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Dear Valued Members

EMPOWERING YOUR GROWTH: A VITAL REMINDER ON VERIFYING COURSE ACCREDITATION

At the South African Dental Association (SADA), our core mission is to support you at every stage of your professional journey. We are immensely proud of our members' commitment to excellence and lifelong learning. Pursuing continued professional development (CPD) through certificates, diplomas, and degrees is not only commendable but essential for staying at the forefront of dental science and patient care.

SADA actively encourages and supports each member in seeking out educational opportunities that align with their personal career ambitions and how they wish to grow within the dental profession. The choice of what and where to study is powerful, and we trust you to make informed decisions that will enrich your skills and knowledge.

However, with this freedom of choice comes a critical professional responsibility. As your representative body, we must remind you to exercise due diligence **before** enrolling in any course or programme that promises a formal qualification.

It is imperative that you first verify whether the institution is authorised to confer a certificate, diploma, or degree recognised in South Africa. A qualification that is not accredited may not contribute to your CPD requirements, will not be recognised for further study, and could impact your professional standing.

How to Verify the Legitimacy of a Qualification

To ensure your valuable time and financial investment are protected, please follow these essential steps:

Check the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Database

- SAQA is the overarching body responsible for overseeing the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- **Action:** Visit the [SAQA website](#) and use their "Qualification Search" function to verify if the specific qualification is registered on the NQF. This is the primary check for any South African qualification.

Verify the Accrediting Body

- A Quality Council recognised by SAQA must accredit all education and training providers.
- **For Higher Education (Degrees, Diplomas):** The institution must be accredited by the **Council on Higher Education (CHE)**. You can check the register of accredited private higher education institutions on the [CHE website](#).
- **For Occupational and Vocational Qualifications (Certificates, Skills Programmes):** The provider should be accredited by the **Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)** or a Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA). Check the QCTO or relevant SETA's database of accredited providers.

Beware of "Red Flags"

- Qualifications that are awarded with little to no study or assessment.
- Institutions that are not transparent about their physical address or accreditation status.
- Pressure to enrol immediately with a "limited time offer."
 - Unfamiliar or non-existent accreditation bodies with official-sounding names.

Our Unwavering Recommendation

SADA strongly encourages you to **definitely pursue courses and qualifications that are appropriately accredited**. Choosing accredited programmes guarantees that the education you receive meets the stringent quality standards required for our profession, ensures your CPD hours are valid, and ultimately safeguards the trust your patients place in you.

By taking these simple verification steps, you are investing not just in a course but in the integrity and future of your professional career.

We trust you to make informed decisions that will not only enrich your skills and knowledge but also ensure compliance with statutory laws governing certification/ registered qualifications.

Continue to strive for excellence. We are here to support you.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDERS FOR 2026

- SADA Members' renewal notifications were sent via email on 1 November
- Dental Protection Member renewal notifications were sent via email on 15 November.
- Please check your Spam or Junk folder if you do not see notification/s.
- Ask your ISP to release any email received from the glueup.com domain
- You should have received invoice/s with a link for your payment convenience.

Immediate Online Payment

- Use the "PAY NOW" button in the email to process your payment securely by Credit card.
- Debit Order (Existing Members) - NO ACTION NEEDED EXCEPT to select your benevolent fund contribution should you wish to donate.
- If you are already on a debit order, your 2026 renewal will continue seamlessly under the same terms and schedule as 2025.
- First deduction dates: 15 January 2026 or 31 January 2026.
- Debit order administration fee: R44.50, included in your monthly amount.

New Debit Order Setup

For members who are not currently on a debit order but wish to set one up, don't hesitate to contact Joseph Moalusi at dpmembership@sada.co.za to request a mandate form.

Please note that you need a separate debit order mandate for Dental Protection and SADA memberships.

Important Bank Details

For EFT, please use the following updated SADA banking details:

Bank: Investec Bank Limited

Branch Code: 58 01 05

Account Number: 10011847744

Reference: Your invoice number (Very important for quick allocation)

NOTE: PREVIOUS BANK ACCOUNTS ARE NO LONGER ACTIVE.

Send your proof of payment to membershipadmin@sada.co.za

Due Date for Membership Renewal

To ensure uninterrupted access to SADA and Dental Protection member benefits, please pay your SADA and/or DP membership renewal invoice by 1 January 2026 unless you're on the monthly debit order plan.

UPDATE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE (OHSC) REQUIREMENTS FOR DENTAL PRACTITIONERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring safe, ethical, and high-quality oral healthcare delivery, we wish to provide updated guidance on Occupational Health and Safety Compliance (OHSC) requirements for dental practices in South Africa.

Legal Framework

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993 (OHSA) is the primary legislation governing workplace health and safety across all sectors, including the healthcare sector.

