



CENTRAL GAUTENG AQUATICS

(AFFILIATED TO Aquatics Gauteng)

President's Report – CGA 2018-2019 Season

The 2018-2019 season was all in all a good season, we've had lots of successes and a few failures which makes for quite a normal situation within any organisation.

This past season the following milestones and events were achieved:

Mass participation and development:

Under the steady and patient hand of Yusuf Moola we have grown MPP at the Brixton pool from 30 learners the previous season to 130 learners from 2 schools, Salvazione and Mayfair West who are now part of our program being run there. With the help of the CGA community we have been able to attire the learners, CGA paid for towels, so now they can participate in the program that we have setup for them. The learners from these schools come from previously disadvantaged communities.

On the development side CGA has been supporting 4 community clubs, this was done mostly with CGA funds, AG also contributed to this program by providing a stipend for 1 coach and assisting with entry fees for clubs who attended SSA regional galas, CGA contributed by taking on the costs of entry fees, registration fees etc. Initially we supported directly or indirectly 78 athletes, it has now grown to 100 for this coming season. CGA was able to do this because of the CGA club's contributions and the program has been a great success as one of these community clubs took 3rd position overall at the SSA regional 1 interprovincial and this club took 1st position at the CGA level 1 year end gala. CGA community clubs have outperformed their counterparts from the other districts by taking most of the top 3 positions at the Sedibeng development gala. We are expecting great growth this coming season from these community clubs

These successes have not gone unnoticed and GP Sports have now elected that they will give funding directly to CGA and not via AG. GP Sports has also asked CGA to get West Rand district up and going and that is going to happen this season. It's going to be called Gauteng West Aquatics and they will be joining our galas till they are up and running. The underlying philosophy that CGA is using is that these community

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Vice President: M. Hughes

Treasure: D. Dodge

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clubs must become self-sustaining within the next few years and not remain dependant on CGA so that CGA funds can be redirected to new community clubs.

I would like to thank the CGA clubs, for without you paying your fees this would not have been possible. Then thank you Yusuf for without your patience, understanding and time this would not be happening, Marion thank you for the time and effort that you have put into getting Salvazione and Mayfair west on board.

Education and Training:

Education and Training started the season not functioning at all. Lack of facilitators, conflict with SSA etc., etc. all as a carryover from the previous seasons. It hit a bottom when CGA requested order numbers for courses and these were not given by SSA. A meeting was then setup between CGA, AG and SSA after a fairly robust meeting, things where sorted out, there was a further meeting between SSA CEO and I, an amicable solution was arrived at.

A workshop, LTS calendar was put together and things started to move forward, and quite a lot of workshops, LTS courses etc. have been held and are still going to be held, it's starting to bring in money, but it has become apparent that E & T needs much more time and people input than what volunteers can give to enable it to function properly. We are looking at the function being outsourced as this is a function that needs people who are in this profession and who do this as part of their work, not just part time.

I would like to thank Joe Mashao, Naomi Dodge, Tracey Hemphill, Marion Hughes and Barbara Moremi for all the time and effort that they have put into making this work and keeping it afloat. It's been very hard work, hopefully soon it will be less stressful. I need to announce that Joe Mashao has resigned from the Executive and I would just like to thank Joe for the time and effort that he has put in the E&T portfolio and the support given to the CGA in helping to build on the foundations that were laid last season

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Diving:

Diving has had a good year, CGA champs went well, South African Youth Games and Senior Nationals hosted by KZN went well and the majority of divers made finals and they won the Women's and Overall Trophy congratulations, there has been more male divers participating which look good for the future. Divers have gone and competed overseas during that past season and they have gained experience and success.

The fact that there is no municipal diving facility that can be booked and used is a huge concern as it limits when events etc can be held as these now depend on the availability of private school facilities. This is something that we need to look at and see how it can be resolved.

Artistic swimming:

Has had a mixed season with things not always working out positively this past season. Chrissie Whindus attended the FINA Judges School in Cape town last July which went well. A team was entered for the National age group it consisted mostly novices and they did well. Although as the event was held in Pretoria parents did have a problem going back and forth and athletes sometime where not able to attend award ceremonies. Athletes attended the Level 2/3 competition in Cape Town and valuable experience was gained.

The artistic swimming numbers are dwindling, we ask CGA clubs to redirect swimmers who might be interested in doing artistic swimming to send them to Chrissie. Hopefully artistic swimming will have a better season this year

Open Water:

Quite a bit of equipment was bought for open water, CGA held a very successful event plus another one was organised by Aqua Athlete which was also successful. CGA swimmers did very well at these and other events held by other districts and a total of 44 athletes qualified for Nationals nearly double the previous season. All

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in all, CGA open water is coming back to life, and we look forward to holding at least three events this coming season. There will be more equipment bought for open water this season so that CGA can hold effective and successful events this coming season.

Quite a few of our athletes have been selected for the SSA OW swimming squads so congratulations to: Refiloe Mashao, Aiden Peterson, Cameron van der Merwe, Muhammad Adam, Muhammed N Adam, Leigh Mc Morran, Pascale Oberholzer, Gabriela Scrooby, Torgren White, Nicolas Malan.

I would like to thank the previous OW TC chair Manie Wessels, his wife Nicky and the present TC chair Theresa plus their team for making the 2018-2019 a very successful OW season. The new OW committee are going to have lots of work to do to build on last season's successes.

