



2018/19 Annual Report.



Our Vision:

To see someone playing tennis, somewhere, every day.

Our Mission:

To enhance the quality of life for all South Africans of any age group, by growing the sport of tennis at every level, for everyone who wants to become involved.

Our Values:

Transparency,
Personal Accountability &
Sportsmanship.

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This report covers the period from the 1st April 2018 to the 31st March 2019.

12 highlights in 2018/2019

This report covers the period from the 1st April 2018 to the 31st March 2019. Here are some of the selected highlights from that 12-month period:



Kevin Anderson & Raven Klaasen at Wimbledon 2018



Lloyd Harris' ATP & Grand Slam breakthrough



First clay court facility in SA unveiled at NWU



Wiphold becomes an official supporter of women's tennis



SA wins the rights to host an ITF Junior Grade A event



Atteridgeville & Durban Growthpoint centres launched



The KIA Summer Slam (beach tennis) causes waves



The new BNP Paribas Coaches Mentorship programme



Growthpoint Top Guns (club champs) goes from strength to strength



5 SA juniors feature at the Junior Australian Open



Mpho Makhoba wins two awards at the gSport awards.



New Constitution passed by the TSA Council

The president's summary of the year

"Take change by the hand, otherwise change will grip you by the throat."

Introduction

I find it hard to believe that another year is behind us. It seemed just the other day that I sat down to put pen to paper, to write my section of the 2017/18 Annual Report. That said, the speed with which this preceding year has passed us by must be attributed to the significantly increased level of activities of the Association in its many areas of operations, the numerous successes that many South Africa players and teams have achieved, and indeed the numerous milestones we have passed in running tournaments, development centres, courses and the like.



Kevin Anderson at Wimbledon 2018.

Amongst the many milestones we passed during the year under review were the achievements of Kevin Anderson and Raven Klaasen at Wimbledon 2018 (Men's Singles and Doubles Finalists respectively), Lloyd Harris winning several ATP Challenger Events and making it into the main draw of a couple of the Grand Slams, Phillip Henning being ranked in the top fifty of the International Tennis Federation Junior Tour and being selected for and playing in our Davis Cup tie against Portugal, our maintenance of our Silver Status coaching accreditation with the International Tennis Federation (we remain the only country in Africa to have this status), we continue to have technical officials being asked to do duty at various international events around the world, and a number of our administrators serve on local and international committees with distinction.

We continue to see significant increased interest from sponsors and stakeholders alike. Wiphold (a South African listed investment company), BNP Paribas (an international banking company with major involvement in tennis worldwide), became sponsors for specific projects within our fold during last year – both with the aim of uplifting and empowering people (particularly women) from previous disadvantaged communities. KIA expanded its support to be the headline sponsor of Beach Tennis for the next three years – a most exciting tennis development opportunity for which our country is ideally suited. Vision View (a company operating in the media and television space) have committed to a three-year sponsorship of a combined Wheelchair and Transition Tour Event and then most recently Growthpoint, our headline sponsor, has renewed with us for a further three years.

Negotiations with certain of these and other stakeholders are ongoing for broadening their sponsorship and support for other segments of our business. All this is especially gratifying as it confirms that we are delivering, exceeding expectations and, most importantly, affirms our sponsors trust us to deliver.

With the increased sponsorship support came the positive spin offs of being able to further invest in the Growthpoint Super 8 Junior Tournaments, Junior Nationals and Junior Masters, enhance the important Junior Squad programs that contribute significantly to Long Term Athlete Development and preparation of our teams that compete internationally, amplify the National Growthpoint Top Guns Club Championships that recognizes the importance of clubs in the tennis system, add value to the various Seniors Tournaments, further grow the four Development Centres positioned around the country, continue the financial support we are able to give to our Davis and Fed Cup players and enlarge the mentorship program we have for coaches.



Allied to the above, and most importantly, we continue to see our registered membership of both players and coaches increase. A couple of years ago this membership number had dropped below ten thousand, now our membership database is in the region of twenty thousand. Our registered coaches' numbers have increased in excess of twenty-five percent over the last couple of years – a most heartening development as coaches are a core component of a sustainable long-term tennis business model.

We must acknowledge some of our disappointments this past year. Both our Fed and Davis Cup Teams suffered relegation. Whilst the behavior of our young players has improved this past year, the same cannot be said of certain parents. Last year we also reflected on the challenges of broadening our visibility and intervention into rural areas. This still remains an issue. It is fair to say though, that all these challenges are either capable of or are being addressed – they are all work in motion and I am confident that in the fullness of time the plans and work we are doing on all of these areas will bear positive results.

As I reflect each year, I always ask myself whether we are living up to and achieving our Vision, Mission and Values statement?

I must, in all modesty, say that we at Tennis South Africa have made significant progress towards both adhering and living up to our statement this past year. That said, we still have a long way to go to along this road and we have no intention in becoming complacent or deviating from our ultimate goals of both being a leading sporting code in South Africa and tennis nation in the world.

Three-year strategy

Just prior to the end of the financial year, those available Board Members convened in Bloemfontein for a strategy workshop. Our last workshop took place some four years ago and it was important to both re-evaluate our long-term strategies, but more importantly, it was decided that we needed to set a medium-term three-year strategy for our organization. In summary the following table sets out our priorities for the next three years.

Our Vision:

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Our Mission:

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Our Values:

"Transparency, Personal Accountability, Sportsmanship"

Workstream	Key priorities (all have equal priority)
Resourcing & enablers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building at the TSA office: Recruit one heavyweight pathway or one participation manager. Diversify revenue streams: Identify and launch new revenue streams.
Participation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coaching: Embed our ITF Silver status by continuing to strengthen our structures and thereby increase our number of registered coaches. Schools: Launch National primary schools competition. Universities: Launch USSA partnership in SA and US College JV in the USA. Seniors: Activate new transformation action plan.
Transformation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Academies: Roll out of sustainable township academy programme. Dev. Centres: Increase funding sources for existing Growthpoint centres.
High-performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Roll out of HP Pathway Guidelines: for coaches, parents and players.
Tournaments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> International tournaments: Increase number of transition tour events and re-launch Challenger events in SA.

We are fully committed to the above and believe that these are attainable priorities over the next three years.

Board of Directors

Board Meetings are robust, proposals are rationally debated and informed decisions are taken. Governance remains a non-negotiable element of all interaction, interrogation and decision making. In line with good governance practices, principally guided by King IV, various Board sub-committees exist and hold meetings, both in person on a scheduled basis and telephonically as the need arises.

Terms of Reference have been drawn up for each of these Committees and, as and when approved by the Board, are added to the documentation available to all stakeholders on our website. That said, the majority of the sub-committees have functioned well and a significant amount of positive work and results has emanated.

As advised last year, a Code of Ethics for Board Members is currently being drawn up and prepared for consideration by the Board and Council. This document will incorporate all the requirements contained in the King IV recommendations and those that will be contained in the International Tennis Federation Code of Ethics document that is currently under review within our mother-body. This hopefully will be finalized within the next twelve months.



TSA Vice-President, Riad Davids, with fellow board members – Bridget Visee and Japie Klaasen, as well international committee member. the esteemed Doctor Danie Morkel.

I remind everyone that no Board Member is remunerated for his or her services as a director of the company. A number of Board Members also do not accept reimbursement for their costs incurred in travelling to Board, Committee Meetings and other Federation commitments. On both counts I thank members most sincerely.

In late September 2018 Tennis South Africa's governance was evaluated by SASCOC. It was extremely pleasing to achieve a one hundred percent mark on the scorecard – the first Federation in the country to achieve this.

Task Forces

In line with the International Tennis Federation's initiative of forming taskforces of person's who have specialist expertise, experience and knowledge in specific areas

of tennis, your Federation has likewise constituted four such groups, namely: High performance, Women's Tennis, Constitution and Gender Equality.

Persons serving on these taskforces include board members and other invited persons. The non-board persons participating in each of these taskforces, apart from being appreciative of being called upon to serve and thus make a contribution to tennis in South Africa, have made and continue to make a significant contribution in making recommendations to the various sub-committees of and the main board itself. I am confident that the recommendations that come from these bodies definitely result in change for the better in our organization.

Staffing

In August 2018 our offices relocated to 269 von Willich Avenue in Centurion. These offices offer significantly better space utilization and without doubt contributed to staff productivity and wellbeing. It is my view that our staff, under the able leadership of Richard Glover our Chief Executive Officer, is a motivated team – albeit overworked. All of them work long hours and beyond the call of duty.

I also acknowledge the contribution of those contract workers who assist with the coaching and running of our four Growthpoint Development Centres around the country. Their passion, input, and commitment to these Centres has without doubt contributed significantly to the growth of the programmes there.

The CEO and MANCO continually assess the staffing needs of tennis – without doubt we remain under-capacitated but limited by virtue of funding. The Remunerations Committee decided to increase our staff's salaries with effect from 1 April 2019 so as to bring them closer to industry norms. My sincere thanks to each and every one of our loyal staff for both their individual and collective contribution to Tennis South Africa this past year.

Provincial Tennis

With the passing of our new Constitution last year, the number of Provincial affiliates reduced from fourteen to nine. In particular three new provincial bodies came into being, namely Western Cape Tennis, Eastern Cape Tennis and Gauteng Tennis. All three of these bodies have Constitutions in place and have been operating reasonably well since their inauguration. However, we have some Provinces that for all intent and purposes have no functioning tennis body. The new Constitution gives Tennis South Africa the right to intervene in under-performing or dysfunctional Provinces. At present we are directly intervening in one Province and will soon be targeting another.

It is apparent that Provincial Tennis administration and the running of the business of tennis in Provinces is a challenge. The majority of Provinces do not have the capacity to do much more than organize leagues, as administrators are volunteers and are not remunerated. This then places significant pressure on Tennis South Africa, particularly when it comes to compiling the numerous reports demanded by government and the Eminent Persons Group. Tennis South Africa accepts that the possible long-term solution is the employment of Development Officers - in initially the larger Provinces.

Club Tennis

Despite the number of registered players increasing steadily the past couple of years, we must concede that both the level of both participation and standard of Club tennis in South Africa remains a challenge. The statistics of the number of people who watch the Grand Slams and Tour Events on television are well known, as is the number of people who call themselves tennis players. Whilst Tennis South Africa has neither the mandate nor capacity (or intention) to assist in the day to day running of Clubs, we do believe in creating an enabling environment that will hopefully assist Clubs with the running of their affairs and holding events that require clubs to enter teams.

In 2018 we once again held a very successful amplified Growthpoint Top-Guns competition which invited entry from affiliated Clubs all over the country on a Provincial basis. The winners of the Provincial events were then invited to Sun City by us and were hosted to a long weekend of finals tennis. This whole event was once again a resounding success and with the recently re-signed Growthpoint sponsorship will continue for a further three years.

It was most interesting to be made aware that some sports retailers actually ran out of tennis equipment stock over the Christmas season. Furthermore, a number of the sporting chains in the country have indicated significant increases in tennis equipment and apparel sales. As indicated last year we are also looking to improve our offerings to ordinary members so as to incentivize membership.

