

1. Opening:

All members were present and on time.

Chair: Tasmyn Gouws

Vice Chair: Ansi vd Walt

Treasurer: Danelle Lederle

Secretary: Jana Hager

Education: Sian Johnston

Education: Salomien Erasmus

Marketing: Jess Evans

Meeting started at 19:32.

2. Apologies:

No apologies.

3. Approval of last meetings minutes:

Comments and changes to the previous minutes were made accordingly. See previous minutes.

4. Announcements/ Feedback:

- a. Payfast seems to be the least expensive online payment method, it doesn't have a monthly subscription fee. Danelle will do further research on the topic.
- b. It appears that a lot of members don't understand how to check up on their CPD points progress or what is required by SAVC. It was suggested that a webinar explaining how the process works be presented by SAVC. A previous recording by SAVC might still be available but needs to be found.
- c. Salomien updated the committee on feedback she received from SAVC regarding Authorised veterinary physiotherapists CPD points- these persons are not required to gather CPD points until they are registered as veterinary physiotherapists.
- d. Danelle mentioned that the Compensation survey feedback so far is stagnant at 14 responses. She will give further feedback and results at the next meeting.

5. Membership issues:

- a. It was noted that there has been a 40% drop in membership numbers from 2018-2023- Ansi shared graphs via Zoom meeting. The two main reasons were that members didn't feel represented and membership costs.
- b. A recent survey sent out via WhatsApp asking *why* a professional would want to be part of SAAPRA showed that 77.5% people/professionals in the industry want to be part of a representative group. The second majority reason was (12.5%) for making CPD points. We need to maintain membership and improve membership numbers.
- c. It is clear that there is a gap between the SAAPRA committee and the members. All the committee members feel strongly that this gap needs to be bridged to promote and grow the industry. The biggest problem seems to be communication between the committee and members, we feel members should be aware of the goals the

committee set and be updated on progress. A short list of goals was set up on how we plan to solve this problem:

- i. Quarterly newsletter where the committee can share set goals and progress.
 - ii. Social media plan/calendar to increase Facebook post and create an Instagram account. Create more interactive content for members to share and be a part of.
- d. Membership fee:
- i. The committee decided to keep the 2023 membership fee at R900.
 - ii. It was decided that SAAPRA committee members don't have to pay the membership fee unless they feel they want to.
 - iii. It was noted that membership categories like "authorised massage therapist" and "authorised hydrotherapist" consist of only 1 member. It was decided that these two categories need be removed and the 2 members need to be convinced to get the full membership.

6. Update on the Online Pet Health and SAAPRA meeting:

- a. The meeting minutes was shared via email to all SAAPRA members and discussed via WhatsApp.
- b. OPH seems very keen to support SAAPRA and increase/help SA representatives.
- c. Working with OPH seems to be very favourable/beneficial for SAAPRA and its' members but smaller details must still be confirmed:
 - i. When is the best time to introduce the new partnership to members?
 - ii. Costs and if it should be an immediate available option or only when members renew their membership? It was discussed that many members still need to acquire CPD points before the end of the 3-year CPD term and that allowing members to join sooner would be a better option.
 - iii. It was suggested that we aim for March 2023 along with a quarterly newsletter.

7. SAAPRA Conference:

- a. It was decided that there will **not** be a SAAPRA conference for 2023 and 2024. The committee feel that there are more important factors to be considered and focused on that will be more beneficial in promoting and growing the industry. Not having a SAAPRA conference will:
 - i. Give members the opportunity to save up for travel and attendance of the 2024 IAVRPT conference.
 - ii. Allow the committee more time to focus on the above mentioned set goals and smaller things that never take priority or get done.
- b. It was discussed that the annual conference does bring in a good profit but that an annual SAAPRA conference isn't necessarily a must but rather once every 3-years or within the 3-year CPD cycle to allow members the opportunity to gather CPD points.

8. Finance update:

- a. It was brought to attention that SAAPRA is not currently tax registered or registered as an NPO (non-profit organization).
- b. SAAPRA also doesn't have a tax exemption certificate which makes SAAPRA liable to pay tax on any income since the establishment of SAAPRA until the certificate has been granted.

- c. Danelle will be in contact with an accountant to start the process of getting SAAPRA registered as a NPO.

9. Brain storm for IAVRPT conference:

- a. Sian and Ansi asked for “brain storming” assistance with regards to the IAVRPT conference speaker suggestions. Amy Hisbagh (canine motor pattern generation) and Russell Guire from Centaur Biomechanics were two international suggestions.
- b. It was suggested that we look at having a moderate amount of local speakers as the conference will be held in SA (Tanya, Ané, Marinette, Ansi).
- c. Research presentations can be a good door opener for young researchers to have some international exposure.
- d. A OneDrive was created for committee members to gather ideas and info.

10. Adjournment:

- a. Meeting closed at 20:57.

