

# COACHES FORUM

FOR THE EXCHANGE OF COACHING NEWS AND VIEWS

(FROM BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA COACHES STANDING COMMITTEE)

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## COACHING UPDATE

To start this Newsletter on a positive note we would like to quote an extract from the monthly newsletter of Moss Mashishi, President of the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC). Under the part concerning the High Performance Commission Report, Section 7 concerns coaches and we quote :

“This commission was only finalized at the beginning of June 2006, the commission held one meeting and presented the following plan :

- By 30 September all the coaching manuals will be looked at and a framework formulated.
- The High Performance Department to liaise with federations to determine THETA accreditation.
- Create a link on the Website for coaches' material, but only content and contact details will be available as the material is the federations' property.
- Need to link with all commissions.
- The Legalities of coaching and precautions and licensing of coaches will be investigated.
- The SASC Coaches manual will be used as a guideline.
- Suggested that SA coaches be accredited with international coaching organisations to ensure coaches are in line with world developments.”

It is hoped that with this quote many of our critics will realise that we are all working towards a more professional approach to our world of coaching.

Please support us in all our endeavours.

## COURSES

A very successful “trial run” of the new upgrade course for Advanced coaches was run at the Nest at the end of June. Twelve coaches attended the course with three of them having qualified some time ago and wishing to refresh their knowledge. The course served to highlight areas of concern and where modifications needed to be made. The completed course material still requires ratification before being circulated. The format for future course will be as follows. Early in 2007 invitations will be extended to all coaches who wish to, and are eligible for upgrade to Advanced status.(The name Advanced could be changed in the near future but notification of this will be circulated).

All nominations received will be screened by the National Standing Committee for Coaching, and successful candidates sent the appropriate Distance Learning Modules for home study and completion over a period of a few months. Successful candidates will then be asked to attend a two day practical assessment at suitable venues. The venues will depend on the location of the majority of candidates and could well be held at several venues, probably in June. It is felt that this method will meet with the approval of coaches in general as it should be more cost effective and also be more “user friendly”.

The upgrading course to the next status of Senior Coach will be held on similar lines and may run concurrently now that use is being made of Distance Learning Modules.

Trial runs of the new Refresher Course are being planned in at least three areas and the results will be notified as soon as

possible. It is imperative that we attract more of our “dormant” coaches back into active status and make use of all the skills we have in our at our disposal.

The Club Coach Course is now being used in several areas with Eastern Gauteng holding one September 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> and KZN are combining with Port Natal to hold one from September 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> at Westville Country Club.

We are now getting positive feedback from those districts that have already held courses and we will endeavour to include their recommendations and suggestions in our forward planning. Please remember the start of this newsletter and the remarks made in the SASCOC newsletter. To comply with their requirements some of our material will require a minor amount of revision and modification but this does mean that there could be a small delay in issuing the documentation to all districts. Please bear with us on this issue.

### **COACHING MATERIAL**

As we move ahead with our coaching courses we have built up a library of excellent articles and support information for our various courses. Many of these are available from the National Standing Committee and can be e-mailed in most cases. Amongst the latest articles are subjects like Nutrition, Psychology, Game Plans, and Video Analysis to mention only a few. Remember if you require assistance of any kind we are only a phone call or e-mail away. If we cannot assist you directly we will find someone who can.

### **COACHING STRUCTURE AND UPGRADING**

The coaching structure and upgrading systems have now been totally reviewed and modified to comply with current requirements. This has become necessary, not only with the requirements of SASCOC but also with the needs of the Regional Bowls Academies that have now been set up in most regions. The coaches now have several new roles to play and specialised training will be

required to fill some of the new positions. New technology has been introduced and the role of the coach is now more professional. However it should be understood that a qualified coach must now be able to devote considerable time to the task of coaching whilst also keeping up to date with current trends. This applies to those in South Africa and also world-wide.

### **THIBOLOHA UPDATE**

Seven staff members at Thiboloha School have now been trained as Sport Leaders and are already working, giving basic instruction to over 80 learners. Training is undertaken on the short mat at the school and selected players are also taken to Harrismith Bowls Club for instruction and practice on the green.





The photos show the Coaches with staff members of the school and a number of students that are keen on bowls.

### **QUOTATION**

We particularly like the following quotation sent in by Jannie Strydom from Bowls Gauteng North – thank you Jannie.

“A good coach improves your sport. An excellent coach improves your life”.

Jannie does not know the author but we feel that it expresses our thoughts and feelings extremely well.

### **REMEMBER**

**LETS WEAR OUR BADGE AND  
PLAY THE GAME WITH PRIDE.**