

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO ASSOCIATION, HELD AT TED ALLEN ROOM, JOAN HARRISON POOL, EAST LONDON ON WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH 2025 AT 18H00

IN ATTENDANCE:

AS PER THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

1. WELCOME

1.1 The Chairman, Mr Jared Wingate-Pearse welcomed all persons attending the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES/ ATTENDANCE

2.1 Provinces in attendance were:

- Border
- Central Gauteng
- Easterns
- Natal
- Northerns
- Western Province
- Zimbabwe

2.2 Apologies:

- Eastern Province – proxy given to Border
- Zambia

2.3 Attendance was as per the attendance register attached hereto.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DATED 13TH MARCH 2024

3.1 There being no matters arising and was proposed by Richard Potter from Central Gauteng and seconded by Brett Redelinghuys from Western Province.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.1 On behalf of all the SA Masters Waterpolo players, Jared Wingate-Pearse extended their sincere condolences to the family and friends of players who had passed away since the last AGM namely:

2025	Alf Volschansky	Gauteng
2025	Mike Renwick	Gauteng
2025	Ray Weppelman	Border
2024	Andrew Good	Western Province
2024	Paul Martin	Western Province

2024 Roelof van der Merwe Gauteng

2024 Hugh Farrell Gauteng

4.2 Chairman's report - copy attached to minutes.

- Great to have the tournament in Border again. Been 7 years.
- 34 teams - No Open section and small 30+ section which is a problem that we can hopefully find a solution for. Gauteng Tournament taken all the Open teams.
- The 3 out of 4 age groups are all well represented.
- Sincere thanks to Andy Reeves and Border LOC for arranging the tournament.
- Further points can be discussed later under General.

4.3 There being no matters arising it was proposed by Chris Beale from Easterns and seconded by Richard Potter from Central Gauteng.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

5.1 Copies distributed via email as well as attached to minutes.

5.2 Salient points from the treasurer's report:

- Western Province paid over the subscriptions for the 2024 tournament
- Interest and Bank Charges
 - Bank charges have dropped substantially as the monthly charge is absorbed by the account holder
 - The bank charges reflected on the income statement are in effect for payments made from the SA Masters account
 - Interest is earned based on the SA Masters account balance
- Costumes
 - 48 new costumes were purchased to cover 2025 awards and replenish stock
 - It is expected that this cost will continue as more and more players will be achieving these milestones going forward
- Trophies cost is for:
 - 25 consecutive tournaments and the miniature trophies
- Favourable balance on the account R42,143.59
- Possible additional expenditure for next year:
 - 1 x set of water polo caps for each division (30, 40, 50, 60)
 - Replacing / fixing the existing trophies

5.3 2025 subs will remain unchanged at R50/player, however, the subs will be increased to R100/player – effective from the 2026 tournament.

5.4 There being no other queries arising from the financials, acceptance was proposed by Mike von Bardeleben of Northern and seconded by Chris Beale of Easterns.

6. NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICE BEARERS

6.1 The following members were elected: -

Executive

Jared Wingate-Pearse - Chairman

Ian van Zyl - Secretary

Ian van Zyl - Treasurer

Representatives

Central Gauteng	-	Richard Potter & Jonathan Abbott
Western Province	-	Brett Redelinghuys & Rod Panagos
Border	-	Andrew Reeves & Derek Breetske
Eastern Province	-	Rob Rowles & Gavin Metzler
Natal	-	Donn Stewart & Gregg Higgs
Northerns	-	Mike von Bardeleben & Peter Blaauw
Easterns	-	Chris Beale & Karl Schutte
Zimbabwe	-	Rob Hammond & Paul Harley
Zambia	-	David Chilvers

Blue = new member

Red = AN Other (TBA)

6.2 Updated details of provincial representatives are attached hereto.

7. SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025-2026

7.1 Border (East London) confirmed that they were happy to host the 2026 tournament.

8. SELECTION OF A DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

8.1 For any disciplinary hearing required at the tournament, the following will be required to be present:

- Tournament directors
- Referees involved in the game
- Chairman of SAMWP

8.2 Provinces to provide suitably qualified referees to assist if called upon.

9. GENERAL

9.1 State of the Current Masters Trophies

- The current trophies are in a state of disrepair.
- Andrew Reeves will scrutinize the trophies and advise on a way forward.
- Neville Clarence has offered to replace the trophy named after him.

9.2 Social Media

9.2.1 The facebook group for **SA Masters Waterpolo**, which was setup by Brett Redelinghuys in his own capacity, has been renamed to **Masters Waterpolo South Africa**.

