



Wheely fun at World Disability Day 2012-Celebrity Wheelchair Challenge

On December 3 athletes from Wheelchair Tennis South Africa along with celebrities and members of the Davis & Fed Cup squads will be playing a tennis event like no other. This is in celebration of International Disability Day.

The month of November is known globally as Disability awareness month and to end the awareness campaign Wheelchair Tennis South Africa in conjunction with the Office of the Premier are hosting a Celebrity Wheelchair Tennis Challenge.

5FM's DJ Euphonik and Thomas Msengana as well as e.tv Club 808 presenter DJ Mo Flava and Jack Parow are the four team leaders. These well known celebs may be seen strutting their tennis skills on court, however they are mostly responsible for motivating their teams and their supporters clubs to ensure they bring out the best in the players on court. Other Celebrities that will be taking part in the Ability Challenge are 5FM's Catherine Grenfell, Duran Collett, Fix Moeti and Sias du Plessis as well as e.tv's Craze presenters, Zola Hashatsi, Kriya Gangiah, Morena Sepatsa, Stephanie Sandows, Thuli Phongolo and Lee-roy Wright joined by DJ Naaldekokker, Louise Crouse and Sonja Myburgh on the Jack Parow team.

These celebrities will be joined

by Paralympic Stars *Lucas Sithole* - South Africa's top quad's player and no 6 in the world. Lucas was also a finalist in the recent SA Sports Awards category - 'Sportsman of the Year with a Disability'. *Kgothatso Montjane* - SA's top woman and no 10 in the world. She was also a finalist in for the 2012 SA Sports Awards category - 'Sportswoman of the Year with a Disability'.

These two will be joined by SA's No 1 Ranked Men's player - *Evans Maripa*, who climbed an impressive 50 plus spots on the international ranking in 6 months to his current ranking of 31 in the world, and qualified for the Paralympics. The 4th member of the wheelchair tennis squad will be *Leon Els* who is currently ranked 3 in SA, and is tipped to be one of the top players in the world in time to come. Able bodied players such as *Natalie Grandin*, ranked No 41 on the Women's Doubles Ranking, *Jeff Coetzee* who was ranked as high as 12 in the world in doubles, and *Rick de Voest*, who is currently ranked 269 on the world rankings will be taking part.

The tennis event forms part of the Disability Day Celebration hosted by the *Gauteng Premiers Office* where over 2000 persons with a disability will gather to celebrate their Ability. This will certainly be a fitting end to a year of

triumph and celebration for W.T.S.A.

International Disability Day is a United Nations sanctioned day that aims to promote understanding of people with disability and encourage support for their dignity, rights and well-being.

Date : Monday, December 3

Venue: Hall 8, Nasrec Expo Centre, Johannesburg

Time : 9.30am - noon

Entry : Free, all welcome

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our players and sponsors, Airports Company South Africa, the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund, and the Department of Sports and Recreation South Africa, for their support, dedication and commitment during 2012.

Media, please see attached Media accreditation form to be completed.

For more information regarding Wheelchair Tennis or the Disability Day Festivities please contact Bianca Morkel on 083 386 4002 or Fax: 086 651 6664 or Email: pr@tennis.co.za. Follow us on Twitter: @WCTennis and like us on Facebook : Wheelchair Tennis SA. Web www.tennis.co.za

Celebrities will take part in a wheelchair tennis match in order to support International Disabilities Month.