The final point I wish to raise is the disturbing trend that we are seeing starting to rear its head where tennis facilities on municipal owned land are being targeted for alternate use or development. Leases are not being renewed and where there have been negotiations, the rentals being demanded are exorbitant and will make the Club unsustainable. Tennis South Africa has engaged with SASCOG on this issue who in turn has undertaken to consult with the relevant government structures.

Beach Tennis

Without doubt one of our success stories this past year, has been the launch of our Beach Tennis division. The support from KIA Motors, who are the headline sponsor for this initiative, having made this possible.



The KIA Summer Slam 2018.

In July last year we sent a team to the International Tennis Federation World Championships in Moscow, Russia, where we, despite being, by all accounts, the

“newbies” on the block, exceeded all expectations. We look forward to even better results this coming year in Russia.

We also hosted a four International Tennis Events over the December period leading up to Christmas break, the last being a \$25,000 event at Plettenberg Bay. These events were all outstanding successes and were supported by a number of internationally ranked beach tennis players. The compliments we received from all concerned, including the International Tennis Federation Board Member who was present, were most gratifying.

Wheelchair Tennis

For a number of years Wheelchair Tennis has been run successfully as a totally separate business from Tennis South Africa. During the course of this past year, negotiations commenced with the aim of bringing this business within our fold.



Kgothatso Montjane – A semi-finalist at Wimbledon 2018.

A committee under the leadership of John Seymour, our chairman of the Audit Committee, conducted an extremely thorough due diligence process with the assistance of legal counsel that ensured that the ultimate closure of the Wheelchair Tennis business and the opening of a Wheelchair Division within Tennis South Africa complied with all the relevant legislation. This culminated in Special General Meetings being held by both bodies and the approval being obtained for these processes that will result in Wheelchair Tennis being a fully-fledged division within Tennis South Africa with effect from the 1st of July 2019.

We must acknowledge the fine track-record of Wheelchair Tennis South Africa but believe the change will ensure both TSA and Wheelchair Tennis will be stronger together. My specific thanks to John Seymour and Muditambi Ravele (who is the Special Interest Group Board Member for Wheelchair Tennis, as well as being the chairperson of the Wheelchair Tennis Board) for their leadership and guidance. It also goes without saying that the operational processes needed would not have happened without the considerable time and efforts of Richard Glover, Ridhwaan Dawood and Karen Losch.

University Tennis

Tennis South Africa has had a number of meaningful and successful engagements with not only the controlling body of University Sport, but also specifically with the Universities of Stellenbosch and North West. We are currently in a process of positive consultation with the SA University Tennis National Committee, with the ultimate aim of our two bodies being aligned in terms of high performance and transformation.

Tennis South Africa and Stellenbosch University are currently engaged in a process that should see the construction of a Tennis Centre of international standard where international tennis events can be staged, training camps can be held and the general health and fitness levels of our high-performance athletes can be monitored.



The TSA President speaking at the launch of the new facility at North West University.

In April 2019 the University of the North-West (Potchefstroom Campus) announced, in conjunction with Tennis South Africa the expansion of their tennis center to include five clay and two grass tennis courts. This coupled with their existing twelve hard courts will make this facility one of the best in South Africa, if not in Africa. One of the biggest challenges our high-performance players have had over the years has been the lack of clay courts in the country. This initiative will go some way to overcoming this issue.

Coaches

I earlier mentioned that Tennis South Africa's coaching programs and structure has the International Tennis Federation's Silver Status Accreditation. Every year this accreditation is re-evaluated and for the fourth consecutive year we have passed with flying colours. The benefits for our coaches are numerous, inter alia, having world recognized coaching qualifications and being up to date on the latest coaching techniques and developments. The ongoing Professional Education Programs that coaches are required to retain their license are informative, relevant and practical. The tennis public can in turn be assured of professionalism that includes integrity, excellent and current coaching techniques and knowledge.

Of special mention is the mentorship program that Tennis South Africa is running with the aid of the BNP Paribas funding. This past year 45 aspiring coaches, mainly Previously Disadvantaged Persons, were enrolled in this program with ground-breaking success. Such has been the progress in empowering these persons, with

the ability to teach others the game of tennis and most importantly enabling them to become self-sustaining members of their communities, that BNP Paribas has increased their support for year two. This current year we have ninety-five prospective coaches enrolled in the program, of which some fifty-five are women.

Finally, on this point the Board has tasked the Coaches Department to commence the process of elevating our status to that of a Gold Status Coaching Accreditation with the International Tennis Federation. This process will take a minimum of eighteen months and, in the likelihood of success, will be a huge kudos to our Coaching Department and Tennis South Africa. We would be amongst the leading world tennis nations with this status.

Finances

The Board, and in particular the MANCO and the Risk and Audit Committees, continue to closely monitor our financial position carefully. The Board and the Committees responsible for our finances are fully committed to ensuring that all financial reports produced are fairly presented, timeous and are accurate.

Whilst this year's financial statements reflect a loss, it should be noted that this is primarily because of the conservative manner in which we prepare these accounts, i.e. principally on the basis of cash flow i.e. actual cash received and paid out. Thus, a significant portion of the loss is attributable to the National Lottery mandatory spend that has been incurred during the year under review, the income for which was received in the previous year financial year, combined with a National Lottery application freeze in late 2018 through to mid-2019.

One of the challenges an organization of our nature faces is the difficulty in building up meaningful reserves to deal with "the rainy day". Both the Finance and Audit Committees have committed to addressing this point. Based on the forthcoming year's approved budget and cash flow, significantly bolstered by the additional sponsorship that will actually be received plus the other additional activities that are at an advanced stage of planning, our cash reserves will be significantly better in March 2020, than they were in March 2019.

That all said, one must not be pound foolish and penny wise. Sponsors expect their money to be spent in the agreed ways and we need to invest in the human capital that should result in the long-term sustainability and viability of our business. Our CEO and various committees continue to evaluate potential business opportunities within the tennis eco system. This, historically, has been an area that has not been tapped in any way by the Federation. Clearly the Federation should be one of the major beneficiaries when events such as Junior Nationals and the like are held in cities around the country.

Media, PR and Communications

During the latter half of last year, the TSA Board and CEO decided to re-evaluate our communication and social media strategy. As part of this review it was decided to undertake a tender process with invited media houses and consultants asked to pitch for the Federation media management account. A detailed tender document was circulated and an evaluation process was undertaken by members of our Innovations Committee. The result of the process was the appointment of Leveryg as our new media service providers with effect from the 1 December 2019. I take this opportunity of thanking Bruce Davidson and BLD Promotions who have handled

Tennis South Africa's media and promotions strategy over many years. Bruce's contribution has significant and is most sincerely appreciated.

Confederation of Africa Tennis

Tennis South Africa is a member of the African tennis body. African tennis is notable for the fact that most tennis is played in the north and in the south with generally a large void in-between. Facilities are likewise on the whole situated in the north (mainly clay) and in the south (hard court). We continue to be proactive in the Zone 5 region and have been engaging with the International Tennis Federation with a view to looking at the possible re-establishment of a High-Performance Training Center in the region. In addition, over the last couple of years we have hosted ITF technical official (umpires) courses in Stellenbosch around the three weeks of Futures events. Officials from all over sub-Saharan Africa have attended these courses.

Whilst Tennis South Africa has good relationships with the majority of African tennis nations it is our view that the level of activity and co-operation between countries needs to be increased significantly in order for tennis to be a meaningful sport type on the continent.

International Tennis Federation

We remain a committed and active member of the world's global governing body of tennis (we are one of its founder members). This organization continues to reassess its position in the world of tennis – the August 2018 Annual General Meeting of our mother body saw the “game changing” decision to amend the Davis Cup Competition format. This motion was passed by more than the required two-thirds majority. In addition, there have been significant changes to the entry level professional tennis tournaments and related ranking tables this past year.



The banner under which all ITF junior & prize money events are played.

Your Vice-President, Riad Davids, and I have been closely involved in these above necessary changes. We believe that while these changes will need a bit of time to bed down, in the long term they will ensure the primary function of creating a much-improved enabling environment for the enhancement of the game of tennis but also the allied requirement of having a sustainable business model that assures all stakeholders that both theirs and tennis's needs are met.

Both Riad Davids and I continue to nurture Tennis South Africa's relationship with the International Tennis Federation. We firmly believe that as South Africa strives to establish its position as a “world-class tennis nation” we need to positively engage with and be part of the International Tennis Federations processes, engagements and structures.

In early June 2019 we were privileged to host Mr David Haggerty, the incumbent President of the International Tennis Federation. To my knowledge this is the first time South Africa has been visited by the President of our mother body (I have since established that Philippe Chatrier visit the country in his capacity as President of the International Tennis Federation in 1984). David has been very supportive of not only Riad and I, but also of all the advances we have been making here at home. Tennis South Africa has unquestionably benefitted immeasurably in terms of additional funding, recognition and status from our numerous engagements and the committees we both serve on at the International Tennis Federation. Riad and I are of the opinion that there continues to be significant improvements and advances being made in our ultimate mother body. The greater inclusiveness, better communication treating people with respect, conducting business with integrity and focusing on the development of the game at grass roots level are to be commended and supported.

Prospects for 2019/20

I have already covered the point relating to our overall financial position. Already post our financial year-end our cash reserves show significant improvement as both the additional sponsorship and increased membership numbers are realized. We continue to work towards the goal of weaning ourselves from being dependent on government and National Lottery Funding. It is our view that within the next eighteen months we will indeed be in this position. This is not to say that we are not appreciative of the support that we do receive from these two important institutions.

The Board of Tennis South Africa will continue on its strategy of:-

- reassessing what stakeholders need against the cost of providing such services;
- changing tournaments into events that result in an income;
- carefully assessing the overhead structure to ensure operations run efficiently;
- actively seeking sponsors who wish to see the game of tennis prosper at all levels.

Earlier in this report I shared five strategy imperatives with you. Amongst these was the determination to host more international events. To this end significant progress has been made. Over and above our normal International Tennis Federation Junior Grade 3, 4 and 5 Events we host, we will be the first country in Africa to host a Grade A Event (this is one level below the four Grand-Slams each year). This honour is a clear indication of our growing importance in world tennis (incidentally the Tennis South Africa Board, with the consent of the International Tennis Federation has named this event after the late Mr David Samaai). Following on from this event, which will be held this coming September, will be two weeks of ITF World Tennis Tour Events. Followed in February 2020 by the now traditional ITF Futures events in Stellenbosch. Thrown into these events is our upcoming Davis Cup Tie against Bulgaria the middle weekend of September which we are playing at the Kelvin Grove Club in Cape Town. Should we win this Tie, we will gain promotion into the Global Group 1 Division of the Event in 2020 – this is one division below the World Group.

Transformation and development in our game is a non-negotiable. The TSA Transformation Charter is available on our website. Our Transformation and Development Committee has set out its strategies for the next three years. We are now part of the Eminent Persons Group reporting requirements and are evaluated on an annual basis. I'm happy to say that we passed our second evaluation earlier this year. Lots of work still needs to be done for our goals in this regard to be met. I would appeal to all our stakeholders to support with the collection of the data that

our office needs to compile these reports. The support we need from SRSA and SASCO depends on this.

