

# Sport and Recreation



The Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) oversees the development and management of sport and recreation in South Africa.

The SRSA's strategic goals are to:

- increase citizens' access to sport and recreation activities
- oversee the transformation of the sport and recreation sector
- ensure that more athletes achieve international success
- develop enabling mechanisms to support sport and recreation
- ensure that sport and recreation are used as tools to support social cohesion and nation-building.

At the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014, South African athletes managed to claim a total of 40 medals across all sporting codes, 13 of those were gold, 10 silver and 17 bronze, placing the country seventh on the medal table. This was an improvement on the country's 2010 performance in Delhi, where athletes claimed 33 medals.

The track and field athletes finished with nine medals, three of which were gold. Khotso Mokoena took gold in the men's triple jump with a distance of 17.2m; Cornel Fredericks shone in the 400m hurdles, winning gold with a time of 48.50; and Fanie van der Merwe clocked 11.65 in a first place finish in the men's 100m T37 final.

## Role players

### Sport and Recreation South Africa

SRSA is the national department responsible for sport in the country. 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.

### South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (Sascoc)

Sascoc is the national coordinating macro-body for the promotion and development of high-performance sport in South Africa, including team presentation, and must consult with relevant sports bodies in this regard. It represents Team South Africa for all multicoded sport participating in international games, such as the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games and All-Africa Games.

## **South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS)**

The SAIDS is the national antidoping organisation, funded by 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 sports people.

The SAIDS is responsible for developing antidoping policy and implementing a national antidoping programme across all South Africa's sporting codes.

## **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)**

The Africa Regional Office of the WADA was established in Cape Town in 2004 to coordinate the anti-doping activities of the agency through-out Africa.

This includes promoting and maintaining effective lines of communication between the WADA and all relevant stakeholders, governments and public authorities, the broad sports movement, national antidoping agencies and laboratories.

South Africa continues to serve as the African representative on the Executive Committee of WADA.

## **Boxing South Africa (BSA)**

BSA's intention is to ensure effective and efficient administration of professional boxing in South Africa; to create synergy between professional and amateur boxing and to promote interaction between associations of boxers, managers, promoters, trainers and officials and BSA.

## **Programmes and projects**

### **National Sport and Recreation Plan (NSRP)**

The five transversal issues, which permeate every building block of the NSRP are reflected in five strategic objectives, namely transformation, priority codes, ethical environment, geo-political sports boundaries and amateur versus professional sport. Other programmes and projects include:

- National Sport and Recreation Plan
- *I Play Fair – Say NO! to Doping* campaign
- International Rugby Board (IRB) *Keep Rugby Clean* campaign
- *ThinkSport Journal* project
- *Little Green Book* project
- Qhubeka: bicycles for rural development.

## Major events

### Nelson Mandela Sports Day

On 22 November 2014, South Africans united and took to the streets of Tshwane in honour of the much-loved global icon, former President Nelson Mandela.

Spearheaded by the SRSA and the Department of Arts and Culture, the 2014 Nelson Mandela Sport and Culture Day was held to demonstrate the depth of South Africans' commitment to Mandela's vision of sports and culture as a nation builder and a unifying force for a cohesive society.

With its aim to mobilise the youth, the event called for all South African youth, as the generation charged with living the Mandela legacy, to unite in building a brighter future for all.



### Fina World Cup

At the Fina World Cup in Doha in December 2014, Chad Le Clos received swimming's highest honour after he was crowned the world's best for 2014 by the International Swimming Federation. Le Clos also became the first ever swimmer to go unbeaten throughout a World Cup series.

He made history on the final night of the Fina World Short-Course Championships when he became the first swimmer to win the 50 m, 100 m and 200 m butterfly.

Cameron van der Burgh won a silver medal in the men's 50m breaststroke.

## South African Sports Awards

The South African Sports Awards were presented at a ceremony in November 2014 where the Minister of Sport and Recreation honoured the sporting heroes who had excelled in the last 12 months.

Portia Modise was the 2014 SA Sport Star of the Year.

Ashleigh Moolman Pasio was the Sportswoman of the Year.

