# JUSTICE 4 JAWS



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022-23



## CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

It has been nothing short of an absolute privilege to be the Chairperson of Justice 4 Jaws over the past year. I am so proud of everything that we have achieved as a team and look forward to the many amazing things planned for the future.

What started as a small youth led shark and ray NPO has now grown to an incredible membership base who actively follow and support our organisation on a daily basis on various platforms. Thank you to the incredible J4J committee, who worked so hard during this past year to make all the dreams we had into possibilities. Thank you for allowing me to guide you and that I could learn from all of you.

This year the team held informative workshops, built a life size sand-shark on the beach to raise awareness, educated people online via our social media platforms, visited schools, collaborated with jawsome people and organisations, promoted our card game, curated and sold J4J merchandise with beautiful designs, created sticker packs with epic shark designs and most importantly we INSPIRED people to care about shark and ray species.

Dr. Jane Goodall said, "You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

Here's to another year of conserving, educating & inspiring!

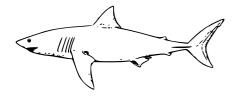
#### UNCIAL HAUPT

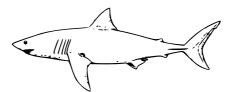
Chairperson

### ABOUT JUSTICE 4 JAWS

#### **Our mission:**

Justice 4 Jaws is a volunteer-driven non-profit company that aims to Create Awareness, Educate, and Inspire people to participate in the conservation of sharks, skates, rays, and the marine environment. J4J strives to help change the negative perceptions people have about sharks, as well as aid in the progression of wildlife conservation projects like the Maziwe 30x30 campaign.





#### 2022-23 Objectives:

- Educate society about sharks, rays and the marine ecosystem through: online workshops
- **Encourage** those who attended educational events to share and spread the knowledge they acquired.
- Improve the public's understanding of sharks' many ecosystem functions, the threats they face, and how many different shark species there are
- Increase sharks' popularity, while actively motivating for the advancement of shark protection, as well as shifting the negative perception of sharks.
- Inspire more people to get involved for the benefit of sharks;
   to promote conservation and the protection of sharks.



Samantha Hofmeyr: Facilitator





Danel Wentzel: Spokesperson



Uncial Haupt: Chairperson



Temba Mettler: Vice-Chairperson



Day Moodley: Secretary





Julia Penaluna: Treasurer & Media Team



Hannah Snyman: Social Media Manager



Mélissa Duflot: Media Team



Sarah Hawkes: Media Team



Kristina Loosen: Media Team



Leigh-Ann Smit: Media Team



Siraj Paruk: Media Team



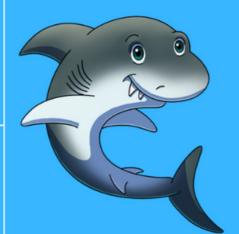
Kezia Bowmaker-Falconer: Event Coordinator



Mignon Carr: Card Game Project Manager:



Nico Booyens: Ambassador





Committee member: Summer Newton



Cicely Nagel: Ambassador



### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Over the 2022/2023 financial year Justice 4 Jaws received **R41075.01 from WILDOCEANS** as part of our **activation budget** to attend the Wavescape Festival in Cape Town.

The remaining merchandise budget from the 2022 year was used to **print t-shirts** and stickers to sell at events such as Wavescape, and to give to children at school outreaches. Money received from the sale of our card game "uShaka SA", t-shirts and stickers will be used to print more merchandise and card games for future events. Budget was also used to pay a designer to create the J4J flyer (R420) that will be displayed in aquariums and at events, and to pay an accountant to look over our finances and create a financial report (R2000).



2022-23 Activities

#### **WIOMSA 2022 SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM:**

As part of the official launch of the book "Harry the Hammerhead" by Nikki Chapman from WILDOCEANS, the J4J steering committee was invited to WIOMSA to read the book to the audience. WIOMSA is the association of the Western Indian Ocean countries that provides funding opportunities for science and aims to "advance regional cooperation in all aspects of coastal and marine sciences".

The Harry the Hammerhead book takes you on an adventure into the ocean, where you will learn about, and hopefully fall in love with sharks and marine life. Attending events like this is something that j4J looks forward to whenever the opportunity arises.

#### **WAVESCAPE 2023:**

Justice 4 Jaws attended a wide array of activities, events and screenings during WaveScape 2023, which ran from 15-19 March. We attended presentations at Slide Night where passionate people expressed their love for the ocean and described how they strive to conserve our oceans, cleared litter from coastal areas, and networked with organizations with similar goals to J4J.

#### **SANDSHARK BUILDING - CAPE TOWN:**

After a rainy and cold start to the day, the Justice 4 Jaws team arrived at Long Beach, Simon's Town just as the sun emerged. We got the chance to interact and spend time with the J4J members, followers



### 2023 Activities

#### uShaka SLEEPOVER 2023 - DURBAN:

Ushaka Marine World, in collaboration with Justice 4 Jaws, hosted a shark and ray awareness sleepover night at the aquarium. The evening included a reading and performance of Harry the Hammerhead, a screening of the WILDOCEANS Shark Sanctuary documentary followed by a Q&A discussion, an informative presentation on sharks and rays by ORI (Oceanographic Research Institute), a back-of-house tour of the quarantine area of the aquarium, and a knowledge-building treasure hunt through the aquarium for the children. The event was a huge success and is set to continue as a yearly shark and ray awareness evening going forward.

