



ASSOCIATION OF ARBITRATORS (Southern Africa) NPC

Arbitrarily Speaking

Issue 8 of 2026

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FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Members of the Association,

As your re-elected Chairperson, I thank you for exercising your democratic right to nominate and elect the Board of Directors of the Association of Arbitrators (Southern Africa) for the 2026/2027 term of office.

In accordance with the Association's CIPC-registered Company Rules and Memorandum of Incorporation, the Board of Directors may not exceed 10 members of which at least 3 shall retire annually but remain eligible for re-nomination and re-election.

Consequently, at the end of the 2025/2026 term, 8 of the 10 Board Members resigned and were subsequently nominated for re-election. Two Board Members, namely the Chairpersons of the Association's Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal Branches, exercised their right to retain their seats on the Board. Our Electoral Officer, Ms Rochelle Appleton, received 3 additional nominations for election. As such, there were 11 nominations for the 8 to-be-elected positions on the Board.

The results of the Board elections for the 2026/2027 term are as follows:

- The 2 seat-retaining Board Members:
 - Mr Alastair Hay (re-elected Chairperson of the Association's KwaZulu-Natal Branch);
 - Mr Jonathan Mitchell (re-elected Chairperson of the Association's Western Cape Branch);

- The 8 elected Board Members, in order of votes received:
 - Adv Tjaart van der Walt SC;
 - Adv Pierre Rossouw SC;
 - Mrs Samantha Reyeke;
 - Mr Chris Binnington;
 - Mr Steve Poorter;
 - Mr Gareth Ahier;
 - Adv Des Mahony;
 - Adv Sydwell Shangisa SC.

In my view, stability, continuity and institutional memory play important roles in the effective governance of an institution such as the Association. I am grateful that the election results reflect similar views held by the Members of the Association.

A special word of welcome to our new Board Member, Steve Poorter, from KwaZulu-Natal.

At the first duly constituted meeting of the newly elected Board convened on 13 August 2026, the following office bearers were unanimously re-elected:

- As Chairperson: Adv Tjaart van der Walt SC;
- As Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer: Adv Des Mahony.

At the same meeting, in terms of the Rules and MOI, the newly elected Board unanimously co-opted an additional Board Member, namely Adv Mias Mostert, and appointed him as an Office Bearer namely, Co-Editor of the Association's newsletter, *Arbitrarily Speaking*. In doing so, the Board gave effect to the *de facto* role already fulfilled in an exemplary manner by Adv Mostert since the resignation of Adv Eric Dunn SC at the end of 2025.

The newly constituted Board also approved the composition of the various Committees of the Association for the 2026/2027 term. You are invited to access the Association's 2026/2027 Committees and Committee Members [here](#). To ensure continuity and because they function so effectively, the composition of the Committees remained largely unchanged, save for the addition of [Mr Steve Poorter](#) to the Nominations Committee and [Mrs Aimée Girdwood](#) to the Lectures and Workshops Committee. They each bring special skills, know-how, and talents to the relevant Committees.

I humbly thank each Member of the Association and the Board for their trust in me, for their continued support and for the opportunity to serve this fine institution for another term.

I also wish to express my sincere appreciation for the willingness of each Board Member, Committee Member, Tutor and Staff Member to serve the Association and its Members with their time, expertise and enthusiasm.

As we steadily approach the Association's 50th anniversary, it is my wish that the 2026/2027 term will again be a beneficial experience for every Member of the Association.

TJAART VAN DER WALT SC
Chairperson
ASSOCIATION OF ARBITRATORS (SOUTHERN AFRICA) NPC

MEMBERS' DINNER (1 AUGUST 2026): HIGHLIGHTS



Thank you to all Members and their partners who attended and contributed towards this exceptional event. Catch up on the highlights of the Members' Dinner and Mr Chris Binnington's (guest speaker) speech:

[Click HERE](#)
[for the Highlights](#)

