

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE

ZIMBABWE PROFESSIONAL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

JULY, 2023

/ Vol. 07



Z.P.G.A.

CONSERVATION

ORIENTATED



www.zpga.org
marketing@zpga.org
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Z.P.G.A. Annual Events 2023

SAVE THE DATE

AGM Safari Dinner

Networking and Growing the
Z.P.G.A. brand



Victoria Falls - Zimbabwe



Friday 1st December to
Sunday, 3rd December
2023

Register at:

secretary@zpga.org

Come and join us!

2023 Safari Events Sponsors

It is with grateful thanks to all of the below, whom have already committed to sponsoring the Z.P.G.A. end of year events.

If you would like to see your logo here please send an email to marketing@zpga.org and ask how you too may help.



Bookings for the 2023 event are now open. Make sure to place your bookings as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.



Editors Notes: By John Laing

It is hard to imagine, as I sit and write these words, that we are halfway through 2023 now. Where has time gone, and will we have enough time during the course of this year to achieve all that needs to be achieved?

We currently have a lot of initiatives running. This past week we just confirmed our Z.P.G.A. POTRAZ radio license, meaning that the 37 members that have opted to use our license will not face any issues at police road blocks. It may seem like a small and easy enough task, but with members away in the field, sometimes with no, or poor connectivity getting information from them takes time. Building relationships with government departments has proven to be fruitful with POTRAZ licensing, up to and including 2024.

We have just sent out the schedules for our First Aid Training, beginning in July ending in September. As always we encourage all members to support this initiative, not only from a legal perspective but also from a place of having comfort in the knowledge that should something go wrong it can be dealt with.

Insurance is another area that we have tackled over the last few weeks, we always recommend and suggest all members need to be fully paid up in terms of medical insurance so that they are covered in the event of an accident and more importantly don't leave family members stranded because they are unable to work. If anybody needs further information please get in touch with us.



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Z.P.G.A. TRAINING SCHEDULE

BOOKED DATES FOR THE COURSES

HARARE		VENUE'S WILL BE CONFIRMED		
DATES	COURSE	DURATION	COST	Z.P.G.A. Members
15-16 July 2023	Advanced Course	2 Days	US\$100	US\$90
22-Jul-23	Safari Refresher Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45
29-Jul-23	Safari Basic Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45
BULAWAYO		VENUE'S WILL BE CONFIRMED		
DATES	COURSE	DURATION	COST	Z.P.G.A. Members
5-6 August	Advanced Course	2 Days	US\$100	US\$90
12-Aug-23	Safari Refresher Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45
19-Aug-23	Safari Basic Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45
VICFALLS		VENUE'S WILL BE CONFIRMED		
DATES	COURSE	DURATION	COST	Z.P.G.A. Members
26-27 August 2023	Advanced Course	2 Days	US\$100	US\$90
2-Sep-23	Safari Refresher Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45
9-Sep-23	Safari Basic Course	1 Day	US\$50	US\$45



**REFRESHER COURSE ONLY AVAILABLE
TO PERSONS WHO HAVE A VALID
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FOR BOOKING CONFIRMATION!**

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Z.P.G.A. Offices

- Harare - 64 Churchill Ave, Alex Park
- Bulawayo - The Orange Elephant, 12th Ave Extension
- Victoria Falls - 566 Nyathi Road, corner of Mopani



Protecting our License, Protecting our Jobs

There are many rules surrounding Professional Guiding & Hunting in Zimbabwe. One that stands out and is clear “All Zimbabwean guides license holders either have to have a Zimbabwean passport or have a permanent residence stamp/sticker within their passports.” This is one of the first rules we learn when sitting our LPH exams, and only if this criteria is met will licenses be issued through National Parks, enabling license holders to conduct safaris within Zimbabwe.

All too often we see individuals from neighbouring countries either hunting or guiding, which for many of us is an annoyance, but in fact is actually illegal.

Recently there have been a number of cases where medics, registered in our neighbouring countries have been employed to accompany safaris in Zimbabwe for purposes of administering medical care should it be required. Just as with our Guides licenses, LPH's, Professional Guides and Hunters, our Zimbabwean Medics are also protected by similar laws and rules. It is illegal for a Medic registered outside of the country to practice for reward and be employed within Zimbabwe.

