FEB 2026

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

NATIONAL SPORTS INSTITUTE

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES IN SPORT

Presented to

MINISTER OF EDUCATION, CULTURE YOUTH & SPORT
SINT MAARTEN



NSI
NATIONAL SPORTS INSTITUTE ST.MAARTEN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION 1

2. REALISED FINANCIAL FIGURES 2

2.1 MONTHLY SUBSIDY PAYMENT DATE 4

2.2 PARTNERSHIPS & DONATIONS 5

3. ORGANIZATION VULNURABILITY 6

4. FACILITY MAINTENANCE 8

4.1 DISTRICT COURTS 9

4.2 RAOUL ILLIDGE SPORTS COMPLEX 10

4.3 JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK 12

4.4 MELFORD HAZEL SPORTS COMPLEX 14

4.5 BELVEDERE SPORTS PARK / CRUYFF COURT 15

4.6 L. B. SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM 15

4.7 BOARDWALK SPORTS PARK 16

4.8 FACILITY REPAIRS & UPGRADES 17

5. COMPLETED PROJECTS 2025 18

6. SPORT PROGRAMS 23

6.1 GRASSROOTS SPORTS 23

6.2 SPORT UNITES 25

6.3 CRUYFF COURT HERO'S PROGRAM 27

6.4 SCHOOL GAMES 29

6.5 SSS SCHOOL GAMES 31

6.6 SCHOOL SWIM PROGRAM 32

2025 - YEAR IN REVIEW

The year 2025 marked a productive and strategically important period for the National Sports Institute. Despite operating within structural limitations, NSI made measurable progress in strengthening sports infrastructure, expanding grassroots programming, and reinforcing partnerships. The year demonstrated that with planning and execution, meaningful advancement is possible, even while structural challenges remain.

A key priority in 2025 was addressing years of deferred maintenance across the eleven government-owned sports facilities under NSI's management. A structured preventive maintenance framework was implemented, shifting gradually from reactive repairs to long-term asset preservation. The L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium underwent major refurbishment, including structural repairs, repainting, safety upgrades, and the installation of a new international-standard multipurpose sports floor that improved playability and athlete safety. At the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark, long-standing parking lot and infield drainage issues were resolved, containers with amenities were created and new batting cages were constructed through public-private partnership. District courts received safety upgrades, the Cruyff Court substructure was repaired, and new lighting at the public pool expanded evening access.

Parallel to infrastructure improvements, 2025 showed growth in sport programming, with investment in grassroots and school sports more than doubling compared to the previous year. The launch of Sport Unites! in collaboration with Sint Maarten Sport Federation created a community-based youth empowerment platform reaching approximately 170 children across multiple districts, using sport as a tool for mentorship and social inclusion. The Start to Walk/Run program successfully activated the athletics track with strong community participation, while the Heroes of the Cruyff Courts initiative strengthened youth leadership development. School tournaments, inter-island SSS Games, and the School Swim Program continued to build structured sport pathways and reinforce the social value of organized sport.

At the same time, 2025 highlighted structural vulnerability within the organization. NSI continues to operate with a limited staffing structure while facility usage, programming responsibilities, and capital project demands increase. Facilities operate at peak capacity for more than 230 hours per week, hosting hundreds of athletes daily and major tournaments. Staff absences during the year further exposed operational risks associated with limited redundancy. In addition, continued delays in NRPB recovery projects left certain facilities partially unrepaired, increasing maintenance pressure and prolonging hosting limitations. Infrastructure concerns such as aging sewerage systems and security challenges at specific locations underscore the need for sustained capital investment beyond operational funding.

In conclusion, 2025 was a year of visible progress and strengthened foundations. Facilities improved, programming expanded, and preventive systems were established. However, safeguarding these gains requires structural reinforcement through adequate staffing capacity and dedicated capital funding. NSI will continue to create opportunities in sport and building safe, accessible sporting environments, recognizing that while important steps were taken in 2025, continued investment and collaboration are essential to fully realize the island's sporting potential.

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Article 16 of the Subsidy Ordinance (AB 2013, GT no. 38), the National Sports Institute (NSI) is required to submit a report detailing its executed maintenance and programming activities achieved in 2025. The foundation is responsible for maintaining 5 multisport facilities, 4 additional district courts, and 1 public multisport space, covering a total area of 69,885 square meters, all maintained on a regular basis. This report provides an overview of the accomplishments and the allocation of subsidy funds for maintenance and programming from January 1st, 2025, to December 31st, 2025.

This report includes the key highlights of the foundation's financial performance. Additionally, it offers a account of the repairs and maintenance conducted at each sport facility, new developments, the programs implemented and funded during the reporting period. The report will also provide suggestions for future upgrades and projects at each facility.

It is important to recognize that the foundation's ability to expand its support for grassroots and school sports efforts is directly linked to the availability of sufficient operational budget. Ensuring a baseline level of subsidy to cover essential maintenance and management costs of the sports facilities is critical to maintaining safe and functional facilities, which serve as the foundation for all sports activities. Only with this foundation securely in place can additional investments in programming be effectively realized.



2. REALISED FINANCIAL FIGURES

The Foundation has recorded the following financial performance, for the reporting period (January 1ST ,2025 to December 31ST ,2025.

2025 ACCOUNT STATEMENT	REVENUES
Opening Balance January 1, 2025	XCG. 451,245.71
Government Structural Subsidy (12 months)	XCG 1,122,975.24
Tap-up Credit Card	XCG. 54,814.16
Incidental Subsidy (SSS-Games, Olympic Moves & 3x3 Flooring)	XCG. 58,271.38
Office Rental	XCG. 29,001.30
Facilities Rental Fees	XCG. 229,137.94
Other (includes project reservations)	XCG. 348,474.58
TOTAL REVENEUS	**XCG. 2,293,920.31**

2025 ACCOUNT STATEMENT	EXPENSES
Salaries NSI Staff	XCG. 467,902.99
Support Sport Organizations (grassroots & school games)	XCG. 136,076.80
Representation	XCG. 553.28
Operational Cost	XCG. 542,984.59
Credit card	XCG. 49,585.72
Supervisory board stipend	XCG. 24,000
Bank Charges	XCG. 2,383.75
Professional Fees (Accounting)	XCG. 12,420.00
Taxes Paid	XCG. 246,776.94
Other Charges (Projects & CC)	XCG. 216,844.29
Advertising	XCG. 10,181.89
Training	XCG. 3,793.20
TOTAL EXPENSES	**XCG. 1,713,503.45**

BALANCE ON ACCOUNT	
Balance on account per Dec 31st 2025, before reservations & payables	XCG. 580,417.15
Reserved for projects	XCG. (317,014.37)
Account payable	XCG. (27,434.28)
ACTUAL BALANCE	**XCG. 235,968.50**

OPENING AND CLOSING BALANCE

NSI began 2025 with an opening balance of **XCG 451,246.71**. By year-end, the foundation recorded a closing balance of **XCG 580,417.15**. After accounting for outstanding payables and reserved funds for upcoming projects, the actual liquidity stood at **XCG 235,968.50** - reflecting a stable cash position, a slight difference to 2024 which stood at 225,356.27.