#### SHARK WEEK IN COLLABORATION WITH Youth 4MPAs:

Shark week ran from the 14th to the 19th of July 2023. In collaboration with Youth 4 MPAs, we posted a series of videos and images, and hosted an Instagram live on the first day and last day of Shark week. The video created by the Justice 4 Jaws Head of Media (Hannah Snyman) explained some important roles sharks play in the marine ecosystem. The following posts included beautiful images and interesting facts about endemic shark species.

#### **SCHOOL OUTREACHES & OTHER SCHOOL RELATED EVENTS:**

Justice 4 Jaws had the privilege to visit one school in Gqeberha and one school in Cape Town on the 17th of March 2023. At both outreaches, members of J4J gave a presentation on South Africa's wonderful endemic shark species. The presentation was interactive and allowed children to ask questions and give their input on topics discussed. The outreaches were not only educational, but also fun, as the Justice 4 Jaws members played a round of shark bingo, as well as the J4J uShaka SA card game. Justice 4 Jaws provided gifts to prize winners that won the bingo game (including Justice 4 Jaws shirts and card games).





### Learning Workshops:

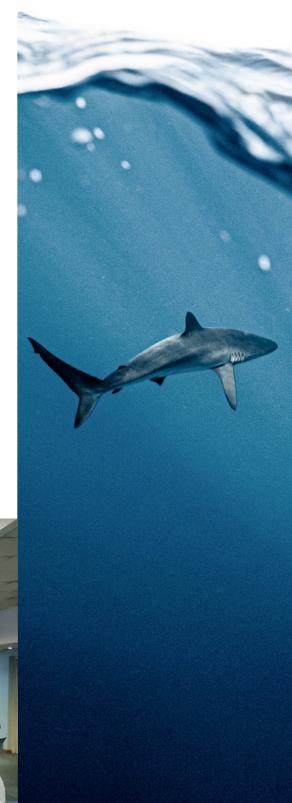
#### Online and in-person educational workshops

J4J hosted a total of 6 workshops that featured the ecosystem of people involved in shark and ray conservation, and the environment they inhabit. Some workshops were online while others were inperson, with an average of around 30 people attending. Attendees joined the online sessions from different parts of the world and had the opportunity to engage with the speakers in a Q&A session at the end of each event.

The aim of each workshop was to educate the public on interesting and relevant topics that ranged from "Diving in the presence of sharks"; "Effective strategies for protecting endangered marine species in Africa"; "What's the deal with deep-sea mining"; "Great white sharks: research, behaviour and common misconceptions" and "Understanding the world of shipping and how ocean vessels impact our oceans". The first workshop of this series was hosted in-person and was a particular success, covering the topic of "How to use social media to advocate for the ocean" with Danel Wentzel at the 20ceans Aquarium.

J4J hopes to continue providing useful and inspiring workshops that speak to the hearts and minds of fellow ocean lovers, and that encourage new minds to become curious about all the factors that play into maintaining a healthy marine ecosystem.





## Social Medial Update

Some of the main goals of the media team are to **educate** our followers on all things chondrichthyans and may include their diversity, the threats they face, how we can help, current affairs etc.



Saturdays have focused on making sharks and rays science accessible and relatable to the public with **Shark Science Saturday**. For a few months, we wanted to educate the public on the ways to avoid consuming shark products unintentionally with **Shark Free Friday**. We then replaced this post with a fun game: **Guess the Shark.** It consist of posting the shadow of a shark species for which the followers can guess the right answer.

We kept and upgraded the popular concept of **This or that Thursdays**, the winning shark species is revealed on the Thursday in an educational RFFI.

Every **Monday** we share reels from underwater footage or reels in relation to shark and rays education, conservation and art.

We will continue to highlight current affairs and important calendar days on all our social media platforms; Instagram, Facebook and twitter to keep our followers up to date and informed as best we can.



https://www.facebook.com/Justice4Jaws https://www.instagram.com/justice4jaws/ https://twitter.com/justice4jaws









### Future Activities:

#### Content

J4J aims to produce more visual and written content for all those shark and ocean lovers out there. While we already post content on our socials, we aim to add more content to our website and make it an enjoyable place for you to spend your time reading and exploring. Some examples include shark/ray-themed art and informative blogs written by committee members and members of the public.

#### **Products**

The uShaka SA trump card game is going to be expanded! We understand how important it is to communicate with people in an accessible manner, so we aim to release the card game in more languages—allowing more of our South African followers and kids from all backgrounds to engage with the game fully and build a relationship with the sharks in our waters.

J4J also aims to release an activity book, with the aim of giving youth a fun and engaging tool to expand their knowledge, practice their creative skills and understand the diversity of shark and ray species in our oceans.

#### Workshops

J4J is aiming to take online and in-person workshops to the next level! After seeing how our audience enjoyed the previous workshops, J4J hopes to host more workshops in collaboration with other youth groups; expanding the range of topics and increasing the level of interactivity in each of them. J4J also aims to host an Ocean careers workshop where young minds can

Ocean careers workshop where young minds can expand their vision of career options in the sphere of marine research and marine conservation. See you there!

This year Justice 4 Jaws grew and now has 211 followers on Twitter, 715 Facebook Page Likes, 106 participants on WhatsApp, 86 website subscribers and 1279 followers on Instagram, a total of 2 205 followers across all platforms!

Let's keep focusing on Sarks and Rays because the more we know about sharks, the more we appreciate them, the better we can protect them!



