



1992-2016

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#### BOARD MEMBERS

PRES: Mr. Aleck Skhosana  
VICE-PRES: Dr Harold Adams  
T+F: Mr. Pieter Lourens  
RR: Mr. James Moloji  
CC: Mr. Jakes Jacobs  
Ath : Ms. Dorah Mngwevu  
ADD: Ms. Motlatsi Keikabile  
Ms. Shireen Noble  
Ms. Esther Malema  
Ms. Ntathu Gwadiso  
E.O. Mr. Jazz Mnyengeza  
Mr. William Mokatsanyane

#### HONORARY MEMBERS

Mervyn KING  
Mluleki GEORGE

#### PARTNERS

IAAF  
CAA  
SASCOC  
SRSA  
NLC  
ASA Provinces  
ASA Associates  
Old Mutual  
SABC  
Adidas  
Tsogo Sun  
SA Sports Trust

#### MISSION

To make a contribution towards Nation Building and Healing of our land, South Africa, and the Transformation of our Society, through the Development of Athletics, from Grassroots to the highest levels of Excellence

To	ASA Members
From	ASA Office
Date	25 October 2016
Subject	ASA Board 2016 - 2020
No pages	20

## ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Dear ASA Members

### Circular 53 of ASA 2016 – ASA BOARD 2016 - 2020 + ASA PRESIDENT REPORTS

Regarding the ASA Elections held on 22 October 2016, please find attached the following information:

1. The names and portfolios of the new ASA Board and Commissions.
2. The closing speech of Mr Aleck Skhosana as outgoing ASA President.
3. The opening speech of Mr Aleck Skhosana as incoming ASA President

Athletics greetings

Richard Stander  
ASA ACEO

**2016-2020 ASA BOARD AND COMMISSIONS AS ELECTED ON 22 OCTOBER 2016**

<b>ASA BOARD</b>	<b>NAME</b>
President	Mr Aleck Skhosana
Vice President	Dr. Harold Adams
Track and Field Chairperson	Mr Pieter Lourens
Road Running Chairperson	Mr James Molo
Cross Country Chairperson	Mr Jakes Jacobs
Athletes	Ms Dorah Mngwevu
Additional Member	Ms Motlatsi Keikabile
Additional Member	Ms Shireen Noble
Additional Member	Ms Esther Malema
Additional Member	Ms Gwadiso Ntathu
USSA Representative	Mr Jazz Mnyengeza
SASA Representative	Mr William Mokatsanyane
<b>ASA COMMISSIONS</b>	<b>NAME</b>
<b>TRACK AND FIELD</b>	
Chairperson	Pieter Lourens
Vice Chairperson	Maggie Dicks
Additional	Tshifiwa Makhosi
Additional	Susan Molobey- Milanzi
Additional	Sabata Khumalo
<b>CROSS COUNTRY</b>	
Chairperson	Jakes Jacobs
Vice Chairperson	Steven Khanyile
Additional	Adam Motlagale
Additional	Londi Selala
Additional	Norma Nonkonyana
<b>ROAD RUNNING</b>	
Chairperson	James Molo
Vice Chairperson	Moses Gericke
Additional	Hilde du Plessis
Additional	Enock Skosana
Additional	Colleen McNally
<b>ATHLETES</b>	
Chairperson	Dorah Mngwevu
Vice Chairperson	Zongamele Dyubeni
Additional	Elizna Naude
Additional	Tsholofelo Thipe
Additional	Karen Le Roux



**ASA QGM REPORT**  
**PRESIDENT ASA, MR ALECK SKHOSANA**  
**22 OCTOBER 2016 VENUE: GARDEN COURT, OR TAMBO, ISANDO**

Protocol

The ASA Board Members,  
Provincial Presidents, Vice Presidents and CEOs,  
Associate members,  
Commissions,  
Representatives of Government,  
Representatives of SASCOG the Senior Vice President,  
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Good morning to all of you!

It is my great pleasure to stand in front of you for the last time as a representative of the ASA Board this morning with the intention to give a brief report about where this organization is coming from and where we are right now.

This is going to be done in brief. I would like to remind all of us as to how we got here as a Board.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

We are gathered as the ASA Council for the last time today. Our June 7 2014 mandate has come to an end. We are here to wind off all the business and hand over to the next group of people and leadership that will be elected at the end of this session.

On behalf of the ASA Board, I would like to thank you all first and foremost coming to this meeting to conclude what you started in 2014.

We thank you for the manner in which you cooperated with the ASA board and commissions as well as committees in executing the mandate that was given to us in June 7, 2014.

We were elected against the background and difficult situation where ASA had lost focus due to the infighting and directing most of the energy on the wrong things that had nothing to do with the mandate of developing athletics in SA.