Chad Le Clos was the Sportsman of the Year.

Sportswoman with Disability and Sportsman with Disability awards went to Justine Usher and Ernst Francois Van Dyk respectively.

The U/19 Cricket team were named the Team of the Year.

Other winners included:

- Administrator of the Year – Nokuzola Patience Thamae
- Newcomer of the Year – Gezelle Magermann
- Coach of the Year – Ephraim Shakes Mashaba
- Volunteer of the Year – Sandile Mqadi
- Indigenous Games of the Year – Ncuva Limpopo
- Recreation Body of the Year – Sport for Social Change Network
- Photographer of the Year – Reg Caldecott
- Journalist of the Year – Mathews Mpete
- School Team of the Year – Vorentoe High School
- Developing School Team of the Year – Oudtshoorn School of Skills
- Federation of the Year – Triathlon South Africa
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Andrew Mlangeni
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Senzo Meyiwa
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Marthinus Linee
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Mbulaeni Mulaudzi
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Phindile Mwelase.

## National Indigenous Games

The 2014 National Indigenous Games Festival, which is organised annually by the SRSA, took place at the Tshwane Events Centre in Pretoria from 21 to 24 September.

The games played included khokho, intonga, ncuva,

morabaraba, diketo, drie stokkies, kgati, dibeke and juskei, all of which are indigenous to South Africa and played in various parts of the country. The games also provide recreational activities for young children and families.

## Major sporting achievements in 2014

### Athletics

In 2014, Anaso Jobodwana broke South Africa's 200m record, Steven Mokoka broke the 5 000m record and Annemie Smith improved her own South African record in the women's hammer throw, are testimony to the fact that preparations for Rio 2016 Olympics are well on track.

### Biking, mountain biking, cycling

Local cyclist Ashleigh Moolman Pasio, paracyclists Ernst van Dyk and Justine Asher were among the big winners at the SA Sport Awards.

Pasio won a bronze medal in the women's road race, in her first appearance at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland. She then headed the South African elite women's team at the UCI Road World Championships, where she finished in the top 20 of the women's road race. She also rode to a second place finish at the Le Samyn des Dames – a women's race in Belgium – and finished in the top 15 of the Giro d'Italia Internazionale Femminile (Giro Rosa), the toughest stage race in women's road cycling. She ended her season ranked among the world's top 30 in her category. Back on home soil, she finished second behind UCI World champion Marianne Vos at the Momentum 94.7 Cycle Challenge road race.

Ernst van Dyk was crowned the 2014 UCI World Champion in the road race.

Justine Asher was crowned UCI World Champion in the time trial and road race, also winning the UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup.

Daryl Impey was another top achiever this season, flying the South African flag while riding for UCI ProTeam Orica-GreenEDGE. Impey maintained his fine form by winning Canada's Tour of Alberta, a road race that features a prologue and five stages. He also won the third stage of the Bayern-Rundfahrt (Tour of Bavaria) in Germany. He was also crowned the national Time Trial champion ahead of Jay Thomson and Jaco Venter, who finished second and third respectively.

Nolan Hoffman continued to be the undisputed king of the local road race classics, winning his third Amashova Durban Classic title and his maiden Cape Argus Cycle Tour victory after 10 attempts. He also grabbed wins at the GoWest criterium series and the Herald Cycle Tour in Port Elizabeth. On the track, Hoffman was crowned the South African Omnium Champion, while Maroesjka Matthee took the women's title.

The Bonitas Pro Cycling team reigned supreme in the 2014 Engen cycle in the city series, winning all the men's races in the challenge. HB Kruger gave the team its win in Pretoria, while Dylan Girdlestone took the honours in Cape Town and Durban.

The women's event was won by Lise Olivier, who won the Pretoria and Durban events, while Maroesjka Matthee won in Cape Town.

Herman Fouche bagged victories in the Campus2Campus Classique in Potchefstroom and claimed overall victory at the Badplaas Tour in Mpumalanga and an elusive victory at the Dis-Chem Ride for Sight.

