 2022. The indoor PSI franchises in Pretoria have been busy with preparations for the u12 & u12 North Nationals at the start of October & the Elite Series hosted at the end of October.



## PORTFOLIO NAME – FINANCES, REGISTRAR & ADMINISTRATOR (OPERATIONAL MATTERS)

### NBHA 2022

Executive Member: Kokkie Sieling

#### **Finances**

- Historic player debt was written off. Player payments for future tournaments will have to be monitored carefully to avoid ending up in the same situation in future. Team managers will have to play a larger role in assisting with this. Manager appointments will become more important in future.
- Still a large amount of club affiliation fees outstanding. Need to follow up as these impacts on operational matters and could impact on the 2023 league entries.
- Hosted the Senior Tournament and this is always a financial challenge because the income from tournament levy never covers the expenses. Big thank you to Retha Ingenbleek from SPAR for the R20 000.00 donation to assist with some expenses

#### **League**

- Postponement of games once again remains a huge problem. Even with a league rule of “no postponements” clubs did not adhere to the rule. Maybe we need to look at a pre-play rule with clubs organizing everything themselves.
- Having a proper league meeting in the beginning and halfway through the league is important as this assisted with postponements in the 2019 season.
- League ended to late in the year. Players lose interest. Need to re-look at the league dates and finish earlier.
- Indoor need to form part of the 2023 calendar and maybe also must look at Hockey 5's as a pre- or post-season event played over 2 or 3 weekends as a knockout or short competition.
- New league structures giving new challenges to teams is something we need to investigate specially for the top leagues.
- Although it feels as if it was a very unsuccessful season, we tend to forget about the more than 300 games that were played as scheduled without any issues.
- A more normal season with spectators and freedom of movement after the no and little hockey due to COVID was a blessing and something we must appreciate.

## **DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE REPORT**

### **Areas of concern & recommendations:**

List areas of concern within your portfolio and your proposed solution. If you do not have a proposed solution, please still

list the concerns.

- Coaching courses for the coaches are required
- Umpiring courses for the coaches are required
- First aid courses
- First aid kits

Focus areas:

**Please list the areas that your portfolio will be focusing on.**

- Soshanguve
- Atteridgeville
- Mamelodi

### **Transformation/Development Strategy 2022:**

List ways in which you attend to develop players/officials within your portfolio.

- Developing coaches/ youth through coaching courses
- Develop players through training and development league games.

### **General Portfolio Report:**

#### **Development league program**

- Sports Arts Culture and Recreation club development is supporting Northern's Development League with transportation.
- Department of Education and schools' sports supports the program by linking the association's communication with the schools' governing bodies and enforcing the teachers to attend league games.
- Dangerous Darkies gives back to the community through coaching and facilitating the league program.
- The Development league program includes schools from Soshanguve, Atteridgeville and Mamelodi.
- Most games are taking place at TUT, or CBC fields if the turf is not available on the day.
- In total we have 540 development players, 12 teams per region and 18 coaches.
- Manpower in coaching the development is still a problem, especially when there is no payment.

#### **Challenges**

- The clubs are running short of sticks and balls
- We need to empower coaches with coaching courses, first aid courses and sports admin courses.

## PORTFOLIO NAME - RULES & TECHNICAL

:

### **Decisions to be made:**

How to bring the umpires and teams to the same understanding. And help each other to get the most and best out of the game.

### **Areas of concern & recommendations:**

The second half of the season was full of challenges due to only 50% of the registered umpires being available. This resulted in umpires having to step out of their comfort zone and umpire games at a higher league than what they are used to. Due to this some teams were not happy with the umpire selection and were more abusive to the umpires than normal.

Challenges:

1. Only about half of the umpires registered were available for game allocations.
2. The umpires interpretation of some rules causing frustration in teams and with coaches.
3. With the above in mind the verbal abuse towards umpires from teams and coaches were also a challenge especially the men's teams towards female umpires.
4. Umpires allocated to tournaments in the school holidays were not available during the second half off the season.

Possible resolutions:

1. Re-instate the system for umpires to indicate whether they are available or not. Where an umpire does not indicate their availability then it will be seen as they are available. They then need to then take the responsibility to get a replacement.
2. Information sessions at the beginning of the season and again after the holidays (mid-season).
3. Coaches as well as teams must be informed that they will not always have the best umpires for their games as umpires are always in a development stage. They must get the opportunity to umpire a higher-level game than what they are used to. The teams can assist them by understanding that they will make mistakes and help them to learn from that. This will also assist the umpire to be more relaxed and be able to make the correct calls.
4. Umpires that were provided with the opportunity to represent the province at tournaments need to make themselves available for the second half of the season. Failure to do so must result in them forfeiting their game fees of the first half of the season to development. They should also not be considered for the next tournament.

### **Focus areas:**

Giving umpires the opportunity to develop.

### **Transformation/Development Strategy 2022:**

Create more opportunity's to discuss rules and rule changes, and to give them the opportunity to umpire games that require more from them.

### **General Portfolio Report mm to mm 2022:**

News from the tournaments – more than half of the umpires received a new grade and most of the other umpires received an improved grade.

For the senior IPT's hosted by Northerns, there were 6 umpires appointed from Northerns to umpire at the tournament. Unfortunately, the full grading feedback is not available at this stage.

Northerns were represented in the men's A section final by Sean Rapaport and Darren Hubach as the on-field umpires. Gershwin Read represented Northerns in third and fourth place games. In the men's B section final Robbie Johnson was the reserve umpire. He also umpired the third and fourth place games with Chester Jordaan.



Six umpires from Northern's made themselves available to assist at the tournament as judges under the leadership of Kokkie Sieling as the Technical Officer.

