

The Mounted Archery Association of South Africa



**PRESIDENTIAL
ANNUAL REPORT**

2022

A LAST WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Though 2021 was a better year for mounted archery in South Africa in terms of competitions, the consequences of the Covid Pandemic and the effect it had on the South African Economy and especially in the equestrian community was clearly visible.

Some Members were unable to renew their memberships or compete at all due to a lack of finances. Clubs shut down due to a lack of members and people were forced to sell their horses. Though there were many plans to create more awareness of the sport and to grow the membership, covid served as a firm handbrake on our growth.

Despite these challenges, I remain grateful for the year we were fortunate enough to have had. MAASA was able to resume competitions and hosted qualifiers in 3 of our provinces with competitors from 5 provinces taking part.

It was a privilege to bear witness to the improvements of all my fellow competitors; MAASA riders achieved new grading levels, broke their own personal records, broke world records and grew not only as mounted archers but also as individuals and horsemen and women.

We were once again able to participate in the IHAA World Grand Prix and this year we entered two teams, a Junior/Young Riders team and an adults Open team. The top achieving MAASA riders were selected to compete as part of these teams and once again they made us proud with their excellent results. 24 Teams from 16 countries participated. The MAASA junior/young rider team finished with the Bronze medal in the Youth Category and our Open team finished in 7th Place out of 14 Competing Open Teams. Overall our teams finished in 8th and 11th places respectively.

We look to 2022 with hope. A new MAASA Council will be elected to lead us into the new year and I trust that we will see growth beyond our wildest expectations this year.

Deirdre Janse van Rensburg
President - MAASA



Creating awareness of Mounted Archery

Radio Interview with PTA FM

Mounted Archery was once again brought to the attention of the public with a full feature radio interview on Pretoria FM. President Deirdre Janse van Rensburg and Vice President Calie Kruger were interviewed by Esmarie Yssel on the 17th of April, discussing Mounted archery as a sport within South Africa.

Please click on the following link to listen to the interview:

https://www.pretoriafm.co.za/klankkoerant-bylaag-16-april-2021/?fbclid=IwAR19oGL_cbk0Rny5fhJtg1jR5LmEhNv29AKDz3jw8ouaGXSyVWPKzrKoKc8



Growth in 2021

Membership Numbers

Despite a very tough year with regards to financial difficulties due to lockdown, not being able to compete and MAASA losing a club and members from the Western Cape due to international mounted archery politics, MAASA was able to manage the status quo in membership numbers.

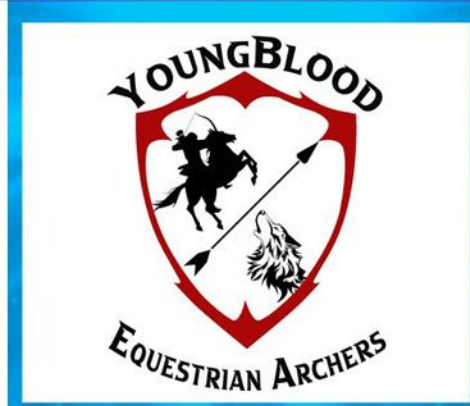
The loss in membership numbers was balanced out by the increase in membership. MAASA membership increased by 25% and we welcomed 18 new members to our Mounted Archery family.

At the time that this report was written membership numbers for 2022 were not yet finalised though I am confident that I will have our final membership numbers for 2022 by the time of the AGM and will be able to give thorough feedback.



New Clubs

We welcomed only one new club to the MAASA Gauteng structure in 2021. Youngblood Equestrian Archers was formed specifically for the young and up and coming mounted archers. Youngblood currently uses the facilities at Bekker Equestrian Academy as their home base for club events.



New Tracks

3 New competition tracks were built in 2021. 2 Of these tracks are situated in KZN: a temporary track which will be set up for competition and then taken down afterwards at Okusha International Equestrian Centre; and a permanent track has been built at Riverside Mounted Archery. Both these tracks will need to be approved by a qualified MAASA judge for use of the tracks in MAASA Qualifiers.

Riverside
Mounted
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The third competition track is situated in Gauteng at the Rosefield Polo Club. This track was used in stage one of the IHAA World Grand Prix and will be used to participate in club events and IHAA postal matches. Approval for the use of the track in MAASA qualifiers is pending an EOI application from the track organisers.



MAASA Structures Compliant to SAEF

Currently MAASA consists of 3 Provincial Structures only. Due to financial difficulties and loss of membership numbers the Freestate Mounted Archery Association came to a standstill at the end of 2021. Clinics are being held in the beginning of 2022 in the Eastern Cape as well as the Western Cape with the hope that we can help these two provinces to get their provincial structures up and running. Renewed efforts will be made to help build up membership in the Freestate again as well.

Mounted Archery Clinics

Mounted Archery Clinics were held in Sasolburg, KZN and Gauteng throughout the year. Barebow Mounted Archerys held a 2 day Clinic at Riverside Equestrian in Sasolburg on the 4th - 5th of April and proceeded from there to the Okusha International Equestrian Centre in KZN for a 5 day judges course, training clinic and to help them host their very first mounted archery competition from 6 - 10 April. A training clinic was also held at the Rosefield Polo Club, hosted by Premier Equestrian Club from the 26th - 31st of December.



