Springbok Sevens Stats Pack
2013/14 HSBC Sevens World Series
Cell C Nelson Mandela Bay SA Sevens
7 and 8 December 2013

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Australia: Gold Coast Sevens 12/13 October 2013 (Winner: New Zealand)

United Arab Emirates: Dubai Sevens 29/30 November 2013 (Winner: Fiji)

South Africa: Cell C Nelson Mandela Bay SA Sevens 7/8 December 2013 (Defending Champion: New Zealand)

USA: Las Vegas Sevens 24/26 January 2014 (Defending Champion: South Africa)

New Zealand: Wellington Sevens 7/8 February 2014 (Defending Champion: England)

Japan: Japan Sevens 22/23 March 2014 (Defending Champion: South Africa)

Hong Kong: Hong Kong Sevens 28/30 March 2014 (Defending Champion: Fiji)

Scotland: Glasgow Sevens 3/4 May 2014 (Defending Champion: South Africa)

England: London Sevens 10/11 May 2014 (Defending Champion: New Zealand)
Message from the Coach:

It is a huge honour for me to coach the Springbok Sevens team. We have an experienced management team and squad and I am fortunate to work with such a passionate and committed group of people.

I realise that everyone expects us to win whenever we take the field, and together with the rest of the management I shall do my utmost best to ensure that our team is well-prepared and ready to face whatever challenge we face.

I am pleased with the squad’s preparation. We have done well in Dubai last week and with this weekend an emotional one due to various factors, we are hoping to make the country proud and to honour the memory of former president Nelson Mandela.

We will need a huge team effort in this demanding tournament. Our theme this year is to strive for consistency, which means that we will firstly be looking to make at least the semi-finals.

Thank you again for your support.

Neil Powell

Springbok Sevens Coach
### 2013/2014 Current Standings after Dubai Sevens (round 2)

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Springbok Sevens – HSBC Sevens World Series history

2000/2001: Fifth – 82 points (overall winner: New Zealand)
2003/2004: Fifth – 74 points (overall winner: New Zealand) (see Note)
2011/2012: Fifth - 125 points (overall winner: New Zealand)
2012/2013: Second - 132 points (overall winner: New Zealand)
Tournament victories (17)

Wellington, 2002
Cardiff, 2003
Dubai, 2003 (see Note)
Singapore, 2004
London, 2005
Paris, 2006
Dubai, 2006
Adelaide, 2008
Dubai, 2008
George, 2008
Adelaide, 2009
Las Vegas, 2011
London, 2011
Edinburgh, 2011
Las Vegas 2013
Japan 2013
Glasgow 2013

Note: In the 2003/04-season, the Springbok Sevens team won the tournament in Dubai, but the log points earned in Dubai and George (losing semi-finalists) were later subtracted because of a player-eligibility issue.
Tournament information – Cell C Nelson Mandela Bay SA Sevens

Round 3 - 7 and 8 December 2013

Host union: South Africa (SARU)

Venue: Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium

City: Port Elizabeth

Capacity: 48 459

Website: www.southafrica7s.co.za

Twitter: @southafrica7s and @bokrugby

Tournament and media enquiries: Rayaan Adriaanse SARU Media Manager

Tel: +27829920022

Email: rayaan@sarugby.co.za

Pools 2013

Pool A: Fiji, Scotland, Australia, France

Pool B: South Africa, Kenya, Canada, Spain

Pool C: New Zealand, Wales, Portugal, Portugal, USA

Pool D: England, Samoa, Argentina, Zimbabwe

Fixtures: South Africa (local time, South Africa)

Saturday 7 December

South Africa v Canada 13:12

South Africa v Spain 16:18

South Africa v Kenya 19:58
Past winners

2012: New Zealand
2011: New Zealand
2010: New Zealand (George)
2009: New Zealand (George)
2008: South Africa (George)
2007: New Zealand (George)
2006: New Zealand (George)
2005: Fiji (George)
2004: New Zealand (George)
2003: England (George)
2002: Fiji (George)
2001: New Zealand (Durban)
2000: New Zealand (Durban)
1999: Fiji (Stellenbosch)
Kyle Brown – Forward (captain)

Physical: 1.82m & 96 kg

DOB: 06/02/1987, Cape Town

Education: SACS, Cape Town and University of Cape Town

Fast Facts: South African Sevens Player of the Year in 2010. Missed most of 2012/13 season through injury, so will be keen to make most his opportunities in 2013/14.