We were elected to rescue ASA that had drifted off tangent and hit the rock bottom and got stuck there for many years.

Through your wisdom you decided to elect a group of people that will save ASA and put it back on course so that it focuses on the mandate it was formed to serve.

The ASA board and you have all participated in redirecting and focusing ASA to this core business and mandate.

We have killed all the agendas that were not going to help ASA to produce athletes.

Our focus now is clear and shall remain like that for the future, God willing. It is important to say that the leadership of ASA should not at any time allow leadership squabbles and personalities to overshadow the mandate mission and vision of ASA.

## **2. ASA RECOGNITION BEYOND SA**

It is documented worldwide that the Board that you voted into office to rescue ASA in 2014 did an excellent job in a space of 24 months.

Those who may be in doubt must look at the results that have been achieved by the unified leadership that you elected.

These results include among others winning medals at the continental, world, commonwealth games and Olympic Games in the past two years by your athletes.

We must all be proud for these achievements as a collective. We must be proud that the sport that was dominated by daily infighting and negative publicity is now peaceful and unified.

We proclaimed in June 7, 2014 that our focus will be on driving unity, development and transformation.

It is indeed humbling to report that almost all the 17 ASA Provinces are at peace and working towards a common goal and objective as directed by your leadership that has worked tirelessly to make sure that the sport regains its glory and go beyond the past achievements.

The mandate given then was to take ASA to the highest level by winning medals at major international competitions including Olympics. With your support and guidance, this leadership has delivered on the mandate fully.

The SA Flag has been flown and the SA National anthem has been played many a times all over the world where athletics championships took place.

We must all accept once and for all that ASA will never ever find itself in the lowest level it had been from 2009 to 2014. The future leadership of ASA must never be allowed to gamble with the sport no matter what the circumstances may be at the given time.

It is important to develop our constitution and governance at all levels including the club, schools and most importantly provinces to ensure that no matter what, ASA does not go back to that terrible space we all had to manoeuvre so hard to come out of it.

## **3. ADMINISTRATION**

As ASA Board we thank the ACEO for his hard work that cemented what had been started in shaping and redirecting the energy to the rightful direction over the past months.

The ASA Board is mindful that as an ACEO you fought some of the battles that were meant to be ours, you became a bad cop and you are hated out there for reading the rules and regulations. We are proud of your enthusiasm and knowledge of the job.

With you at end helm of ASA administration we are certain that the whole country is going to benefit because rules and regulations of the sport will be respected and applied by all irrespective of the province people operate.

ASA will be taken seriously once more time after a very long time.

Thank you for sacrificing your family, and come to serve the ASA Board and its affiliates. We are stable now, and those of us who will continue in the next term of office must build on the gains we have made as a Board and strengthen the Federation.

At the same time ASA Board wish to convey our sincere gratitude to the Mr Pieter de Jager who had just retired at the end of July 2016.

He served ASA as an Acting Office Manager whilst doubling as a Technical Manager for the Federation for two years.

#### **4. EMINENT PEOPLES GROUP (EPG) TRANSFORMATION REPORT**

We know that the matter of EPG is still not settled with the Minister and the EPG.

We have looked at the report again and confirmed that indeed, the submission was not what ASA should have presented to the EPG.

We had a meeting with Dr Basson and Mr Maxwell Fuzani this week again to deal with all the areas of concern that needed to be flagged. We ended the meeting on high notes it's an understanding that, ASA is committed to work with the SRSA and EPG in improving the reporting in the 2016 year and beyond.

In fact ASA wants to be a leading federation in terms of transformation in this country. There were areas of concern that ASA spelt out that it will need both parties to work on it in order to achieve the desired results. These areas that need attention are:

- 1.1. Resolving structural and organizational differences at all levels to ensure that when you talk of Schools Athletics there is no conflict and confusion as well as fight over territory by the two different departments on the ground;
- 1.2. Bringing resources to the federation to facilitate and organize very well structured and successful schools athletics integration from school, ward, district, province and national level. This can only be achieved if the conflict and fight over territory is resolved by the SRSA and DBE.
- 1.3. Aligning the Schools Athletics with ASA Fixtures in order to channel our talented athletes to the main stream Athletics and ISF
- 1.4. SRSA support for ASA to take athletics to the furthest hinterlands of our country through collaboration, cooperative governance and clarifying of roles and responsibilities by all parties.
- 1.5. Workshopping of the Provinces on EPG before the end of November 2016.

This must be given a priority by the next board so that we focus on our business which is, athletes winning medals for the country.

It is also worth mentioning but in passing that the report the EPG released should once more time be scrutinized going forward, as it showed a lot of gaps for very simple and available information, that is known by every member in our offices at provincial and national level.

