

The Mounted Archery Association of South Africa



PRESIDENTIAL ANNUAL REPORT

2021

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Looking back we can acknowledge that 2020 was a difficult year, not only for the individual, but for MAASA, equestrian sport in general as well as for the whole world.

With the Covid pandemic and lockdown, people were presented with many mental challenges, one of them being the frustration of not being able to ride or see our horses, ride with friends or compete at shows.

The pandemic has had a massive effect on many industries, including the equestrian industries. Businesses were shut down, yards closed down, people lost their income and their ability to keep their horses or afford riding lessons.

The fact that we couldn't compete also put strain on MAASA's four main goals of creating awareness of the sport; to increase membership; to form provincial structures in order to be compliant with SAEF criteria and to build up the MAASA rules and regulations, procedures, policies and training manuals within the organisation.

Despite all of these challenges and more, the MAASA council and provincial committees were hard at work during the lockdown and achieved a lot of our goals for 2020.

With that in mind, let's have a look at what we've accomplished.

Deirdre Janse van Rensburg

President - MAASA



Creating awareness of Mounted Archery

Online show "Wian"

The sport of Mounted Archery and some of MAASA's top riders were featured in the online show "Wian" on VIA TV. WIAN is a travelling magician. In his show he experienced the magic of Mounted Archery while exposing our riders to a little bit of magic of his own!



Magazine articles - HQ

Mounted archery and MAASA were featured in two separate articles in HQ in 2020. The first multiple page article took a look at the sport of Mounted Archery in South Africa, the origins and history of horseback archery as well as the different styles and competitions within MAASA. The second Article featured myself and my horse Balaika, training, my journey with my mare and mounted archery in general.



The Quintessential Rider

The Quintessential Rider is a brand new online subscription based membership platform (similar to netflix) dedicated to providing the equestrian community with helpful and educational content of an international standard. New lessons are added to the platform on a monthly basis, supplied by some of the top equestrian coaches in South Africa.



Mounted Archery was added to this online platform as part of the video library. Several videos have already been filmed featuring myself and Jacques Horn. In these videos we cover a multitude of topics including equipment, tack and horses required for Mouted Archery, how to train a horse for mounted archery and some of the styles and events including tracks and rules used in competition.



Mounted Archery Presidential Report – MAASA 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.

New Clubs →

4 New Clubs from 3 provinces have affiliated to MAASA, Kouga Riding Club, Dynamic Archery, Youngblood Equestrian Archers and Okusha tent pegging club.



New Tracks →

2 New MAASA competition tracks and show holding bodies were approved during 2020: Bekker Equestrian Academy in Gauteng (for use of MAASA qualifiers) and 1 new Kassai Track was approved by Kassai Lajos from Hungary at the Kings & Prophets Venue in Gauteng (for use in the unaffiliated KHOW competitions).



MAASA Structures Compliant to SAEF →

Despite the fact that MAASA lost the provincial structure in the Western Cape due to international Mounted Archery politics, MAASA managed to get two more provincial structures compliant during 2020. The North West formalised their province by becoming properly constituted and so too the KZN province. We welcome provincial presidents Vicky van Zyl (NW) and Dalene Baksa (KZN) to the MAASA National Council. MAASA currently has 4 provincial structures in place, Gauteng, Freestate, North West and Kwazulu Natal. With lockdown restrictions down to level 1, the Eastern Cape is currently in the process of organising an AGM for the purposes of electing a committee for the Eastern Cape Provincial Structure. Although the Western Cape is currently not constituted, there have been requests from the WC to get a new MAASA provincial body up and running. MAASA will be travelling to the WC later in the year in order to host clinics and help the WC to get up and running again.



Mounted Archery Clinics →

With no competitions in any equestrian discipline to attend, riders started exploring new disciplines. The MAASA national office was flooded with requests for Mounted Archery clinics. Once the travel restrictions were lifted MAASA took to the roads to take Mounted Archery to the masses!! MAASA presented 7 clinics in 4 different provinces including Honeydew Gauteng, Sasolburg NW, Bloemfontein Freestate and Cato Ridge KZN.

