



Summary of meeting held on 28 Aug 2025 with SAUSF/SAUWHF

1) GENERAL SUMMARY

the discussion focused on the application process for Protea colours within the Underwater Hockey Federation, addressing various challenges and miscommunications that have arisen. Heine outlined the difficulties stemming from past governance issues with SASCOC, which have hindered timely submissions for Protea colours. He emphasized the importance of adhering to deadlines and maintaining good governance, especially given SASCOC's scrutiny from the Department of Sport and Agriculture. Linda clarified that while the ladies' documentation was submitted late, SASCOC had allowed some flexibility, but Heine expressed discomfort with the current state of affairs, indicating he could not support the application process if it lacked transparency.

Kevin addressed the selection process for the elite men's and women's teams, noting an error regarding Roger's name being listed without his participation. He confirmed that the men's elite team was selected from available players without irregularities, while the selection process for the Masters men's team remained unclear. Linda pointed out significant errors in the Protea Colours application process, including incorrect player registrations and expired passports, stressing the need for accurate documentation and communication, as delays had resulted in being 45 days late for applications.



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Gerrit highlighted ongoing communication and documentation issues, indicating that the problems extended beyond documentation to include selection issues. Linda emphasized the responsibility of players to apply early, despite the slow South African system. Sam raised concerns about the management of documentation during the transition between Magda and Kurt, noting that both assumed the other was handling necessary tasks, which led to missed deadlines. Kevin added that changes to trialing criteria were not effectively communicated, complicating the process for players and managers.

Eleanor questioned the necessity of passports for obtaining national colours, while Linda clarified that they are essential for confirming South African citizenship, a prerequisite for receiving national colours. Willem expressed concerns about the blurred lines of responsibility between the Underwater Hockey Executive and the South African Underwater Sports Federation regarding player and referee selections, emphasizing the need for clear communication. Linda acknowledged a miscommunication involving Roger and took responsibility for not verifying the situation.

Kevin discussed complications surrounding Mike's appointment as a referee, highlighting a lack of communication that led to financial implications for the team. The conversation underscored the importance of adhering to SASCOC regulations and the need for collaboration among stakeholders to ensure proper processes are followed in the future.



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2) Chapters & Topics:

Coordination and Participation in Meeting

Gerrit van Rhyn shared details about his recent move to a cottage, mentioning the difficulties of managing belongings during the transition. Linda Stephen facilitated the meeting by sending links to participants, including JD Aucamp and Eleanor, while also addressing the absence of others. The group expressed a willingness to proceed with the meeting despite some members not being present.

Clarification on Protea Colours Application Process

Heine addressed the complications regarding the Protea colours application for the Underwater Hockey Federation, noting that the South African Underwater Sport Federation was previously not in good standing, which affected their ability to submit applications. He pointed out that timely documentation is crucial, as SASCOC is under pressure from the Department of Sport and Agriculture regarding funding allocations. Linda Stephen added that while the ladies' documentation was submitted late, SASCOC was accommodating.



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Selection Process and Documentation Issues in Underwater Hockey

Gerrit expressed concerns about Roger's approach to the Sports Federation regarding team selection, stating it was unacceptable and should have been managed through the Hockey Federation. He questioned whether colours would have been awarded if all documentation had been submitted on time, noting that missing passports were a key issue.

- **Documentation requirements for national colours**
- **Future strategies to ensure timely submissions and compliance**

Issues with Protea Colours Application Process

Linda highlighted numerous mistakes in the Protea Colours application, such as incorrect player classifications and missing registrations. She expressed frustration over the lack of timely and accurate documentation, which has caused delays in the submission process. Despite efforts to rectify the situation, they are now 45 days late in applying for the colours.

Issues with Documentation and Team Coordination

Gerrit van Rhyn discussed the failures in communication and documentation among the teams, noting that both documentation and selection issues contributed to the problems. Linda Stephen stressed the importance of players applying for necessary documents early, regardless of the system's inefficiencies. There was a consensus that all parties involved, including players, coaches, and managers, share responsibility for the situation.



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Discussion on Documentation and Management Issues in Protea Colours Application Process

Sam explained that the lack of clarity in management roles contributed to documentation issues, as both Magda and Kurt assumed the other was responsible for certain tasks. Kevin pointed out that changes made to the trialing criteria were not communicated to players or executives, which hindered the process. He emphasized the need for better communication and accountability moving forward.

- **Communication issues within the federation**
- **Responsibilities of players and managers in the documentation process**

Passport Requirements for National Colours

Eleanor de Kock questioned the requirement of passports for players seeking national colours, especially in local tournaments. Linda Stephen explained that passports are necessary to verify South African citizenship, as only citizens can be awarded national colours. She emphasized that even for local tournaments, passports must be submitted, and strict compliance with the policy is enforced.

Clarification of Responsibilities in Underwater Hockey Selection Process

Willem Zylstra highlighted the confusion surrounding the selection process for players and referees, particularly regarding the inclusion of Mike's name without proper approval from the Underwater Hockey Executive. He called for a clearer delineation of responsibilities between the Executive and the Federation to prevent similar issues in the future. Linda Stephen clarified that the decision to include Mike was made in consultation with Kevin and was part of a compromise.



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Clarification on Decision-Making and Communication Protocols

Linda Stephen addressed a miscommunication involving Roger, stating that she should have confirmed the process before assuming it was handled. She accepted responsibility for not following up and requested that future communications go through Kevin or the executive body. Kevin clarified that he had not received direct communication from CMS and confirmed that Mike's name had been submitted as a free agent.

Issues with Referee Appointments and Protea Colours Communication

Kevin raised concerns about the appointment of Mike as a referee, noting that there was confusion and a lack of communication from South African Underwater Sport and CMS. He mentioned that despite numerous emails and a formal complaint, they received no response, which resulted in financial penalties for the team. Willem added that the development of referees is crucial, and there were issues with the selection process that need to be addressed.

Discussion on Protea Colours Allocation and Clothing Protocols

Linda expressed frustration over the distribution of clothing with the protea emblem to players who have not earned their colours, highlighting the risk of significant fines from SASCOC. She questioned whether the responsibility lies with the players or the South African Underwater Hockey Federation for handing out such items. The discussion underscored the need for clear communication and adherence to established protocols.



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Action Items:

- Linda Stephen will send the meeting link to Eleanor via WhatsApp.
- Heine will ensure that all documentation requirements are met for the upcoming tournament.
- Kevin will ensure that the documentation for the men's team is submitted in time for the upcoming tournament.
- Gerrit van Rhyn will communicate with the Sports Federation to clarify the selection process for future tournaments.
- Linda Stephen will follow up with Bongi regarding the outstanding documentation for the men's team.

Key Questions:

- What steps will be taken to ensure documentation is submitted on time in the future?
- What are the reasons for the delay in awarding colours to the men's team?
- How can the South African Underwater Hockey Federation improve communication with players regarding documentation?



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