Tournaments: 35 - debut Dubai 2008; 295 points (59 tries)

One of the real stalwarts on the world sevens stage, Brown will be looking for a strong season having missed seven tournaments last season due to ankle and knee injuries. An honest player with high fitness levels and a natural leader, his presence on the pitch is an inspiring sight. His aerial skills are a highlight of his play.
Cecil Afrika (Back)

Physical: 1.75m & 72kg;
DOB: 03/03/1988, Port Elizabeth

Education: Missionvale Primary Port Elizabeth and Hentie Cilliers High School, Virginia


Other squads: Down Touch Griffons (Craven Week, Under-19, Under-21, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup), SA Schools, Junior Springboks (JWC 2008).

Tournaments: 26 - debut Wellington 2009; 804 points (95 tries, 164 conversions)

Generally rated as one of the best exponent of the sevens code in recent times, Afrika’s presence on the field not only occupy the defensive state of mind from opponents, but a mental grip as well. Afrika just passed 800 series points in Dubai and will be looking to break into the 100 career tries bracket in Port Elizabeth.
**Branco du Preez (Back)**

Physical: 1.66m & 75kg; DOB: 08/05/1990, George

Education: Van der Hoven Primary & PW Botha College (George), Harmony Sports Academy, Virginia, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) Pretoria

Fast facts: He loves pizza and listening to jazz. Du Preez played scrumhalf and centre for the Junior Boks in the IRB Junior World Championships in 2010.

Other Squads: Griffons (Coca-Cola Craven Week, Under-19); TUT (FNB Varsity Cup), Blue Bulls (Under-19, Under-21), South Africa (Under-20)


Du Preez has become a real stalwart in the squad, with his ability to play anywhere in the backs a great benefit. Dynamite comes in small packages and Du Preez certainly provides just that with his explosive pace and lightning breaks. He missed the large part of the 2012/13 season though injury and it was no coincidence that South Africa won in Las Vegas and Tokyo upon his return to the squad.
Chris Dry (Forward)

Physical: 1.91m & 98kg; DOB: 13/02/1988, Cape Town

Education: Grey Primary, Grey College (Bloemfontein), Central University of Technology (CUT), Bloemfontein.

Fast facts: Chris plays as a loose forward in the fifteens code. His favourite food is lamb ribs. He is a self-proclaimed garage junkie who loves fixing things.

Other Squads: Free State (Schools Academy, Under-19, Under-21, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup); University of the Free State (FNB Varsity Cup)

Tournaments: 30 - debut Adelaide 2010; 265 points (53 tries)

Dry will be one of the core players for coach Neil Powell in this series. A very mobile and strong player, Dry brings physicality, line-out skills and grunt to the team. His experience and leadership will be an added bonus. He has scored 21 tries last season and reached 50 career tries in Gold Coast.
Justin Geduld (Back)

Physical: 1.75m & 72kg; DOB: 01/10/1993, Cape Town

Education: Webner Primary, Tygerberg HS, Cape Town

Fast facts: Geduld is a quiet individual who loves listening to kwaito music. His favourite meal is a pasta dish.

Other Squads: DHL Western Province Schools Craven Week, Under-19; SA Under-20 JWC 2013 squad.

