MOUNTED ARCHERY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE	Thursday 09 March 2023
VENUE	Virtually, via ZOOM
ТІМЕ	19:00



NAME	NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Diane Horn (President)	0845498119	President2@mountedarcheryassociation.co.za
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Rozelle Talma (GP Chair)	0784881403	rozelletalma@gmail.com

APOLOGIES:

NAME	NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Amy Diack (KZN Chair)	0745521380	bumblebee300@gmail.com
Vicky van Zyl (NW Chair)	0828366482	galopvirjesus@gmail.com



MINUTES:

	POINTS	DISCUSSION/DECISION	TASKS
1.	Meeting Formalities		
1.1	Opening of meeting	The President opened the meeting & welcomed everyone.	
1.2	Attendance register & apologies	Members of council attending recorded, apologies recorded.	
1.3	Quorum	It was established that a quorum is not present; provinces represented GP. Decided to go ahead with the meeting just won't be able to ratify the KZNMA Constitution in this meeting without a quorum.	
2.	Matters arising from previo	ous Minutes	
2.1	Grading Badges/pins	 Deirdre ordered mock-up grading pin to test out. Also did a unique design for each grade from Novice to Horse Archer. Sent to council. Need to decide on price & approve design. Suggested price R75 per badge. Set deadline for orders and payments. Suggestion: Once order is placed lead times is xxx amount of days. Badges must be picked up from Deirdre at qualifiers or at home. R75 per badge approved. Opportunity to order MAASA badges twice a year. (Order will only be placed once a minimum of 5 badges in total have been ordered (in order to cover courier cost). Set deadline for end of March to order MAASA Badges. Deirdre to set up order form and message MAASA members. IHAA badges – some difficulty to obtain them. Will need to order from the UK. Deirdre to get price per badge from Claire. 	Deirdre: Create order form & send grading pins, price and order form to MAASA Members. Also get IHAA badges orders from people. Find out from Claire, price per badge for IHAA badges.
2.2	Judges course & Judges commission	Deirdre drafted a list of all judges and inactive. Sent mail to all MAASA judges regarding forming a Judges commission, what their duties would be & what requirements would be for eligible candidates. Requested volunteers/nominations for 3 judges to serve on the commission. Set deadline for nominations / volunteers to apply.	

		The following active judges volunteered: Diane, Rozelle, Deirdre. The following active judges were nominated: Jacques vd Westhuizen, Amy Diack. The national council needs to decide on the final 3 judges to make up the commission. Conflict of interest declared since Diane, Rozelle and Deirdre are all on the list and present in the meeting.	Deirdre: Mail judges regarding judges commission.
		Recommendation: the judges forming the Judges Commission should be highly experienced judges that know the rulebook with regards to scoring, events and gradings really well as they will be making recommendations for new rules, revisions to old rules etc. They would also need to present judges courses, train new judges, assess new judges in their practicals and set the judges exams & course material.	Commission: Judges course for new judges to be arranged. Set a date & add extra course material regarding tack.
		Gauteng asked to nominate an additional judge. The nomination was rejected as the nominee is not a MAASA member in good standing (not fully paid up MAASA membership and has been notified regarding the matter), therefore the nominee is not eligible to serve on the commission at the moment.	
		Decision: Get the commission up and running. Any changes to the commission can be done at a later stage. Diane, Deirdre, Jacques appointed to be on the commission, accepted by Petro & seconded by Maretha.	
2.3	KZN Constitution Ratify	Can't ratify the KZN Constitution at this time as we need a quorum. It needs to be approved by national council first; they can then present it to their members as a motion to be accepted in the KZNMA AGM. To stand over until the next meeting.	
2.4	Changes/acceptance of previous minutes	Minutes accepted – Diane Petro – Accept Rozelle - Accept	Diane: Sign the minutes Deirdre: Send minutes to members & upload to website.

