

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2015

Following the change in the organisation's financial year end to December, this report covers the six-month period from 01 July 2015 to 31 December 2015. It is a pleasure to present this report on behalf of the national executive committee.

The ensuing outcomes of the seminal strategy formulation workshop held at Silverlakes Country Club in February 2015, are that the promotion and growth of amateur golf are the key strategic focus area for the organisation. The promotion and growth of amateur golf is acknowledged as imperative to the survival of the game for the long-term. Everything that the SAGA does now should revolve around promoting and growing the game.

Business Plan

The concept of forming an operations company that unifies the operations of all amateur golf in South Africa has been discussed since 2007. I am pleased to report that the hurdles preventing this initiative no longer exist and the SAGA and WGSA have embarked on the journey of registering the not-for-profit company "GOLF RSA". This company will be agile in order to unlock the real value of amateur golf in South Africa.

Mr Grant Hepburn was appointed the CEO of the new company in June 2015 ahead of the formation of the company and already his presence is being felt in the organisation and in the industry. There is much work to be done starting a company but the first challenge of registering the company has been initiated. While the bureaucratic cogs turn to register the organisation, the strategic planning, business model planning and the policies and procedures of the new company are being developed.

Golf Development and Transformation

Golf development and transformation remains a priority for the SAGA and the strategic partnership with the South African Golf Development Board (SAGDB) is strengthening and delivering results. The SAGA transformation charter and balance scorecard has been deployed at union level and is accessible via the SAGA website

Handicapping

The SAGA handicapping system has matured well and has been accepted and adopted by the golfing community with virtually no problems or issues. The quality of service delivered by HNA is world-class and yet is subject to ongoing continuous improvements.

The SAGA, together with HNA, continues to participate in the global movement headed by the R&A and USGA to create a unified global handicapping system.

International Relations

Our relationships in international golf are strong. The SAGA is creating opportunities for international teams to compete in our sunny climes during the northern hemisphere winters. It is a strategic imperative to create tournaments in South Africa to attract the best Amateur players of the world to our shores. This in part should help curb expenditure because of our depreciating Rand.

Bruce Younge once again attended this year's British Open to officiate as a Rules Official and his continued presence on the R&A Rules committee maintains our strong relationship with this body.

South African Government Relations

Our relationships with both SASCOC and the Department of Sports and Recreation are sound. With the 2016 Olympics in Rio to Janeiro approaching, and with golf being played at the Olympics for the first time since 1926, the working relationships with these governmental bodies are strong.

In closing I wish to thank all members of the Executive Committee for their support, and for their commitment and work ethic. The ongoing support and guidance provided by the two office-bearers is highly valued.

Last but not least, sincere thanks to the staff of the SAGA, Bruce, Neil, Hilary, David and Eden for their hard work and efforts.

Geoff Taylor