Westvaal-BMC rider JC Nel claimed his maiden classic victory in the Jock Cycle Classique after securing the overall win in the 151 km race in three hours, 58 minutes and 41 seconds.

Nic Dougall claimed his second successive victory in the four-day Tour de Boland. He also claimed the overall honours in 9:53:03. Reynard Butler and Olivier were crowned new champions of the Tour Durban cycle race, while MTN Qhubeka's Jacques Janse van Rensburg was the overall winner of the Mzansi Tour.

On the mountain bike, Kevin Evans and Max Knox picked up the Sani2c mountain bike race title, while Johann Rabie and Gawie Combrinck claimed their maiden win in the nine-day JoBerg2c mountain bike race.

The Team Bulls pair of Simon Stiebjahn and Tim Bohme secured the overall title in the UCI ranked Cape Pioneer Trek international mountain bike stage race in October. The women's overall title went to Catherine Williamson and Alice Pirard.

Robyn de Groot won the Nissan Trailseeker mountain bike series title after winning all races in the five-event series.

When it came to national titles, MTN-Qhubeka rider Louis Meintjes claimed top honours in the elite men's race at the South African Road Cycling Championships. James Reid and De Groot claimed the elite men and women's national

titles at the South African National MTB Marathon Championships.

Tiaan Odendaal claimed his third consecutive men's national title at the Downhill Championships held at the Thaba Trails in Gauteng.

Mariske Strauss and Rourke Croeser were crowned cross country champions, while Kyle Dodd and Maia Rawlins were crowned BMX national champions.

Strauss was also crowned African champ in the cross-country event at the African Continental championships, while Philip Buys claimed the men's title.

Andrew Neethling and Hayley-Ann Adamson came out tops at the African downhill championships.

South African Masters mountain biker Nedene Cahill took first prize at the UCI Mountain Bike Masters World Championships in the Women's cross-country 30-34 age category in Norway.

## Boxing

The SRSA wants boxing to be turned into a leading sport code in South Africa by 2017.

Vision 2017 is a strategy to resuscitate and promote boxing in all the provinces. The plan will improve the administration and safeguard the health and general wellbeing of professional boxers. Authorities have also pledged to promote, market, and sanction quality boxing events and tournaments.

To achieve these objectives, Boxing South Africa (BSA) has to ensure that there is strong leadership, accountability and diversity across all business units and governing spheres.

The parties further agreed that BSA would introduce guiding principles for improved revenue streams and revenue collection.

Revenues would be generated from government grants, bequests, site fees, ticket sales, registration fees, tournament licensing fees, penalties, incomes from invested surplus, sponsorship and fund-raising, broadcast and advertising income.

Chris van Heerden captured the vacant IBF international Welterweight title by outpointing Cecil McCulla.

Xolani Ndongeni, the South African National and IBO International Lightweight champion outpointed Vusumzi Tyatyeka to win the overall PBL competition.



In Heavyweight: Ruan Visser moved into the third position after knocking out Quincy Taylor in the third round in a fight that took place in Houston.

In Featherweight: Aphiwe Mboyiya outpointed Lwando Molwana in the PBL event, which saw him exchanging positions with Paul Magxialani.

Former rated boxers, Lwando Molwana (Feather) and Cletus Mbele (Bantamweight) were added to Watchlist section.

## Cricket

In 2014, SRSA recognised the outstanding achievement of the Protea's cricket captain and the world's best batsman AB de Villiers.

In August 2014, the Proteas completed a comprehensive 3-0 series whitewash of Zimbabwe, winning by seven wickets with 136 balls to spare in the third one-day international in Bulawayo.

In February 2014, Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced an innovative ticketing system for cricket fans in the country. CSA was the first national sports federation in South Africa to introduce the new near-field communication technology already in use by various sporting codes in Europe and the USA.

The technology allows supporters to buy match tickets, parking, food and beverages on their smart phone or personal computer, enhancing the stadium experience for fans so that they can enjoy convenience and actively support the Proteas and the franchise teams live at stadiums. In April 2014, the men's and ladies' T20 cricket teams played in the semi-finals World Cup games in Bangladesh.