The EPG Report of the future must be completed and submitted to the ASA Board and Provincial Executive before it is sent to the next level and upper level.

For ASA, the board must endorse the EPG Report after it has satisfied itself that it is in order. The ASA board cannot take the embarrassment that we went through early this year where the whole world was concerned and worried that ASA will not be able to deliver its core mandate to its members, Africa and the IAAF especially at the time of hosting of CAA Championships in Durban and preparation for the Olympic Games.

Therefore, THE ASA Board resolved that the EPG data collection and submission be mandatory for every club, school, districts and province to complete the forms that will be provided by the ACEO after the QGM.

Every member provinces and associates before they get their membership renewed by ASA, they must provide the statistics in the manner and format it is required by the EPG and Ministry for Sport and Recreation in SA.

## **5. SASA**

SASA need to come on board with ASA in order to redress some of the issues that are raised in the EPG Report.

However, it is not only SASA that must come on board but the two departments (Sport and Education) must clarify their roles from the individual schools to districts and provinces. At the level where we are operating we cannot do anything if the challenge is still not resolved at the provincial level.

SRSA knows this very well as the HOD's and MEC's meet to deliberate on the frustrations they are experiencing when they try to let school sport run in a smooth way. So long as the two departments' staffs compete, instead of cooperating and supporting one another in rolling out school sport, the problem will remain for years.

The result and consequences for that will be the death of sport in SA. The problem will persist for years to come without being resolved.

We really need to change with the times so that we are not dictated too what we must do, but we should be ahead of the legislative bodies and influence them on what we want to do. We must also work in such a way that they do not get to intervene or interfere in our sport.

We have made a clear call to SRSA regarding the national issues that affect athletics and they are prepared to meet and listen to what is workable and implement it. ASA shall take a lead and level the playing fields and separate those that are talking about what is rightfully ours as custodian of Athletics in SA.

ASA will never run school sport at any point in time, but we will collaborate with the body that is prepared to move with the times and make necessary changes that will compel everyone to marvel at Athletics as a mother of all sports at all levels.

## **6. USSA**

A lot of work needs to be done in aligning USSA Athletics with ASA. The first thing to do is to look at constitutions, fixtures, broadcasting rights and so on.

Once these three things are done there will be no issues with USSA. The incoming Board must look at this as a matter of priority before the end of the year.

We have extended our hand to the universities that are interested in athletics to come and present to ASA as to what they think they can do in partnership with us going forward for the

benefit of athletes that are leaving this country to look for greener pastures but unfortunately they do not come back stronger instead they get injured and fail to make SA Team.

## **7. COMPETITIONS FOR THE 2017 – 2020**

A calendar need to be drafted based on the IAAF Calendar that is there already. This will help the ASA Board and its affiliates to have time to seek sponsors and sell events for the next four years.

Without this, ASA will not have respect from the public and the private sector.

The incoming Board shall have to vigorously deal with this matter as a matter of priority. Time is now!

## **8. SABC AND SUPER SPORT**

The reality is that we can not only rely upon SABC to broadcast all our events.

The need to engage with super sport is inevitable if we want to draw private sector sponsorship for our programs. The super sport television does not have limitations when it comes to channels to broadcast the events.

Yet, SABC is only having three channels to broadcast for the entire public. The three channels are catering no for all other programs, as a result there is no certainty that your program will be certainly be broadcasted as agreed upon.

You can have a contract in place but the reality is that it can be changed once there is another national interest bigger than sport of athletics.

Football, rugby and cricket gets preferential treatment in the media across the line based on the fact that these are played all over the channels of our television and it draws a large support of sponsors from big corporates. We are only a seasonal sport.

The real sport of athletics, cross country, track and field does not get the attention and exposure it deserves compared to road running.

In that there are schools that must be broadcasted but there is no way we can certainly do it. We must cast our nets far and wide in getting the media coverage and money for our sport.

## **9. NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION**

Without the support of National Lottery Board, ASA would be struggling and failing to meet its financial obligations in terms of staff, teams and other operations that are a must for the Federation.

Despite all the negative things we may have against SABC, the money from it has also sustained our existence.

We must be mindful of the fact that we need these entities going forward irrespective of how difficult it may be to source out money from them in the future.

We need to write a letter of appreciation to the National Lottery Commission as the outgoing Board.

Thank you to Dr Adams whom we spent hours and hours over the past two years trying to change the minds of people to support us as ASA.

## 10. ACHIEVEMENTS

We made a huge impact in terms of delivering the mandate that we were given by you as members of ASA and the ordinary people of this country in 2014.

We have improved our IAAF and CAA as well Olympic Games rankings and medals.