9.2.2 It was agreed that some sort of vetting of posts needs to be put in place.

9.2.3 Brett Redelinghuys and Jared Wingate-Pearse will advise how this will be addressed.

9.3 Age Groupings and Handicapping

- 9.3.1 This has been a bone of contention for many years.
- 9.3.2 Brett Redelinghuys did some analysis and presented his observations based on the tournament entries for 2025.
- 9.3.3 A copy of his observations and suggestions are attached to the minutes.
- 9.3.4 Option A was the chosen as an experiment for the 60+ division in the 2026 tournament.

Solution:

Firstly

1. *Set up a 2 or 3-person committee (1 per age group) at each AGM.*
 - a. *Vote for these positions from nominations.*
 - b. *They must be from that age group.*
2. *This committee will filter the nominations for Prizes for their group.*
 - a. *Using online voting system to make more democratic.*
 - b. *The results are used at Ceremony and results published after for all. (So, formalising what was done previously)*
 - c. *If we split bigger groups into 2 sections (as per 60+ where this are 10 teams) – this committee can also confirm who goes into which section each year.*

Option A:

1. *Set min age limit for each age group that is the stated age of the group i.e 60+ min age is 60, 50+ min age is 50 and 40+ min age is 40.*
 - a. *Suggest leave the 30+ as we need to grow and does not impact them as much. If and when the Open section has grown, then can bring this in for the 30+*
 - b. *Implementation:*
 - i. *60+ in 2026 – as it is more urgent – teams affected are minimal*
 - ii. *40+ & 50+ in 2026 or 2027 – gives these teams time to adjust – Board to vote.*
2. *Keep the handicap as we still playing 10-year brackets*
3. *Outliers – what to do?*
 - a. *The 3-person committee will then evaluate the teams EACH year to confirm they are able/not able to stay.*
 - b. *This then allows weaker teams like Eastern's/ Border / Whales dispensation to compete at different levels. Critical we don't lose these players and don't collapse these teams.*
 - c. *Honesty and integrity are paramount.*
 - i. *If teams bring a "Ringer" they can have that player excluded from games for the rest of the tournament OR*
 - ii. *Their team will lose their dispensation the next year.*
 - iii. *Note – if the "Ringer" is of the correct min age, but just good, then they are NOT a ringer. It is only if they are below the min age that they will be deemed a Ringer.*

9.4 Handicapping of Mixed Teams (Ladies Ages)

- 9.4.1 From the 2024 AGM minutes – point 9.2 refers. Extract included below:

Ladies team(s) should:

- *Be afforded the opportunity to initially select the age group they would like to participate in (e.g. a younger team playing in an older age group)*

- *The standard Masters age grouping should be applied, however, it may be subject to change as suggested by the LOC and approved by the Chairman of SA Masters Waterpolo.*

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 The date of the next Annual General Meeting will be on the Wednesday night prior to the commencement of the 2026 tournament – dates to be finalised.

11. CLOSURE

11.1 There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 19h15.



Chairman

2025-03-26

Date

Attendance Register:

Chairman	Jared Wingate-Pearse	Present	jaredwp8@gmail.com
Secretary	Ian van Zyl	Present	ianvanzyl@gmail.com
Finance	Ian van Zyl	Present	ianvanzyl@gmail.com
Border	Andrew Reeves Derek Breetzke	Present Present	andrew@reevesgroup.co.za derek@africanblue.co.za
Central Gauteng	Richard Potter Jonathan Abbott	Present Present	richard@hilltop215.co.za jonathan@waxedmedia.co.za
Eastern Province	Rob Rowles Gavin Metzeler	Apologies Apologies	robrowles7@gmail.com gavin@algoabatteries.co.za
Easterns	Chris Beale Karl Schutte	Present Present	cbeale@telkomsa.net karl0470@gmail.com
Natal	Donn Stewart Gregg Higgs	Apologies Greg	donn@shongwenibrewery.com gregg.higgs8@gmail.com
Northerns	Mike von Bardeleben Peter Blaauw	Present Present	mike7@mweb.co.za peter@blaauwfamily.co.za
Western Province	Brett Redelinghuys Rod Panagos	Present Apologies	brettredd@gmail.com rod@rivca.co.za
Zambia	David Chilvers	Apologies	lukugems@gmail.com
Zimbabwe	Rob Hammond Paul Harley	Apologies Present	robh@zol.co.zw paulharley@afrihost.co.za

