

10 November 2019

### Public Relations Officer Report 2019

An exciting year for the NBAA with a new affiliation (FLW) and two successful junior development days.

The NBAA managed to host to very successful Junior Development events creating a lot of awareness for the association as well as some new junior members competing at the national tournaments. The events where hosted in conjunction with the Windhoek Scouts.

The NBAA became an affiliate of FLW this year and managed to send the first to anglers, Neil Engelbrecht and Johan Coetzee to go an compete at the FLW Costa Series Championships in the US.

It was a busy year with a quite a few events to report on and create public awareness for the NBAA.

We make use of the various platforms to create awareness and share information with our members and fellow bass anglers, give some brand awareness and recognition to our sponsors and promote the sport of bass fishing in Namibia.

**Newspaper Articles:** The newspaper articles are used to publish information of the national competitions, make public announcements, announce the national team, give recognition and exposure to the sponsors and advertise planned events. The NBAA published various newspaper articles during 2019, most of them in the Republikein, Namibian newspaper and The Villager.

Please see annexure A of the published articles.

**Radio Advertising:** Radiowave sponsors airtime to the NBAA to promote special events and raise awareness of the NBAA. We also made use of Kosmos this year. We had interviews on air with the Captain of the Presidents Team, Thinus Williams and an interview with our chairman Richard Grant.

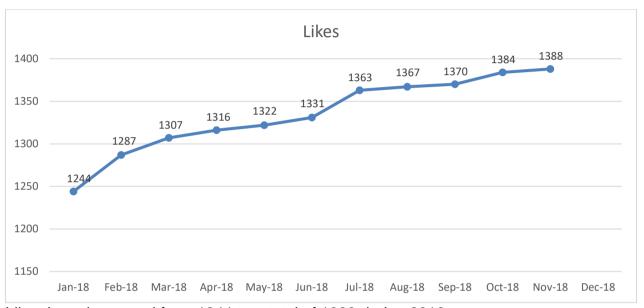
**Newsletters:** A report is sent to Bank Windhoek, main sponsor of the NBAA, after each national competition. The report is a summary of the event along with the results of the competition. This report is sent to stakeholders in the form of a newsletter.

Please see annexure B of the newsletters.

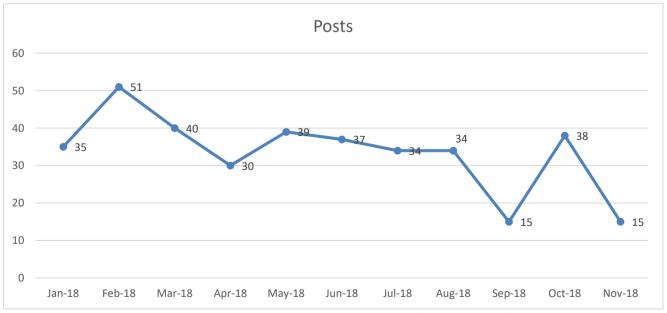


**Social Media (Facebook):** The NBAA has a Facebook page on which events are posted and awareness raised. We also use Facebook live to broadcast live weigh-ins sharing the excitement with our Facebook page followers. Here are some interesting statistics for 2019:

### **Facebook Statistics**



Likes have increased from 1244 to a total of 1388 during 2019



This graph shows the amount of posts per month. A total of 368 posts for the year posted.





This graph depicts the amount of people reached with the Facebook page per month.

**Video:** Videos where compiled using the footage and stills to promote the event, thank sponsors and create awareness. The videos where published on our Facebook page and website. These videos are also used to give our sponsors some publicity.

**NBAA Website (www.nbaanamibia.com):** In this digital age, the website is a window into the workings of the NBAA. Anything about the NBAA can be found on this website from picture galleries, videos, membership entry forms, newsletters, competition results, upcoming events to contact details. The website is also used as a vehicle to give exposure to our sponsors and thank them for their support.