- 10.1. IAAF Youth 2015
- 10.2. IAAF Junior 2016
- 10.3. IAAF Senior 2015
- 10.4. Olympic Games 2016
- 10.5. Commonwealth Games 2014 senior
- 10.6. Commonwealth Games 2015 Youth
- 10.7. CAA Youth
- 10.8. Records

## 11. PUBLICITY

We have received a lot of positive, negative and neutral media coverage over the past ten months. The ASA Board approved the appointment of two media specialists who was talked to manage media on our behalf.

These individuals shared roles of looking for updating the public on anything that ASA and its athletes were doing worldwide.

Our appreciation goes to both Wesley and Sifiso for the sterling work they put together for ASA.

It is pleasing to mention that ASA got in excess of R339 million worth of publicity via all forms of media in the past eight months of 2016. This puts us in the fourth sport after soccer, cricket and rugby in SA.

## 12. SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE

The ASA Board must deal with the issue of social media that is gaining momentum amongst our members and is bringing a lot of negativity to our Federation.

This is becoming a norm, that if not addressed today and here, it will bring down a culture of recklessness and ill-discipline for our members at all levels.

We have seen athletes and officials and individuals using this platform with an intention of hurting others and spread rumours as well as insult the integrity of organizations and those that they do not share the same ideology with.

More so we have seen an increase in the past 15 months whereby the individuals from athletics in particular freely attack other people in the name of athletics.

We cannot any longer keep quiet and be diplomatic in dealing with this especially when it is done by our members, irrespective of where they are, and positions or no position, in the organization.

If we do not curb this habit, ASA will become platform for people who are aggrieved to vent their issues at a wrong platform without following due processes and procedures as set on the ASA Constitution we all have.

It is important to have a social media clause in the policy and ASA Constitution to protect all of us.

ASA Board must empower a team of specialist media people to look for these hate statements so that we charge those who are not prepared to tow the line.

We must all understand that the business of athletics is a national and global one with people making livelihood of it. It is not a platform to insult and denigrate other people that you do not like or share the same sentiments with. We must do this at all level of our sport. The timeframe is as soon as possible. I therefore urge all our members to do in their provinces as a matter of priority.

Today there is nothing that you say about anything without facing the consequences of it. This is simple because of the media and social media in particular.

People post anything about themselves and the organization, and the media demands answers from the leadership, and not the individuals concerned.

We must all note that we have to account for our actions.

I really urge all of you colleagues to stop using the social media and especially when you are on duty sent by ASA or SASCOC.

This comes back to us as the ASA Board, and the President in particular has to try to spin doctor and scratch for answers for all the things that are weird having been done by ASA Members including the ASA Board.

### **13. COACHES, TECHNICAL OFFICIALS, TEAM MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATORS TRAINING**

One important thing that needs more focus and action is the training of the above mentioned groups to cement our position as number one Federation in the country and in the continent.

Without Coaches and Technical Officials our Federation is going to be led by people with no knowledge and expertise, and as a result we will encounter endless problems at all levels of our sport.

The education of the above mentioned groups will ensure that more people have understanding of the sport of athletics.

We need to partner with department of SASCOC, SRSA, DBE, Defence Force, Correctional Services and others in order to roll out real education of coaches and technical officials all over the country.

The right time is now; and if we miss it now, we will never get the second chance during our time.

The ACEO and the new Board must put a plan of how the rolling out of technical and coaching education will be done in all the provinces.

## **14. DOMINANCE OF ASA IN 2014- 2016 CAA COMPETITIONS**

We have brought back the discipline and stringent selection criteria for the ASA Teams to the international competition.

The results speak volumes and are a testimony of the seriousness that our commissions and selectors brought to ASA.

- 14.1. CAA Junior excelled
- 14.2. CAA Senior excelled
- 14.3. CAA SR Youth excelled
- 14.4. CAA SR Junior excelled
- 14.5. CAA SR senior excelled

We have become a force in the world of athletics. We are number 5 in the world after the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. That is important and one of the highest achievement for SA in history since the readmission to the international sport and it must be commended.

## **15. IAAF ROAD SHOW /AFRICAN ATHLETICS CONFEDERATION/ REFORMS**

The IAAF Roadshow will be taking place in Johannesburg in Sandton on the 2 November 2016.

This is the meeting of all the Presidents from the 54 member federations in Africa with the IAAF President and his team to discuss the topical point of IAAF Reforms and Constitutional changes that are to be voted in December 3, 2016 in Monaco.

Dr Adams served on the committee and can say more about it for our benefit and understanding of where things are going and what prompted the move by the IAAF Council to think of this

## **16. SARS AND FINANCE**

The SARS matter has been finally resolved and as we speak ASA has received its Tax Clearance Certificate which was outstanding for the past 10 years.

