



SA Grand Masters Hockey Association South African Grand Masters Hockey Association World Cup 2024

SAGMHA JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER NO: 2 of 2023

Good Afternoon SA Masters over 60 hockey players, previously known as "Grandmasters" and still referred to as such in this newsletter.

I hope that you are all well and enjoying the winter hockey season in your Provinces

Prior to reading this Newsletter please read the **attached** SA Masters Hockey Newsletter **JOURNEY TO WORLD CUP 2024, June 2023**. Its focus is on the Ladies and Men's Over 60 hockey players who intend participating in the Auckland W.C. 2024 (7th to 16th November; Opening Ceremony 6th November). They will be guided with the contents of the aforementioned and the attached **SAMHA JOURNEY TO WORLD CUP 2024, JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER**.

Participation in SA Masters IPT August 2023(Ladies and Men Over 60)

- It may not be possible for all the 60 players intending to participate in WC2024, to participate in the Masters IPT as they may not be accommodated in an already selected team. Certain Ladies and Men, are attending trials but leaving thereafter and not attending the IPT. Similarly, at least 3 ladies who intend to participate in WC2024, are based in the UK and due to the trials initially being scheduled for the Grand Masters IPT in February 2024, they are not able to change their flights.
- **Those players who are unable to attend Trials and/ or the Masters IPT 2023 must furnish a detailed dispensation application and clearly state why they are unable to attend.**
- They **MUST** however attend the African Invitational Tournament, the March 2024 Trials and the joint March IPT2024 tournament, in order to be considered for WC2024 Selection.

Affiliated to WMH & recognized by FIH

Committee: Barry Froneman (President), Rob Birt (Secretary), Basil Evans, Gary Talbot, John Potgieter, M Schwegmann, S Barnard

This second SAGMHA newsletter for 2023 is to provide you, with an update on the 2024 World Cup tournaments, the IPT2024 and the team selection processes for the WC.

It is specifically directed at the **Men's players over 65 Cape Town W.C.2024** (12th to 21st October; Opening Ceremony 11th October).

1. COACHES AND MANAGERS:

- Manager, Coaches and Selectors for all the Over 60 players will be coordinated and selected by the SAGMHA Executive
- Interested parties who would like to be considered for these positions for both Men and Women's 60+teams must please submit their application in writing to barryfroneman@telkomsa.net and to birtfam@iafrica.com

2. SAMHA WORLD CUP SELECTION PRINCIPLES ENCOMPASSES THE FOLLOWING:

- Players must be affiliated to SAHA and have a SAHA membership number
- Players must be a fully paid- up member of a club or association.
- Must have a valid South African passport or be a permanent resident of South Africa
- Residency rules as per WMH Rules will however apply in addition to the above.
- Players must meet the age criteria as per FIH tournament rules
- To be eligible to compete in any master's competition, a player must be over the designated age limit on the 31 December of the year of the relevant competition or who will reach the designated age by/on 31 December 2024.
- It is SA Grand Masters Policy that players have to register for WC trials according to their age group. No players will be allowed to play "down" unless specifically authorised by SA Grand Masters Executive. (Dispensation can be requested for consideration)
- **The registration process for the over 65 players will be communicated in due course and will commence from 01 September 2023 until 15 January 2024.**

3. In addition to the above and to be eligible for the selection and trial processes, players will be required to adhere and attend to the following:

- Register via an on-line application their intent to be part of the process and effect an once off registration levy of R500.00 (SAGMHA BANK ACCOUNT NO: 1023379879)
- R500.00 will be refunded to players who are not selected for the initial squad selections, 14 days post the GMIPT2024
- Player/s who withdraws from the selected squad selection prior to the final team selection camp, without a medical related reason, will not be entitled to the R500.00 refund.
- Player/s who is not included in the final team selection will receive the R500.00 refund, 14 days post the final team selection training camp.
- **Participate in WC Squad trials. (Johannesburg 21 to 24 March 2024)**
- WC Squad trials will commence at midday on **Thursday 21 March 2024** and will be conducted at B.H.S. or M.C.C.
- **Participate in the SA Grand Masters IPT (Johannesburg 22 to 24 March 2024)**
- Attend the 3 X National Training Camps. (Dates and Venues will be advised)
- **Notwithstanding the activities scheduled for the camps all players who have been selected will be required to participate in the WC squad fitness program and local Provincial preparations for the World Cup. Coordination to ensure consistency of training/coaching approaches will take place between the coaches of each team in their respective provinces.**
- Age Group W.C. 2024 Squad Selection will be announced on the final day of the GM 2024IPT.
- Final team selection will take place immediately after the first Training camp.
- Final training camps for all 65+age groups, will be conducted in Cape Town 2-3 days prior to the commencement of W.C.2024
- ALL THE W.C.PAYMENT DEADLINES MUST BE ADHERED TO WITHOUT EXCEPTION.
- APPROXIMATE W.C.2024 BUDGET REQUIREMENTS WILL BE COMMUNICATED when appropriate and will include the following:
 - W.C.2024 TOURNAMENT LEVY