The NBAA would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support during 2019. Taking the current difficult economic times into consideration these sponsors have persevered:

- 1. Bank Windhoek
- 3. Deep Catch
- 5. KTE Namibia
- 7. Surf and Turf
- 9. Frametique
- 11. Medicine Worl
- 13. Dr Andre van Vuuren
- 15. Tyrerack

- 2. Old Mutual
- 4. Cymot
- 6. Bushwhackers
- 8. Optics Exclusive
- 10. Paratus Teleco
- 12. Engen Jan Jonker
- 14. Radiowave
- 16. Rapala VMC

A big thank you to our sponsors. Your dedication and commitment towards the NBAA make a huge difference towards the sport of bass angling in Namibia.

We hope to be heading into a good rainy season as our dam water levels are reaching a critical stage!

Wishing everyone a wet and prosperous 2020.

Andrew Hall
Public Relations Officer 2019



#### **ANNEXURE A:**

### NBAA hosts first junior development day for 2019

The NBAA hosted its very first junior development day for the year on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. The event was hosted on von Bach dam in conjunction with the Windhoek Scouts. The event was very well attended with 26 youngsters descending upon the angling waters with great enthusiasm. We had a total of 10 skippers who availed their boats, the average number of junior anglers ranging between 2 and 3 per boat.

After quite a lengthy spell of drought and very difficult fishing conditions faced from 2013 to 2017, we were finally in the position to host a junior development event. The NBAA has put in a tremendous amount of work to improve our fisheries and we have had quite favourable fishing conditions during 2018 which put us in a position to host the event early this year. We are nowhere close to being out of the woods yet as we have not had a very good rainy season this year and the prospects seem a bit grim.

Our development officer, Mr Johan Coetzee engaged with the Windhoek scouts late in 2018 to determine if they would be interested in attending such an event. The invitation was received with open arms and many hours of planning and arrangements passed since then. Mr Coetzee who's interest for angling was sparked at exactly these type of events has a huge passion and drive to develop the sport in our country. The future of our sport hinges on events like these and we plan to host more of these in the upcoming future.

A total of 15 junior anglers managed to weigh in some fish and the excitement at the scales was electrifying. Our junior prize winners are as follows:

- 1. Precious
- 2. Michael
- 3. Liam
- 4. Seth
- 5. Max team (provide names)
- 6. Benjamin
- 7. Henry
- 8. Teagan
- 9. Peyton
- 10. Ben



A day such as this would not be possible without our loyal and supporting sponsors who we would like to thank for making a difference in these childrens lives and putting huge smiles on their faces. Our sponsors were as follows:

- 1. Bank Windhoek NBAA main sponsor
- 2. Surf and Turf 1st prize sponsor
- 3. Bushwhackers 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4rd prize sponsor
- 4. Nam Turf Solutions providing goodie bags to each junior filled with Savage gear lures
- 5. Deep Catch Trading for hydrating the teams with Score energy drinks
- 6. Jan Jonker Engine Service Station for ice and water for all the anglers and skippers

We would also like to thank the following NBAA members for their willingness to avail their boats and tackle for this good cause:

- 1. Richard Grant
- 2. Johan Coetzee
- 3. Neels van Tonder
- 4. Andrew Hall
- 5. Neil Engelbrecht
- 6. Wilbur Slabber
- 7. Duan Kotze
- 8. Thinus Williams
- 9. Jandre Engelbrecht
- 10. Max Pieper

We would also like to thank Shelly van Rooyen, a teacher at St Paul's who volunteered to be our photographer for the day and capture those priceless smiles of the kids as they came from the boats.

We are very excited about the future of our sport and who knows, one of our future angler of the year winners might have stepped on a boat for the very first time this weekend. Thanks again to everyone that was involved with this event and we hope to make the next one even better!





Group foto





1st Prize winner: Precious





2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winner: Michael



### **Cancellation of the Summer Bass Classic**

Dear fellow anglers, it is with a heavy heart that we once again have to announce the cancellation of our beloved Summer Bass Classic.

Over the last couple of years we as a country has been in the disposition of some very bad rainy seasons which unfortunately have led to the cancellation of a couple of fishing tournaments during this period.

The current dam levels are: Von Bach 44%, both Omatako 0% and Swakoppoort 14% which supply water to Von Bach are either dry or almost dry and Oanob at 50%. Namwater predicts that should we have another bad rainy season with no inflow to our dams, Von Bach will be so low by April 2019 that it will no longer be able to supply Windhoek with water.

Our president has declared the drought a state of emergency and the City of Winhoek will start imposing water restrictions.

