



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2020/2021





## MISSION

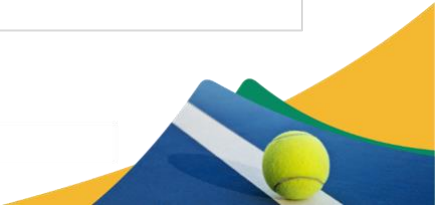
• To see someone playing tennis, somewhere every day.

• 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.

• Transparency  
• Personal Accountability  
• Sportsmanship

## VISION

## VALUES



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**This report covers the period  
from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**



**Raven Klaasen in action at the ATP Challenger event in Potchefstroom.**



# The year in review

The President's  
Annual Report.

## INTRODUCTION



The writing of my annual President's Report always brings on many mixed emotions and thoughts. Pride, introspection and retrospection, humility, joy and sadness being probably the most dominant of these for me. It is also a time for me, as President, to take a breath, take a rare moment to lean back in my chair in my office, and reflect on our Federation, and indeed our wonderful country, and the state of tennis in South Africa.

Last month, July 2021, must rank, as one of the lowest points in our new democratic South Africa's life. I believe it has caused most South Africans to reflect and soul search as to how, why, and "what went wrong?". One of my sugar industry leader colleagues, Phil Nkosi, wrote to the community in which I live as follows: "As we reflect on the past two weeks, I am reminded of a quote by Thomas Carlyle who wrote: "Our grand business undoubtedly, is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to DO what lies clearly at hand."

The practical implications of this statement mean that we cannot allow ourselves to be paralyzed by our past, as we cannot change it. So too, we cannot allow ourselves to be crippled by our future as we cannot control it. We must let go of "dead yesterdays" and 'unborn tomorrows" placing our focus fully on the work of today. I also came across a Mother Teresa's quote: "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We only have today. Let us begin."

As I reflected on both these statements, I came to the realization that the quotes and Phil's statement appropriately apply to us at Tennis South Africa, and indeed to all of us as South Africans. We need to learn from our mistakes and control what we can control. We at Tennis South Africa have, notwithstanding the devastating effects of the necessary Covid-19 Lockdown Levels, the cancellation and postponement of



tournaments, and the suspension of coaching activities, focused on what we can control and manage. Many of the necessary measures and protocols we as a Federation took and implemented respectively were (and are still) unpopular. However, we as a Federation, both locally and as a tennis federation in the international community, have emerged stronger and wiser from the experience.

In as much as the pandemic curtailed our visible activities this past year, much quality time has been spent on improving our systems and fine tuning our future operational plans. Research has showed that many more people have taken to playing tennis – mainly on private or disused club courts. As a non-contact sport, tennis has been one of sport types to recommence sooner in schools and communities. Pleasingly, this has seen increasing numbers players joining Development Hubs and Clubs through-out the various Provinces. Tennis South Africa has been hard pressed to manage its resources to help and provide opportunities for disadvantaged communities to participate in tennis. This greater participation has seen more children entering our tournaments which is fantastic. Hopefully the talent will come through and we will have a depth of professional high-performance role model players emerging in the not-too-distant future.

As I consider the highlights of this past year, we need to recognize the achievements of Lloyd Harris and his break-through at ATP Tour Events, Raven Kaasen's ongoing successes in doubles on the ATP Tour, Kgothatso Montjane doing us proud at the 2021 Wimbledon event, Kholo Montsi ending his junior career being ranked as number 13 in the world as an International Tennis Federation Junior, our ongoing 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.

I am delighted to share that all our valued sponsors have remained loyal to us this past year. A number have them renewed and increased their patronage. Furthermore, we have had the South African Broadcasting Corporation come on board from June 2021 which will further raise our profile in the public eye. Sponsorship support, particularly bearing in mind the headwinds many of them have had in their respective

### Tennis in numbers – recent highlights:

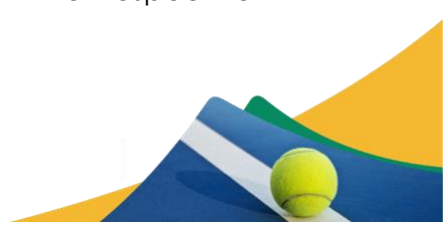
**795** – the number of schools that have participated in year 2 of BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis. Up from 365 in year 1.

**39%** - the percentage of schools from historically disadvantaged communities (out of total participants) who have participated in year 2 of BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis.

**14** – the number of players from our Growthpoint Centres who qualified for the 2021 Junior Nationals. Let's look to double this number every year!

**17%** - the increase in entries for the Growthpoint Top Guns 2020/21 national club champs (versus 2019/2020).

**68%** - the mentorship programme graduates from year 3 that coach for two or more days a week after leaving the programme.



businesses during these challenging times, has been critical to the survival of our Federation and sport. Without doubt this support and loyalty has been because they know we are delivering, exceeding expectations and, most importantly, affirms their trust in our ability to deliver. It is also important to acknowledge the support the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture has afforded our Federation in the form of the various grants they have disbursed to us. This support from sponsors and government has allowed Tennis South Africa to continue supporting its various Tournaments at all levels, continue the financial support we give our international high-performance players (able and wheelchair), support our Developments Centres situated around the country and build on the coaching mentoring program that continues to produce pleasing results.

Allied to the above, and most importantly, we continue to see our registered membership of both players and coaches increase. Four years ago, this number had dropped below ten thousand, now this number is closer to thirty thousand. Our registered coaches' numbers have seemingly stabilized at around seven hundred, which is pleasing considering the operating environment they have endured this past year.



We must also acknowledge some of our disappointments this past year. Our BJK (formerly Fed Cup) Ladies Team sadly did not gain promotion this past year. We also continue to reflect on the challenges of broadening our visibility and intervention into rural areas. This is changing though, as there are exciting glimmerings of opportunities emerging from the smaller Provinces. It is fair to say though, that all these challenges are either capable of or are being addressed – they are all “a work in progress” 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, that are covered at the start of this report. Taking account of the environment that we have operated within this past year I believe that we at Tennis South Africa continue to make significant progress towards

both adhering and living up to our statement. That said, we continue to evaluate, measure and challenge our performances in all areas with the ultimate goals of both being a leading sporting code in South Africa and tennis nation in the world.

## THREE YEAR STRATEGY

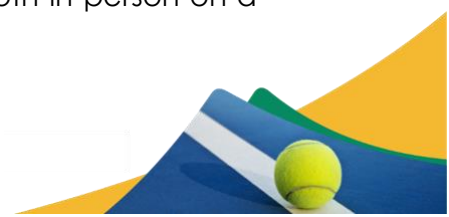
Just over two years ago, those available Board Members convened in Bloemfontein for a strategy workshop. I refresh everyone of what came out of this workshop. In summary the following table sets out our priorities for the next three years.

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

We have, in my opinion, either achieved or made significant progress in eight of our priorities, have a “work-in-progress” in one and find the tenth (South African University partnership) stalled mainly because of the pandemic. Early next year the Board will reconvene with the purpose of setting out its next three-year plan.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your Board met three times during the past year. Your Board is a unitary body consisting of both elected (nine) and co-opted (six) members. Four of the co-opted members are Special Interest Group appointments representing – seniors, coaches, wheelchair tennis and schools. The remaining two co-opted Board Members bring important special 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. 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 (mostly virtual this past year) 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 previously, a Code of Ethics (Board Charter) for Board Members was being drawn up and prepared for consideration by the Board. This document has now been completed and has been adopted by the Board. This Charter incorporates all the requirements contained in the King IV recommendations, plus a number of additional points specific to Tennis South Africa's needs. This document will shortly be available for viewing on the Tennis South Africa website. 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.

Sadly, in May 2021 we lost Shaun Liebenberg, as a board member, when he succumbed to leukaemia. Shaun was everything one would expect and want in a non-executive Board Member – experienced, astute, passionate, objective, enquiring and challenging. Shaun ably led the taskforce that was constituted to develop the Selection Criteria Framework (SCF) for junior International Team selection and which policy document is used to this day by our selectors. Shaun also served on the important Management Committee of Tennis South Africa where his sound business acumen and extensive experience in business leadership were freely given and shared.



In September 2020 Muditambi Ravele resigned as the Special Interest Group Member for Wheelchair Tennis and was replaced by Ms. Bellina Matshedisho. During the month of March 2021 Bertie Conradie resigned as the Special Interest Board Member for Seniors tennis. Bertie was very instrumental in continuing to weld Seniors Tennis into Tennis South Africa, and in driving the greater transformation of seniors tennis. At the end of March 2021 Hubert Brody and John Seymour stepped down from the board as



chairpersons of the Risk and Ethics and Audit Committees respectively because of personal business commitments. As the leaders of these committees, these gentlemen "raised the bar" which in turn lifted the quality of governance and accountability within Tennis South Africa. I thank all these outgoing Board Members for their contribution and service.

## **TASKFORCES**

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 Committees, namely: High Performance, Women's Tennis, Constitutional and Gender Equality.

Person's 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.

It is reality though, to say that, save for the Constitutional Taskforce, the majority of these Taskforces were not particularly active during the past year because of the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic. Once one returns to some form of normality the intention is to re-invigorate these committees – add new blood and expect new ideas and proposals.

## **STAFFING**

Our staff, under the able leadership of Richard Glover our Chief Executive Officer, is a happy and motivated team – albeit, as always, overworked. All of them work long hours way and beyond the call of duty. Due to Covid, Tennis South Africa adopted a "work-from-home policy" where possible so as to ensure the health of our staff. Virtual meetings became the order of the day and a semblance of routine emerged. The office continued to meet its operational requirements and service commitments to all our stakeholders, for which we are both thankful and proud.

In March 2021 Sharon van der Schyff resigned as the manager responsible for senior's tennis. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to her for her huge contribution in running the administrative side of this, at times, complex division of Tennis South Africa. Sharon's commitment went beyond that of just administration as it included being the tournament director of most Senior Inter-provincials and Growthpoint Tournaments held for seniors. In Sharon's stead we have welcomed Sarah Cubitt who has ensured a seamless changing of the guard that has resulted in no disruption to this important division of tennis.

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 Hubs has without doubt contributed significantly to the now ongoing success of these Hubs.

The CEO and MANCO continually assess the staffing needs of tennis – without doubt we remain under-capacitated. The Remunerations Committee decided to increase our staff's salaries with effect from 1 December 2020 so as to bring them in line industry norms. In line with Council's 2020 Annual General Meeting resolution, a Remuneration Committee Terms of Reference has been drawn up and adopted by the Board. My

sincere thanks to each and every one of our loyal staff for their individual and collective contributions to TSA this past year.

## PROVINCIAL TENNIS

The passing of our new constitution in 2018 has resulted in a number of challenges, mainly amongst those Provinces that have seen amalgamations from in certain instances, three former Provincial bodies into one. Tennis South Africa has allowed a certain level of space for these new structures to formalize constitutions, committees and address, in many instances, the lack of any tennis structures in the district. Other Provinces continue to face challenges in finding people to take ownership of tennis administration in predominantly the rural Districts where both capacity and distances are issues.