INCOME

- **Government subsidy:** The primary source of funding was the structural government subsidy, totaling XCG 1,122,975.24 (90% of Subsidy issued). Although the monthly subsidy increased by XCG 9,726.39 compared to 2024, the revised amount was only approved and released in December (due to the late approval of the annual budget). As a result, a cumulative balance of XCG 97,263.00 for the first ten months was received retroactively, negatively affecting NSI's monthly cash flow throughout most of the year.
- **Incidental payments:** Three incidental payments totaling XCG 58,271.38 were received for the SSS-Games, Olympic Moves, and the purchase of a 3x3 basketball floor. The amount related to the 3x3 basketball flooring has been set aside as a reserved fund.
- **Facility rental income:** As a result of a strong focus on facility rentals to boost income, rental revenue increased by 47.7%, reaching a record level of XCG 229,137.94 in 2025.
- **Rental** from lease agreements has slightly declined to XCG 29,001.30.
- **Other income** through partnerships and sponsorships, a total amount of XCG 348,474.58 has been received, whereas XCG 225,000 is reserved for the repairs to the tennis court. A full breakdown of all donations, sponsorships and partnerships can be found in chapter 2.2.

EXPENSES

Total expenses for 2025 were XCG. 1,713,503.45

- A total of XCG 467,902.99 was allocated to **salaries** in 2025. This represents an increase compared to 2024, primarily due to the fact that NSI did not have a Director in place for six months in 2024. The organization began 2025 with 15 employees. During the year, one employee retired and, due to budgetary constraints, the position was not replaced.
- XCG 246,776.94 in **taxes** were paid, this included AVBZ, wage tax, SZV/AOV/AWW, SZV/SZ/OV and Turn over Tax on the rental income.
- A total of XCG 24,000 was issued to the members of the **Supervisory board** in 2025.

- XCG 12,420 was issued to **professional fees**, including a structural monthly payment of XCG 810 to Westend Management for the monthly financial statements.
- Within the XCG 216,844.29 recorded under **other charges**, an amount of XCG 136,894.23 was allocated to Sika for the installation of the new floor at the LBSA. In addition, the opening of a organizational credit card contributed to the remaining expenses, reducing the reimbursements made to employees due to need credit card.
- A total of XCG 8,001.30 was spent on **advertising**, which included signage for the facilities as well as payments for the Department of Sports annual EXPO.
- **Operational costs** increased significantly from XCG 353,752 in 2024 to XCG 542,985 in 2025. This rise is primarily attributable to the implementation of NSI's maintenance planning framework, through which a substantial amount of previously deferred maintenance was addressed and many long-outstanding repairs were completed. In addition, monthly maintenance costs increased as part of a deliberate strategy to ensure that facilities are safe, functional, and well maintained, reducing long-term risks and improving overall user experience.
- **Representation cost**, was kept to XCG 553.00

FINAL LIQUIDITY AND RESERVED FUNDS

The balance of XCG 580,417.15 at year-end needs to account for:

- XCG 225,000 received in month 11 from SZV and reserved for the tennis court repair, an additional XCG 100,000.00 will be invested by NSI into this project.
- XCG 47,775.43 is reserved for Sport Unites! through funding from Samenwerkende Fondsen, XCG 17,764 is reserved for a website funded bt the Future Legacy Fund, and XCG 21,540.58 was provided by the Government for a 3x3 court flooring system.
- Account payables: XCG. 27,434.28 in outstanding payment obligations, resulting in a actual liquidity to **XCG. 235,968.50**

2.1 MONTHLY SUBSIDY PAYMENT DATE

NSI receives its government subsidy on a monthly basis, generally toward the end of each month, while its fixed expenses, such as salaries and payroll-related taxes are due earlier in the month. As a result, NSI must structurally pre-finance its operations, requiring the organization to maintain at least one additional month of operating funds in its accounts at all times to meet its obligations. This timing difference affects the monthly financial statements, as expenses are recorded before the related subsidy income is received, leading to temporary fluctuations in month-end cash positions. To improve cash flow stability and better align income with expenditures, NSI would welcome a change whereby the subsidy is received at the end of the previous month or at the beginning of the respective month.

2.2 PARTNERSHIPS & DONATIONS

The foundation actively pursued partnerships with funding agencies and the private sector to support its facility improvement and grassroots sports initiatives. In collaboration with the Sint Maarten Sport Federation, the foundation successfully secured **XCG 69,991.70** from Samenwerkende Fondsen, through the Oranje Fonds and Stichting Kinderpostzegels, for the implementation of the Sport Unites! program.

In addition, to support grassroots sports development, the foundation obtained **XCG 23,188.95** from the Cruyff Foundation for the Heroes of the Cruyff Court program. Beyond grant funding, a further **XCG 39,714.25** was raised through donations across various facility-related projects, demonstrating strong community and stakeholder support for the foundation's initiatives.

Finally, the foundation received several in-kind contributions, including product donations from NEC Distributors, trenching works provided by CGC, and the granting of a Microsoft software package, further strengthening its operational capacity.

PARTNERSHIPS & DONATIONS	VALUE
SZV - Repairs to multipurpose (tennis courts)	XCG. 225,000.00
ORANJE FONDS - Funding for Sport Unites program	XCG. 36,151.70
STICHTING KINDERPOSZEGELS - Funding for Sport Unites program	XCG. 33,840.00
ARGOS CEMENT - Contribution towards installation batting cages	XCG. 16,442.71
CRUYFF FOUNDATION - Hero's of the Cruyff court program	XCG. 23,188.95
JOIN THE PIPE - Contribution to water tap stations	XCG. 3,516.19
SMDF - Sponsor one water tap station & signage	XCG. 11,500.00
REBUILD SXM - Purchase basketball rims	XCG. 1,470.35
REBUILD SXM - Installation netball and basketball rim Dutch Q.	XCG. 4,635.00
SHERWIN WILLIAMS - Paint donation	XCG. 1,250.00
SXM DOET - Paint JCJL project	XCG. 900.00
NEC - Water & drinks for Sports Unites!	
CGC - Cleaning drainage at JCJL	
Microsoft 365 Business Premium (grant)	
AIRPORT - 4 restroom containers	
TOTAL	**XCG. 357,894.90**

3. ORGANIZATION VULNERABILITY

As highlighted in the 2024 Annual Report, NSI continues to operate with a skeleton staffing structure while organizational obligations, facility usage, and sport sector responsibilities continue to expand. The scope of work under NSI's mandate has grown, including increased facility utilization, (capital) repair projects, expanded sport programming, sponsorship efforts, external funding compliance requirements, and broader stakeholder coordination. However, staffing capacity has not grown proportionally, leaving the organization structurally vulnerable.

With limited redundancy built into the team structure, core responsibilities are concentrated among a small number of staff members. While this lean approach has allowed NSI to remain efficient, it also creates operational risk when additional pressures arise. Compounding this vulnerability, three staff members were absent or unable to work at full capacity for extended periods in 2025 due to sick leave. While such situations are normal within any organization, the impact on a small team is immediate. Workload must be absorbed by remaining staff, directly affecting daily operations, project timelines, and administrative continuity.

Managing this volume of work within the current structure presents a structural risk to efficiency and responsiveness. To responsibly meet current and future demands, NSI underscores the need for additional facility coordinators and administrative support. Strengthening staffing capacity is essential to ensure continued growth and operational resilience, and the long-term sustainability of the facilities entrusted to our care. Without built-in redundancy, the risk of disruption, staff burnout, and infrastructure deterioration increases. NSI therefore strongly recommends that future operational planning and budget allocations include provisions for expanded staffing to safeguard continued sports development on Sint Maarten.

