

International tennis star coaches Elandsdoorn champs

On 31 January the Ndlovu Sports Ground in Elandsdoorn was buzzing with excitement full of sport loving people from surrounding areas to watch the Elandsdoorn wheelchair tennis champions. Tennis wheelchairs (Ferrari models) were neatly lined up at the tennis courts, wheels pumped and ready for action. Every-one was thrilled with anticipation.

Ndlovu was hosting a most unusual and exciting tennis event that is sponsored, co-ordinated and co-presented by the Cruyff-Foundation and Wheel Chair Tennis South Africa. The star and main attraction at this event, was world champion wheelchair tennis player, Esther Vergeer. She has been wheelchair tennis World Champion for 12 consecutive years.

Esther has taken time out of her busy schedule to represent the Cruyff-Foundation in coaching clinics around South Africa and the first stop on the itinerary was to support Ndlovu Care Group's CHAMP Disabled Sports Programme. Esther's indomitable courage and presence inspires the disabled as well as the able bodied champs of Elandsdoorn to participate in all disabled sports.

The Cruyff-Foundation has been a loyal supporter of Ndlovu Care Group for many years. The Wheelchair Tennis SA's formidable team instructed and gave valuable training tips to Ndlovu Training Teams and participants alike.

Besides taking care of the logistics, they also invited about 30 learners from the surrounding schools to participate in the event. This is the tenth anniversary of ITF, the International Tennis Federation. The Ndlovu Care Group and the community of Elandsdoorn thanked all involved who made the event such a fantastic success.



The Elandsdoorn Wheelchair Tennis Champions in action during the match.



Esther Vergeer also took part and represented Cruyff.