

ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE KENYA LIFE SAVING FEDERATION, YEAR 2011.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to welcome you and present you the 2011 activity report.

KLF lifeguarding and Other Aquatics courses

Several lifesaving courses were completed over the year with more than 98 lifeguards being certified as national lifeguards, National certified Swimming Instructor, National certified pool operators, and First Aiders in Basic Life Support.

KLF board meeting and KLF National Congress Meeting agreed that KLF lifesaving courses will encompass all other aquatic courses which will be done along the lifesaving course these will include the:

1. Lifesaving course from basic aquatic, advanced aquatic and Senior National lifesaving.
2. Swimming instructor course from level one, Advanced swimming instructor to level 3.
3. Swimming pool management course from pool maintenance and pool technical operators course
4. First Aid course- Basic Life Support
5. Basic SCUBA Diving Course unit one of the National Rescue Diver

Lifeguard certification and International lifeguard qualification-ILS CERTIFICATION

Im concerned that the lifeguard's recertification program did not fair well this year as 20 lifeguards were re-certified in 2010/11. And similarly ILS has certified all our successful 120 candidates with the International Lifesaving certificate. I urge all the practicing lifeguards to recertify their qualification with KLF in accordance with KLF policy ps/rc/08 This policy is of utmost importance for the water safety of this country that our lifeguards have the highest standards in their methods and best knowledge at all times.

The klf national congress agreed that all klf lifeguards must be also certified with the international lifesaving certificate from ILS and commonwealth RLSS bronze medallion having successfully and satisfactorily passes the ILS and RLSS set standard examinations.

STANDARDISATION OF LIFESAVING CERTIFICATION

We are still trying to harmonize the standards of lifesaving certification all over the country. We are still requesting other institutions and organization teaching lifesaving in Kenya to accept the International lifesaving standards set out by the ILS the world water safety authority.KLF do appreciate the good work done by the other organizations teaching water safety.KLF position is to maintain one National lifesaving certification standard as we are the national water safety authority in Kenya. As a member of the Commonwealth Lifesaving Society we ha introduced the **BRONZE MEDALLION AWARD** which we have already issued to all the successful candidates in varooius institutions. I urge all to go for these awards where certificates are issued also by the ROYAL LIFESAVING COMMONWEALTH HEADQUARTERS UK.

DIPLOMA IN LIFESAVING

Im appealing to our member lifeguard to pursue the lifesaving diploma study that the Royal lifesaving society has put in place, this diploma awards are based on research of university equivalent which is attached to a recognized university. The choice of research topic will be a candidate's choice then we as the federation will endorse the research paper from our member. So I am encouraging each and every member to pursue these Diplomas as education based on research will help find solutions that we are faced with.

We still applying for accreditation of ILS DIPLOMA in lifesaving and coaching once this DIPLOMA is approved by the INTERNATIONAL LIFESAVING FEDERATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

KLF Survival Schemes Awards

Im concerned that this scheme did fair well. Congratulations to Premier Academy ,Nairobi Academy , Rusinga School for their students qualifying in Bronze, Silver and gold award, also Peponi High school students for attaining the RLLS Bronze medallion.

KLF places high importance on this scheme as it will benefit in the long term the water safety of the people of Kenya. I will plead with sports teachers to develop interest in this scheme and encourage their students to try their best in gaining these awards as this skills have been proven to be beneficial to the community as some of our school going students were reported to has saved many lifes from relatives to strangers during holiday vacations in aquatics settings.

National Swimming award program

This program started in 2008 and im concern that it has not spread out national as I expected. It consists of 10 levels, each with an achievement award and elaborate schemes adopted from the Royal lifesaving Society Australia and the local swimming syllabus. So far only David Mdogo of Premier academy has continued to support of this KLF activity. I request all the sports teaches in the P.E Department in various institutions to introduce these programs in thier learning institutions and have pupils from kindergardens ,primary, secondary school,colleges and universities pursue this national progressive swimming awards.this certification has been reported crucial as some graduates passed their job interview due to poccession of swimming certificate while some earned job promotion based on this certification.