3.1 FACILITY COORDINATORS

With the installation of a new football pitch, athletics track, mini football field, batting cages, and the refurbished sports auditorium, NSI has already seen a significant increase in facility bookings. While this represents an important step forward in providing high-quality sports infrastructure, it also increases pressure on scheduling, oversight, and staffing capacity.

Our facilities currently operate at peak for a combined total of 233 hours per week, serving sporting organizations, grassroots programs, tournaments, school PE classes and sport days, and performance activities. During peak hours at the Raoul Illidge Sports Complex, more than 200 athletes may be active simultaneously across the facility, during a large tournament in the Auditorium over 1.500 visitors are present, placing significant operational demands on the facility. Managing this level of activity requires continuous on-site coordination to ensure safety, enforce regulations, provide logistical support, and respond to emergencies. Such high-volume usage cannot be sustained without sufficient facility coordinators.

NSI aims to expand opening hours, including early morning access to the athletics track, in line with growing community demand. However, extended operating hours require proportional staffing to maintain safety and quality standards. In addition, we are experiencing increasing requests for tournaments, school sports days, and training sessions outside regular operating hours. These events often require maintenance staff or management to act as ad-hoc coordinators, limiting their availability for core responsibilities.

Our staffing analysis indicates that a minimum of 5.8 FTEs is required to cover 233 weekly operational hours with at least one coordinator present at all times. Currently, NSI operates with 4 FTEs (3 in-house staff and 1 temporary staff member “on loan”). Furthermore, due to the temporary closure of the Melford Hazel Sports Complex, we are effectively operating with one fewer FTE, a situation that is manageable short-term but unsustainable if the facility is to reopen. To meet current and plan for future demands responsibly, NSI emphasizes the need for additional facility coordinators.

4. FACILITY MAINTENANCE & UPGRADES

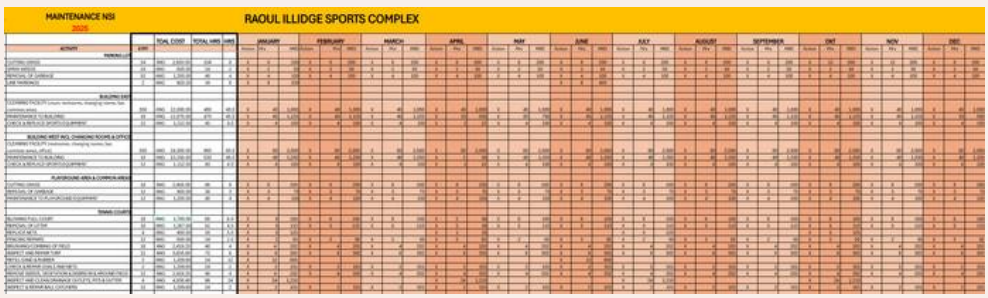
The foundation oversees the maintenance of 11 government-owned sports facilities. For many years, NSI operated with a limited operational budget and without access to a dedicated capital budget (up until 2024). As a result, significant levels of deferred maintenance accumulated, and essential upgrades were postponed. Critical facility components, including sport surfaces, lighting systems, building and spectator infrastructure, and drainage systems did not receive the required structural upkeep. This led to accelerated asset deterioration, increased safety risks, and visible functional decline across multiple facilities.

In addition, the major repairs resulting from Hurricane Irma were intended to be addressed through projects executed by the NRPB / World Bank in 2025. However, the execution of these recovery works has experienced continuous delays, leaving several facilities partially unrepaired for an extended period. These delays further compounded the maintenance backlog and increased pressure on NSI's limited operational resources to keep facilities safe and functional.

Despite these long-standing constraints, 2025 was a productive year. NSI made progress in addressing deferred maintenance and resolving outstanding safety issues across its facilities. A shift is being made from reactive, ad-hoc repairs toward a structured and preventive maintenance approach, improving overall facility conditions and risk management. Meanwhile, several large new development projects were successfully executed by the existing NSI team —without the engagement of external project managers or additional oversight personnel (see Chapter 4).

The maintenance team consists of a maintenance manager and three maintenance workers. Together, this team of four is responsible for maintaining five multisport facilities, four additional district courts, and one public multisport space, covering a total area of 69,885 square meters. All facilities are maintained on a periodic basis in accordance with the maintenance activity plan.

To support this transition and ensure long-term sustainability, NSI developed and exectued a comprehensive maintenance plan in 2025, which is attached to this strategic plan. This plan provides a structured framework for preventive maintenance, improved safety standards, and the preservation of government-owned sports assets, while reducing dependence on delayed external recovery projects.



3.1 DISTRICT COURTS

During 2025, periodic maintenance and larger repairs were carried out according to the execution of the new maintenance plan at four district courts in the following communities: Dutch Quater; Simpson Bay; St. Peters; and Cay Bay. These efforts were aimed at ensuring that the facilities remain clean, safe, functional, and accessible to the community. The scope of the maintenance work included the following key activities on a weekly basis:

- Premise cleaning: Removal of garbage and litter from the courts and surrounding areas to maintain a clean and welcoming environment.
- Debris blowing: The court surfaces were cleared of leaves and debris using leaf blowers, ensuring that the playing areas remained unobstructed and safe for use.
- Grass cutting: The grass surrounding the courts was cut to prevent overgrowth and maintain the aesthetics and usability of the facilities.
- Drainage cleaning: Drains around the courts were cleaned to prevent blockages and ensure proper water flow, reducing the risk of water damage or flooding during heavy rains.
- Maintenance to lights
- Six basketball baskets were replaced with new units; the full report on these projects can be found in Chapter 4.

TEMPORARY COURT CLOSURES AND INCOMPLETE NRPB WORKS



In 2025, three sports courts were temporarily closed to facilitate repair works planned under the NRPB program. Unfortunately, these works did not continue as scheduled. As a result, fencing and lighting that had been removed at the start of the project had to be reinstalled. However, the reinstatement was not carried out adequately, which led to the collapse of the fencing at the Dutch Quarter court. At the time of reporting, this damage has not yet been repaired, limiting the full and safe use of the facility.



3.2 RAOUL ILLIDGE SPORTS COMPLEX

FOOTBALL FIELD & ATHLETICS TRACK

To safeguard the new Athletics Track and Football field, NSI has entered into a maintenance agreement with Akashco Maintenance & Construction, the local company that also supported the installation works and gained the necessary expertise. Under this agreement, Akashco remained responsible for the maintenance of the football field and, in addition, assumed responsibility for the athletics track, carrying out all works in accordance with the approved maintenance plan and manufacturer-prescribed protocols to safeguard the long-term quality, safety, and functionality of the surfaces.

On the main football field and mini football field, maintenance includes brushing and combing of the turf, sand and rubber replenishment, turf repairs, inspection and repair of goals and nets, weed and debris removal, drainage cleaning, and ball catcher maintenance. The trench system was serviced to ensure proper drainage around the facility. The Track is maintained by monthly blowing, and annual powerwashing.

Furthermore, the mount remains cleared of weeds, while parking areas and common grounds saw ongoing grass cutting, weed spraying, garbage removal, and updated line markings. Maintenance of east and west buildings included facility cleaning, structural upkeep, and sports equipment checks. The playground area received grass cutting, waste removal, and equipment servicing to ensure safety for young users. The damaged tennis courts were maintained through regular sweeping, and debree removal.





