



WESTERN PROVINCE MASTERS  
ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

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### **Chairperson's Report – 2022/23 Season**

The period under review was indeed positive and the absence of Covid restrictions provided a much-needed competitive season. Masters athletes responded well to increased opportunities and produced many personal bests and new records.

We had 5 Leo Benning meetings, and a WPMasters Championship with the largest number of competitors ever – these events produced 8 new WPM records. The hosting of the SAMA Championships at Green Point Athletics Stadium saw WPM athletes proudly taking the lion's share of medals with 15 new WPM records and 4 new SAMA records being established. It was truly a magnificent performance by all – many congratulations to each and every athlete who wore the WP blue and white at these Masters National Championships.

Importantly, we need to especially acknowledge the continued loyal support given by WPAthletics, their office staff and technical officials, to masters athletics over the season – just like there would be no events without athletes, the same goes for the administration and officials – this is an important partnership that must continue to grow.

It is indeed pleasing to note that the membership of WPMasters is at an all-time high, and we thank our athletes for their wonderful support. However, as we grow, so does the pressure to provide opportunities and events for all. With this comes increased event costs and administration costs, and here we need to apply ourselves (meaning the athletes and the administration) as to how best to move forward together so that we can all benefit. Let's talk to each in the new season as to how we can manage the challenges that lie ahead.

I, personally, owe a deep debt of gratitude to you, the athletes for the hours of training you put in to achieve your performances, and also to the WPMasters Exco committee for the long hours they put into running masters athletics (especially Sanet and Shukri) – your support and dedication for masters athletics are immeasurable and much appreciated.

So, let's build on what we all have achieved in the past season and go forward as a team of athletes and administrators into the new season with enthusiasm and energy and passion for our sport.

Best wishes  
Bob Buck  
Chairperson WPMMAA