



admin@samca.org



16 March 2020

**Enquiries:**  
W. Oberem

All Provincial Chairpersons and SAMCA Stakeholders

### **STATEMENT FROM SAMCA: Corona Virus (COVID-9)**

In a media statement briefing on 15 March 2020, His Excellency, the President of South Africa declared the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic a national disaster. This obviously has implications to SAMCA and all our stakeholders.

The SAMCA executive held a meeting this evening, and the following will be enforced with immediate effect:

1. A complete shutdown of all activities (including competitions, practices, trials processes, workshops etc) related to our sport for at least, the next 30 days, depending on any new developments or mitigations received from Government and SASCOC. The situation will, however, be assessed on a continual basis. Should any changes be needed, SAMCA will immediately inform the Provincial/Regional Chairpersons.
2. SAMCA has not taken any decisions relating to the 2020 National Championships at this stage. The cancellation of the 2020 National Championships is not an option and if need be will rather be postponed to later in the year.
3. If there is a need for more drastic interventions of the above, SAMCA will interact with all Provincial/Regional Chairpersons.
4. The SAMCA Executive will reconvene and re-assess the current situation, by the end of April 2020. This enforcement will stay in place until you receive further correspondence from SAMCA.

SAMCA once again needs to reiterate that there is no need to panic currently.

SAMCA encourages all to participate in the prevention of the illness by:

- a. Washing hands often with soap and water, for at least 25 seconds. An alcohol-based sanitiser (at least 60% alcohol based) is also an option.
- b. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- c. Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- d. Stay at home when you are sick and keep a distance from others at home
- e. People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (cover your cough and sneeze into tissues or clothing and wash the hands thereafter)
- f. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

#### **SASCOC recognised federation for Majorettes, Cheerleading and Baton Twirling in the Republic of South Africa**

DIRECTORS: Wayne Oberem (President), Moses Ngobeni (Vice President), Hylton Graham (Adjudicators), Keith Alho (Coaches), Christa De Wet (Finance), Matthew Higgs (Development)

Secretary: Marina Van Jaarsveldt

MAJORETTE OFFERING: Flag Group, Pom/Non Prop Group, Mace Group, Small Drill & Large Drill

CHEERLEADING OFFERING: Co-Ed/All Girl Small/Large Cheerleading

BATON TWIRLING: Baton Twirling Group

CATEGORIES: Primary School, High School & Tertiary



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g. Avoid contact with farm or wild animals (both dead and alive), including animal markets and products from animals (such as uncooked meat).

h. Masks: People with no respiratory symptoms, such as a cough, do not need to wear a mask. The use of masks should be reserved for people who have symptoms of the virus, and for those caring for individuals who the symptoms of the virus or confirmed COVID-19 virus infection. A mask does however, prevent you from touching your own face and will reduce the risk of self-inoculation.

SAMCA wishes you well, and our main interest and concern is the good health of all stakeholders.

A school superintendent mentioned something profound in his address cancelling school for the next 3 weeks. He said:

*"In the end, it will be impossible to know if we over-reacted or did too much, but it will be quite apparent if we under-reacted or did too little....."*

Thank you for understanding during this difficult time in South Africa and the rest of the world.

Yours sincerely

**Wayne Oberem**  
**SAMCA President**

082 561 0992 | president@samca.org | www.samca.org



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