



SAFSA
SOUTH AFRICAN
FIGURE SKATING
ASSOCIATION

JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025

ANNUAL REPORT



INDEX

Message from the President.....02

Executive Committee Overview.....05

Strategic Progress: Vision 2034.....05

Athlete Development and High-Performance Programs.....06

Competitions and Events.....06

Membership and Participation.....07

Technical Officials and Training.....08

Marketing, Communications, and Outreach.....09

Finance Report.....09

Governance and Compliance.....10

Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement.....11

Looking Ahead: 2025-2026.....12



1. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2024–2025 season marked a pivotal and challenging chapter in SAFSA's history—a year defined by both meaningful progress and the sobering weight of long-standing governance issues inherited from the past. As President, I remained committed to restoring credibility, improving operational integrity, and refocusing our Federation on the long-term goals outlined in Vision 2034. This report reflects not only our achievements but also the hard truths we confronted with urgency and transparency.

When I assumed office, SAFSA had not submitted annual financial statements since 2021. The continued non-compliance—particularly the absence of financial reporting from 2022 through 2025—had placed the Federation in a dire position with our stakeholders, including the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), SASCOC, and the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Sport. We had received formal warnings, been referenced in public records, and were unable to access funding critical to the survival and development of our sport.

It is therefore with a deep sense of accountability and relief that I report we have now completed the outstanding audited financial statements for the financial years ending March 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025—all within my first year as President. This accomplishment was only made possible through the support of a professional accounting team and the commitment of members who recognised that restoring transparency was non-negotiable.

The completion of these financials signals a turning point for SAFSA. It has enabled us to begin restoring our compliance status and positions us to formally reapply for long-overdue government and institutional support—including funding from Lotto, DSAC, and SASCOC. While it does not undo the reputational harm caused by past failures, it demonstrates our intention to lead with integrity, resolve, and competence.

At the same time, we reaffirmed SAFSA's international standing, resolving all outstanding reporting to the International Skating Union (ISU) and receiving a certificate of good standing. We secured \$50,000 in ISU grant funding, with a further \$25,000 under discussion, and we're proud to have expanded international training opportunities for athletes, coaches, and officials. These efforts were supported by deepened ties with international federations and the ISU, including high-level engagements in Boston and new collaborative camps in Italy and South Africa.



On the national front, we:

- Actively participated in the SASCOC Quadrennial General Meeting and elections, and have since made consistent efforts to improve communication and engagement with SASCOC leadership.
- Finalised all outstanding financial statements (2022–2025) and began the formal process to restore SAFSA's full funding eligibility with DSAC, SASCOC, and Lotto.
- Hosted a successful National Championships, attended by the Minister of Sport, Hon. Gayton McKenzie, and SASCOC's Wendy Gila, where we opened lines of communication around the future of winter sports and Olympic aspirations for South Africa.
- Implemented key systems upgrades, including Microsoft nonprofit licenses and the SAFSA Teams environment, improving document access, email communication, and institutional continuity.
- Reformed our international selection process, ensuring accuracy and fairness, and streamlined our member registration portal to enhance national compliance and reporting.
- Expanded our media presence and social media reach dramatically, with a renewed focus on telling our athletes' and officials' stories and making the sport more visible and approachable.

We also held strategic engagements with DSAC, including direct meetings with the Minister, to table our high-performance plans and funding proposals. These conversations are already laying the groundwork for more formal partnerships and event hosting ambitions, including a Junior Grand Prix and future ISU Congress.

To ensure financial sustainability, the Executive has proposed a new national membership fee from 2026/2027, targeting 2,000 members to fund the Executive's operations independently. All other funding—whether government or ISU-based—will be allocated exclusively to athlete, official, and grassroots development. Likewise, we have set clear targets to make competitions like Nationals fully self-funded, with revised entry structures and minimum participation requirements.

Our strategic focus for the coming year will include:

- Strengthening judging and officiating pipelines
- Finalising international hosting bids (including a Junior Grand Prix and ISU Congress)
- Launching a national online awards and recognition platform
- Deepening transformation and development in under-served provinces
- Growing membership and diversifying sponsorship streams

We have much work ahead. But with strong leadership, clearer accountability, and a shared commitment to rebuilding trust, I believe we can reposition SAFSA as a respected, resilient, and inclusive sports federation.

To all our athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials, and supporters—thank you for continuing to believe in the future of figure skating in South Africa.