Errors and omissions in transcribing the above attributed to *Barley, Hops & Friends*

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1.1 On behalf of all the SA Masters Waterpolo players, Jared Wingate-Pearse extended their sincere condolences to the family and friends of players who had passed away since the last AGM namely:

2025	Mike Renwick	Gauteng
2025	Ray Weppelman	Border
2024	Andrew Good	Western Province
2024	Paul Martin	Western Province
2024	Roelof van der Merwe	Gauteng
2024	Hugh Farrell	Gauteng

1.2 Chairman's report

- Great to have the tournament in Border again. Been 7 years.
- 34 teams – No Open section and small 30+ section which is a problem that we can hopefully find a solution for. Gauteng Tournament taken all the Open teams.
- The 3 out of 4 age groups are all well represented.
- Sincere thanks to Andy Reeves and Border LOC for arranging the tournament.
- Further points can be discussed later under General.

SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS WATER POLO

INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME	2025	2024	2023
Interest earned on Savings Account	2,479	1,669	486
Subscription from Previous Masters	23,500	16,414	17,650
Sale of costumes			
Bad Debts Recovered / Written Off			
TOTAL INCOME :	25,979	18,083	18,136
EXPENDITURE			
Costumes	15,510	4,875	8,580
Trophies	6,653	5,497	3,738
Web support	755	690	755
Replacement caps			
Travel, Disbursements, etc.			
Bank Charges	16	10	775
Honorium			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	22,933	11,072	13,848
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR PERIOD	3,046	7,011	4,288

BALANCE SHEET FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH	2025	2024	2023
CURRENT ASSETS			
Costumes on hand - 30 year :			
20 year :			
10 year :			
Debtors			
Caps			
Capitec Bank Savings Account	42,144	39,098	35,824
TOTAL ASSETS	42,144	39,098	35,824
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Costumes			
Trophies	0	0	-3,738
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0	0	-3,738
CAPITAL EMPLOYED	42,144	39,098	32,086
EMPLOYMENT OF CAPITAL			
Retained earnings previous year	39,098	32,086	27,798
Value of Caps to be written off			
Profit/(Loss) current year	3,046	7,011	4,288
EFFECTIVE SURPLUS	42,144	39,098	32,086

SA Masters Waterpolo – Financial Report for 2024-2025

Salient points

- Western Province paid over the subscriptions for the 2024 tournament
- Interest and Bank Charges
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 - Interest is earned based on the SA Masters account balance
- Costumes
 - 48 new costumes were purchased to cover 2025 awards and replenish stock
 - It is expected that this cost will continue as more and more players will be achieving these milestones going forward
- Trophies
 - 25 consecutive tournaments and the miniature trophies
- Favourable balance on the account R42,143.59

Possible additional expenditure for next year:

- 1 x set of water polo caps for each division (30, 40, 50, 60)
- Replacing / fixing the existing trophies

TROPHY WINNERS - SA MASTERS WATER POLO – EAST LONDON 2025

Section: 30+

AWARD	TITLE	2025
Winners	Neville Clarence Floating Trophy	Border Young Guns
Runners up		RWC Average Joes
Best Player	Paul Semple Floating Trophy	Cole Edworthy
Best Goalie	Alan Kaye Floating Trophy	Nolan Kemp

Section: 40+

AWARD	TITLE	2025
Winners	Des Foster Memorial Trophy	SleeVes
Runners up		Maties Old Boys
Best Player	Terry Downes Floating Trophy	Bevan Manson
Best Goalie	Ronnie de Fin Floating Trophy	Dwayne Fletcher

Section: 50+

AWARD	TITLE	2025
Winners	Mike Samuel Floating Trophy	Saints
Runners up		Rondebosch Rogues
Best Player	Ted Townsend Floating Trophy	Byron Hardy
Best Goalie	Neville Davies Floating Trophy	Mike Kidson

Section: 60+

AWARD	TITLE	2025
Winners		ZimNat
Runners up		Gerry's Geriatrics
Best Player		Andrew Dawson
Best Goalie		Roger Metelerkamp

Other

TITLE	2025
Kenny McLean Spirit of Masters	Donn Stewart
Peter Louw Team Spirit Award	Rondebosch Whales
Paul Semple Walking Stick – oldest player	Neville Davies – 79yrs
Breetzke Brothers Floating Trophy - Best Defender	Jason Kyte
Craig Nancarrow Floating Trophy – most flamboyant player	Connan Gates
“Owen Stokie award” presented by QP Geezers	SqEDS

SA Masters Age Eligibility and Handicap Rules proposal

Currently

Have 10 years split in groups

Have a 3-goal handicap max – 1 goal for every 2 years difference

Why was it created?

