

POCKET GUIDE TO SOUTH AFRICA



SPORT & RECREATION

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Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) is the national department responsible for sport in South Africa. Aligned with its vision of An Active and Winning Nation, its primary focuses are on providing opportunities for all South Africans to participate in sport; managing the regulatory framework; and providing funding for different codes of sport.

The SRSA has a number of flagship programmes through which it implements its objectives.

These programmes touch the lives of millions of South Africans, from schoolchildren participating in school sport, communities sharing in the benefits of mass participation programmes and events, and organisations benefiting from the SRSA's financial and logistical support.

Initiatives

Golden Games

The 2011 Golden Games, part of the SRSA's Older Persons Programme, were held in the Free State in October 2011 with the theme *Celebrating Active Ageing*.

The Golden Games is a national event where persons older than 65 compete in various sporting codes at provincial level. Codes that form part of the Golden Games include soccer, athletics (800 m and 4x100-m relay), brisk walk, duck walk, passing the ball, rugbyball throw, jukskei and goal shooting.

The Western Cape was crowned the 2011 Golden Games champion.

All-Africa Games

The 10th All-Africa Games took place in September 2011 in Maputo, Mozambique, and featured 20 sporting disciplines in which 53 countries participated. Events for people with disabilities also featured in swimming and athletics.

Team South Africa finished first on the medals table, with 62 gold medals, 55 silver and 40 bronze, totalling 157 medals.

The Guinness Book of World Records has recognised South Africa's famous ultra-marathon, the Comrades, as the event with "the most runners in an ultra-marathon".

The 2011 race had 19 951 entries, with approximately 12 600 starters and 11 070 finishers.



The South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) is the national anti-doping organisation, funded by Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA). Its mandate is to promote participation in sport, free from the use of prohibited substances or methods intended to artificially enhance performance in the interest of the health and well-being of sportspeople.



In June 2011, the SAIDS launched the *I Play Fair – Say NO! to Doping* Campaign to spread the message of ethics, fair play and anti-doping in sport. The SRSA supports the campaign, which provides education about banned substances and runs actual doping tests.

South African Sports Awards

The SRSA and the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (Sascoc) created the South African Sports Awards to honour the country's sports stars.

In 2011, 16 awards were handed out at the fourth South African Sports Awards evening, held at Sun City in August. The winner of the Sports Star of the Year Award, decided by the public through voting by SMS and online on the Sascoc website, was cricketer Hashim Amla. Other winners included:

- Cameron van der Burgh (Sportsman of the Year)
- Noko Matlou (Sportswoman of the Year)
- Former world No 1 golfer Ernie Els, 2010 FIFA World Cup™ organising committee CEO Danny Jordaan, Premier Soccer League chairperson Irvin Khoza, former South African Football Association president Molefi Oliphant and fifth-dan karateka Peter Thage received Steve Tshwete Lifetime Achievement awards
- The Blue Bulls was named Team of the Year and Bulls mentor, Frans Ludeke, scooped the Coach of the Year accolade.
- Swimming sensation Chad le Clos was recognised as the Newcomer of the Year.
- Wheelchair tennis players Lucas Sithole and Kgothatso Montjane were respectively named Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year with a Disability.

2011 sports highlights

Archery

South Africa hosted the 2011 World Indoor Archery Championships, held in Pretoria in October. Team South Africa won six gold medals, five silver and three bronze, with four new world records set.

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The gold medallist winners were Jeanine van Kradenburg, Jakkie Fleming, Jenny Wittstock, Riaan van Wyk, Danielle Wentzel and Kobus Brink. Van Kradenburg, Fleming and Wentzel set new three-day world indoor records in their respective categories, while Brink set a new one-day world indoor record.

Athletics

In January 2011, South Africa participated in the 2011 International Paralympic Committee Athletics World Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand. Team South Africa ended seventh on the medals table with 25 medals, made up of nine gold, seven silver and nine bronze. Oscar Pistorius walked away with four medals (three gold and one silver) while Teboho Mokgalagadi and Ilse Hayes both won two gold medals each.

In August 2011, Pistorius reached the semi-final of the International Association of Athletics Federations Athletics World Championships in Daegu, South Korea.

South Africa finished 17th on the medals table, with two silver and two bronze.

Pistorius received the Laureus Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award in February 2012.

