



Evaluation Report

2020

Community Partner Network in Africa
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Summary

At the beginning of the year 2020, we asked our close partner organisations to complete an evaluation survey in order to get a glimpse of their interpretation and translation of the relationship between them and Play.Handball. It is important for us to understand how our handball and life skills programme is received by our partners and its impact on them and their beneficiaries. In order to be able to develop further and improve some parts of our programmes, it was also important that we involved our partners in the evaluation process. Not only does it help improve our organisation and the content of our programmes and events, but it brings awareness of how our programmes impact the lives of the young people we and our partners work with.

Through this evaluation we reached 13 partner organisations from 11 different communities in South Africa and Kenya.

Our key learnings, from this evaluation document, are:

- **We have proof that handball is a needed sport in schools and communities as our approach is inclusive** (encouraging playing in mixed teams of girls and boys).
- **Even though our primary beneficiaries are youth aged 10 to 14 years, our programme activities benefit beyond these beneficiaries and reach multipliers** i.e. Physical Education teachers via training; local coaches via networking and training; families via events they get invited to; **attitude shift in-school noticed by teachers and headmasters**, etc.
- In our sporting events, which include life skills, we **are able to drive social change and create new perspectives about sports, life skills and youth development**. We were able to create awareness for environmentally friendly behaviour with our SuperCup; handball is still associated with it by our partners and beneficiaries.
- As handball is not a popular sport in South Africa, there may be resistance from other beneficiaries we are trying to reach, however through word of mouth and the ongoing support through training and events, we are able to change that.
- As **our aim is to build capacity for our partner organisations**, we have been able to achieve that, as we support with training, equipment, volunteer exchange and ongoing support.

As we now continue to improve our activities with the gained knowledge, we now know that the following would further benefit our greater community:

- **More handball training in communities**, especially training local coaches. → *We will achieve this through providing a standardized e-learning programme for Handball & Development Coaches.*
- More volunteers to assist with introducing and implementing the sport in communities. → *We will achieve this by promoting the volunteer exchange possibilities via SportCoachesAbroad.com (our unique **volunteer experience website**) and involve former volunteers as **Volunteer Ambassadors**.*
- More assistance and support in terms of equipment and resources. → *We will achieve this by continuing our crowdfunding campaigns and forming more **partnerships with Handball Clubs and Federations for the provision of second-hand equipment, financial support and knowledge-exchange.***
- More tournaments (sport events) which take place regularly in communities. → *We will achieve this through training more coaches, connect them in a **network** and provide them with the skills to plan, organise and run their own tournaments.*

We would like to thank every contributor to our 2020 evaluation and trust that over the next 12-month period we will be able to be in a better place and do more good for the people we work with (be it the youth, local coaches, teachers, schools and everyone involved in our handball activities).

The Play Handball Team

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Glossary *(in alphabetical order)*

LO = Life Orientation

PE = Physical Education

PH = Play Handball

PHKE = Play Handball Kenya

PHZA = Play Handball South Africa

PT = Physical Training



A. General information

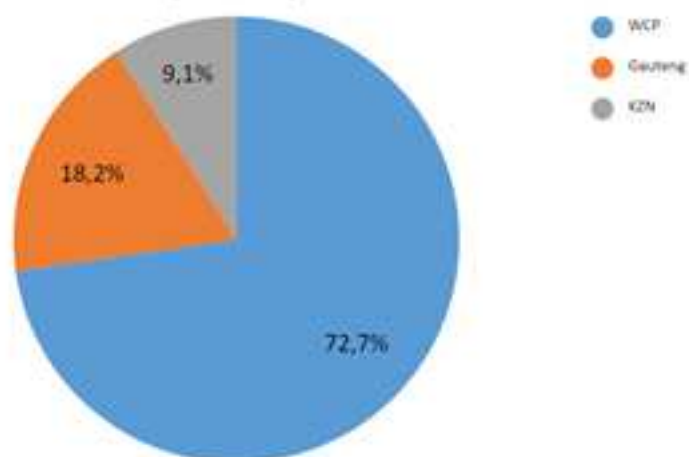
A1. Organisations and locations of survey participants

