



NATIONAL HUNTING & SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

Accredited with SAPS (CFR) as
Hunting Association: FAR 1300050
Sport-shooting Association: FAR 1300088

1131 Justice Mahomed Street,
Brooklyn, Pretoria, 0181.
PO Box 190, Menlyn, Pretoria, 0063.
Tel: 087-945-3355
Fax: 0865 113 555
Email: admin@natshoot.co.za
Web: <https://natshoot.co.za>

Registration no: 2015/278984/08
VAT Nr: 4110272293

Responsible and Accountable Firearms Ownership

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ANNUAL REVIEW *1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017*

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1. THE NATIONAL HUNTING AND SHOOTING ASSOCIATION (NHSA)

1.1 Founding

- 1.1.1 The founding of the NHSA followed a Special General Meeting of the National Shooting Association (NSA) held in Pretoria on 14 December 2015. The following Resolutions were unanimously supported by the meeting (as was reported in NSA Newsletters [Vol. 11\(25\) of 26-11-2015](#), and [Vol. 11\(26a\) of 15-12-2015](#)). This positive support enabled Exco to get all administrative responsibilities finalised so that the NHSA could start to function on 1 March 2016:



Resolution 1: To consider and adopt the name change of the Association from National Shooting Association (NSA) to National Hunting and Shooting Association (NHSA).

Resolution2: To consider and adopt the founding of a Section 21 Non-Profit Company with Tax Exempt Status in terms of the Companies Act, 2008 (Act 71 of 2008 as amended) under the name of National Hunting and Shooting Association NPC.

Resolution 3: To consider and adapt the transfer of the responsibilities for the administrative and financial management of the National Hunting and Shooting Association (NHSA) to the National Hunting and Shooting Association NPC.

Resolution 4: To consider and adopt the Exco appointment of the Directors to the Board of the National Hunting and Shooting Association NPC Company by Exco.

1.2 Start of operations

- 1.2.1 The NHSA duly started to function as an accredited hunting and sport shooting association on 1 March 2016, with seamless transfer of all NSA members and their administrative portfolios to the NHSA.
- 1.2.2 Each individual member with retention of his/her enrolment and paid-up dates, as well as his/her respective FCA status (i.e. occasional hunter and/or sport-person or dedicated hunter and/or sport-person status).
- 1.2.3 At the same time the NHSA NPC started operations and took over the administration and financial management of the NHSA (Association), under voted Directors, Dr Herman Els, Mr Juan Kotzé, and Mr Robert F Young (son), with 7 full time staff members, and 3 part-time staff members in supportive roles (see paragraph 5 below).
- 1.2.4 Through hard and diligent work of our IT partners, Curo Digital in Pretoria, the NHSA's user friendly website was adapted to reflect the New association and the new logo. Members know the extent of the information on the website and the depth of the information available on it.
- 1.2.5 In particular the member database and the interactive system, which enables members access to their personal NHSA documentation, to apply and enrol for dedicated courses and apply for endorsements, and to enter their individual firearm related activities; was a serious programming challenge which was completed by Curo Digital with big success.

- 1.2.6 All NHTSA policy documents were updated from those in name of NSA, and were published on the Natshoot website as the first NHTSA Newsletters, all dated 1 March 2016:.

[Vol. 12. \(07\) NHTSA Policy re Maintaining Dedicated Status](#)

[Vol. 12. \(08\) NHTSA Policy re The Issue of Endorsement for Firearm Licence Applications](#)

[Vol. 12. \(09\) NHTSA Position on Relevant Aspects of the Hunt](#)

[Vol 12. \(10\) NHTSA Policy on Involvement in Conservation](#)

[Vol 12. \(11\) NHTSA Policy re Electronic Submission of Scores for In-House Postal Shoots](#)

- 1.2.7 At the same time a new system of QR-coding was introduced on all NHTSA membership documentation (a Curo Digital initiative). This system of “official marking” of NHTSA documentation, assists any government official to ascertain the authenticity of a specific NHTSA membership document, as well as the validity of reported enrolment and paid-up dates of a specific member. The system also immediately verifies a member’s good standing in the Association.

