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# 9th Chukka

October | 2020

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been a while since you have received some pleasant and informative information, but hopefully this feedback will provide some insight into what your executive has been up to and is planning going forward.

To start off, I would like to thank everyone in the polocrosse community for their support of PASA during this somewhat bizarre year. Even though we have not been able to host tournaments until now, let alone have practices as we are used to, a large majority of players and clubs have still affiliated, either in full or by taking advantage of the 50% discount extended to the players.

This support and commitment has helped us as an organisation more than you

know. We are proud to be at the helm of a community so dedicated to the success and upliftment of the sport.

It has been a really tough year, and I can hardly believe we are almost at the end of it. As many motivational memes have illuded to over recent time—"tough situations create strong people". I do believe that we have taken opportunity of the time given to us as a result of this lockdown and have made good strides in creating a stronger organisation and put plans in place that will have a positive effect on our polocrosse community.

In this newsletter, please take note of the section around the executive feedback from myself. It is important that all players are aware of what is being

discussed and actioned. This information will be more readily available through our communication channels going forward.

It has been great to see some clubs taking advantage of the various lift in bans and gathering for practice over the weekends. Thank you for all the clubs adhering to the COVID protocols still in place—please remember that you need to submit your documentation to Ashleigh every Monday if a practice has taken place.

Have a wonderful rest of Spring, and stay safe.

Yours in polocrosse,  
Manfred Rohwer



**People:**  
**Aren't horses expensive?**

**Me:**  
**As long as you don't spend on luxury items such as food or basic healthcare, it's fine.**



Just for LAUGHS...



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our social media platforms in the form of tips and tricks—there have been some awesome pieces of advice that have sparked great engagement on the platform.

We are almost out of tips, so please send through any words of wisdom you might want to share via our social media platforms.

We are keen to get an idea of what you want to see. Please drop us a note on any ideas you might have.

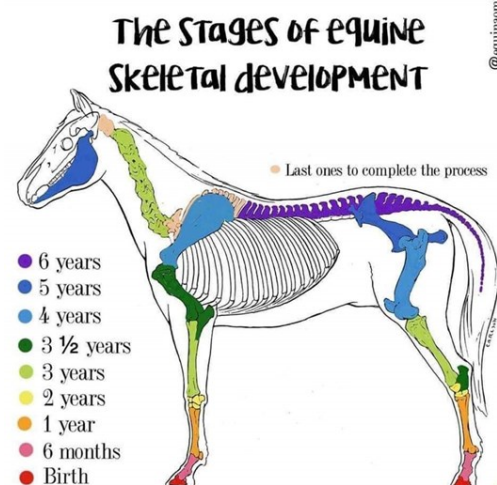
We are interested in starting a "pen-pal" programme for our juniors—we would engage with other playing countries and start correspondence between the juniors. Please let us know if your kids would be interested in the initiative. Contact Emma at [emmasuehall@yahoo.com](mailto:emmasuehall@yahoo.com).



# PASA Executive Feedback

Now to some key feedback and information points from your executive:

1. The last PASA executive meeting was held on the 3rd of September where we discussed the financial standing of the organisation, the plan for development and tours and the selection process for selectors and coaches. We will touch on some of these in the newsletter, and formal communication will be distributed around the processes put in place.
2. The AGM is planned to be held via Zoom on the 4th of December 2020. I really do encourage everyone to attend this session. Please also be reminded that all provinces and clubs need to have their AGM's before this date.
3. I understand that many players are patiently awaiting feedback on the membership fees for 2021 after a season of non-play. This will be discussed in an open forum at the AGM in December.
4. The Exec has spent a lot of time on the terms of references of all positions held on the PASA executive. These are important so that all players understand the roles and responsibilities and are able to channel their feedback through the correct portfolios. All ToR's will soon be available on the new website platform for members only.
5. During this process the standard operating procedures and protocols for the coaching and selecting portfolios have been established and finalised. You will have received the nomination forms for the specific positions via mail.
6. Planned tournaments and tours for 2021 are still very much in the air. We will be having a planning meeting in November to do what preliminary allocation we can in the hopes of an uninterrupted season.
7. Karen Cocker in her role as International liaison Officer has had communications with New Zealand as well as our northern neighbours. These communications are on a senior level as well as some age groups.
8. However, we have decided to get a jump start on the process of selecting the national coaches for 2021 to allow coaching structures to be put in place while COVID may possible still be causing some chaos
9. PASA has been in communications with the IPC to ascertain if the World Cup will remain in the same year or will it be moved out a year as a result of the season interruptions. There is no clarity on this matter as of now.
10. The Tournament/Member and Horse registry platform has now been finalised. This is accessible through the website portal and the executive is keen to run a tournament/practice soon using this platform. This will be compulsory next year and therefore I suggest all members become familiar with this platform, especially the Club secretaries as they will be entering teams using the tool. Members/Managers will have to do all PASA/ Provincial and Club payments on the system from 2021 onwards.
11. A short list of all PASA Trophies has been made and we are trying desperately to track down the trophies that are missing. We are in the process of cleaning these up and having any repairs done before the new season. If any member has a trophy or is aware of the whereabouts of a trophy please let Ashleigh Shaw know. These trophies are extremely valuable to PASA and it is imperative that we look after them and honour their history.
12. We are in the process of finding a 'storage' home for the PASA trophies where they can be safely kept and displayed. If you have any suggestions, please let Ashleigh know.





# A trip down... MEMORY LANE



Our first walk down memory lane was kindly shared with us by **Patrick O'sullivan (aka Induna)**.