If anyone is aware of any such practices please send an email report to Pete FICK on legal@zpga.org along with any supporting evidence that you may have collected.



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hello@mednet.co.zw
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Our medical insurance packages encompass various options that can be utilised across Zimbabwe and South Africa, providing you with access to top-notch medical facilities, physicians, and experts. The program covers local and cross-border emergency evacuation via both air and road ambulance, in-hospital services, chronic diseases, cancer treatment, and everyday medical expenses such as doctors visits, dental care, optical services, and prescription medication.





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Z.P.G.A.

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Matusadona National Park - Zimbabwe

Matusadona National Park gets its name from the rolling Matusadona hills that form part of its water-rich landscape. Flanked by Lake Kariba in the north, and two perennial rivers, the Ume and the Sanyati, this remote and rugged park is the first in Zimbabwe to fall under the African Parks mandate. Proclaimed a National Park in 1975, it was once a conservation stronghold for African elephant and black rhino, and a sought-after tourism destination. But over the years, financial resources slowly diminished and poor management impacted the parks' wildlife. Limited road networks and manpower left some areas entirely unpatrolled resulting in rampant poaching, which virtually eliminated the black rhino population and severely reduced the elephant population. While Matusadona's wildlife has suffered, fortunately its integrity as a wilderness landscape has remained undiminished, providing an exceptional opportunity for this park to be restored.

African Parks, in partnership with the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (Zimparks) signed a 20-year agreement to manage Matusadona National Park in November, 2019. At 1,470 km², this unique landscape presents enormous potential for both wildlife and tourism. The lush landscape, consisting of undulating hills that descend to flat grasslands, forms important habitat for a large diversity of savannah and woodland species. Apart from over 240 bird species, a healthy variety of mammal species still occur within Matusadona, including lion, buffalo, elephant, waterbuck and impala. The Lake's shoreline is guarded by a kilometer-wide, iconic drowned forest, and when combined with the park's unique vegetation, a unique tourism potential through game viewing, fishing and other lake and park activities is offered.

Although this spectacular park is fraught with challenges, African Parks' careful management in collaboration with Zimparks, offers Matusadona the potential to become Zimbabwe's premier elephant and black rhino sanctuary once again. African Parks has begun to revive Matusadona through a foundation of good governance, an effective law enforcement strategy, community engagement initiatives, tourism and restoring wildlife populations through reintroductions of indigenous wildlife.

Matusadona Highlights

- In November 2019, African Parks and the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (Zimparks) signed a 20-year agreement to restore, develop and manage Matusadona National Park.
- One of Matusadona's most compelling features is its diverse bird life with over 240 species being recorded in the park.
- In 2021, 223 Burchell's zebra were translocated to the park to boost game populations. Ten elephants were collared, providing valuable information for better protection. And a hippo survey identified over 2,100 hippos along the Matusadona shoreline – an increase from approximately 250 animals in the early 1980s.
- Matusadona National Park holds extraordinary potential to become a leading safari tourism destination offering exceptional game viewing from both land and the lake, creating much needed revenue for surrounding communities.

<https://www.africanparks.org/the-parks/matusadona>



Helping Members, Help Themselves

It does not matter what you do in life, a list assists in ensuring everything you need to do is done. Here are a few things that the Z.P.G.A. thinks are important:

- POTRAZ License
 - Do you know the Z.P.G.A holds a POTRAZ license? Members are able to take advantage of this and have your two-way radio serial number included on our license
- PG, PH, LPH license in order?
 - Do you know that the Z.P.G.A. will renew your license for you for a small fee of US\$20? Call one of our offices today and ensure your 2023 license is in order
- Drivers license and PSV license on order? This is what is required:
 - A medical examination - valid for 1 year
 - A defensive driving course - valid 3 years
 - A retest on the drivers license class you hold - valid 5 years
 - Make sure you pop into your local VID and ensure you are compliant - remember insurance will not pay out if you fall short of the law
- Weapons license
 - Have you checked your weapons license validity? Remember these are valid for 3 years. If you require assistance in sorting these Karel Strydom will assist
- First Aid certificate
 - Being current and up to date is not only the right thing to do but it is a legal requirement. The Z.P.G.A. has partnered with ACE Air and Ambulance to bring you the best First Aid course available at reasonable prices
- Evacuation cover
 - ACE Air and Ambulance have you covered from as little as US\$5 per month, or US\$60 per year - can you seriously afford not to be covered?
- Medical Insurance/Aid
 - The Z.P.G.A. has partnered with MedNet whom will assist you through the many different policies and providers and come up with the best plan for you
- Loss of Income Insurance
 - The Z.P.G.A. has partnered with Acacia Insurance whom provide an excellent cover for both Professionals and their staff
- US Visa interviews
 - Our Z.P.G.A. Harare office will assist in securing your US Visa interview for a US\$20 fee

