

Minutes of the Meeting

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Time: 14:30

Venue: Hendrik Kanise Combined School, Alicedale

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Thobela Thoba-Mdyesha (Founder & Managing Director) opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. An attendance register was circulated and signed.

Present:

- Mr. Thobela Thoba-Mdyesha (Founder & Managing Director)
- Ms. Abongile James (Project Administrator)
- Mr. Edwin Botha (Head Coach)
- Ms. Busisiwe Nesintonzini (Assistant Coach & Administrator)
- Mr. Simamkele Nkombisa (Assistant Coach)
- Ms. Nizenande Nkosi, Ms. Delphine Le Pechoux, Mr. Asekhona Ngaka, Mr. Luke Holdstock (Community Development Interns)

A brief recap of the previous meeting was provided. No concerns were raised.

2. Review of Previous Action Items

- Ms. Nesintonzini proposed a fundraising fun run/walk and a possible marathon for the next term. A minimum fundraising target of R10,000 was set. She also suggested a raffle for an Easter Basket.
- Mr. Thoba-Mdyesha requested further details on the fun run by the next meeting.
- Ms. James proposed hosting the fun run before Easter, possibly alongside the Easter Tournament, and selling items to raise funds. A meeting with tournament organizers was recommended.
- Mr. Thoba-Mdyesha emphasized the need to develop independent fundraising strategies beyond external funding.

3. Athlete Performance Update

- Ms. James provided a detailed update on athletes' progress. Emihle Baartman and Lakay Sakhele showed significant improvement. Lanika, who moved to Grahamstown, continues training independently.
- Mr. Holdstock supported Ms. James's observations, noting that committed athletes demonstrated marked improvement.

- Mr. Thoba-Mdyesha highlighted the need for structured performance analysis and tasked Mr. Holdstock with identifying appropriate tracking methods. Coaches were asked to maintain attendance records.
- Limited resources currently allow only sprint and middle-distance training. In Addo, Mr. Aphelele has adapted by creating a makeshift long jump facility.
- Concerns were raised about athletes lacking focus due to social distractions. Establishing structured training routines was recommended.
- Injured athlete Maqhoko will be referred to a physiotherapist for rehabilitation.
- Lunathi Sithwayi was recognized for his significant progress and selection for the Eastern Province Athletics team.
- A review of the athlete roster will be conducted to retain only 20 dedicated athletes.
- Mr. Ngaka suggested implementing a contract requiring athletes to prioritize athletics over other sports.

4. Open Discussions & Concerns

- Ms. James confirmed that team kits will be managed by the coaches to ensure accountability.
- A post-registration stock-taking exercise will be conducted to assess kit distribution.

5. Action Items & Next Meeting

- Coaches to meet with Easter Tournament organizers to explore collaboration.
 - Mr. Holdstock to research National Lotteries' regulations regarding raffles.
 - Next meeting date to be confirmed.
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6. Private Meeting with Mr. Edwin Botha

Present:

- Mr. Thobela Thoba-Mdyesha
- Ms. Abongile James
- Mr. Edwin Botha
- Ms. Nizenande Nkosi
- Mr. Asekhona Ngaka

Mr. Thoba-Mdyesha addressed concerns regarding Mr. Botha's conduct:

- Failure to greet senior KSD and SPDA staff during a site visit, which was deemed disrespectful. Mr. Botha's explanation was not accepted.
- Absence from the February 26 meeting without prior notice, despite clear communication of details. Mr. Botha's explanation was not accepted.
- Non-compliance with the prescribed training programme for the athletes. Mr. Botha cited loss of his phone as a reason but did not attempt to retrieve the training programme from his colleagues nor Mr Thoba-Mdyesha.
- Lack of adherence to the Khulasande Wonder Kids programme objectives and failure to foster team unity among coaches.

Decision:

Due to continued non-compliance and failure to fulfill responsibilities, Mr. Botha was relieved of his duties with immediate effect.

Minutes submitted by: Ms. Nizenande Angel Nkosi

Approved by: Mr. Thobela Thoba-Mdyesha