Many years ago, when I was a young up and coming polocrosse player, I thought I was pretty good, and being a varsity student, knew everything. In those days, there was no Google, just encyclopaedias—but still us young bucks knew everything about anything!

I was playing for UMVOTI B in those days, and was learning the ropes from some very good players like Norman Crookes, Louis Redinger, Kenny (Harness) Heynes, Roy Valentine, Paddy Reynolds and Hayden (Knoppies) Keightly. In the B team I was playing Mazambaan with the likes of Sean, Mark Beck and George Tatham to name a few.

After a good weekend of polocrosse, where I think we may have won our final, I was sitting in the grandstand (with a beer) and very much full of myself, watching the A team play the "mighty Matamo" in the final. Of course things were fast and furious, and during a play where the players were close to the stands, the umpire (Mr Tony Timm) made a call against umvoti and blew the whistle. Of course I knew better and proceeded to shout "hey umpire, shake your head—your eyes are stuck", (coz that's what a clever fellow from

varsity learnt at varsity rugby you see).

Well, the whistle blew long and hard, time was called off and I was offered the whistle! Needless to say, I felt a complete fool, and humbly sought Tony out after the game to apologise.

He said something to me that I will never ever forget, and which has stood me in good stead since then.

"Patrick" he said, *"I would suggest that if you want to offer advice, learn the rules better than the umpire, and then you will in turn become a better player"*. So maybe that's why I enjoy umpiring today!!

On a lighter note, at that same tournament in Kokstad, we were camping with some of the other umvoti families, the Tatham's in particular. On Sunday morning the grounds were white with frost after a very chilly night.

Stella Tatham was blessed with a perfect set of veneers (dentures) and had faithfully taken them out and added them into a glass with her soaking solution. Of course they froze up solid in the glass, and the picture I have is of Stella walking out of her tent with a hole where her teeth should have been and this glass with a frozen set of teeth smiling at us from within the ice! I have never been the same since then!!

## INTERNATIONAL TOUR PROPOSALS

### SENIORS

YEAR	FORMAT	OPPOSITION
2021	INCOMING: Full mens and full ladies A and B teams President's Cup	New Zealand  Zim/Zam

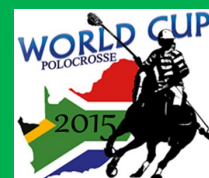
### JUNIORS

YEAR	FORMAT	OPPOSITION
2021	INCOMING: U16 team INCOMING: U14 team OUTGOING: U16 and U19 mixed Limited handicap/Development Team	United Kingdom Barbarian Team Zimbabwe
2022	OUTGOING: U19 team	United Kingdom

## WORLD CUP LOGO

THANK YOU to everyone who entered the World Cup logo competition.

The deigns are being assessed and a winner will be announced soon!



It's not enough to wish on  
stars...

YOU HAVE TO REACH  
FOR THEM!

October 2020

# Lockdown Polocrosse in KZN



KZN polocrosse managed to get some practices and coaching in this season—once we were finally allowed to travel to and play at our clubs. The new rules about sanitizing, face masks and no contact did not dampen our players excitement to finally be back on the field with their fellow team mates.

Some good came out of this dire situation—during the initial lockdown most of us were able to ride every day and all the green horses are now fairly well schooled. With no tournaments on the go for our senior player to focus on preparing or, they had so much extra time to put into the up and coming younger players. As a result, this turned out to be the season for coaching across KZN clubs. Sadly, due to the ban on provincial travel we could not include our neighbouring provinces, however I am sure they also had the same coaching opportunities closer to home.

Once the ban on sporting practices lifted, our KZN clubs rallied together and had a few joint practices at Bishopstowe Club. Thank you to the Bishopstowe Club for including everyone in your practices. It was so good to see players from Nyati, Mooi River, Lions River, Underberg and Shongweni getting together and helping one another with schooling horses and polocrosse skills. Nyati and Shongweni were also able to host a few practices and coaching sessions of their own.

We have seen a huge improvement in our juniors and cannot wait to see them playing in tournaments next season. Thanks to all the positive attitudes and hard work—polocrosse will come out of COVID stronger.

A big thank you to all our coaches – your knowledge sharing, patience and advice has helped guide many enthusiastic players who are integral contributors to the foundation of our polocrosse community.

## REMINDER

The PASA email addresses have changed:

**Secretary:** [admin@polocrosse.co.za](mailto:admin@polocrosse.co.za)

**President:** [president@polocrosse.co.za](mailto:president@polocrosse.co.za)

**WEBSITE PORTAL:** [www.polocrosse.co.za](http://www.polocrosse.co.za)



## OCTOBER

- 1: LEIGH MANSFIELD
- 2: DAVID ARMITAGE
- 3: CLAIRE ARMITAGE
- 6: LENKA BRON
- 10: JARY GOETSCH
- 14: ZENE BOTHA
- 17: GAIL DU TOIT
- 19: JOELENE PHILLIPS
- 23: AIDEN LYNN
- 27: CHAD VON BENECKE
- TRENT HOOPER
- 28: IAN MCRAE
- 29: IAN PENDERIS
- 31: KEARA MATTHEUS

*"The first step when I get onto a horse is to flex the horse's head to my knee—one way and then the other.*

*Many people say a horse is one-sided, but lots of the time the muscles on the one side of the neck are stronger than on the other side from being turned one way more than the other. I will bend twice as much to the bad side until the horse becomes more even."*

Peter Choice

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*To all the players who celebrated during lockdown,*

*We wish you all the best for the upcoming year!*