2023
START

Z.P.G.A. Diary

July 2023

- Fri 14th - Z.P.G.A. Talks Bulawayo
- Sat 15th - Sun 16th - ACE First Aid Training (Hre Advanced Course)
- Fri 21st - Sun 23rd - Black Eagle Research/Celebration (Byo)
- Sat 22nd - ACE First Aid Training (Hre Refresher Course)
- Sat 29th - ACE First Aid Training (Hre Basic Course)

August 2023

- Sat 5th - Sun 6th - ACE First Aid Training (Byo Advanced Course)
- Sat 12th - ACE First Aid Training (Byo Refresher Course)
- Sat 19th - ACE First Aid Training (Byo Basic Course)
- Sat 26th - Sun 27th - ACE First Aid Training (VF Advanced Course)

September 2023

- Sat 2nd - ACE First Aid Training (VF Refresher Course)
- Sat 9th - ACE First Aid Training (VF Basic Course)
- Sun 17th - Shooting Proficiency (Hre)
- Mon 18th - Oral Interviews (Hre)
- Tue 19th - LPH written exam (Hre)
- Wed 20th - LPH written exams (Hre)

October 2023

- Thur 5th - Sun 8th - Upper Zam Canoeing proficiency

November 2023

- Wed 1st - Tue 7th - Proficiency Examination
- Wed 29th - Thur 30th - VIP Event

December 2023

- Fri 1st - AGM (Victoria Falls)
- Sat 2nd - Z.P.G.A. Golf Morning (Vic Falls)
- Sat 2nd - Safari Dinner (Victoria Falls)

"Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone."

—
Pablo Picasso

"Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can."

—
Douglas Pagels



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We offer members assistance in various things such as medical and we discuss the best plan that will meet your needs. We manage your records. We assist with claims and following up on payments as well as keeping an updated record of the same. We handle everything to make sure your healthcare journey is smooth.

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hclark@mednet.co.zw

ISA AMISO BRANCH
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Rushmore
Rangel Froese: 0778791741
isamiso@mednet.co.zw

Discount Rate Providers:

Remember to show your Z.P.G.A. Membership card to get a discounted rate at the following participating outlets.

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Harare office

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Members will receive discounted rates on production of a valid Z.P.G.A. member's card

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership Statistics - 2023

It's a collaborative effort

Z.P.G.A. Members Breakdown by Qualification		
Number of Members	Qualification	
81	ASSOCIATE	
9	CONSERVATION PARTNER	
13	CUBS	
63	FULL PG	
149	FULL PH	
6	HONORARY LIFE MEMBER	
4	INDUSTRY SERVICE PROVIDER	
92	LPH LICENSE	
6	RESTRICTION	
Saturday, 01 July 2023		Page 1 of 1



It seems as though we always have something positive to say about membership figures, here is why:

2020 ended with an active membership of 281
2021 ended with an active membership of 350
2022 ended with an active membership of 412

**"Z.P.G.A. Membership is a
Privilege NOT a right"**

The largest membership the Association has had to date!



This months Safari "Sundowner Suggestion".

Cheese Platters:

Always well received...

Make sure to serve with a glass of wine, fit for
just about any occasion

Members Photo Gallery - Hyrax



The Z.P.G.A.'s commitment to Wildlife





Z.P.G.A. Talks 2023

During 2022 the Z.P.G.A. launched "Z.P.G.A. Talks", 18 talks across 3 cities. It was ambitious but looking back over the past year it has been a success. The talks were designed to bring our community together under the umbrella of growth through shared knowledge. Presentations throughout were both fun and informative and certainly provided for a springboard of discussion, engagement and shared ideas.