We are facing a grim future in terms of water supply for Windhoek unless we get some decent inflow into our dams.

Please use water wisely.



## President's Test 2019 – De Hoop Dam Namibia takes gold in Tri-nations

Namibia took part in the Presidents test as an invitational team consisting of 3 boats only. South Africa and Zimbabwe had full teams of 6 boats each competing at the event. This was Namibia's second time competing at the President's test.

The team left Windhoek in the early hours of the morning on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. It was a +- 1600km drive to the tournament venue at De Hoop. The team arrived at Thandabantu lodge situated about 20km from the dam where all teams from Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe would be accommodated for the tournament. We were received by John Wickam from the SA team who was the Tournmanet Director and responsible for most of the arrangements of the event. The event was very well organized and the accommodation, facilities and food where top class for such a remote location.

De Hoop dam is almost 20km in length and reaches depts of up to 70 meters. It has an almost constant inflow of water and is known for is signature landscape feature, the famous waterfall where many large bass have been caught. The water is crystal clean and one has visibility of up to 6 meters in some areas of the dam. The dam has a wide variety of structure to fish, from trees as far as the eye can see to flooded bush, reeds, rocks and peachleaf mats on the water, an absolute fishing haven and clearly one of South Africa's premier fishing destinations.

Namibia competed for the Tri-Nations cup. The format of this competition was that Namibia fished against 3 boats of South Africa and Zimbabwe. The first day we fished agains the boat 1 to 3 of each country, the second day boat 4-6 of each country and then on day 3 a draw of 3 boats from each country. Scoring was done on 0.5 points per fish (limit of 5 fish per boat) and total bag weight, 1 point per kg of fish. The country with the highest total score over the 3 days was the winner.

The event started on Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> of July with two practice days (Monday and Tuesday) to give each country the opportunity to prepare a strategy for the 3 day tournament that started on Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

The team quite quickly realized that fishing was not going to be easy as a cold front had just passed and another was on the way in that same week. We did however manage to stumble across one or two patterns quite early in practice and also realized that we would have to "save" fish and not catch all the fish that were resident in an identified area all on the same day.

The Namibian boat pairings were as follows:

Boat 1 – Thinus Williams (Captain of the team)

Boat 2 - Andrew Hal and Duan Kotze

Boat 3 – Nic Kruger and Alec Williams



After day one of the tournament Namibia was in 3<sup>rd</sup> place but the scores for all countries were quite close and Boat 2 of Namibia caught a very nice bag ending up as second best bag of the day.

Day two was a very good day for Namibia and our strategy seemed to pay off as all boats improved their previous day's positions overtaking South Africa by moving into second position.

Day three the Namibian team stuck to its guns with a fighting spirit and working as a tight knit unit to take first position with Boat 2 ending up as the best boat of the tournament.

The final result of the Tri Nations was as follows:

- 1. Namibia
- 2. South Africa
- 3. Zimbabwe

Boat 2 of Namibia (Andrew Hall / Duan Kotze) won best boat of the tournament with heaviest average bag over 3 days and Boat 3 of Namibia (Nic Kruger and Alec Williams) ended in 6<sup>th</sup> position for average bag over 3 days out of a total of 15 boats.

The President's Team would like to thank the NBAA for making it possible for us to compete in such events. The team would also like to thank the Main Sponsor, Momentum Insurance Namibia for their very generous sponsorship and making it possible for the team to attend the event. We would also like to thank African Eyes Optomotrist and KTE Namibia for their sponsorships and support!



### Namibia has its very first FLW Final

Namibia hosted its very first FLW finals at Oanob dam from the 24<sup>th</sup> till the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2019. Joining at almost the same time as Zimbabwe, Namibia is the 10<sup>th</sup> international member of the new international division that can compete at the Costa FLW Series Championship which will be hosted on Lake Cumberland in the United States from the 31<sup>st</sup> of October till the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2019.

Oanob dam located about 7km outside of Rehoboth was completed in 1990, the same year that Namibia became independent. It has a capacity of about 34 million cubic meters. The dam is known to boast some lunkers and the Namibian record has been caught in this dam. Oanob, with its clear water and rock ridges that disappear into the depths, make for any bass anglers paradise. The resort has everything from beautiful chalets to the most luxurious camp sites making it the perfect destination for a family to spend a weekend.