This must be avoided in the future by the next leadership. The matter has created a lot of stumbling blocks for the organization.

We could not get many simple things because every corporate and government department wanted to see our tax compliance as an organization which we did not have at our disposal because ASA did not pay and comply with the Tax laws of SA.

Thanks to Dr Adams and Terence for running with this for a very long time.

## **17. TRACK AND FIELD**

The performances of your athletes have brought dignity and respect for ASA and SA as well as SASCOC.

The track and field commission played a huge role in ensuring that people gain confidence in our sport.

The athletes and coaches worked tirelessly to produce results on the track too. It is the time to say thank you for standing firm and do what the policy say.

You have developed many enemies, not because of your own volition, but because of the statement we made as a Board that we will not and must not select visitors, but athletes, that will perform at the highest level of our sport in the world; athletes who will come back with honour and glory from any competition. Indeed, the athletes listen and performed at the highest level as anticipated.

Thank you and convey the same to the selectors and the Commission Members.

However, we are still behind Jamaica and Kenya, yet they compete in the middle distance and SA is competing in many disciplines.

We must send people who are prepared to learn from Jamaicans, Kenyans and Americans. This must form part of the plans for the incoming Board and must be done as a matter of urgency.

The focus must be on now our juniors and youths that can progress to the senior level without any challenges and their coaches.

## **18. RACE WALK COMMITTEE**

Control of RWC is paramount and must be done at all levels of our sport. This must be done under the auspices of the Track and Field Commission.

## **19. ROAD RUNNING AND ITS SUB STRUCTURES I.E. ULTRA DISTANCE**

The Road Running forms part of the backbone of our athletics in this country. Many people join athletics because they see many athletes young and old taking to the streets in the mornings and afternoon.

The road running serve us well, as it brings a lot of revenue for most of the provinces that is used to pay for the personnel and other expenses for the federation at provincial level.

It is therefore critical for all of us, in our respective provinces, to support the “milking cow” and continue to milk it for the benefit of our sport.

We have had all the championships for the RRC in the past two years. This has boosted the image of our sport out there since the television is showing a lot of road running events. The CMA, Soweto, TOM etc. added a lot of value for the sport.

The new board must seriously look at how we return to winning medals at the international marathons as ASA.

We must work with Kenya and Ethiopia to re-establish ourselves as the total force in athletics in Africa. This is a priority and must be implemented sooner than later. Also of critical importance is the control of ultra-distance with a firm hand so that it does not think that they are independent from RRC and ASA.

## **20. ULTRA DISTANCE COMMITTEE**

We are sending a team to the IAAF World 100 km Championships in Spain. We have men only. There seems to be something that we must get it right at ASA and IAAF level.

The IAU is all over us and wanting to tell us what to do and who to select for the world championships.

I assume the influence of former President who serves in that IAU Committee is being used to feed the wrong information. That's an assumption.

We must send a delegate to the IAU Congress with a clear mandate of how to position SA and ASA in such an important world committee.

Thank you to the RRC for ensuring that all our championships are organized.

## **21. CROSS COUNTRY**

We have seen a significant growth and interest of Cross Country from the member provinces ever during the Championships in the past two years.

A lot of work has been done by the Commission, but we must work even harder by getting each and every province having a clearly defined cross country program that will reach out for the entire province rather than in the cities and towns.

Rural and farm areas must feature prominently in the running the program of cross country in 2017 and beyond.

The ASA ACEO and the Provincial General Managers must deal with this before the end of the year so that we revisit the fixtures to cater for the rural and farm areas and in other instances townships.

This is important for the development of future athletes that will venture into road running and middle distance. Kenya and Ethiopia cannot dominate for decades whilst we are a powerhouse of athletics in Africa. We have to consolidate our programs with the stakeholders in order to ensure that when selections are done we get the best and well prepared athletes from a broader and wider pool.

## **22. TRAIL RUNNING**

The ASA Council in 2015 deliberated on the issue of Trail Running and gave a clear directive to the ASA Trail Running Committee to implement the alignment of fixtures and programs under the Cross Country Commission.

To date we have confirmed what the house raised in July 2, 2016 that Trail Running is in a mess in this country and create a lot of problems for the provinces.

Trail Running has been doing their own private work and business under our nose for the past two years even after the Beijing Congress where it was clearly stated that they must be under the Cross Country and submit to the rules and statutes of ASA.

We need a team of individuals who are disciplined enough to drive that committee until it is completely aligned to ASA.

The ASA Board that will be elected will have to drive the realignment as from Monday the 24 October 2016.