Biking

Greg Minnaar was placed second in the downhill at the *Union Cycliste Internationale Mountain Bike World Cup* in Pietermaritzburg in April 2011, just 0,241 seconds behind American Aaron Gwin.

Cricket

India toured South Africa in 2010/11, with the third of three tests played in January 2011 in Cape Town. The test was drawn, and the series squared one-all. The two teams then met in a once-off twenty20 (T20) match, followed by a five-match one-day international (ODI) series, which South Africa won 3-2.

The 10th International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket World Cup took place in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh from February to April 2011. South Africa finished at the top of Group B and met New Zealand in the quarter-finals, where they unfortunately lost. India went on to become the 2011 ICC world champions.

Hashim Amla, Dale Steyn, AB de Villiers and Jacques Kallis were all included in the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Test Team of the Year, with De Villiers and Steyn also included in the One-Day International Team of the Year.



The following players were shortlisted for 2011 ICC awards: Amla for the People's Choice Award, the Garfield Sobers Trophy for Cricketer of the Year and ODI Player of the Year; Kallis for Test Player of the Year and Spirit of Cricket; and JP Duminy for Twenty20 International Performance of the Year.

In April 2011, cricketers Jacques Kallis and Dale Steyn were honoured in the 2011 *Wisden Cricketer's Almanack* by being named in its Test XI for the 2010 calendar year.

In October and November 2011, Australia visited the country to square off in a contest comprising two T20 games, two ODIs and two tests. The Australians won the first T20, but the Proteas won the second game to draw the T20 series. Australia won the first rain-logged ODI, while South Africa won the second. Australia bounced back to win the third and decisive game.

The contest between the two countries continued into a close-fought test series, with the locals winning the first nail-biting test and the visitors being victorious in the second. On the first day of the second test, Kallis became only the fourth batsman ever to score 12 000 test runs.

In December 2011 and January 2012, Sri Lanka toured South Africa, playing three tests and five ODIs. South Africa won the test series 2-1 and the ODI series 3-2.

Boxing

In October 2011, Moruti Mthalane successfully defended his International Boxing Federation flyweight title for a third time as he stopped home favourite Andrea Sarritzu in the seventh round in Italy.

Cycling

The South African para-cycling team returned from the 2011 International Cycling Union Para-Cycling Road World Cup Final, which took place in Canada in July, with six medals.

Flying

Team South Africa put in an impressive performance at the 20th Precision Flying World Championships, held at Brits in

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North West in October 2011. South Africa came second in the Team Landing Category, with squad member Hans Schwebel being named the runner-up for the landing trophy. This was the first time the country hosted the event.

Golf

Rory Sabbatini captured his sixth PGA Tour title in March 2011 when he won the Honda Classic on the PGA National Champion Course at Palm Beach Gardens in Florida.

In April 2011, Charl Schwartzel captured a two-shot victory in the US Masters at Augusta in the United States of America (USA).

In May 2011, Thomas Aiken won the Spanish Open. His win was the fifth by a South African on the European Tour in the 2011 season, following Ernie Els' win in the South African Open Championship, Louis Oosthuizen claiming the Africa Open, and Schwartzel triumphing in the Joburg Open and the Masters. Aiken's victory was the 99th by a South African on the European Tour.

In the same month, Els was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. He joined the legendary Gary Player, who entered the hall in 1974.

Also in May, Schwartzel moved into the top 10, coming in at number seven, after eight top-10 finishes by the year's halfway mark.

Garth Mulroy scored his maiden PGA European Tour victory in the Alfred Dunhill Championship in November 2011, recording the 100th win by a South African on the tour.

In December 2011, Schwartzel came second in the Thailand Golf Championship.

Hockey

In February 2011, the Investec South Africa women's hockey team defeated China in Bloemfontein, and then concluded the Investec International Series with a 3-2 win over Belgium.

In June 2011, South African striker Pietie Coetzee broke the women's hockey world record of 220 test match goals with a stunning first-half hat-trick and four goals in total in a 5-5 draw between South Africa and the USA at the Champions Challenge tournament in Dublin. The team went on to claim fifth place after a 2-1 victory over the hosts, Ireland.

In July 2011, members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) converged in Durban for their annual general meeting – the first time that the committee met on African soil.



The meeting took place at Durban's International Convention Centre and formed part of the 123rd IOC session, during which PyeongChang (South Korea) was selected ahead of Munich (Germany) and Annecy (France) as host city of the 2018 Winter Olympics.