I cannot conclude this section without once again acknowledging the success enjoyed by Kevin Anderson and Raven Klaasen at Wimbledon in July last year and indeed their successes this year. In addition, it is pleasing to see Lloyd Harris steadily ascending the ATP World Ranking. Chanel Simmonds also continues her path on the Woman's Circuit with some measure of success. Their successes once underscore the necessity to have and what is to have role models in our sport to which people aspire. Both their successes have helped raise the profile of tennis in South Africa and it is for us as a Federation to build on this interest they have help elevate.



Raven Klaasen in Davis Cup action.

Conclusion

I conclude by asking myself whether Tennis South Africa has improved and whether we are successfully measuring up to our Vision, Mission and Values Statement. I am of the opinion that we are making significant progress in both areas. We are certainly in an improved space and we are seeing more people actively playing tennis. We are also improving the lives of many people through our various enabling and empowering initiatives. And finally, we are adhering to our Values Statement of "Transparency, Personal Accountable and Sportsmanship".

An overwhelming part of our success comes from teamwork and I can state that without reserve that Richard Glover and his team need to take most if not all of the recognition in this regard. Thank you and well done from all of us. I thank the Board, of which I am one part, for their individual and collective enthusiasm, passion and determination to strategically guide our organization to better levels. Interactions and meetings are informative, robust and invigorating – always with the goal of creating an environment conducive to the fostering the game of tennis at all levels.

Winston Churchill is quoted as saying "take change by the hand otherwise change will grip you by the throat". Tennis is in good hands and we are guiding her down the right road. The future looks good. It is indeed an honour and privilege being President of Tennis South Africa.

Thank you.

Gavin Crookes
President of Tennis South Africa.



The ceo's view

“The what and the how of jigsaw puzzles....also why sponsorship is a bit like romance!”

Introduction

The TSA President always gives such a definitive summary of the year in review that it is quite difficult to know what to write in my section of the annual report. So rather than provide a pale 'diet soft drink' imitation of his 'full sugar' offering I will take my section in a different direction and explain how the TSA office thinks about and attempt to tackle the many challenge we face. In order to do this, I would like to start by discussing the WHAT versus the HOW.

The WHAT versus the HOW

As CEO I get told by lots of people, pretty much every day – including weekends, about WHAT Tennis South Africa should be doing. With respect, the WHAT is fairly obvious but HOW it can be achieved is a lot more difficult – especially in the context of our socio-economic environment, as well as the limitations (both financial and resource) under which we operate as a Federation.



Clearly it is my job as CEO along with the Board, as well as our hard-working staff to figure out the HOW. For me the only way to achieve the HOW is to be pragmatic, focused and not try and fix everything at once. This not an excuse, just reality. Which brings me onto jigsaw puzzles.

1000-piece jigsaw puzzles

To understand what we are trying to do you really need to view tennis in South Africa as a 1000-piece puzzle. At times it feels like we are trying to build that puzzle in a car, travelling 80 kilometres per hour on a bumpy dirt road!

It is perfectly natural for tennis people to focus on their specific corner of this jigsaw puzzle. If you are a junior tennis parent you will focus on the junior tennis section, a coach on the coaches section, a seniors player on the seniors section etc. However - If you only focus on your section then it is very, very easy to criticise the Federation because you may only see one or two pieces being slowly added.

If you are to zoom out and look at the puzzle in its entirety, then the process starts to become more interesting, with pieces being added to different areas of the puzzle on a consistent basis and you also start to see there is a plan unfolding.

This is an important metaphor because if you are reading this as - a junior parent, or a coach, or a seniors player, you need to understand that we cannot only focus on one part of the puzzle but rather all aspects. It also means we sometime need to make difficult decisions and so, unfortunately, our immediate priorities might not always be your priorities.

2018/19 was an investment year

The year in review was a tough one for our business model and cash flow. A national Lottery grant freeze, unbudgeted for expenses (including two Fed Cup ties falling in the financial year – when it is normally only one per annum and a significant contribution to cover a sponsor shortfall for the 2018 Stellenbosch Futures) and a substantial partnership payment which was due on or before the 31st March 2019 but was only received on the 1st April 2019 and therefore, in line with our policy on revenue recognition, sits in the new/current 2019/20 financial year, have all played a significant impact on our financial performance.

However, the fact we have managed to emerge without a noticeable impact on our programmes and initiatives, and our seeing encouraging growth in many areas, is something to be optimistic about. In many ways I see the year in review as an investment year - short term hurt for long term progress. And this view is substantiated by some significant progress made early in the 2019/20 financial year – including:

- A year two renewal and increased investment from **Wiphold** – which commenced in April 2019.
- A new three-year sponsorship from **Vision View** – for the Spring Open (an ITF World Tennis Tour event) – which launched in May 2019.
- A significant new 3-year renewal with **Growthpoint Properties** – which commenced in July 2019

A side-note about sponsorship:

From time to time people say to me – “It’s great that sponsor X is sponsoring Y, but they are wasting their money on Y they should rather be sponsoring Z.”

The fact these people who say the above tend to be specifically involved in Z or have a vested interest in Z is beside the point.

While we would like all areas of tennis to be sponsored, the reality is you cannot force a sponsor to sponsor something they do not want to sponsor or if it is not aligned to their brand objectives.

In my experience, sponsorship sales and negotiations are a bit like entering into a new romance - it is part strategy and part opportunism. You may have a set plan going in, but you need to listen to the needs of the other party and be flexible enough to change your plan to accommodate those needs!

- An exciting multi-faceted new sponsorship with **BNP Paribas and RCS** – stage one of which was unveiled in late July 2019.
- A new official **hotel/accommodation partner** – which will be announced shortly after the release of this annual report.

All of the above means we are forecasting an encouraging surplus for the 2019/20 financial year.



Growthpoint Properties are the headline sponsor of TSA.

However, even taking the above into account, it is clear that our current business model has some structural weaknesses, in that we are overly reliant on external funding from sources such as the national lottery. This funding is always useful and appreciated, but it is not a consistent annual revenue stream (as we saw in terms of the year in review, with a national lottery application freeze in place). A reliance on an irregular funding source means you also have a tough decision to make: do you keep funding these programmes consistently even when there is no national lottery grant in place and therefore dip into your cash reserves to do so, or do you only fund them erratically? For me, planting seeds and then only watering them every so often is a waste of time, money....and seeds. Therefore, logic dictates that you have to keep funding them annually – even if it delivers short term pain to your cash flow.

So HOW do we strengthen our business model?

There is never enough money (nor will there ever be enough money) - versus the demands placed on us, but there are two significant growth opportunities for us in terms of diversifying our revenue streams and/or reducing our cost base.

1. By better understanding and accessing the value chain of tennis in South Africa

There is actually a significant money spent within our tennis ecosystem – coaching fees, tennis balls, equipment, travel, accommodation etc. - it all adds up to a large and (as the sports retailers would tell you) a growing pie. No one has ever been able to harness or tap into some of these afore-mentioned areas - for the benefit of Federation and indeed the tennis community. In early 2019 we kicked off a project to try to do just that – starting with accommodation. As mentioned earlier in this report, at the time of writing, we will be shortly announcing a new hotel partnership

that will deliver a healthy cost saving to our annual accommodation spend. This new partnership will also deliver benefits to our members (both players and coaches) – more of that below.

2. Growing (and offering more value to) our membership base

Which brings me onto our second growth opportunity. Quite rightly members criticize TSA for not providing more value for the membership fee charged. That will start to change in the coming months. NOTE: I recognize I have been promising this for some time! Shortly we will be launching a tie up with a major South African sports retailer that will offer significant discounts on selected tennis equipment and apparel to members and registered coaches.

The above-mentioned hotel partnership will also offer discounts to members/coaches to hotel discounts across the country - including further discounts for specific TSA events/tournaments. Our attention will shortly turn to trying to offer members/coaches discounts on flights and car hire.

Grassroots is great, but what about international tennis?

There appears to be a perception in our tennis that TSA is more interested in grassroots tennis than in bringing the SA Open back. This in a sense is true because a house that stands the test of time is built on strong foundations and grassroots tennis is the very foundations of our tennis. In simple terms If we are to build a sustainable 'business' we need to build our 'customer base'. However, while some media have recently started to talk about a revival in local tennis. The reality is that we can talk about a revival when we have 4-5 men and 4-5 women, representative of all communities in South Africa, competing at Grand Slam level.



Louisa Mojela – CEO of Wiphold and the patron of SA women's tennis.

In order to achieve this, we recognize we need more international event opportunities in South Africa. Hopefully people who follow the Federation closely will have noticed that, while a strong grassroots focus remains (because we still have so much to do), increasingly progress is being made in terms of more international events in South Africa – I refer to the three new ITF World Tennis Tour tournaments added to our calendar in 2019. This is deliberate, it is also systematic, and it is focused.

Thank You

Being CEO of TSA is the best job in South African sport and one that I am honoured to hold. The year in review has been a tough one, but we have come through it stronger and have positioned ourselves perfectly for a very exciting 2019/2020.

My objective as CEO of TSA is to leave the Federation in a better position than when I found it. If my successor can do the same, and his/her successor can achieve the same then we will grow in a sustainable way.



"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." – Arthur Ashe.

I am far from perfect as CEO - I tend to be far too structured and results orientated when there is also an important human element to consider. Indeed, there are things during my time at TSA that I wish we could have done differently and better. That being said I will always take responsibility and be held to account for any missteps. The buck stops with me.

A key area that I am looking to improve on in the coming months is working more closely with the Provinces. There are times where I have not always taken the needs of some Provinces into account and I recognise that our Federation needs to bring people with them in order to deliver growth at provincial level.

I would like to finish with a collective thank you:

- Thank you to the TSA board for your guidance.
- Thank you to TSA office staff for your passion, work ethic and powers of diplomacy.
- Most importantly, thank you to the hundreds of officials, tournament staff and provincial volunteers across the country for your collective and often unsung efforts. You are the true heroes of tennis.

Whenever it is mentioned to me that I have the toughest job in SA tennis I always disagree.....being a tennis official.....now that is a tough job!

Richard Glover
CEO of Tennis South Africa.



Overview of our governance

“Governance remains a non-negotiable element of all interaction, interrogation and decision making.”

Introduction

The TSA Board met four times during the past year. The TSA Board is a unitary body consisting of both elected (ten) and co-opted (seven) members. Four of the co-opted members are Special Interest Group appointments – namely seniors, coaches, wheelchair and schools. The remaining three co-opted Board Members bring important specialist skills to meetings and the governance of our organization. Board Meetings are robust, proposals are rationally debated and informed decisions are taken. Governance remains a non-negotiable element of all interaction, interrogation and decision making.

