

24 August 2020

Attention: Club leadership
Provincial leadership
Technical Committees
SAGF Management

Club News – August

We have just passed the 2 months mark since being allowed to return to operations, and around 75% of our clubs have meet the compliance requirements to reopen – although some clubs are still waiting for permission to return to their venues. We know how tough it has been over the past few months and know how hard you have all worked to stay open. Your tenacity and passion are applauded.

With the return to school over the next 2 weeks of all the grades, I ask you to be vigilant and relentless in your screening, disinfection and sanitising regimes to reduce the impact on your club of the 2nd wave of infections.

September – Club month

September is Heritage month and to celebrate SAGF will be focusing on our member Clubs.

Cooperation and support amongst clubs is needed now more that ever.

Among the initiatives is:

1. Club History – we would really like to hear about our clubs that have been around for a while – those who started up 15 years or more ago. How did it all start? Is there a significance to the club name? Who were the people that have been involved over the years? What changes have happened over the last 15 plus years? Any interesting incidences or occurrences that took place in the Club? We would like to feature these clubs – sharing their history with our members. Your histories can be emailed to admin@sagf.co.za – include Club History in the Subject line
2. Leadership – now more than ever the need for strong leadership within the Club is required. The Club Connect webinar last week looked at the ability of leaders to “Work Smarter, not Harder”. We explored the 10 Critical Success Factors for businesses and how these are linked to the strength of leadership within the club.

This week we continue to explore the importance of mission, vision, objectives and embracing change to ensure a successful transition to

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the “new” normal. Join us on Wednesday @11am. The link is posted on the SAGF social media pages.

3. #gymsacoolmoves – we are encouraging our clubs to share their gymnast’s “cool moves”. This Social media initiative is to showcase and create an awareness amongst our gymnasts and the general population of the huge variety of movements within our gymnastics disciplines. These skills can be done with or without apparatus or equipment, and do not have to be done in the typical gym environment. The attached document gives the guidelines for submissions – and can be forwarded directly to gymnasts/parents.
4. Club education and training – on the Club Connect Social media platforms we would like to provide an opportunity for clubs to share/market/sell any educational material or programs that they use within their club. This could be a preschool program that the club has developed, or a good conditioning, strength, skill development, fitness, warm up game etc that it uses regularly. The idea is to create opportunities for clubs to engage with one another through their products/services/inhouse knowledge. You will not be permitted to advertise goods (like leotards or equipment) – only educational material. This information/footage can be sent to admin@sagf.co.za – include Club E&T in the subject line.

Go to Gymnastics SA Club Connect on Facebook to join, if you are not a member of the group.

5. Competitions – under Lockdown level 2, in person competitions WITHOUT spectators are permitted, provided you adhere to the risk mitigation requirements, as per your venue submission. Providing the maximum number of people (as per your venue) is not exceeded and the screening, sanitising and disinfecting protocols are in place, you can hold a club, district or provincial competition.

It is advisable to have some mechanism in place for parents/spectators to be able to see the event – live streaming or video footage.

Additionally, online competitions can take place with minimal setup time and costs. Gymnasts can submit their videoed routine (Whatsapp/email/Google drive) ahead of time and be judged at a predetermined date or the routines can be viewed “live” by the judges.

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The options and ideas around this are varied and can be tailored to suit the needs of the club/district/province. For now, I would suggest that gymnasts are given the option to do only 1 or 2 apparatus/half routine – as they might not be fully fit to do a full “normal competition” format, just yet.

6. Club Connect webinars – will take place on Wednesdays at 11am and at 7pm for the month of September. The evening webinar will not necessarily be a repeat of the morning one.

For those that missed the first Glenn Joselowitz webinar (Glenn is an abuse survivor from his time as a gymnast and has some valuable advice for coaches) there will be 2 more opportunities to engage with him – we will confirm these dates shortly. Safeguarding will continue to be highlighted and explored during September.

7. Discipline Management Committees (DMC) – the information relating to the submissions for the posts on the DMC (formerly Technical Committees) has been circulated via your Provincial offices. The DMC's have been restructured – there are 7 posts available. People interested in serving on a DMC need to submit the required paperwork by 11 September.

Reminder to send through your August logs and submission document on the 28th August to your Provincial Risk Compliance Officer.

Keep safe and stay well

Warm regards

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