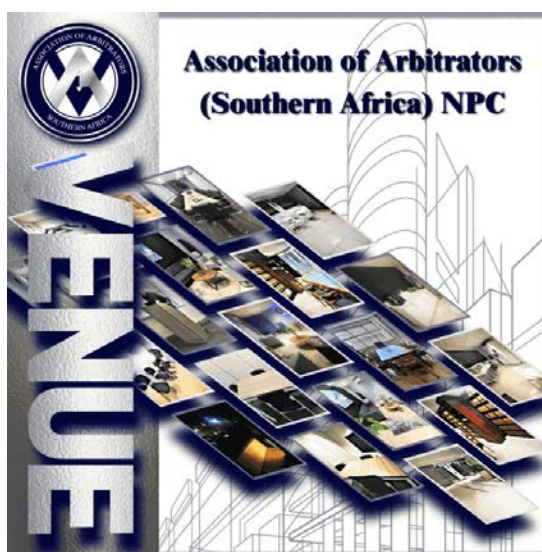
TOOLS OF THE TRADE

ADJUDICATION WITHOUT REFERRAL?

Can an adjudicator decide a dispute that was never referred to him/her? Read Mr Richard Hoal's article and find the answer here:

[Click HERE](#)
[to Read Further](#)

VENUE HIRE AT THE ASSOCIATION – WHERE YOU MATTER



Looking for comfortable, affordable venue for your next meeting or event? **Look no further!**

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Details](#)

THE ASSOCIATION'S EVENTS

ASAQS: DIALOGUE AND GALA DINNER 2026



The Association is proud of its members who took part in the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors' (ASAQS) Dialogue and Gala Dinner 2026 on 24 July 2026. Click below to read further:

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Information](#)

HER JOURNEY, HER INFLUENCE – MAKING AN IMPACT IN A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY



Don't miss this free online webinar and the Association's Board Member, Mrs Samantha Reyneke who is one of the panellists:

Dates: 27 August 2026

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Information and to Register](#)

2026 SAICE NATIONAL AWARDS

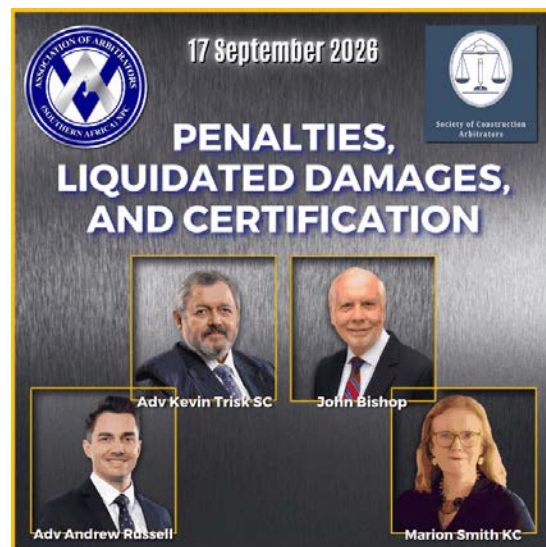


The Association is a proud sponsor of this prestigious event. Don't miss out - book your seat.

Date: **3 September 2026**

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Information and to Register](#)

PENALTIES, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES AND CERTIFICATION



This free of charge, online workshop serves as a practical guide to the recovery of liquidated damages and penalties at all stages of the dispute resolution process. It is specifically designed to address the challenges faced by contracting parties, legal advisers and dispute resolvers like arbitrators and adjudicators.

Hear from highly skilled South African and international panellists:

Date: **17 September 2026**

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Information and to Register](#)



For more information and to see the ICE-SA's 2026 NEC Forum Schedule, click below:

[Click HERE](#)
[for More Information and to Register](#)

[Click HERE](#)
[to View Past Events](#)

UNCLE OSWALD'S Q&A FORUM

A JURISDICTIONAL CHALLENGE

Our retired arbitrator, Uncle Oswald, provides his opinion on whether to grant an arbitral party's request to adjourn proceedings based on a jurisdictional challenge or whether to decide the matter himself.

[Click HERE](#)
[to Continue Reading](#)

Arbitrarily Speaking is the official newsletter of the Association of Arbitrators (Southern Africa) NPC.

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