

THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING
MINUTES OF THE 75TH NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 5th August 2026
TIME: 18h00 for 18h30
VENUE: PEDSAC, Port Elizabeth

1. **WELCOME**

The President, Mr. Gordon Banks, welcomed all attendees and thanked the Port Elizabeth Centre for hosting the 75th National AGM.

2. **PRESENT & APOLOGIES**

Present as per attendance register.

Apologies: Mr Grant Laidlaw & Alec (Dr A F B) Johannsen

3. **OBITUARIES**

Mr. Banks called for a moment of silence for members who passed away during the period under review.

599 Mr. P.J. Berry
1180 Mr. B.G.C. Piras
1166 Mr. A.N Dally
2150 Mr F van der Merwe
2805 Mr Piet le Roux

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Copies of the 2025 – 74th National Annual General Meeting Minutes were circulated to Council.
The Minutes were confirmed and accepted, proposed by Mr. Gregory Grobbelaar and seconded by Mr. Robert Fox.

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Gordon Banks President's Report as per Annexure 1.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Pieter Vosloo, SAIRAC Accountant, obo National Treasurer, Mr. Grant Laidlaw, discussed aspects of the AFS using diagram illustrations. He recommends a Money Market account for a longer term giving a better interest. Copies of the AFS were available for perusal.

7. **CLOSURE**

The 75th National Annual General Meeting was declared closed at 19h40

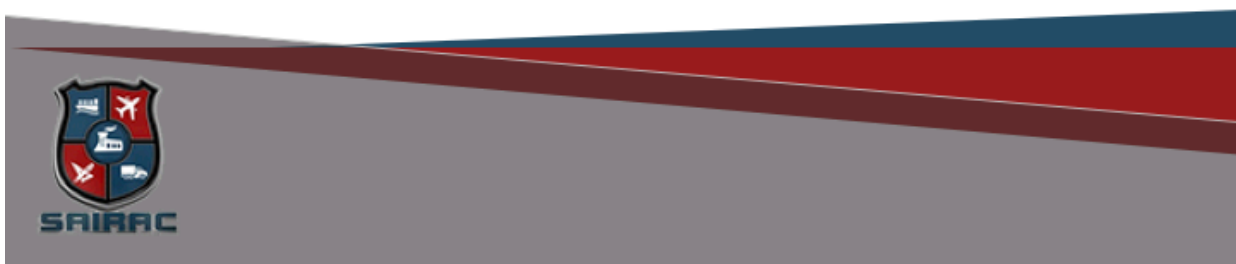


SAIRAC 75th National Council AGM held in Port Elizabeth on 5th August 2026
President's report for the period 1 July 2025 ending 30 June 2026
By GORDON BANKS

Quarterly National Council Meetings Dates & Venues were held as follows:

- August 2025 in Cape Town
- November 2025 in Johannesburg
- February 2026 in Port Elizabeth
- May 2026 in Durban

Membership



MEMBERSHIP

Movement over past year

SAIRAC attracted many new members but the impact on membership growth was cancelled out by the loss of current members mainly due to the non-payment of fees and resignations. Post covid our membership was over the 1000 mark but since covid our biggest challenge is retention of members as we stay on the amount of 900 or so members.

Although we cannot control this, we have to ensure our technical talks and enrichment courses are attractive and of real value to our members thereby keeping them and not losing them for that reason. Economics will

always pose a threat as people face financial challenges; they will naturally end membership if they cannot afford it.

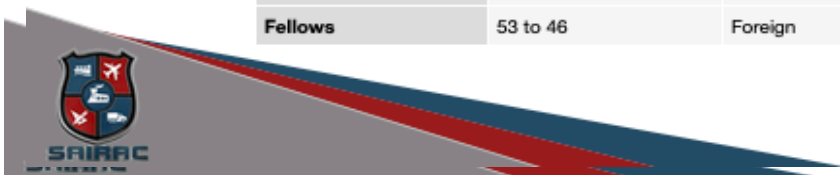
This is where the company owners can play an important role by supporting SAIRAC and paying if not the full amount but rather a subsidized portion to assist their employees to remain and continue membership in SAIRAC.