Although the dam water level was a bit low at 45.6% due to a bad rainy season, the news was out that the bass were on the beds. The atmosphere at the captains meeting was electrifying with the anticipation of some big bags that were going to make it to the scales. Sight fishing the bass on their beds was definitely on the mind of every angler as they pulled through the gate and sped off to their first stop for the morning. There was a bit of a cold breeze in the early morning on day one but as soon as the sun was high, those all too familiar white pebble circles with a dark shadow luring over them, got the heart racing of many anglers.

As many avid bass anglers know, sight fishing can be very rewarding but also extremely frustrating. When have you spent too much time on a stubborn fish? Should I go now or is it about to bite? Questions that are only answered with time as your experience grows.

The biggest bag weighed in on day one was by team Varkaneli Namibia (Andrew Hall and Max Pieper) weighing in at 8.484kg. Biggest fish of the day was caught by Team WBM Soft-baits (Richard Grant and Neil Engelbrecht).

Fishing on day two improved even more as the heaviest bag of the day was weighed in by Team WBM Soft-baits (Richard Grant and Neil Engelbrecht), a whopping 10.044kg and Richard Grant also catching the biggest fish of the tournament at a weight of 2.974kg.

The boat and fishing pressure as well as a cold wind that came up during the night, definitely came into play on day 3 as the bag sizes became smaller and Team Last Minute (Johan Coetzee and James van Rooyen) caught the heaviest bag of the day, weighing in at 6.812kg. Only two boats managed their 5 fish bag limit on day 3, a telling tale of some tough conditions on the water that day.



A total of 85 fish made it to the scales over the 3 day tournament with a total weight of 133.471kg, resulting in a 1.570kg average weight per fish.

Team Last Minute (Johan Coetzee and James van Rooyen) moved into the first position with a solid performance over the 3 days. Their main strategy was sight fishing and they had identified quite a couple of beds holding fish during their practice sessions before the tournament. Their first stop on day one was a shallow wind protected bay which they identified during practice. They started throwing a Storm ratling Chug Bug on which Johan caught some good fish during practice. Their first decent keeper for the day was however caught on a Rapala X rap in Scoop colour, one of James's favourite baits during spawn.

Their strategy was to fill up every day and find some nests during the end of the day to start on the next day, a key to their success for the tournament. Day three was a tough day on the water but they still managed their bag limit. The biggest keys to their success for the tournament was covering as much water as possible every day, finding beds and throwing a combination of reaction baits and softbaits.

Mercury Marine was the main sponsor of the event alongside Optic Exclusive, Old Mutual Namibia, Lake Oanob Resort, Surf and Turf Namibia, Radio Wave, WBM Lures, Radiant, Eurolux, KTE, Tyre Rack, Cymot and SA BASS. FLW Namibia would like to thank all of the above sponsors for their support, sponsorships are what make these events possible and we would not have been able to host such a successful event without them.

FLW Namibia is excited about the tournament trial for 2020 and we are sure its going to be a tight battle till the end for the opportunity to represent Namibia at the next Cost FLW Series Championship in the United States.

Written by Andrew Hall, Public Relations Officer, Nambian Bass Angling Association



www.nbaanamibia.com

### NBAA sends their first two anglers to compete at FLW in the US

The NBAA will be sending their first two anglers to compete at the Costa FLW series tournament which will be hosted at Lake Cumberland in the United states. Neil Engelbrecht and Johan Coetzee managed to secure a win at the FLW finals which were hosted on Oanob dam earlier this year which led them to qualify to compete at the Costa FLW 2019 series tournament.

Engelbrecht and Coetzee are both seasoned anglers. Engelbrech with a total of 13 Namibian caps and 16 years of angling experience and Coetzee with 3 Namibian caps and two times national champion (2016 and 2018) will be representing Namibia at this prestigious event.

Engelbrecht and Coetzee will be provided with a fully rigged boat on which they will compete as a team against other international countries for a total prize money of U\$100 000 and a chance to advance to next years FLW Cup, one of the biggest stages in this sport.