3.	International affiliation (Deir	dre)	
3.	International affiliation (Deire Feedback re: IHAA & WHAF member associations officially recognised by equestrian federation & possible reaffiliation to WHAF	 dre) Deirdre declared a conflict of interest for herself in this discussion as she serves on the IHAA board of and a second conflict as a potential protea athlete. But needs to bring the matter to the table despite the conflict of interest. At the OGM we discussed international affiliation to IHAA and WHAF. Questions were raised by some of our members & we committed to doing research into which IHAA countries comply for us to compete against to get our national colours. Deirdre had conversations with Alperen Alkan (IHAA board member) & Claire Sawyer (IHAA Vice President) with regards to which IHAA and WHAF member countries comply. She also had conversations with several MAASA members that have raised some valid concerns/questions to be brought to the council for consideration. MAASA is allowed (by SAEF/SASCOC) to affiliate to multiple international bodies i.e. we are allowed to affiliate to both IHAA and WHAF but may not use both affiliations for the purposes of getting National Colours. In dealings with SAEF in the past, Sharlene made it clear that in such a case we must dedicate in advance which our primary affiliation for the purposes of getting our National colours and that we would not be allowed to jump between the two affiliations in order to get National colours. We are registered with the SAEF, this means that part of our goal as MAASA is to create a 	
	•	between the two affiliations in order to get National colours.	
		With regards to the France vs SA competition, since they can only send a junior team that would mean that there would be no opportunity for our senior athletes to get their National colours and would only facilitate the potential 2 or 3 juniors to get their colours.	
		Deirdre has done the homework; the following is a list of IHAA and WHAF affiliated member countries that are officially affiliated to their country's sporting federations that could possibly comply for us to compete against in order for our athletes to get National colours:	

IHAA affiliated countries:
1. France (affiliated to FFE) (No senior team)
2. Italy (affiliated to FITE-TREC-ANTE) apparently strong senior and junior team?
3. Sweden (affiliated to their National Archery federation (not to their equestrian
federation Would SAEF allow this?) Strong seniors and juniors (Could we possibly
arrange a test match with Sweden, I am in contact with Anders and Ann-Sofie on a
regular basis).
4. Moldova (formally recognised by the government)(no information on their teams
snr vs junior)
5. Iran (apparently there is a 2 nd association that is IHAA affiliated, I have no further
info on this)
6. Turkey (formally affiliated but currently a lot of national politics (within their
government, the government have elections coming up which could have a massive
impact on their mounted archery association)(so this is not a viable option at this
point.
WHAF affiliated countries:
1. Saudi Arabia (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (strong SNR and
JNR team, although SNR JNR requirements/ages for WHAF differs)
2. Iran (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (no info on teams)
3. Qatar (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (no info on teams)
 4. Kuwait (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (no info on teams)
5. Jordan (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (no info on teams)
6. Kazakhstan (affiliated to their sport federation/confederation) (no info on teams)
Points to consider:
1. It would seem that WHAF or IHAA affiliation could offer equal possibilities for
getting national colours since both have an equal amount of countries affiliated to
their national sporting confederations. This might not be the case however, we
would need to do further homework:
a. For IHAA affiliated countries for the most part we would need to organise a test
match against one of these countries or compete at the IHAA World
Championships (in Mongolia this year) and hope that the competition complies

	according to SAEF requirements with regards to teams participation. IHAA
	World Championships to be held every 2 years.
	b. For WHAF affiliated countries we could organise a test match (invite them here,
	it seems the Middle Eastern countries have more support/funding from their
	governments). Or we would need to participate in a WHAF qualifier (such as was
	recently held in SA, although it would have to be organised through MAASA) or
	attend the WHAF world championships (in Kazakhstan this year) and hope that
	the competition complies according to SAEF requirements with regards to teams
	participation. WHAF world championships held every year. (The opportunity to
	attain national colours for both juniors and seniors may be greater/easier/more
	attainable with WHAF affiliation.)
2.	Safety of competitions WHAF vs IHAA: It is also our responsibility to take into
	account the safety of the competitions since we want our athletes, and especially
	our juniors to be safe
	a. Track times for WHAF and IHAA tracks differ. WHAF tracks much faster than
	IHAA tracks. (If WHAF affiliated we would need to include whaf tracks in our
	rulebook and ride on WHAF track times in competitions as well).
	b. Safety regulations in competition WHAF vs. IHAA
	c. Safety (how well trained) and speed of horses used in competition WHAF vs.
	ΙΗΑΑ
	d. Horse welfare concerns, WHAF vs IHAA, WHAF has much less regard for horse
	welfare, horses of very questionable conditions with regards to health and
	fitness to compete allowed to compete.
3.	There's a possibility that if MAASA does not consider re-affiliating to WHAF or
	consider affiliating to WHAF for the purposes of national colours that it could
	potentially open the door for a rival mounted archery association to come into
	existence and try to affiliate with SAEF. This was conveyed to Deirdre not in the
	form of a threat but as a warning that we might be opening ourselves up for trouble.
	uld consider/discuss re-affiliating to WHAF and then do our homework much more
extensi	vely with regards to a decision as to who to affiliate to as our main affiliation. We
need to	consider every aspect, get clarity on every possible element from SAEF and give our