[Vol 12. \(12\) QR codes to Verify Authenticity of Official NHTSA Member Documents](#)

- 1.2.8 Through excellent assistance and hard work by the Chartered Accountants, Abramowitz & Schulenkowski of Sunninghill, NHTSA was on 22 July 2016 granted Tax exemption. They also assisted NHTSA to register for VAT. Both these tasks take, as members well know, serious administrative prowess and intricate knowledge of relevant Tax laws.

1.3 Administrative functionality

- 1.3.1 The NHTSA started to operate from its main office at 1131 Justice Mahomed Street, in Brooklyn Pretoria, with personnel working from personal working stations at that address, and also from the old office in Minni Street in Clydesdale, Pretoria, and in Centurion, in Wierdapark, and in Donkerhoek, East of Pretoria.
- 1.3.2 For the first time the Association started to function totally paperless, and will continue to do so in future. Exco is aware of the fact that this policy might exclude a number of people from becoming members as they do not have access to electronic communication hardware (specifically computers).
- 1.3.3 However, with the continuance of the NHTSA policy to keep membership fees as low and as realistic as possible, coupled to the functionality of our interactive electronic web-based administrative and member management system, which enables the relatively small number of personnel to effectively manage the administrative needs of our members, Exco believes the electronic-based management style worked well

in the review period. NHSA will thus, endeavour to extend the functionality of this manner of administrative functioning of the Association in future.

- 1.3.4 Of course, one cannot neglect to also acknowledge the diligence with which our members took individual responsibility for a large part of their own day-to-day hunting, firearm related activities and postal target shooting administration. This is probably the single most important reason for the electronic administration system functioning as well as it does.
- 1.3.5 In the review period, the volumes of Emails showed itself to be an issue, which the administrative staff quickly managed well.
- 1.3.6 It was mainly the management of telephone calls in the period under review, which showed need for attention (for both members and for staff). Last mentioned management challenge is a matter, which is continuously being addressed to make this part of the Association's administration more effective.
- 1.3.7 At NHSA, all administrative tasks are managed within the work-paradigm, which we at the office call, the **KISS-48 principle** - **Keep it Simple and Stupid** and turn around all administrative tasks with relevance to our members within a maximum of **48** working hours. Good service delivery to our members has always been the NHSA's principle administrative endeavour, and will continue to remain a constant focus.
- 1.3.8 Exco will continue to seek avenues to make the electronic administrative system of the NHSA even more convenient for members to manage their hunting and sport shooting related responsibilities.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Members

- 2.1.1 NHSA is blessed with exceptional quality members who all diligently take accountability and responsibility for all matters concerning their legal firearm ownership, be that for hunting or sport shooting.
- 2.1.2 NHSA has never, and will never see itself more important than other sister hunting and sport shooting associations (be they accredited or not). All associations (hunting and sport shooting) do sterling work for their members, in the respective different styles of activities and administrative support they present their members with.
- 2.1.3 As membership of accredited associations is voluntary, and to a certain extent forced upon the Public through the Firearms Control Act of 2000, it has always been NHSA policy (as was the case with NSA), not to advertise in order to recruit new members. Exco has always believed that service delivery is a serious association responsibility, and that word-of-mouth recommendation to join NHSA by satisfied

members is of much bigger importance. This policy has had the effect that NHSA, as NSA, was blessed to enrol 1,770 new members in 2013, 2,797 new members in 2014, 4,687 new members in 2015, and 4,821 new members in 2016.

2.1.4 NHSA (NSA) has never “played the numbers game”, but it is humbling to be able to report that on 1 March 2016, NHSA started to operate with 17,324 members coming over from NSA. Of this number, 10,294 (59,4%) were dedicated members (either dedicated hunters, dedicated sports-persons, or both).

2.1.5 A total of 5,125 (24%) of our members were in arrears with membership fees on 28 February 2017, of which the absolute majority were occasional hunters and/or sports-persons. However, since the inception of the monthly electronic payment advice system whereby members are per Email reminded of their upcoming due date for membership fees, this figure has favourably decreased.

2.1.6 On 1 March 2017, NHSA had 21,347 members. NHSA is highly indebted to all its loyal members.

2.2 Dedicated Courses

2.2.1 A total of 3,218 members enrolled for the NHSA’s dedicated status courses in the period under review.

2.2.2 Of this number, 2,879 (89%) members completed the courses (either dedicated hunter or dedicated sport-person or both).