At the beginning of the year, we circulated the evaluation / survey to our partner organisations¹ and schools we work with. The evaluation was sent to two of South Africa's provinces - Western Cape and Gauteng. And it was also sent to our partners in Kenya. The following organisations / schools participated in the survey: *Darling Outreach Foundation, DSJ German School of Johannesburg, Sports Initiative Project, Grosvenor primary, Africa Jam Youth Outreach, Masonwabe Primary School, Hermannsburg School, St. Paul's Primary School, SCAC - Stop Crime Against Children, St Mary's Primary, Pendo Amani Youth Organization, Machakos and Piketberg Sports Development Foundation.*

The demographics of the above organisations is as follows:

- In South Africa:
 - Western Cape (WCP)
 - Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa x 3,
 - Delft, Western Cape, South Africa,
 - Atlantis, Western Cape, South Africa
 - Graafwater, Western Cape, South Africa,
 - Piketberg, Western Cape South Africa,
 - West Coast, Darling, Western Cape, South Africa,
 - Kwazulu-Natal (KZN):
 - Hermannsburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa,
 - Gauteng:
 - Parktown, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa,
 - Ekurhuleni, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa, and
- In Kenya:
 - Juja, Kiambu County. Kenya,
 - Machakos County, Kenya.

Location of Survey Participants in South Africa

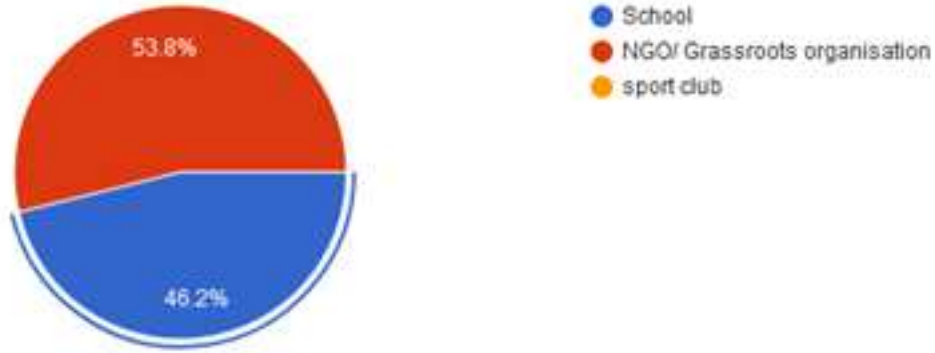


¹ Partner Organisation = A partner organisation of Play Handball is an NGO / Community Project / Community Based Organisation, mainly with the focus on Sports and/or Youth Development.



A2. Types of organisation

As our primary focus is partnering with community grassroots organisations, most of the participants are these organisations (53.8%). And as a result of our partnership, we are able to reach most schools through them, and the diagram below shows the percentage split of the responses to the survey between our organisations and schools.

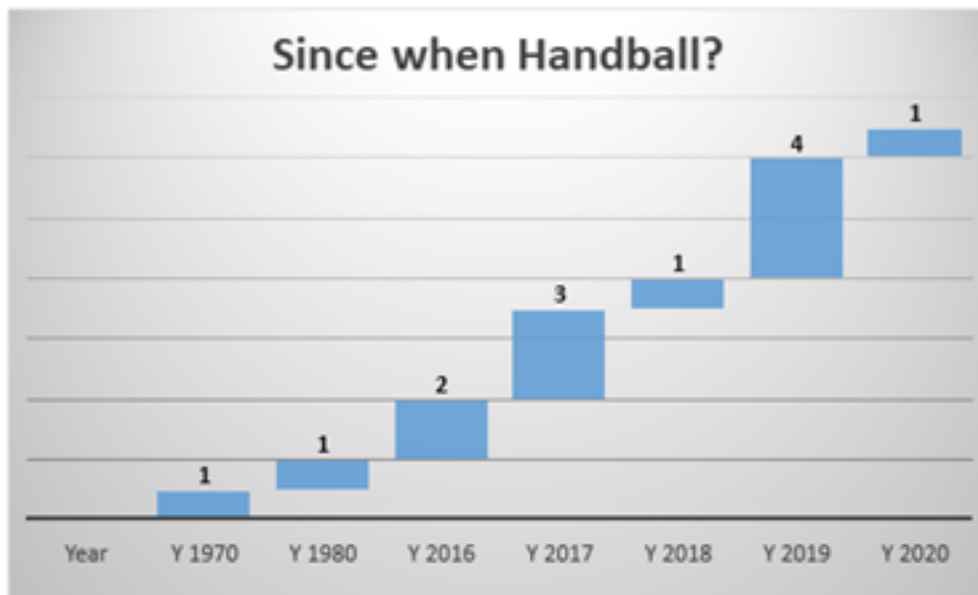




B. About your Handball Training at School/Community Centre

B1. Since when do you have handball in your school / community centre?