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		Suggestion to run the options by our athletes.	
		Rozelle: We need to do lots of homework. Get our top athletes a chance to get their protea colours. Draw up a list of countries that we would be allowed to compete against. Draft up a pros and cons list of WHAF vs. IHAA.	
		Deirdre: We need to do our homework thoroughly, get 100% clarity from SAEF, contact each potential archery association to find out regarding their teams, their selection criteria, their affiliation to their equestrian federation and sporting confederation. We cannot go on hear-say and assume that the info is accurate. It is our responsibility as the governing body for MA in SA to do the work, do the research & make educated and informed decisions based on accurate info to give our athletes the best possible chance to compete as a national team.	
		Still planned to go ahead, waiting for formal announcement. This could potentially be an opportunity for senior athletes (should we decide to send a team) to earn their colours if competing against. E.g. Italy (Sweden will not be attending due to political reasons involving the War in Ukraine).	
3.3	IHAA World Champs (Deirdre)	Deirdre was part of discussion regarding safety of horses that would be used as well as horse welfare. This is an IHAA competition, the organizer assures for safe horses that can do fast and slow. Do we want to try sending a team?	
		No decision reached, we need to first get as much info from SAEF regarding requirements and get all the info regarding the other countries 'MA associations as in item 3.2 before we can reach a decision.	
4.	International Competition – F	rance vs. SA (Diane)	
4.1	Feedback	In conversation with Alan le Gall regarding our request for an international test match with France the following:	Diane: Find out from SAEF could we possibly enter a single team
		He has confirmed a timeframe of between 15 th November and middle December this year, he has to go to Reunion before this to do a clinic/competition there. He does not have confirmed dates as yet regarding Reunion, but will get back to me as soon as those are	(no junior & senior) and still compete against France?

confirmed.	Diane: to find out from SAEF
 confirmed. Alan suggested 2 competitions in SA, and a training clinic, perhaps different venues if possible. I responded that we were thinking of doing an official test match (with our selected National team) and then possibly a Grand Africa tournament thereafter, open to all. We could possibly schedule a training clinic at the same time. Venues won't be a problem; we have enough in Gauteng that could accommodate different events. Problem – he currently has 4 junior riders on the French national team, and no seniors, although he can ride as a Senior himself. He says he is working on getting more seniors this year, but no guarantees. We, on the other hand, have a number of seniors and perhaps two juniors who would qualify, so there is going to be a discrepancy in numbers. 	Diane: to find out from SAEF regarding funding from SAEF.
 <u>Clinic fees</u>: Private clinics: his fee is 500 Euros per day, food and accommodation included. No mention of traveling costs, but I'm presuming that is extra. Combined clinic with French and SA team and SA trainer – only 240Euros per day (apparently the FFE will sponsor some of the costs if it is a training clinic for national teams). 	
 Discussion: Dates – awaiting confirmation of when they can be here, and for how long SA Riders – the test match will take place after our Nationals, so the team will be selected on this year's qualifiers, provincials and Nationals results. Venues – which events do we hold at which venues, or do we choose one venue to host everything? Perhaps we should consider using Botha Wil for the official test match, since its currently the best approved MAASA venue, and we will need to invite the SAEF top brass to attend. For the training clinic (if we hold one) and the Grand Africa, we can use other (MAASA approved) venues. How do we handle the uneven number of French riders and SA riders in Junior and Senior divisions, in order to give all our qualifying SA riders a fair chance to compete? Finances – how much can MAASA help with the SA team costs? (Clothing especially). There will be other costs too – competition expenses, catering, accommodation for guests, prize giving function etc. 	

