

STUDENTERAAD
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COUNCIL

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Constitutional Responsibilities

To perform administrative and / or administrative functions

Attended more than one SRC meeting in term. Were asked to deliver feedback for the term, written excuse with the term feedback was provided as I had a required sport bursary to attend.

Portfolio Overview

To be a conduit between Maties Sport and the Student Community as well as represent Stellenbosch University at a national level such as University Sports South Africa (USSA). This helps the students to have a voice at Maties Sport and Maties Sport to have a direct link to the students. Success includes students having full access to Maties Sport events and activities and the resolution of any sporting disputes on a greater student community level as well as the promotion of physical wellness and recreational activities.

Committees / Task Teams

N/A

Institutional

Maties Sport Business continuity management committee (BCMANCO).

Other Committees / Task Teams

SU Virtual Run Around the block – Maties Sport Events

USSA Student forum

Budget Overview

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic all sport activities at SU has been cancelled for the 2020 academic year. In light of the circumstances the budget was not utilised as no activities were allowed to take place.





However, some funds were set aside for the SU Virtual Run around the block, but due to lack of interest in the event decision was taken to rather use the funds elsewhere for more fruitful opportunities.

Term Overview

A term full of major uncertainties, to what the 2020 year would hold. Sport has come to a complete halt for a couple of months and has only in late June started to resume for some professional athletes.

Although no sporting activities took place in the 2nd academic term – opportunities were still created to promote physical wellbeing and active lifestyle at midst the lockdown regulations. #FitnessFriday – exercise initiative - was shared via Social media platforms engaging with students to remain fit and not let the time at home go to waste as physical wellbeing is highly regarded as a key to academic success and also mental well-being. Excellent job done by SRC Branding and marketing manager to interact on social media platforms with students.

At the start of the term I suggested to Maties Sport to host a virtual run, this initiative also gave rise to other opportunities explored after see below.

In conjunction with the Maties Sport events & Athletics managers the SU Virtual Run around the block was created – an event were unlike other virtual runs, was a participation based event (competition) were students & staff in the SU organisation could participate for their respective residences, faculties & management teams. Due to severe cold front which hit the Western Cape the last weekend in June, participation was dimmed, and unfortunately only 122 students and staff members participated. A portion of the budget was set out to provide some prizemoney for student and staff participants, but due to the lack of interest, decision was made to rather use funds else were. Planning for the event started almost 2 months prior, the constant wait for approval hindered the timeline of the event planning, but finally once approval was granted the event was held on 27 June 2020. The event could be used as a backbone for other future events should there be interest or a need to a virtual event.

Maties Sport has created an excellent support system through their TRAIN4FEES campaign in the second term which is currently still running, with over R 250 000 already raised in support of student-athletes.

Regular meetings and bi-weekly checks with Maties Sport BCMANCO to ensure the best decisions are taken to ensure an effective and safe return to training and the continuity of Maties Sport is





made for our student-athletes. All membership fees for students have been reversed, those which were deducted from student accounts at the start of the year, and similar to all SU finances during COVID-19 fees proportional to active sport will be deducted off student accounts, to provide Maties Sport clubs with needed funding to also keep head above water in these troubling times.

Also attended multiple FISU webinars where universally other universities gave input as to how they are dealing with the pandemic in the sport environment.

Furthermore, role of providing students with sufficient information regarding sport at SU, nationally (USSA) and any changes in lockdown regulations. Always kept all sport house committee members and Maties Sport leadership well informed and any questions raised answered courteously and almost instantly.

Engaged with Maties Sport RALU – eSports to possibly create an opportunity for students to expand their horizons with this fast growing and largely accessible sport. RALU also already provided students with the opportunity to represent South Africa in the FISU eSports challenge. Also have been in contact with NWU Sports representative as they have created a campus eSports league, and they will help guide Maties RALU in to how SU could also create such opportunities. Maties Chess continued with online game opportunities for students.

There will be no physical sporting events at Stellenbosch University for the remainder of the 2020 academic years, please find attached communications from Maties Sport and USSA stipulating the cancelation of all tournaments and leagues.

Communications were made with Maties Sport with regards to MILAC's request for a donation of sports equipment, meetings with Maties sport in this regard will be held shortly.

Plans for Next Academic Term

The next term will be much reliable on national sport bodies and department of sports and recreation on how the return to training for amateur athletes will look. To continue serving on Maties Sports BCMANCO and give input where I can ensure our student-athletes have the best possible and swift return to training. Also prospectively plan with Maties Sport how we could have a successful return to leagues for the majority of students should the regulation allow it in 2021.

Exploration of E-Sport opportunities for the broad of SU with Maties RALU (which has already been discussed in the term).





Possibility to provide MILAC with some sporting equipment for when sport at SU returns as they a donation for some sporting equipment.

Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

Follow up more regularly with Maties Sport officials, as some communications might not always be replied upon. Be persistent and do not hesitate to raise questions or queries with anyone in the SU Sport structure. Remain operationally efficient and open to any questions from any students.

Important Contacts

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