Some of the coaches and players in the organisations and schools we work in do not have a lot of experience in handball, with a few such as the German Schools in South Africa who have been teaching handball for long as part of their German Curriculum.



B2. How does the team sport handball influence / impact your children?

The feedback received for this question was really positive. While most of the responses identified a sportive impact, it is significant that the majority of the answers also pointed to the social impact that handball has as a team sport. Here are some examples of these:

Sportive impact:

- “Handball is part of the general Physical Training (PT) training from grade 3 to 9 and is offered as an **extra mural activity** for +/- 30 boys and girls each, grades 5 to 9”
- “Facilitates **physical activity**, life skills learning and relationship building”
- “The youth loves the **new sport** as it is fun and it teaches them **teamwork**”

Social impact:

- “The learners develop a **positive attitude towards their school work**”
- “Gives them a **sense of teamwork, unity, self discipline and responsible**”
- “Handball has a huge impact on the children in terms of **health, it improves mood and attitude**”
- “Kids learn to **communicate effectively**”



B3. How does the team sport handball influence / impact your school / community?

Again, the responses to this question were really positive. Even teachers and parents recognise the importance of sports and how it impacts the youth in and out of school. One of the schools who completed the survey asked for more handball in the school, for their teachers (training) and for their pupils (players). The general feeling was that sports raises awareness about the importance of social cohesion and diversity. Below are some of the responses:

- *“Positively, learners who struggled to work as a team have come to enjoy the sport and realised that they need to **play as one group** and not individuals”*
- *“The parents are happy that the children are active with sports”*
- *“Have given them **awareness of climate change**, how to manage their waste as well as **unity in the community** as they get involved in what their kids are getting involved”*
- *“Helps in addressing idleness and increase social connection between and among young people and the community”*
- *“With little after school activities, handball adds to the **positive social cohesion**”*
- *“Children are **more disciplined**”*
- *“It teaches the children the importance of **teamwork**, working together and helping each other at a young age has an impact on the upbringing. it teaches **trust and patience**”*

B4. How does the team sport handball influence / impact your local coaches?

With handball not a popular and known sport in South Africa and Kenya, we have been able to mobilise some international volunteers to be based in the communities and train local coaches and teachers the sportscode. However, we have not been able to reach all communities with volunteers. And it is for this reason that the organisations and schools are asking for more guidance, training and mentorship from Play Handball.

There are local coaches who are exposed to the sport and by the results of the survey, it seems they are grasping the sport and willing to continue to teach/ train it to the youth. Some examples of the responses are below:

- *“The school only has one phys-ed educator who found it challenging to do all the codes. However, with Laura being at the school handball has once again taken off”²*
- *“Gives them **new skills and tactics**, helps them in their behaviors as they are **role models to the children** they train and the community”*
- *“Helps in **skills development, competency building** as well as influence **career paths**”*
- *“The coach wants to learn more about handball (Training Camps, Workshops, Play Handball SuperCups)”*
- *“They definitely have **built their personal capacity** and are eager to share with others”*
- *“**Hard work, team work, socializing**, teaching and learning..success is obtained”*

² Laura is one of our Welwaerts (international) volunteers who was in South Africa from 2019 - 2020, but had to abruptly leave due to the Corona crisis.



B5. How did you hear about handball? And how was it introduced at your school / community centre?

About 69% of the organisations/ schools (that completed the survey) heard about the sport through Play Handball. There were various introductions done by PHZA - including a coaching presentation to schools; being part of a weeklong camp and having a handball component of this camp; and having PH volunteers introduce the sport to schools through an info session.

One of the participants of the survey first had contact with the sport in Germany, in the 1970's, and that contact was through German teachers and to this day they are still involved in the sport - how brilliant!