		I have contacted Sharlene at SAEF regarding the possibility of the French team coming, and asked for her assistance with the correct process to be followed with regards to awarding Protea colours to our riders. I've asked to meet with her to discuss this and other issues, no reply received as yet.	
4.2	Discussion	Question Deirdre: Since it seems that France would no longer seem like the best option since they don't have a senior team, could we possibly enter a single team (no junior & senior) and still compete against France? Or possibly arrange a tri-nations with France for the Juniors and another compliant country ie. Italy for the seniors?. Finances suggestion from Rozelle: we need to do fund-raising to raise some money for the team. Online back a buddy type of fund raising system.	
-		Diane to find out from SAEF regarding funding from SAEF.	
5.	International Training Camps		
		Diane has had lengthy conversations with Christof Nemethy, who was here recently with Anna Minkenin to present a training clinic before the WHAF Qualifier in January. Christof contacted Diane to enquire about when we wanted him to come back for another clinic.	
5.1	Discussion	Diane suggested we rather plan for another clinic in 2024, since he and Anna had already been here this year, and it would be better to give everyone who attended their clinics a chance to hone their new skills and practice what they had learned. He agreed it would be better to wait until 2024, if we had interest from our riders for another clinic, and said January / February is the best time for him and Anna to come over.	Diane: Find out what Siem charges for clinic fees.
		• He and Anna are prepared to reduce their daily rate to 1500 Euros, excluding flights, accommodation and meals. This in effect means R60 000 for the both of them in training fees, for a 2-3 day clinic, and we would still need to fund their flights and accommodation. If we go ahead with this, we will definitely need to find sponsors to help with the costs, or maybe consider getting just one of them out here, not both.	

		Diane is was also in conversation with Siem Budding from the Netherlands regarding him coming out to stay in November/December this year, and giving a training clinic with Jacques for the youth. We can possibly look at combining that with the intended test match with France and the Grand Africa – Siem would stay with us so accommodation and food would not be for MAASA's costs, we would just need to cover his flights and training fees.
6.	Clinics, events via MAASA (Ca	Illie)
6.1	Discussion	We are going to have to re-open the debate about private vs MAASA clinics, and sanctioned vs unsanctioned events. MAASA must be the conduit through which clinics & competitions be organized. There should be unity & people should come to MAASA to organize through MAASA and or get approval from MAASA. Rozelle: Agrees, we need to try to have a united front for mounted archery. MAASA does not have authority over non-MAASA members. Anyone can organize a clinic or competition. Competitions and clinics that weren't organized through MAASA cannot be approved or given the go ahead by MAASA (since MAASA has no control over what rules, horse welfare etc. will be enforced by those competitions) and therefore cannot risk being associated to it.
7.	Club Affiliations (Deirdre)	
7.1	Feedback	At the OGM in Feb we voted in the amendment to the Bylaws regarding club affiliation. In order to be successfully affiliated to MAASA a club will need 5 active members (athletes). This does put us in a bit of a catch 22: In order for a club to get affiliated to us they will need 5 athletes for mounted archery to join their club, but an athlete won't join a club for the purposes of competing if that club isn't already affiliated to MAASA. How then will we be

		 able to make room for any new clubs to join? Boskop Ryklub only has one registered member/athlete for 2023. This means they are no longer affiliated to MAASA. Diane has asked me to remove the club from our website. I would then need to advise the athlete that Boskop is no longer affiliated and advise him to join another club. I have spoken to the secretary of the club (they have a new secretary that seems keen to actually do the work), they desperately want to stay affiliated to MAASA she has asked the following: "I understand your association rules, but is there any way we can be associated in some way with MAASA for our rider's sake? I will work to get the membership numbers up. She would like to advertise to try to get more maasa members but how can she advertise if they're not affiliated? 	
7.2	Discussion	 The motivation behind this change in the By-Laws was to deter clubs from popping up for the purpose of influencing voting outcomes when it came to elections/motions to be passed. In the past we have had a number of clubs made up of people who have little or nothing to do with mounted archery, and yet they were able to cast votes on matters that affect mounted archery and MAASA. If someone wants to start a new club, they need to provide a list of 5 athletes when they submit their application for affiliation to MAASA. If the 5 athletes meet the criteria, their application will be successful, and the new club will be accepted for affiliation. If a new athlete needs to join a club, and doesn't wish to start their own club due to lack of numbers, they can join any of the clubs already affiliated to MAASA. With regards to the athlete and Boskop – it's not a case of asking him to leave his club of choice; he can belong to more than one club. However, if he wants to meet the criteria for competing in qualifiers and Nationals, and ultimately being considered for National team selection, then he needs to compete under the banner of a MAASA affiliated club. Boskop does not currently meet the criteria required to be affiliated to MAASA. 	Deirdre: Discuss with Boskop Ryklub & athlete