## Canoeing, rowing

In 2014, South African rowers performed exceptionally well when John Smith and James Thompson were crowned world champs after setting a world-best time of 6:05.36 in Amsterdam.

Their victory came only months after making the transition from sweep-oar rowing to sculling and two years after tasting Olympic success.

Adding to the team's accomplishments at the World Rowing Championships in the Netherlands, Shaun Keeling and Vincent Breet claimed a bronze medal in their men's pair boat class.

The women's lightweight doubles sculls crew of Kirsten McCann and Ursula Grobler finished in fourth place.

The women's pair of Lee-Ann Persse and Naydene Smith finished sixth in their final, while the men's coxed pair of Lawrence Brittain and David Hunt, with Willie Morgan as coxswain, were fifth.

These successes came on the back of injuries which had denied the team continuity and depth and resulted in Olympic gold medallist Sizwe Ndlovu missing the world champs.

Ndlovu, however, added another accolade to the South African rowing community by being named as a representative for lightweight male rowers serving on the Athletes' Commission of the World Rowing Federation.

The World Rowing Federation (WRF) nominated Barrow as a finalist for the 2014 World Rowing Coach-of-the-Year award. South African canoeing also experienced a stellar year on the water with Olympic bronze medallist Bridgitte Hartley and stalwart Hank McGregor flying the flag. Hartley made history when she won South Africa's first medal in an Olympic event at the Canoe World Sprint Championships in Moscow. She repeated her performance at the London Olympics by winning the bronze medal in the K1 500 m, finishing third at the world championships. McGregor cemented his status as a legend of South African canoe marathons, claiming his fourth K1 gold medal at the ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships. He then teamed up with Jasper Mocke to clinch the K2 gold medal and become the first South African to win double gold at a world championship event.

Jenna Ward earned a bronze medal in the women's under-23 race. McGregor narrowly edged out Andy Birkett to win the Fish River Canoe Marathon while Abby Adie took the women's title.

Birkett won his fourth Dusi canoe marathon trophy, paired with Sbonela Zondi, in the K2 race. Robyn Kime lifted her fifth consecutive Dusi trophy in 2014. She successfully partnered with Abbey Ulansky for a second time, while it was Ulansky's (nee Miedema) record ninth women's Dusi title.

In July 2014, Andy Birkett managed to hold off Western Cape ace Graeme Solomon to claim his maiden Berg River Canoe Marathon title, while Abby Adie stormed to a convincing win in the ladies' race.

With the intention of bettering his eighth place in the 2013 Berg River Canoe Marathon, 62-year-old grandmaster Lee

McGregor had to settle for eighth place overall at the 2014 event.

Luke Stowman produced a fine display on the last day to not only claim the top spot in the under-23 category but ninth place overall too.

There was a strong performance from Thulani Mbanjwa, who powered his way to 10th place.

## Golf

The 2014 Sunshine Tour was the 15th season of professional golf tournament. The tour is based predominantly in South Africa with other events being held in neighbouring countries, including Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Zambia and Namibia.

In February 2014, George Coetzee won the Joburg Open in Johannesburg, Gauteng and Thomas Aiken won the Africa Open in East London in the Eastern Cape. In March 2014, Trevor Fisher Jnr won the Investec Cup in Rustenburg, North West.

In April 2014, Titch Moore won the Telkom Business PGA Championship in Johannesburg, Gauteng, Jbe' Kruger won the Golden Pilsener Zimbabwe Open in Zimbabwe. In May 2014, Danie van Tonder won the Investec Royal Swazi Open in Swaziland, Wallie Coetzee won the Mopani Copper Mines Zambia open in Zambia and Christiaan Basson won the Lombard Insurance Classic in Swaziland.

In June 2014, Lyle Rowe won the Zambia Sugar Open in Zambia and Danie van Tonder won the Vodacom Origin of Golf in Limpopo. In July 2014, Dean Burmester won the Sun City Challenge in Sun City, North West, Jean Hugo won the Vodacom Origins of Golf (Arabella) in the Western Cape and Keith Horne won the Vodacom Origins of Golf (St Francis) in the Eastern Cape. Colin Nel won the Wild Waves Golf Challenge held in KwaZulu-Natal in August 2014.