What remains generally apparent is that Provincial Tennis administration and the running of the business of tennis in certain provinces is a challenge in that it does not, in the main, meet the governance and capacity levels expected by Tennis South Africa, SASCOG and government. 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 this is sensitive and needs to be handled carefully. Tennis South Africa, whilst constitutionally has the right to intervene in a dysfunctional or challenged Province, would find itself severely challenged should it have to step into any Province. The current approach is to encourage the membership in such Province to take ownership of tennis at all times applying good governance, transparency and accountability. That said, the requirements of the Eminent Persons Group, SASCOG and government continually increase, and Tennis South Africa will have to have to shortly call all Provinces to account.



**Robin Baloyi: New Gauteng Tennis President.**



## **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 actually can 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 the case of the assistance in running the club affairs we have an easily accessible “toolbox” that is available on our website which includes instruction on how to use the Sporty HQ registration system that we rely on for membership and tournament registrations and entries. The software support was enhanced this past year to include being able to assist Club Committees with the running of various administrative functions. At the 2020 Annual General Meeting Council unanimously approved the policy that with effect from the 1 July 2021 all Clubs should be registered on the Sporty HQ IT System and that all registration and membership were to be paid through this system. Frustratingly many Clubs have not enforced this policy, and this is problematic particularly when challenging the integrity of our database. We will look to see how best to engage and encourage this situation to improve.

Many Clubs and tennis facilities have benefitted from greater participation of people wanting to and actually playing tennis during the pandemic. Tennis is a non-contact sport and, through our CEO's engagement with SASCOC and government, was able to ensure that our sport type was one of the first sport to resume, initially socially and for coaching, and then competitively.

## **BEACH TENNIS**

Sadly, Beach Tennis has been severely disrupted by the Covid pandemic this past year. However there remains a core of players who has continued to keep their skill levels at international levels. A number of Clubs have taken the opportunity to build Beach Courts around the country and this hopefully will encourage greater participation. With the international travel bans in place we have had no alternative but to cancel all our internationally planned events and team travels. That said, in late May 2021, we hosted the ITF/CAT sub-Saharan Beach Tennis Event, which our Tennis South Africa team dominated convincingly.

## **WHEELCHAIR TENNIS**

Like Beach Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis has been negatively affected by the Covid Pandemic. However, to our professional players credit, they have soldiered on in difficult circumstances and with as much support as possible from the Tennis South Africa offices. That said as 2021 dawned and limited international travel started, our players have started travelling. I have already highlighted Kgothatso Montjane's achievements at Wimbledon in July this year.

Sponsorship remains a challenge for all disabled sport types in the country. Our financial position has allowed us to provide a level of support and resultant sustainability. The lack of tournaments, and resultant visibility of successful players, has curtailed our ability to engage successfully with potential sponsors. Our hopes and expectations are that as restrictions continue to be relaxed, we will be able to market the success of our players and programs in this area – all of which are world standard and the envy of many countries.



## 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 sixth consecutive year we have passed this 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.

The Tennis South Africa Board and Office have now embarked on a process that will hopefully result in our Coaching structure and programs achieving Gold Status. There are only eighteen countries in the world that have this accreditation status, none being in South Africa.

Of special mention is the coaching mentorship program that Tennis South Africa is running with the aid of the BNP Paribas funding. This past year some eighty-even people, mainly from Previously Disadvantaged Person's groups were enrolled in this program with ground-breaking success. Such has been the success 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 extended their support for a further year. This current year we have one hundred and seven prospective coaches enrolled in the program, of which fifty-five are women.



## **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 surplus, it should be remembered we come off a prior year loss, which was due to the impact of COVID-19. We adopt a very conservative accounting policy in the preparation of these Annual Financial Statements which the Board considers prudent for our Federation. The post financial year-end position remains solid. Like all Sporting Federations face, the current situation we find ourselves operating within is unpredictable and dynamic. Your Board and CEO continue to be careful with all expenditure and are cautiously managing our finances.

This cautiousness and prudent management have resulted in us having "money in the bank" which has certainly stood us in good stead over the pandemic. 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 continue 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, as you know, has been an area that has not been tapped in any way by the Federation. This opportunity area continues to be explored for exploitation.

## **DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION**

One of the benefits that have come out of the Covid-19 pandemic is the significant improved relationship between Tennis South Africa and the Department. Richard Glover has developed and nurtured this relationship, not only for the benefit of tennis, but for sport in general. Richard has been part of a SASCOC task-team that actively lobbied and helped the Department with the setting of the protocols for the different sport types. Furthermore, we received significant support from government in the form of grants to assist coaches and players during these low-income months. Many of us are quick to point fingers at government. By working together, it is being clearly shown that we can solve challenges and work for the betterment of society generally.

## **CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN TENNIS**

Tennis South Africa is a member of the African mother 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).

Activities have been seriously curtailed by the pandemic restrictions, not helped by the fact that there have not been standard protocols in place across the continent. The majority of inter-African Country events were cancelled last year, and then, because of the lack of consistency, and our assessment that we would be putting our players at significant risk by participating in the various Junior Championships, we withdrew our teams from the tournaments held so far this year.

We continue to try and 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 now that the facility in Kenya has closed. 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. Tennis in many countries in Africa has all but collapsed, and South Africa is ideally positioned and able to assist.



**WTA Future Stars winners: Donna le Roux & Liliitha Ndungane.**

## **INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION**

We remain a committed and active member of the world's mother body of tennis (we are one of its founder members). This organization continues to reassess its position in the world of tennis – the challenges of trying to lead, guide, assist and manage tennis across the world have been massive. A huge proportion of the staff have been furloughed with operations being and capacity being focused on ensuring the organizations continuity and financial security. Significant amounts of help, both financial and human, have been given to those nations most in need. David Haggerty, the Board and Kelly Fairweather are to be congratulated and complimented on their leadership during these challenging times.

Riad Davids and I continue to serve on the Junior Committee and Davis/Billie Jean King Taskforce – we can only emphasize the challenges faced with trying to schedule events amongst the different nation's lockdown protocols. In addition, there have been significant changes to the entry level professional tennis tournaments and related ranking tables this past year.

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. David Haggerty, Kelly Fairweather and their executive staff team have been very supportive of not only me, Riad and Richard, but also of all the advances we continually are making here at home. Tennis South Africa has unquestionably benefitted immeasurably in terms of additional funding, recognition and status from



our numerous engagements, the networking, 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.

## **SASCOC**

I would be amiss in not reporting on Tennis South Africa's relationship with this body this past year. The sad and disappointing events around the nomination of Muditambi Ravele for the position of President of SASCOC were played out in the public domain and the results known.

Over the years of my involvement in tennis, I have not been complimentary of SASCOC and in particular the leadership and its management of Sport in South Africa. Indeed, the management, assistance given to high-performance athletes and the general governance of the organization has been severely challenged. Some of the "proof in the pudding" so to say has been the number of medals our athletes have received in Japan earlier this month.

Riad and I took the decision around the SASCOC elections last year that there is little value in "throwing mud" and to rather offer our help and become involved. The first step was to make sure that the selection criteria for athletes to compete in the Olympics was not exclusionary and the second was to ensure that the best people were elected to the Board of SASCOC. We believe that these, in the main, were achieved. Various Tennis South Africa Board Members, myself, Riad Davids, Gugu Ntuli and Allan Karam made themselves available to serve on various Committees of SASCOC, which is beginning to show positive results for the organization.

The process of rehabilitating the organization will be painful and not without challenges. However, I am confident that with the right leadership and the support of the membership we can collectively restore SASCOC to its rightful position as our independent sporting organization.

## **PROSPECTS FOR 2021/22**

I have already covered the point relating to our overall financial position. Already our post financial year-end cash reserves remain solid as sponsorship monies flow in, and increased membership numbers are realized. Our goal of not being dependent on government and National Lottery funding is close to being achieved. Our view has always been to achieve a position where these sources of funding are but one of our income streams, not our only income. We are at that point. That said the Board of Tennis South Africa (including our CEO) is continually assessing and evaluating opportunities to improve revenues. Tennis South Africa is committed to both building and being a self-sustaining business. The Board of Tennis South Africa will continue on its strategy of:-

- reassessing what its stakeholders want and 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 at maximum efficiencies and capacity;



- actively seeking sponsorships with potential stakeholders who wish to see the game of tennis prosper at all levels.

Earlier in this report I shared our strategy imperatives with you. Amongst these was the determination to host more international events. Despite the pandemic we have hosted a number of International Events earlier this year. The latter part of 2021 is looking particularly exciting with five Junior ITF Events scheduled (including the David Samaai Junior Open Grade An Event), and three weeks of combined ITF \$25,000 events for men and women taking place in the country. At this time, we are also planning on hosting further two weeks of \$15,000 events for men and women in the Western Cape in December.

We have also entered into an agreement with Sim Tours and the Rafael Nadal Academy to hold camps in the Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and potentially Gauteng over December and January. This will allow players of all ages to experience top-level overseas coaching techniques and methods. A number of our coaches will be part of these programs and will receive mentoring.



Thrown into the mix is our upcoming Davis Cup Tie against Venezuela the middle weekend of September which we are playing at the Westside Club, Forrest Hills, Long Island, United States. Should we win this Tie we will then be in the mix to gain promotion in 2022 to the World Group Level 1 section of the Davis Cup.

Transformation and development in our game is non-negotiable. The TSA Transformation Charter is available on our website. Our Transformation and Development Committee continues to do sterling work. We managed to pass our EPG Report requirements once again, but it has to be said that the commitment from Provinces remains weak. 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 SASCOC depends on this.

The 2021 has been busier than last year – as so it should after the Lockdown Level 5. As I have mentioned we have already hosted a number of ATP and ITF Events, Junior



ITF Events, and participated in the Euro/Africa Group 2 Billie Jean King Cup Event in Latvia. The remainder of the year, as said, will include the Davis Cup Tie against Venezuela, the Junior ITFs and Grade A Event in Cape Town, and the Transition Tour and Futures Events in December. It remains our commitment to continue seeing the level of tennis activity returning to normality and participation growing.

I cannot conclude this section without once again acknowledging Lloyd Harris's, Raven Kaasen's, Kevin Anderson's (he recently won the ATP 250 at Newport) and Kgothatso Montjane's exploits on the world stage this year. Their successes once underscore the necessity to have and what it 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 helped elevate.

Finally, an exciting new development is the implementation of the Rainbow Kidz program. This program offers fun dynamic games, training and match play for kids aged 4 – 10. This will expose, particularly primary school children to tennis, and will hopefully ensure a steady flow of future tennis players into the system.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Richard Glover has informed the Board that he does not intend to extend his tenure as our Chief Executive Officer past the end of 2021. He feels that this is the natural end of his leadership cycle and that he is ready for a new challenge. We are clearly very sad to see Richard leave – he played a key role in the growth of tennis in South Africa over the past five years. A process is already in place that will see a suitable replacement for Richard. We expect that, with our growing profile, we will have a number of high-quality candidates emerge from the recruitment process.