Christo Viljoen
President, SAFSA





2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

National Executive Committee (2024/2025):

- President: Mr. Christo Viljoen
- Deputy President: Vacant
- National Secretary: Mrs. Ann-Elize Petersen
- National Treasurer: Mr. Enzo D'Aguanno
- National PRO: Mrs. Gloria Malan
- National Development Officer: Mrs. Rosalind Thompson

We actively worked to address key vacancies to ensure strategic capacity across SAFSA's leadership. We intend to fill the last vacant positions at the Annual General Meeting as well as ratify the appointment of new members to the Rules & Regulations committee.

3. STRATEGIC PROGRESS: VISION 2034

Vision 2034 remained central to SAFSA's long-term planning. This year, we made decisive progress toward rebuilding a strong foundation for future growth. Key achievements included:

- Streamlining governance structures and improving financial controls;
- Increasing support for athletes and officials through targeted technical training;
- Expanding participation in disciplines such as Solo Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating; and
- Deepening alignment with the ISU, DSAC, and SASCOC to meet international standards and benchmarks.

SAFSA's broader vision is to support high-performance athletes, judges, and coaches on a pathway to qualify for the Junior and Senior World Championships, Four Continents Championships, and ultimately the Olympic Games—now through 2034 and beyond. Achieving this vision requires structured and consistent funding from government institutions and national partners.

We are pleased to report that SAFSA has now completed and can submit all previously outstanding President's Reports and audited financial statements for the years ending 2022 through 2025. This milestone restores our eligibility for government and institutional funding and represents a critical turning point for the Federation.

With these key compliance matters resolved, SAFSA is now positioned to apply for funding from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), the National Lotteries Commission, SASCOC, and other public and private funders. These applications are already being prepared and will be submitted in alignment with our high-performance and grassroots development strategies.

Our next priority is to ensure that all provincial affiliates are also compliant. Once national and provincial structures are aligned and meeting compliance requirements, we will be able to unlock broader access to funding at every level—supporting grassroots development, enhancing access and participation, and building a truly sustainable future for figure skating in South Africa.

4. ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS

Athlete and high-performance development remain at the heart of SAFSA's strategic focus. It is essential that we provide consistent support to the athletes who are proudly representing South Africa on the international stage.

Gian-Quen Isaacs has already represented South Africa at the Four Continents Championships, while Johann Wilkinson and Julia Mauder are on the verge of qualifying for this prestigious event. At the junior level, we are equally inspired by the talent and potential of Jasmine Coetzee, Ella Hawkes, Hayley-Rae Thomson, Maria Navarro Brito, and Cody Cock—each of whom is on track to qualify for the Junior World Championships. Their progress reflects the growing strength of our competitive programs.

To support their journeys, SAFSA has submitted applications for ISU Development Funding for each of these athletes, and we eagerly await the outcome. However, sustainable success on the world stage requires long-term planning. With this in mind, our National Development Officer (NDO) is currently preparing a comprehensive four-year development plan as part of our Vision 2034 strategy.

We encourage all younger athletes, trial judges, and coaches to become part of this exciting phase of growth and development. Together, we can build the depth, skills, and experience needed to qualify athletes consistently for the Junior and Senior World Championships, Four Continents, and the Olympic Games in the years to come.



5. COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

We were honoured to host a truly memorable and professionally executed South African National Figure Skating Championships, which brought together athletes, coaches, officials, families, and supporters from across the country. This prestigious event was further elevated by the attendance of the Honourable Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, Mr. Gayton McKenzie, as well as SASCOC Board Member, Ms. Wendy Gila. Their presence signified strong and growing national recognition of figure skating in South Africa, and we are deeply grateful for their support and encouragement.

The Championships were expertly organised and delivered by the Central Gauteng Figure Skating Association, with incredible commitment from a dedicated team of volunteers from Gauteng. The professionalism of the event, the high calibre of performances, and the spirit of unity on display highlighted what we can achieve when we work together. We are especially heartened to see a growing number of volunteers getting involved in various capacities—offering their time, skills, and passion to help grow this beautiful sport for the benefit of every skater, family, and supporter involved.

