



November 2019 Newsletter

Welcome to the second newsletter

The good news is, we were watching the weather very carefully in Cape Town over the 19 - 29 September period and it was beautiful, no rain and not too hot. It may be asking a lot to hope for the same weather in 2020, but it is a good sign.

Preparations are moving full steam ahead and the host national organising committee (HNOC) is having weekly catch-ups to ensure the World Cup runs smoothly and that we have thought of everything possible. We have been working very closely with the WMH. In addition to the comprehensive tournament delivery manual they produced, we are hosting a number of events to stress check our systems and processes prior to the World Cup next year.

Tournaments leading up to the World Cup

African Invitational series to be held at Western Province Cricket Club from 22-24 November 2019. We have 3 sides in the following age groups for both genders - 35, 40, 45, 50 and 55+ (i.e. we have 30 sides and play 90 games over this period).

Interprovincial Masters tournament in April 2020 also being held in Cape Town, which gets really serious. This will attract 94 teams and 2500 athletes and will be a good measure of our capability for later in the year. I am extremely confident that by the time September rolls around, we will have ironed out any glitches in the running of the tournament, and our time can be focussed on how to increase the "gees" (South African term for spirit). Although it is very competitive, we must at our advancing years, strive to have the maximum fun within the hockey community. Although as someone pointed out recently..... What is the similarity between Masters Hockey and a Nuclear war..... There are no winners only survivors.....





Accommodation & Transport

In terms of accommodation and transport, we ran a thorough Request for Proposals to the tourism industry and trimmed these down to three service providers who then presented their solutions to the board. We selected Highline Tours & Travel as our accommodation and activity provider, while Marmalade Sports will take care of the transport and other tournament logistics. Our decision to award them the business was based on their innovative pricing solutions. The accommodation and transport package is unique and offers significant value and I would urge any interested teams/countries to get hold of Yolisha on wc2020@highline.co.za.

We are happy to report that quite a few countries/teams have already booked their hotels or are in the process of booking. One or two hotels are already full. This validates the great packages our service providers have managed to secure. For more information please visit: https://pilmobi.dedicated.co.za/DynamicBookings/Form_EventTourBuilder/mastershockey2020.html

A reminder of what is included in the hotel rate:

Hotel rates **INCLUDE** the following:

- Meet & Greet at Cape Town International Airport
- Special discounted rates on accommodation on a bed & breakfast basis
- Welcome drinks at hotel on check in
- Meeting room at hotel for team meetings
- Cape Town orientation tour (Hop-On Hop-Off Ticket) to main tourist attractions
- 24-hour back-up phone number for assistance
- Insurance whilst travelling in South Africa - public & personal liability (please note that personal insurance is still required)
- On-site support staff
- Service desk at hotel and playing fields
- Discount vouchers at various restaurants
- Assistance with, and allocation of, preferential time slots for practice rounds on the astro turfs
- Comprehensive transport solution - see below

Transport Solution includes:

- Transfers to and from Cape Town International Airport (from 06h00 on 16 September till midnight on 30 September)
- Shuttle service allowing flexibility for players and officials to move between hotels and the playing fields
- Shuttle service hours: 18 hours daily, from 06h00 to midnight (from 19 to 29 September)
- Managed control room that proactively manages and remotely tracks coach locations to enable players & officials to have up to date information on coach timings. Has in-cabin cameras and monitors speed and driver behaviour
- Transport desk at playing fields to facilitate queries, schedules and bookings

Hotel rates being offered are on a special at the moment and will be increasing in the new year as demand increases so we do encourage you to book as soon as possible.

With regard to the transport solution and services required prior to the start date (i.e. 06h00 on 16 September for airport transfers and 06h00 on 19 September for shuttles during the tournament), we advise as follows:

- Should you require an airport transfer or a shuttle prior to the above dates and times, please put your request in writing to Yolisha at wc2020@highline.co.za giving the following details:
 - Airport transfer:
 - Flight number, name of airline, date and time of arrival and where flight originated.
 - Group name.
 - Exact amount of people to be transferred.
 - Drop off address.
 - Shuttle service:
 - Exact date and time of pickup.
 - Exact address of pickup and drop off.
 - Amount of people requiring the service.

Please note: The airport transfers and shuttle service are incorporated in the accommodation rate, so only bookings made through Highline Tours & Travel will have access to the shuttle service. There will be no other shuttle service provided.

More exciting news

We are looking to extend the Spirit of Masters to all age groups participating in South Africa. The Spirit of Masters will be a competitive tournament that will run alongside the World Cup and provide greater opportunity for those that wish to experience the World Cup euphoria but have not made their respective national sides. The Spirit of Masters criteria will be similar to the World Cup criteria and we are looking at age groups 45, 45, 50 and 55 in the mens and in the ladies 45-65. We are open to countries sending 2nd sides or individuals who wish to participate can join other nations to enter a combined side as per the Spirit of Masters criteria attached. Please feel free to engage with us and forward your interest in participation as soon as possible. There may not be another time to visit one the 7 new natural wonders of the world and play hockey.

Cape Town is warming up and getting ready to host you in 2020.

For any other urgent information please contact Gary Davies at gary.davies@pointgroup.biz

