

**NORTHERNS SQUASH FEDERATION**  
**PRESIDENT'S 2020 REPORT**

On behalf of the Board, it is a privilege and a pleasure to report on the affairs of the Northern Squash Federation,

The period under review has been probably the strangest season ever experienced by Northerns, the season was brought to an abrupt halt on the 27 March 2020 when the whole of South African was put under lock down by the President of the country.

The function of the board is to establish, promote, control and administer the sport within the boundaries of Gauteng North.

**THE N.S.F. BOARD AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES**

The board consist of Anton Louw, Ashwell Jenneker, Rodney Wood, Robert More, Blaar Coetzee, Brett Cousins, Bronwen Reilly, Piet Jordaan and Mike Pierce.

The Appeal Board, under the Chairmanship of Glenn Hickling again did not need to deal with any appeals in the 2020 season

The Board of Trustees comprising of the founder member Willie du Toit, Alan Colburn, Glenn Hickling, Rodney (Toepie) Wood control the funds invested in the 3 trusts, the 3 trust are being amalgamated into one trust to facilitate the easy administration of the trust.

The NSF website again played a big role in communicating with the Squash fraternity. It assisted hugely with players' information, tournament administration, league results and many other issues within the province.

We would like to thank Blaar for his maintenance of the website, as a squash community we must analysis how we can utilise the website from a commercial and communication structure.

The core function of the Board is to coordinate functions and disciplines within the three associations.

As part of the president's report, I will as last year adopt the 3 associations reports as part of my report, these reports have been dealt with at the association level.

**COVID 19**

Firstly, I would like to thank the associations that were able to assist the squash playing public in any which way that they saw fit during Covid.

Secondly thank you to all the clubs for applying to Squash SA to get back onto court and applying the Covid rules thus ensuring the safety of the players. To Gerda Dreyer your input with the Covid regulations was noticed and appreciated.

We would like to thank Squash SA in the huge effort that was put in to get squash back on the courts, specifically Jennifer Sawyer, Paul Vermaak and Alison Burchell who through their efforts managed to get squash to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> sport back on court.

This period also forced Squash SA to make changes to events that they were able to host, we saw Growthpoint Jarvis/Kaplan cup been hosted at different venues due to the Covid restrictions on the number of people allowed per venue. I would like to thank Blaar Coetzee and his team for the effort he put in to host the A Section of Growthpoint Jarvis/Kaplan at short notice and under strict Covid rules.

The format of the Growthpoint SA Nationals was also changed due to Covid, the new format saw regional qualifying in 8 different regions and the winners of each region going through to the quarter finals to be hosted on the glass court in Brooklyn Mall, this format and tournament ended up being very successful.

So, with the above in mind here is my request to the three associations for the new 2021 season, can each association try to do 1 event differently in the 2021 season, lets us try new formats possibly as additional events or replacement of existing events.

On Behalf of the NSF Board Members and myself I therefore want to express my sincere appreciation for the exceptional people we have on all levels and on all committees that so selflessly offers their time and energy to serve squash in Northerns. So often we find that the vast majority of players enjoy all the benefits of playing in competitions and tournaments and not realizing the massive amount of energy spent by the people behind the screen. In Northerns we have many exceptional people and South African Squash has acknowledged with awards at the Squash SA Awards Function, as mentioned in the NSA report. However, there are many more who serves on other bodies in South African Squash who go unnoticed.

To all the players, coaches' parents and everyone else who contribute to making it such a successful year for Northerns Squash congratulations and thank you again for participating, on and off the court.

Northerns Squash is in a healthy financial state, have good and functional structures in place to deal with most challenges and are blessed with a team of extraordinary people in our midst.

We look forward to a normal year and to continue with the growth and development that we have experienced in the 2021 season

Many thanks

Kyle Potgieter

President N.S.F.

16 November 2020

Pretoria