Some responses below:

- *“Through Play Handball Kenya/ South Africa. We selected four coaches who were first trained in 2017 in Nairobi. We thereafter mapped schools within our community with the intention of starting off. We were unable to start due to lack of equipment, training guides / modules. However, in 2019 we received a volunteer through Play Handball SA and we were able to start it off.”*
- *“We had 2 Play Handball Volunteers Jenny / Marie who assisted us with Handball coaching at Primary schools. The kids want to learn more about the sportscode and want to play in tournaments”*
- *“Myself and 2 staff members attended training in Durban through SAYLN³ in 2017 and we came back and shared what we have learnt”*
- *“I was introduced to handball in 1998 as a player, I joined the first handball club that was introduced at the time.”*

³ SAYLN (South African Youth Leaders Network), now known as the Initiative for Community Advancement (ICA) is Community Foundation (CF) that has as its main aim the promotion of community philanthropy in rural communities. PHZA introduced handball to its partners and members back in 2015 so they could implement the sport and methodologies in their organisations.



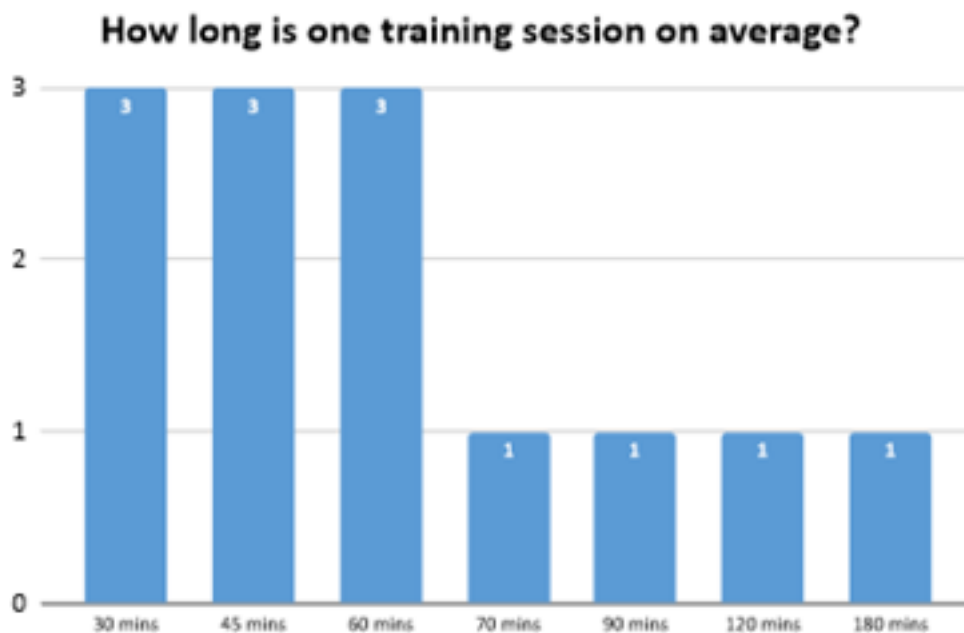
B6. How often do you offer handball training during the week?

About 85% (11) of the organisations and/or schools have handball training on a regular basis (between 1 and 3 times a week), while about 15% (2) incorporate the sport in monthly events or host monthly handball matches / tournaments.



B7. How long is one training session on average?

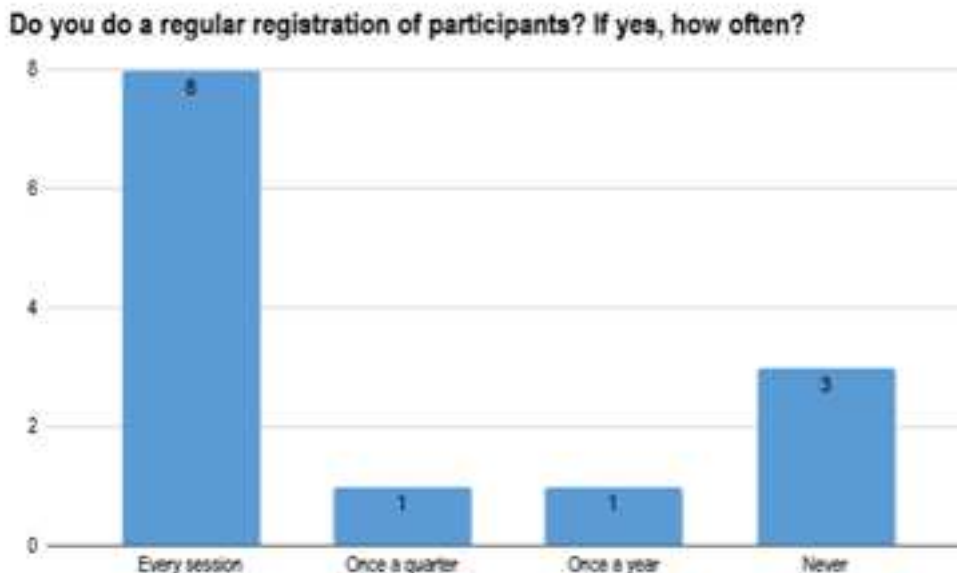
About 46% of the organisations / schools have less than 60 min / 1h for their training sessions, and only 3 organisations offer training sessions of 90 min or more. This is an indication, for PH, to design short lessons that could be easily translated into school curriculums and organisation's programmes and activities.