I would be amiss in not amplifying Richard's contribution to tennis in South Africa. Apart from becoming the face of tennis in the country, he has provided a new level of operational strategic leadership and trust to our business never experienced before. I came across a quote by Cynthia Dick a couple of days ago – *"We take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude"*. I believe this very much applies to Richard – we as the membership have taken Richard for granted in that in his selfless, self-effacing manner he has quietly, and efficiency got on with the business of tennis to all of our benefit. I have never heard Richard complain – he is significantly more tolerant than me. Desmond Tutu's quote: *"Do your little bit of good where you are: it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world"*. Tennis is in a significantly better place for Richard's contribution. He will be successful in whatever career or path he decides to take. Thank you, Richard, from us all. *Uhambe Kahle*.

## CONCLUSION

I always 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 continue making significant progress in all 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 is attributable to team-work. 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 Vice-President Riad Davids for his loyal support and guidance. Likewise, the members of the Management Committee, Geoff Whyte, and Shaun Liebenberg before his passing. Their willingness to give of their time, offer advice and participate irrespective of the time of day or week on a totally voluntary basis is greatly appreciated. It has been incredibly invigorating and stimulating working with you as a team.

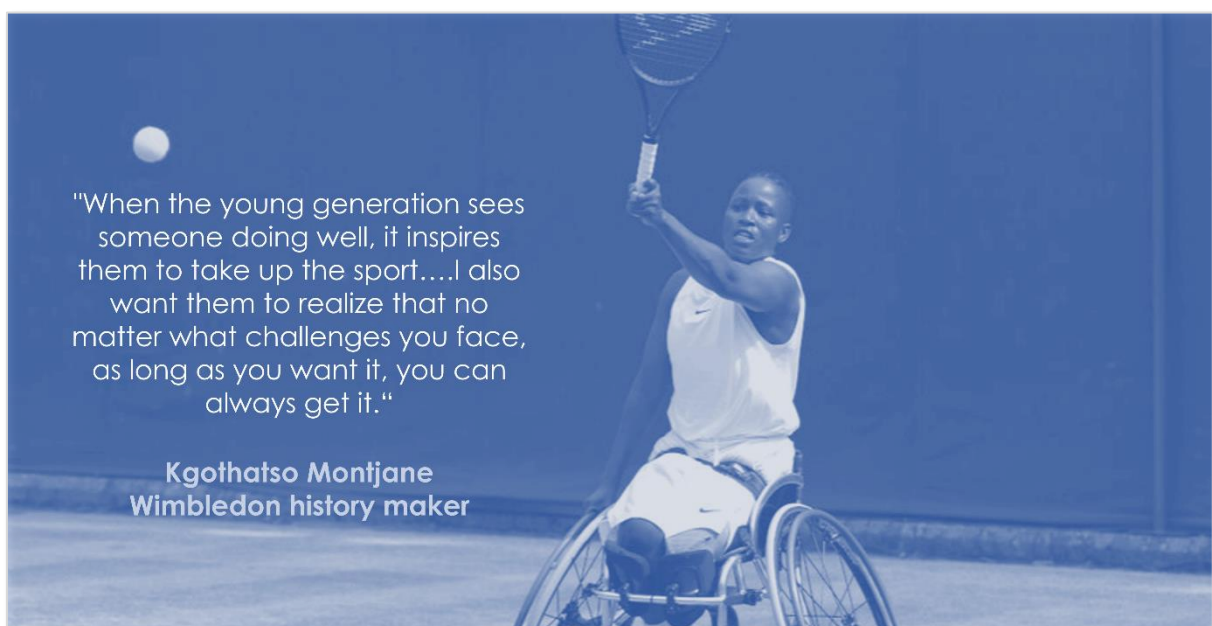
I thank the Board, of which I am one part, for their individual and collective enthusiasm, passion and determination to strategically guide our organization to better levels. Interactions and meetings are informative, robust and invigorating. The past year has not been easy. Virtual meetings are not the ideal way to build a sense of unity and *esprit de corps*. At times most of us are left feeling that we're "flying solo" and are not able to contribute in the appropriate or preferred manner. However, of one thing I am certain, we have all been passionate about the game and business of tennis. This Board's term of office comes to an end at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. Some are standing for re-election, others not. Irrespective, I thank each of you for your service and commitment to tennis. As said earlier you serve voluntarily without remuneration, or the expectation thereof.

Winston Churchill is quoted as saying "*The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity, The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty*". These past eighteen months have been difficult and challenging. We have seen and taken the opportunities. Tennis is in good hands, and we are guiding her down the right road. The future looks good.

It once again has been an honour and privilege to serve as President of Tennis South Africa.

Thank you.

**Gavin Crookes.**  
**President of Tennis South Africa.**





**SA Billie-Jean Cup Captain: Roxanne Clarke.**



# Financial analysis

Of the 2020/2021  
financial year.

## INTRODUCTION



Summary for the year ended 31 March 2021 (all figures in rands):

	2021	2020
<b>Revenue</b>	25,532,613	35,460,217
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	(23,582,556)	(36,863,223)
<b>Operating Profit (Loss)</b>	1,950,057	(1,403,006)
<b>Investment Revenue</b>	24,657	74,514
<b>Fair Value Adjustments</b>	17,816	3,722
<b>Profit (Loss) For The Year</b>	1,992,530	(1,324,770)

Please note that 2020/21 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 recognizing 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. Furthermore, TSA has been severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic as many local and International Tennis events did not take place which in turn resulted in a reduced investment being made across all cost centres during the 2020/21 financial year.

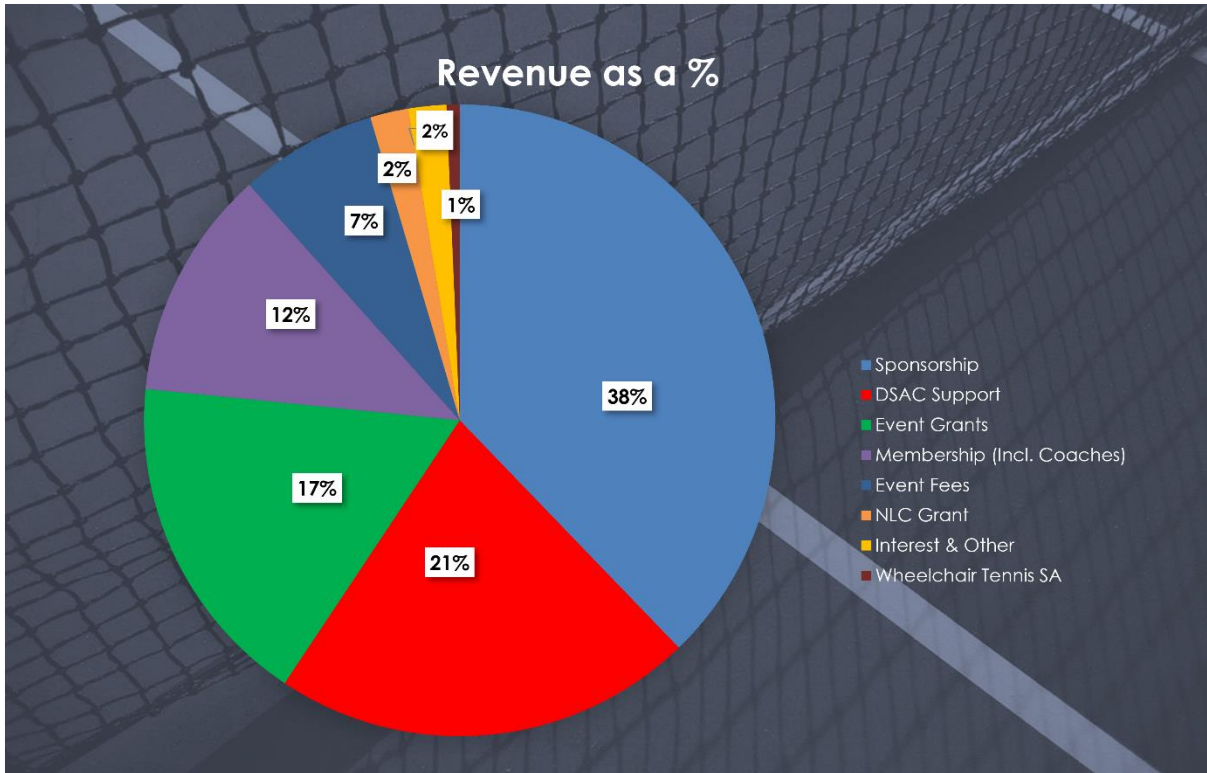
These include:

- Cancellation of several international and local events.
- Cancellation of the national schools Inter-Pro.
- No Davis Cup ties, or Billie Jean Cup weeks played during the financial year.



As a result, the 2020/2021 financial year saw a significant change in both income and expenses in comparison to the previous year. However, with the support from our sponsors and a significant larger grant received from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, accompanied by many cost cutting initiatives across all areas of the sport, have resulted in achieving a surplus for the 2020/21 financial year. As tennis learns to live with COVID-19 we envisage in seeing a return of many international events in South Africa, as well as team SA's participation in both the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King events in 2021 and beyond.

## ANALYSIS OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES



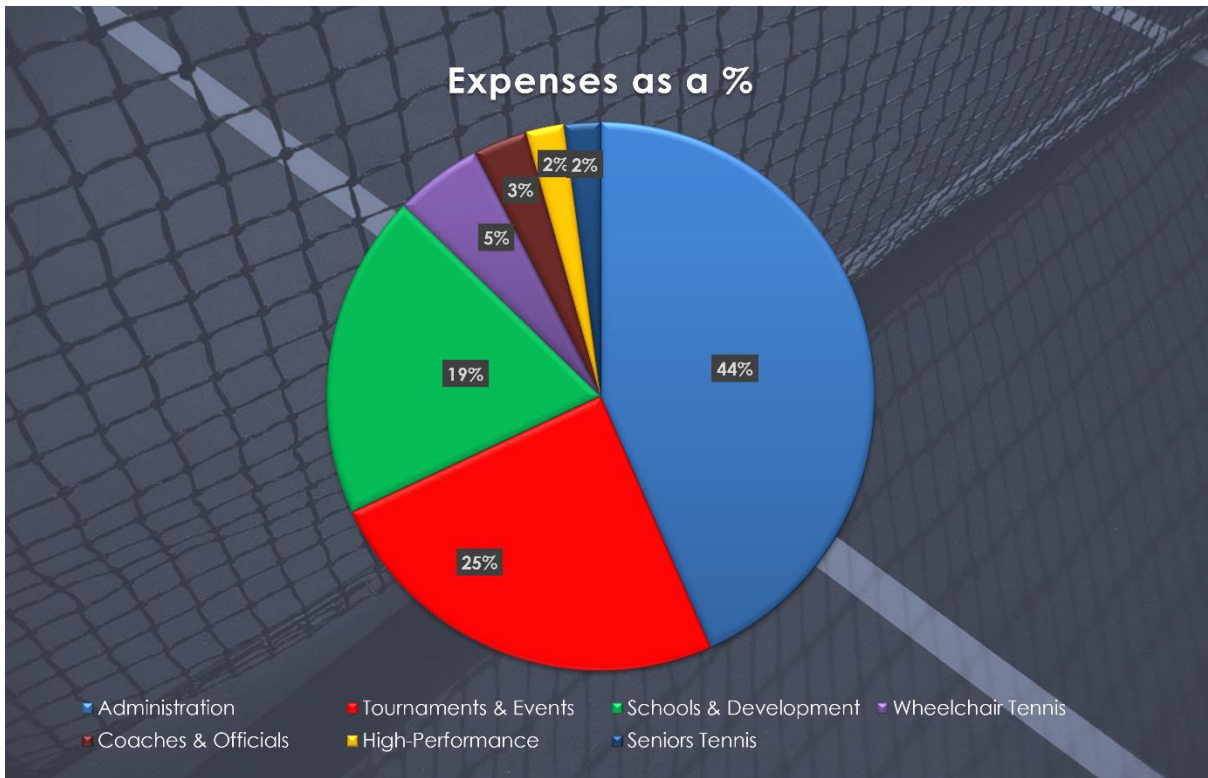
### Revenue analysis:

Despite the impact of COVID-19, sponsorship remains the single largest revenue source for TSA, followed by support from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) and Event grants (funding secured from the likes of the ITF, the ATP as well as the joint-venture partnership for the ATP Challenger events).