NATIONAL LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM.

We have continued with our national learn to swim program at the Barclays Sports club and we plan to expand this program at a national wide scale.

KLF water safety policy and KLF position statement

We issued several policies and position statements which were developed and adopted from the International Lifesaving Federation. Im still concerned that water safety policy have continued to be totally ignored in this country leading to many death by drowning particularly in school swimming pools ,hotels, rivers,dams and flooding stricken areas where these deaths have been covered well by the media and no public outcry has been heard. Its my hope that KLF will be in a better position to raise this matter to the relevant authority in averting similar situations and see to it that those institution going against water safety rules are brought to justice.

Lifeguard training

KLF will continue to offer lifeguard training in Barclays bank sports club, Mission to sea men Mombasa, sizzling waters nakuru. Many thanks to moses ogechi, babu mouki, moses owoga,douglas okatsi,albert oketch, Ezekiel Ejoroge, Victor I, Albert Oketch and for availing themselves as instructors during the last year.

Strategic partnership

Im glad that KLF partnered with the University of Nairobi in offering a refresher course in lifesaving and the department of sports university of Nairobi promised that this partnership will be ongoing program.

We also did enter into partnership with the Kenya Divers where we have the use of their scuba diving equipments at subsidized rate thanks to mzee omar tamimi the director of Kenya divers who has made it possible for us to run three scuba diving courses this year. We will pursue other partnership agreements with other organizations that will benefit KLF members.

Affiliations

At international level, KLF is a member of the International Lifesaving Federation ILS. We renewed the membership of 2011 at 475 Euro, (approximately KES 60'000).

KLF is also an official branch of the Royal Lifesaving Society Commonwealth. We renewed our membership 2011 and requested consideration in the membership fees of 300 UK pounds.

KLF is affiliated to the International Federation of Swimming Teachers association -IFSTA and we did renew our 2011 membership at 125 UK pounds gratis request in vietnam IFSTA meeting.

We have updated our membership fees with the Kenya national sports council.

KLF has it member sitting at the Kenya Swimming Federation-KSF executive committee as a representative of lifesaving and water safety promoter.KLF applied for accreditation as a registered training provider by the Directorate of Industrial Training DIT, Ministry of Labor and Human Resource. our registration with D.I.T for 2011 has not been processed as our trainers has to be registered with PTAK as one of the requirement of D.I.T. once more I request our lifesaving trainers to personally apply for PTAK.

Partnerships

We have continued to work closely with the Red Cross Society in events of Disaster response and First Aid training for our lifeguards. We are still negotiating the formalization of this partnership with the Red Cross Headquarters. Many thanks to RED CROSS SOCIETY – KENYA for the continued collaboration and support especially in first aid training. KLF was included in the list of National Disaster operations, Ministry of Office of the President and Internal Security. We shall assist when called upon during any disaster operation.

KLF will open its doors to partner with any organization aimed at promoting water safety and lifesaving sports.

Lifesaving championship

We have held tow successful National Lifesaving Championships in 2011. I beg all the teachers and heads of institutions to support this initiative by bringing their students to participate in our lifesaving championships as to diversify a wide range of sports to our students. Klf did not participate in the RLSS commonwealth lifesaving championship in Durban south Africa.We hope to participated in the world lifesaving championship in aldaline south Australia in November 2011 where we shall have a team to represent Kenya the rescue 2012.

Lifeguard recruitment for employment abroad

KLF has continued in giving our lifeguards with opportunity to work abroad.. We shall continue to offer our lifeguards members with opportunity to earn a living abroad and strengthen links for job market internationally.

LIFEGUARD REGISTRATION AND LICENSING

Im concerned that KLF has not manage to register and license most of the practicing lifeguards. We intend to introduce new generation plastic lifeguard license cards to be issued to all the practicing lifeguards who will be registered and licensed by KLF starting from January 2012. We request all the institutions that have employed lifeguards and lifeguards themselves to co-operate fully as it's to their benefit to register with the National Federation.