Don't miss out on the talks we have planned for 2023!

- Harare - Armadale Lodge
- Bulawayo - Hillside Dams Conservancy
- Victoria Falls - Shearwater Village

The 2023 dates are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
◦ Friday 21st July (Bulawayo)	Mthabisi Khumalo	"Raptor Conservation in Zimbabwe"
◦ Thursday 20th July (Victoria Falls)	John Laing	"What is the Z.P.G.A.?"
◦ Friday 21st July (Harare)	Mike Pelham	"Matusadona, Igniting the candle through conservation"
◦ Thursday 14th September (Victoria Falls)		
◦ Friday 15th September (Harare & Bulawayo)		
◦ Thursday 24th November (Victoria Falls)		
◦ Friday 25th November (Harare & Bulawayo)		

Time: 17:00 for 17:30 Start
Cash bar and restaurant
Free Admission

2022 Stats
20 Z.P.G.A. Talks
1, 080 participants



Z.P.G.A. Sponsors and Supporters Page



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WE HAVE SETTLED A NUMBER OF CLAIMS OVER THIS PERIOD, ESPECIALLY FOR TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABLEMENT & SOME CLAIMS HAVE BEEN IN EXCESS OF US\$30,000

A SUMMARY OF THE COVER IS:


- **PROFESSIONAL GUIDES & TRACKERS PERSONAL ACCIDENT COVER**
 - **24 HOUR PERSONAL ACCIDENT COVER, WHICH INCLUDES 'PROFESSIONAL HUNTING' ACTIVITIES**
 - **OTHER HAZARDOUS PASTIMES/ACTIVITIES NEED TO BE DECLARED (SUCH AS FLYING AS A PILOT, HANG GLIDING, PARACHUTING, ETC)**
 - **NOTE - COVER IS FOR ACCIDENTAL INJURY & THEREFORE IS NOT 'LIFE INSURANCE' SO COVER EXCLUDES DREADED DISEASES & ILLNESSES**
- **SCHEMES**
 - **THERE ARE 4 DIFFERENT LEVELS OF COVER AVAILABLE**
 - **PREMIUMS RANGE BETWEEN US\$158 – US\$630 PER ANNUM DEPENDANT ON THE SCHEME CHOSEN**
- **COVER INCLUDES:**
 - **PERSONAL ACCIDENT**
 - **PERMANENT DISABLEMENT**
 - **TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABLEMENT**
- **ADDITIONAL COVER**
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www.zpga.org 

Z.P.G.A. MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS



Z.P.G.A. FULL MEMBERSHIP

1. Vote on matters arising at our A.G.M.s
2. Access to our members only WhatsApp group
3. Z.P.G.A. branded merchandise
4. Access to educational and training material
5. Exclusive benefits & discounts from suppliers/providers
6. Access to cutting edge tourism news & policy developments as it affects hunting & guiding countrywide
7. Opportunities to give back to the community
8. Networking opportunities
9. Monthly newsletters & articles

Z.P.G.A. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

1. Access to our associate member WhatsApp group (admin only posts)
2. Z.P.G.A. branded merchandise
3. Monthly newsletters & articles
4. Access to educational and training material
5. Access to cutting edge tourism news & policy developments as it affects the hunting & guiding countrywide
6. Opportunities to give back to the community

Z.P.G.A. CONSERVATION PARTNER

1. 4 x Membership cards which entitles the holder to membership discounts
2. Access to the Z.P.G.A. associate member WhatsApp group
3. Representation at government, industry and Zimbabwe parks levels
4. Representation of Zimbabwe at all levels for tourism, locally and abroad
5. Engagement with Zimbabwe parks and ministry
6. Involvement in conservation initiatives such as the leopard, lion, elephant and rhino workshops for strategic planning for these key species
7. Representation at shows and events when we can for members and Zimbabwe
8. Marketing of Zimbabwe for tourism
9. Uplifting local tourist facilities and standards
10. Engagement with foreign NGOs for assistance and betterment of our industry

Z.P.G.A. CUBS MEMBERSHIP

Teaching your children how conservation and sustainability efforts will impact their lives is crucially important to the long-term survival of humanity & wildlife.