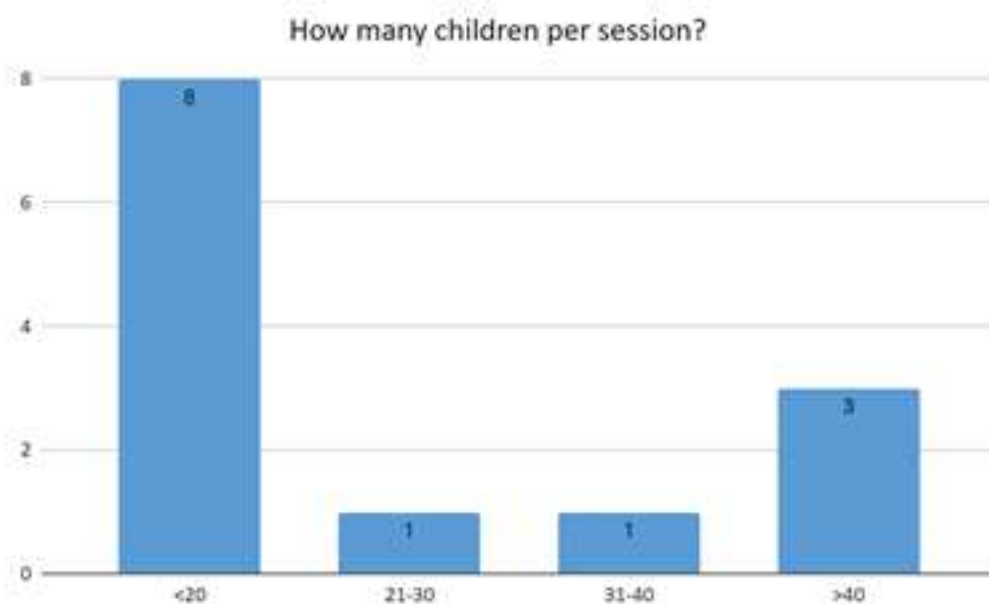
B8. Do you do regular registration of participants? If yes, how often?

In most cases, especially in schools, there is a daily register that the coaches keep to monitor who attend training. This assists coaches in making decisions on who goes to tournaments and the Play Handball SuperCup. Some organisations are unable to keep track of who goes to trainings as they do not keep a register for their organisations anyway. As a way forward, and especially for PH own record purposes, we should design a register that we hand out to the organisations and schools to use whenever they have handball in their programmes and activities.



B9. How many children take part in one session on average?