Tennis South Africa Board of Directors

The board of directors' key purpose is to ensure the company's development and growth, by collectively directing the company's affairs, whilst meeting the appropriate interests of its stakeholders. The current board of directors at TSA is as follows:

Name	Designation
1. Gavin Crookes	President & elected board member
2. Riad Davids	Vice-President & elected board member
3. Hubert Brody	Elected board member
4. Shaun Liebenberg	Elected board member
5. Zaida Beukes	Elected board member
6. Anthony Loubser	Elected board member
7. Jacob Klaasen	Elected board member
8. Fuad Cassim	Elected board member
9. Allan Karam	Elected board member
10. Gustav Fichardt	Elected board member
11. Gugu Ntuli	Co-opted board member
12. Geoff Whyte	Co-opted board member

13. John Seymour	Co-opted board member
14. Bridget Visee**	Coaches Representative
15. David Jaquire**	Schools Representative
16. Bertie Conradie**	Seniors Representative
17. Muditambi Ravele**	Wheelchair Tennis Representative

Note: **represent a special interest group.

Board sub-committees:

The sub-committees consist of board members and each focus on a particular task or area. The TSA sub-committees (and chairperson for each) are as follows:

- **MANCO:** Gavin Crookes
- **Audit:** John Seymour
- **Risk & Ethics:** Hubert Brody
- **Transformation & Development:** Anthony Loubser
- **Remuneration:** Gavin Crookes
- **Innovation:** Gugu Ntuli
- **International Tennis:** Jacob Klaasen
- **Juniors:** Riad Davids
- **Seniors:** Bertie Conradie
- **Coaches:** Bridget Visee
- **Technical & Officiating:** Gavin Crookes

All committees meet at least twice per year. The committee which meets most regularly is the MANCO. This committee is made up of the TSA President, Vice-President and two board members, as well as the TSA CEO and key staff, and is responsible for providing oversight on operational and management decisions.

Tennis South Africa Head Office

Comprises of the CEO and 12 Staff Members based in Centurion. There are various departments within TSA (Coaching, high-Performance, Junior Tennis, Senior Tennis, Officiating, Tournament Structures and running of Events, Admin & Finance). Head Office attends to all queries and assists stakeholders daily to ensure the operational running of Tennis in the Republic.



Financial analysis

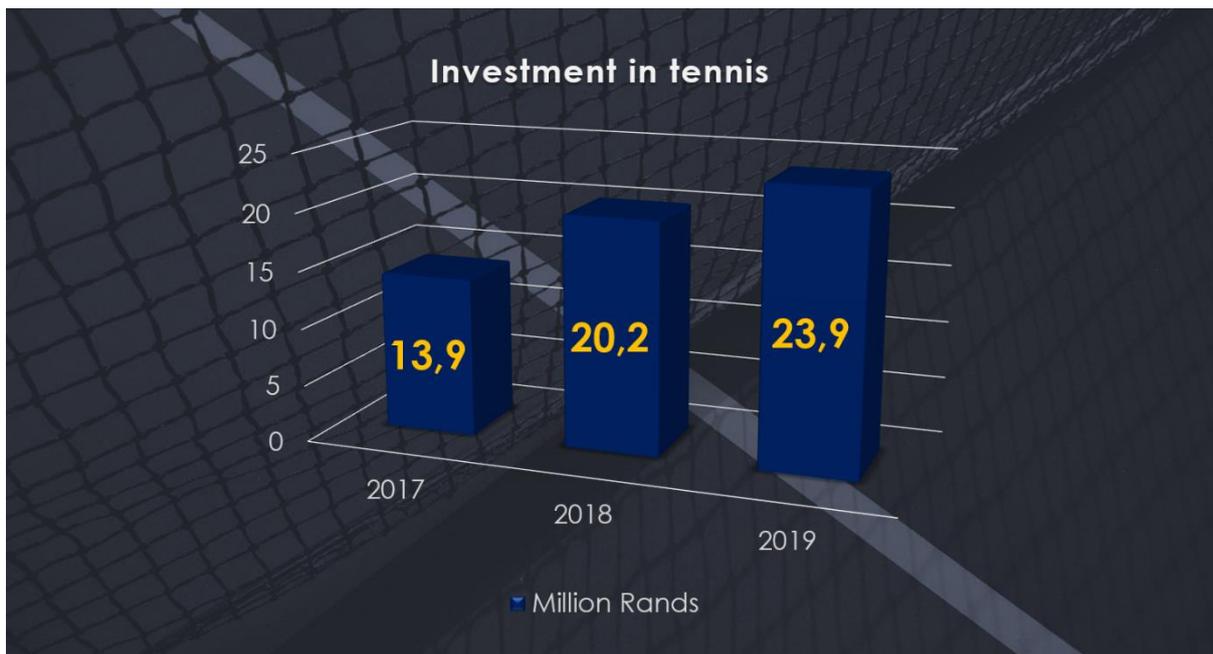
“TSA adopts a conservative accounting policy of recognising income and expenses as and when actually received or incurred.”

Introduction

Please note that 2018/19 Audited Financial Statements are due to be reviewed and approved by the TSA Council of Members at the forthcoming AGM. The full financial statements will be added to the TSA website once they are approved at the AGM.

TSA adopts a conservative accounting policy of recognising income and expenses as and when actually received or incurred. This can and does result in a mismatch of income being received in advance of or in arrear of expenditure actually being incurred. In the 2018 Financial year we received R2,500,000 from the National Lottery Board, which resulted in an operating profit for that year. The expenses against that income have, in the main, been incurred in this current financial year and thus the loss as stated.

Furthermore, as you can see from the below analysis TSA has significantly increased its investment in tennis in the past two financial years. We believe this investment is reasonable and justified if we are to grow our sport in the long term. We also believe the investment is starting to move the needle for the game locally.



Some of the projects and programmes that we have invested in over the past two years include:

Clubs:

- Top Guns National Club Championships

Transformation and development:

- 4 x National Development Centres.
- Player Thrive Fund
- Coaching mentorship programme

Performance:

- Davis Cup and Fed Cup ties – home and away
- Monthly player support – Davis Cup and Fed Cup players
- Wiphold Squad and Next Gen Camps
- National junior squad camps and teams

New formats:

- Beach tennis

Schools and Junior Tennis:

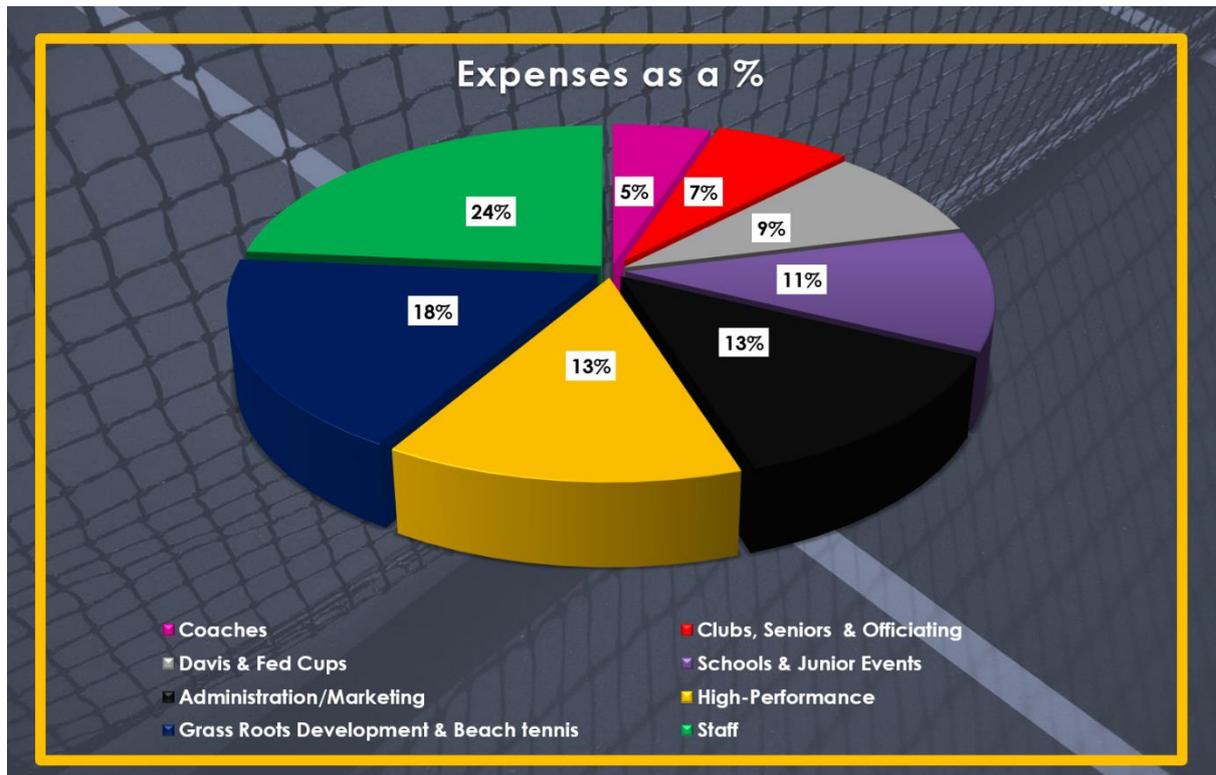
- Provincial subsidies for Inter-Pro teams
- SA Schools matches versus Zimbabwe and SA Universities
- Enhanced Junior Nationals and Masters

Seniors:

- Contribution to Inter-Pros

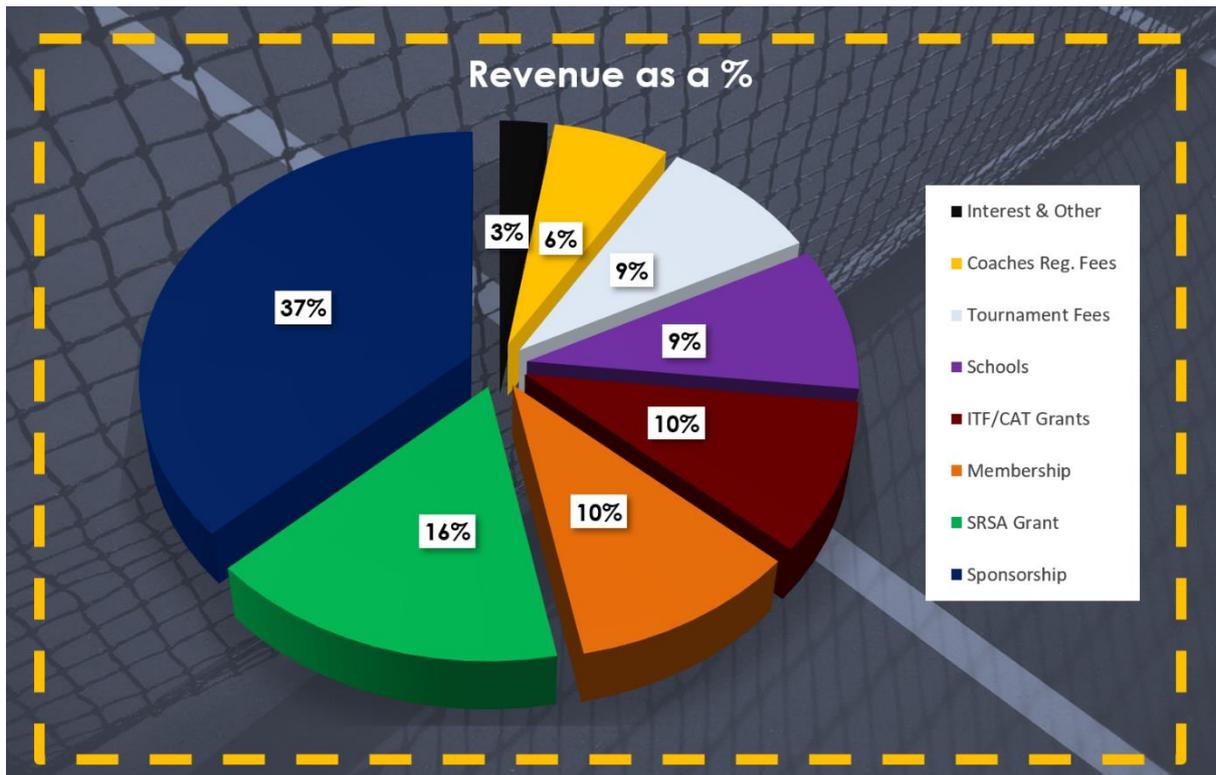
This level of investment continues in the new (2019/20) financial year but this will be balanced by an increased focus on diversifying revenue streams and increasing our cash reserves. We are comfortable that the 2019/20 financial year will deliver a significant surplus for the Federation.