SAIRAC membership remains a small percentage of the total number of persons active in the HERVAC sector in South Africa. Our challenge therefore remains to increase our membership to be more representative. The percentage of ladies in our membership has grown and we actively encourage more

Membership

	Total Members
Membership 2021/22	997
Membership 2022/23	966
Membership 2023/24	906
Membership 2024/25	900
Membership 2025/26	899

Grade		Where	Percentage
Students	5 to 14	Johannesburg	46%
Associates	126 to 123	Cape Town	27%
Associate members	307 to 305	Durban	17%
Members	416 to 411	Port Elizabeth	8%
Fellows	53 to 46	Foreign	1%



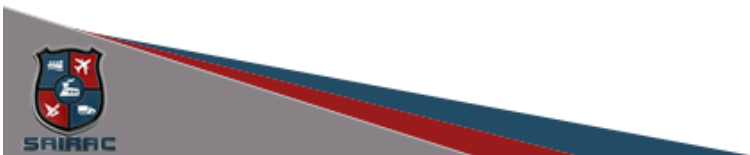
ladies to get involved in SAIRAC.

There has been an increase in the number of student members but still not enough if we look at all the training institutions in South Africa. SAIRAC will need to advertise and promote the organization at all training institutions in the upcoming year to gain more student members.

The distribution of membership per region in percentages is indicated in the slide above.

Website stats

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
July 25	2 872	3 739	51 732	160 360
Aug 25	2 236	2 792	62 482	193 293
Sep 25	2 505	3 154	49 924	145 378
Oct 25	3 673	4 866	39 398	143 906
Nov 25	2 929	4 336	28 008	135 171
Dec 25	2 669	4 030	23 619	77 517
Jan 26	3 462	4 760	29 239	111 307
Feb 26	641	700	7 149	26 679
Mar 26	5 098	6 261	32 179	155 700
Apr 26	6 390	7 572	27 380	142 042
May 26	9 093	10 728	33 959	185 616
Jun 26	9 218	10 687	33 090	161 525
TOTAL	50 786	63 625	418 159	1 638 494



Novarand currently manages the SAIRAC website. Advertising on our website has been made available to companies. We currently have an average of 4200 visitors per month viewing our website. This represents an increase of 25% of the previous year's average.

Around 30% of these are from the international community. The U.S.A and U.K form a large portion of the international visits. Having said that we have visitors from India, Peru, Canada, Australia, Germany, the Philippines, Botswana and various other countries from the African continent. This exposure is good news but also highlights the need for professionalism and growth in our institute. Another interesting statistic is that the average time spent on our website is around three minutes.

The SAIRAC clip (video) is available via the website to all members for a wider use to encourage newcomers to follow a career path in the HERVAC sector.

FRIGAIR

Frigair exhibitions take place every three years in Johannesburg. Durban and Cape Town to alternate with the Frigair Conferences to also take place every 3 years. I will share future events at the closing of my address tonight.

The names Frigair Exhibition (Expo) and Frigair Conferences as well as the SAIRAC name and LOGO are trademarks belonging to SAIRAC.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & AWARDS

SAIRAC awards are not only available to members of SAIRAC

The silver award is awarded to any person within the air conditioning or refrigeration industries whom Council wishes to honour for exceptional service to the industry