## **23. ATHLETES COMMISSION**

This was one of the weakest of all our commissions. It was composed of people who had no time and clue of what this important commission was meant to do.

It was only the chairperson who struggled to do something with no support from her team. Instead the team fought their personal fights that were supposed to have been concluded many years ago.

This time it is important to have people who will really understand what the mandate of the Athlete's Commission is so that they work with other commissions in dealing with issues of athletes that are paramount to the development of athletics in SA.

We are certain that you will assist in the process of finalizing the names of people who will make progress rather than stagnate the entire working of the Athletes Commission.

We thank Dorah for being there and taking all the insults from the individuals and groups on our behalf. Your focus is to be on ASA Athletes Commission that is the future of athletics in SA.

We cannot afford to have you having your bread buttered both sides as a leader of the athletes commission.

## **24. OLD MUTUAL PARTNERSHIP**

ASA signed a two partnership contract to be the sponsor of licenses. There were tactical problems in implementing the agreement especially with regards to have Old Mutual logo displayed in all our races country wide.

Besides, this contract was badly written, which compromised ASA in terms of technical rules and so on. Many of those races went without having Old Mutual logo in their race numbers, and this was picked up and channelled to us early in the year.

As a result the Old Mutual threatened to withdraw the 2917 support. We sent ACEO and Jakes to talk to the leadership and made a follow up electronically.

Lastly, the matter was taken between ACEO and the legal team of ASA to challenge a stance taken by Old Mutual. As an envoy, we had to go and set up a meeting over the weekend in order to deal with basics and negotiate and undo all the nasty stuff that that has already been going on between ASA and Old Mutual.

Therefore, we agreed that the contract is technically terminated but based on our presentation of facts, Old Mutual will have to wait for our decision as a Board to go ahead with the negotiations or not.

We propose therefore that we go forward and all the Presidents to deal with the negotiations in the manner that is going to benefit ASA and restore a broken relationships.

We have to retract the letter from ASA and Lawyers as a matter of priority in order to take the process forward next week.

There seem to be interest in the Old Mutual to carry on but all will depend upon us and the budget.

If we go ahead and have any corporate to sponsor our licenses the following must be done and communicated and enforced by ASA and its members;

- No Province nor race organizer will cover ASA license in the whole country
- Two license must be worn by all athletes in all competitions

- Race numbers must be worn lower or on top of the license number
- Hefty penalty will be imposed on a province that allows races to run without ASA 2 licenses

This will boost the income of ASA provinces as everybody will buy license to run a race or a temporal license; Trail running, mountain running and climbing included

## **25. RELATIONSHIPS WITH SASCOC**

We are proud to report that in the past two years our relationship with SASCOC has been normalized.

We believed that there is no SASCOC with ASA and vice versa. We shall continue to work together to bring honour and glory to our country.

Where there problems we shall sit in one room and iron out such, and continue to work for the benefit of both organizations and athletes.

## **26. RELATIONSHIP WITH GOVERNMENT**

We are looking forward to have a platform where we can discuss and share our vision and mission with all the nine province especially the departments of SRSA and DBE.

We hope that the future Board will take this as their challenge going forward and pursue it until it is done. This will benefit all in making the youth of threes country to play sport more so athletics which is the cheapest sport.

## **27. ATHLETES PREPARATION**

It is our endeavour to have as many athletes as possible being prepared at home and compete at events in South Africa most of the time, and only go out to take part in Europe, and come back immediately.

Results have shown that athletes that spend more time with their coaches in their own environment do better at international level.

We believe that the next leadership will take this and run with it. We all know the dates for the 2020 Olympic Games, the IAAF World championships in 2017 and 2019 as well as the 2018 CWG.

What are waiting for, and shy away from, are not putting squads and train them and send them all over the world to gain international exposure?

## **28. HIGH PERFORMANCE**

ASA and its members must come up with a clearly outlined HP plan that talks to the 2017 - 2026.

A plan that will be informed by all, the elements of HP. This is important for all members and it needs to be done this year and finalized by the first quarter of 2017 by the incoming Board.

This must include competitions that ASA and SASCOC will be sending athletes for the major championships.

## **29. COACHES EDUCATION**

Without ASA producing coaches of high calibre, we must know and accept that there will be no quality athletes in the future to represent SA.

We must train coaches to be specialist in their events so that they can take athletes to the next level of training and preparation.

## **30. CONGRATULATES**

We would like to congratulate all the coaches and athletes who represented ASA with distinction during the past two years of office.

We want to specifically congratulate Wayde Van Niekerk for breaking the world 400 m record and Olympic record in Rio, and also Caster Semenya for dominating the 800m in the world and becoming an Olympic Champion. We also congratulate Sunnete and Luvo for winning silver medals for SA?