SEWERAGE

Currently, the restrooms at the west bleachers have been closed due to persistent septic system issues. The tank is continuously full as a result of groundwater infiltration, preventing proper drainage and functionality. The system is extremely old and no longer operating as intended, making this a significant infrastructure concern that requires urgent attention.

Addressing this issue promptly is essential to ensure a safe and hygienic environment for athletes, users, and visitors, and to prevent further long-term damage to the facility's infrastructure.

PUBLIC POOL

A continued service agreement with SXM Pools to ensure the consistent upkeep of the public pool. Under this agreement, SXM Pools conducts maintenance three times a week, which includes the following tasks:

- Water testing: Regular testing of water quality to ensure proper chemical balance, maintaining a safe and healthy swimming environment.
- Chemical treatment: Adding necessary chemicals to regulate pH levels, prevent algae growth, and ensure the water is sanitized for public use.
- Vacuuming: Removing dirt, debris, and particles from the pool floor, ensuring the pool remains clean and pleasant for swimmers.
- Skimming and brushing: Skimming the water's surface to remove leaves and floating debris, while brushing the pool walls and floor to prevent algae buildup.
- Pump & skimmer basket Maintenance: Emptying the pump and skimmer baskets as needed to ensure the filtration system operates efficiently.
- Backwashing filters: Cleaning the filters to remove trapped debris, ensuring optimal water circulation and filtration.
- One of the pumps was also replaced, as it had reached the end of its operational life cycle.

XCG. 27,323.91 has been spent on pool maintenance and supplies. We haves shopped around for a cheaper supplier of chemicals. The consistent maintenance of the public pool has a positive impact on the users by ensuring that the facility remains safe, clean, and inviting for usage. The pool offers a secure and hygienic environment for over 500 school students from the school program, as well as various swim lessons, and community programs.

INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS

New lighting has been installed at the swimming pool, enabling the activation of nightly operating hours and expanding the usability of the facility. In addition, lighting has been installed around the pool premises to improve overall visibility and safety for users and visitors during evening hours. These improvements contribute to a safer environment, better supervision, and increased access to swimming activities outside of daytime hours.





3.3 JOHN COOOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK

To improve safety and hurricane preparedness, proactive drainage works were carried out at the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark to strengthen the facility's resilience against heavy rainfall and potential flooding. With the assistance of CGC, the historic trench that once connected water flow from L.B. Scott Road to the main trench system (Zagersgut), running through the Ballpark, has been fully reinstated. This intervention significantly improves stormwater management and reduces the risk of water accumulation on the field and surrounding areas during extreme weather events.

In addition to these preventative works, several important facility upgrades were completed as part of our ongoing maintenance program:

- The damaged baseball foul poles were replaced and properly realigned to ensure compliance with field standards and improve overall safety.
- Turf was installed in the parking lot area, reducing long-term grounds maintenance requirements.
- The broken right outfield fence was removed due to safety concerns, and surrounding debris was cleared to restore a secure and tidy playing environment.
- All garbage bins were thoroughly power washed, contributing to improved hygiene and overall presentation of the facility.
- The mobile home run fence was reinstalled with proper sleeves set in concrete and positioned at two official distances, allowing the field to accommodate different competition categories.
- The food container underwent a complete overhaul, including the installation of new stainless steel kitchen furniture, significantly improving hygiene standards, durability, and overall functionality of the space.

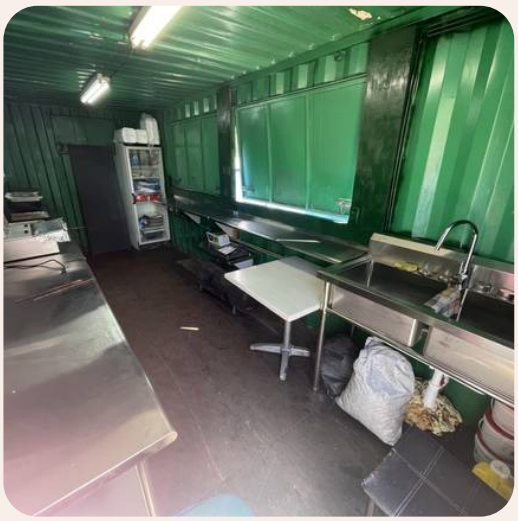
These combined efforts not only enhance safety and functionality but also contribute to the long-term sustainability and professional standard of the Ballpark, ensuring that it remains a reliable and well-maintained venue for the baseball and softball community of Sint Maarten.











Outfield maintenance (grass):

- Regular mowing to maintain a uniform height
- Watering to keep the grass healthy and lush in the dry season
- Weed control to prevent overgrowth and maintain a clean playing surface
- Reseeding or patching any worn or damaged areas to ensure an even field (this happens when large vehicles enter the premise or when the ground is wet)

Skinned infield maintenance (dirt):

- Dragging and leveling the dirt to eliminate uneven surfaces and holes
- Watering the dirt to maintain proper moisture levels, reduce dust, and improve playability
- Grooming and lining of base paths, pitching mounds, and batter's boxes to keep them well-defined and safe for play

Social impact

These maintenance practices and repairs help ensure player safety, improve gameplay conditions, and preserve the longevity of the field.

3.4 MELFORD HAZEL SPORTS COMPLEX

Throughout 2025, regular maintenance and cleaning was performed at the Melford Hazel Sports Complex to ensure the facility remained functional and safe despite the challenges it has faced. The complex, which consists of a public basketball court, tennis court, gazebo, playground area, and an indoor multipurpose gym, underwent various upkeep efforts to preserve its infrastructure and promote community use.

The Basketball court, tennis court, gazebo, and playground area have been regularly maintained like all district courts where garbage has been collected, grass has been cut and the court has been cleared from any debris. Notable to mention is that the playground area should be maintained by the community council, this has been limited. The multipurpose gym has been cleaned weekly as it is also used by the school in the morning hours. Leakages to the roof continue to disrupt PE classes.

Despite these maintenance efforts, the ongoing vandalism and safety concerns, which culminated in the facility's closure, have limited the full impact of the work performed. However, the upkeep measures ensured that, structurally, the complex remained in good condition, positioning it for future use once a solution to the security issues is in place.

Vandalism

The Melford Hazel Sport Complex has experienced challenges since 2024, with repeated acts of vandalism and disruptive behavior from youths. The facility has been severely impacted by these ongoing incidents, which have escalated tensions and safety concerns for both staff and users. Over the course of the year, groups of youths from the neighborhood have frequently engaged in destructive behavior, leading to multiple incidents. Unfortunately, this has included attacks on the sport facility coordinator in 2024, who has been assaulted on several occasions, as well as harassment of facility users.

The closure will remain in effect until a comprehensive solution is found. This will require collaboration between key stakeholders, including the police, community council, and local authorities, to ensure that the facility can be reopened under safe and secure conditions. The involvement of these groups is essential to restoring order, protecting staff and users, and rebuilding the complex as a safe space for sports and community activities.

To further address the situation, NSI submitted a request to GEBE to repair all non-functioning perimeter lighting and began clearing overgrown vegetation including roadside grape trees that were reportedly used as cover for illicit activity to improve visibility. Additionally, NSI has raised the issue of the unsecured back perimeter, which remains open and is frequently misused for unauthorized access. As this area was not included in the Trust Fund repairs, NSI recommends constructing a low wall with fencing to serve as a barrier. Exploring potential support through the Crime Fund has also been suggested. Given the complexity of the situation, NSI is advocating for a multi-stakeholder meeting involving the Ministry, the Justice Department, and other relevant parties to identify long-term, collaborative solutions for ensuring the safety and revitalization of this critical community facility.