Mr Johan Venter

Mr James Laidlaw

Mr Grant Laidlaw

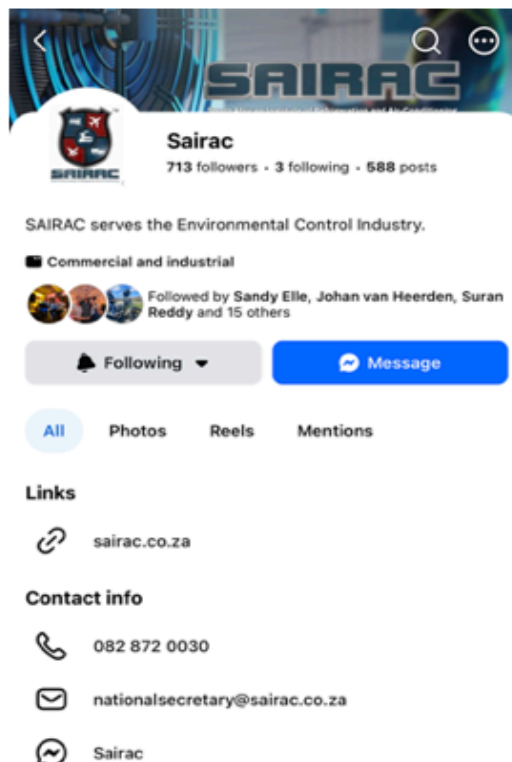
Mr Craig Hendriks

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION – RACA JOURNAL

We thank the publishers of RACA journal, SAIRAC's official publication, and appreciate their monthly royalty that helps pay our operating costs. Members should send news to the publishers to improve the journal, which is a great way to share updates.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Social Media - Facebook



SAIRAC has only one official Facebook page to ensure strict protocols are adhered to when advertising our events and any information for our institution which is done through council and Novarand.

Our Facebook page has also grown substantially with over 700 followers at present. We have formalized the procedure for any advertising of events etc. and are in the process of setting up the standard operating procedures for our Facebook page amongst others. Over the past year we have had over 19000 views on our Facebook page.

ADMINISTRATION

The national governance of SAIRAC remains reliant on the voluntary services and dedication of Council members. We cannot rely on members to run all the facets of our institute.

We do need to investigate a more permanent position for the day-to-day running of SAIRAC, but this is something that has been mentioned on council level many times and needs to be revisited in the not too near future. We will keep our members updated about any changes regarding this matter.

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Each Centre continues with a diverse program of technical meetings, enrichment courses and social events. Technical meetings take place regularly across regional centers (Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, and Gqeberha), site visits, plant tours, and enrichment courses, SAIRAC continuously sharpens the skillset of our members. As members you

gain direct access to the brightest minds in the sector, transforming complex engineering challenges into practical, everyday solutions. We have attracted high attendance numbers at these meetings face to face and via zoom.

Centres are encouraged to continue with SAIRAC's important role of keeping its members and the industry informed of technological and regulatory changes.

SAIRAC - ACTIVITY REPORT July 2025 to June 2026

TECHNICAL MEETINGS			
DATE	SPEAKER & TOPIC	CENTRE	ATTEND
17-Jul-25	Francois Schoombie - Ventilation fan technology	JHB	35
21-Aug-25	Werner Terblanche- Lifecycle Refrigerant Management and the latest Refrigerant Trends.	JHB	19
18-Sep-25	Robert Fox - Integration of CAD/CAM into an organisation	JHB	17
16-Oct-25	Michael Olivier - Alternatives to traditional system evacuation methods	JHB	26
12-Feb-26	Vanessa Loots - Insurance Performance Guarantees	JHB	25
18-Apr-26	Grand Schrik - Sanha ACR Chopper press fittings for modern Ref & Cooling (HVACR) applications	JHB	29
21-May-26	Robert Fox - Unpacking your health and safety file	JHB	21
18-Jun-26	Robert Fox - Continuing Professional Development (CPD)	JHB	19
8-Jul-25	Nico Koeglenberg - Textile Air Dispersion Systems	CT	40
9-Sep-25	Thabo Mngadi - Hot to Trap, Eliminate and Dispose of Viruses	CT	45
14-Oct-25	Marius La Grange - Standard HFC Evaporator selections from a catalogue	CT	59
11-Nov-25	Grant Truebody - Refrigeration Compressors - Types of failures and their root causes	CT	37
19-Jan-26	Ben Milne - HERVAC PLC systems, hardware and software	CT	53
10-Feb-26	Johan Van Der Vyver - BELIMO Control Valves, Actuators and Glycol Flow Sensors	CT	48
10-Mar-26	Louis Vermeulen - Introduction to Thermostatic & Electronic Expansion Valves + Control	CT	43
14-Apr-26	Theo Van Der Linde - Basics of Airflow Commissioning	CT	36
18-May-26	Ralph Raad - Dehumidifiers - Types of dehumidifiers & selection of applications	CT	41
18-Jun-26	Graeme Kloot/Site Visit Thermopak - Air handling unit production factory	CT	20
25-Nov-25	Wayne Muller - Are Heat Pumps the best way to save money?	DBN	45
26-Mar-26	Rapheal Smith - Innovation in Intelligent Comfort Control	DBN	47
28 May 26	Grant Laidlaw and Robert Fox - Insight ECSA CPD / SAIRAC membership	DBN	38

There were 5 Educational/Enrichment Courses held in the past year.