Thank you; God Bless You!

Aleck Skhosana  
President: Athletics South Africa



**ATHLETICS SOUTH AFRICA NPC**  
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22 October 2016

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH OF ALECK SKHOSANA,  
PRESIDENT OF ATHLETICS SOUTH AFRICA (ASA)  
AT THE 2016 ELECTIONS**

I once again stand before you, as I did in June 2014, to say thank you for the trust and privilege you have entrusted me with to lead you as men and women of integrity from all the corners of this country.

I once again promise that with my fellow board members, we take the task given to us again as a rare privilege and not a right to lead you. However, we can only do this well with the assistance of all of you, supported by the entire board and commissions as well as committees of ASA.

The mandate continues to be to restore the pride of ASA back to its former glory and make it even much better than we have in the two years we just finished.

The Athletes, Coaches, Managers, Technical Officials, Parents, Public, Sponsors and Partners including Government, remain our most important stakeholders. The development of talent and nurturing it to the level of excellence to shine at World, Commonwealth and Olympic level continues to be one of our priorities.

Today, we re-emphasize to Coaches and Athletes that mediocrity is really a thing of the past as nothing else will be accepted by the nation at large. Your continuous support at all levels will ensure that those who want to be part of excellence and participation are fully supported by our partners SASCOC and SRSA at all levels.

To school sport structures led by SASA, we remain reliant upon you to continuously work tirelessly in identifying talent and refer it to the clubs in your areas for further development. On our side, we will continue to work with you, as was our commitment from 2014, in finding lasting solutions and best models in the world of athletics that will deliver the best capture strategy and methods for our Youth and Juniors.

It remains paramount that age categories at all times should be monitored and assisted in order to progress to the next level of performance, guided by head coaches and personal coaches in their respective disciplines for the larger benefit of SA.

As you would have noted, the 2016 season showed off great competition, with schools producing athletes who have competed at ASA Championships, including international events that led some to the Rio Olympics.

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Our Future Plans include, but not limited to:

1. That ASA will put up a formidable team possible to participate in the Relays World Champs next year in the Bahamas,
2. A team to the IAAF World Champs Seniors in London
3. A team to the IAAF Youth Champs in Kenya and
4. Another to the IAAF Cross Country next year.

To achieve all that, the preparation of all our athletes at home is the absolute key. And to fulfill this we want to emphasise the importance of Universities and Schools to be part of our system to partner with ASA in channelling the realisation of our Junior, Youth and Senior Athletes.

With the kind of physical infrastructure and scientific services that we have at our Universities, there is no need for our Junior Athletes to leave this country to study overseas to look for better opportunities.

We have noted with concern that as a consequence to that, in most cases, many of our Athletes who have left this country as South African champions at their youth and junior age, don't come back having qualified for the World Championships and Olympics, save for a handful individuals.

We challenge the Universities vice chancellors and sports directors to come forward and present to ASA what they can offer our junior athletes who are showing progress. We also challenge Universities to employ professional Coaches who will be able to take our young talent forward.

It is true that most of our senior athletes are based and studying at our SA Universities and tertiary institutions.

Some are getting fantastic opportunities both academically and sporting-wise. However, the Universities sometimes see themselves as silos and as parallel to provinces and ASA itself.

In other countries, Universities have and continue to play a leading role in providing cutting edge technical and tactical support to Athletes and the National Federation.

ASA has been receiving a lot of calls from IAAF, CAA and other countries who indicate that South Africa has a role to play as the centre of African development academically and through Athletics.

So, ASA remains open to those Universities who come with positive contributions rather than negative and personal agendas. The agenda of ASA is nothing less or more than preparing athletes to shine at the world stage.

We, therefore, urge all of you to make this your focal point and you will certainly see the results streaming towards you.

The challenge to the SANDF and DCS, SAPS to work with us remains open and important in order to continue taking this country's athletics forward.

We will continue to strengthen this relationship with the generals and ministers of the departments concerned so that some of our athletes are accommodated from this section of our sport.

I thank all of you who have rallied around the administration that I led in the last two years, after we lost a substantial amount of time in the federation fighting amongst ourselves which affected Administration, Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Competition and so on.

And we thank CAA and all who stood beside us and supported ASA with confidence and trust to ensure that we delivered in the shortest time possible.

We must thank media for the largely good coverage that has been accorded to athletics.

We give special appreciation to community newspapers and community radio stations that carry so much influence in the areas they work in.

While many think only of mainstream media, we recognise that the message of athletics has been carried by the power of community media who not only educate but also have been encouraging the rural athlete not to give up hope and to strive to follow in the footsteps of their role models.