These clinics have brought many new members (and prospective members) to MAASA with several of the venues planning to or in the process of setting up Mounted Archery tracks or clubs. We look forward to seeing these individuals, clubs and venues joining MAASA in 2021 and 2022.



Mounted Archery Demo →

Some of the MAASA riders were invited to do a Mounted Archery Demonstration at the Burgh Equestrian Center during one of their show jumping training shows. Needless to say the show jumpers were thoroughly impressed by the archery skills and well trained horses of our team of archers! Thank you to Diane Horn for organising and making it happen.



Competitions: Lockdown Challenge

MAASA managed to hold 4 qualifiers in 3 provinces before the Lockdown took us all by surprise and all further qualifiers and competitions for 2020 were reluctantly cancelled. But MAASA didn't let the lockdown get the best of us! Instead we used the time to hone our skills, improve our technique and train our horses. During the 21 day lockdown MAASA instituted a country-wide lockdown challenge. Individuals had to complete an archery game every day & submit their results. The aim was to finish the game with the least amount of arrows shot. At the end of the 21 days, former Vice President Daniel Griffin was crowned the victor of the 21 day challenge. To celebrate the end of the 21 day lockdown, participants completed their final game while dressed up. The lockdown challenge was a huge success and managed to lift our member's spirits amidst the uncertainty of the lockdown and the international crisis.



Competitions: Postal Matches

Once we realised that lockdown would not last for 21 days only and that it would be limiting our ability to compete for quite some time, the MAASA council decided to institute a series of virtual postal matches to keep our athletes fit, active, training and competing throughout the year. A series of 4 postal matches were held over the span of a month to two months per postal match with classes for Juniors and Seniors with walk, trot and canter classes. Participants had to set up a track either in a lunging ring, riding arena, archery track or open field depending on the specifications of each postal match. Paper plates were used as bullseye's on the targets in order to standardize the target size and accommodate those that did not have competition targets at their disposal. These postal matches were once again a huge success and were met with great virtual attendance and enthusiasm from our athletes.

The Mounted Archery Association of South Africa
ONLINE POSTAL MATCH #2
JULY 2020 - LUNGING RING #2

CLASS: Lunging Ring 2 - Junior Walk					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Sweep Hands	Time	Rank
Charlene Du Toit	Foreign Legion	17	Yes	1:11.07	1st

CLASS: Lunging Ring 2 - Junior Canter					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Sweep Hands	Time	Rank
Jacques Horn	Mahai Danube	15	No	34.24	1st

CLASS: Lunging Ring 2 - Senior Walk					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Sweep Hands	Time	Rank
Rozette Taina	Nugad Elari	10	Yes	78.29	1st

CLASS: Lunging Ring 2 - Senior Trot					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Sweep Hands	Time	Rank
Marisa Carpenter	Blacky	17	Yes	1:37.24	1st

CLASS: Lunging Ring 2 - Senior Canter					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Sweep Hands	Time	Rank
Vicky van Zyl	Foreign Legion	17	Yes	46	1st
Deirdre Janse van Rensburg	Mahai Danube	10	No	29.13	2nd
Callie Kruger	Mahai Danube	5	No	29.07	3rd
Martha Kruger	Ittiff	5	No	29.15	4th

JULY 2020 - ARENA CHARGING INTO BATTLE #2

CLASS: Charging into battle - Junior Walk					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Talitha Schoeman	Jodi (Barback)	17	No	79.1	1st

CLASS: Charging into battle - Junior Trot					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Talitha Schoeman	Ittiff	10	No	37.15	1st

CLASS: Charging into battle - Junior Canter					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Jacques Horn	Danube	15	No	18.26	1st

CLASS: Charging into battle - Senior Walk					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Leaf Potgieter	Xena (Barback)	12	Yes	82.06	1st

