



SOUTH AFRICAN GRAND MASTERS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

SAGMHA

SAGMHA MINUTES of the 5th April 2025 AGM

OF THE 14TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GRAND MASTERS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION to be held at 17:00 on SATURDAY 5th April 2025 at the Gqeberha/Port Elizabeth IPT.

1 Opening:

Opening of the AGM was delayed as members arrived late and also due to the fact that Karl Luff, from WP was enquiring about spare Ballot Voting documents. Barry responded that he should ascertain as to whether Pieter Scholtz had a spare Ballot Voting documents but also enquired as to why he would require the document. Karl presented the intended W.P. Ballot Voting Document to be submitted to Barry and Barry commented upon viewing the document, that Karl would be able to submit the document as is but that WP was only entitled to 5 votes as per the constitution and not the number of votes reflected on the Ballot Voting Document. Barry also commented that it was not necessary to cast a vote for the unopposed candidates, namely Pieter Scholtz (Treasurer), Shazi Barnard (Ladies Playing Affairs) Glenn Turner (Marketing and Transformation) as well as the co-opted members. The 5 W.P. votes could be allocated to the Chairpersons, Men's Playing Affairs and the Secretary nominees reflected on the Voting Ballot documents. Karl commenced to changing votes on the document at the table but then mentioned that the voting process that Barry had described was not the voting process as per the WP understanding. Barry mentioned that the VOTING PROCEDURE was compiled by Rob Birt, based on the current SAGMHA Constitution and that he agreed to the process compiled and distributed by Rob. Karl mentioned that Rob was not responding to a cellular call. Barry suggested to Karl that he discuss the voting process misunderstanding/clarification with his W.P. team. Pieter Scholtz and Shazi Barnard were also in attendance and they echoed the process as explained by Barry.

It was rather disappointing that despite detailed Voting Process documentation providing clarity and the explanation of the Voting Process (as reflected in the SAGMHA Constitution) sent by Rob Birt via E-Mail well in advance of the AGM was not queried prior to the AGM

Karl Luff and the WP members left the meeting room to caucus on the voting process.

A degree of disrespect was illustrated in view of not officially excusing the delegation from the AGM.

2 Welcome & apologies.

Pieter Scholtz opened the meeting at 18h10 (25 minutes later than scheduled time) and welcomed all 50 members present. Pieter confirmed that the attendance register had been signed by all present. Apologies noted for Rob Birt, WP, Gary Talbot EG and Noreen Wonnacott WP.

Barry Froneman, SA GMHA President welcomed Greg Dawson, E.P. Tournament Director, the E.P. L.O.C. Umpires, Technical Delegates, Medics and all the IPT2025 participants.

A special welcome was expressed towards Reg Marais the SAMHA President.

3 Confirmation of Quorum

Pieter Scholtz confirmed that a quorum was in attendance and that the distributed AGM agenda items including the voting process could now commence.

4 Minute silence for "past hockey players"

The meeting held a 60 second silence for those players, partners and wives who had passed on during the past year.

Affiliated to SAMHA.

Committee: Barry Froneman (President), Rob Birt (Act Secretary), Pieter Scholtz (Treasurer), Basil Evans, Gary Talbot, Karl Luff, M Schwegmann, S Barnard



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- Cathy-Spouse of John Shardlow
- Cynthia-Spouse of Frank Aspelung
- Gary Colby
- Mari-Ann-Spouse of Glyn Bedford
- Peter Randall

5 Thank You's

Many thanks to Greg Dawson and his entire team who have despite many operational obstacles have provided us with great hockey facilities, great umpires, great entertainment, great refreshment facilities and a great technical team.

Greg and his team have gone out of their way to ensure that competitive hockey participation, fun and enjoyment is the key objective of The Over 60 IPT2025.

Greg has facilitated the inclusion of a very competitive 55+age group pools and has requested the E.P. Over 60 team, in spite of tough opposition, to participate in the 55+ pool, in order to fulfil a four-team fixture.

Many thanks to Pearson High, Victoria Park and NMU for permitting us to use their Astro facilities.

Barry thanked the outgoing SAGMHA committee for their contribution to Masters Hockey and all the Provincial Chairpersons, Mandated Provincial Officials, Team Managers, Coaches and Captains for their sterling efforts in ensuring that their Provinces are adequately represented at the 2025 Over 60+ Hockey Tournament. (24 teams participation a record participation for Grand Masters IPT's.

Barry expressed a special thanks to the physio's and medical personnel, Summerwood Bowling Club and Eddie Macs@VP.