- Allowed for SA teams who at that point were more diverse in age per team and we didn't have the numbers to form 5-year teams
- Kept teams competitive who were at the older side of the group
- Punished teams for having too many younger players via the handicap goals.

Has it worked?

- Absolutely – we are 36 years into this event and still bring 35 team to events
- Has it been abused – yes but in general not maliciously

What has changed?

- When this tournament was set up 36 years ago, the **creators** of this event were in their 30's and 40's. At that point there wasn't a massive difference in ages and the physicality was pretty much on evenly matched.
 - The difference between a 25 and a 35 yr old is minimal
 - The difference between a 35 and 45 yr old starts getting harder
 - The difference between a 45 and a 65 yr old is harder and becomes uncomfortable/ unenjoyable

What is the problem currently and who is complaining?

- It is NOT that some players are better, fitter or faster – everyone expects this in sport.
- Problem is the PHYSICAL mismatch between a 65 – 70 year old vs 40 – 45 year old.
 - The difference between a 25 and a 35 yr old is minimal
 - The difference between a 35 and 45 yr old starts getting harder
 - The difference between a 45 and a 65 yr old is harder and becomes uncomfortable/ unenjoyable
- The group impacted most is the 60+ group. Mainly the older of this group in the late 60's and mid 70's.
- This is not fun for the older players, and they therefore prefer to “retire”
- We as a community are losing the very people that built this event. Not because they cannot play, but because they are choosing to NOT play due to an imbalance (a consequence of the current rules)

The Bell Curve

- Every rule or law will have some negative effect on a few. The intention or main idea however should be to benefit the 80-90% and look after the majority.
- I ask when you do apply your mind to this problem and the proposed solutions. Please DON'T worry about the 10% of “outliers” – focus first on the main problem and once we fix that we can find solutions for the 10% Outliers...

Solution:

Firstly

1. Set up a 2 or 3-person committee (1 per age group) at each AGM.
 - a. Vote for these positions from nominations.
 - b. They must be from that age group.
2. This committee will filter the nominations for Prizes for their group.
 - a. Using online voting system to make more democratic.
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 - c. If we split bigger groups into 2 sections (as per 60+ where this are 10 teams) – this committee can also confirm who goes into which section each year.

Option A:

1. Set **min age limit** for **each age group** that is the stated age of the group i.e 60+ min age is 60, 50+ min age is 50 and 40+ min age is 40.
 - a. Suggest leave the 30+ as we need to grow and does not impact them as much. If and when the Open section has grown, then can bring this in for the 30+
 - b. Implementation:
 - i. 60+ in 2026 – as it is more urgent – teams affected are minimal
 - ii. 40+ & 50+ in 2026 or 2027 – gives these teams time to adjust – Board to vote.
2. **Keep the handicap** as we still playing 10-year brackets
3. **Outliers – what to do?**
 - a. The 3-person committee will then evaluate the teams EACH year to confirm they are able/not able to stay.
 - b. This then allows weaker teams like Eastern's/ Border / Whales dispensation to compete at different levels. Critical we don't lose these players and don't collapse these teams.
 - c. Honesty and integrity are paramount.
 - i. If teams bring a "Ringer" they can have that player excluded from games for the rest of the tournament **OR**
 - ii. Their team will lose their dispensation the next year.
 - iii. **Note** – if the "Ringer" is of the correct min age, but just good, then they are NOT a ringer. It is only if they are below the min age that they will be deemed a Ringer.

Option B:

- a. Split your age group into an A & B Section
- b. **"A section"**- strict enforcement of Min Age criteria
- c. **"B Section"** – looser enforcement, making the section more social
- d. Personally, I don't like this this solution as it does not solve you're the biggest problem - the physicality problem of 70+ vs 45+
- e. Also is a problem where your section does not have enough for an A & B section.



SA Masters Age Eligibility and Handicap Rules proposal

WHAT HAS WORKED IN THE PAST AND WHAT HAS BUILT THIS EVENT TO ITS
35TH ANNIVERSARY, IS IT STILL WORKING FOR US?

Currently

- ▶ Have 10 years split in groups
- ▶ Have a 3-goal handicap max – 1 goal for every 2 years difference

Why was it created?