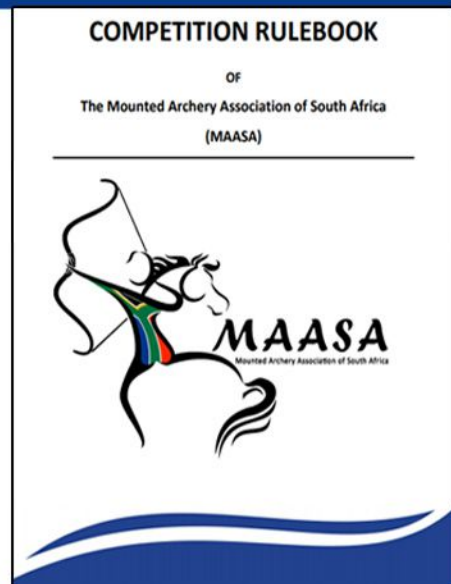
CLASS: Charging into battle - Senior Trot					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Rozette Taina	Nugad Elari	10	Yes	42	1st
Marisa Carpenter	Blacky	10	No	39.23	2nd

CLASS: Charging into battle - Senior Canter					
Name & Surname	Horse Name	Points	Jermak	Time	Rank
Martha Kruger	Ittiff	15	No	19.06	1st
Deirdre Janse van Rensburg	Balaia (Barback)	15	No	19.28	2nd
Deon Janse van Rensburg	Blanka	10	No	14.25	3rd
Callie Kruger	Danube	10	No	18.16	4th

Administration in 2020

Rulebook

The IHAA (International Horseback Archery Alliance) one of the international bodies that MAASA is affiliated to changed some of their events and rules during 2020. The MAASA council sent out a motion to have the MAASA rulebook updated with these latest events and rule changes and the motion was accepted and ratified at the OGM held in December 2020. The MAASA council has been working very hard on the rulebook, adding extra tracks, rules for safety etc. and has again submitted a motion for the new rulebook to be ratified, accepted and implemented at the MAASA AGM scheduled for 24 April 2021.

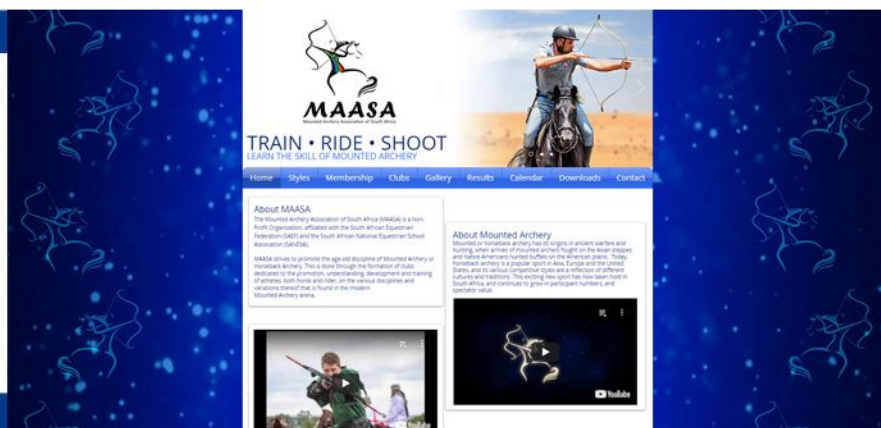


Constitution & Bylaws

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 have been sent to all MAASA members as a motion to be ratified and adopted at the MAASA AGM.

MAASA Website

After months of hard work, MAASA's brand new website went live in 2020. The website is frequently updated with events, new clubs, membership information, minutes of MAASA meetings etc.