In addition to Nationals, we are pleased to report that both the Cape Inter-Provincial Championships and the Gauteng Inter-Provincial Championships were successfully hosted and well supported, providing important competitive opportunities for athletes in these regions. These events also served as valuable platforms for technical development and talent identification.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control—including load shedding and weather-related damage—we were forced to cancel the KwaZulu-Natal Inter-Regionals. While disappointing, this decision was made with the safety and logistical feasibility of participants in mind. We thank the KZN committee for their efforts and look forward to their continued contributions to future events.



Despite these challenges, we are proud to confirm that every province was able to successfully host their own Provincial Championships. These events remain critical for athlete development, national rankings, and community engagement, and we thank all provincial committees, officials, and volunteers for their dedication and resilience.

Looking ahead, SAFSA remains committed to growing the quality and reach of our competitions, strengthening volunteer capacity, and ensuring that each skater—whether recreational or elite—has the opportunity to thrive in a well-supported environment. Together, we are building a vibrant future for figure skating in South Africa.

Over the past season, numerous Level Tests and Star Tests were successfully conducted in all provinces, providing vital opportunities for skaters to progress through the development pathways and receive recognition for their skills and dedication. These testing sessions are a cornerstone of our athlete development framework, ensuring that progression is structured, measurable, and aligned with international standards.

We are particularly encouraged by the renewed energy and efforts in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), where the provincial leadership has made tangible strides in rebuilding and expanding their development programmes. KZN is not only focusing on growing their athlete base but is also actively working to develop their judges, coaches, and technical officials—a critical step in strengthening the long-term capacity of the sport in the region. These efforts are already yielding positive results and we commend the KZN committee for their commitment and initiative.

As SAFSA continues to grow, so too does the demand for a deeper pool of officials across all disciplines and regions. We would like to strongly encourage more adult skaters, parents, and supporters to consider becoming trial judges. This is an essential role within our sport, and the contribution of new judges is key to ensuring the fair and consistent evaluation of skaters across the country. Training and mentorship opportunities are available, and this pathway offers a fulfilling way to remain actively involved in figure skating while supporting its future.

Together, through ongoing testing, targeted development, and the expansion of our technical base, we are laying the foundation for a more robust and inclusive figure skating community across South Africa.

6. MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

While we continue to promote figure skating across disciplines and provinces, it is essential that we confront a difficult truth: our current test structure and participation requirements are placing unnecessary barriers in the way of growth. These structures—intended to maintain standards—have unfortunately become obstacles to accessibility and inclusion. Over the past decade, they have contributed to a decline in participation, particularly at the grassroots and entry levels, which has had a direct impact on athlete numbers, development pipelines, and ultimately, the long-term sustainability of the sport.

To build a future where South African figure skating thrives, we must acknowledge that growing our athlete base is not optional—it is essential. Without stronger participation numbers, we will struggle to fund ice time, attract meaningful sponsorship, and identify and nurture top talent. The system must be flexible and welcoming enough to support new skaters—especially those from underrepresented communities—and provide clear, affordable, and realistic pathways for them to progress without being overwhelmed by technical or financial hurdles from the outset.

The situation is particularly concerning in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) and in a lesser degree Central Gauteng (CG), where numbers are now at critically low levels. Under the previous Executive Committee, no structured development took place, leading to stagnation. The consequences of this inaction have already manifested—Port Elizabeth closed its doors, and the outlook for Mpumalanga is increasingly bleak without immediate intervention and support if not too late.

Despite these challenges, we have seen positive signs of growth, particularly in junior participation and increased regional activity, as detailed in the annexes. These gains must be reinforced through policy and structural reform. We must urgently revisit the national testing structure and participation criteria, ensuring they serve as enablers rather than barriers. We must also increase investment in entry-level development, school outreach, adult participation, and beginner programs.

We call on all members—athletes, coaches, judges, parents, and administrators—to work with us in reimagining a system that is inclusive, accessible, and focused on long-term growth. A wider base of participation will not only secure the future of our sport but also help us achieve our high-performance goals. It is time for a collective shift: from gatekeeping to growth, from exclusion to expansion. Let us build a sport that truly welcomes and inspires all.

7. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS AND TRAINING

As we prepare for the anticipated growth of SAFSA through our Vision 2034 strategy and development efforts across provinces, it is vital that we build the infrastructure of people needed to support that expansion. Volunteers are the backbone of our sport, and we urgently need more individuals to step forward—whether as judges, technical specialists, administrators, or event volunteers—to help us manage and sustain this growth.