2.2.3 The courier system whereby study material is couriered to candidates works well in the larger urban areas, but remained a challenge in many rural areas in the period under review. Finding solutions to this administrative challenge was a priority in the period under review.

2.3 Endorsements

2.3.1 A total of 8,409 endorsements were issued to members in the period under review; each attached motivation was individually read and suggestions made on its improvement (remains the member’s decision to make the suggested changes), evaluated and the endorsement issued.

2.4 Newsletters and Natshoot Emails to Members

2.4.1 In the period under review at total of 47 topical and relevant Newsletters were posted on the Newsletter page of the Natshoot website, and a total of 75 topical and relevant official Natshoot Emails were sent to members, keeping them abreast of important issues in the Association and in the “world” of firearms in this country.

3. MEMBER ACTIVITIES

3.1 Postal Target Shooting

- 3.1.1 In the review period, members entered a total of 25,452 individual postal target scores on the Scores page of their Natshoot Profile Pages.
- 3.1.2 Each of these entries were individually evaluated, and either approved, reviewed with feedback for corrections to be made (less than 4%) or declined (less than 2%).
- 3.1.3 We unfortunately have to make mention of eight members against who disciplinary action for category 1 transgressions of the [NHSA Code of Discipline](#) had to be taken due to falsification of dates on postal targets in the review period. In all eight instances no need was forthcoming to institute a full disciplinary council to manage the transgressions. Exco decided to give all eight members a final warning, and the necessary inscriptions were made against their names in our member database.

3.2 2016 National Competition

- 3.2.1 The 2016 National Competition was presented during October.
- 3.2.2 A total of 3,478 targets were entered for the competition.
- 3.2.3 The Top-Guns for the competition were:

First place; Cobus Boshoff from Musina, with a total of 18 targets entered in different competition categories, for which he achieved, among others, 8 first places and 3 second places.

Second place; Jayesh Narsi from Pretoria, with a total of 17 targets entered in different competition categories, for which he achieved, among others, 4 first places and 2 second places.

Third place; Rob Schwulst from Hermanus. with a total of 17 targets entered in different competition categories, for which he achieved, among others, 2 first places and 2 second places.

- 3.2.4 The criteria to be evaluated as Top-Gun for the national competition is that the contender must have entered at least 4 x 100 scored targets, and have achieved at least 4 top-10 places in different exercises competed in.
- 3.2.5 The standard of precision shooting in the 2016 national competition was high as the first 29 competitors out of 495 competitors in the 10m Centre-Fire Handgun Men Open category, all scored 100% - the rankings could only be determined by shots closest to the centre of the target (the-X-ring).

- 3.2.6 For the 100m Centre-Fire Medium Bore Rifle Men Open category, the first 74 competitors out of 430 competitors, all scored 100% - the rankings could only be determined by shots closest to the centre of the target (the-X-ring)

3.3 Dedicated Activities Reporting

- 3.3.1 In the review period members entered a total of 39,953 activities on the Activities page of the Natshoot Profile Pages.
- 3.3.2 Each of these entries were individually evaluated, and either approved, reviewed with feedback (approximately 12%) or declined (less than 5%).
- 3.3.3 The system of logging activity entries was re-evaluated and adapted in early 2017, and the results thereof, will be reported on in the next Review Period's report.
- 3.3.4 In the context of maintaining dedicated status, it remains a mystery why it seems to be so very difficult for members to spend 8 minutes of their time to read the web page on [maintenance of dedicated status](#). The office is inundated with telephone calls and Emails with members asking what they should do to annually maintain their dedicated status. Yet if one reads that web page once, one knows for ever (in the review period we have by Email, asked members 8 times since 8 August 2016, to please read that page). It is simple and straight forward, and user friendly. Unfortunately membership of NHSA means one has to read a bit – but only once, as one will then know. Hopefully this tendency of members not to read, will also change as time goes by, as it is, unfortunately, the only way in which we can communicate with our members.