Centre's offer enrichment courses which are well supported by industry. CPD points are attainable for all of these courses. Council is busy updating some of the courses to make them more relevant to industry and technical changes and these will all be accessible to the various centres shortly.

We have also invested from SAIRAC in the development of the presenters to be aligned with ECSA requirements that all presenters of these courses are qualified facilitators.

ENRICHMENT COURSES			
DATE	PRESENTER - COURSE	CENTRE	ATTEND
8,15 & 22 JULY 2025	ROBERT FOX - EQUIPMENT SELECTION FOR REF APPLICATION (ZOOM)	JHB	20
5,12,19 & 26 AUGUST 2025	ROBERT FOX - DUCTING (ZOOM)	JHB	31
7,14,21,28 Oct & 4 Nov	ANTON KOTZE - AIRCONDITIONING AND VENTILATION LOAD ESTIMATING (ZOOM)	JHB	26
3,10,17 & 24 MARCH 2026	ROBERT FOX - LOAD ESTIMATING FOR REF APPLICATIONS	JHB	21
5,12 & 19 MAY 2026	FRANCOIS SCHOOMBIE - FANS	JHB	25
SOCIAL EVENTS AND VENUES			
25-Jul-25	CHRISTMAS IN JULY / AGM - APOLLO WEDDING CONFERENCE HOTEL	JHB	50
17-Oct-25	FELLOW LUNCH (JOHANNESBURG COUNTRY CLUB WOODMEAD)	JHB	54
21-Nov-25	COMMITTEE PLANNING AND YEAR END FUNCTION	JHB	15
13-Mar-26	ANNUAL GOLF DAY (PRETORIA GOLF CLUB)	JHB	144
25-Jul-25	ANNUAL GOLF DAY (DURBAN ROYAL GOLF CLUB)	DBN	136
5-Sep-25	LOCAL IS LEKKER - CHRISTMAS IN SPRING	DBN	59
12-Jan-26	GRIMALDIS THE PEARLS YEAR END FUNCTION	DBN	10
8-May-26	ANNUAL GOLF DAY (DURBAN ROYAL GOLF CLUB)	DBN	116
12-Aug-25	AGM + NCM AGM	CT	36
13-Nov-25	FELLOWS AND ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT KELVIN GROVE CLUB	CT	167
21-May-26	ANNUAL GOLF DAY (BELLVILLE GOLF CLUB)	CT	157
18-Jul-25	CHRISTMAS IN JULY	PE	26
20-Feb-26	NETWORK AND INDUSTRY MARKETING EVENT	PE	36
20-Mar-26	ANNUAL GOLF DAY (PORT ELIZABETH GOLF CLUB)	PE	56

Social events through the year as per the above

Council and Committee meetings

COUNCIL MEETINGS & CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETINGS & AGMs			
NAME	DATES		
DBN	ONLINE,23rd June,23rd July ,30th Sept,20th Nov,21st Jan 26, 18TH MARCH 26, ZOOM, (GOLF DAY MEETINGS 16TH APRIL 26, 4TH MAY 26 ZOOM) ON LINE 20th May 2026		
JHB	17 JULY 2025, 21 AUG 2025, 18 OCT 2025, 21 NOV 2025, 15 JAN 2026, 12 FEB 2026 19 MARCH 2026, 16 APRIL 2026, 21 MAY 2026 18 JUNE 2026		
PE	1 July, AGM 18 July, 2 & 30 Sept, 5 Nov 2025,10 March, 9 April, 12 May, 9 June, 8 July 2026		
CT	08 Jul 2025, AGM - 12 Aug 2025, 09 Sep 2025, 14 October 2025, 11 November 2025, 26 January 2026, 10 February 2026, 10 March 2026, 14 April 2026, 18 May 2026, 09 June 2026		
NATIONAL	AGM 12 Aug, NCM 13 Aug, NCM 26 & 27 Nov 2025, NCM 18 Feb Secretary/ Chairmen & Vice Chairman Training 19 & 20 Feb 2026, Special NCM on line 8 April 2026, NCM 27 & 28 May 2026		

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Few words can express heartfelt thanks for the support and time-consuming efforts by the members who have served on National Council during the past year. Their commitment and time for no compensation has propelled SAIRAC forward over this last year that I have been President.