3.5 BELVEDERE SPORTS PARK / CRUYFF COURT

In 2025, the Belvedere Sport Park which includes a basketball court, a small football field, and a public fitness area with a gazebo has had maintenance in an effort to create a safe, usable, and good appearance of public sports facilities. A site-wide cleanup was executed to remove accumulated debris and physical obstacles, ensuring a safer environment for park users. Critical repairs reported in 2024 were exectured in 2025 (see Chapter 4):

- Resurfacing of the substructure
- Repairs to the fencing
- Overall appearance can be uplifted

These repairs were essential, as NSI has an obligation to the Cruyff Foundation to properly maintain the existing facility. At the same time, we are interested in exploring the possibility of establishing a second Cruyff Court; however, this will require demonstrating our ability to adequately maintain the current one.

3.6 L.B SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM

TEAM EFFORT

During the reporting period, the L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium underwent a significant makeover with a focus on improving the overall condition, safety, and presentation of the facility. Extensive clean-up campaigns were carried out, followed by the complete repainting of the building, giving the venue a renewed and professional appearance. In addition, numerous smaller repairs were executed to address deferred maintenance and enhance safety standards. A detailed overview of these works can be found in Chapter 4.

This transformation was the result of a strong team effort. In order to make the project financially feasible, the NSI team worked intensively alongside a third-party contractor for approximately four weeks, rather than fully outsourcing the works. At the same time, regular maintenance across the other facilities under our management continued uninterrupted. Successfully balancing both responsibilities is something we are particularly proud of, as it demonstrates the dedication, flexibility, and commitment of the entire team.

CLEANING

The L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium is cleaned from Monday to Friday through a service agreement with CleanSXM. The agreement ensures that the facility is consistently kept clean and functional, supporting its role as a key sports venue for the schools (in the morning hours) and the sport community (in the evening and weekends). XCG. 17,253.00 has been issued to CleanSXM in 2025 for their cleaning services. These cleaning services exclude the cleaning that is done during and after larger tournaments, these works are performed by our maintenance team.

SEWERAGE

The sewage system requires frequent emptying due to continuous overrunning. Addressing this problem promptly is crucial to ensuring a safe, hygienic environment for our users and visitors, and to prevent long-term damage to the facility's infrastructure.

HURRICANE SHUTTERS

With regard to the hurricane shutters, several units were found to be malfunctioning, despite having been installed only a few years ago as part of the Hurricane Shelter Program. It is our assessment that the motors originally installed are not adequately designed to handle the weight of the shutters, which has resulted in recurring operational failures. This has led to ongoing maintenance challenges and additional unplanned expenses. While a number of shutters were successfully repaired, three units could unfortunately not be restored and remain non-operational, despite being essential for the safe use of the facility during severe weather events. Addressing these remaining shutters is therefore a priority moving forward.

ELECTRICAL

Maintenance to all electrical systems was carried out by Hemco in the amount of XCG 4,941.63. As part of the broader facility upgrades, the scoreboards were fully rewired and all electrical wiring was reorganized and neatly secured, significantly improving safety, functionality, and overall presentation. In addition, extra electrical outlets were installed at strategic locations throughout the venue to better support events and operational needs.

3.7 BOARDWALK SPORTS PARK

The Boardwalk Sports Park was installed in May 2023, the following maintenance has been performed in 2025:

- Regular Inspections: Routine checks for wear and tear, rust, or damage to ensure that the fitness equipment remains safe and functional (1x per 2 months)
- Cleaning of equipment: 3rd party service of Annico Mobile Cleaning & Detailing is used to power wash the equipment weekly, as well 1x per month extra detailed cleaning to keep the equipment in a good state and making the space hygienic for users
- Replacement of sand for the beach volleyball courts prior to the Amsterl Bright Tournament.
- Beach volleyball nets have been replaced for new ones



Social impact: A clean and well-kept Boardwalk Sports Park encourages more people to use the park regularly, promoting greater participation in outdoor fitness activities. The park has been very successful in its usage, beach volleyball is seeking a 3rd court due to the amount of usage.

3.8 FACILITY REPAIRS & UPGRADES

The following facility repairs are recommended, these repairs do not fall within the scope of works from NRPB/WORLDBANK, therefor it is highly important that capital/funds are reserved to execute these much needed repairs/upgrades.

L.B. SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM	• Further upgrade locker rooms, restrooms, bar and common area • Replace court lighting for LED, extend to non-sport related shows • Install seating on bleachers • Ventilation and HVLS fans • Sewage system
JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK	• Change holygen stadium lights to LED - 500lx Infield & 300 lx outfield • Develop changing rooms and other amenities • Hard cast perimeter drainage • Install seating on bleachers
MELFORD HAZEL SPORTS COMPLEX	• Develop open space for new sports • Construct perimeter wall to reduce vandalism & crime • Roof leakages
RAOUL ILLIDGE SPORTS COMPLEX	• Paint complete building inside & outside • Construct new sewerage system (major problem) • Hardcast facility perimeter drainage • Develop entrance on West-Side • Develop playground & skate park and other public usage areas • Develop canteen outside of main building • Refurbish locker rooms, restooms, and common areas according the Concocaf Stadium Guidelines (after NRPB repairs) • Develop a physical strength training gym • Develop a space to activate boxing • Re-collect land behind West-Bleacher
BOARDWALK SPORTS PARK	• Install 3RD court to increase the sport's possibility of hosting official ECVA tournaments for the region. • The sand is still not perfect, it would be advised to remove all sand and replace and create a barricade to prevent loss of sand. • Improve lights to 250 LUX • Some small rust spots need to be treated to the fitness machinery
NEW DEVELOPMENTS	• Secure land for development (need for more facilities) • Develop indoor multipurpose facility • Research sport sector needs

5. COMPLETED PROJECTS 2025

INFIELD - JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK

NSI carried out major rehabilitation works to the infield at the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark, addressing long-standing subsidence that had caused the infield to sink and slope toward the outfield. This condition frequently led to water accumulation and game cancellations following rainfall. The works included the placement of nearly 400 tons of infield mix and the installation of improved drainage, restoring proper field levels and playability. The total cost of the project amounted to **XCG. 46,864.93**, funded through NSI's facility rental income.







BATTING CAGES - JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK

NSI completed the construction of two new batting cages at the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark, strengthening the island's baseball and softball training infrastructure. The project was developed in direct response to requests from the local baseball and softball community for a dedicated, professional batting facility. Each batting cage measures approximately 70 feet in length, providing athletes with a realistic training environment. The cages were equipped with lighting for evening use, extending training hours, and constructed using recycled artificial turf, aligning with NSI's sustainability objectives.

NSI led the design and execution of the project in partnership with Argos Cement, as part of a public–private collaboration, with additional support from the Department of Sports (ECYS) within the Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth, and Sport. The total project cost amounted to **XCG. 44,987.66**, of which XCG 16,442.71 was provided by Argos Cement through sponsorship. The remaining balance was funded through an incidental government subsidy, reflecting government support for facility development.







PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS - JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK

We implemented several measures to address the long-standing issue of improper garbage dumping at the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark parking lot. For years, NSI's maintenance team has been required to repeatedly remove non-household waste that was improperly discarded near the garbage bins, creating both an eyesore and ongoing operational challenges. As part of the intervention, the garbage bins were repositioned between boundary walls and the parking lot is now closed during non-facility operational hours to discourage misuse. In addition, a roadside waste drop-off area was cleared and made accessible, with further improvements planned. Also palm trees and artificial turf was placed.

While these measures have improved cleanliness and protected the facility investment, NSI recognizes that the most effective long-term solution is the complete removal of the garbage bins from the parking lot.







CONTAINER PROJECT - JOHN COOPER JOSE LAKE BALLPARK At the John Cooper Jose Lake Ballpark, we removed two old, hurricane-damaged containers and replaced them with a fully renewed container-based facility. A new foundation with supporting pillars was constructed, after which new containers were installed and converted into functional spaces, including office space for sports organizations, two changing rooms, and a dedicated maintenance container. The containers were fully painted, equipped with air-conditioning, and fitted with basic amenities, making them fully operational for daily use.

This intervention transformed a previously overgrown and underutilized area into a clean, organized, and functional environment that supports both facility operations and sports development. The total cost of the project amounted to **XCG 28,547.45**, representing a practical investment in improved infrastructure, organization, and long-term facility management.

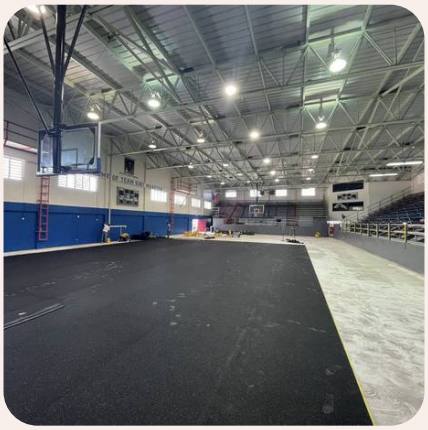




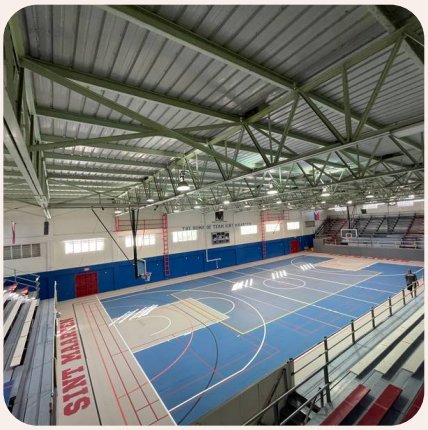




MULTIPURPOSE SPORTS FLOOR - L.B. SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM In September 2025, a new multipurpose sports floor was successfully installed at the L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium, significantly improving safety, playability, and durability of the facility. The total project cost amounted to **XCG. 120,111.54**. With approval from the Government, XCG 68,000 originally earmarked for the purchase of a maintenance vehicle was reallocated toward this project, supplemented by an additional XCG 51,861.54. NSI further contributed XCG 27,613.73 from its facility rental income. The floor system, supplied by Sika and built with a shock pad base and polyurethane layer, meets international indoor sports standards (FIBA, FIVB and BWF) and accommodates basketball, volleyball, futsal, netball and badminton.

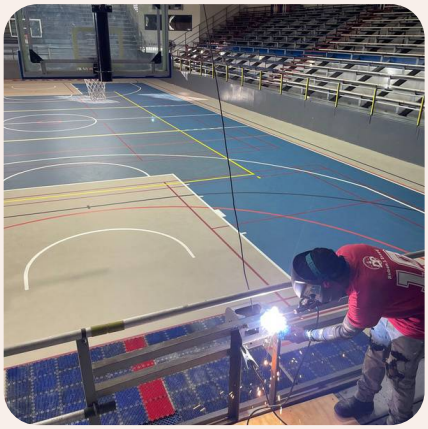




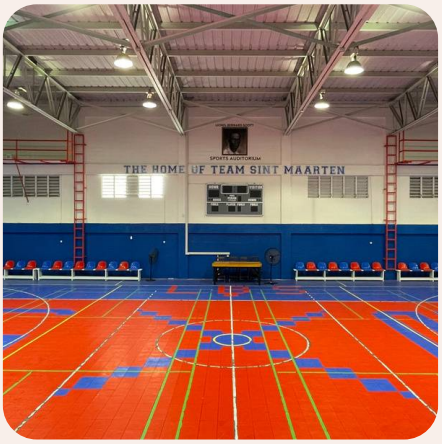


SAFETY REPAIRS - L.B. SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM

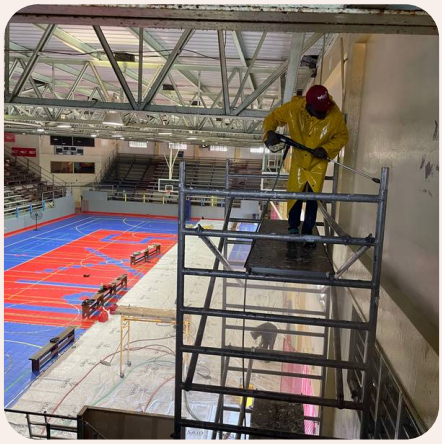
Various smaller repair works were carried out throughout the facility, primarily aimed at enhancing safety and extending the lifespan of key assets. Welding works were performed on sections of the bleacher structure to reinforce stability, and damaged or loose wooden seating panels were replaced to ensure safe spectator use. New basketball hoop winches were ordered and installed, as the threads on the existing units were worn out and no longer reliable. In addition, outdated kitchen furniture was removed and replaced with durable stainless steel units, improving hygiene standards and overall functionality of the space. Collectively, these interventions contribute to a safer and more professional sporting environment.



REFURBISHMENT - L.B. SCOTT SPORTS AUDITORIUM In 2025, NSI undertook a refurbishment of the L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium, aimed at improving safety, functionality, and the overall aesthetics of the facility. The works were funded through NSI's facility rental income at a total cost of **XCG. 30,911.52**. The refurbishment included structural crack repairs, treatment of exposed steel elements, extensive surface preparation (scraping, power washing, priming, and painting), and a full deep clean of the facility, removing accumulated materials and debris. A total of approximately 130 gallons of paint was used, with a new color scheme inspired by the Sint Maarten flag, enhancing both national identity and interior lighting conditions. Additional improvements included a permanent tribute to Lionel Bernard Scott, the installation of "The Home of Team Sint Maarten" branding, repositioning and alignment of all three scoreboards, electrical upgrades, and the refurbishment of basketball hoop brackets.







REPLACEMENT BASKETS - COMMUNITY COURT NSI completed the replacement of six basketball baskets across the Simpson Bay, Dutch Quarter, and Middle Region courts, improving safety, durability, and multi-sport usability at these community facilities. The works included the installation of new breakaway rims and durable backboards, reducing the risk of injury and long-term damage. At the Dutch Quarter court, reversible rims were installed, allowing the baskets to be used for both basketball and netball, thereby increasing the functionality of the court. The total cost of the project amounted to **XCG. 10,540.69**, of which XCG 6,105.35 was funded by the RebuildSXM Foundation, with the remaining balance covered by NSI. This upgrade contributes to safer play conditions and more flexible use of district sports facilities.