Expense Breakdown – 2018/19 Financial Year



Note: Administration/Marketing expenses cover – ITF and CAT affiliation fees, audit fees, board and committee expenses, social media and marketing, IT costs, insurance, legal fees, rent and utilities and Grand Slam tickets (Wimbledon and the French Open).

Revenue Breakdown – 2018/19 Financial Year



Summary – 2018/19 Financial Year and Comparison

	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Total Income	R21 708 220	R20 663 057	R13 998 350
Total Expenses	R23 957 185	R20 297 763	R13 944 078
Surplus/(Deficit)	(R2 248 965)	R365 294	R54 272



Transformation

“This is both a moral and strategic imperative.”

TSA is committed to Transformation both as:

- a **moral imperative** - a process which addresses the imbalances of the past by seeking to restore trust and remove conditions undermining relationships of trust, whether of a socio-economic, political or structural nature, as well as
- a **strategic imperative** - the incubation, nurturing and development of the country's actual and potential human capital and the creation of an environment in which human capital can be nurtured, and can prosper and grow.

As such TSA's commitment to transformation is grounded in the belief that as a tennis nation, we can compete effectively in the global arena based on innovative and creatively crafted strategies, such as the TSA Transformation Strategy.



Transformation can deliver sustainable growth for our sport.

Principles underpinning our strategy

1. TSA's transformation strategy is multi-dimensional and focused on **changing demographic profiles** on and off the field of play;
2. It will ensure **equitable access, participation and resource availability** through extensive **community involvement**;
3. It will **develop skills and capability on and off the field**;
4. It will build and shape relationships with **future support and spectator base** and future leaders and decision-makers based on **broad-based community engagement**;

5. TSA is committed to practicing **Employment Equity, Gender Equity, Preferential Procurement** and the Promotion of **Disability Sport**;
6. The strategy is underpinned by **Good Governance**;
7. It will **uphold standards** while at the same time removing barriers to access, thus creating a system that is accessible, demographically representative, sustainable and competitive;
8. The Strategy will see TSA co-operate with **government initiatives** and to align our portfolio of programs/projects with that of national, provincial and local government and sport structures.

Our Commitment:

TSA will:

1. In keeping with the values enshrined in the Equality Clause of the Bill of Rights of the South African Constitution, ensure that no player, coach, administrator, etc., is unfairly discriminated against on the basis race, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital status, family responsibility, ethnic or social origin, colour, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, HIV status, conscience, belief, political opinion, culture, language or birth. It shall not be deemed unfair discrimination when affirmative measures are taken and implemented which are consistent with the Transformation Policy of TSA.
2. Monitor and evaluate its Transformation status and progress by the implementation of a balanced scorecard reflecting the sum of the weighted contributions of each of the selected focus areas as well as the trends in each one of these focus areas.
3. Ensure that each Provincial Affiliate adopts a similar balanced scorecard to monitor and evaluate its Transformation status and progress.
4. Report regularly to the appropriate agency of the South African Government in accordance with government regulations on its Transformation status.
5. Review its Transformation Strategy and Policy at least every three years.
6. Set up a transformation committee, under the Chairpersonship of a TSA Board Member, to oversee the implementation of the TSA Transformation Strategy.



High-Performance

“The department will shortly be publishing a player pathway guidelines document – with a strong focus on players aged 14 and under.”

Introduction

It has been a busy year for the department providing support to our junior national teams, as well as Fed Cup and Davis Cup Squads. Added to this, the launch of the Wiphold women's tennis initiative, as well as several new funds being established for junior high-performance players mean the department has had its hands full.



Team SA at the U18 African Junior Championships.

Summary of key projects in year under review:

- Fed Cup: April 2018
- Wiphold Next gen Camp for girls: June 2018, Johannesburg
- Davis Cup: October 2018
- AUSC Region V 20 & Under 20 Youth Games: December 2018
- Junior Australian Open: January 2019
- Fed Cup: February 2019
- AJC U/18 - March 2019: Marrakech, Morocco
- AJC – African Junior Championships for 14 & under: April 2019, Benoni SA
- AJTC 14 + 16 & under: June 2019, Bachdjarach, Algeria
- TSA Growthpoint Junior Camps: u/12 - u/18
 - Camp 1: January 2019, Pretoria
 - Camp 2: June 2019, Stellenbosch.

Key achievements:

- 1) AUSC Youth games – Nov 2018: 4 gold medals & 1 silver medal
- 2) AJC 14 & under, Benoni: 5 medals - 2 x gold, 2 x silver & 1 x bronze
- 3) U/14 & U/16 for AJTC, June 2019 in Algeria: SA qualifying all 4 teams for Algeria
- 4) ITF/CAT 14 & under young stars team to Europe, Jul/Aug '19: Drikus de Jager selected
- 5) U/12 Zonals in Bulawayo: Both boys & girls qualified for the final team event in North Africa
- 6) AJTC's Algeria: U/14 girls qualified for World Junior Finals in Czech Republic in August 2019
- 7) Financial assistance: More than 25 SA players received financial assistance from the various high-performances funds created.



The victorious SA U12 team at the Southern African Team Champs in Zimbabwe (Zonals).

Priorities for 2019:

1. Strengthen communication (internally and externally).
2. Strengthen processes and procedures with the department.
3. Strengthen results of our Junior National teams.
4. Increased focused and a plan for the 10-14 age group – with a strong focus on transformation.
5. Developing a database and communication channel for US College players.

The department will also shortly be publishing a player pathway guidelines document for junior players – with a strong focus on players aged 14 and under. This will cover recommendations for tournament planning, guidelines for tennis fitness, including benchmarks, player goal setting and advice regarding parental behaviour.

Coaching

“It remains high priority to maintain our ITF SILVER Status and the goal will be to now start working towards obtaining GOLD Status.”

ITF Matters & Silver Status

Tennis SA has established a strong relationship with the ITF. We are a key role player in Africa, especially in our Region, as we provide a gateway for coaches education. The TSA coaching certification system is now well in place, up to coaching advanced players. We have taken the ITF Syllabi and minimum requirements and structured courses to suit our local needs. TSA also has tutors that have experience in facilitating a variety of courses for South Africa, as well as for the ITF in the region.

CPD Requirement: The coaching department will have to consider restructuring the CPD credit system as the ITF Academy, launched on 22 March 2019, will now allow coaches to access recognised coaching courses online. We will also experiment with blended learning as the face to face contact hours remain important.

TSA hosted an ITF Special Course for ex-players, Coaching Advanced Players (CAP) course, in December. The lack of entries was disappointing as this was an opportunity for local coaches to complete this certification. 23 invitations were sent out and only 6 coaches from South Africa accepted.

It remains high priority to maintain our ITF SILVER Status and the goal will be to now start working towards obtaining GOLD Status.

BNP Paribas Coaches Mentorship Programme

This was a pilot project in attempt to start diversifying the demographics of licensed coaches in South Africa. We had 45 coaches as part of the programme in year 1. The main aim of year 1 was to assist coaches with existing qualifications, to be part of the registered coaches list and benefit from opportunities within their Province. 33% of the group have not had an opportunity before the programme to attend any coaching courses. Year 2 now include 95 coaches across South Africa.



Coach mentorship: Some of the year one intake.

Summary year one:

All candidates had activity on the programme. The Provinces with more activity will be where coaches benefitted most:

- ✓ 30 - Registration fees covered;
- ✓ 37 - Sent on a coaching course;
- ✓ 28 - Completed First Aid;
- ✓ 31 - Attended Provincial Workshops;
- ✓ 2 - Completed officiating course.

TSA covered transport, accommodation, as well as meals for candidates who had to attend required events. The department also assisted with drafting CV's for some of the candidates. 2 coaches that have been working as volunteer coaches for years were employed full-time by Curro schools. Some also found coaching opportunities whilst on the programme. The department will have a strong focus on personal development and basic administration skills in year 2.

Coaching Calendar

There were 41 courses/workshops/conferences that took place across SA.
Course attendees: 454. Workshop Attendees: 451.

- TSA Play Tennis Courses – 14
- TSA National Tennis Instructor – 2
- ITF CAP (Coaching Advanced Players) Course – 1
- Special Update Play Tennis – 1
- Special Update Instructor – 8
- Provincial CPD Workshops – 12
- TSA Volunteer Course (Tennis Initiative)– 2
- National Coaches Conference – 1
- Regional Coaches Conference (Botswana) –1



A group shot from the national coaches conference.

TSA hosted the 2nd National Coaches Conference in Bloemfontein in March. The one-day event welcomed 85 of South Africa's top coaches. Dr. Sherylle Calder

came and shared her experience, as well as a guest speaker Dr. Tshepang Tshube from Botswana.

Coaches

Registrations:

The year ended (as of the 31st March 2019) with 778 licensed coaches on our TSA list, a 14.5 % increase in coaches registrations from the previous calendar year. The coaching fee included: Provincial CPD, Free attendance to level 1 update courses, Free entry to NCC 2018, 40% off Rudy Project sunglasses and High5 Nutrition products online. Coaches had until 31 March to make payments. TSA offered two payment options but only 31 coaches signed up for the debit order system which ended up not being successful and coaches had to make manual payments. This year we ran an early bird special and increased the license registration fee by 2.5 %. TSA will continue to work on added benefits for licensed coaches.

Pirate Coaches:

Unqualified and unlicensed coaches remain a problem across the country. The increase in registration has been a positive for the department, however, we will continue to work on ways to follow up on coaches who do not meet the minimum requirements set out for tennis coaches in South Africa.



Attendees at one of our Cape Town courses.

Coach Education

General

Course structures were now set and we saw an increase in assessment submissions compared to 2017. The TSA Professional Course remains a concern as we have not had much interest despite numerous attempts to encourage coaches to attend. Overall attendance of courses and workshops were excellent. The Centre of Apprenticeship programme is well received by all coaches, that have completed practical hours. The feedback from candidates has been positive and the department wants to thank every CAP Centre that has contributed to the mentoring and development of these coaches.