Barry made mention of the following members who have contributed a lot to GMO60+ over the years (since 2010) in terms of their commitment and service to hockey and handed an Award as a small token of appreciation to the following members:

- Maurice Hartshorne-W.P.
- Basil Evans KZN
- Tom Lawless SG
- Noreen Wonnacott WP (Apologies Handed to John Donald)
- Rob Birt WP. (Apologies, Handed to John Donald)

6 Approval of the Agenda

There were no changes to agenda, and it was duly approved.

7 COMMON VALUES

Barry mentioned the ethos of SA Masters and how Masters Hockey Players (35 to 80+) need to incorporate the Common Values and consider the Strategic Imperatives whenever they participate at any level of hockey. Two Slides were presented reflecting the Masters Common Values and the Masters Strategic Imperatives for 2025/2026.

All the slides presented will be included in the SAGMHA President's AGM Report.

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SOUTH AFRICAN GRAND MASTERS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
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For the Badge

We represent South Africa, our sport, our team.
We play to win.
We play for each other.

For the love of the game

We find "enjoyment" playing the game.
We respect and nurture the game

In the Spirit of Masters

Integrity
Fairplay
Respect our opponents and officials

8 STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES 2025/2026

- The Spirit of Masters (Common Set of Values)
- SAMHA Capacity
- SAMHA Constitution
- Tournament structure and format
- International competition
- Umpire & tech official development
- Transformation
- Communication capacity
- Commercialisation
- Funding
- Brand
- Archiving
- Development of Masters Leagues
- SA Masters Constitution Review
- Finalization of SA Masters and SA Grand Masters Journey
- SA Masters Executive Capacity
- Commercialisation-Funding Streams
- SA Masters Tournaments Structure and Format
- International Competition
- Umpire and Technical Official Development
- Transformation
- Marketing and Communication
- Development of Masters Leagues
- Common Players Database
- Information Technology Platforms

A slide was projected with a photo of alcohol brought on to Pearson School Premises, despite the request of no alcohol allowed and this behaviour could impact the hosting of Senior Hockey and potentially the August 2025 SA Masters IPT.

Barry commented that the slide did not depict the S.A. Masters Values and expressed his disappointment.

COMMITMENT:

Barry further commented that COMMITMENT is an integral component of the S.A. MASTERS VALUES.

- Commitment to playing hockey was not merely availing oneself to participate in hockey.

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- Commitment also included meeting payment deadlines, information required timelines, reregistration timelines, achieving fitness to the best of one's ability, attending practices etc.

9 Minutes of the AGM held 23rd March 2024

- a. Correctness of minutes – there were no comments and/or amendments.
- b. Confirm minutes – proposed by Kevin Nicol and seconded by Basil Evans
- c. Matters arising
 1. **Review of the current SAGMHA constitution** as per Barry's (Outgoing President of SAGMHA) suggestion to the incoming SAGMHA Committee.
As is the case in all constitutions, the landscape, flexibility and scenarios change with time and require regular review.
The review of the SAGMHA Constitution will be a task for the Incoming Committee and the following clauses and statements are recommended for discussion and review.
 - a. Capitation to be changed to "Annual Levy"
 - b. Annual Levy is not applicable to the Under 60 age groups.
 - c. Annual Levy for Over 60's has been reduced from R330.00(since 2019) to R250.00
 - d. Annual Levy for Under 60's to be changed to R250.00
 - e. "Commitment to fulfil the annual levy for all hockey players from the ages of 60 to 74, Implies that all S.A. Hockey players in these age categories are liable for payment, irrespective of whether they practice hockey or participate in hockey in any form."
 - f. Commitment to fulfil the annual levy for all hockey players from the ages of 60 to 74, should be changed to: Annual levy is due by all the players who attend the Over60 IPT and/or any other SAGMHA sanctioned tournament and/or any players availing themselves to WC Trials (Those who did not attend the Over 60) IPT .(e.g. Players who did not attend GMIPT2025 but intend to register for AMI/W.C. Squad Trials must pay the 2025 Levies)
 - g. Document Trailer and Header to change:
 - Remove the WMH Logo
 - Remove all the affiliations references other than SAMHA affiliation (Affiliated to SAMHA encompasses all the other affiliations)
 - h. Review the dispensation application process. Too many teams and especially in the Under 60 age bracket requested dispensation. Ensure that competitiveness within age groups remain a key priority.
 - i. Review and expand on the "Must Play for your Province" statement and clearly document the PLAYER CLEARANCE process to be followed, when a player registered for Province A, who is a playing and paying member of that province intends to play for another province B, be it for a club and/or Province.
 - j. Review the Ballot and Voting Process in view of the increase in team participation and in view of underage players participating in defined age group categories.
 - k. Review the pre-requisites for age group participations. Whereas SAGMHA must facilitate the participation of Under 60 age group teams it should not be at the detriment and competitiveness ability of the older players, especially in the late 60's to 75+ age groups.
 - l. Review any procedures which facilitate closer alignment to the SAMHA Constitution
 - m. Include a statement which requires all the members of the SAGMHA Committee to submit as defined regular status reports pertaining to their elected and ad hoc portfolios.
 2. **Handover Procedure of current SAGMHA President Portfolio and other portfolios**
 - Affiliated to SAMHA.**