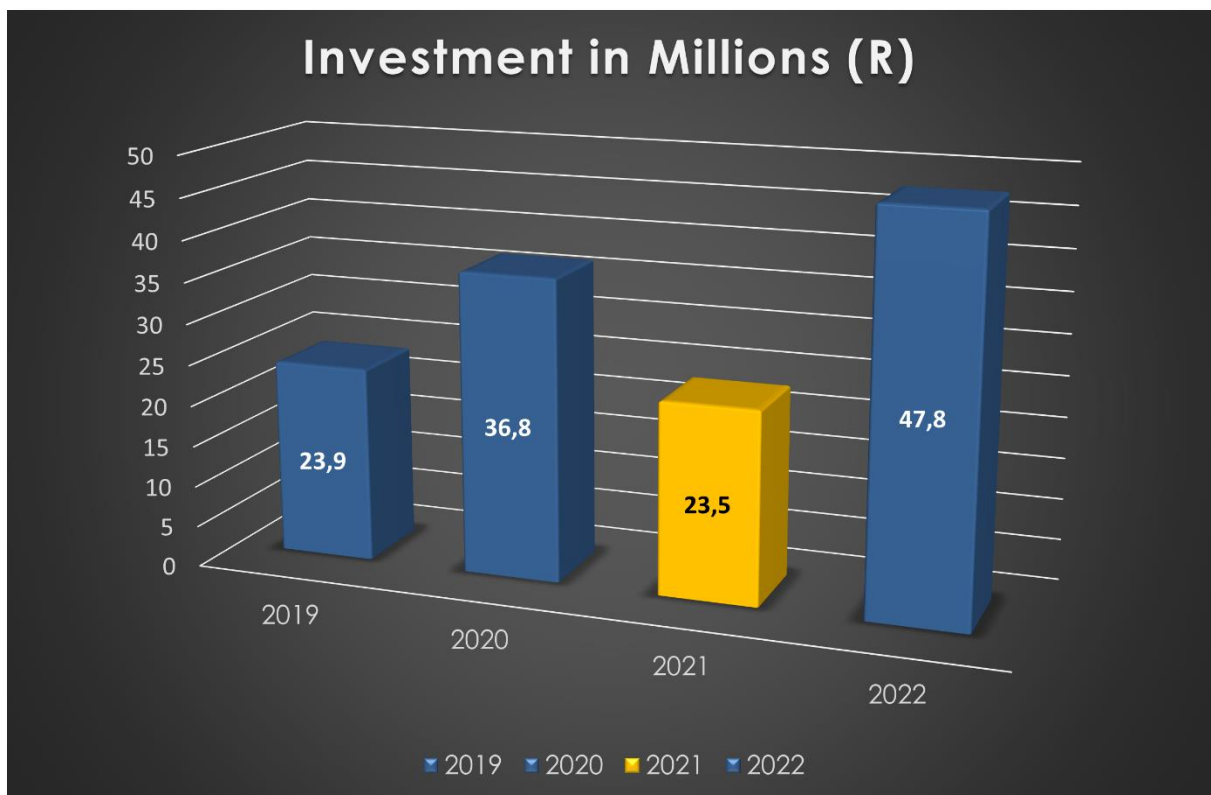
### Expense analysis (see graphic on the next page):

Administration expenses were our biggest percentage expense. This percentage covers: ITF and CAT affiliation fees, staff salaries, audit fees, board and committee expenses, social media and marketing, IT costs, insurance, legal fees, rent and utilities. Ordinarily Tournaments and Events would be the biggest percentage expense, however the impact of COVID-19 and the reduction in international events has seen this percentage drop to 25% in the financial year in review.





### INVESTMENT IN TENNIS (ANNUAL COMPARISON)



\*2022 is based on the budget forecast for the 2021/2022 financial year, that ends in March 2022.



## A FEW MORE NUMBERS

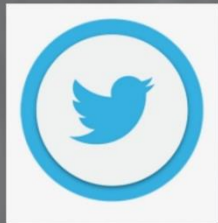
Annual growth across our key social media platforms.



+24%



+19%



+13%

Annual PR value (media exposure).

R74.2m







**Rising Star Tennis - growing the game in all communities.**



# COVID-19

Tennis in the time of  
a pandemic.



Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020...the day when all our lives changed, and we entered a hard (COVID-19 induced) lockdown in South Africa. The initial impact on tennis and our wider tennis community was severe and brutal with the sport coming to a standstill for close to two months.

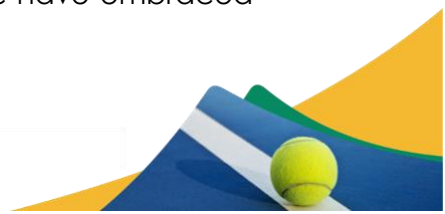
Fortunately, thanks to some hard work and negotiations behind the scenes, tennis was one of the first sports allowed to return to play under the South African national government's risk adjusted (level 1 – 5) strategy.

Since then, we have all lived with the pandemic and resulting first, second and third waves, and as a result TSA and the tennis ecosystem have had to navigate through a very uncertain and dynamic environment in which the lockdown levels (and resulting regulations) have changed on a regular basis.

Despite this complexity we should be proud as a sport that we have managed to ensure (to this point) that the sport has remained open for both participation and coaching throughout the past 12-15 months. With tournaments (including international events) allowed to take place during most of this period.

While many in the tennis community have been frustrated by the regulations, we hope that you agree they have assisted in keeping tennis open during a pandemic. The one key change that has come about in the 2021 COVID-19 rules and regulations is that players are allowed a plus 1 at events. The plus 1 can be either a parent or coach. In the case of a coach, s/he must be a registered coach and a coach that is in good standing, with a current COVID Coaching License. The plus 1 at junior events is considered necessary support staff and is in line with that of ITF and ATP protocols.

While this continues to be a very emotional, worrying, challenging and frustrating time for all of us, it also a massive growth opportunity for our sport. Tennis is a non-contact, individual sport, largely played outdoors, and as a result is now seen as a low-risk activity in our COVID-19 world. As a result, the South African public have embraced



tennis participation over the past 12 months with a massive spike in tennis being played in many communities across South Africa. We should be afraid to seize this opportunity to grow our game and get more people to fall in love with tennis.

## TENNIS REGULATIONS UNDER ADJUSTED LEVEL 3



[www.tennissa.co.za](http://www.tennissa.co.za)

CATEGORIES	LEVEL 3
<b>Must observe all general government guidelines</b>	Yes
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	Open
<b>Bathroom Facilities</b>	For emergency use only
<b>Tennis Clubhouses, Club Canteens and Bars</b>	Open – Strict protocols must be observed. May not accommodate more than 50 people at a time. Alcohol sales is permitted as per licence conditions up to 20h00.
<b>Tennis Coaching</b>	Max. 8 players + coach per court
<b>Curfew</b>	Curfew hours are from 22:00 – 04:00, All tennis facilities must close at 21h00.
<b>Temporary COVID-19 licence</b>	Required for all coaches
<b>Coaching Registers</b>	Must be maintained and submitted monthly to TSA <a href="mailto:covid19forms@tennissa.co.za">covid19forms@tennissa.co.za</a>
<b>Use of Floodlights at Clubs</b>	Allowed until 21h00
<b>Protective Masks to be worn at all times except when on court</b>	Yes
<b>Facility Access – Coaching</b>	Coach, player, and guardian
<b>Court Reservations – Coaching</b>	Made by coach / players
<b>Club Play during weekdays and weekends</b>	Permitted through a booking system. Max. 8 players per court.
<b>Tennis Tournaments</b>	Allowed but without spectators
<b>Spectators at TSA Sanctioned Tournaments</b>	Only a nominated 'plus 1' allowed, as player support staff
<b>Club leagues</b>	Allowed
<b>Club social activities</b>	Allowed but limited to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors
<b>Inter-School Sport (School A vs School B)</b>	Remain suspended

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**Rising star, Isabella Kruger, in action at the ITF \$25k event in Potch.**



# Governance structures

The composition of our board and sub-committees.

## OVERVIEW



Your Board met three times during the past year. Your Board is a unitary body consisting of both elected and co-opted members. Four of the co-opted members are Special Interest Group appointments representing – seniors, coaches, wheelchair tennis and schools. The remaining two co-opted Board Members bring important special 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. 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 (mostly virtual this past year) 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.

A Code of Ethics (Board Charter) for Board Members was being drawn up and prepared for consideration by the Board. This document has now been completed and has been adopted by the Board. This Charter incorporates all the requirements contained in the King IV recommendations plus a number of additional points specific to Tennis South Africa's needs.

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.



## 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. Nwabisa Mningiswa	Elected board member
4. Anthony Loubser	Elected board member
5. Jacob Klaasen	Elected board member
6. Ntsokolo Ndlabhu	Elected board member
7. Allan Karam	Elected board member
8. Gugu Ntuli	Co-opted board member
9. Geoff Whyte	Co-opted board member
10. Bridget Visee	Coaches Representative
11. David Jaquire	Schools Representative
12. Debra Hyde	Seniors Representative
13. Bellinah Matshedisho	Wheelchair Tennis Representative

## SUB-COMMITTEES

The TSA sub-committees (and chairperson for each) are as follows:

1. **MANCO:** Gavin Crookes
2. **Audit:** Formerly John Seymour
3. **Risk, Social & Ethics:** Formerly Hubert Brody
4. **Transformation & Development:** Anthony Loubser
5. **Remuneration:** Gavin Crookes
6. **Innovation:** Gugu Ntuli
7. **International Tennis:** Jacob Klaasen
8. **Juniors:** Riad Davids
9. **Seniors:** Debra Hyde
10. **Coaches:** Bridget Visee
11. **Wheelchair Tennis:** Bellinah Matshedisho
12. **Schools:** David Jaquire
13. **Technical & Officiating:** Gavin Crookes





**WTA Future Stars U16 winner: Lilitha Ndungane.**



# Key focus areas

Reports from all key TSA departments



Page 33	• Transformation
Page 37	• Mass-Participation
Page 39	• High-performance
Page 42	• Coaching
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Page 49	• Seniors Tennis
Page 51	• Wheelchair Tennis
Page 54	• Officiating and New Formats
Page 57	• Communications





## TRANSFORMATION



The following report aims to provide a summary of the Transformation and Development projects / activities carried out by the Transformation and Development Delivery Team (TADDT) from the period of April 2020 to March 2021.