Special Update Courses

All Provinces had an opportunity to host Special Instructor Update Courses for FREE: GAU (4), WC (3), FS/NC, KZN. MP and EC have submitted dates to host the courses in the new calendar year. LIM and NW coaches have attended in other Provinces. A final letter was signed by our President, Mr Gavin Crookes, confirming the new requirements that include updating current qualifications and this was sent to all coaches. Current stats on Pre-2008 PRO/INS coaches: Updated – 217 coaches Not updated – 93

CPD Workshop and point structure

The theme for this year's workshops was Child Protection. Workshops were well attended and it seems as if the current structure works. As mentioned, going forward the department will now revise the point structure.

Team App

This new initiative is an added platform the coaching department is very proud of. The app serves as a platform for information sharing as well as registrations and was launched on 17 February 2019. Since the launch we now have 496 official members on the app. The ad banner had 245 813 views since the first add banner was placed in March. The app includes calendar, news, coaches corner, coaching profiles, as well as links to our TSA website and the ITF Academy.

Provincial Matters

Our 2019 annual Provincial Coaches Chairpersons Meeting took place on Saturday 16 February in Centurion. Eight representatives were present from the nine provinces: Gauteng, North West, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Limpopo and Western Cape. It was a productive meeting and the agenda covered various items namely: Provincial Structures; 2019 Coach Licensing, Registrations & new requirements; TSA Coach Education; Transformation and BNP Paribas Mentorship; SASCO.

Provincial Structures

Provincial governance remains a concern. The coaching department needs more assistance from Provinces to share information - especially between schools and clubs - to further the profession of tennis coaching in South Africa. Some of the committees function well and have even provided funding towards first aid courses, as well as provided sponsorship for coaches to attend courses.

SASCO

Safeguarding of athletes:

The TSA Code of Conduct is but one part of a number of documents (including a child protection/safeguarding policy) that is currently being reviewed.

Professionalisation of Sports Coaching:

The professional body is still not functioning and we are yet to receive any answers regarding the way forward. TSA will continue to set standards and minimum requirements for tennis coaches in South Africa.

Development

“Our development centres have continued introducing new participants to the game, both as coaches and players.”

Introduction

This year was a busy one for the Transformation and Development Portfolio. In summary, the activity in this space could be categorised as follows:

1. The extension of the work at the various Development Centres (see Impact Report below);
2. The improvement of the relationship with Government, both at the Provincial Level and at the National level;
3. The extension the work of the T&D Sub-committee resulting in a comprehensive action plan to deliver meaningful results, particularly at the grassroots level.



The Cape Town Champions Programme.

Development Centres

Four national Growthpoint Development Centres are operational in Atteridgeville, Cape Town, Durban and Soweto, respectively. As is evident from the impact summary below, the Development Centres have continued introducing new participants to the game, both as coaches and players.

	Male	Female
Coaches	44	27
Players	904	876

Please note: The above data also includes smaller hubs that have partnered with each centre.

The Gauteng Centres fielded a combined team in the High Schools Inter-pro, that acquitted itself well. Lack of resources prevented us from making this a National Development Centre team. Possibly the Provincial Federations can assume some of

the cost of enabling teams from the various Centres to participate in some form of trials? The Development Centres were extensively involved in the trails process for selecting the Provincial teams to compete in the National Schools Sport Championship (Winter Games).

In the Western Cape the Provincial Government Funded the Training of 40 Coaches. This was a significant event as it is the first time that all 40 of these coaches have been employed by the Provincial Government in schools in under-served communities to coach tennis! Our continued work with these coaches will be key to the growth of the game in the Province.

On the playing front a number of players at various centres made some notable progress:

CAPE TOWN: Olwethu Socishe (B16) and Liyema Mlata (G12) won the gold division in their respective age groups in the recent CTT Mini 4 tournament. This is a significant achievement for players who have spent only 18 months in the Development Centre Programme. Rohan Loubser (15), funded by the Growthpoint TSA Player Development Travel Fund, recently competed in the Thailand ITFs and scored a significant victory over the number 6 seed (who had a career high ranking of top 500 ITF) to progress to the last 16 in Thailand.

DURBAN: Siyabonga Jaca represented South Africa at the ITF/CAT Southern African Under 12 Junior Team Championships in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

SOWETO: Lesego Mokgoetsi was selected as a member of the 2019 SA High Schools team.

Government Relations

Our relationship with SRSA and the National Department of Sport continues to grow. Significant areas that require attention are the integration of the Winter Games in the TSA Calendar and the endorsement by SASCOG of our National teams across all age groups, which will enable government funding of our National age group teams.

This year funding from the Provincial Government enabled the WC Development Centre to acquire the use of a vehicle and to fund a tour for 6 players to the KZN Growthpoint Super 8 in June. Provincial Government Funding also enabled the WC Centre to home-school 5 players from under-served communities, bringing the full-time contingent at the Centre to 10 players.

T&D Sub-Committee Action Plan

The T&D Sub-Committee held its first Workshop in March of this year and invited a number of interested persons to join its Task Team to roll out a comprehensive action plan to increase access to the game to a broader community. That plan has been approved by the Board and will shortly be made available on the TSA website.

Challenges

- Additional coaches to extend the impact of the programmes;
- Additional head office resources to actualise the vision of the T&D Sub-Committee;
- Creation of more playing opportunities for teams from the Development Centres;
- Lack of financial support from Provincial Federations.

Schools tennis

“The mission statement of TSA to see someone playing tennis, somewhere, every day will only succeed if schools tennis is successful.”

Introduction

Schools tennis is part of the foundation of TSA. Most provinces have sustainable numbers playing league. The numbers of school's festivals are growing and teams participating in festivals are also growing. This must be used to inject the dwindling numbers of club tennis. The mission statement of TSA to see someone playing tennis every day somewhere will only succeed if schools tennis is successful.

Schools Indaba

April 2018 was time for reflection. During the Schools indaba several issues were debated. A key point of discussion was the overseas tour. It was clear that the status quo could not continue. Despite the fact that every player who was selected for the SA Schools side was recognised by the Schools Body, not playing an official match in SA played a major role. Players who made use of social media to raise funds reflected negatively on the federation and a compromise had to be found.



Action from the Primary Schools Inter-Pro.

The 2019 challenge was solved by keeping Zimbabwe in the country after the Schools Week. Combined with the SA University Team and players on invitation, a match was organised in Bloemfontein prior to the Free State tournament and Nationals. All costs were covered and the SA Schools side had a chance to participate and officially earn colours, without costs involved. Our appreciation to Gustav Fichardt and Free State tennis for making the day possible. I also have to add the name of Janine de Kock organising the courts and team at the Free State University.

The decision to involve the Growthpoint Development Centres as an official team at the 2019 Schools Week was an important step forward. Hats off to the team who made a lot of friends during the tournament. The selection of Lesego Mokgoetsi as part of the SA Schools team justified the decision.

Another point on the agenda at the Indaba was the selection process for provincial school teams. The fact that this differs from province to province will remain a conundrum. In the ideal world the same weekend should be allocated by TSA to all provinces to play the same format in all provinces and the selection should be the same for selecting teams. In this ideal world SportyHQ should be used in all these

competitions. The system is clear to most parents and rankings are used to do draws which is familiar to parents and players. To find this date that will suit all schools in all provinces will be almost impossible. Saturdays during the first term are filled with cricket, netball and athletics. It is especially the primary schools players that struggle.

A lot of players will miss out on the opportunity to qualify for the provincial tennis teams should this arrangement being enforced. I will always be a supporter of a closed provincial championship to select the team. The draw should take place on SportyHQ as well as the order of play and the results. Making use of mini-series and TSA tournament results will always exclude those who cannot afford or find it difficult to travel or participating in other events. Every year we select players for the SA Schools Team who do very well during the week but have poor rankings. This can only happen if the province allows for a system to include these players. This discussion will remain work in progress.

A way should also be found to inject more schools players into clubs. The idea of a Top Guns tournament for clubs consisting of juniors under 18 was mentioned at the TSA Board strategy session in Bloemfontein. This will not only have a positive influence on club tennis but will also provide more tennis for those individuals who attend schools with little or no tennis at all. This issue needs to be exploited rather sooner than later.

2019 Primary and High Schools Inter-Pro Tournaments

Gauteng Central dominated the TSA High Schools Inter-Provincial tournament which took place in Tshwane. Meanwhile the Western Cape came out tops at the Primary Schools event in Manguang. The top four positions in each age group category were as follows:

Under-13

1. Western Cape Disas
2. Western Cape Cavaliers
3. Gauteng Central
4. Free State

Under-15

1. Gauteng Central
2. KZN
3. Gauteng North
4. Western Cape Disas

Under-19

1. Gauteng Central
2. Gauteng North
3. Free State
4. KZN.



The national schools teams – selected at the end of the respective events – were as follows:

Under-13:

Boys: Carl Hans Arendt, Liam du Toit, Connor Doig, Boitsepho Maake, Pieter Kotze, Leo Matthysen, Ben Scholtz, Imaad Taliep

Girls: Danielle Chapman, Celina Joseph, Louise Janse van Rensburg, Hanmare Mc Aslin, Kaitlyn Ramduth, Nina Schimper, Jani Steyn, Rebecca Widan

Under-15:

Boys: Daniel Crowie, Calum Jestin, Yarona Morule, Benjamin Macfarlane, Lwazi Ngwenya, Anro Nel, Brandon Rieseberg, Wian Roothman, Joseph Townes, Jandre Viljoen

Girls: Amahle Fihela, Nadia Gouws, Erin Mckenzie, Lilitha Ndungane, Mikayla Plitt, Makhosazana Stewart, Hailey Troup, Marjuzel Venter, Wilmien Vos, Anna Wise

Under-17

Boys: Haveshan Chetty, Alexander Edley, Louis Grobbelaar, Kyler Hugo, Hamza Kana, Albert Kirsten, Moeteledi Monnakgotla, Rynhard Roothman, Jason Schimper, S.P. Viljoen

Girls: Carle Botha, Elanie Brand, Thobeka Hlongwane, Kiara Mackay, Sarah Millard, Amukelani Mokane, Nerine Vd Walt, Isabella Venter, Simanye Wakashe, Lydia Wilsenach

Under-19

Boys: Alec Beckley, Kianu Jonker, Luan Krige, Sam Mcquirk, Lesego Mokgoetsi, Erich Sullwald, Duther Theron, Jordan Theron, Sashen Thirboan, Chrisjan Van Wyk, Louis Vd Westhuizen

Girls: Maretha Burger, Ane De Waal, Carmen Fichardt, Mbali Langa, Tanika Panaino, Isabella Sereo, Linge Steenkamp, Maud Tsaura, Mieke Van Deventer, Storm Veenstra.

Juniors and tournaments

“Growthpoint’s investment in the junior tournament circuit is definitely having a great impact. With the level of the event experience improving significantly.”

Junior Membership

It is very encouraging to see growth in junior participation with close to 2000 new members registering with TSA in the year in review. Eden and Cradock are two areas which are showing especially pleasing growth. Critically the number of black players participating in tournaments continues to rise year on year. Meanwhile, Growthpoint’s investment in the junior tournament circuit is definitely having a great impact, with the level of the event experience improving significantly.