Mounted Archery Demos

Two very successful Mounted Archery Demo's were held during 2021. Junior Mine Kotze from Garsfontein Highschool showcased our wonderful sport at her school open day for equestrian sports on her trusty steed Karel on the 9th of April.

Archers from Barebow Mounted Archers, Youngblood Equestrian Archers and Kings & Prohets Club made a big impression at Krag Dag held in Rayton on the 16th of October.



MAASA Qualifiers

Despite the challenges of lockdown, no spectators and Covid Regulations, MAASA was able to resume competitions and hosted qualifiers in 3 of our provinces with competitors from 5 provinces taking part. A total of 12 qualifiers were held across the three provinces with MAASA Nationals held as the final official qualifying competition for the year.



Competitions: IHAA Postal Matches

MAASA athletes participated in IHAA postal matches throughout the year and many of our South African archers either took first place or were consistently ranked in the top 10 in nearly every postal match.

Junior Jacques Horn took the overall 1st place for the January/February canter and try-out postal match while senior Deirdre Janse van Rensburg received 1st place in the adult/senior category of the January/February canter postal match.

Junior Marli Jacobs finished in 1st place in the junior category for the March-April Canter Postal Match



International Competitions: IHAA wGP 2020 →

Due to travel restrictions brought on by the international pandemic, the IHAA was once again unable to host a World Grand Prix and decided to host a wGP in a virtual format for the second time.

This year MAASA had 15 riders competing in two teams. MAASA entered an adults team in the open category as well as a Junior/Young Riders team.

16 Countries and 24 teams from all over the world participated in this 3 stage event in which 9 riders per team participated in 3 different styles, the Raid, Tower and Skirmish. All countries had to ride under the same track and event rules and each country had an IHAA accredited judge oversee the track, targets and competition.

The top achieving MAASA riders were selected to compete as part of these teams and once again they made us proud with their excellent results. The MAASA junior/young rider team finished with the Bronze medal in the Youth Category and our Open team finished in 7th Place out of 14 Competing Open Teams. Overall our teams finished in 8th and 11th places respectively.



International Achievements Jacques Horn →

Junior Jacques Horn has certainly made us proud!!! During 2021 Jacques set two new IHAA World Records on the Raid and Tower in the Young Rider Category. Jacques also achieved Horse Archer 7 (HA7) level and is one of only 6 archers in the world that have managed to reach HA7. Jacques is currently the highest ranked archery in South Africa and will be competing as a senior in 2022.

IHAA WORLD RECORD Young Rider Category	Raid 233 93.09 PTS	IHAA WORLD RECORD Young Rider Category	TOWER 154.25 P
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Administration in 2021

Rulebook

The MAASA council has been working very hard on the rulebook, adding extra tracks, rules for safety etc. and the new rulebook was ratified, accepted and implemented at the MAASA AGM scheduled on 24 April 2021.

Constitution & Bylaws

The MAASA Council also took the opportunity of lockdown to bring about a much needed new draft version of the MAASA Constitution in which we fixed errors, ambiguities etc. A set of Bylaws were also drafted. Both these documents were sent to the SAEF Legal department for comments and approval. The finalised draft documents were ratified and adopted at the MAASA AGM in April.

National Council

Callie Kruger was elected to fill the vacant position of Vice President at the MAASA AGM in April. Although Callie will serve a 3 year term the remaining council will serve until early 2022 when their terms finish and a new council will need to be elected.



Goals for 2022

We are looking forward to 2022. We have been laying a lot of foundations in the past 3 years and hope to continue building on the foundation that we've laid.

- Continued increase in awareness of Mounted Archery (Articles in HQ /other publications)
- MAASA Provincial Structures: help get the Eastern Cape & Western Cape structure compliant
- Focus on Freestate to help them back on their feet
- Pursue sponsorships
- Continued Growth in membership, clubs, tracks and officials
- Develop online scoring, grading & ranking system
- Develop BHAA Coaches & Instructors Course within EQASA

A final word of thanks

Once again 2021 was a very challenging year within MAASA. I hope that these past three years have brought us now to a place of peace, understanding and friendship. I hope that the new council will have smooth sailing and that the turbulence of the past few years are behind us. Though it was an honour for me to serve as MAASA president it was also a burden which caused a lot of strain in my professional life, personal life and marriage. Though I will always remain active and willing to serve MAASA and our sport, I now gladly hand over the reins to the next president and council.

I wish to thank the following people that helped me keep my head above water in these difficult times.

- To my husband Deon Janse van Rensburg, thank you for supporting me in everything I do, for giving advice and being my mentor, for enabling me to commit so much of my time to MAASA.
- To the national council of 2021, thank you those who stuck it out through very challenging times & lots of late night meetings, thank you for your hard work and participation.
- Special thanks to Diane Horn (MAASA public relations, SANESA Discipline Representative, Gauteng Secretary and MAASA National Treasurer) for your tireless commitment, input, advice and hours upon hours that you invest into our sport.
- Special thanks to Maretha Kruger (National Secretary) for all your help with admin in 2021 and for struggling through hours of meetings to produce accurate minutes.
- And then last but not least, thank you to each and every MAASA member and athlete, every parent, family and friend that supported our athletes and council members.

I look to 2022 with hope. May we find joy, peace and fulfillment in all we do. May we grow our sport and our friendships. May we ride and shoot, not for glory but for the joy of sharing this journey with our friends and equine partners.