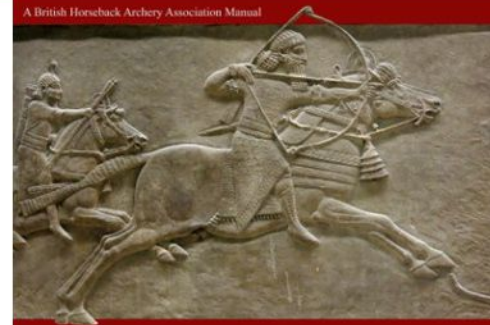


National Council

With the resignation of our Vice President Daniel Griffin, MAASA is currently without a Vice President. As this position forms part of the Board of Directors for MAASA the position needs to be filled as soon as possible. MAASA is currently in the process of election procedures and the new MAASA Vice President will be voted in / announced at the MAASA AGM on 24 April 2021. Another elective AGM will be held early in 2022 since the 3 year term for some of the council members (including the position of president) will come to an end at the beginning of 2022. Since the draft constitution to be ratified at the AGM contains changes to the council structures (as per advice from SAEF) all other vacant positions on the council will be elected at the AGM early next year as well. In the meantime, MAASA council will start the process of searching for candidates willing to be nominated for the position of president as the current president has announced unwillingness to stand for a second term. All candidates willing to be nominated & to stand for the position can contact the National Council so that a process can be implemented in which the willing candidates can start familiarising themselves with the running and responsibilities within MAASA.

Coaches Qualifications Course →

The MAASA council has made a lot of progress with the Coaches Qualifications Course. An agreement was made between MAASA and the BHAA (British Horseback Archery Alliance, in which MAASA obtained the rights to use and add to the coaches course created by the BHAA. This course was approved by the British Qualifications Authority several years ago. MAASA will now start the process of adapting this course for use in South Africa and the course will be added on top of EQASA qualifications as a specialised course. MAASA coaches will need to go through EQASA in order to become qualified mounted archery coaches. The BHAA study manual will make up for the majority of study reference material.



Horseback Archery:
ancient art to modern sport



**International Horseback Archery Alliance
WORLD GRAND PRIX 2020**

STAGE 1



MARLI JACOBS



EL-RICO KLEMP



JACQUES HORN

STAGE 2



DEIRDRE JV RENSBURG



MARETHA KRUGER



MARLI JACOBS

STAGE 3



JACQUES HORN



CALLIE KRUGER



JOHAN DU TOIT



International Competitions: IHAA wGP 2020 →

Due to travel restrictions brought on by the international pandemic, the IHAA was unable to host a World Grand Prix in France as had been planned for October 2020. The IHAA decided to go ahead with the wGP in a virtual format. 21 Countries and 31 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. MAASA entered a team in the open category, in which the 9 riders could be made up of juniors and seniors. The final MAASA team consisted of 3 juniors and 4 seniors. Two of the senior riders that were chosen for the team were unable to participate in the competition due to injury and personal reasons. To fill these empty spots on the team, two of the MAASA juniors, Jacques Horn and Marli Jacobs (the 2 highest scoring juniors in the country) were given the opportunity to ride in two stages each. The MAASA team finished in 7th place in the open category (out of 21 countries) and in 9th place overall (out of 31 teams), we couldn't be more proud of them!!

Goals for 2021

We are looking forward to 2021. We have been laying a lot of foundations in 2019 and 2020 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 to get the Eastern Cape structure compliant
- Focus on Western Cape, organise clinics and membership in WC
- Pursue sponsorships, development grants and Lotto Money
- Continued Growth in membership, clubs, tracks and officials
- Develop online scoring, grading & ranking system
- Develop BHAA Coaches & Instructors Course within EQASA
- International competitions to attend – IHAA wGP 2021 virtual Grand Prix

A final word of thanks

With the international issues between IHAA and WFEA and the subsequent breakaway of the Western Cape from MAASA and resignations of council members, the MAASA National council has had a particularly difficult year. We had a lot of difficult conversations and hours upon hours of meetings to try and find solutions. It was a hard blow to MAASA, but we continue, we look up and we look to the future, our job is to do what is best for MAASA, best for our sport and best for our members. We will continue to invest ourselves to grow our beautiful sport!

- 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 2020, 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 2020 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.

Thank you to all for a good 2020, despite the current international crisis. We look forward to and hope for an even better 2021.

Yours Truly, Deirdre Janse van Rensburg - MAASA President