The tournament will be held from the 31st of October till the 2nd of November 2019. Our angles will be greated by an very unfamiliar 160km stretch body of water. The most recent 5 fish winning bags caught at Cumberland weighed in between 7.2kg and 8.6kg.

Events such as these offer our anglers a tremendous amount of exposure and opportunity. It is a totally different experience competing on this level against some of the best anglers in the world.

The NBAA would like to wish Neil and Johan the best of luck, we know they will do Namibia proud!







Neil Engelbrecht

Johan Coetzee



# Hartwell USA for round 2 – NBAA sends two anglers to compete at B.A.S.S. Nation in the USA

The NBAA will be sending two anglers namely Thinus Williams (boater) and Jurgen Geiger (non-boater), to compete at the B.A.S.S. Nation tournament hosted on Lake Hartwell in George, South Caroline in the USA. It was on this same Lake that James van Rooyen came so close in 2017 to qualify for the Bassmaster Classic finishing in overall 8<sup>th</sup> position. This will be Williams's second time competing on Hartwell as he was the non-boater angler that accompanied van Rooyen in 2017.

This will be Williams's 3<sup>rd</sup> time qualifying to fish the B.A.S.S. Nation in the united states. Williams a very well experience angler has presented Namibia at 8 international events and captained 2 National Teams. He has gained a wealth of experience over the years.

Geiger has been fishing competitively for the last 20 years and has represented Namibia at so many international events he has lost count. Geiger is a very diverse angler and he spends his time fishing a wide variety of species. He is also a very avid boat builder and has recently launched his new range of Tomcat bass boats that are being built here in Namibia.

Lake Hartwell is an intimidating body of water as it compromises 230 square kilometres of water and 1548 kilometer of shoreline. It is definitely not the typical body of water any of our African / Namibian anglers encounter on a daily basis.

The Championships will be held from the 6<sup>th</sup> till the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. Each of our anglers will be paired with an angler from another country, Williams being the boater (driving the boat) and Geiger the non-boater (co-angler on the boat). The top 6 positions of this championships will be invited to compete at the Bassmaster classic to test their skills against professional anglers. To date Namibia has not managed to get a top 6 finish but we have managed an 8<sup>th</sup> position, an enormous feat to obtain out of 100's of anglers where only the best from each state / country come to compete.

We wish Thinus and Jurgen the best of luck and we know they will make us and Namibia proud. The championship will be broadcast live on <a href="https://www.bassmaster.com">www.bassmaster.com</a> for those of you who would like to follow their progress







Thinus Williams

Jurgen Geiger



## NBAA and NALAA host the second junior development event for 2019

The NBAA & NALAA the second junior development day for the year on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2019. The event was hosted on von Bach dam in conjunction with the Windhoek Scouts. The event was very well attended with a total of ... juniors and 12 boats with skippers.

Fishing conditions are not at their best at von Bach with dwindling water levels and the desperate need for rain. None the less quite a few fish made it to the scales putting lots of happy smiles on the kids faces as most of them got the opportunity to reel in a fish.

We would like to give special thanks to Johan Coetzee (NBAA) and Birte Lund (NALAA) for all their efforts to organize the event.

The support of our sponsors was phenomenal for this event. Without the ongoing loyal support of these sponsors, events such as these would not be possible. We would like to thank each and everyone for supporting the cause and growing our beloved sport.

- 7. Bank Windhoek
- 8. Surf and Turf
- 9. Bushwhackers
- 10. Cymot
- 11. WBM Soft Plastics
- 12. Gondwana
- 13. Rapala VMC

We would also like to thank the following NBAA & NALAA members for their willingness to avail their boats and tackle for this good cause:

- 11. Richard Grant
- 12. Johan Coetzee
- 13. Andrew Hall
- 14. Neil Engelbrecht
- 15. Max Pieper
- 16. Duan Kotze
- 17. Birte Lund
- 18. Reinhardt Laggner
- 19. Mathew Jackman
- 20. Willie Sowden
- 21. Willie van der Merwe
- 22. Lourens Delport



Both the NBAA and NALAA are very proud to be associated with the junior development event. These events are vital to the future of our sport and to enriching the lives of children by means of new experiences. We will continue to arrange and coordinate events such as these and are looking forward to even bigger events in 2020.