- ▶ Allowed for SA teams who at that point were more diverse in age per team and we didn't have the numbers to form 5-year teams
- ▶ Kept teams competitive who were at the older side of the group
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- ▶ The group impacted most is the 60+ group. Mainly the older of this group in the late 60's and mid 70's.

Currently



- ▶ This is not fun for the older players, and they therefore prefer to “retire”
- ▶ We as a community are losing the very people that built this event. Not because they cannot play, but because they are choosing to NOT play due to an imbalance (a consequence of the current rules)

Currently



The Bell Curve

- ▶ Every rule or law will have some negative effect on a few. The intention or main idea however should be to benefit the 80-90% and look after the majority.
- ▶ I ask when you do apply your mind to this problem and the proposed solutions. Please DON'T worry about the 10% of “outliers” – focus first on the main problem and once we fix that we can find solutions for the 10% Outliers...

Currently

Example of how bad this can get...

- ▶ In a team that has a 65 AVERAGE age
- ▶ You have 6 x players who are all 65
- ▶ What is the min age that they can get their 7th player and still be in above the 60+ min age?
 1. 50 years old
 2. 45 years old
 3. 40 years old
 4. 30 years old
 5. This makes the difference between Ave of his team and him....

Here are the ages for the 60+ group

60+ Age Group				
TEAM Ave Age		65		
Youngest 7 Ave Age		61		
How many Outliers		19		
		No below Min Age		No below Min age
	Team Name	2025	Age of affected players	2026
1	Coelacanth's	1	57	1
2	DUC	1	51	1
3	Eastern's Madala's	3	59/55/54	2
4	Gerry's Geriatrics	2	58/46	2
5	JOCKS	0		0
6	Neville's Knights	3	57 x 3	3
7	PE Raggies	2	58/59	1
8	Thirsty Lions	3	50/57/59	2
9	WhoZoo	3	43/46/48	3
10	Zimnat Madala's	1	59	0

Here are the ages for the 50+ group

50+ Age Group				
TEAM Ave Age		53		
Youngest 7 Ave Age		51		
How Many Outliers		13		
	Team Name	No below Min Age 2025	Age of affected players	No below Min age 2026
1	BVSC	4	46/47/49x2	2
2	Boder Bullicats	12	37-44	12
3	Coelacanth	3	47/48/49	2
4	QP Geezers	3	45x2/49	2
5	RWC Rogues	1	49	0
6	RWC Whales	9	44-49	6
7	Saints	0	0	0
8	Zimnat Yough	2	45x2/49	2

Suggested Solution:

Firstly – (should do this no matter what)

1. Set up a 2 or 3-person committee (1 per age group) at each AGM.
 - a. Vote for these positions from nominations.
 - b. They must be from that age group.
2. This committee will filter the nominations for Prizes for their group.
 - a. Using online voting system to make more democratic.
 - b. The results are used at Ceremony and results published after for all. (So, formalising what was done previously)
 - c. If we split bigger groups into 2 sections (as per 60+ where this are 10 teams) – this committee can also confirm who goes into which section each year.

Suggested Solution: Option A

1. Set **min age limit** for **each age group** that is the stated age of the group i.e 60+ min age is 60, 50+ min age is 50 and 40+ min age is 40.
 - a. Suggest leave the 30+ as we need to grow and does not impact them as much. If and when the Open section has grown, then can bring this in for the 30+
2. Implementation:
 - i. 60+ in 2026 – as it is more urgent – teams affected are minimal
 - ii. 40+ & 50+ in 2026 or 2027 – gives these teams time to adjust – Board to vote.
3. **Keep the handicap** as we still playing 10-year brackets

Suggested Solution: Option A

3. Outliers – what to do?

- a. The 3-person committee will then evaluate the teams EACH year to confirm they are able/not able to stay.
- b. This then allows weaker teams like Eastern's/ Border / Whales dispensation to compete at different levels. Critical we don't lose these players and don't collapse these teams.
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 - iii. **Note** – if the "Ringer" is of the correct min age, but just good, then they are NOT a ringer. It is only if they are below the min age that they will be deemed a Ringer.

Suggested Solution: Option B

3. Split into A & B Sections?

- ▶ Split your age group into an A & B Section
- ▶ **“A section”**- strict enforcement of Min Age criteria
- ▶ **“B Section”** – looser enforcement, making the section more social
- ▶ Personally, I don't like this this solution as it does not solve you're the biggest problem - the physicality problem of 70+ vs 45+
- ▶ Also is a problem where your section does not have enough for an A & B section.