

ASSOCIATION OF MINE MANAGERS OF SOUTH AFRICA



General overview of the Association concerning frequently asked questions

May 2002

The objectives of the Association of Mine Managers

1. To promote and uphold the general advancement of the mining industry
2. To uphold the status of the mining profession
3. To protect the interest of and for the mutual assistance of members.
4. To present generally the views of the profession
5. To discourage dishonorable conduct or practice
6. To provide and deal with all matters affecting the professional interest members
7. To encourage and promote the study of mining.

The functioning of the Association of Mine Managers

The Association is organised into four districts, namely the Central District, Western District, Eastern District and Free State District.

The affairs of the Association are conducted by a Council consisting of a President, Vice President, the Immediate Past President and twelve members, each of whom is an Ordinary member of the Association. Each District has at least two representatives on the Council, exclusive of the President, Vice President and Immediate Past President. The Council meets monthly, normally in the Chamber of Mines building in Johannesburg. The President and Vice President each serve a one-year term and Council Members serve a two-year term of office, of which half of them are rotated annually. (Six Council members elected per year.)

Meetings are held monthly in each district and attended by Ordinary Members. The mines in each District host the meetings on rotation. Issues affecting members and the Association are discussed and feedback to and from council is given to members.

Central District consists of the mines in the Rustenburg and Bushveld area and includes some mines in the Westonaria area, namely Western Areas Mine, Randfontein Estates, Kloof, Leeudoorn and Libanon.

Western Districts is a combination of the balance of the mines in the Carltonville and Klerksdorp area.

Free State District consists of the mines in the Free State.

Eastern District consists of the mines in the Evander area and the mines in Mpumalanga province.

In 2002 the membership of the Association totaled 695

Classes of membership

There are five classes of membership of the Association as set out below:

A. Ordinary Members

Ordinary Members are nominated by the senior manager of each mine.

A person can be an ordinary member with or without voting rights.

Voting rights are allocated according to the tonnage produced by each mine

- Up to 55 000tons per month – one vote
- Between 55 000 and 180 000 tons per month – two votes
- Between 180 000 and 270 000 tons per month – three votes
- Over 270 000 tons per month – one extra vote for each additional
- 100 000 tons per month or part thereof.

Ordinary members with voting rights may vote for council membership.

B. Associate Members

Associate Members may attend General Meetings including the Annual General Meeting, plus all Technical visits arranged by the Association.

Associate Members have no voting rights, but may take part in discussions.

C. Honorary Associate Members

The Council may elect any Ordinary Member who has ceased to participate in the active management of a mine as an Honorary Associate Member of the Association. Honorary Associate Members may attend General Meetings and take part in the discussions, but they shall not have the right to vote.

D. Honorary Life Members

The Council may elect to Honorary Life Membership of the Association any person whose service to the Association, in the opinion of the Council, merits such action. Honorary Life Members may attend General Meetings and take part in discussions, but they shall not have the right to vote.

E. Student Member

A Candidate for election to the class of Student Member must be studying for a mine manager's certificate and satisfy the following conditions:

- i. Have obtained a B.Sc. (mining) Eng. degree or a National Diploma in metalliferous mining
- Or
- ii. Have obtained the A part of a Manager's certificate

A Student Member may not vote, neither is he/she eligible for Council, but they may participate in General Meetings of the Association and attend Technical Visits.

A Student Member, on ceasing to be employed in mining, shall automatically cease to be a member of the Association unless the Council decides otherwise.

A Student Member shall cease to be a member after three years if he/she has failed to pass his/her mine manager's certificate.

General Meetings

General Meetings, which include the Annual General Meeting, are held quarterly.

The venues for general meetings are rotated in the Districts. Technical papers are read at General Meetings and issues affecting the Association are discussed.

The Annual General Meeting is traditionally held at the Johannesburg Country Club and the affairs of the Association, including the financial report are discussed. The President, Vice President and new Council Members are inaugurated. The Annual General Meeting is held normally towards the end of March in each year and the president of the Chamber of Mines is usually the guest speaker.

Technical visits

Technical visits are held monthly, except for December and January. Technical visits are intended mainly for Associate and Student Members, but other members may attend. The visits normally consist of a technical presentation and underground visit with the objective to educate members as well as learn from one another.

The visits are hosted on a rotation basis by the member mines and districts.

Website

A Website was created during 2001 under the title www.ammsa.org.za Whilst the site is still under construction, some information is already available e.g. the constitution of the Association, some short technical notes, papers published in 2001, Council Members, membership application forms, each member's personal details and history of the Association. Members are encouraged to check on their membership details and addresses. A Facility is provided for corrections.

Eventually published papers of the Association from 1997 onwards will also be available on the website.

Other Associations of Mine Managers

Some other Associations of Mine Managers operate in either specialist or remote areas. They operate independently of the Association of Mine Managers of South Africa, each

with its own President and Council Members. A Person may be a member of any one of these Associations as well as the Association of Mine Managers of South Africa.

- **Association of Mine Managers of the North Western Bushveld**

The Association of Mine Managers of the North Western Bushveld was created to serve the interest of the members of mainly the platinum, chrome and iron ore mines of the bushveld region, as it was felt that it was a distinct entity from the general deep level gold mine scenario of the Association of Mine Managers of South Africa.

A Technical visit combined with a Council and General Meeting is arranged quarterly at a venue rotated amongst the member mines.

- **Association of Mine Managers of the Northern Cape**

Due to the remoteness and again the uniqueness of the mining deposits in this region the Association of Mine Managers of the Northern Cape was created to best serve the interest of its member mines.

- **South African Collieries Managers Association (SACMA)**

All the collieries joined together to form a Managers Association to create a common forum for the South African coal mines.

Mines Professional Associations Secretariat (MPAS)

The objective of MPAS is to provide a cost-effective administration service to the Mines Professional Associations.

The Association of Mine Managers originally undertook the administration of the Associations. A Separate department was established within the Chamber of Mines to administer the 8 Mines Professional Associations. Over the years the staff of this department grew to 12 and was heavily subsidised by the Chamber of Mines. In recent years the department has been restructured and the Chamber's support has been greatly reduced, whilst the number of Associations has now grown to 11.

The funding of the Mines Professional Secretariat is now largely through the 11 Mines Professional Associations' subscriptions with the exception of a subsidy for publications provided by the Chamber.

Currently MPAS consist of a manager and a staff of 5.

The membership of the Mines Professional Associations totaled 2950 in 2002.

Since the closure of the Mine Safety Division in 1998, the Secretariat has assumed responsibility for the sale of safety promotional material, including videos. The proceeds from these sales are credited as income to the associations in proportion to membership.

Associations affiliated to MPAS

1. Association of Mine Managers of South Africa (AMMSA)
2. Association of Mine Financial and Administrative Managers (AMFAM)
3. Association of Mine Human Resource Practitioners (AMHARP)
4. Association of Mine Resident Engineers (AMRE)
5. Mine Metallurgical Managers Association (MMMA)
6. Mine Medical Officers Association (MMOA)
7. South African Colliery Managers Association (SACMA)
8. South African Collieries Administrative and Financial Managers Association (SACAFMA)
9. South African Collieries Engineers Association (SACEA)
10. South African Collieries Environmental Practitioners Association (SACEPA)
11. South African Collieries Human Resources Association (SACHRA)

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