**Delivery Team** - A Transformation and Development Delivery Team (TADDT) has been set-up to deliver on all Transformation and Development objectives. The team which comprises of Tony Loubser, Clifton Swartz, Anthony Moruthane and Silindile Makhathini was set-up in July 2020.

**Provincial Health Checks** - The TADDT engaged with all provincial bodies to conduct transformation health checks and to discuss ways in which the team can collaborate more closely in this critical space. Through the engagements, several ambassadors were identified to drive transformation and development in different districts.

**Tennis for All Campaign** – The TADDT has launched a 'Tennis for All' initiative to resuscitate tennis in rural and township communities through support from local and provincial government for the refurbishment of tennis facilities and sourcing funds for development programmes. The TADDT is working closely with provinces and districts to identify facilities that have potential to be sustainable for the roll out of the initiative.

**Issues Portal** - To make it easier for members of the tennis community to raise concerns around racism and discrimination, an online Transformation Issues Portal (TIP) has been launched on the TSA website ([www.tennissa.co.za](http://www.tennissa.co.za)) in August 2020.

<b>Summary of key activities</b>	
<b>DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL STRUCTURES</b>	The TADDT visited Northern Cape and Limpopo in October and December 2020, respectively, to engage with the Provincial Sports Confederations, Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, District Councils, and the tennis community in a bid to grow the sport in the provinces and kick start the process of formalizing district and provincial tennis structure.



	<p>The Northern Cape visit was conducted from 21 October 2020 to 23 October 2020. It involved visits to the Namakwa – and ZF MCGawu districts (report is available on request).</p> <p>The Limpopo visit took place from 2-4 December 2020 and included visits to Waterberg, Capricorn, Vhembe, and Sekhukhune districts (report is available on request).</p> <p>The TADDT had planned a second visit to Kimberly in Northern Cape in May / June 2021, however, had to cancel the visit due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p> <p><b>Northern Cape</b> – The planned visit to Kimberly which was aimed at convening meetings with John Taolo Gaetsewe District and Pixley Ka Seme District in May / June in an effort to formalize the district structures had to be cancelled due to current COVID-19 restrictions. The visit has now been scheduled for August 2021.</p> <p><b>Limpopo</b> – On Friday, 21 May 2021, Sekhukhune District Tennis Federation was officially established at Makhukhuthamaga Local Municipality Chamber in Sekhukhune, Limpopo. Sekhukhune is the first official tennis district in Limpopo to be established. TADDT facilitated the inaugural meeting.</p> <p>Four tennis clubs (Glen Cowie, Masemola, Monterlus and Marishane) were represented at the inaugural meeting as well as the following stakeholders who pledged their support to help grow the sport of tennis in Sekhukhune;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Education</li> <li>• Local Municipalities</li> <li>• Sekhukhune Sports Confederation</li> </ul> <p>TADDT is currently assisting Capricorn District with the process of convening a meeting for the inauguration of their district federation which is planned to take place in August 2021.</p>
<p><b>TENNIS FOR ALL CAMPAIGN</b></p>	<p><b>The Campaign</b> – The TADDT is excited to confirm that the 'Tennis for All' campaign will officially be launched in late 2021 in the City of Tshwane and Ekurhuleni with over 15 development programmes earmarked.</p> <p>City of Tshwane and Tennis SA have identified eight (8) coaches in different regions within City of Tshwane as part of the 'Tennis for All' campaign to mobilize players and begin tennis programmes in township communities.</p> <p>Realizing the importance of coaching education and training, the city has committed to fund coaching education and training for all identified coaches from Play Tennis to Pro Coach qualification. Play Tennis course was</p>



	<p>held at Mbolekwa Sports Complex in Atteridgeville from 22-25 April 2021.</p> <p>The city and TADDT plans to roll out the campaign in 7 identified township communities in September / October 2021.</p>
<b>EDI PROGRAMME</b>	<p><b>Staff</b> – The TADDT has arranged Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion programme for staff members held on Thursday, 29 July 2021 in Midrand. The session was run on a face-to-face format and strict COVID-19 protocols were observed.</p> <p>A follow-up coaching session will be arranged for the staff members.</p> <p><b>Board</b> – The EDI programme for board members will be held following the Tennis SA AGM in September for the newly elected members of the board. The session will be virtual.</p> <p><b>Travelling Coaches</b> – The EDI programme for travelling coaches, including SA BJK Cup captain, Head of Women's Tennis and the Director of Tennis will be held in October 2021.</p>
<b>COACHING</b>	<p><b>Opportunities for black coaches</b> – The TADDT is currently building a model to create entrepreneurship opportunities for black coaches with a plan of supporting several development academies across the country.</p> <p><b>Unregistered coaches</b> – The TADDT has identified an opportunity to grow the sport by getting all unregistered coaches working on volunteer basis in township and rural communities into the TSA system. The TSA Coaching Department is working on a model to introduce a portfolio for volunteer coaches.</p> <p><b>Transformation &amp; Restructuring</b> – The following draft documents have been prepared and in principle adopted – needs ratification and implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Draft RPL policy.</li> <li>○ Proposal for licence fees of TSA Centre coaches and black township coaches.</li> <li>○ National Tennis Coaches Structure (ready for implementation)</li> <li>○ Proposed TSA/BNP Mentorship Improvement Plan</li> <li>○ Identification of potential Course Leaders/Facilitators for training</li> <li>○ CAPS guidelines and criteria for TSA Centres</li> </ul> <p>**All the documents are available on request.</p>
<b>RURAL &amp; TOWNSHIP</b>	<p><b>Audit</b> – Following a series of provincial engagements, provincial and district bodies were tasked to provide information of all tennis facilities and schools in their</p>



	<p>communities, as well as programmes and coaches' database. This information was collected from September 2020 for the purposes of identifying opportunities and introducing more programmes, especially in rural and township communities. The information will be automated on Sportyhq for easier access.</p> <p>The TADDT has been working closely with provinces and have so far received data from KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, Free State and very little information from Gauteng and North West.</p>
<b>SCHOOLS</b>	<p>Year 2 of the BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis was launched in October 2021. Following a successful year 1 of the programme, the campaign returned bigger and better in early 2021 with the inclusion of high school players and a wheelchair category, alongside the existing primary schools' competition, increasing opportunities for a new generation of player.</p> <p>Several tennis development activations were held in Limpopo, Eastern Cape, and Gauteng to donate equipment and mobilize players from schools in previously disadvantaged communities.</p>
<b>EPG REPORT / HIGH PERFORMANCE</b>	<p><b>EPG</b> – The TADDT and high performance have agreed on the implementation of the following recommendations by the TADDT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing team sizes across all age groups and impose a 60% Generic black threshold on those teams. Final teams to be selected on merit with due consideration of the transformation target.</li> <li>• To observe 50% black representation when utilizing medical and scientific services at all events.</li> <li>• The testing services used at National Squads level to be reviewed with a view to engaging black service-providers.</li> <li>• An addition of a physiotherapist to the travelling squads for major events. The physios should be black service-providers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Squads and Wildcards</b> – The TADDT has submitted recommendations to the High-Performance team to observe 50% black player representations for all junior and pro squads and wildcards. This will enable the association to meet its Eminent Persons Group (EPG) targets.</p>



## MASS-PARTICIPATION



### TSA DEVELOPMENT CENTRES & HUBS

**Coaching & Resource Support:** The operations resumed at TSA Development Centres around the country in July/August 2021. The Development Centres received tennis patrons and players who were fatigued of staying at home post the hard lockdown and were hungry to step on court. The daily visitors averaged from 50 – 60 players, participating across all tennis ball stages.

The centres and hubs in Soweto, Atteridgeville, Westridge and 3 Anchor Bay were assisted with the COVID-19 protective equipment upon the return of tennis, tennis equipment and shoes for tournament players and coaches:

- Each Development centre supports at least 5 hubs with Tennis Equipment, COVID-19 protective materials.
- Coaches received their COVID-19 licenses to ensure compliancy and safety.

**Hub Competitions:** In the last quarter of 2020 when the country opened after a hard lockdown, the TSA Development centres hosted hub tournaments for the first time to integrate and align with tennis development hubs within their regions.

The main objective was to select the rising stars of tennis by strengthening the grassroots level and building a pathway towards producing world class players. These competitions were conducted with the high standard of professionalism.

### GROWTHPOINT TOPGUNS 2020/21 NATIONAL CLUB COMPETITION

After the previous year's national competition being cancelled due to covid-19, TSA and the TSA Provinces were delighted to once again host the 2020/21 Growthpoint Top Guns Club from February 2021. 14 events were hosted to date and all provinces recorded the highest team entries and the overall participation grew by 17%.

The growth is positive for club tennis, particularly the B section category of the tournament which showed growth as there were some players who participated in tournaments for the first time in 2021. The objective is to retain these players and to further grow the club membership in South Africa.



## TSA DEVELOPMENT CENTRE PARTICIPATION

**Junior Nationals Participation 2020:** TSA selected and sponsored 5 players from the Development Centres to participate at the Junior Nationals in Bloemfontein in 2020. The sponsorship included full kits, accommodation, and transport for the players and 2 coaches from the Centres. Three of the players who participated were from KZN – 2 boys under 12 and 1 girl under 16 and 2 female players were from Soweto.

All players showed great improvement in terms of their performance, which resulted in the player advancing to the final of the competition and achieving position 2.

**Tournaments & Schools Competitions – BNP Paribas Rising Star Tennis:** The Development Centre tournament participation increased from the last quarter 2020. The Hubs competitions were strategic in the talent identification and the selection of tournament players and centre squads for 2021 competitions and tournaments.

At the start of 2021 the Development Centres participated at a number of local events in Gauteng. Arthur Ashe Centre hosted a MINI tournament event in May 2021. This event benefits township players and it was handled professionally.

Players from Development centres participated in the regional BNP Paribas Rising Star competitions. 3 teams from Arthur Ashe will progress to the provincial finals on merit while Atteridgeville has 2 teams progressing. A girls team is also part of the teams progressing which is once again a very positive for female participation.

**School Sports Mass Participation – The ITF Junior Tennis Initiative (JTI) Programme:** The JTI programme was introduced to government officials as tool to increase tennis mass participation in schools. This was achieved through quarterly engagement meetings to align with government departments at all levels.

The Quarter 1 report was issued to the ITF this will be followed by the roll out strategy from the TSA Development Centres and Hubs. The aim is to leverage this programme at schools to introduce tennis to under 10 learners and identify talent particularly at previously disadvantaged schools.



