

Chief Executive Officer
Chris Burger Petro Jackson Players' Fund
Cape Town, South Africa
Contract position: 5 years

About Chris Burger Petro Jackson Players' Fund

Chris Burger was a Western Province fullback when he sustained a fatal neck injury in 1980 following a tackle during a Currie Cup match in Bloemfontein. This led to the founding of the then Chris Burger Fund by the Western Province captain at the time, Morné du Plessis, along with his teammates. Petro Jackson was a young player from Kylemore, near Stellenbosch, who was also fatally injured following a neck injury during a match in 1987. A similar fund was established in his honour.

The Fund's mission is to be an internationally recognised organisation that supports all seriously injured rugby players across South Africa, whilst promoting safer rugby.

When a South African rugby player sustains a life changing injury to the head, neck or spine, we partner with the player and their family on the journey of adapting to a "new normal". A team approach is essential and we hold their ongoing care and quality of life as our top priority.

With over 100 recipients in South Africa, we work hard to uplift and encourage them to focus on their abilities rather than their disabilities, as they reintegrate themselves back into their lives, families and communities.

Person profile

We are looking for someone who wants to change lives and make a social impact as part of the team of Rugby's Caring Hands. Someone with passion who wants to seize the opportunity to build their own profile, and that of the Fund, to become a leader in the rugby community. An individual who understands the need for sustainability in the non-profit sector and has extensive experience in leadership and fundraising / sponsorship.

About the job

The successful candidate will lead a small office staff team of two to three persons and interact regularly with the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee.

Key responsibilities:

Fundraising

- Diversifying the income streams for the Players' Fund and securing new revenue sources.
- Maintaining the healthy financial management of the organisation, including fundraising, reporting and building strong donor relationships.

Stakeholder management

- Leading the ongoing commitment to good governance for the fund and its main governing body – the Board of Trustees
- Actively working with existing networks and building new networks within the world of rugby and maintaining relationships with current key stakeholders such as SA Rugby, Players4Players and similar international bodies.
- Engaging the board of trustees to assist in bringing the voice of the Players' Fund to the world stage.

Strategic Leadership

- Ensuring effective engagement with the Board of Trustees.
- Practice oversight of all activities that effect the sustainability of the fund and provide leadership, as the top executive within the organisation, of the office team.
- Supporting, leading and building a competent team who demonstrate a commitment to the Fund's mission, vision and ethos.
- Position him or herself as an industry leader within the rugby community.
- Lead the Fund to further heights in the field of advocacy for safe rugby and zero catastrophic injuries.

Public representation

- Assume a public role in conveying the Players' Fund's commitment to its mission and goals, and in ensuring transparency and accountability to its supporters and the broader public.

Risk management

- Ensuring that financial and capital resources are efficiently managed and that the organisation is financially sustainable.

Skills

- Confident, people person
- Empathy and emotional IQ
- Outgoing personality
- Solution-driven
- Excellent communicator and public speaker
- Resilient and persistent, likes a challenge
- Team player
- We will be looking for someone who is a fit for our brand as well

Essential requirements

- At least 5 years' experience in senior management.
- Degree-level education (with a substantial understanding of the context of Players' Fund's work)
- Executive level exposure essential
- Open to regular travel (local and international)
- Knowledge and exposure to large brands advantageous
- A record of leadership abilities, including:
 - Experience relating to financial management.

- Experience in managing projects from conceptualisation through to implementation and completion.
- Strong human resource management skills.
- An ability to switch effortlessly between immediate priorities, medium-term and long-term strategic thinking.
- The ability to build the internal capacity of the team and provide support in a collegial environment.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English (fluency in other South African languages will be an advantage).
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including an ability to relate to, and work with a diverse range of people.
- Residing in, or willing to relocate to Cape Town.

Remuneration

- Basic salary plus incentives for fundraising goals