

**Minutes of the Special General Meeting of WPA held on Tuesday 30 July 2019 at 19:30
at the Tsogo Sun Hotel, Main Road, Newlands**

<u>Present:</u>	President	:	Lester Cameron
	Vice President	:	Jakes Jacobs
	Chairperson Cross Country	:	Candyce Hall
	Chairperson Road Running	:	Francois Gouws
	Chairperson Track & Field	:	Mariana Meyer
	Finance Officer	:	Allen Barnes
	Chairperson Technical Officials	:	Gavin Burgess
	Additional	:	Adnaan Mohamed
	Additional	:	Michael Schouw
	Office Manager	:	Zena Erasmus
	WPA Representatives	:	Pearl Schouw
			Barbara Davis
			Salma Alexander
			Bianca Ferreira

Atlantis Harriers, Bellville, Bo Kaap, Bonteheuwel, Bottelary, Boxer, Brackenfell, Brimstone Itheko, Carbineers, Celtic Harriers, Central, Century City, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr, Durban, Farnese, Mazars, Midas Spartans, MSA Multisports, Nantes, Observatory, Ommiedraai Friends, Phoenix, Pick n Pay, Pinelands, Ravensmead, Run/Walk for Life, SANDF, South Peninsula, Stragglers, Strand, Top Form, Tygerberg, Velocity, Walmers, West Coast, WP Cricket Club, Wild Runner, Two Oceans Marathon, Trail WP and Masters

Life members: Harold Berman

Apologies: DRDLR, Edgemoor, Foresters, Helderberg Harriers, Kuils River, K-Way Vob, Langebaan Strandlopers, Melkbos, Namaqua, Sanlam, Ellie Courts (Trail WP), Gavin Wright, Kevin Harlock, Nancy Will and Riël Hauman

Absent: ACSA, Adventist, Afrika Tikkun, ArcelorMittal, Asics, ARD, Atlantic, ATC, Aurecon, Bishops, Blue Downs, Born 2 Run, Cape Multi-Sport, Capricorn, Chaeli Sports & Rec, Correctional Services, CPUT, Easterns Kraaifontein, Eersteriver, Elsies River, Fish Hoek, Fit 2000, Goodwood Harriers, Groot Constantia, Harfield Harriers, Herbalife, Hewat, Hout Bay, In Touch Walk/Run, Kenfac, Khayelitsha, Lwandle, Mamre, Mandela Park, Mates, Metropolitan, Mitchells Plain Titans, Multisports Maniacs, Murray & Roberts, My Training Day, Nedbank, Ogilvy & Mather, Old Mutual, Olifantsrivier, Open Box, Parliament, RCS Guguletu, Resbank, Retail Capital Langa, SACS, SAPS, Satori, Somerset Striders, Southern Striders, Spartan Harriers, Thomas Mbiza, Ultra, UCT, UWC, Vodacom Striders and WCSP

The President Mr Lester Cameron welcomed everyone. It was established that a quorum was present. Allen Barnes presented the proposed changes to the current version of the WPA Constitution. If the changes are accepted at this meeting, those changes will take immediate effect and affect the elective AGM in October. The constitutions of Provincial Federations must be aligned to that of ASA and WPA's one, in its present form, is not. Clubs present agreed they had received documentation detailing the proposed changes prior to the meeting.

The proposed Council of WPA will be made up of an Executive Board elected for a period of four years: President, Vice-President, Finance Officer, Commission Chairs for Cross Country, Road Running and Track & Field, two Additional Members and an Office Manager. Each Commission Head will have four elected committee members voted in for a two year term and an option to co-opt further members as required. This will make for easier quorum correctness.

Race Walking will be changed to a Standing Committee

Coaches' Committee will change to a Chairman appointed by the Board in line with ASA's constitution.

RW change to a Standing Committee. Mario Philander (Velocity) believes many clubs will suffer based on this. Allen Barnes pointed out that WPA needs to fall in line with ASA.

TOs and Coaches will not be functioning members on the Board. While TOs work well on the Board, Coaches does not. The TOs would like to keep their status on the Board and they would like to keep their right to vote for a committee at internal elections.

Coaches: Cedric van Wyk (South Peninsula) expressed concern that Coaching is “de-ranked” by appointing a director to oversee it instead of its being a Committee on the Board.

Disciplinary Committee is made up by legal specialists. We currently have nine legal cases in process. Those on the committee are not able to handle the volume of work. We were under pressure from various organizations to institute structures within our Federation. It is proposed that, through consultation, the Board appoint a Chairperson to oversee the Standing Committee for a two-year term.

Presidents’ Forum: To improve consultation and share ideas, the President instituted the Chairperson’s Breakfasts but we lack a think tank for looking at troubles experienced by clubs. In order to move forward, it is proposed that these meetings be broadened to become a Presidents’ Forum, an advisory forum to the Board. It is not a decision-making body.

When it comes to the elective AGM in October 2019, succession planning is essential and the Council is the highest decision-making body. The new structure will enhance the clubs participation for the future.

Lionel Samuels (Phoenix) proposed that a second meeting be called at the end of August to discuss the changes. Allen Barnes pointed out this would necessitate the AGM being moved to November to meet the required notice periods. Following discussion, Mr Samuels amended his proposal to accept the changes on the understanding that there will still be a special meeting to discuss the details. Farouk Meyer (Brimstone iTheko) asked for the vision of WPA and their purpose. Max Rupert (Strand) would like more details about the Disciplinary Committee and see the ASA and WPA structures side by side.

Decisions: Thirty seven clubs in good standing were present.

Four-year term for elected members and a reduction of Commissions to a Chairperson for four years plus four members for two years with the option to co-opt further members. Thirty two (32) voted in favour and there were four (4) abstentions. Motion is carried.

RW change from a Commission to a Standing Committee in line with ASA’s constitution. This was conditional to a task team being asked to review it and a transitional phase being adopted till the next AGM. Thirty one (31) clubs voted in favour, five (5) against and there was one (1) abstention. Motion was carried.

General: Chris Goldschmidt said there are individuals who dispute the right of WPA to take disciplinary action against them. No person may be a member as an individual. They must belong to a club affiliated to WPA or ASA or IAAF and, as such, they fall under the rules and regulations of the constitution. Chris will formulate the wording and take it to the sub-committee for discussion before it is proposed when next constitutional amendments are discussed at Council.

There being nothing further to discuss, the Special General Meeting ended at 21:00.