MISS LALIE CENTER - INSTALLMENT BASKET HOOP

In 2025, NSI installed a new, durable basketball hoop at the Miss Lalie Youth Care and Rehabilitation Center after the existing hoop became unusable. The installation, carried out with the involvement of the youth, restored access to sports activities and encouraged ownership and pride. The total cost of the repair amounted to **XCG 2,649.92.**



RESURFACE AND FENCING UPGRADES - CRUYFF COURT BELVEDERE A series of maintenance and safety improvements were made at the Cruyff Court: repairs to the lower fencing, replacement of damaged fence panels, installation of new signage displaying the 14 Rules of Johan Cruyff, repair of the lighting system, and the installation of four new mini goals. In addition, essential repairs to the court substructure were completed to address holes and uneven areas that had developed over time and posed potential injury risks. The total cost of these works amounted to **XCG 16,729**.



HEROES OF THE FIELDS CAMPAIGN

As part of NSI's broader mission to promote national pride through sport, NSI launched the "Heroes of the Fields" campaign IN 2024, an initiative designed to recognize, celebrate, and showcase the achievements of Sint Maarten's most outstanding athletes active on the fields. The campaign seeks to inspire the next generation by honoring local sporting heroes who have made significant contributions across various sports. In 2025 this initiative was further expanded with more banners highlighting our heroes on the fields.

RISC



COST U LESS



JCJL



6. SPORT PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW

In 2025, NSI substantially increased its investment in sport programming, allocating approximately **XCG 136,076.80 (compared to XCG 58,514 in 2024)** to grassroots sports initiatives and school-based programs. Unlike previous years, when investment levels were constrained by a structural deficit in the operational budget, 2025 marked a shift toward growth. This was made possible through strengthened partnerships and the successful acquisition of external funding. As a result, NSI was able to expand existing activities and launch three new programs: Sport Unites!, Start to Walk/Run, and the Heroes of the Cruyff Courts program.

These initiatives broadened the reach of sport programming, engaging diverse target groups and reinforcing the role of sport in promoting physical activity, social inclusion, and youth development. Participation levels remained strong, highlighting continued community demand for accessible and structured sport programs. Notably, NSI, in collaboration with the Sint Maarten Sport Federation, secured funding from Oranje Fonds and Stichting Kinderpostzegels to support the Sport Unites! program, enabling a greater social impact.

6.1 GRASSROOT SPORT PROGRAMS

- The **Football World Coach grassroots program** was delivered during the academic year in two cycles: September to December and March to June. The program engaged students aged 5 to 18, with training sessions held four times a week. A total of XCG. 9,941.80 was allocated to support this initiative.

- **Belvedere Cruyff court Program** continued its year-round program for youth aged U5 to U19, using the Cruyff Court and the adjacent field for training. Practices occurred four times weekly, except in July. In total, 106 children registered, however some attend training but are not registered. XCG. 10,800.00 was allocated to support the club. Notably, the club also expressed plans to expand inclusivity by training coaches to work with youth with disabilities.







- The **Senior Aqua-Active Swim Program** continued to serve the senior community in 2025, with weekly sessions held every Friday from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. During the year, the program was actively promoted, which resulted in an increase in participation compared to the previous period. Based on feedback from program coordinator Mr. Benjamin, the renewed visibility of the program helped re-engage existing participants and attract new seniors. Attendance remained predominantly female, and targeted efforts will continue in 2026 to encourage greater male participation. The program remains a valuable outlet for both physical activity and social interaction among seniors. A total amount of XCG 4,200.00 was allocated to support the program in 2025.



- The Start to **Walk/Run program** was launched in October 2025 at the Raoul Illidge Sports Complex and has proven to be a very successful and accessible community initiative. The free program, guided by a licensed ProPhysio SXM physical therapist, is open to all ages and fitness levels and takes place twice weekly on the athletics track. Participation has been strong, with many evenings recording over 100 participants, highlighting the community's interest in low-threshold physical activity and healthy lifestyles. While overall engagement has been high, the program currently experiences a high turnover with inconsistent attendance, indicating an opportunity to further strengthen participant retention and long-term commitment. Overall, Start to Walk/Run has played an important role in activating the community, promoting physical wellbeing, and encouraging social interaction in a safe and supportive environment.



6.2 SPORT UNITES! PROGRAM

In 2025, the Sport Unites! program was launched as a community-based initiative aimed at addressing growing social challenges affecting youth on Sint Maarten, including social exclusion, limited access to structured activities, and concerns related to youth well-being. Developed jointly by the National Sports Institute (NSI) and the Sint Maarten Sports Federation (SMSF), the program uses sport as a tool not only for physical activity, but also for mentorship, life skills development, and positive social engagement.

Following the approval of funding by **Samenwerkende Fondsen Cariben (Oranje Fonds and Stichting Kinderpostzegels)** in April 2025, the program entered a preparatory phase focused on building a strong operational foundation. Agreements were finalized with seven community-based sports organizations, and eighteen coaches across multiple sporting disciplines were identified and trained. A key component of this phase was the two-day Johan Cruyff Foundation coaching workshop, which ensured a shared understanding of the Theory of Change and reinforced the role of coaches as mentors and role models within their communities.

The official launch of Sport Unites! took place on September 26, 2025, at the Melford Hazel Sports Complex. The location was intentionally chosen to place the program at the heart of the communities it seeks to serve. Coaches received sports equipment and materials at the launch, enabling immediate implementation of activities in their respective neighborhoods.

By the end of 2025, approximately 170 children and young people were actively participating in Sport Unites! activities across different districts. Coaches were recruited directly from the communities in which the activities take place, allowing the program to reach youth who are often difficult to engage through traditional structures. Partnerships with community councils and social stakeholders further strengthened outreach, including referrals of at-risk youth into structured sports environments.



Although still in its early stages, Sport Unites! has already shown positive outcomes. Coaches reported improvements in participants' self-discipline, confidence, social skills, emotional regulation, and sense of belonging. The program has proven effective in creating safe, predictable environments where youth receive consistent guidance, positive role modeling, and opportunities for personal development. These early results confirm Sport Unites! as a strong foundation for long-term youth empowerment through sport, with clear potential for continued growth and impact in the years ahead.

All participating coaches were invited to submit a list of required materials necessary for the execution of their programs. These requests were reviewed and approved by the project team to ensure alignment with program objectives and cost efficiency. Following approval, the materials were ordered from Amazon during the months of July and August. The total value of the **materials purchased amounted to XCG 4,235.38**, as detailed in the list below (excl shipping cost).







The realised expenditure for coaching stipends reflects the phased implementation of the Sport Unites! program. Coaches were able to start their activities upon signing their coaching agreements. The Netball and Tennis programs started in September, followed by Athletics and Boxing in October, while Basketball started in November. Basketball was added to the program after the initial funding request, as it is a strong community-based sport; however, at the time of application, suitable coaches meeting the required criteria were not yet available. This situation changed over time, resulting in the inclusion of three basketball coaches from different communities.

As the coaching stipend program only began in the latter part of the year, not all sports were able to activate all planned coaches, and therefore the projected budget per sport was not fully realized. This gradual rollout aligns with our step-by-step growth approach, ensuring that all program requirements are met before expansion. A total of **XCG 14,757 was spent on coaching stipends** in 2025.