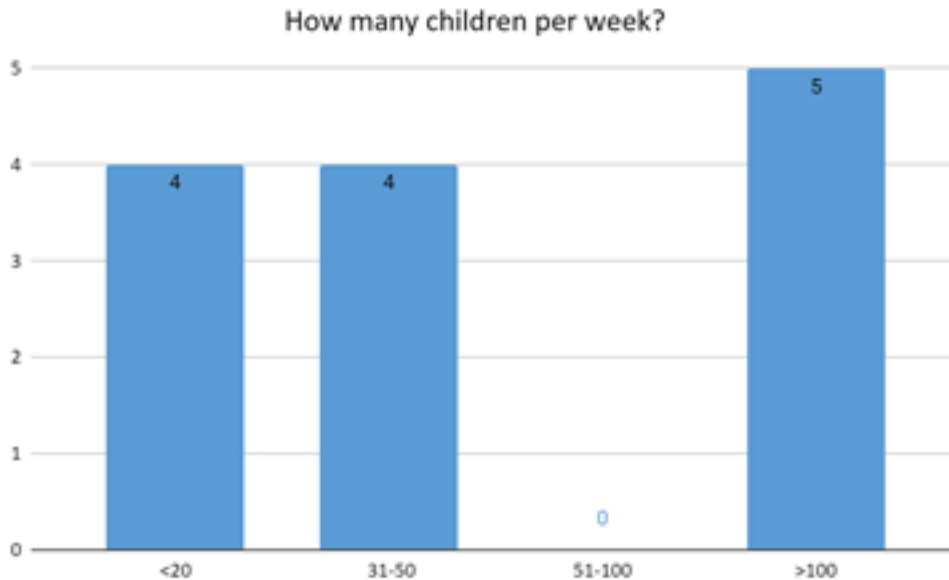
On average a week our partner organisations and schools work with different numbers of players. As the diagram shows, there are groups that work with 20 and less while there are 3 groups that work with 40 and more. The total reach per week based on the evaluation stats given is 370 players (youth) per week reached. As far as PH is concerned, PH can give advice and support to those who have larger numbers, and equip them with tools for effectivity with big numbers and limited time.





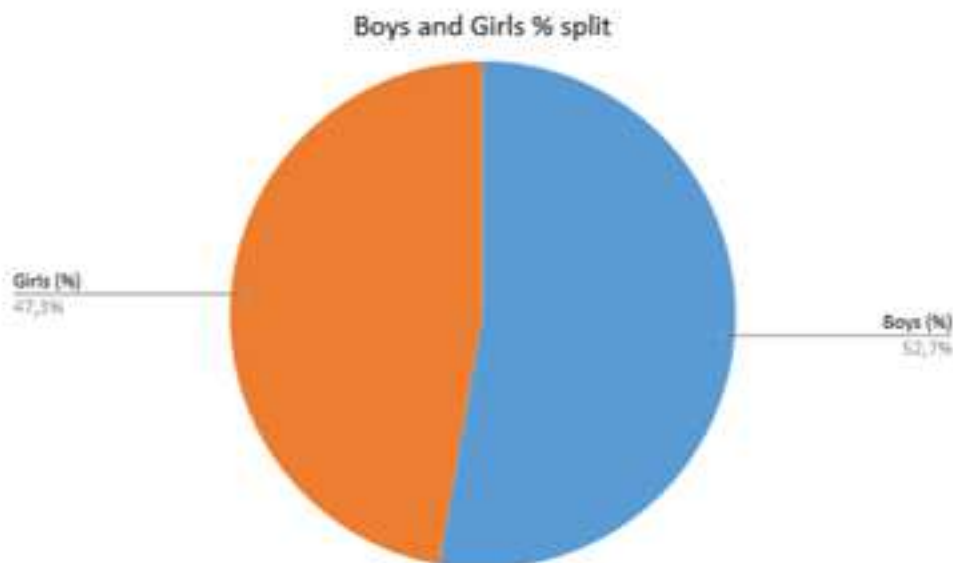
B10. How many children do you train in total per week?

Again, on average there are 4 organisations / schools that reach 20 and less youth per week, while there are 5 organisations that reach over 100 per week. In total, **youth reached per week is 1219** based on the stats received from the partners.



B11. How many girls and boys are taking part in your training? (Please give a % or total number)

As a result of our gender split rule (that encourages teams to play mixed), we can see that the overall gender percentage is mostly even; only one organisation shows a split of 20% girls to 80% boys. This is exciting to see as one of the issues PH constantly addresses is gender equality. This makes our version of handball encourage playing in mixed teams as a direct solution to gender equality.