This past year, we made encouraging progress in strengthening our judging and officiating base. We hosted a highly successful online seminar with international judge Luca Dematté, which focused on Singles and Pairs. This seminar formed part of a broader coaching and judging upskilling strategy, designed to align our officials with international best practices and improve the consistency and quality of judging across the country.

Several judges were successfully promoted across different levels and disciplines, including advancements in Singles, Pairs, Ice Dance, Skills, and Competitions. These achievements reflect a strong commitment to training, certification, and excellence in technical officiating. Our judges continue to play a crucial role in maintaining the integrity and fairness of our competitions, and we are proud of their hard work and dedication.

However, it must also be acknowledged that our current promotion and entry pathway for new judges seems overly burdensome. While we remain committed to upholding high standards, the excessive requirements and administrative hurdles are impeding the recruitment and retention of new officials, particularly young adult skaters and former skaters who are ideally positioned to contribute. If we do not simplify and modernise this process, we risk having insufficient officials to meet the needs of our growing athlete base.

To support the long-term sustainability of our sport, we are reviewing these systems as part of our broader development strategy. We encourage more adult athletes, skating alumni, and passionate supporters to consider becoming involved as trial judges and technical officials. With adequate mentorship, clear progression pathways, and a more accessible framework, we can build a stronger, more inclusive foundation for our sport.

By working together to remove barriers, foster talent, and empower volunteers, we can ensure that SAFSA is equipped not only to manage the present, but to thrive in the future.



8. MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS, AND OUTREACH

With the support of the new National Public Relations Officer (NPRO), we have significantly increased social media content and engagement. We have published inspiring stories about our athletes and officials, which are helping to raise the profile of figure skating, making the sport more approachable to the general public and more enjoyable for all members. Additionally, we are about to appoint a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with a webmaster to ensure our website is regularly updated and professionally maintained, providing a reliable and dynamic source of information for everyone involved.

However, the Executive Committee is concerned about the way some members and athletes are currently using social media. Too often, we see posts that are counterproductive to our shared goals—complaints made publicly without engaging the appropriate people through the proper channels or forums. This approach does not foster constructive dialogue or progress and can undermine the positive momentum we are working hard to build.

To address this, the Executive is putting in place clear training, procedures, and protocols around the responsible use of social media. We urge all members to follow these processes and use the appropriate forums to raise issues so they can be managed effectively and professionally.

We are confident that, by working together and adhering to these standards, members will continue to see constant improvements in our communication, engagement, and overall strategic direction as we build a stronger, more united figure skating community.

9. FINANCE REPORT

We are pleased to report that SAFSA has successfully finalised and audited its financial statements for the financial years ending 31 March 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. This milestone was achieved after numerous engagements with the current Treasurer throughout the year, as the Executive Committee worked diligently to ensure that all outstanding financial records were properly compiled and submitted for auditing. While the process was delayed due to initial inaction, sustained intervention and oversight allowed us to restore compliance and transparency.

To ensure that these challenges are not repeated, SAFSA will transition to SAGE Online as its new bookkeeping and accounting platform. This move will allow for greater system access for key Executive Committee members, as well as for our auditors, enabling improved oversight, real-time reporting, and continuity in financial management.

In preparation for the future, we have initiated a formal handover process between the current Treasurer and the newly nominated Treasurer, a qualified Chartered Accountant, who has agreed to assume the role following the upcoming AGM. This transition will be accompanied by training and a system orientation to ensure continuity, transparency, and good governance going forward. With these measures in place, SAFSA is now positioned to access public and private funding and to operate with strengthened financial integrity.

- Bank Balances as at 31 March 2025

- Standard Bank Current Account: R 353,988
- Standard Bank Call Deposit Account: R 2,370,015

While SAFSA's reserves remain healthy, the Executive Committee has adopted a more strategic and sustainable approach to budgeting. The annual operating budget for the Executive Committee is approximately R 400,000, and it is the view of the current Exco that this amount must be directly funded by SAFSA members to ensure the organisation's long-term independence and financial sustainability.

- Strategic Financial Sustainability Plan

The Executive has begun consulting with Council to implement a new funding structure from the 2026/2027 season, whereby each registered SAFSA member will contribute R 200 per year towards the national budget. With a target of 2,000 members, this will allow the Executive to be fully funded by membership contributions. In turn, all external grants and funding received will be ring-fenced exclusively for athlete and official development and support, as originally intended.

