



# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

## **JULY 2011 REPORT**

The third report will develop the Good governance ethos as there appear to be some confusion around what Good Governance means.

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### Introduction

We are facing new challenges in the SAOF that no other committee before has faced. These challenges were not even contemplated when our constitution was drawn up. It is a distinctly amateur constitution and fundamentally it is flawed when attempting to make it fit in a professional era. Good Governance is the bridge to cross that divide.

### Good Governance

There seems to be some confusion around the meaning of Good Governance. There is no magic in it. Good Governance is first and foremost about the best interests of the federation. The executive Committee must manage all processes in the best interests of the Federation and its members.

Good Governance is a culture whereby the Executive committee, does whatever is in the best interest of the Federation in a transparent and accountable way. This means that when an appointment is to be made, the best person for the job must be appointed and if there are conflict of interest issues they must be disclosed in a transparent manner, but the best candidate must be appointed.

This means that when applications are made for funding all the interests of the community must be taken into account by requesting input from the members.

It must also be noted that the members are deemed to be the shareholders, not the employees of the SAOF and the members through the AGM have the final power in all decisions. The AGM

## OUR FOCUS:

Good Governance is first and foremost about the best interests of the federation. Ours is a meritocracy and the best person must get the job.

may even overturn executive decisions or remove executive members who do not perform.

The Executive does not have a list of authorities that authorize it to make employment decisions. We have not done so to date and technically the AGM can overrule the Executive's decisions. This governance culture is a process and must be incorporated into every level of decision making.

The key here is that as long as the executive committee can show that their decision is in the best interests of the Federation and its members, it will be in line with good governance.

#### SRSA

Val has been chasing SRSA for this money and I am somewhat surprised that we have not had any response yet. We must move urgently as the time period for spending the SRSA money expires at the end of March 2012 and cannot be extended. They do take the money back if it is unspent.

#### SASCOC

There are provincial sports izindaba's being held as per the table below. This is a good opportunity to meet decision makers in the various provinces. Remember the provinces have money and may be encouraged to spend it on establishing orienteering in that province. The VP development should take note of these dates and ensure that the PM for expansion attends each of those in the target provinces to network with these key players.

PROVINCE	DATE
Eastern Cape and North West	23 July
Mpumalanga	23- 24 July
Western Cape and Free State	30 July
Northern Cape	12 August
KwaZulu Natal and Limpopo	12 – 13 August

#### NLDTF

We have had no response to our previous application yet. No applications will be made this year as NLDTF is not releasing funds for Sport in general.

#### Expansion Plan.

Congratulations to Lisa De Speville for being appointed as PM of the expansion plan, which in my opinion is the most important post in the SAOF in the next three months. She holds in her hands the future of our sport, as a sport and her progress will be carefully monitored. This is a project we cannot allow to fail.

Her independent contractors contract has been sent to Garry for finalization and signature.

#### Resignation

I will be sending out a communication on my resignation to the O community in order to activate discussion on my successor. I feel it is important that the clubs are allowed to select my successor and that we do not interfere by hand picking a successor. The practice of approaching a specific person and using our influence to insure their selection is contrary to the spirit of democracy and good governance. You may decide within your club who you would like to nominate, but the AGM should be given a choice.

#### Conclusion

This committee must adopt the ethics of good governance in all its actions. When it makes a decision it must be based upon the best interests of the Federation. That is the standard that the SAOF executive will be held to in the future.



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Eugene Botha

President: SAOF