The Act aims to:

- Protect employees and patients from occupational hazards.
- Prevent injury, infection, and exposure to harmful substances; and
- Ensure that every employer provides and maintains a safe and healthy working environment.

For dental practices, the practice owner or principal dentist is considered the “employer” under Section 8 of the OHSA and bears ultimate responsibility for compliance.

What OHSC Means for Dental Practices

Dental environments pose unique occupational hazards, including:

- Exposure to aerosols, blood, saliva, and infectious materials.
- Use of sharp instruments, chemicals, and radiation (X-rays).
- Ergonomic strain, noise exposure, and hand fatigue; and
- Risk of fire or electrical hazards due to specialised equipment.

As such, dental practices are classified as health establishments under the National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003) and are required to maintain compliance with both OHSA and OHSC

regulations. This includes obtaining or maintaining an OHSC Certificate of Compliance, issued by the OHSC.

Core Compliance Requirements

All dental practices must ensure the following:

- **Health and Safety Policy:** A written policy signed by the practice owner or manager.
- **Risk Assessment:** Identification of all potential hazards (biological, chemical, ergonomic, mechanical) and documentation of control measures.
- **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC):**
 - Sterilisation protocols for instruments and handpieces.
 - Proper use of autoclaves with maintenance and validation logs.
 - Waste segregation, storage, and collection are compliant with healthcare waste regulations.
- **Radiation Safety:**
 - Radiation protection plan and regular quality assurance tests.
 - Valid registration of X-ray units with the **Directorate of Radiation Control** at SAHPRA.
- **Emergency Preparedness:**
 - Fire safety equipment, evacuation plans, and staff training.
 - An accessible first-aid kit and the appointment of a trained first aider.
- **Staff Health and Safety:**
 - Annual medical surveillance and immunisations (e.g. Hepatitis B).
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE) is available and used appropriately.
- **Training and Records:**
 - OHS induction and refresher training for all staff.
 - Incident reporting system and injury logbook.
 - Inspection-ready documentation, including proof of compliance.

Inspection Timelines and Enforcement

- **Inspection Commencement:** 01 November 2025
- **Initial Roll-out:** 210 private practices (including dental) will undergo OHSC inspections in this cycle.

Failure to comply with OHSC requirements may result in:

- Suspension or closure of the dental practice.
- Refusal or withdrawal of the OHSC Certificate of Compliance.
- Financial penalties, prosecution, or disciplinary referral to the HPCSA under *Booklet 2 (Ethical and Professional Rules)* for unsafe or unethical practice environments.

Preparing for Inspection

To ensure readiness:

1. Review your OHS Policy and Procedures Manual.
2. Update all training, sterilisation, and waste management records.
3. Ensure your radiation and infection control certificates are up to date.
4. Conduct an internal mock inspection or engage an accredited OHS consultant.

Practices that can demonstrate a structured safety management system are more likely to pass inspection successfully.

SADA COMMUNICATIONS

At SADA, we do our utmost to maintain accurate and up-to-date communication data to ensure our members receive essential updates without interruption. Despite these efforts, some emails may still not reach their intended recipients due to factors beyond our control.

Common causes include invalid or misspelt email addresses, full inboxes, spam filters, or restrictive server settings.

SADA communicates in good faith using the contact details provided in member profiles. However, we cannot override personal or organisational email settings that may block or filter our messages.

Domains Used for Official SADA Communications

Please ensure that emails from the following domains are allowed in your email system:

- **@sada.co.za**
- **@glueup.com** (used through our member management and communication platform)

Why Emails Sometimes Don't Arrive

- **Invalid Email Address (Hard Bounce):** The address is incorrect, inactive, or no longer exists.
- **Full Mailbox or Server Issue (Soft Bounce):** A temporary issue, such as a full inbox or mail server downtime.
- **Blocked by Security Settings (Hard Bounce):** The recipient's organisation has strict security filters that block certain emails.

Steps to Ensure You Receive SADA Emails

To prevent missing essential updates and communications:

1. Ask your **Internet Service Provider (ISP)** or IT department to **whitelist** the domains **sada.co.za** and **glueup.com**.
2. **Check your spam or junk folders** and mark SADA messages as "Not Spam."
3. **Add SADA and Glue Up emails to your safe sender list** in your email software.
4. **Please double-check your email address** in your SADA member profile to ensure it's entered correctly.

We value open, reliable communication with our members. Taking these steps will help ensure you never miss important updates, event information, or membership news.

Yours in Oral Health

KC Makhubele

SADA Chief Executive Officer



**1st Annual Sports Dentistry
Conference**

hosted by the

SA Sports Dentistry Association

Date: 5-6 December 2025

Venue: Stellenbosch Academy of Sport
Stellenbosch
Cape Town

[Register](#)



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All-in-one CRM Software for Growing Communities