- W.C.2024 ACCOMODATION
- W.C.2024 PLAYING KIT
- W.C.2024 TRANSPORT

4. W.C. 2024 DISPENSATION PROCESS:

- Players who are unable to attend the SA Grand Masters Trials or IPT are required to apply in writing to request dispensation; the request should clearly state the extenuating circumstances or reasons for not being able to attend.
- Dispensation application however, is not a guarantee for selection.
- The SAGMHA President and the Players Affairs co-ordinator, **will review** the motivations for dispensation and if necessary, consult with the Coach, prior to acceptance or rejection of the motivation for dispensation.
- Squad and final team selection will be conducted by independent selectors with input from the appointed team coach. The team coach will however, in the event of borderline selection of players, be requested to make the final decision.
- **Documented selection criteria and guidelines will be compiled and discussed with all the selectors and coaches, prior to the commencement of the selection process.**
- **The names of the final selected team members will be submitted to the SAGMHA President for review and prior to the official announcement.**

5. 2024 WORLD CUP ACCOMODATION IN CAPE TOWN:

- Accommodation will be arranged for Grandmasters players playing in their specific age groups and it will be a requirement that all players in each team will occupy the appointed accommodation, as has been the case at previous World Cups.
- Rob Birt has carried out an investigation as to the suitability of accommodation during the World Cup 2024.
- His investigations and findings included costs, facilities, meals, laundry, parking and access to the playing venues. Three organizations were approached and quotations obtained from each of the following:
 - Gardens Centre Holiday Apartments
 - First Group: Mount Sierra and Hastings Hall Apartments:
 - Garden Court, Nelson Mandela Boulevard Hotel.

- In the next few days I intend to travel to Cape Town to visit and, with Rob, assess the suitability of each, ever mindful however of the costs.
- Once the accommodation venue has been decided the accommodation will be communicated to all our over 65 players giving them enough time to plan and budget for the tournament.

6. “AFRICA MASTERS HOCKEY INVITATIONAL CUP”

- Plans are still being made by the SA Masters Executive for an “Africa Masters Hockey Invitational Cup” to take place in November 2023.
- The SA Masters “Africa Masters Hockey Invitational” which will coincide with the “Road to Paris” African Olympic Qualifier Tournament featuring both our Ladies and Men’s National Teams. We are very excited about sharing the Astro with our national teams in a determined effort to continue the process of building bridges within SA Hockey (As per Reg Marais)
- It is the intention of SAGMHA to support and participate in the above and once more information is made known about this tournament your executive will determine if there is an opportunity to field as many Over 60 teams as possible.

7. HIGH LEVEL ROADMAP:

May to mid-July 2023	Coach and Manager Applications for Over 60 Ladies and Men	Written application to Rob and Barry
15 July 2023 to 31 August 2023	Coach and Manager Applications for Over 65’s/70’s and 75 Men	Written application to Rob and Barry
01 September 2023 to 14 January 2024	W.C.2024 and African Masters Hockey Invitational Cup Registration, for age groups 65+	Online registration
21 March 2024 to 21 March 2024	W.C. Squad Trials from midday 21 March 2024	Johannesburg
22 March 2024 to 24 March 2024	IPT2024 and continuation of W.C.2024 Squad Trials during IPT2024.	Johannesburg
From April 2024	THREE (3) training camps to	Dates and Venues

Commencement of W.C. 2024 Training Camps, Centrally and Regionally	be scheduled. Final selection & Announcement of WC 2024 teams post the first training camp.	tbc
09 to 10 October 2024 Final Training Camp for W.C. 2024	Final National Training Camp.	Cape Town
11 October 2024... W.C. 2024 Opening Ceremony	W.C.2024 Opening Ceremony	Cape Town
12 October 2024 to 21 October 2024 Commencement of W.C. 2024	W.C.2024	Cape Town

Please do not hesitate to contact either Rob and or myself in the event of any queries or suggestions pertaining to the above.

For the Love of Hockey

Barry Froneman

And on behalf of the SAGMHA COMMITTEE