## HIGH-PERFORMANCE



Key categories of players identified, and priorities set for each for 2020 – 2021:

Juniors	College Players	Women's Tennis	Pro's
<p><b>Focusing on ITF Grade 5's &amp; 4's</b></p> <p>Exposing more 15&amp;U players to ITF's</p>	<p><b>Dec Camps:</b></p> <p>For Male and Female College players preceding Cape Town \$15k events - Dec. 2021</p>	<p><b>BJK Cup:</b></p> <p>Building a Next Gen BJK Cup team for the next 3 – 5 years</p>	<p><b>Futures &amp; Challengers (F &amp; C)</b></p> <p>Apply for Home F's &amp; C's and securing North-West events</p>
<p><b>Securing ITF's:</b></p> <p>Grade 3, 2 &amp; A – October 2021</p>	<p><b>Possible Money tournaments:</b> For US College players Dec 2021</p>	<p><b>Wiphold Squad:</b></p> <p>2 x Wiphold ITF tours Aug/Sept in Gauteng &amp; J3, 2, A in Cape Town</p>	<p><b>Futures Sept '21:</b></p> <p>3 x \$25k events Jozi Open, Spring Open and Tuks International.</p>
<p><b>Camps &amp; Squads</b></p> <p>Provincial/Regional Camps monitoring Junior HP players</p>	<p><b>Communication:</b></p> <p>Developing a data base &amp; stay in touch with US College players</p>	<p><b>Mental toughness:</b></p> <p>Hosting a series of Mental Toughness Webinars with previous SA champs</p>	<p><b>Futures Western Cape</b></p> <p>Potential December \$15k events</p>
<p><b>Clay court strategy</b></p> <p>U/12 &amp; U/14 Camps in North-West &amp; at the coast - 2022</p>	<p><b>Linking College players (Next Gen) with Davis Cup &amp; BJK Cup squads for ties</b></p>	<p><b>Laying stronger foundation at U/10:</b></p> <p>Creating competitive structure</p>	<p><b>Pro's &amp; Next Gen Pro's</b></p> <p>Link them with Tournaments in Dec with a National Coach</p>



### High Performance – Activities for 2020/2021:

1. TSA partnered with UTR for both junior and senior tournament players.
2. Keep building a TSA Pathway for our Junior HP players.
3. Keep improving communication – private sector, coaches and parents.
4. TSA Junior training Camp – Postponed due to covid until further notice.
5. Smaller TSA Camps for National squad members within their provinces: 2020-2021.
6. Building a Team Culture with the theme of UBUNTU – a bond of sharing.
7. Creating a Professional Medical platform - updated medical information
8. Creating a high-performance benchmark/incentive document for players.

### Women's Tennis: The way forward

TSA appointed Joannette Kruger as the new Head of Women's tennis in January 2021. Joannette played 14 years as a WTA professional player and won two WTA singles titles. Roxanne Clarke has been appointed as new BJK Cup Captain in January 2021. The main goal is to raise the level of Women's tennis and to develop more top ranked players on the Junior ITF rankings and WTA Rankings.

Three main objectives for the year for raising the standard of Women's tennis in SA:

1. Set S.A. benchmarks that are aligned with internationally competitive levels
2. Creating a high-performance pathway from u/10 to Top 100 WTA to be able to reach these benchmarks.
3. Financial assistance to players who reach these benchmarks.

Priorities for rest 2021:

- Create HP benchmarks document: benchmarks, pathway and incentives.
- Wiphold: Camps and financial player assistance (North-West Feb 2021)
- Communication - with all women's players and coaches.
- Informative webinar sessions: mental toughness, nutrition, tournament scheduling
- Assist top ranked junior players to reach benchmarks.

### College Players:

1. Developing a database and communication channel for US College players.
2. Assisting them to build a UTR rating as well as US College placements.
3. Communication and posting: SA College players playing NCAA on TSA social media and platforms.
4. Neville Godwin hosted a college camp December 2020 in Johannesburg.
5. Christo Van Rensburg hosted a training camp in the US, May 2021.

### Junior Players:

**High Performance and TSA Growthpoint Development Centre (DC) strategy plan:** TSA HP & Growthpoint DC's have identified a list of 50 elite players. TSA HP and DC's to agree on a 3 to 5 year-plan for player development. Forming an Elite squad for every Development Centre assisted by TSA HP. Narrowing the focus to a 1<sup>st</sup> tier squad at every DC. Talent ID at the Centres and exposing to more tournaments is key.

**Introducing the new HP Incentives Document for our top Junior players:** To assist our top Junior players financially through meeting benchmarks. Measuring our Juniors to International standards and benchmarks



**Areas of concern:** International exposure for our Junior HP Players a major concern. Keeping track of SA player's progress in US Colleges on social media platforms. Exposure to more tournaments – A need for more Junior & World Tour ITFs in SA

**Focus areas for the rest of 2020/2021:**

- Improve Communication between TSA, parents, players and coaches.
- Player Pathway: Building relationships with our top College players and coaches.
- Player pathway for SA players towards Junior ITF's – Grand Slam Pathway.
- Wiphold: Combining WH U/18 trials/tournament during the next TSA Junior age group Camp (pending the covid situation)
- A College pathway was created: links for parents/players/coaches as guidelines
- Play UTR matches within your school/Academy/Challenge matches and leagues. Critical to promote this more
- TSA Squad Camps – Province bound for HP squad players, very much needed

Focus - next 3 to 5 years:

1. National Tennis Centre – venue TBC.
2. 3 to 4 Reginal Centres within the bigger provinces.
3. 4 X ATP challengers and 4X \$25K events for women.
4. More ITF junior grade 3's and 2's in SA & more J5's for our top U/14's & U/16's.
5. Host 8 - 10 \$15k events for college players in June/July & December in future.



## COACHING



### ITF – GENERAL UPDATE AND SILVER STATUS

During the year in review, the TSA Coaches education programme was renewed at Silver Level by the ITF, meaning the ITF agrees to formally continue to recognise the Coaches Education system of Tennis South Africa at Silver level for a four-year period up to the 31 December 2024. In conjunction with its Coaches Commission, established criteria and minimum standards for Coach Education systems which were adopted by the ITF Board of Directors. These criteria, along with the coaching competencies agreed for the different levels of Coach Education, were put together to ensure quality standards in the Coaches Education systems worldwide and to allow the Coaches Education systems of ITF member nations to be assessed by the ITF.

The ITF continues to provide additional resources and opportunities especially in the Coaches Education space. The ITF Academy have 150 + online courses. The ITF academy subscription form part of the TSA coach's registration fee. There are 1015 registered South African users on the Academy. The Academy offers a variety of short courses ranging from general sport to specific topics, as well as an online library with videos of conferences around the world, articles as well as research papers to provide for all information needs.

English Regional Coaches Conference (RCC): More than 1350 participants from 134 nations took part with 14 speakers presenting. Female attendance for this RCC was 30.8%. 30 of the TSA BNP mentorship coaches received entry to the conference. New opportunities: TSA received an invite to participate in the Advantage All leadership programme – series of webinars started March 2021. Mr Allan Karam and Ghizela Enslin serve and represent on the ITF Coaches Commission, the commission met 6 December 2020 via Zoom.

### BNP PARIBAS COACHES MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

The third year of the coach's mentorship programme commenced in a different climate as the COVID pandemic brought forward many challenges. The TSA coaching department were committed to continue to plan and deliver opportunities for coaches' part of the programme to learn during the pandemic and lockdown. To

ensure coaches continue to enhance their current knowledge and develop a professional skillset.

The coaches have kicked started their programme with personal profiles, online courses, reading and writing assignments, and have submitted footage of some practical on-court training activities.

### Overall Stats and Activity Year 3:

- 53% Female Candidates
- 37% had no certification at the beginning of year 3
- Certifications: 33 candidates entered with no tennis certification
- 95% Face to face activity
- Certifications end of year: 48 Play tennis / 3 National INS # / 36 play tennis in progress/ 5 National INS# in progress
- Play Tennis Attendees: 30 (EC 4 / FS 9 / GN 8 / WC 9)
- Instructor Attendees: 8 (GE 6 / WC 2)
- First Aid Certificate: 49
- Tennis SA Workshops: 32 (LIM 5 / GC 11 / GN 9 / MP 7)
- All, but 5, coaches without a qualification attended training courses. All were encouraged to complete the final assessment criteria. Workshop were hosted in EC, in PE and EL, WC and LIM - The objective of the workshops was to assess and help coaches prepare, plan and conduct coaching lessons on RED and ORANGE courts. To provide an opportunity to coaches that have challenges submitting video assessments.

## **COACHING CALENDAR**

All courses were postponed until activity commenced in September 2020. TSA was determined to provide opportunities for coaches to get a new or higher certification. Despite the lockdown challenges and pandemic, TSA hosted 20 courses from August 2020 to March 2021.

Summary: 20 courses/workshops/conferences that took place across SA.

- Total Course attendees: 180. Total Workshop Attendees: 308
- Provincial Workshops – 9 (308 attendees) GE 35 / EDEN 25 / KZN 36 / BOL 28 / GN 71 / FS 24 / GC 33 / WC 49 / MP 7
- Play Tennis – 9 (147 candidates) – EC 15 / FS 13 / GN 27 / WC (3 courses) 49 / GE 10 / GC 20 / KZN 13 – 24 coaches updated
- Instructor – 2 (33 candidates) – WC 12 / GE 21 – 11 coaches updated
- Number of registered coaches: 801.
- Provinces were required to approve COVID licenses and was issued on a month-to-month basis.
- No of coaches that signed letters completed updates: 15/44.
- Registrations Fees: Play Tennis Trainer R1500.00 / All other coaches R1700.00
- Requirements remained the same: Coaching certification (updated); police clearance; First Aid certificate; CPD Point requirement, Provincial good standing
- Coaches registered via the TEAM App platform, and it has been extremely helpful to communicate to coaches via the app.

## **COACHES EDUCATION**



- Course structures remained unchanged, and coaches continue to submit video assessments after completing practical hours.
- Recognised Centres of Apprenticeship (CAP) Centres - Bronze – 54; Silver – 32; Gold – 6; Platinum - 2
- Jeff Coetzee arranged and led a series of Zoom sessions over the lockdown period.
- Pre-2008 coaches and BTI/ITI signed letters to commit to complete updates and could register with the other minimum requirements.
- First CPD workshops commenced in November 2020. Provincial chairpersons requested face to face CPD workshops – CPD points to be revised. Workshops covered mental training on court as well as developing doubles, with additional topics that varied from Province to Province.
- TSA worked on a comprehensive Long term player pathway guidelines document for coaches and parents and was released in 2020, available on the TSA website <https://www.tennisa.co.za/w/blog/tsa-long-term-player-pathway-guidelines>  
Rainbow Kidz - a programme was also initiated to strive in creating more fun competition opportunities for players 10 and under It will be a priority to start sharing info on the programme and opportunities for coaches and players to learn and benefit from the initiative. An additional guidelines document was set up for coaches (including 30 lesson plans, technical, tactical, mental, and physical development guidelines).

### **PROVINCIAL MATTERS**

- All Provinces hosted CPD Workshop in the 2020 cycle except for EC.
- The Provincial Chairpersons meeting was held on 20 February 2021.
- TSA office scheduled individual meetings with each Province and determined some key actions for each Provincial Coaches Committee during the engagements.

### **SA SPORTS COACHING ASSOCIATION**

The professional body is functioning. Coaches can join as a member of community of professional sports coaching from the nine sports coaching designations, from apprentice sports coach to master coach and from the coach developer stream, from assistant provincial coach developer to National coach education advisor.

### **SPECIAL NOTE**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank every Tennis Coach for their patience and compliance of COVID-19 rules and regulations during these very trying times. A special thank you to all Provincial Bodies and Provincial Coaches Committees for their hard work and dedication. Let's hope things get back to normal soon.