In September 2014, Louis de Jager won the Vodacom Origins of Golf (Wild Coast). In October 2014, PH McIntyre won the Vodacom Origins of Golf (Vaal de Grace) in Parys, Titch Moore won the Sun Boardwalk Golf Challenge in Port Elizabeth, Merrick Bremner won the BMG Classic in Johannesburg and Keith Horne won the Vodacom Origins of Golf Final in the Western Cape.

In November 2014, Louis de Jager won the Nedbank Affinity Cup in North West and Jaco Ahlers won the Lion of Africa Cape Town Open. In December 2014, Branden Grace

won the Alfred Dunhill Championship in Limpopo.

Justin Walters celebrated becoming the inaugural Challenge Tour graduate of the Year at Wentworth Club with a five under par 67 to take his place on the BMW PGA Championship leaderboard. The 33-year-old South African, holed a 50-foot putt on the final green.

## Hockey

The South African teams finished in their best final positions since the inception of the Indoor Hockey World Cup (IHWC) at Indoor Hockey World Cup 2015 in Leipzig Arena, Germany.

The world number 18 Spar South African women's team beat Canada 4-2 after the score was 2-2 at half-time to end ninth in the IHWC women's event. The South African men, under captain Dale Isaac and head coach Ryan Hack of Durban were the mainstays in their team's success. They beat Canada 2-1 to end 11th.

## Ice hockey

Cape Town was selected as the host city for the 2015 Men's Division II Group B World Championships. South Africa played against the following national teams: China, Bulgaria, Mexico, New Zealand and Israel.

The tournament took place from 13 to 19 April 2015 at the Grand West Ice Station located at the Old Goodwood Showgrounds.

## Motorsport

Mark Cronje and Robin Houghton dominated the Tour Natal Rally, the inaugural round of the 2015 South African Rally National Championship, and scored seven stage wins on their way to overall victory.

Cronje and Houghton came home in two hours six minutes and one second – beating defending champions Leeroy Poulter/Elvéne Coetzee by 44,6 seconds.

Dakar hero, Giniel de Villiers and Carolyn Swan in the second Castrol Toyota Yaris did not take any risks to secure fourth place, while Japie van Niekerk and Gordon Noble had to work hard to regain fifth after they suffered a puncture in stage eight, costing them valuable seconds. In the end they beat Gugu Zulu and Pierre Arries, in his first outing in top-tier rallying for over a year, by only nine seconds – displacing them with one special stage still to run.

In May 2014, Sheldon van der Linde became the youngest driver to win an SA Saloon Car race at the VW Cup round in Port Elizabeth.

In July 2014, Kelvin van der Linde was awarded the Driver of the Year award for the 2014 International Automobile Federation's (FIA) Young Driver Excellence Academy at a graduation ceremony at the Paul Ricard circuit in France.

The Young Driver Excellence Academy is an initiative of the FIA Institute for Motor Sport Safety and Sustainability. Van der Linde is the youngest to have won either of these titles. The Academy programme, which is aimed at developing and improving motor sport safety and sustainability and promotes excellence and achievement in all areas of motor sport.

## Netball

Netball South Africa underlined its reputation as one of the fastest growing sports in the country as it scooped two categories at the 2014 SPAR Sport Awards.

SPAR Proteas netball star Lenize Potgieter, won the Up and Coming Athlete of the Year and Zanele Mgodana won a 2014 Style Star Award.

## Rugby

Springbok flyhalf, Pat Lambie, landed a 52-metre penalty with a minute to go as South Africa ended New Zealand's 22-game unbeaten run with a 27-25 victory in their final Rugby Championship clash at Ellis Park in October 2014. South Africa became the first team to defeat the world champion All Blacks since England in late 2012.

The Blitzbokke won the Dubai edition of the IRB World Sevens series courtesy of a 33-7 victory over Australia in the Cup final. Kwagga Smith enjoyed a day to remember, including a standout performances in both the semi-final victory over New Zealand as well as the final where he was first to cross the whitewash with a strong bust down the right.