		official vote as they do not comply yet with MAASA/SAEF club requirements. Question Rozelle: If a club doesn't have enough athletes could they join as a non-voting club? Answer no: if a club member was to qualify for protea colours, they wouldn't be able to get their colours because the club doesn't comply with SAEF criteria, this would put athletes at a diagonate as	
		athletes at a disadvantage.	
8.	Calculation of National Ranki	ngs (Diane)	
8.1	National Rankings	 In the past I have calculated the overall Senior and Junior rankings (for HA, SA and Novices) in the same way – highest average number of points calculated over number of qualifiers ridden. Up until now, all our provinces have used the same standard Raid tracks in competition, so this method of calculations worked pretty well. This year, Gauteng is going to be riding some non-standard Raid tracks in some of their qualifiers. The reason for this is twofold: The capacity to ride longer tracks is there (Botha Wil's track can do a 150m length track) A number of our riders have asked to ride more challenging tracks than the standard Raid that we have always done, especially those that are trying to get their gradings up a level or two. The problem now arises as to how we calculate the National rankings because the longer tracks will afford the Gauteng riders the opportunity to earn more points on the Raid, but the other provinces don't have longer tracks which they can use for non-standard Raid events, so they will earn fewer points on the standard 90m tracks. 	
8.2	Discussion	Suggestion from Deirdre: There are discussions going on in the IHAA board with regards to how to calculate a world ranking. There are several different ways of doing it. Deirdre has worked through the methods of calculation for Sweden, Poland, USA and France to see which would make the most sense and be the easiest for us to calculate.	Diane: To test the scenario if a record is broken during the

Suggestion: to implement the same way of calculation as the USA. They do a national ranking calculation each year. Their riders don't all participate in the same competitions or ride the same tracks in the competitions and I think their calculations could possibly work best to determine an accurate ranking.	season.
They've based it on a similar way that the <u>ihaa.eu</u> system works by using percentages.	
For National Ranking Tier 2, raw scores are collected and a percentage if each score is found based on the American course record for that course. For each person, we use the two highest Raid percent + 2 highest Tower percent, divided by 4. (R+R+T+T)/4= National Ranking Tier 2 % Highest points possible is 100.	
We already use our competitor's best two competitions plus nationals to determine the ranking so we can just modify the calculation.	
EXAMPLE: We would take the current South African record of each Raid and Tower track. This record (i.e. a score of 165 on the Tower) these records would form our base score and each record would equal 100% on that track.	
That means if someone scored e.g. 120 on the Tower 90 (and the base score is 165) then 120 divided by 165 = 0.73 times by 100 to give us a percentage of 73%. We would take the percentage of each competitors best 2 competition Raid scores and best 2 competition Tower scores plus their percentage on Raid and Tower at Nationals and add them together.	
Raid% + Raid% + Raid% + Tower% + Tower% + Tower% and then divide them by 6 (the amount of competition scores used) to give us a percentage of that person. We then compare the final percentage of each athlete against one another in order to determine the ranking. This way we can determine fair ranking no matter if the riders rode Raid123 Raid 235 etc.	
Diane is busy setting up this way of calculation into the national ranking & results	

		spreadsheet to test it out on 2022 results. Rozelle: Suggestion the record that is the 100% (we must note, when we reset the calculations if a new record is set?). Keep the record for an entire season (from nationals to nationals) even if the record is broken throughout the year that person might get 115%.	
9.	Listing of information on	MAASA Website (Diane)	
9.1	Discussion	 We get quite a few enquiries via email regarding mounted archery training clinics, lessons, events and/or instructors. I would like to suggest that we add information to the website to assist people who are looking for information. People generally want to know what is available within their area, and a lot of queries we receive we have to answer with first enquiring what area THEY are in so that we can point them in the right direction. If we can add this to the website, we can consider publishing the following info: Names, contact numbers and locations of training instructors / mounted archery schools Upcoming events like training clinics / training shows / horse training days / competitions – we currently have a Calendar tab (which currently only lists last year's Nationals), it might be worth considering changing that to Events, and then loading all the planned events for the upcoming year. Pay R300 a year to advertise their school / services on the page. One year runs from 31 Jan to 31Jan, no pro rata rates. 	Deirdre: Fix Jaco tel no on website Deirdre: to send out mail to members if they want to advertise on the site.
10.	Definition of criteria for D	Development Riders (Diane)	
10.1	Discussion	Leave over for next meeting.	
11.	Closing		
11.1	Next meeting date	Tentative date – Thursday 13 April	
11.2	Meeting Closure	The president thanked everyone and closed the meeting.	

Greetings

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Diane Horn (Chairman)."

Signed at Pretoria on 13th day of July 2023.