4. PARTICIPATION IN RELEVANT NATIONAL BODIES

4.1 The Hunters-SAPS Consultative Forum

- 4.1.1 The Hunters-SAPS Consultative Forum is a forum where all accredited hunting associations plus the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa (PHASA) meet with officials of the SAPS Central Firearms Registry; at least three times per annum. The only accredited hunting association which does not attend these meetings is Cederjag situated in Orania due to cost involved.
- 4.1.2 The Hunters-SAPS Consultative Forum was founded in September 2004, with the then NSA, being one of the body's founding accredited associations.
- 4.1.3 Four of this Forum's meetings were attended by the Executive Chair, the General Manager, and our Legal Advisor in the review period.
- 4.1.4 The functioning of this Forum is not as it should be, mainly because of the CFR's lack of delivery re fixing or adequately managing, administrative problems in their

implementation of the Firearms Control Act (2000), which are constantly identified and conveyed to them at Forum meetings.

- 4.1.5 There was hope that the return of Genl. Jaco Bothma as head of FLASH would bring changes in the relationship between accredited associations with SAPS and in the manner in which CFR conducted itself towards stakeholders. However, with the pending court case of SA Hunters re the renewal of firearm licences not yet being finalised (see Newsletter [Vol. 12\(20\) dated 18-03-2016](#)), many discussions on, for accredited associations important matters, could not be concluded as it was continuously SAPS's point of view that these matters were *sub judice* (could not be discussed because these were still under judgment in the impending court case, which would only be finalised in April 2017).
- 4.1.6 During July 2016, a new Memorandum of Understanding was drafted to order the continued functioning of the Hunters-SAPS Forum. SAPS redrafted the submission of the Hunters Forum for the content of such an MoU, and renamed the Forum, Accredited Hunting Associations of South Africa (AHASA). This document drafted by SAPS was not discussed and/or agreed upon in the period under review.
- 4.1.7 Suffice it to say that the content of the SAPS drafted MoU for the new Forum they would want called AHASA, will take serious negotiation, as it does not clearly stipulated the responsibility of SAPS in the agreement, and places additional responsibilities on accredited hunting associations not stipulated in the FCA (2000) and its Regulations (2004).

4.2 Hunters Forum

- 4.2.1 The Hunters Forum had its origin from the Hunters-SAPS Consultative Forum, and was founded in August 2015, when it became clear that accredited hunting associations had to meet before the SAPS Forum meeting so as to "speak with one voice" at the Hunters-SAPS Forum.
- 4.2.2 As such the Hunters Forum serves the very important role that the persons in management of each of the accredited associations are well known to each other.
- 4.2.3 The Hunters Forum meets four hours before each Hunters-SAPS Consultative Forum meeting to discuss shared problems and to present same to CFR as these issues all have implications for members of all accredited associations.
- 4.2.4 Four of this Forum's meetings were attended by the Executive Chair, the General Manager, and our Legal Advisor in the review period.
- 4.2.5 If the only function of the Hunters Forum was for the members in management of the different accredited hunting associations and of PHASA to know each other enabling us all to discuss matters of shared concern re firearms with each other, then attending the regular meetings of this body is 100% necessary and worthwhile.

- 4.2.6 Costs for the secretariat and for meals at the Hunters Forum meetings (i.e. people come from Cape Town and Durban) are shared among associations. The meetings are usually held at the offices of SA Hunters at Derdepoort in Pretoria (something for which they must be applauded as it brings extra administrative responsibility for them in a cause which has bearing on the members of all accredited hunting associations).

4.3 Sport-shooting Forum

- 4.3.1 The Sport-shooting Forum, consisting of all accredited sport shooting associations, was founded on 30 May 2015, with NSA being a founder member.
- 4.3.2 This Forum was not active during the review period, and it is hoped that one will be able to report progress in the next review period's report.

4.4 HAWASA

- 4.4.1 The acronym, HAWASA, stands for Hunters and Wildlife Associations of South Africa.
- 4.4.2 As such this body functions as the "Forum" where the accredited hunting associations, Wildlife Ranching (WRSA), PHASA, and other bodies relevant to matters pertaining the management of wildlife on game ranches in this country (i.e. game translocators), come together to discuss matters of mutual concern before meeting the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) at the Wildlife Forum.
- 4.4.3 In this review period this body was hampered in its operation by the unfortunate public dispute fired by SA Hunters with WRSA re the breeding of colour variants.
- 4.4.4 NHSA did not attend the meetings of this body in the review period, as the mentioned very public dispute, was not seen to benefit the wildlife sector at all. We hope to be able to report more positives on the functioning of this body in the next period's review report.