COACHES, SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS/TEACHERS REGISTRATION AND LICENSING

Im still concerned that most coaches,instructors in aquatics sports have not found it worth to update their lifesaving skills by refreshing in lifeguarding,first aid or registering with klf.im appeal for all those working directly in aquatic sports industry to take keen interest in klf activities and re certify with the national lifesaving federation that has its sound set lifesaving guidelines from well established internatioanal lifesaving organization and historical commonwealth royal lifesaving society.

Inspection and Auditing of aquatic facilities

We carried out auditing of some pools and we shall continue to audit swiimming pools to ensure safe pool operation in enhancing public safety.

Branches

We have established branches in Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Kisumu, and Kiambu. Three of them are registered with the Registrar. I appeal to all branches to recruit more members to make the branches achieve our objectives. Also I would like to urge these branches to be active by having activities done at branch level.

Sponsors and Donors

Louise Welse of Royal Lifesaving UK gave us a sponsorship of 300 pounds which we used for payment of our affiliation fees and membership fees 2010-2011 for the ROYAL LIFESAVING SOCIETY COMMONWEALTH.

Netherlands Lifesaving Federation did sponsor our athletes to World Rescue 2010 in Egypt. Many thanks to them especially Madam Joland who facilitated the deal.

KLF did not receive any sponsorship to all our other events and this made our lifesaving championships go at a big deficit.

International events

KLF officials have attended the ILS meeting in Germany and went to Canada, Edmonton for the RLLS Commonwealth Lifesaving Championship.

KLF took a team to for Lifesaving World Championships in Egypt in October 2010.

KLF will be represented at the WORLD WATER SAFETY CONFERENCE 2011 in Vietnam in May 2011.

We are expected to participate in Commonwealth 2011, World Championships in 2012.

I'm proud to inform you that the president of KLF was nominated as COMMONWEALTH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CMC) MEMBER OF ROYAL LIFESAVING SOCIETY and this is a big step in the international ladder.

Allow me to congratulate Mr. Ben Ekumbo who also became a FINA Bureau member which is indeed a big achievement for Kenya as a country.

Calendar of events and strategic plans for 2008 to 2012

We have prepared the calendar of events 2008 to 2012 including a strategic plan for this period. We request the branches to synchronize their activities with the national calendar. Some of the activities did not take place, I hope this time round we would be able to carry out activities as stated in our calendar of events.

Financial report

Our honorary treasurer will present shortly the KLF financial report. KLF has still a weak financial status and its future depends very much on each of you by engaging yourself to support KLF activities in your respective institution and work. We aim to be able to sustain ourselves in 2011 by generating enough income from the previously discussed programs.

Awards of Merit

Allow me to award the following persons with the certificate of merit in recognition and appreciation of their efforts in promoting water safety and overall lifesaving development in the country.

NETHERLANDS LIFESAVING FEDERATION.

LOUISE WELSE- ROYAL UK

JOSEPH KILONZO

EZEKIEL NJOROGE

JAMES WAKABA

RUTH MUGURE

Allow me once again to award the following persons with KLF honorary life membership for their long serving services to the aquatic community in the country.

SALOME NGATI and JOSHUA KIRAGU.

Conclusion

I believe that we have established excellent programs which will assure that water safety will be put on the agenda at national level. With your support, we will be able to promote water safety throughout Kenya and make sure that accidents related to water will be highly reduced. Also, promoting the participation in our courses will help our financial situation in generating enough income. I request all of you to look at other income generating activities which can assist KLF to become a viable institution.

This is a time of immense challenges to KLF with so many urgent needs everywhere to deal with. We have to widen our horizons and meet the challenges with lots of optimism and professionalism. This is also a time of great hope. By coming together, as one people, in pursuit of shared objectives, I am confident that KLF will overcome the difficulties, restore confidence in Kenya as a credible institution and serve as a source of inspiration for people even beyond the country's border.

Allow me to read to you the message of the PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIFESAVING FEDERATION- DR. STEVE BEERMAN.

Happy 2011 and God bless,

Thank you

Job Kania
President of KLF