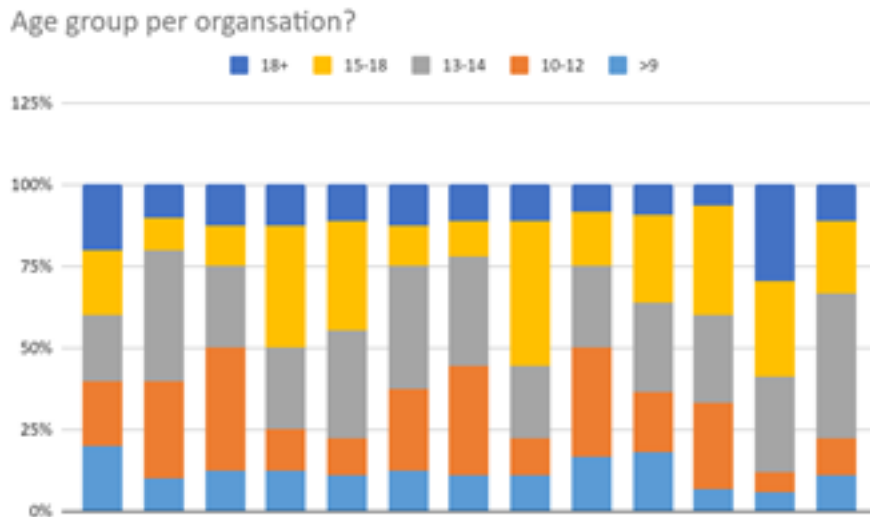




B12. How many children are (...) years old? (Please give a %)

With the trend given we can see that most of the children are between 10 to 14 years old, some of the organisations work with the age group of 15 to 18 years and only a few children are below 9 years or older than 18 years old.

PH Programmes mainly focus on the age group 10 to 14 years, which matches the core age groups of our partners' beneficiaries. Beside that there are a lot of beneficiaries aged 15 to 18 years old. This indicates that PH may look for solutions to integrate this age group more in the future.



B13. Accuracy of gender and age figures

To ensure that our data is close to accurate, we asked our partner organisations / schools where they are getting their figures from. About 23% gave an estimation while over 76% gave accurate figures based on the documentation / register they receive from the coaches.

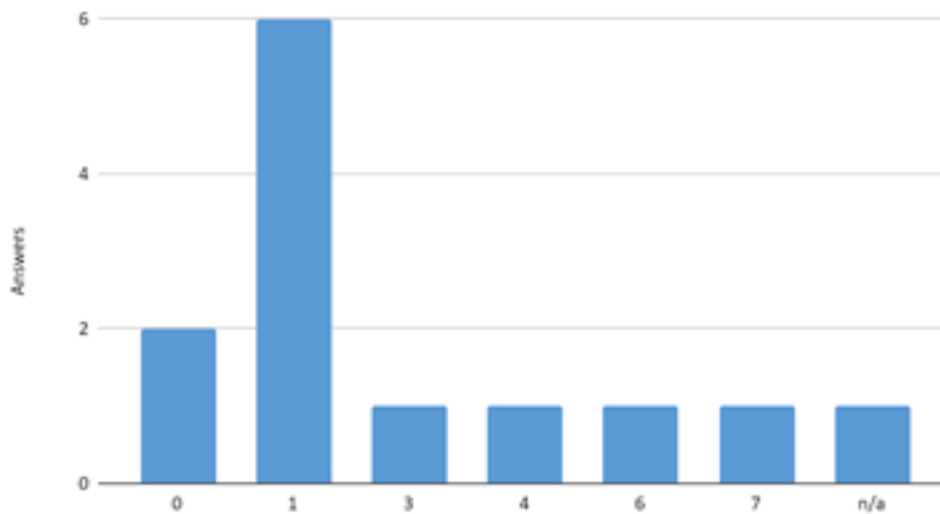




B14. How many local coaches do you have?

While we support some of our organisations with international volunteer coaches, we also have regular training for teachers and organisation's leaders to become local coaches to continue teaching the sport in their organisations, communities, and/or schools. Only two organisations do not have coaches, they rely solely on the volunteers that PH sends to them. This indicates that PH should continue training local coaches so that the sport can stay sustainable in the community. At the same time, PH should help organisations or schools, who do not have their own local coaches yet, with volunteers.