## SCHOOLS



### GENERAL OVERVIEW

April 2020 left everyone in our country shell shocked after weeks of level 5 lockdown. Tennis coaches were suddenly without income, tournaments were in disarray and school sport was non-existent. Sport festivals, normally an income to many, had to be cancelled. Consequently, tennis teams were left with airplane tickets and accommodation deposits that could not be refunded. The country, but also schools and individuals, faced an uncertain economic predicament.

The expectation that Covid-19 would only be an issue during the winter, caused a false sense of hope amongst tennis organisers and players that all would return to normal during the summer months. Tournaments, such as Schools' week, were therefore only postponed until a safe summer date. The federation's success in ensuring tournaments and coaches to be back on the court by summer, left all feeling relieved that the nightmare would soon be a thing of the past.

Huge was everybody's disappointment when the reality of a looming second wave left 2020 school tennis a pipe dream. The 'nothingness' that was 2020 made us feel that things would never be the same again, leaving us uncertain even about what 2021 might promise. Just before the doom and gloom became all-consuming, a glimmer of hope appeared on the horizon of 2021. A sense of normality returned when schools managed to host school trials and championships. Provinces held provincial trials and some sport festivals even took place.

Although it became clear that the 2021 calendar would be flexible, caution was key. Any opportunity to play tennis was to be seized as the Covid battle is far from over. True to our South African spirit, our perseverance and resilience during troubled times once again allows us to 'bounce back'.



## BNP PARIBAS RCS RISING STAR TENNIS



Our BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis campaign has doubled the first year's cohort of 365 schools to 795 institutions in its second year with 39 percent of schools from historically disadvantaged communities – which is 178% increase from year 1. The campaign got off to a successful start with Tennis SA hosting three (3) tennis activations in three (3) provinces, thirty (30) district school events in six (6) provinces, seven (7) wheelchair tennis school events in five (5) provinces and one (1) provincial final in the Eastern Cape.

The Rising Star Tennis events have been suspended since May 2021 following the announcement of suspension of inter-school sport by the Department of Basic Education due to COVID-19. The department anticipates having inter-school sport allowed back from second week of August 2021. Due to the disruption, the finals of the nationwide school tennis tournament will be held from 22-24 October 2021 at Arthur Ashe Tennis Centre in Soweto and Groenkloof Tennis Club in Pretoria.

**2021 RISING STAR TENNIS**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL**  
**COMPETITIONS**

A nationwide school tournament for Primary, High Schools and Wheelchair Tennis

**ENTRIES CLOSE ON 05 APRIL 2021**

To enter, visit  
[WWW.TENNISSA.CO.ZA](http://WWW.TENNISSA.CO.ZA)

Go to **PLAY > RISINGSTAR TENNIS: ONLINE ENTRY**





## JUNIORS



The traditional Easter tennis circuit which normally takes place in Bloemfontein couldn't happen in April because the country went into lockdown and all the tennis events during this time had to be cancelled. The national rankings were frozen which led to tournaments running on a 104 week ranking instead of the 52 weeks we normally use.

Tournaments returned in August and all the events that happened between August and September 2020 were played as Rating events and were restricted to the players living in the province - no players from outside were allowed to play.

Ranking tournaments returned in October 2020 and the tournament numbers for the events that happened during this time were around +200 entries.

During this period, we saw the KZN Growthpoint & FS Growthpoint super 8 series happening at the same time which was the first time that we had 2 Growthpoint Super 8 events concurrently.

The Growthpoint Junior Nationals was hosted in October 2020 and the event was on invitation only. The draw sizes of the event were 32 Singles main draw and the doubles were 16 draws. The Under 18 draws of Nationals ended up with 16 players as a lot of players were busy with their exams during that time. The final entry number of Nationals was 225. Below is the list of Junior Nationals results.

### Final Results

#### Boys

Under-18

1-Kholo Montsi (WP) bt 2-Damien Nezar (EDE) 6-2 6-0

Under-16

1-Devin Badenhorst (GN) bt 8-Wian Roothman (GC) 6-2 6-3

Under-14

2-Jordan Georgiev (GC) bt 1-Leo Matthysen (WP) 6-7(3) 7-6(6) 6-4

Under-12

1-Connor Doig (KZN) bt 7-Siyabonga Jaca (KZN) 6-0 6-3

## Girls

Under-18

1-Delien Kleinhans (FS) bt 2-Kelly Arends (WP) 6-1 6-2

Under-16

1-Leigh van Zyl (BOL) bt Erin Mckenzie (GE) 4-6 6-4 6-1

Under-14

4-Carli Kruger (BOL) bt 3-MariLouise van Zyl (NW) 6-3 3-6 7-5

Under-12

1-Morgan Jordaan (GN) bt 4-Allegra van der Walt (NW) 6-3 6-3

From October all tournaments changed from rating to ranking events, In 2020 the Growthpoint Junior Masters was not held due to having the rankings frozen and players not being able to compete. During December we had 2 circuits running 1 in land and the other 1 coastal. The events played in land where the 2 Growthpoint Super 8 events which normally play in July (GE & GC) the coastal events where the traditional events (WP & Winelands). From the 4 December events the WP event was the biggest event with 406 entries. During the new calendar year in December, we introduced the No Advantage rule for doubles.

In January we had 2 Growthpoint super 8 events 1 in Gauteng North the other 1 in Port Elizabeth the events had average numbers. The KM Sport R100 000 event was on its second year and the event went from 102 entries in 2020 to 163 in 2021. During March 2021 we hosted 3 Junior international events 1 in Pretoria which was a Grade 4 & 2 in Potchefstroom which were Grade 5 events.





## SENIORS



### COVID-19

It was a rocky start to the year with no Seniors tournaments played from 26 March 2020 until September. The first tournament back was a social event the Growthpoint Bababedi Shootout in Ekurhuleni. This was one of a series of new tournaments that the Seniors had introduced. Tournaments were re-introduced with strict health measures in place and no spectators allowed at the venues. Covid continues to impact tennis, the threat of level changes has the potential to limit activities and once again put a stop to tournaments.

### ITF SENIORS WORLD CHAMPS

No Seniors teams were sent to World Champs during the year under review

### INTER PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENTS (IPT) & SENIORS MASTERS

No IPT events were held in the year under review. The new proposed shortened format was therefore not tested. The format would be tested starting with the Seniors IPT in April 2021. The Seniors Masters event was also cancelled. Western Cape were to host the event in November 2020, and it was decided that this would be carried over to November 2021.

### GROWTHPOINT SENIORS SUPER 6 SERIES

A new innovation in Seniors Tennis was the introduction of the Super 6 Series. This series is comprised of the top 6 tournaments for the year, based on participation numbers. A tournament would lose its Super 6 status should another tournament supersede their numbers for 2 years in a row. The Super 6 Series tournaments were: Western Cape Seniors, Gauteng East Seniors, Gauteng North Seniors, KZN Seniors, Winelands Seniors and Eden Seniors

In 2020 KZN lost its Super 6 status and Jozi Seniors (Gauteng Central) would replace it in the series. A trophy would be presented to the man and the woman who won the



most titles over the course of the 6 tournaments. These trophies would be presented at Nationals each year

### **SENIOR NATIONALS - RECORD NUMBERS**

In March the Seniors Nationals was held in Pretoria after being held in Bloemfontein for the last 5 years. We saw a record number of entries, up 55% on 2020. It was the largest entry since 2011. There were 3 times as many players of colour participating that in 2020. After the completion of the Super 6 series at the Gauteng East Tournament in January, the winners of the most titles were awarded their trophies at Nationals. The ladies winner was Christine van Coller with 7 titles and the men's winner was Jacob Klaasen with 8 titles.

### **TSA SENIORS RANKED TOURNAMENTS**

Seniors managed to host 6 Grade B and 3 Grade C Abadala ranking tournaments between the return to tennis in September and December. Only the Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga Seniors tournaments were not hosted in this period. The general trend in numbers was up with new players joining the seniors family. The new Grade C Abadala tournaments were well received and supported by the Seniors.

### **TRANSFORMATION**

The transformation numbers have improved. In 2019/2020 black player participation was at 15.7%. This has increased to 22.5% in the 2020/2021 year. Seniors are on track to reach the transformation targets that have been set by the Transformation Committee. While the addition of the transformation tournaments have helped to increase the numbers. Seniors is also seeing an increase in participation in the Grade B ranking tournaments.

### **2020 ANNUAL SENIORS NATIONAL WORKSHOP**

The Annual Workshop was held on 31 October 2020. For the first time all 9 provincial chairs were in attendance.

- The Seniors' fee was done away with for the 2021.
- There would be NO increase in tournament fees.
- The IPT fee was reduced by R100 per player due to the fact that there would be NO player functions as a result of COVID regulations
- The committee would remain the same

### **CHANGES IN SENIORS TENNIS**

Following a series of events relating to the Seniors IPT in April 2021, Bertie Conradie, Adam Myburgh, Dave Emslie and Sharon van der Schyff all resigned from their positions on the NSC. An emergency meeting of the remaining NSC and provincial representatives was held on March 28<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting Bertie was replaced as the Chairperson of the NSC by Debra Hyde and Dave Emslie was replaced on the NSC committee by Johanna Brink. Karin Steenkamp replaced Adam Myburgh on the Seeding committee.

## WHEELCHAIR TENNIS



### HIGH-PERFORMANCE

The high-performance athletes were badly affected by the coronavirus outbreak, the year 2020 was full of uncertainty, fear, and frustration especially for our athletes who depend on international competition. During the national lockdown, we provided the following interventions and support for our hp players:

- Home-based training programs with support from the sport scientist, Kirsty Elliot.
- Financial support to alleviate the loss of income from not playing tournaments
- Wellbeing support from sport psychologists.

In July 2020 the hp players returned to training at Tuks under strict regulations, with the aim to prepare for tournaments and the return of competitions.

The following players managed to compete in the tournaments as mentioned below:

#### **Kgothatso Montjane:**

##### Roland Garros 07 to 10 Oct 2020

- Singles Quarter finalist
- Double's semi-finalist with partner Momoko Ohtani (JPN)

##### Victorian Wheelchair Open 03 to 06 Feb 2021

- Singles semi finalist
- Double's runners up with parent Lucy Shuker (GBR)

##### Melbourne Wheelchair Open 08 to 11 Feb 2021

- Singles semi finalist



- Doubles runners up with partner Lucy Shuker (GBR)

Australian Open Wheelchair Championships 14 to 17 Feb 2021

- Singles semi finalist
- Double's runners up with partner Lucy Shuker (GBR)

**Alwande Sikhosana:**

Alanya Open (Turkey) 17 to 20 Nov 2020

- Singles round of 16
- Doubles quarter finalist with partner Leon Els

Haydarpasha Palace Open (Turkey) 23 to 26 Nov 2020

- Singles semi finalist
- Doubles Runner up with partner Leon Els,

**Leon Els:**

Alanya Open (Turkey) 17 to 20 Nov 2020

- Singles round of 16
- Doubles quarter finalist with partner Alwande Sikhosana

Haydarpasha Palace Open (Turkey) 23 to 26 Nov 2020

- Singles round of 16
- Doubles Runner up with partner Alwande Sikhosana

Travel internationally is still a challenge for all our athletes as most countries have travel restriction that require the athletes to quarantine for 10 days before being allowed to enter the country. Amongst all, the athletes continue to represent us well and fly our flag high.