Today we can look back at the last two years with pride and humility to draw confidence that we have moved from negative things to positive ones. We continue to work towards grassroots development because we are now stable, we have unified people, and we will continue with the work of transformation.

ASA's performance and excellence has yielded results in the continent, national and the world.

We urge all of you to once again to take the mandate from the board and march with us in making South Africa a dominant player in the world stage. We are aiming even higher than before to compete for the medals in the hands of the greater nations, especially those who are ranked above us.

Our ambition is to fly the flag of the Republic of South Africa through our Athletes and Coaches in all major international events.

We now offer stability that is needed to take the sport forward.

We continue to call upon the support of our national and provincial politicians, officials and sponsors to support the future of athletics in this country.

We recognise the big role that can be played by former athletes and administrators, and urge them to continue working with us, and to plant back to the development of young and senior athletes.

When we arrived to take office two years ago, the financial situation was in tatters. Staff had unpaid salaries and creditors were queuing in a long line. It was unpleasant and friends were few.

But we didn't let that distract us and today we can pride ourselves that we have paid most creditors. And we are confident that if we keep at the current rate we are likely to have cleared all current debts by March 2017.

On that day in 2014, we made an undertaking that we will put athletes first, and so we did. We managed to send various teams to international competitions from the limited funds we put together.

And we prepared these athletes to the best of our abilities. We introduced a series in our domestic calendar which we call the ASA Night Series, which is an action-packed competition.

The series propelled athletes to national records and qualifying times for the Rio Olympic Games. Likewise, it offered an opportunity to international athletes to also improve their performances and meet their own countries criteria for various international competitions.

We may have been unable to satisfy all athletes for one reason or another, but they all were generally happy as we provided them with a fairly busy season made of quality competition.

As a result, the South African flag has been flown and the national anthem sung in many parts of the world where our athletes participated.

We are number one in Africa in all the three age categories, we are ranked number seven in the IAAF Youth, and we are ranked fifth (5th) and ranked 22 in the IAAF Junior category IAAF World Junior Championships and after Rio 2016 ASA standings out of 207 participating countries.

We must applaud the performance at the Olympics by the quartet of World Champion Wayde van Niekerk 400m Men (gold), Caster Semenya 800 Women (gold), Sunette Viljoen Javelin Throw Women (silver) and Luvo Manyonga Long Jump Men (silver), is what put ASA ahead of powerhouses Great Britain and Germany, who finished sixth (6th) and seventh (7th) respectively on the IAAF Medal Table.

We must also give a standing ovation to the Coaches and Managers of the four Athletes for their outstanding hard work, dedication and excellence that has put South African athletics at the tip of the tongue of many nations.

We continued to dominate the continent with a medal haul of 33, weighing 16 golds, nine silvers and eight bronze when we hosted the CAA 20<sup>th</sup> African Senior Championships in Durban.

Our Under 20 Team wreaked havoc in Zambia early June winning a whopping 45 medals, 26 of them worth their weight in gold. There were 16 silver and 3 bronze medals at the CAA Junior Track & Field Championships,

ASA earned three silver medals at the U-20 World Championships in Poland in July, while earlier in March, the Junior Boys 8km and Senior Girls fought to a bronze medal each at the 4<sup>th</sup> CAA Cross Country Championships in Cameroon.

We broke the dominance of countries like Zambia in September, winning the CAA Southern Region Half Marathon Champs at Antananarivo, Madagascar.

I want to now challenge each one of you to cast your individual votes for Wayde van Niekerk and Caster Semenya who have made the Top 10 list for the 2016 IAAF World Athletes of the Year for Men and Women, respectively.

Voting is opened online via the IAAF's social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter. Voting closes on 1 November and we want Wayde and Caster to be amongst the three men and three women finalists.

The winners of each gender will be announced at the IAAF Awards Night in Monaco on Friday 2 December 2016.

This is a challenge to our Provinces, Clubs and our Schools to lead Africa and the world.

Let's vote for our own, we deserve it.

As we look ahead, we have to accept that there is a lot of work ahead still to be done. That means we cannot stand still or slip backwards. We must go forward together.

It is perhaps in that spirit that our language is now about "Taking Athletics to the People" and we believe that our 2017 season calendar is addressing just that.

It has a clear focus on what all our domestic events feed to. All are related to a bigger picture and this includes the timing of each event.

Amongst the priorities of calendar, is our aim to bolster the culture of relay races where we believe we have a strong opportunity to be a big player in world.

So, our annual calendars will be targeting buildup to the World Champs in England next year and 2019 in Doha, the Commonwealth in Australia in 2018 and the Olympic Games in Japan in 2020.

**Thank you very much for listening to me. Our journey begins immediately.**

**End.**