At the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014, the Springbok Sevens defeated four times champions New Zealand 17-12 in front of a capacity crowd at Ibrox Stadium, to win a historic gold medal.

South Africa wrestled the title away from New Zealand in a memorable final and in the process handed the Kiwis their first ever defeat at the Commonwealth Games. The Springbok Sevens' previous best attempts were two bronze medals.

## Running

Endurance running is a popular sport in South Africa and is widely supported. It is highlighted by two ultra-marathons, namely the Comrades Marathon and the Two Oceans Marathon. Both events are world-renowned and attract large numbers of participants from across the globe.

The Comrades Marathon takes place in KwaZulu-Natal and the Two Oceans in the Western Cape. The 2014 Comrades Marathon was won by Bongmusa Mthembu, followed by Ludwick Mamabolo and Gift Kelehe – all three of them South Africans.

Three-time Comrades winner, Zimbabwean Stephen Muzhingi, was fourth.

Eight of the top 10 runners in the 2014 Comrades Marathon men's race were South African.

In the women's race, Eleanor Greenwood from the United Kingdom took first place, with the Nurgalieva twins, Elena and Olesya, second and third respectively. Fourth was Irina Antropova. South African Olympic icon Zola Budd was number seven.

## Soccer

The Durban Under-19 International Football Tournament, backed and jointly organised by KwaZulu-Natal, the City of Durban and the South African Football Association, will take place annually in Durban for at least the next three years. Durban hosted the first of these tournaments in June 2014.

Youth development was the cornerstone of every successful footballing nation. The 2014 Durban Under-19 International Football Tournament could be a stepping-stone in the careers of players hoping to represent South Africa at the FIFA World Cup in Russia in 2018.

## Surfing, surfski, sailing

An ecstatic Eastern Province team won the President's Cup at the 49th South African Surfing Championships for the second time in the history of the event, in September 2014.

The Association of Surfing Professionals announced the return of South Africa's Jeffreys Bay to the elite Samsung Galaxy ASP World Championship Tour (WCT) schedule for the 2014 season. Taking place from 10 to 20 July 2014, the J-Bay Open served as the sixth of 11 stops on the 2014 Samsung Galaxy ASP WCT schedule and signed a three-year agreement to host the world's best surfers from 2014 to 2016.



Durban's reputation as a global surfski mecca was strengthened in June 2014 as the nation's best ocean paddlers battled for national titles in the newly launched FNB Mazars Durban Downwind surfski race.

The brand new event will not only become the permanent home of both the KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng Surfski champions annually, but the 2014 opening edition also doubled as the 2014 South African Surfski Championships.

Starting at Marine Surf Lifesaving Club at Durban's

Addington Beach, paddlers headed 26 km either north to La Mercy or south to Amanzimtoti – depending on the wind direction. The race seeks to become KwaZulu-Natal's premier downwind surfski event.

In June 2014, Fish Hoek's renowned Mocké clan capped off a sublime family weekend's effort in KwaZulu-Natal by winning three of the four SA S2 Surfski Championship titles up for grabs at Sunday's second day of the inaugural FNB Mazars Durban Downwind surfski race.

With the national singles title already in his possession after a memorable paddle, Jasper Mocké teamed up with his older brother Dawid and the pair clinched their fourth national title together before Dawid's wife, evergreen competitor Nikki Mocké, and Olympic bronze medallist Bridgitte Hartley won the women's race.

Fresh from their promising performances on the 2014 ISAF World Cup circuit and the European Cup circuit, South African Olympians Roger Hudson and Asenathi Jim once again packed their bags, this time for Abu Dhabi, after receiving an invitation to the first ever ISAF World Cup final. Just 20 boats raced in each of the 10 Olympic classes in Abu Dhabi, meaning only the finest sailors in the world were competing there in November 2014.

The top Asian and the top non-Asian teams at the last qualifying event of the 2014 season, raced in China later in November, together with the 18 already invited, made up the 20-team World Cup final in the men's 470 event. The South Africans' qualification for the World Cup final was based on their ISAF world rankings, which have ranged between 19 and 22.