There will be 4 athletes representing South Africa at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics wheelchair tennis event from 27 Aug – 06 September 2021, namely:

- Kgothatso Montjane
- Evans Maripa
- Leon Els
- Mariska Venter

**DEVELOPMENT**

Activities at our development centres and clubs were ceased during the National Lockdown and for a good part of the 2020 calendar due to many contributing factors, namely,

- Majority of the development centres are special schools.
- The development clubs are based at municipality facilities.
- Many of the players living with disability have underlying comorbidities.

During the national lockdown and cessation of all tennis activities, all coaches in the development programs did not lose their income, the office continued to pay their salaries.

In September 2020 the Department of Basic Education gazetted that schools sport may resume. The office had to ensure that safeguarding our players was a priority and we gradually introduced a safe return to tennis protocols by means of the following support measures:

- Sanitizers - for players and wheelchairs,
- PPEs for coaches,
- Infrared thermometers,
- Daily attendance registers,

Additional support was provided for schools and clubs with exceptional challenged by our development officer Mr. Patrick Selepe, with the aim to resume wheelchair tennis activities in a safe environment. 3 coaches from our development centres attended coaching courses namely,

- Molebogeng Molatudi      Gauteng, level 1 coaching course
- George Mogofe              Gauteng Level 1 coaching course
- Mayenzeke Gwija          WC Play tennis instructor course

### BNP Paribas Rising Star Tennis Competition

For the first time in 2021 special schools with wheelchair tennis programs had the opportunity to participate in the BNP Paribas Rising Star Tennis competition.

The competition was mainly focused on Regional and Provincial competitions, which were hosted in April and May 2021 for our special needs schools to qualify for the Rising Star Final Event. The date for the Final Event is still to be confirmed.



## OFFICIATING AND NEW FORMATS



### DISCIPLINE

With the return to tennis document and the initial “no spectator rule” the number of on court incidents has diminished. However, the introduction of the plus 1 at tournaments to ensure the wellbeing of the junior layers (as minors) and the various COVID regulations did result in several incidents:

1. Tennis coach ignoring the general COVID regulations in terms of self-isolation;
2. Parent (plus 1) interfering in on court matters and was suspended;
3. Player suspended for six (6) months due to unsportsmanlike conduct;
4. Incident also reported concerning alleged unprofessional behavior of one of the local officials. The matter was addressed with the official and resolved.

The TSA “In Competition” Code of Conduct is being redrafted and amended which will be finalized shortly in conjunction with the overall TSA Code of Conduct.

### OFFICIATING

COVID-19 ensured that, initially, there was a decrease in opportunities for officials due to the initial lockdown period. However, during the lockdown Zoom Seminars were held:

1. Return to Tennis – discussion with tournament organisers on the various protocols;
2. Return to Tennis – discussion with Referee’s on the various protocols;
3. Referee Seminar – Level 2 course held for officials wanting to be certified as Referee’s;
4. Refresher Seminar for current Referee’s on various rules / regulations and procedures;
5. Following the easing of COVID levels and the gradual return to “normal” tennis activity, a Level 1 course was held in KZN. A course was planned for Eastern cape, which had to be postponed;
6. TSA Officials were assigned / appointed to numerous Major International events, both local and Internationally:



#### Potchefstroom Events:

- Mxolisi Matyolo – ITF Supervisor at the 2x World Tennis Tour Events;
- Adri du Plessis – ATP Chief of Umpires at the 2x ATP Challenger events;
- Mpho Makhoba – ITF Chief of Umpires at the 2x World Tennis Tour Events;
- Loutjie Louw – ATP Referee at the 2x ATP Challenger Events;
- George Phiri – ATP additional chair umpire at the 2x ATP Challenger Events;
- Tebogo Maleke – ATP additional chair umpire at the 2x ATP Challenger Events

#### International Events:

- George Phiri has been selected to officiate as a line umpire at the Tokyo Olympics;
- Patrick Selepe has been selected to officiate as a line umpire at the Tokyo Paralympics, being the first official with a disability to work at the tennis event;
- Iain Smith officiated at the 2020 US Open and 2021 Australian Open as Review Official and has been selected as Review official at the Tokyo Olympics and Referee at the Tokyo Paralympics

South Africa has had representation at all of the Olympics tennis events since 1996 and Paralympics tennis event since 2012. TSA ITF Certified officials also participated in several ITF Webinars that were held by the ITF Grand Slam Officials and Africa Regional officers where different topics were discussed.

### **BEACH TENNIS**

The beach tennis season was halted due to COVID, and the traditional KIA Summer Slam was cancelled for 2020 due to the concerns from KIA in terms of being associated with events that could encourage spectators.

A Beach Tennis league was initiated in November in Gauteng on a time based trial event held on a Tuesday evening. The league proved successful with the initial number of teams being 12. Played as a mixed team composition of 2 men and 2 women a total of 50 players participated. Additional leagues were held in January 2021 and March 2021 with both a mixed league being played and an individual men's and women's league. Total number of players have grown to 90+ players competing in league.

Great Tennis Academy in George has invested in 4 permanent beach tennis courts and have been holding a number of weekend tournaments with activations taking place both at the Great Tennis Academy facility and also on the Plettenberg Bay main beach.

KZN have also had regular activations and socials on the KZN Main Beach. Unfortunately, further growth has been hindered by COVID and the primary focus on the return to tennis.

TSA managed to secure development kits from the ITF as part of the ITF Decathlon International Partnership.

#### Tournaments:

The TSA Beach Tennis National Championship was held in March 2021, which was the first local tournament to be held since the start of COVID in 2020. The Nationals was played as a regular tournament and not on a regional basis, as was the case in 2019. In order to ensure maximum number of matches a round robin format was played in both men's doubles and women's doubles, with play offs being arranged for the

knock out phase, once the round robin had been completed. The mixed doubles was a straight knockout draw played on a Monrad format with play-offs.

**Results:**

Men's Doubles Final: Herman & Niel Hendriks bt. Dewald Linde & Tucker Vorster 75 63

Women' Doubles Final: Lisa Hibbers & Helga Jeske bt. Laetitia Lourens & Kyla Yelverton 63 62

Mixed Doubles: Niel Hendriks & Kyla Yelverton bt. Frans Ledwaba & Helga Jeske 60 62

Following the completion of the event, a training squad was formulated based on the semi-final results and the option to invite other players based on performances at the ITF events (see below) that took place a few weeks afterwards. The idea of the squad is to have a pool of top players training together regularly and from the squad to select the respective SA Teams. The squad currently is (based on player availabilities) as follows:

Men:

- Ryan Brookshaw
- Jody Claassen
- Reynhard Steenkamp
- Frans Ledwaba
- Niel Hendriks
- Herman Hendriks
- Lionel Jarrard
- Reinhard Pelser
- Fabian Viljoen
- Philip Franken

Women:

- Kyla Yelverton
- Helga Jeske
- Lisa Hibbers
- Joane Janse van Rensburg
- Celeste Riddick Claassen
- Laeticia Lourens
- Tamara Pieters
- Amy Olivier
- Lesedi Maluleke
- Ofentse Mphahlele





## COMMUNICATIONS



The following report aims to provide a summary of the work carried out by the Communications Department for the period of April 2020 to March 2021, which focuses on digital media, website management, media relations, marketing, and advertising.

### Summary of key progress

#### TOP COVERED FEATURES IN THIS PERIOD

- 'Train at home' campaign** – Series of fun social media training videos with ex-tennis players, current players, and non-tennis community (April 2020)
- BNP Paribas Coaches Mentorship Program** - BNP Paribas and Tennis launches third edition of BNP Paribas Coaches Mentorship Programme (June 2020)
- Return of Tennis under alert level 3** – announcement of the return of tennis under alert level 3 (June 2020)
- US Open** - Lloyd Harris through to maiden US Open second round (September 2020)
- Muditambi Ravele** – Resignation of Muditambi Ravele and the release of the report by the Independent Special Subcommittee (September 2020)
- Roland Garros** – Kholo Montsi making his debut appearance at Roland Garros Junior Tennis Championships (October 2020)
- Rising Star Tennis** – BNP Paribas, RCS and Tennis launches year 2 of the Rising Star Tennis, a nationwide school tennis tournament (October 2020)

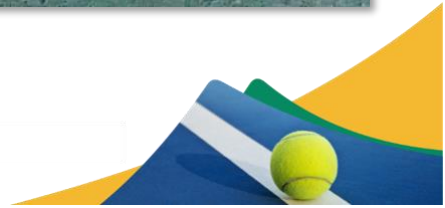


	<p><b>Award</b> - BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis programme winning the Social and Environmental Impact Award at the 2020 Hollard Sport Industry Awards (November 2020)</p> <p><b>New Billie Jean Cup</b> - Roxanne Clarke's appointment as the new captain of South Africa's Billie Jean King Cup team (November 2020)</p> <p><b>ATP Challenger and ITF events</b> – Major tennis tournaments returning to SA in 2021 (December 2020)</p> <p><b>New Davis Cup captain</b> - Christo van Rensburg appointed as South Africa's new Davis Cup Captain (January 2021)</p> <p><b>Australian Open</b> - Covid-19 robs SA's Raven Klaasen of Australian Open spot (February 2021)</p> <p><b>Potch ATP Challenger and ITF events</b> - SA youngsters awarded wildcards in Potchefstroom (February 2021)</p> <p><b>BNP Paribas RCS Rising Star Tennis</b> - School teacher inspired to unearth tennis talent (March 2021)</p> <p><b>Qatar Open</b> - SA Lloyd Harris defeats Stan Wawrinka, causing great turmoil at the Qatar Open and Lloyd Harris' Dubai dream run continues: He's into the final! (March 2021)</p>
<b>COVERAGE REPORT</b>	<p><b>Press releases issued:</b> 61</p> <p><b>Total AVE:</b> R 24 749 955.95</p> <p><b>Total PR Value:</b> R 74 249 867.85</p> <p><b>Number of Coverage pieces:</b> 722 clips (44% Print, 12% Broadcast, 44% Online)</p> <p><b>Circulation:</b> 619219742</p>
<b>DIGITAL MEDIA</b>	<p><b>Followers: As of 13 August 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facebook – 25,422 (24% growth)</li> <li>• Twitter – 10,500 (13% growth)</li> <li>• Instagram – 6,027 (18,6% growth)</li> <li>• LinkedIn – Newly launched</li> </ul>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	<p><b>e-Newsletter</b> – a monthly newsletter was launched in August 2020 to communicate regularly with our members. The newsletter comprises of latest tennis news, upcoming events, tennis tips, monthly competitions, member discounts, and updates about new initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mails sent monthly:</b> 18908</li> <li>• <b>Ave Mails Read:</b> 6960</li> <li>• <b>Ave Links clicked:</b> 3540</li> </ul>





Two weeks of ATP Challenger 80 events took place in 2021.



# Commercial partners

TSA would like to express its gratitude to our partners for making possible so many important initiatives:



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