- Competition Funding and Viability

In the same spirit of sustainability, all competitions must become fully self-funded. It currently costs approximately R 300,000 to host both Nationals and the new Finals competition at the end of the season. For these events to remain viable, we will require approximately 100-150 entries at R 2,000-R 3 000 per entry. Without sufficient entries or cost recovery, these competitions cannot be held in future.

Accordingly, we will be increasing entry fees for the 2025/2026 season and are calling on all Council members to take an active role in driving athlete participation and ensuring provinces meet their entry targets. Growing the number of entries is essential not only to sustain our national events but to fund the future development and visibility of our sport.

We trust that Council members will support these necessary steps as we work to restore compliance, strengthen governance, and lay a firm financial foundation for the years ahead.



10. GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

One of the most urgent priorities facing SAFSA this past year was the restoration of good governance and full compliance with national and international regulatory requirements. We are pleased to report that, through sustained intervention and oversight, SAFSA has successfully finalised and audited the outstanding financial statements for the years ending 31 March 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. We have also submitted all President's Reports, resolving several years of historical non-compliance.

However, despite achieving compliance, we must acknowledge that SAFSA has suffered a loss of credibility with key stakeholders, including SASCOC, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), and potential sponsors. This erosion of trust is the result of persistent governance failures by the previous Executive Committee, who failed to produce reports and financial statements for several consecutive years.

This matter came to a head during a parliamentary meeting held on 6 September 2022 by the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture. The record of this meeting is publicly available ([link to PMG minutes](#)). During that session, the following was minuted:

"The federation had only received funding in the financial year of 2020/21 due to the assistance of Mr Jacobs. The federation had not received funding from the years of 2017-2020 due to non-compliance in terms of submission of audited financial statements. Prior to 2020/21, funding was last provided in 2016/17. The Department is currently awaiting submission of 31 March 2022 audited financial statements for funding consideration."

I wish to place on record that I was not invited to attend this meeting by the former President of the Federation. Yet, during the session, it was falsely stated that I had excused myself. This occurred following years of public accusations against me in my former role as Gauteng North Chairperson, where it was claimed that SAFSA's inability to access funding stemmed from my handling of membership matters. These misleading statements have had longstanding and harmful consequences for both myself and the organisation.

When I lodged a formal complaint with SASCOC regarding the state of governance within SAFSA, I was subsequently sanctioned—barred from formal involvement in the Federation for two years—despite acting in the best interest of transparency and accountability. At the time, I warned that continued mismanagement would lead to further institutional deterioration.



Now, as President, I have inherited the full weight of these unresolved issues. In order to restore governance, I initiated the nomination of a qualified Chartered Accountant to assume the role of Treasurer at the upcoming AGM. This is a decisive step toward ensuring future transparency and consistency in financial reporting.

Although we will no longer be non-compliant, rebuilding trust with SASCO, DSAC, and other partners will take time, effort, and demonstrated commitment to integrity and good governance. We must acknowledge that compliance alone is not enough—credibility must be earned through consistent accountability and professionalism.

We urge all stakeholders—Council members, provinces, volunteers, and athletes—to work with us in this next phase. The credibility of our Federation, and the future opportunities available to our athletes, depend on our collective commitment to transparency, accountability, and transformation.

Let us now move forward—united in purpose—to restore trust and build a future worthy of our sport and its athletes.

11. PARTNERSHIPS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

This year, we took several important steps to strengthen SAFSA's national and international footprint and position figure skating for long-term success:

- We strengthened ties with international federations and coaches, deepening our engagement with key stakeholders across the global figure skating community. Through active participation in ISU events and networking opportunities, we have fostered valuable relationships with international coaches, judges, and officials. These connections enhance our knowledge-sharing, open doors to technical training and mentorship opportunities, and support the development of our athletes and officials in line with global standards.
- We expanded our network of volunteers and sponsors, recognising that the sustainability and growth of figure skating in South Africa depends on strong community involvement and external partnerships. We are encouraged by the increasing number of individuals offering their time and skills across various portfolios, especially in areas like media, development, and competition logistics. At the same time, we are cultivating new relationships with sponsors who see value in supporting a sport that combines athleticism, artistry, and discipline. These sponsorships are vital to supporting our programs, particularly at the grassroots and development levels.
- We initiated formal dialogue with the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) to explore the possibility of hosting international figure skating events in South Africa. These discussions are essential in laying the groundwork for securing government support, logistical planning, and the long-term infrastructure required to deliver world-class events.

