

tennis matters



Wheelchair Tennis
South Africa

Edition 3 3rd Quarter 2012

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London 2012 Paralympics

To ensure the newsletter remains informative and relevant, we welcome your comments and contributions.

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Event Calendar

ACSA Strand Open 2012 – ITF Future Series

Strand Tennis Club, Cape Town
1-4 October 2012

Regional Stars Camps

12-13 Oct. 2012, Gauteng, WCape
Limpopo; 19-20 Oct KZN East & South;
26-27 Oct ECape & Mpumulanga.

National Disability Day

3 December 2012

ACSA Eastern Cape Open 2012 – ITF Future Series

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan
University, Summerstrand, Port
Elizabeth
5-8 December 2012

ACSA Gauteng Open 2013 – ITF 1 Series

Gauteng East Tennis Centre,
Lakeview, Benoni, Johannesburg
3-7 April 2013

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You can also find us on our website

www.tennis.co.za Or www.wtsa.co.za

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We would like to here from YOU!



Team SA at the London 2012 Paralympics and Lucas Sithole SA's wheelchair tennis ace, ranked no.6 internationally.
Photos : Wessel Oosthuisen, SASCO



It is with great pride and joy that we congratulate Kg Montjane, Lucas Sithole, Evans Maripa and Sydwell Mathonsi on their achievements at the London 2012 Paralympics. Well played, you are true champions.

A nervous Sydwell Mathonsi faced the very experienced world number 18, Stephen Welch and could not push a win losing 2-6, 7-6(8), 1-6 to the American. It is with great heart sore that we share Sydwell Mathonsi's retirement from wheelchair tennis. We wish Sydwell all the best in his new endeavours and know that he will realize his dreams and keep inspiring.

Evans Maripa had a brilliant first round match in which he beat Mohammed Qasim HAMDAN from Iraq in straight sets 60 61. In the second round Maripa drew the world number 16 Frederic Cattaneo from France a former top 10 player. Experience was key and Maripa succumbed 61 64.

Lucas Sithole moved to a career best world ranking of no.6 just before the games and was unfortunate to draw the world no.1 David Wagner(USA) for his 1st match. The 1st set was taken by the experienced Wagner however he had to work extremely hard in the 2nd set as Lucas put up a monumental fight after losing 2-6, 5-7 to Wagner.

Kg Montjane (see photo right) won her 1st match 7-5, 6-2 against Lola Ochoa the top Spanish player. Kg's 2nd round match she faced Jiske Griffioen the world no.3 Dutch lady for the 1st time. Despite an injury in her warm up game Kg managed to play and give her all under the circumstances. It took Griffioen over 90 minutes to win their 1st encounter 6-2, 6-2.



WTSA Youth flourished in Belgium



Three wheelchair tennis starlets; Sean de Hilster, Thando Hlatswayo and Mariska Venter participated in the ITF Junior Camp Mechelen 4-9 Aug 2012 and the Memorial Jens van Herck tournament 8-12 Aug 2012 under the tutelage of Victor Letseka.

Mariska Venter from Ermelo pushed away with the trophy in the girls division at the ITF Junior Camp Mechelen in Belgium after defeating Viktoriia Lvova (RUS) 7-5, 6-3 in the final. Congratulations Mariska, what a tremendous victory! Thando Hlatswayo and Sean de Hilster both reached the semi-finals.

Mariska Venter almost duplicated her win as she again played in the final at the Memorial Jens van Herck ITF Futures series event. Mariska unfortunately lost to Diede de Groot (NED) 1-6, 1-6 after winning her semi-final match against Sofie Cox (BEL) 6-1, 6-1. Thando Hlatswayo and Sean de Hilster played well and both reached the semi-finals of the tournament. Mariska Venter also participated in the women's division reaching the semi-finals. Els Verhoeven (BEL) took the semi-final match 6-1, 7-5. Congratulations girls and guy, you have made us proud and we look forward to see you grow and succeed further in your tennis careers.

WTSA Regional Star Camps

Over 400 existing and new players have gone through WTSA's new entity Regional Star Camps, held over the thirteen regions in March, May, August and October.

The purpose of the camps held over two days was to introduce new players to the sport whilst also providing a platform for other emerging players to test their strength against their peers from other centres. The weekends are characterized by wheelchair tennis drills dished out on fun based themes and a mini-tournament.

"Regional Camps are a vital stage in a wheelchair tennis players' life as it allows beginners, intermediate and advanced intermediate a much needed interaction with players of their own level in a fun and cooperative environment. Siyabulela Nkachela WTSA Community Programmes and Media Manager.

Players that show potential at these regional events will be invited to follow up programmes and events made possible by a generous sponsorship from Airports Company South Africa (ACSA). For more information please contact Siya Nkachela cell: 082 679 3772 or email Siya@tennis.co.za.

ITF Ranking

24 Sept. 2012

ITF	Name	RSA
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Mens Singles

31	Maripa, Evans	1
36	Mathonsi, Sydwell	2
102	Marsh, Marshall	3
128	Els, Leon	4
131	Tshipuke, Ishmael	5
133	Lekhanyane, Gift	6
154	Ramakoetsi, Frank	7
156	Anderson, Malcolm	8
172	Makwela, Tshepo	9
185	Vuma, Benito	10

Mens Doubles

35	Mathonsi, Sydwell	1
36	Maripa, Evans	2
74	Marsh, Marshall	3
111	Gwija, Mayenzeke	4
120	Ramakoetsi, Frank	5
128	Selepe, Patrick	6
133	Lekhanyane, Gift	7
160	Makweka, Tshepo	8
162	Els, Leon	9
173	Anderson, Malcolm	10

Womens Singles

10	Montjane, Kgothatso	1
37	van der Meer, Rose	2
52	du Toit, Celia	3
69	Venter, Mariska	4
79	Mankgele, Mabel	5
84	Dhladhla, Thandeka	6
95	Sibanda, Tsholofelo	7
112	Fuma, Siphokazi	8
119	Hlatswayo, Thando	9
124	Gxumisa, Noma-Afrika	10

Womens Doubles

13	Montjane, Kgothatso	1
41	van der Meer, Rose	2
51	du Toit, Celia	3
65	Hlatswayo, Thando	4
69	Venter, Mariska	5
74	Dhladhla, Thandeka	6
93	Mankgele, Mabel	7
105	Sibanda, Tsholofelo	8
136	Gxumisa, Noma-Afrika	9
145	Fuma, Siphokazi	10

Quads Singles

6	Sithole, Lucas	1
37	Mathebula, David	2
53	Dlamini, Bongani	3
61	Gallant, Fernando	4
62	Kekai, Steven	5

Quads Doubles

8	Sithole, Lucas	1
44	Mathebula, David	2
47	Kekai, Steven	3
49	Gallant, Fernando	4
53	Dlamini, Bongani	5