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SAGMHA constitution adequately caters for the "handover" of committee members portfolio's

Outgoing SAGMHA committee members will be required to provide a documented handover detailing current projects, issues, concerns etc. to the incoming President and the incoming portfolio incumbent.

- Outgoing SAGMHA committee members will also be required to attend at least one (1) but preferably two (2) Committee Meetings post their resignation and/or post their retirement. Attendance of the SAGMHA Committee will contribute to facilitate an orderly portfolio handover.
- As the outgoing President of SAGMHA Barry also suggested a two (2) day handover workshop be conducted with the incoming committee.

10 Committee reports

a. **President's report high level summary.**

Barry Froneman mentioned that his President's Report was a lengthy and detailed report and that in view of the late commencement of the 2025AGM and in view of time constraints he will merely provide a high-level report feedback and mentioned the Presidents report will be available on the website,

It was important to permit sufficient time for the VOTING PROCESS.

Barry emphasized that the Masters Over 60+ (SAGMHA) and Under 60's (SAMHA) are a S.A. Masters Entity (As per WMH directive) and that strategic and common S.A. Masters Hockey objectives pertain to both SAGMHA and SAMHA.

Finalization of SA Masters and SA Grand Masters Journey is W.I.P. and ongoing.

Glenn Turner of W.P. posed the question as to why and what prevents the formation of a single Masters Entity.

Barry responded that the What is evident but that the HOW requires further discussion.

Glenn Turner disagreed with the HOW component.

Barry responded as follows:

Certain provinces have not managed to negotiate/amalgamate/combine Grand Masters and Masters.

For a S.A. Masters entity to function successfully "As a Single Masters Hockey Entity" requires consensus at a National Masters Hockey Level and at a Provincial Level.

The following Provincial Grand Masters and Masters Committees have already consolidated and operate as a single S.A. Masters Hockey Entity comprising of one committee.

- Southern Gauteng
- Eastern Gauteng
- Eastern Province
- KwaZulu Natal W.I.P. with an imminent combined AGM soon to be scheduled.

The following comments were received from the AGM attendee's:

- Why do we want to limit the leadership pool?
- That one size does not fit all.
- We are too big to host one tournament for all

In view of time constraints, no formal response was afforded to the above.

Affiliated to SAMHA.

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Barry Froneman highlighted the fact that we as Grand Masters Hockey Players (SAGMHA) are fortunate to be affiliated to SAMHA in view of the past and recent achievements of SAMHA.

The image of SAMHA has been elevated and recognised internationally, to be a professional and well managed World Class Hockey Association.

- Positive Contributions to WMH Hockey Affairs (Spirit of Masters Concept)
- Fulfils a key role promoting S.A. Masters Hockey on the SAHA Executive
- Successful bid for hosting WC2022 in Cape Town
- Successful bid for hosting WC2024 in Cape Town
- Ongoing bids to host WC tournaments in SA (Outdoor and Indoor)