Group foto



## ANNEXURE B: Bank Windhoek National Competition 30 March 2019



The NBAA hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> National tournament for 2019 at Von Bach dam on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. A total of 20 anglers and 15 boats attended the tournament including 2 junior anglers.

We are very excited to have junior anglers once again attending our national competitions. These 2 juniors joined the NBAA shortly after our first junior development weekend held earlier this year. These kids are the future of our sport and we are delighted and proud to have them as members.

The tournament started with a welcome drizzle of rain, but conditions led to quite tough fishing. In the weeks prior to the tournament anglers reported great fishing conditions but on the day it seemed to be quite the contrary. Only 10 anglers managed to weigh in a fish. A total of 18 fish weighing a total of 19.111kg made it to the scales.

The biggest fish for the day was caught by Jurgen Geiger and weighed in at 1.525kg.

#### Our winners were as follows:

Name of	Total	QTY of	Position		
Angler	Weight	Fish			
CP Bothma	3.884	3	1		
Pierre Fourie	3.210	3	2		
Jürgen					
Geiger	3.154	3	3		
JUNIORS					
Bian Coertzen	1.023	1	1		

We would like to thank Bank Windhoek for their ongoing loyal support. We are very excited about 2019 and very grateful to have you on board as a sponsor again.

Yours Sincerely



## **Bank Windhoek National Competition 18 May 2019**



The NBAA hosted the 4th National tournament for 2019 at Von Bach dam on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. A total of 16 anglers and 15 boats attended the tournament including 4 junior anglers.

It was not one of the easiest tournaments, with dropping temperatures reminding us that the winter is at our doorstep. Unfortunately, we have also had a very bad rainy season with little inflow into the dam currently at about 44% water level and we face a very bleak future if our next rainy season follows suit.

A total of 34 fish made it to the scales at a total weight of 31.157kg giving an average weight of 0.916kg per fish. The average weight is exceptionally good when compared to other bass angling venues in Southern Africa. The average does however indicate that there is still an imbalance in the bass population in Von Bach's bass population. An imbalance which the conservation committee of the NBAA is in the process of trying to rectify.

The biggest fish for the day was caught by Duan Kotze and weighed in at 1.399kg. The heaviest bag was weighed in by Andrew Hall at 6.142kg. Andrew blew the competition away with a bag almost 3kg heavier than the runner up.

Unfortunately none of the junior competitors managed to catch a bass. The juniors put all they had into it and we are proud of all of them.

#### Our winners were as follows:

Position	Angler Name	Total Weight	Numer of Fish
1	Andrew Hall	6.142	5
2	Jacques Marais	3.437	5
3	Duan Kotze	3.657	4

We would like to thank Bank Windhoek for their ongoing support and making it possible for us to practice our beloved sport.



The next event on our calendar is the annual NBAA Golf & Bowls day which will be held at Omeya on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2019. Corporates are invited to join us for a day of great fun. The proceeds benefit the sport of bass angling in Namibia.

Yours Sincerely



## Bank Windhoek National Competition 7 September 2019



The NBAA hosted the 5th National tournament for 2019 at Oanob dam on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2019. A total of 22 anglers and 16 boats attended the tournament including junior anglers.

This is always a special time of the year for bass fishing as the bigger fish move into the shallows for the spawn. Sight-fishing is a very exhilarating way to bass fish but can be just as frustrating too. The tournament was well attended with the expectation of some heavy bags to make it to the scales. Weather conditions seemed favourable with spring at our doorstep, it was however a bit windy during certain periods of the day with the ripple on the water being quite challenging for site fishing. Anglers however enjoyed themselves on the water and some bigger fish did make it to the scales. A total of 34 fish made it to the scales

We had 3 juniors competing at the event with Aje Engelbrecht winning the junior division with a 1.402kg fish

#### Our winners were as follows:

Position	Angler Name	Total Weight	Number of Fish
1	Richard Grant	6.157kg	5
2	Willie van der Merwe	5.141kg	4
3	Andrew Hall	4.587kg	3

The biggest fish of the tournament was caught by Lourens Delport and weighed in at 2.141kg

We would like to thank Bank Windhoek for their ongoing support and making it possible for us to practice our beloved sport.

Yours Sincerely