

## TECHNICAL DIVING COMMITTEE REPORT 2022

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Technical Committee consisted of the following members during the 2021/2022 season: Ms L Raccanello, Chairman; Ms Dominique Philippopoulos, Vice-Chairman; Mrs Naome Manaka, Minute Secretary; Mrs Justine Heydra, Competitions Secretary; Mrs Jane Davenport and Ms Kathleen Shepherd as members and Mrs Naomi Dodge as the CGA representative. Each club was encouraged to send a representative to the meetings each month, but not all clubs did this regularly.

The Committee was, again, very committed and worked hard throughout the season. Once again, a few new things were tried that worked well, and a few that did not, giving us a way forward for the next season, and it was, once again, an excellent season, despite the continuing pandemic protocols and issues.

### **PROVINCIAL EVENTS**

Once again, the CGA Championships were arranged over two weekends, with Groups C, D and E on the first weekend, thus allowing those divers in Group C who qualified on criteria for the Youth Games, to join the Group B trial the following weekend, when the Group A, B and Open events were held. Again, for each age group divers were able to choose to compete in a Novice section, renamed to avoid confusion, from Section B, and this was again popular. As decided last year, the divers not competing in the Novice section competed in the Elite section. This worked well to avoid the previous confusion.

It is still, unfortunately, a huge concern that we still do not have a municipal diving facility, which can be booked and used, regardless of what is happening at the school venues; this shortfall was, again, made unpleasantly manifest when it came to our provincial championships. Again, the championships were held over 3 venues - the junior events were held at St. Andrew's School, the senior events at St. Dominic's School, Boksburg and the platform events at the De Jong Diving Centre, Pretoria. This means that, besides the inconvenience of moving, Diving will always find it difficult to break even, as CGA has to pay for the hire of the various venues.

To address the shortfall in trained officials, it was decided to ask the clubs to run their own secretariat and judges' courses. This did not work out as planned, as most clubs simply did not run courses, or felt they did not have the expertise to do so. We will need to revert to running courses as in the past this coming season.

For the record, I need to reiterate that it is very unfortunate that Ellis Park has never been rebuilt to ensure that Gauteng has a suitable venue for provincial events.

**Organisation:** Entries were on the DiveRecorder programme over the internet and worked very well. Once the clubs had found trained officials to work, everything ran smoothly.

**Judges and Table Officials:** We were able to run seven judges for each competition; well-organised by Mrs Fiorella Barberini, who kept the judging portfolio, ably assisted by Ms Kathleen Shepherd, who volunteered to help her. The technical table ran very well under mine and Mrs Naome Manaka's supervision, who took over the portfolio from the previous member this season.

**Championships and Selection:** Again, the 1m and 3m championships were well attended this season, and the numbers were up from last year, however, fewer junior divers entered. This is not an issue as there are many divers who will move into the correct age group to trial, next season. The standard has improved, again, and there were several new faces in the senior team.

**Awards:** The Awards Evening was held at St. Andrew's School, with the school doing the catering. The food was served as a buffet, but people were asked not to crowd the table to be safe, in lieu of stricter Covid protocols. The detailed results of CGA Championships can be found in Appendix A.

#### **NATIONAL EVENTS**

After much backwards and forwards about whether the Kings Park Pool in Durban was going to be available, we were told we could host SA Nationals in Durban as planned. Divers from KwaZulu Natal, Central Gauteng and Northern Tigers attended. The committee would like to thank CGA, and in particular, Mrs Liesel Thompson, for the kit with which the divers were presented. The process to get the kit went smoothly, despite much discussion as to what was required. Mrs Thompson was very knowledgeable and experienced, enabling Diving to get good quality kit. The divers and officials were very pleased and grateful.

The detailed results of SA Nationals can be found in Appendix B. Overall, CGA won the Women's and Overall Shields, but we lost the Men's Shield to Northern Tigers.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, it was an excellent season and I thank everyone who helped make it better than the last. I look forward to continuing to improve what we do.

#### **THANKS**

Sincere thanks to the Executive, for all their support this season in various ways; Yusuf, for good advice, Marco for permission to spend money, and Barbara for always sorting out our registrations.

L. Raccanello  
**CHAIRMAN**