I want to honor you by asking you to stand as I call your name so that we can appreciate all of you this evening. There are always those that go the extra mile and give far more than just merely attending Council meetings. Without their input, SAIRAC would struggle to continue advancing during these difficult times.

The outgoing committee members are as follows:

Gordon Banks - President

Gregory Grobbelaar - Vice President

Grant Laidlaw - Honorary Treasurer

Robert Fox - Past President

Kevin Moodley – Durban Chairman

Gregory Grobbelaar - Johannesburg Chairman

Theo v/d Linde - Cape Town Chairman

Sydney Ambler - Port Elizabeth Chairman

Marlene Gamble - National Secretary

Thank you for your time away from your businesses and families given freely to SAIRAC

Last but definitely not least our National Secretary, Marlene Gamble She works tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of this organization by making all the arrangements for council but also keeping in contact with all the Centre secretaries ensuring everything keeps moving forward. Marlene is one smooth operator.

Thank you for your support and time even when you not feeling well you always there to deal with any issue or problem. I value your input.

On record I just want to thank all our secretaries for all the work that they do behind the scenes. You are greatly appreciated.

THE INCOMING COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD 2026/2027

Gordon Banks - President
Gregory Grobbelaar - Vice President
Grant Laidlaw - Honourary Treasurer
Kevin Moodley - Kwa-Zulu Natal Chairman
Robert Fox - Johannesburg Chairman
Theo v/d Linde - Cape Town Chairman
Sydney Ambler - Port Elizabeth Chairman
Marlene Gamble - National Secretary

Moving forward

DREOSTI MEMORIAL LECTURE

Plans are in place to invite Daniel Colbourne as our guest speaker at our 2027 Dreosti lecture.

This is a prestigious event held every three years bringing international expertise into South Africa. Presentations will be arranged at all SAIRAC Centres.

FRIGAIR

It has been a while since the various centers have hosted the Frigair satellite exhibitions. In 2027 we will have 2 mini Frigair events.

March 2–4, 2027, at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (co-located with the Industrial Technology Exhibition)

July 27–29, 2027, at the Durban Exhibition Centre (co-located with the Industrial Technology Exhibition)

FRIGAIR National Expo 2028: May 30 – June 1, 2028, at the Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, Johannesburg.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the South African Institute of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (SAIRAC) are to generate, manage, and share knowledge, promote high professional standards, and support education in the environmental control industry. To procure and maintain the professional status of our engineers and technicians.

1. To advance and protect the art and sciences of refrigeration, air conditioning and allied arts and sciences.
2. To encourage scientific research and the study of principles and methods in the art and sciences of refrigeration, air conditioning and allied arts and sciences.
3. To promote the unrestricted dissemination of knowledge amongst our members
4. To assist in educational activities and to encourage the adoption and maintenance of high standards of instruction in technical and professional training.
5. To co-operate with government agencies, universities, colleges, schools and other organisations with similar objectives and purposes.
6. To procure and maintain the professional status of our engineers and technicians.

The year ahead is set to present new challenges as we reassess the role of SAIRAC and the services it provides to members in a rapidly changing industry and economy. I am excited for the year ahead as we have a much younger representation on council that will assist in facing the challenges in years to come.

CONCLUSION

SAIRAC fosters a powerful collaborative ecosystem where engineers, technicians, contractors, and educators unite under a shared standard of excellence. The connections you make in SAIRAC often turn into life-changing partnerships and collaborative opportunities.

In conclusion, my thanks go our members, the National Council and the Centre Committees. Their effort and dedication are crucial to the operation of our Institute. We need not only more members, but new blood on the Committees, together we will carry SAIRAC into the future.

Signed by  _____
SAIRAC PRESIDENT

Date : 6 August 2026