2018 Growthpoint Junior Masters

The 2018 Growthpoint Junior Masters event was held in Potchefstroom for the second time, the tournament was played with all age groups having 8 players in a section which were divided into 2 groups of 4 with the winners of each group advancing to the Semi Finals.

Singles – Finals:

Boys

Under 12

Jordan Georgiev (GC) bt Guy Vorwerk (KZN) 6-1 6-3

Under 14

Devin Badenhorst (GN) bt Rohan Loubser (WP) 6-2 6-3

Under 16

Khololwam Montsi (WP) bt Dylan Salton (GE) 6-2 6-0

Under 18

Christiaan Worst (GN) bt Charl Morgan (GC) 6-4 6-3

Girls

Under 12

Jani Steyn (BOL) bt Kaitlyn Ramduth (KZN) 6-2 6-2

Under 14

Heike Janse Van Vuuren (Eden) bt Leigh Van Zyl (BOL) 6-3 6-4

Under 16

Megan Basson (GE) bt Rochelle Pienaar (BOL) 6-3 6-1

Under 18

Tamsin Hart (GC) bt Lungile Ntuli (WP) 6-1 6-1.



TSA Junior Awards

Philip Henning was the big winner at the TSA Junior Awards that took place on the final evening of the 2018 Growthpoint Masters. Philip won three awards - the Boys Player of the Year award, the Players Player award and the President's award.

The Boys Player of the Year award was in recognition for his outstanding 2018 - which has seen him win the African Junior Championships, participate in all four Junior Grand Slams, as well as the Youth Olympics.

The players player award was voted for by the players who participated in the Masters event and recognised Philip as the junior player most respected by his/her peers. Meanwhile the President's award was made to Philip, by TSA President, Gavin Crookes, in recognition of his outstanding junior tennis career.

Other winners on the night - included:

- Delien Kleinhans - Girls Player of the Year
- Tebogo Maleke - Official of the year Award
- Christiaan Worst - Fair Play Award
- Malala Geoph Ledwaba - Parent of the year Award

The evening also served as the official prize giving for the 2018 Growthpoint Junior Masters, as well as recognition of the Growthpoint Super 8 Series winners.

2019 Growthpoint Junior Nationals

The Growthpoint Junior Nationals 2019 had 631 entries in total. The tournament draws for the U12 Boys and Girls was 64 main draw & 32 Qualifying, the U16 & U18 Draws both the main draw and the Qualifying draws were 32 draws. The mixed doubles scoring format was changed to Tie Break shoot outs.



2019 Junior Nationals singles winners.

Final Results -

Singles:

Boys:

Under-18: 3-Joubert Klopper (FS) bt Pierre Malan (WP) 6-1 3-0 (Retired)

Under-16: 3-Carl Roothman (BOL) bt 8-Devin Badenhorst (GN) 4-6 6-2 6-2

Under-14: 10-Leonardo Sola (BOL) bt Guy Vorwerk (KZN) 6-3 6-2

Under-12: 4-Pieter Kotze (BOL) bt 1-Ben Scholtz (FS) 6-1 6-4

Girls:

Under-18: Delien Kleinhans (FS) bt 4-Tamsin Hart (GC) 6-1 6-1

Under-16: 2-Leigh Van Zyl (BOL) bt Sarah Millard (GC) 3-6 6-4 7-5

Under-14: 5-Carle Botha (GN) bt 7-Erin McKenzie (GE) 6-1 7-5

Under-12: Korona Rugara (GC) bt 2-Danielle Chapman (GE) 4-6 6-2 6-2.

Doubles:

Boys:

Under-18: 1-Alec Beckley/ Joubert Klopper (GC) bt Robbie Arends/ Luan Krige (WP) 6-4 6-4

Under-16: Daniel Crowie/ Rohan Loubser (GC) bt Devin Badenhorst/ James Edley (KZN) 7-5 3-6 10-6

Under-14: 2-John Coetzee/ Franswillem Van der Merwe (BOL) bt 1-Leo Matthysen/Guy Vorwerk (WP) 7-5 6-3

Under-12: 1-Gareth Igesund/ Pieter Kotze (WP) bt 2-Willem De Waal/ Ben Scholtz (BOL) 6-1 6-7(5) 10-7

Girls:

Under-18: 3-Tamsin Hart/Delien Kleinhans (FS) bt 4-Maretha Burger/Makayla Loubser (WP) 6-2 7-6(3)

Under-16: 1-Christine Kruger/Ine Lamprecht (GN) bt 2-Heike Janse van Vuuren/Leigh Van Zyl (EDEN) 7-5 6-4

Under-14: 1-Mikayla Faure/ Anna Wise (KZN) bt 4-Carle Botha/MariLouise Van Zyl (NW) 4-6 6-2 12-10

Under-12: Korona Rugara/Amelie Van Zyl (GC) bt 2-Ansone Theron/ Rune Van Wyk 6-0 6-4.

Growthpoint Top Guns 2018/2019

2018 saw the return of the Growthpoint Top Guns National Club Championships. The concept was again well received with all Provinces participating. The significant change from the 2017 competition was the introduction of a regional B Division which allowed both league and social members to enjoy the benefit of the event.



Kovsies in action at the 2019 Growthpoint Top Guns Final.

The total number of teams increased, although this is largely due to the B Division being introduced in year two. Further growth can be monitored in 2019 when both divisions are re-introduced.

The National final was held at Sun City in February 2019. The event was a great success and enjoyed by all the players, with a lot of positive feedback being received. The depth in the teams was noticeable as this year there were two new teams in the final, playing off for the overall title. The winning club for 2018/2019 event was Marks Park from Gauteng Central, with Kovsies from Free State finishing as runners-up.

Officiating and new formats

“The Digicall Futures again provided an opportunity for local officials to maintain ITF qualifications and for some local officials to gain crucial experience.”

Disciplinary Matters

There were a couple of incidents that took place during the year which were acted upon. Two parents were suspended - for 8 months and 18 months respectively. Meanwhile an U16 player was also suspended for 6 months. In addition, all of the guilty parties were also awarded suspended sentences, during which time if any further incidents involving the Code of Conduct, should occur, following the suspension period, then the individual would be suspended further and possibly have to attend another disciplinary hearing

The TSA Code of Conduct was also amended to cover taking pictures of participants and a Code of Ethics section for Parents. In addition, TSA also embarked on improving the current Code of Conduct to also ensure that all areas of tennis are included and covered within the Code of Conduct.

TSA is regularly informed by the Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) of incidents and suspensions/life bans being imposed by the ITF on a global basis. Fortunately, there were no incidents that took place during the 2018 Futures in Stellenbosch. However, it is important that our players are made aware of the TIU matters in order to help them and to advise them of what to do if they are approached or receive “Hate speech” on social media following a match at a Professional event (World Tennis Tour).

Officiating

TSA's officiating department had another encouraging year. The credibility of the officials is always questioned, in terms of rule knowledge, correct interpretation and application. It is unfortunate that in many cases where the officials are correct that those questioning the rules are not always aware of the correct application and interpretation of the rule.

TSA Level 1 Officiating Courses were held in the following Provinces:

- Kwa Zulu Natal
- Western Province
- Eastern Province
- Free State
- Gauteng
- Mpumalanga.

South Africa was also represented at the following major international events:

- **Wimbledon 2018:** Iain Smith - Review Official, Tebogo Maleke, Glen Campbell and Clement Prins (Qualifying)
- **US Open 2018:** Iain Smith – Review Official and Referee for Wheelchair event
- **Australian Open 2019:** Iain Smith - Review Official.

Tebogo Maleke was selected to officiate at various Australian events leading up to

the Australian Open to gain experience as a chair umpire and line umpire. Tebogo Maleke was also the recipient of an ITF exchange opportunity, where he travelled to Doha to work at two World Tennis Tour Events as a chair umpire. Mxolisi Matyolo, Silver Badge Referee officiated at a number of World Tennis Tour Events within the region (Uganda, Zimbabwe, Mozambique).

The Digicall Futures again provided an opportunity for local officials to maintain ITF qualifications and for some local officials to gain crucial experience both as chair umpires and line umpires.

Beach Tennis

TSA enjoyed a successful year in the Beach Tennis Space. In addition to hosting a number of events, TSA secured KIA motors as a headline sponsor for beach tennis, for a 3-year period. The KIA investment in the format is significant.

The Rand Easter Show saw the first SA National's being held, where the men's and women's winners would combine to form Team SA at the ITF Beach Tennis World Championships. A total of 40 players participated for the initial event. South Africa presented our first ITF Beach Tennis Circuit in May when TSA partnered with the Arnold Classic for our inaugural international event, played on Alice Lane in Sandton. The 3-event circuit saw South Africa's gain experience by competing against International beach tennis players for the first time, in addition a number of clinics were held by the foreign players to help SA local players gain experience and to learn more about the basics of beach tennis.



Team SA in Moscow.

South Africa made its debut at the ITF Beach Tennis World Championships in Russia 27 Nations entered and South Africa was awarded a wild card based on our support to beach tennis and various initiatives held earlier. South Africa finished 18th and gained automatic acceptance into the 2019 competition and also finished as the top ranked African Nation. The team comprised of: Tucker Vorster, Ryan Brookshaw Frans Ledwaba, Helga Jeske, Bronwyn Davidson and Lorraine Morifi.

Following on from the KIA sponsorship, was the roll out of the KIA Summer Slam, the largest international circuit on the ITF Beach Tennis Calendar. 2018 saw the circuit played as follows: Cape St Francis - \$3,000, Buffalo Bay - \$3,000, Plettenberg Bay 1 - \$6,500 and Plettenberg Bay 2 - \$25,000.

A number of overseas players came to participate in the circuit, but what was impressive was the fact that 7 of the top 10 men's players on the world ranking competed in the KIA Summer Slam, with World No1, Nikita Burmakin participating. The ITF Beach Tennis Manager and ITF Beach Tennis Board member also attended the Plettenberg Bay 2 event and confirmed that this was one of the best events/circuits they have seen.

TSA launched a Beach Tennis App and has also secured permanent venues where regular beach tennis activities are taking place. The venues are:

- Cape St Francis / St Francis – Eastern Cape
- North Beach - Durban
- Pococks Indoor Action Venue – Fourways
- Tukkies – University of Pretoria
- Pretoria Country Club – Pretoria
- Clubview Tennis Club – Centurion
- Dainfern Golf Estate – Fourways
- Badplaas – Mpumalanga is also a new venue and invested R700,000 into upgrading their facility to have 6 beach tennis courts and clubhouse renovations.

South Africa has also submitted a bid to the ITF to host the 2020 ITF Beach Tennis World Team Championships.



The KIA Summer Slam hits Plett!

Seniors tennis

“Seniors and TSA will now work as one going forward.”

ITF Seniors World Championships

The 2018 ITF Seniors World Champs in Germany was held in Ulm/Neu-Ulm, Germany in August. South Africa selected 5 teams after Nationals, 2 Women's teams and 3 Men's teams. No W55+ team was selected this year.

The 2018 ITF Super Seniors World Champs took place in Umag, Croatia in September. Eight teams were selected after the CT Seniors tournament, including an 80+ men's and women's team. There were 133 teams from 29 nations participating in the event for players aged between 65 and 85. In the World Individual Champs, Petro Kruger received two gold medals and the World Title for both the WD70+ and the XD70+. Jackie Zylstra also took the World Title for the Women's WS 85+ and won a gold medal. Derek Lawer and Kathy Nevay both received bronze medals in the 80+ XD event.