- As part of this strategy, SAFSA has formally applied to host a Junior Grand Prix—a prestigious ISU competition that would allow our athletes to compete on home ice against top global talent, raise the sport's visibility, and inspire the next generation of skaters. In addition, we have also applied to host a future ISU Congress. Hosting the Congress would position South Africa as a committed and capable partner in global figure skating governance, offering a valuable platform to influence the sport's direction and strengthen our standing within the international community.

These initiatives reflect our commitment to growing the sport at every level—from grassroots development to international representation—and affirm our vision to position South Africa as a serious and respected figure skating nation on the global stage.

12. LOOKING AHEAD: 2025–2026

As we look ahead, SAFSA's Executive Committee has identified a set of key strategic priorities to guide our work and ensure meaningful progress in governance, development, and visibility. These priorities are aligned with our long-term Vision 2034 goals and are designed to create a more inclusive, sustainable, and competitive figure skating ecosystem in South Africa. They include:

- **Strengthening Our Judging Ecosystem**

One of our top priorities is to grow and professionalise our judging and officiating base. We will continue implementing our judging upskilling plan, offering national and international training opportunities, and reviewing the existing pathway to make it more accessible. Our goal is to ensure consistent, high-quality officiating across all competitions, while encouraging more former skaters, young adults, and committed volunteers to become involved as judges and technical officials.

- **Finalising Bids for International Event Hosting**

We are committed to positioning South Africa as a host nation for international figure skating events. Following our formal applications to host a Junior Grand Prix and a future ISU Congress, the Executive is working to finalise these bids through engagement with key stakeholders, including government, the ISU, and SASCOC. Successfully hosting these events would significantly raise South Africa's profile on the global stage and inspire participation across the country.

- **Launching an Online Awards and Recognition Platform**

We are developing a national online awards and recognition platform to honour the achievements of our athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers. This initiative will build a culture of celebration, motivation, and accountability, while increasing engagement across the country and reinforcing the value of long-term commitment to the sport.

- **Supporting Grassroots Development and Transformation**

Strengthening grassroots skating remains a strategic pillar of our long-term vision. We are focused on expanding access to the sport, especially in provinces like KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, and the Eastern Cape, where historic underdevelopment has left gaps. Our transformation agenda includes school-based outreach, introductory skating programs, and the identification of talent in underrepresented communities, all supported by capacity-building for coaches and local officials.

- **Growing Membership and Diversifying Sponsorships**

To build financial independence and strengthen our national network, SAFSA will introduce a new membership model from the 2026/2027 season. Our goal is to reach 2,000 members, each contributing R200 annually, which will fully fund the operational needs of the Executive Committee. Simultaneously, we are actively engaging potential sponsors and partners to diversify our funding streams and support athlete development, events, and promotional campaigns.



- **Securing Government Support Through High-Level Engagement**

The Executive has made significant progress in establishing direct communication with the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC). We have held in-person meetings with the Honourable Minister of Sport, Mr Gayton McKenzie, to present our vision and discuss how government can play a more active role in supporting SAFSA's goals. Budgets and funding proposals are currently being prepared for submission to the Ministry for consideration and potential inclusion in national funding allocations.

However, our efforts to unlock government support are being undermined by the absence of audited financial statements and President's reports—a legacy of non-compliance under the previous Executive and the ongoing delays in financial reporting. This continued failure to meet governance requirements risks jeopardising otherwise promising engagements with government and limits our eligibility for funding and recognition.

These strategic priorities reflect our bold intention to stabilise, grow, and elevate figure skating in South Africa. To succeed, we need the collective support of all stakeholders—Council members, provinces, volunteers, and athletes—working in unity to transform challenges into opportunities and rebuild trust with partners, funders, and the public.

In closing, while SAFSA continues to face serious governance and compliance challenges inherited from the past, this Executive is fully committed to rebuilding trust, restoring accountability, and driving long-term growth. We have made meaningful progress in media engagement, government relations, and international partnerships, but we must now urgently address the outstanding financial reporting to secure our future. With Council's support, and through bold structural changes—including sustainable funding models and grassroots investment—we can ensure that South African figure skating not only survives, but thrives. Let us move forward together, with clarity of purpose and unity of vision.

Prepared by the President of the South African Figure Skating Association (SAFSA)

Date: 01 July 2025





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