



THE GAUTENG SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES

15 February 2018

NEWSLETTER 01/2018

The first meeting of the Board was held on 3 February 2018.

The following aspects need to be communicated –

1. Web site

There will be a separate heading included for 'Library' whereby members will have exclusive access to the drop down menu. This heading will consist of references to case law and relevant aspects in separate headings like those under 'expertise'. Any contributions in this regard could be forwarded to Neels Killian or Pierre Louw. We hope to have this addition working by May 2018.

2. ID Cards

This project is progressing very well – we hope to issue the first cards to members by end of March 2018. Those, whose info is not yet submitted, please contact Sean Kelly ASAP.

3. Business cards

We had a request for a new updated business card – we will circulate the proposal soon.

4. Watsapp

It has been shown again that this method of communication is working. Numerous enquiries and information is circulated through this method of communication. The informal communication is going well and we are grateful for the participation of members in this regard. Members are just cautioned to be thoughtful of comments and remarks via this method of communication.

5. Constitution

We are revising this yet again and will request the members to assist.

6. Mediation course

This matter has been on and off the agenda for some time now. The interest in this course is such that it is not worthwhile to present as a Society. We will enquire if someone could address us during the work session to be held.

7. Finances

We have consolidated our finances and members who are in arrears for 3 months or longer will receive letters in this regard according to the Constitution. Members are encouraged to timorously make payment of fees due to the Society. We have decided to do away with the 'once off payment of R3000 – 00' as it complicates the auditor and the financial year. All fees will be calculated as R3600 – 00 per year, payable once or monthly at R 300 – 00.

8. Application for membership of the Society

We had some applications for membership which was turned down due to various factors. One must understand that the principle is that an applicant must be nominated by a member and that there are certain criteria to meet in this regard. We are busy to include further requirements in the Constitution in this regard. New members admitted –

8.1. Dr Phillip Jacobs

8.2. Carina Mitchell

9. Work sessions

We are planning a workshop for 2 June 2018. Any suggestions on aspects to be dealt with could be forwarded to the secretary.

10. Judges function

The function is planned for 3 May 2018. We are going to invite judges from Joburg to attend. The function will be held on a Thursday at 17:30 for 18:00. Further instructions will follow.

11. Legal Practitioners Act

Some of the sections of the Acts have come into operation. These are more to get the formal structures in place. The important issue is that we would have to 'register with the structure [?]' and pay a year fee of R 2500 – 00 if you are

practicing and R 500 – 00 if not. You would have the choice to practice with or without a fidelity certificate. If you are a 'newly admitted advocate' you would have to do community service...for what this is worth. There are no forms or procedures in this regard as we are waiting whatever comes forth in future. The remainder of the Act has more to do with attorneys. We will keep you up to date in this regard.

12. Taking up chambers

We had requests from members regarding 'taking up chambers'. It is the choice of members to 'take up chambers' wherever they choose to do so. It would be required from the members to inform the board of the address of the chambers, members taking up chambers and that a notice board displays the name of the society and members. Any logistical and financial aspects will be the responsibility of the members taking up chambers.

13. The program for the year is as follows –

Serial	Date	Action
1	7 April 2018	Board meeting
2	3 May 2018	Judges function
3	19 May 2018	Workshop for members
4	2 June 2018	Board meeting
5	11 August 2018	Board meeting
6	25 August 2018	Formal function for members
7	29 September 2018	Board meeting
8	27 October 2018	Board meeting
9	24 November 2018	Annual General Meeting and year end function

14. Use of official web site and gmail address

It has come to our attention that members are using the official web site, official logo and email address gautengsocadv@gmail.com on their letter heads and other written communication. These official documents and forms of communication are reserved for official use only. There is no

objection to use the physical address and telephone numbers of the GSA in this regard.

15. Use of facility at Centaur house

The facilities as to the use of board rooms are still available to members. However advance bookings are necessary to ensure that you will have the undisturbed use of the facilities.

16. Admin assistant at Centaur house

The lady is not a 'secretary' in the true sense of the word. She is only facilitating enquiries and post. We will shortly submit to her a new and updated name list of members – so if your information has changed, please inform the secretary asap thereof. We do not take responsibility for non-compliance of inaccurate or missing information.

Jacques Brenkman

SECRETARY

GSA Council: Chairperson: Adv. Hennie van Rensburg; Vice Chairperson: Adv. Koot Myburgh; Secretary: Adv. Jacques Brenkman; Finance: Adv. Van Gend Botha; Member-affairs: Adv. Maryke Pienaar.
Address: Centaur Chambers, 38 Ingersol Avenue, Lynnwood Glen, Pretoria
Contact details: **Tel: 012 - 361 2916** **Fax: 012 365 2966** **E-mail:**
gautengsocadv@gmail.com
Affiliated to: The Federal Bar Council of South Africa **&** The International Criminal Bar