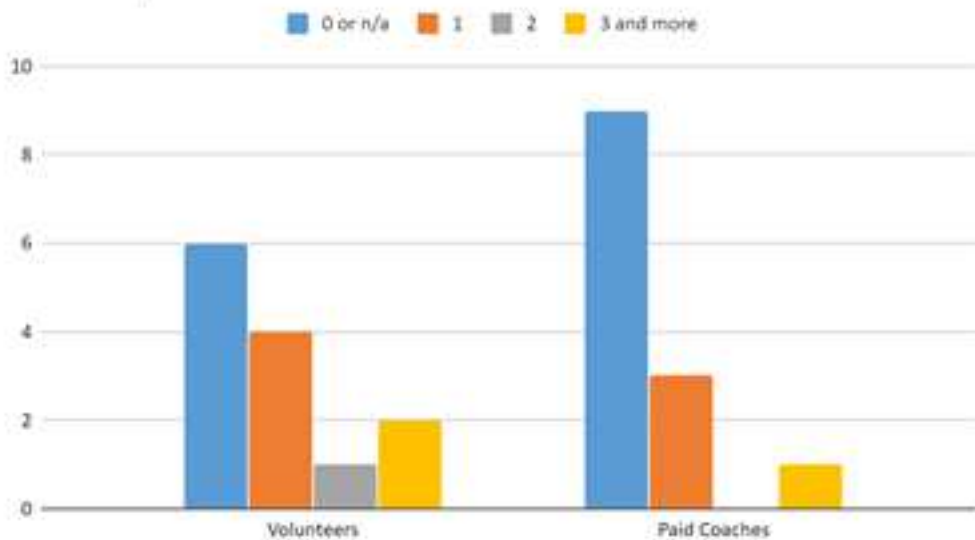
How many local coaches do you have?



B15. How many of these coaches are

Only four organisations have paid coaches. Most of the organisations work with voluntary coaches. Whereas only three of them have more than one voluntary coach.

How many are of the coaches are Volunteers or Paid Coaches





B16. What role did Play Handball play in introducing handball at your school / community?

Play Handball's role has really impacted many people, not only youth in schools and communities but coaches and teachers. Three main topics can be identified as a role Play Handball played in these communities: 1) Attitude of the learners/ players, 2) Support and 3) New sport.

Attitude of the learners:

- *"It **empowered learners** to feel more **confident** about themselves"*
- *"**Holistic development of a child**"*

Support:

- *"Providing **Training Materials** with their Methodologies, Equipment's and International Volunteers"*
- *"Provided coach training, **equipment** and **volunteer** placement"*
- *"A very big role as Play Handball have been supportive after the training we received and always if we need **assistance** or have questions"*

New sport:

- *"A big role as **the sport was introduced to the school** by play handball"*
- *"Play Handball gave us the **opportunity to host 2 tournaments at the school** as well as attending one other as we already were established in playing handball"*
- *"During the **holiday program** handball was introduced"*
- *"PH played a big in our sport men's and women's lives in Piketberg, it has given any one of them a chance to **learn a new sportscode** and to **take part in sport**"*
- *"A New sport code that children learn to play"*
- *"Play handball taught us the possibility that we cannot only teach handball but **can merge sports and education and actually make it fun** and educational at the same time. i personally have learned a lot from Play handball..new and fun **educational exercises**, how to train children, organizing tournaments with a large number and that medals and trophies are not that important. Play handball introduced a different handball in Gauteng"*

B17. Do you need more support from Play Handball? If yes, what kind of support?

Many of our partner organisations and schools would like further assistance on handball training, training materials and general exposure to the team sport, since it is not a known sport. PH's pillars of support are 1) knowledge, 2) equipment and 3) volunteers which is in line with some of the responses, highlighted below:

- *"We would always be willing to host a SuperCup tournament"*
- *"Training **workshops for local volunteers**, Equipment's and International Volunteers"*
- *"Equipment support due to the number of schools we reach"*
- *"Training for coaches, Handball Clothing for coaches, Handball Equipment for coaches"*



B18. Please give a statement: What do you think about Play Handball? How did Play Handball help you?

Here comes some of the comments about Play Handball:

- *“Handball is a fun game to play. It takes the kids off the street”*
- *“It's a good sport that don't have strict rules and most of learners are interested as it is like Netball”*
- *“Play Handball opened up the opportunity for many schools to start playing handball and to compete against others so as to give more meaning to the sport”*
- *“PlayHandball a changemaker/agent. It has helped me to know that there is always a chance to improve and develop in each and every stage of life”*
- *“We are happy to connect with Play Handball and initiate handball in our community. We were able to effectively reach the schools and the community beyond the sports aspects. Thank you for your support”*
- *“This organization have brought a breath of fresh air where sport and youth development is concerned. They gave us regular coaches from abroad and resources”*
- *“Play handball taught us the possibility that we cannot only teach handball but can merge sports and education and actually make it fun and educational at the same time. I personally have learned a lot from Play handball. .new and fun educational exercises, how to train children, organizing tournaments with a large number and that medals and trophies are not that important. Play handball introduced a different handball in Gauteng”*