6.3 CRUYFF COURT HERO'S PROGRAM

The Heroes of the Cruyff Courts project was implemented in 2025 as a complementary youth leadership trajectory within the broader Sport Unites! program. Developed by the Johan Cruyff Foundation, the project focuses on empowering young participants by moving them beyond the role of athlete and positioning them as active leaders and role models within their communities.

Through this initiative, selected youths ("Heroes") were guided by trained Sport Unites! coaches and participated in a structured learning pathway centered on leadership, responsibility, and community engagement. Rather than focusing solely on sports performance, the program emphasized personal development by involving participants directly in the planning, organization, and execution of a community sports event. This hands-on approach allowed the Heroes to gain practical experience in teamwork, communication, decision-making, promotion, and accountability.

A key success factor of the Heroes of the Cruyff Courts project was the **preparation and training** of the participating coaches. Prior to implementation, all coaches followed a dedicated training program delivered by the Johan Cruyff Foundation, focused on the Theory of Change and Johan Cruyff's 14 Rules. This training equipped coaches with the tools to guide youths not only in sport, but also in leadership development, mentorship, and community engagement. By ensuring a shared methodology and vision, the training enabled consistent guidance across all activities and strengthened the quality and impact of the Heroes trajectory. Each coach also received a stipend of USD. 1,500.00 to execute the program.

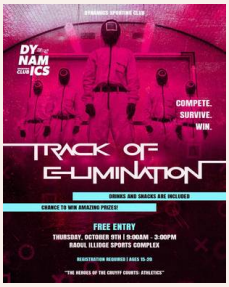


Throughout the trajectory, participants demonstrated clear growth in key life skills, including self-confidence, leadership, cooperation, and problem-solving. By being entrusted with real responsibilities, the Heroes developed a strong sense of ownership and pride, both in themselves and in their communities. The project created opportunities for youths to experience success in a leadership role, reinforcing positive behavior and strengthening their connection to their surroundings. Each group had an event budget of USD. 500.00.











Feedback from participants highlighted the personal impact of the project, including the development of new skills, increased confidence, and the formation of meaningful social connections. Coaches observed that the Heroes became more engaged, motivated, and aware of their influence on peers, reinforcing their role as positive role models within their neighborhoods.

The Heroes of the Cruyff Courts project strongly aligns with the objectives of Sport Unites! by using sport as a platform for empowerment, inclusion, and personal growth. By transforming participants into community leaders, the project contributed to the sustainability and broader social impact of the Sport Unites! program, demonstrating how sport can be an effective tool for long-term youth development and community strengthening. A total of XCG. 23,188.95 was issued for the execution of the project (coach stipend and event budget).























6.4 SCHOOL GAMES

At the start of the 2025–2026 school year, NSI developed an annual school sports calendar to bring structure and coordination to the organization of school tournaments. By establishing a clear schedule for both primary and secondary schools, PE teachers, school administrators, and sports organizers are now better able to plan, prepare, and communicate activities in advance. This approach will improves participation, reduce scheduling conflicts, and contribute to a more efficient and impactful delivery of school sports programs.





FOOTBALL

- 10 primary schools = 120 kids







INTERSCHOLASTIC RUN

- Primary & secondary
- > 70 Participants



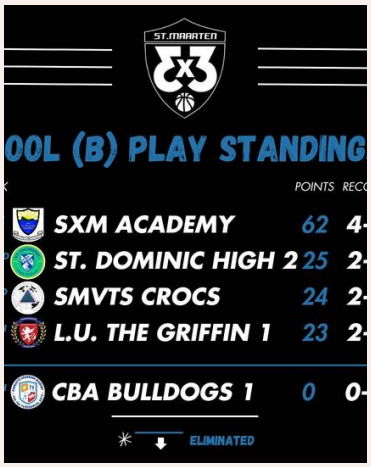




3x3 BASKETBALL

- 4 primary schools = 20 kids
- 6 secondary Schools = 30 kids







DYNAMICS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

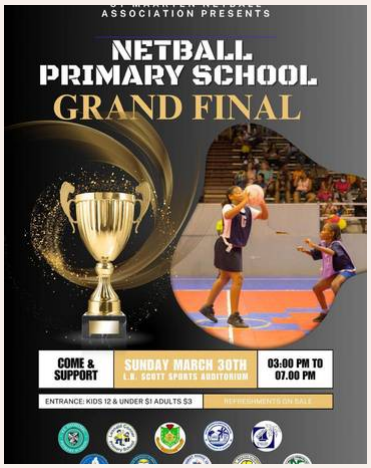
- 7 primary schools = 140 kids
- 5 secondary Schools = 80 kids
- 15 students from Saba





NETBALL

- 11 primary schools = 110 KIDS
- 8 secondary Schools = 80 kids







6.5 SSS SCHOOL GAMES

2025 was the second year of the inter-island initiative, the SSS School Games brought together student-athletes from St. Maarten, Saba, and Statia for friendly competition in three disciplines: volleyball, netball, and football. The winner of the national school tournament automatically participated in the SSS-games representing its island. The games were expanded this year with the Interinsular games among all islands in the Kingdom with 3x3 basketball.

- Statia hosted volleyball (U19 female)
- St. Maarten hosted netball (U12 female)
- Saba hosted football (U19 male)
- Bonaire hosted the Interinsular games for 3x3 basketball







WEGANAN INTERINSULAR GAMES & OLYMPIC MOVES

The Academy 3x3 Basketball team represented Sint Maarten at the Interinsular Games in Bonaire and returned home as champions. The team played seven matches in total and remained undefeated, winning all five official games against Saba, Statia, Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao.

Team Sint Maarten Academy, winners of the Interinsular Games, proudly represented Sint Maarten at the Olympic Moves / Jr. NBA High School Tournament in the Netherlands.



6.6 SCHOOL SWIM PROGRAM

In 2025, the School Swimming Program experienced an important transition year. One of our long-serving and experienced swim instructors retired, marking the end of many years of dedicated service to the program. While a new young instructor was added to the team to support continuity and future growth, another young instructor who has been part of the program for several years stepped up to take on a leading role, bringing fresh ideas and renewed energy to the program's development. The year was further characterized by programmatic improvements, including instructor training on updated diploma swimming criteria to strengthen quality standards and ensure greater consistency in assessments. Additionally, two new initiatives were introduced: the implementation of Test-Week exams and the introduction of a "Class of the Month" recognition system.

TEST WEEK

The introduction of mid-term exams enables instructors to formally evaluate student progress halfway through the swimming cycle. This structured assessment helps identify students who require additional support, ensures alignment with the updated diploma criteria, and provides clearer feedback. In addition, it gives students a real-life exam experience, allowing them to become familiar with the testing environment and expectations before participating in the official diploma swimming examination.



CLASS OF THE MONTH

The "Class of the Month" initiative was introduced to increase motivation, discipline, and positive engagement during swimming sessions. Each month, one class is recognized based on attendance, effort, behavior, and overall improvement. This friendly competition has encouraged greater enthusiasm among students and has contributed positively to the overall atmosphere and commitment within the program.



DATA COLLECTION

A attendance tracking system was introduced to systematically monitor student participation. By collecting and analyzing this data, we aim to better understand patterns of absenteeism and identify the underlying reasons why some students are not consistently attending. This data-driven approach will enable us to develop targeted interventions, improve communication with schools and parents, and implement practical solutions to strengthen participation and overall program impact in the future.