4.5 Wildlife Forum

- 4.5.1 This national body is a Forum where the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) meets all role players in the wildlife sector (i.e. WRSA, accredited hunting associations, game capturers, game translocators,), and the 9 provincial departments of nature conservation (under their respective guises and names).
- 4.5.2 Regulations, legal matters, and matters pertaining to the drafting of codes of conduct for example, in hunting, and policy matters concerning the breeding of for instance Bontebok, are matters considered at this Forum. It is thus the Forum

where hunting associations have an opportunity to have direct inputs into DEA policies, and drafting of legislation.

4.5.2 The Executive Chair attended all three the meetings of this Forum in the period under review.

5. NHSA PERSONNEL

5.1 During the period under review the NHSA had 7 permanent staff members and 3 part-time staff members functioning in supportive roles.

5.2 Full-time staff are responsible for all the electronic administrative aspects of the Association's members, and for the maintenance of the Natshoot website. Part-time staff are responsible for maintenance of offices, buildings and gardens.

5.3 With the growth in membership numbers, NHSA will probably have to appoint another full-time staff member in the next review period.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

6.1 The financial report for the period under review has been made available on the Natshoot website on the same we page this chairman's report was made available on.

6.2 We are indebted to our Financial Manager, Robert Young, for diligence in bookkeeping and for managing the finances of the Association with realism and with stern discipline.

6.3 The financial report speaks for itself, and will not be fully discussed here, apart from saying that it remains NHSA policy to make as little changes in membership fees as is possible and realistic.

6.4 In the review period, the NHSA financial situation shows positive and healthy:

6.4.1 Our main income in the review period was memberships fees and fees for dedicated status courses, with a total income of R5,919,677. A further amount of R604,382 was received from a transfer from the "old" NSA account, from interest received and a from a small amount through the on-line shop.

6.4.2 The total expenditure for the financial year were R 5,899,505, with main expenditures being the following:

○ Computer & online system expenses	R1,019,362 (17,3%)
○ Dedicated training material	R112,505 (1,9%)
○ Employee costs	R3,245,949 (55,0%)
○ Postage and courier expenses	R245,751 (4,2%)

- Office rent (1131 Justice Mohamed street) R230,685 (3,9%)
- Subscriptions, translation, legal reports R205,876 (3,5%)
- Telephone and Fax R172,413 (2,9%)
- Website hosting R225,549 (3,8%)

6.4.3 The NHSA was, for the financial year and after interest, left with R606,031 in its account, which was carried forward to the 2017/2018 financial year's books.

6.5 In the review period, NHSA made two financial contributions to important court cases related to the implementation of the Firearms Control Act.

6.3.1 The first was a donation of R12,000.00 to SA Hunters for their court case on the renewal of firearm licences, reported on in Newsletter [Vol. 12\(20\) dated 18-03-2016](#). That court case was only heard in April 2017, and does thus not form part of the report on the period in review.

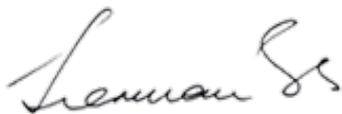
6.3.2 The second donation was R12,000.00 to the SA Gun Dealers Association for their court case, which was reported on in Newsletter [Vol. 12\(22\) dated 31-03-2016](#). That court case was later joined with the SA Hunters case.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 The NHSA cannot exist without its members. To each and every member we extend a sincere thank you for continuous loyal support.

7.2 To our committed staff members we also extend a very big thank you for diligence, and for rendering responsible service to our members within our work-paradigm of KiSS-48.

7.3 We also have to extend a big thank you to our IT partners, Curo Digital. Their diligence and serious hard work to keep the web-based member database and system functioning with as few issues (gremlins) as possible, deserve big accolades. Thank you, Eddy and team.



Dr Herman Els

Executive Chair: National Hunting & Shooting Association