S.A. MASTERS OVER 60 ACHIEVEMENTS

- S.A.G.M.H.A. first attended and participated in an international tournament in Perth, Australia in 1993 and thereafter individual Masters S.A. teams participated in numerous overseas countries.
- SAGMHA was present with the WGMHA and WMH amalgamation discussions discussed in Europe (2019)
- W.C. Tournaments participation has been in 2010,2012,2014,2016,2018,2022 and 2024
- European Cup Tournament in 2019(Over 70's)
- Managed to secure a R1.000,000.00 sponsorship for the Over 70 Masters Team to participate in WC2020.
- Conducted Trial and elected teams for WC2020 which was cancelled due to Covid.
- Sponsorship of R1,000,000.00 was forfeited due to the cancellation of WC2020
- First time ever to enter 2 x Ladies Over 60 Teams in a W.C. Tournament (2022)
- Entering 3 x Men's teams in the Tokyo W.C. 2022 in spite of numerous challenges regarding Covid regulations, Visas, Entry to Japan and initially having to contend with staying in a "bubble", as per the 2022 Olympics.
- First time ever for a S.A. Over 60 Men's team to win a medal in a W.C. Tournament WC2022(Over 70's=Silver)
- WC2022 was the first Masters Event that all the South African Teams (Over 35 to 70) were kitted with the same S.A. Masters Kit and Colours.
- First time ever to enter an Over 75 Men's team in the 2024 W.C. hosted in Cape Town.
- SAGMHA also entered the following Men's teams for Cape Town W.C.2024. 2 x 65 Men's Teams and 1 x 70 team.
- SAGMHA also entered a Ladies and Men's Over 60 team to participate in Auckland W.C. 2024
- It was a great achievement that all the players at GMIPT2025 complied with the SAMHA registration process and that the wearing of Face Masks for penalty corners was adhered to by all the participants.
- Cash in Hand SAGMHA finances has increased substantially due to the process of close monitoring the interest rates for Money Trader and 32day deposits and ensuring that the maximum interest is capitalized on.

Barry Froneman thanked the players, coaches, officials, and supporters for their unwavering dedication to SA Masters Hockey.

He commented: Your passion and commitment towards hockey are the foundation of our success.

I am confident that as we move forward as a team, we will continue to elevate the sport referred to as hockey and create more opportunities for our hockey communities.

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b. Treasurers report - Pieter Scholtz

The Financial statements for period ending 31st December 2024 were presented.

(Copies were available at the registration table of the IPT)

Pieter Scholtz explained that 2024 was a good financial year as SAGMHA was able to contribute to WC players, managers and coaches' expenses who attending WC2024 in Cape Town and New Zealand.

Pieter Scholtz projected and made reference to slides reflecting the Balance Sheet and Income Statement, which clearly reflected the collection of Annual levies and Interest earned, Income, which was offset against WC expenses

Karl Luff and the WP members rejoined the meeting.

For the 2025 Financial Year, SAGMHA will need to budget for AMI expenses, as no AMI tournament was held in 2024.

The SAGMHA Finances reflect an extremely healthy financial situation.

1. Finances proposed by Pieter Scholtz and approved by Steven Kelly and Tom Lawless.

11 Affiliation Matters

- a. SAGMHA/SAMHA – MOU status - B Froneman mentioned that the Grand Masters and Masters Provincial committee's need to continue the alignment process and progress to a process of amalgamation, in order to achieve an ultimate Single S.A. Masters Entity.
- b. Membership of SAMHA/ SAHA is imperative and it is essential that all Masters Players pay and submit their SAHA numbers to their managers for inclusion on the Team Sheets.
- c. SAMHA registration is an annual requirement and should be monitored by the respective Provincial Committee's.

12 SAGMHA

- a. Potential constitution review components
- b. Capitation Fees (Annual SAGMHA Levies)
- c. GMIPT's-Hosting Provinces-Pre-requisites – 4 astros minimum
- d. GMIPT2026 Hosting Province – Durban in February and will be final trials for WC2026, Age Groups 35 to 75+

13 Future participation AMI 2025 Tournament

Tournament earmarked for 21-23 Nov this year, venue to be confirmed, but most likely JHB.

Players were encouraged to register for AMI as this will be 1st round of trials for WC2026.

Intention is to select WC2026 squads at the AMI. (All age groups)

14 WMH World Cup 2024 –

- a. Postmortem Cape Town – O65+/O70/O75+ men attended tournament in Cape Town, which was not as successful as Tokyo.
- b. Many members had fallen ill (Covid), some hospitalized and unable to provide their normal W.C. level of performance.
- c. Postmortem New Zealand – O60+ Men and Ladies O45+/O50+/O55+ Men and Ladies participated.

All the Teams stayed in one hotel; 2 Vehicles were hired for each team.

R15k was contributed to each player from SAMHA.

M55+ & L55+ played in quarter finals.

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15 WMH World Cup 2026

- Preparation Roadmap – WMH tournaments split into 3 tiers: T1 35-40, T2 45-55 and T3 O60+. (Ladies and Men)
- WC2026 hosts and tentative dates to be announced May/mid-June 2025)
- Tentative dates and Hosting Countries to be announced mid -June 2025.
- It is anticipated that different age group WC participation will be conducted between June and late August early September 2026.
- High Level WC2026 Costs to be determined a.s.a.p.
- Date of Trials (Squad Selection) O60+ 1st set of squad trials at AMI2025
- Over 60 Talent scouts are and have been present at GMIPT.2025
- Final Team Selection for WC2026 will take place at O60+ IPT in February in Durban (This tournament will also be used for Final Wc2026 trials for 35 to 59 age group trials.
- Compulsory Training Camps – planned for from March onwards till T3 WC dates will be confirmed.
- Clive Surtees requested that camp dates are set well in advance and members notified.
- Managers and coaches will be involved in determining the age group camp dates. It is recommended that the initial camp discussion already commence at the AMI2025

16 Reg Marais Discussion:

Reg was requested to address the AGM audience and to discuss any issues/concerns.