The opening ceremony at the ITF Super Seniors World Champs.

In the 2018 ITF Young Seniors World Team Championships in Miami Beach, Florida, USA in October, our Women's 40+ and 45+ teams came 8th and 6th out of 16 respectively. The men's 40+ team also did well to come 11th out of 20. In the Individual Champs the Prinsloo twins, Lindi and Dedri, were defending their world title but lost narrowly in the finals of the WD40+ to win silver medals. Jackie Booth and Ohmar Fernandes were finalists in the WD45+ and won silver medals.

2018 Growthpoint Seniors Inter-Pros

The NSC decided to use a portion of the Growthpoint sponsorship for the three Interpros and for Nationals. The Growthpoint Seniors Inter-Provincial (50-60+) was hosted in the Boland for 250 participants. The Growthpoint Super Seniors IPT (65 – 75+) was held in Gauteng Central in May for 68 players.

The sponsorship money from Growthpoint allowed the host province to provide free tea, coffee and cake as well as goodie bags for all participants.

The Growthpoint Young Seniors Inter-provincial was hosted in Cape Town in September. Rain delays necessitated a shortened format to achieve results in all

events. The Growthpoint Regional Head in the Cape, David Stoll and his wife attended the prizegiving function at Kelvin Grove and presented the medals.



Inter-Pro team spirit!

TSA Seniors Ranked Provincial Tournaments

The Cape Town Seniors tournament was successfully run early in May and for the first time there were less problems with the way that results were reflected on SportyHQ, so this was a great step forward.

Dave Emslie, who is the newly appointed Chairperson of Eastern Province Seniors, successfully hosted his first seniors provincial tournament in Port Elizabeth early in June.

In the Gauteng North Seniors tournament in June our round robin draws were 100% correct on the SportyHQ system for the first time. The GN Seniors Committee obtained a substantial sponsorship for their tournament, which meant that each player received a R250 voucher to spend at a local sport shop and winners received prizemoney.

The Mpumalanga and KZN Seniors tournaments were held in July and August respectively and despite slightly reduced numbers, they were very successfully run. Jeremia Sithole refereed his first Seniors Tournament most efficiently.

The Boland and North West Seniors were both held from 21st to 24th Sept. The Boland numbers were negatively affected by the Young Seniors IPT being held there earlier in the month. The North West Committee agree that the courts at Schoonspruit in Klerksdorp are now unplayable. Any future tournaments will be held in Potchefstroom instead.

The Gauteng Central Seniors tournament was held at Marks Park from 8th to 11th November. The numbers were slightly up on last year. Requests were received to run this over two weekends going forward and the GC Seniors Committee have decided to do so in November 2019.

The 2018 Eden Seniors Tournament which is hosted in George every December boasted more entries than 2017. Johann Greyling Refereed the tournament for the first time and all went very smoothly.

Two of our biggest tournaments, the Cape Town Seniors and the Gauteng East Seniors, were hosted in January 2019. The numbers were up in both tournaments, which was very encouraging for the year ahead.

Growthpoint Senior Nationals

The SA Nationals ITF Seniors closed tournament was held in Bloemfontein in early March 2019. A number of players were treated for heat exhaustion as a result of the extreme heat. The casual function we hosted as a result of the requests received from players, was well attended. Dunlop sponsored the tennis balls.

Kloppers once again sponsored R100 vouchers for each of the players. Players were also given goodie bags. A break-in at the Free State Stadium resulted in a flood just before our tournament began which caused the floor tiles to lift. The plumbing had to be fixed urgently as the copper pipes were stolen. Johan Botha, Chairperson of Free State Seniors, and his Committee, once again worked extremely hard to host this tournament and there were many compliments received.



Key focus areas for Seniors

Key focus areas were identified at the TSA Staff workshop in May which included the finalization and implementation of our Seniors Transformation Strategy and the revision of key seniors events, with the focus on the Young Seniors (30-45+).

At a meeting held between Gavin Crookes, Riad Davids, Richard Glover, Bertie Conradie and Sharon van der Schyff to discuss Seniors Finances and Transformation, it was agreed that the ringfenced seniors money remain invested for now, but that it should be incorporated into the investment portfolio of TSA as a whole and should no longer be referred to as ringfenced money. It was also agreed at this meeting that a Seniors Transformation Task Team should be put together to consider the draft strategy at a Workshop early in 2019 to finalize the way forward.

A Seniors Transformation Workshop was subsequently held on 16th February and was very productive. A plan was drafted thereafter by Richard, Sharon and Mpho for presentation at the next Board Meeting. The plan was presented to the TSA Transformation Workshop held at the Junior Nationals and has subsequently been approved by the TSA Board.

2018 Seniors Annual Workshop

There were twenty-eight delegates hosted at Roedebeek School on Saturday 17th November. Delegates approved the 2019 calendar, the code of conduct addendum, the rule changes and the fees for 2019. The Seniors Subscription Fees were reduced from R250 to R200 with a view to eliminating them within three years. The fees for local Seniors tournaments remained the same at R420, Nationals was reduced to R600 with no player function. The inaugural Soweto Seniors tournament fee was set at R250 entry fee for the first year to attract local players. First-time players were not required to pay membership fees. The Senior Masters would be by invitation only and would cost the players R450. Interpros were kept at R700.

Richard Glover proposed the following:

- Seniors and TSA will now work as one going forward and together aim at achieving an increase in tournament participation, a reduction and eventual elimination of Seniors Subscriptions and a reduction in the financial burden of players representing their country.
- The focus would be on increasing numbers through transformation and through addressing the needs of the 30-45+ age group.
- TSA would continue subsidising Seniors annual losses and increasing sponsor revenue for Seniors. Through becoming more involved in the business side of Seniors, TSA will become more involved in decision-making on strategy, budgets and marketing. By working together as one organisation the culture of "them and us" would be dispelled.

It was decided that the 2018 NSC Committee would remain in office until after the Transformation Workshop being held on 16th February 2019. Andrew Comrie was presented with a Seniors Blazer and a Trophy at the Workshop on his retirement from the NSC for his years of invaluable service to tennis. The Seniors Memorandum of Operation would need to be reviewed and aligned with the Transformation Strategy once it was finalised. The new operational guidelines would also need to align with the new nine provinces.

DECISIONS TAKEN: The "Seniors Updates for 2019" would be sent to all players early in the year, highlighting the decisions taken at the Workshop and the fees approved for 2019. The finalization and implementation of our Seniors Transformation Strategy, the revision of key seniors events, with the focus on the Young Seniors (30-45+) would continue to be the main focus areas for 2019.

Three new tournaments would be added to the calendar, a Soweto Seniors Tournament at Arthur Ashe Stadium, an Ugu South Coast Seniors and a Senior Masters (30-45+) Tournament which will be run on the same lines as the Junior Masters. A 30-45+ Sub-committee was established to look at the changes necessary for that age group's events.

Wheelchair tennis

“The women and quads teams made history becoming the first African teams to reach the semi-final round at the world team cup in Israel in May 2019.”

Community Programmes

The main focus for the community programme over the past year has been to ensure continued activity at the centres and ensuring employment for the coaches as long as possible. Centre leagues were introduced so that a ranking list of players can be produced per centre. These results and lists were sent in, and regional events were arranged, so that we could choose regional teams for the Inter-Provincial event, which took place in June at Arthur Ashe Tennis Centre. A total of 12 teams of 4 players, a teacher and a coach were invited for the national competition.

National and Performance Programmes

The focus for the national and high-performance players has been to ensure that coaching, equipment and participation is covered and physio for the top players, in case of injuries.



Our wheelchair players have a proud international track-record.

To ensure we have the right focus toward the 2020 Paralympics, we had a meeting with the performance coaches, staff and players to determine their requirements for an ideal world, and priorities going forward. This was to ensure we can put the plans together for the players towards 2020. This meeting was held on May 25th, 2018.

We were also fortunate to have the ITF pay for 2 classifiers to come to South Africa to assess quads players – and have Donald Ramphadi added as a quad. He is very competitive and a very likely top 12 player (Paralympic Qualifier).

Ramphadi has since been classified impressed edging out some of the world's top 5 players and broke into the world's top 29 rankings. Lucas Sithole and KG Montjane have had their events covered by SASCOC, while Evans had the last tour sponsored by ESP Technologies in the USA. Mariska Venter has identified and confirmed sponsors for herself and is funding trips herself until August 2019.

Lucas was invited for a quad's exhibition match at Wimbledon in July 2018 which funded his trip to the UK Tour in July. He was paid an exhibition fee of 5 000 GBP. KG, following her impressive performance at Wimbledon last, she attracted several sponsors including Audi Polokwane, WDB, Makole Group and ASPEN Pharmaceuticals which has sustained her until now.

The rest of the performance players do not have funding to get them to key events to keep or improve their rankings. This is also made worse by the fact that we were not able to host events in 2018.

Outstanding performances

- Kgothatso Montjane became the first black African woman to play at Wimbledon in 2018 and reached the semi-final round.
- South African men's and women's team finished in top positions at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup Africa Qualifying in Kenya to book their spots in the World Team Cup in Israel.
- The women and quads teams made history becoming the first African teams to reach the semi-final round at the world team cup in Israel in May 2019. The quads team went further to clinch the bronze medal.

Events

Minimal events and activities have been planned as no sponsor has been confirmed but, in an attempt, to maintain competitiveness at the centres, we focused on center-based activities:

Date	Event	Funder
12/13 May 2018	Quad Classification Event	ITF
13 May 2018	Performance League (Gauteng)	Gauteng Academy
26 May 2018	Regional Competitions (Inter Pro Qualification for June Event)	Netcare
28 May – 4 June 2018	World Team Cup (Quads)	SASCOC
22, 23 June 2018	Netcare Inter-Provincial	Netcare
23 June 2018	Performance Camp	WTSA
29 September – 1 October 2018	Cruyff Junior Camp for Africa	ITF
14-17 February 2019	BNP Paribas World Team Cup Africa Qualification (Women and men's teams)	SASCOC
02 March 2019	Limpopo 1-day Tournament	Limpopo Sports Department



Commercial partners

Tennis South Africa would like to express its gratitude to its commercial partners for making many of the new programmes and initiatives – launched in the past 24 months – possible. Our current partners are as follows:



Partner	Partnership focus
Growthpoint Properties	Junior tennis, Seniors (veterans) tennis, Transformation and development and the National Club Championships
BNP Paribas and RCS	Rising Star Tennis and the Coaches Mentorship Programme.
KIA Motors	Davis Cup and Beach Tennis.
Wiphold	Women's Tennis in South Africa.
Tsogo Sun	Official hotel partner.
Dunlop	Official ball for selected events and the TSA development centres.
Vodacom	Davis Cup and Beach Tennis.
Lotto Sport Italia	Official apparel partner for all of our national teams.
Vision Video Productions	The Spring Open – an ITF World Tennis Tour combined (able bodied and wheelchair tennis) event.