IPC:

The para's have had a very successful 2018-2019 season what with Tadgh being selected as manager and coach for the South African Deaf swimming team of Terence Parkin, Pierre Dellieu, Slindokuhle Mabanga, Amekele Qamarana, to be hosted in Brazil Aug 2019. Then Kabelo Zwane and Tadhg Slattery have been selected for the World Para Champs in London in Sept 2019. The para team took many, many medals at the SSA Nationals, congratulations and well done. Looking forward to a very medal prolific and successful year for the para team.

Master Swimming:

Masters has been coming to all our meetings and also tagging onto some of our galas, they've had a good season and will be working with us again this season.

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Swimming:

Swimming has had a very good season our galas have mostly done off without any major issues, due to MOU between ourselves and COJ our expenses for galas have decreased as we don't have to pay for pool hire.

I would like at this point to thank Steve for all the work the he has put into making the Swimming TC work so well, also a big thanks to all of those who have helped Steve in running the swimming TC, Kyle, Adrian, Timothy, Michael, Joao. I would also like to thank Claudia for the catering and all the other helping out at galas, be it handing out toilet paper, sweets, water, being a runner etc. Thanks to Schalk for being the DJ, ribbon hand outer etc., the lifeguards who are there every morning early to make sure that the swimmers are all ok until the Ellis Park staff arrive and the medic Danzi. Thanks to those officials who come and help setting up the gala and taking down the gala, Marion, Gavin and their helpers.

We are going to be using quite a bit of the money that swimming brought in to give back to the athletes in the form of new equipment. This equipment will be new touch pads for one side of the pool, plus new Colorado timing system. We will be repairing the current pads and infrastructure as well. The new equipment will belong to CGA and we will be storing it at Ellis Park. The current pads are going to be repaired, those that are repairable and then we will be handing that back to COJ so that they can use those if and when they hire out the pool to Schools, other institutions etc. We would also like to get the start blocks redone and upgraded with backstops etc. We will get a quote for that and see if we are able to get sponsorships for this. If any club/s would like to sponsor a touchpad it goes for R32 000 excluding vat. We will be spending in the region of R500 000.

I would like to congratulate those swimmers who have been selected for the different CANA events, World Junior Champs, (Hannah Robertson, Kobe Ndebele, Michael Deans) and SSA National swimming squads Brent Szurdoki, Mariella Venter, Kate Beavon, Hannah Robertson, Michael Deans, Kerryn Herbst, Becky Wallis, Jordan-Jenna Rolfe, Kobe Ndebele, Leigh Mc Morran. Congratulations

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Finance:

We started the season on a solid financial foundation and we have ended it with a very healthy bottom line which allows us to buy what we are going to buy for swimming, OW, etc. as well as be in a position to give some financial help to athletes who are not able to finance themselves. In this regard please if an athlete is in financial stress, please send a motivation to us and we will then see how we are able to help.

I will leave the financial details to Dave on the rest of the finances and budget etc. for the new season.

I would like to thank Dave Dodge for keeping a tight noose around the finances and for managing it so well with the help of Linda Griffiths who has done all the invoicing and bookkeeping for CGA.

Marketing, communications:

We have launched the CGA Facebook page, plus the website is still one that has the most updated information in it. We are looking at revamping the webpage, Facebook, our logo etc this coming season and this huge task have been given to Walter Trevisan. Thank you for starting the process and looking forward to the "New Look" Walter also is looking after sponsorship so if you know of anybody who would like to sponsor please put them in contact with Walter. Theresa Aaronson will be looking after the bells and whistles, razzmatazz for Champs, awards evenings, which we will be having this coming season for all disciplines. We need people to help with marketing and promotion of CGA so please contact Walter and Theresa.

CGA Office:

Our CGA office is having a bit of a rough time at present and I would like to thank Barbara for all her hard work in keeping things together. Lots of the functions that used to be run from the office is now being run from outside the office and yes, I know that things have not been going completely well. We will be putting

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out job description/s for different position/s before end of July and hopefully we will soon have an office that will be serving our community in all respects.

I would like to thank my Executive who are an incredibly dedicated group of people who have put in many, many hours of personal time to make CGA successful.

Thank you CGA members, coaches, TC members, parents and athletes who stood by the Executive, tightened their belts, pulled up their sleeves and made it work, for without your help this would not have been possible.

Thank you, clubs, coaches, team managers, athletes, clubs' officials' co-ordinators, technical officials - without these volunteers we simply could not run our events, you play a vital role in the successful operation of our sport. Thank you for your contribution, most importantly the parents, as without your money we would not be here.

Thank you, all the athletes, for representing CGA and South Africa in such a disciplined and successful manner.

Well done to all our coaches - their dedication and passion in continually applying their knowledge to teach and coach every athlete to reach his/her utmost ability is inspiring and helps the CGA Executive as well as the Technical committees to work continuously to support our members. It has been a pleasure to be part of such a great, caring and competent team.

I am asking the CGA community - please come forward and help us make CGA the best district in the country. We have the most athletes and we have the potential of having the top athletes in the country, but to do this we need more people to invest their time in the CGA athletes, to market CGA to the corporate world, to pull in sponsorships so that we can improve our equipment at our pools, to get sponsorships so that athletes who do get selected for national and international events can get financial help.

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CGA clubs please, you must participate in CGA events and you must contribute more towards the running of, setting up the strategies of and putting forward nominees for the various portfolios of CGA. We as the Executive, with your help, have managed this past year to build onto the solid foundation from last year, but now we need a lot of more committed people to move CGA forward. We must continue with meaningful debate, understand, isolate and resolve the real factors that impact the pace, quality of development and transformation in our wonderful sport.

I am proud and honoured to have worked with such a competent and committed group of persons this past season and am looking forward to the future success of CGA

Marco Marchi
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