Reg thanked the AGM for the opportunity to address the members who were present.

Reg re-emphasized and endorsed the Values and Strategic Imperatives 2025/2026 and further commented that is well aware of the different scenario's/ circumstances/requirements relating to the older members of the "Grand Masters" players.

Reg referred to the Men's 75+ members of WC2026 who for practical reasons, were not able to be accommodated at the same hotel as the other Men's Over 65 and Over 70 WC2026 players. Extenuating circumstances required that dispensation be granted on that occasion. (Masters Rules are that all participating teams are accommodated in the same hotel)

Reg also mentioned that he appreciates and respects all the participating Masters age groups And will ensure that all the Masters Age Groups will qualify for the same conditions and benefits. An example was the Auckland WC2024 SAMHA contribution of R15000,00. which was allocated to all the Masters age groups participating at the tournament (including the Over 60 Ladies and Men's team.

Regarding a question regarding the statement "Finalization of SA Masters and SA Grand Masters Journey", Reg commented that he is very conscious of "Not fixing something which is not broken" and that process is W.I.P. What is of benefit to S.A. Masters must always be considered.

17 Election of committee members (Principals and Commitments)

Karl Luff WP and members began with the statement that voting as stipulated in the constitution is ambiguous and that they will dispute the voting process.

Rob Birt had distributed the process in advance of the AGM 2 weeks ago and no query was forthwith prior to the AGM Voting Session.

Previous SAGMHA Constitution voting was also conducted in accordance with the process as stipulated in the current SAGMHA Constitution and no objections were raised then.

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Barry Froneman, Karl Luff and many provincial SAGMHA members were instrumental in drafting the constitution, inclusive of the Voting Process. The entire Constitution was proposed and accepted by members in 2022 (GMIPT2022)

Karl Luff commented that W. P. was entitled to, 5 votes (W. P Chairperson and, 4 W. P. team votes)

His interpretation of the SAGMHA Constitution is that 5 votes can be allocated to each portfolio and not 5 votes in total to be allocated to the nominee ballot paper. Monty Schwegmann agreed with Karl Luff's interpretation of the current SAGMHA Constitution. This statement initiated a heated debate. Peter Kratz (WP) requested a legal explanation of the voting process as Barry's interpretation is his and not that of the members nor that of the constitution.

Barry responded that it is not only his interpretation of the current SAGMHA constitution but also the interpretation of Rob Birt, Pieter Scholtz, Shazi Barnard and other provincial members. Reg Marais commented that the current SAGMHA Constitution was presented. agreed and adopted in 2022 and why all of a sudden, is there non-clarity regarding the voting process? Reg then clearly stated that in terms of Common Law the Chairman has got the final say in Terms of the interpretation however, the Chairman elected not to follow this route at this point in time but rather to consider calling for a special AGM

Mark Southern, Mpumalanga enquired why he as a chairperson did not have a vote; he understands that Mpumalanga has not O60 team entered into O60 IPT, but as a chairperson he should be entitled to a vote.

Piet Scholtz commented that Mark was not the Chairperson of Mpumalanga Grand Masters.

Clive Surtees requested process be written in layman's English and that clarity should be obtained regarding the gap analysis of the two interpretations.

A further comment was that the AGM attendees should vote as to the assumed interpretation.

Barry commented that it was not possible to conduct any such discussions during the meeting, as allocated time has long been exceeded/overrun and it was not fair to the people and caterers who organized the function to be subjected to the late arrival of the AGM attendees.

The bantering of dispute against voting process continued for some time and was mostly fuelled by WP members.

Barry Froneman suggested that a Special General Meeting will be held and then the voting will take place as per the SGM process included in the SAGMHA Constitution.

John Donald commented that the SGM should be arranged as soon as possible i.e. tomorrow.

Barry commented that a SGM will not be arranged tomorrow (the next day) and that the process as per the SAGMHA Constitution will be adhered to.

18 General

After the commotion calmed down, Tom Lawless, on behalf of the members, gave thanks to Barry Froneman for his years of service to hockey and thanked him again for his unwavering loyalty in the best interest of the game.

19 Close

Meeting ended at 19h20.

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