More and more people are starting to appreciate the value of conservation and causing as little harm as possible to the planet. It's especially important to teach these lessons to the next generation. Children, when given the right information, are usually eager to embrace a conservation approach to living.

It's up to parents and other adults however, to instil this knowledge in kids at an early age.

Z.P.G.A. SERVICE PROVIDER

1. Access to our full members chat group
2. Z.P.G.A. branded merchandise
3. Monthly newsletters & articles
4. Insight into industry trends as they are spoken about
5. Ability to attract industry specific business
6. Opportunities to give back to the community

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Hunting - Let's look at it differently? By Paul Stones

As Hunters, we win small battles, but all that happens is that the battlefield moves and we start all over again, at massive cost, in which we have in reality merely bought time before execution and nothing else.

We are facing a moment of truth today that we might not wish to admit and that is we need to change OUR offering in all this. The constant fight to bring home the “hubris” of the hunt, in many ways undermines the real reason why we say we hunt. “The experience, the wild places, the adventure that is the destiny of what we do”.

When we say that “import bans” are the end, we are weak, we are admitting what the “antis” have long said, that it is about the “trophy” and not much else.

Education of the youth is where we win the fight long term. Showing kids a video of a hunting experience far outweighs a dead head on a wall. The visuals, sounds and overall picture painted in film creates that what you want to carry across. A dead head is exactly that, a dead head. There is no context for the child.

We need to sell experience, adventure and not “trophy” animals. We need to hunt for the real reason we hunt, and if we cannot bring something other than a memory home, we should be good with that.

I do not doubt this mindset will be met by many as a “cop out”. I am an outfitter and I need clients. As the years go by, I have more and more that have no interest in the export but wish to spend the money they would have spent on export, taxidermy etc. on another trip with me.

What is bizarre is the fact that that many of those that spurred us into hunting trips, Selous, Blixen, Manners, et al. had little to no interest in heads on walls, but merely adventured and lived life to the full. That is what we will win, as no one can ever stop us hunting.

We need to spend the millions we do spend fighting monthly battlefields on our youth and changing perception on what a hunt is actually about.





SHOULD YOU REQUIRE ANY INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

Contact Us

The Z.P.G.A. committee is here to assist you. To enable us to answer your questions in a timely manner, please would you firstly contact Nadine du Plessis on secretary@zpga.org and request to be put in touch with one of the following sub-committees and the relevant committee member will gladly assist you.

Below you will find the various sub-committees, a short description of what their role and function is and a contact email address should you want to get in touch.

- Z.P.G.A. – Chairman Rob LURIE - chairman@zpga.org
- Z.P.G.A. – Vice Chairman John LAING - jlaing@zpga.org
- Z.P.G.A. – Secretary - Nadine du PLESSIS - secretary@zpga.org
- Z.P.G.A. – Legal & Ethics - Pete FICK - legal@zpga.org
 - Guiding Code of Conduct
- Z.P.G.A. – Finance - John LAING - finance@zpga.org
 - All payment issues
- Z.P.G.A. – Marketing & Advertising - John LAING - marketing@zpga.org
 - All branding Membership Cards
 - Membership Discounted Rates Initiative
 - Fundraising
- Z.P.G.A. – Education and training - David CARSON - education@zpga.com
 - Study Packs
 - RIFA & SAVE Valley Conservancy initiatives
 - Devil's Gorge Conservancy training program
- Z.P.G.A. – Research - Rob LURIE - research@zpga.org
 - Ensure compliance with trophy off-take in terms of ethics as well as sustainability
 - Cat ageing & Research
 - Attendance to & at quota setting workshops
 - Assistance with any NDF requirements that may come up from time to time
- Z.P.G.A. – Awards - Duncan WATSON - awards@zpga.org
 - To discuss and agree what awards shall be current or pertinent to the industry
 - To look at and agree end of year award nominees

“There are moments of frustration in life. You must build good relations to support you in these moments. You must also learn to encourage yourself and decide to stay determined in life.”

—
Lailah Gifty Akita

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There will be one giveaway hidden somewhere in each of the next 6 newsletters

Here is the deal - the first Zimbabwean reader to email through his or her name to marketing@zpga.org with a description of the gift will be sent that months gift

To qualify make sure you include "Learn how to skin" in the subject line

Donated by James Koch