This ranking reflected a number of outstanding performances in major Olympic Class events in Europe. These included their historic gold medal at the 2014 European Cup event in Holland, the gold medal in the inaugural European Sailing Federation Cup raced over three events in Italy, Holland and Germany, and second place in the medal races of four of the events on the 2014 World Cup and European Cup circuits.

South Africa's 49er sailors Graeme Willcox and Andrew Tarboton were thrilled with a breakthrough first-place finish in one of their races at the ISAF World Championships in Santander, Spain but recognised they had a way to go to achieve their dream of competing in the Rio Olympics in 2016.



## Swimming

In March 2014, Dylan Bosch, broke the American 200m butterfly record at a University of Michigan championship.

In August 2014, South Africa's endurance swimmer, Lewis Pugh, completed the fourth leg of his Seven Swims in the Seven Seas Campaign to highlight the need for, and importance of marine protected areas. He swam 10km off the coast of Sile, a town outside Istanbul in Turkey.

The Cape Long Distance Swimming Association is dedicated to offering information and news on open water swimming around Cape Town, with particular focus on solo swims in the sea. Their aims are to:

- Promote long distance open water swimming in general
- Help coordinate, officiate and record all long distance open water solo swims in Cape waters
- Promote Cape Town as an open water swimming destination
- Assist those travelling to Cape Town for swims, by offering open water swimming information and advice, as well as travelling advice to optimise your Cape Town experience.

Long distance swimming, which is defined as any distance over 7 km, has a long history in South Africa. The first recorded swim was in 1909 when Henry Charteris Hooper swam from Robben Island to the old Cape Town harbour. Since then more than 400 individuals have done the crossing from or to Robben Island as well as various other distance swims in South Africa.

## Tennis

Kevin Anderson, South Africa's leading tennis player, started 2014 by reaching the fourth round of the Australian Open, before being knocked out in straight sets by Tomáš Berdych.

He then reached the final at Delray Beach, before losing to Marin Čilić. At the Mexican Open held in Acapulco, he again reached the final, losing to Grigor Dimitrov in three sets. In the Indian Wells Masters, Anderson reached the quarterfinals, but lost to Roger Federer. At the 2014 Madrid Open, he beat Radek Štěpánek, before losing to Tomáš Berdych. He reached the fourth round in the French Open, before losing to fifth seed David Ferrer.

He then reached the quarterfinals of the AEGON Championships held at the Queen's Club, London, before losing to Radek Štěpánek. At the Wimbledon Championships he defeated Fabio Fognini to reach the fourth round, where he

lost to Andy Murray. Anderson made it to the quarterfinals of the Masters 1000 event in Toronto after defeating Fognini and Stanislas Wawrinka.

At the Cincinnati Masters, he had a disappointing first-round, straight-set exit at the hands of John Isner. He made it to the third round of the US Open, where he lost to eventual champion Marin Čilić. At the Paris Masters he again defeated Wawrinka to reach the quarterfinals, after which Tomas Berdych beat him. The South African ended the year at 16th place in the ATP year-end rankings.



Wheelchair Tennis is one of the fastest growing wheelchair sports in the world. The ITF considers South Africa one of the global success stories in introducing the sport, making Wheelchair Tennis South Africa (WTSA) one of the top wheelchair tennis structures and nations in the world.

WTSA has sustainable sports programmes running in each of South Africa's nine provinces to introduce and offer wheelchair tennis to as many physically disabled individuals and communities as possible.

Through these programmes, people with disabilities are given the opportunity to learn a new skill and excel at a sport. Players are continuously developed and discovered through these programmes from introduction to the game, to ultimately, representing South Africa internationally.

## Chess

The Department of Basic Education encourages chess as a serious sport in schools.

South Africa intends to use chess as an educational tool, to enhance logic and lateral thinking for mathematics and sciences, which many people find difficult.

South Africa will count on the Local Organising Committee's commitment to supporting chess development programmes in underprivileged communities.