The men's hockey team finished third at the International Hockey Federation Champions Challenge in Johannesburg in December 2011.

In the same month, the women's hockey team played in the Four Nations competition in Argentina. They finished in second place. India and Ireland also played in the championship.

Motor racing

Driver Giniel de Villiers finished second in the 2011 Dakar Rally Argentina – Chile in January 2011.

The International Superstars Series for V8 production cars was held at South Africa's Kyalami racetrack in Gauteng in November. Thomas Biagi won the series.

Netball

In July 2011, South Africa's netball team claimed first place in Africa and fifth place in the world rankings at the World Netball Championships in Singapore. Erin Burger was named Player of the Tournament.

Polocrosse

In July 2011, South Africa captured the Polocrosse World Cup title for the first time when they defeated neighbours Zimbabwe in the final at the Onley Grounds Equestrian Centre near Rugby in the United Kingdom. Polocrosse is a combination of polo and lacrosse and the format features men and women playing alternate chukkas.

Rugby

The International Rugby Board (IRB) awarded the hosting rights for the IRB Junior World Championship 2012 to the South African Rugby Union in April 2011. It took place in June 2012 and was won by South Africa, beating New Zealand in the final.

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South Africa's 2010/11 HSBC Sevens World Series campaign proved successful, with the team beating Fiji in the US leg in Las Vegas in February 2011. In May 2011, South Africa beat Australia in the final of the London leg of the series. South Africa went on to win the tournament in the Edinburgh leg. This was the team's first successive tournament title victories since 2008, when they won the Dubai and George tournaments within the space of two weeks. The team finished second overall on the HSBC Sevens World Series standings with 140 points, 16 behind champions New Zealand.

In October 2011, Cecil Afrika was announced the IRB Sevens Player of the Year.

The 2011 Tri-Nations series was shortened from nine games to six to accommodate the Rugby World Cup, with each team playing the other two twice instead of three times. South Africa lost to Australia twice and once to the All Blacks, before victory over the All Blacks in August 2011. The series was ultimately won by Australia.

The seventh Rugby World Cup was held in September and October 2011 in New Zealand. The Springboks, the defending champions, kicked off their campaign with a win over Wales. They went on to convincingly beat Fiji and Namibia, a game in which Bryan Habana became the most prolific test try-scorer in South African rugby history with his 39th try in 72 matches. A victory over Samoa saw the Boks reach the quarter-finals unbeaten at the top of Pool D. Unfortunately, they exited the World Cup in the quarter-finals after a loss against Australia. New Zealand was ultimately crowned world champions after beating France in the final, refereed by South Africa's Craig Joubert.

Soccer

Bafana Bafana began their 2011 season with a victory over Kenya in a friendly international at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium in Rustenburg in February.

In March 2011, Bafana Bafana beat Egypt at Coca-Cola Park in Johannesburg to stay at the top of the African Cup of Nations (Afcon) qualifying Group G.

South Africa's national women's football team, Banyana Banyana, defeated Zambia in Lusaka in January 2011 in their opening qualifier for the 2012 London Olympic Games. They took a one-goal advantage into their second-leg Olympic

In February 2011, Sibusiso Vilane (40) became the first black African to summit Mount Everest and walk to the South Pole completely unaided.



He was also the first black man to climb the highest peaks on all seven continents, earning him a place in the prestigious Seven Summits Club, which has just six South Africans among its 198 members worldwide.

qualifier against Tunisia in April 2011 after beating the north Africans in Durban, advancing to the final group of four African countries in the hunt for two places at the London 2012 Olympics.

South Africa's under-23 football team went through to the last round of qualifying for the 2011 All-Africa Games in Maputo, Mozambique, despite a loss to Malawi in May 2011. They put on a superb performance in the second leg of their Olympic qualifier against Benin at Johannesburg's Rand Stadium in June 2011 to reach the last eight of the qualifiers.

Siphiwe Tshabalala captained Bafana Bafana to a 0-0 draw in their 2012 Afcon qualifying match against Egypt at the Military Academy Stadium in Egypt in June 2011.

In July 2011, the under-23 men's side qualified for the All-Africa Games despite a loss, while Banyana Banyana was beaten in the final of the Council of Southern Africa Football Associations Women's Championship. Both sides were in action against Zimbabwe at the Rufaro Stadium in Harare. Shakes Mashaba's charges were beaten on the day, but the goal difference from their previous encounter gave South Africa a victory on aggregate.

Banyana Banyana qualified for the All-Africa Games, which took place in Mozambique in September. Unfortunately, they fell to Zimbabwe.

In July 2011, South Africa's Kaizer Chiefs netted a late winner to edge Champions League quarter-finalists Tottenham Hotspur 1-0 in the opening match of the Vodacom Challenge at Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane.

Bafana Bafana outplayed Burkina Faso at Coca-Cola Park in Johannesburg in August 2011. They lost to Niger and conceded their lead in Group G in September 2011. They then drew with Sierra Leone in Nelspruit. However, the team did not qualify for the 2012 Afcon finals.

In September 2011, Banyana Banyana secured their spot at the 2012 London Olympics with a 1-0 draw over Ethiopia.

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The annual Nelson Mandela Challenge was held in Port Elizabeth in November 2011, where Bafana Bafana drew with Côte d'Ivoire to share the trophy.

In December 2011, the South African under-23 side drew with Gabon in Morocco in their second match of the Confederation of African Football Under-23s Championship. The eight-nation tournament also served as the qualifying tournament for the 2012 London Olympics.

Special Olympics

The South African team that participated in the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Greece brought home 71 medals and countless ribbons. They received 38 gold, 20 silver and 13 bronze medals respectively in swimming, track and field, basketball, boxing, soccer, golf and table tennis.

Surfing, surfski and canoeing

In June 2011, Hank McGregor won his third Dunlop Surfski World Cup title in Durban. The women's race was dominated by Eastern Cape Olympian Michéle Eray, who won the women's event and finished 25th overall in the competition. The Dunlop Surfski World Cup set a world record when 330 entries were received by close of normal entries on 10 June, making it the biggest international surfski event in the world.

In July 2011, South Africa finished seventh out of 27 nations at the 2011 Billabong International Surfing Association World Surfing Games in Panama. The eight-surfer team collected a copper medal for placing fourth in the Aloha Cup event.

Later the same month, South African big-wave star Grant "Twiggy" Baker won the first Oakley One Wave Wonder event powered by Zigzag.

At the end of July 2011, Jordy Smith captured the 2011 Billabong Pro Jeffreys Bay in a hard-fought final over Australia's Mick Fanning.

In October 2011, the South African Masters surfing team finished third in the team competition at the 2011 El Salvador International Surfing Association World Masters Surfing Championship. They also bagged five individual medals, one in each of the five contested categories.

At the end of October, McGregor won the 2011 International Canoe Federation Canoe Marathon World Championship K1 title in Singapore. The competition was a productive one for the

South African contingent, with the Masters Cup team claiming 11 medals in day one's races: five gold, four silver and two bronze.

Swimming

In June 2011, South Africa's squad claimed two gold, one silver and two bronze medals on the first day of the Canet, France, leg of the Mare Nostrum series.

Cameron van der Burgh showed his skills in the 50-m breaststroke when he won gold. The 14-year-old Michelle Weber bagged the 800-m freestyle title, finishing over five seconds ahead of the pack. Gerhard Zandberg set a new meeting record as he took gold in the men's 50-m backstroke.

Chad le Clos made a big impact on the Fina/Arena World Cup circuit in 2011, winning 23 gold medals, 10 silver and two bronze – a total of 34 medals from seven meetings. He was also named the Best Male Swimmer in the series. Van der Burgh won two bronze medals in the series.

South Africa also excelled at the Africa Junior Swimming Championship in Nigeria in December 2011. The team returned with 69 medals out of a possible 80. They won 35 gold medals and set 11 gala records.

Tennis

South Africa's number one women's player, Chani Scheepers, claimed her maiden Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour title in the Wanlima International Women's Open in Guanzhou, China, in September. Scheepers' victory ended an eight-year title drought for South Africa.

Days later, South African doubles specialist Natalie Grandin also won her maiden WTA title at the Hansol Korea Open in Seoul, South Korea.

South Africa became the first African country to host the Wheelchair Tennis World Team Cup when the 27th competition took place at the University of Pretoria in April 2011. South Africa's men's wheelchair tennis team won a bronze medal, while the Netherlands proved themselves to be number one in both the men's and women's game.



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