Tournaments: Debut - Wellington 2013, 6 tournaments; 111 points (13 tries, 23 conversions)

Geduld is one of the rising stars in the national game. Although of slender build, his deceptive pace and eye for a gap makes him a very difficult opponent. The young outside back also brings flair into the game. He also represented the Junior Springboks in the Junior World Championship in France in 2013.
Frankie Horne (Forward)

Physical: 1.83m & 105kg; DOB: 24/02/1983, Port Elizabeth

Education: Hugenote Primary & Hugenote HS (Wellington)

Fast facts: Horne has not missed a tournament since his debut in Dubai in 2007 and is South Africa’s most experienced Sevens player of all time. His favourite food is meat and he loves to listen to the music of Rise Against.

Other Squads: Boland Cavaliers (Under-20, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup)

Tournaments: Debut - Dubai 2007/08, 52 tournaments; 245 points (49 tries)

As the most experience player in the squad, Horne takes charge in matches with a brutal defence. The ever-present veteran will be invaluable if the Springbok Sevens are to win this tournament again. He will extend his HSBC Sevens World Series record of consecutive tournaments to 53 this weekend.
Steven Hunt (Back)

Physical: 1.78m & 85kg; DOB: 14/10/1988, Port Elizabeth

Education: Grey Junior & Grey High School (Port Elizabeth), University of Stellenbosch

Fast facts: Hunt loves basil pesto pasta and prefers to listen to the tunes of DJ Fresh on the Ultimix@6.

Other Squads: Eastern Province (Schools Academy, Under-19); Western Province (Under-19, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup); University of Stellenbosch (FNB Varsity Cup)

Tournaments: Debut – Wellington (2009/10), 20 tournaments, 216 points (42 tries, 3 conversions)

Hunt is any coach’s dream. His error rate is very low, his basics impeccable and his understanding of sevens second to none. A winger in fifteens, Hunt’s nose for the tryline should see him high up in the try-scoring stats in 2012/13. Now back to full fitness, he could be a real game breaker.
Werner Kok (Utility)

Physical: 1.77m & 80kg; DOB: 17/01/1993, Nelspruit

Education: Nelspruit Primary, Nelspruit High School

Fast facts: Kok loves Hip Hop music, his favourite meal is pizza and fish and any re-run of Black Hawk Down will keep him glued to the screen.

Other Squads: Pumas Grant Khomo Under-16; Craven Week Under-18, DHL Western Province Under-19; SA Elite Player Development Sevens

Tournaments: Debut – London 2013 - 2 tournament (15 points, 3 tries)

Kok is a product of the SA Elite Player Development Sevens squad and has delivered some impressive performances in their wins in Nairobi, Kenya and Dubai at the International Invitational. He is fast and strong and was a stand-out on the wing for the DHL Western Province team that won the Under-19 provincial Championship in 2012.
Cheslin Kolbe (back)

Physical: 1.70m & 70kg DOB: 28/10/1993, Kraaifontein

Education: Simonsberg Primary & Brackenfell HS (Cape Town)

Fast facts: Kolbe was a member of the DHL Western Province team who won the 2012 ABSA Under-19 Provincial Championship and make his Absa Currie Cup debut in 2013. He also represented the Junior Springboks at the JWC in France. Kolbe loves to listen to R&B music and states pasta as his favourite food.

Other Squads: Western Province Schools Craven Week, DHL Western Province Under-19, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup); Junior Springboks.


Kolbe is one of the best attackers in the business and plays with equal ease at fullback and wing in the fifteens game. He has a brilliant side-step and a great burst of acceleration. Generally accepted as one of the most exciting young players in the country, much is expected of the young Capetonian this weekend.
Sampie Mastriet (back)

Physical: 1.80m & 84kg

DOB: 03/08/1990, Mariasdal

Fast Facts: Mastriet is on loan from the Blue Bulls, where he represented the Vodacom Bulls and Vodacom Blue Bulls in Vodacom Super Rugby and Absa Currie Cup in 2013.

Other Squads: Vodacom Bulls Super Rugby, Vodacom Blue Bulls Currie Cup, Junior Springboks.

Tournaments: 4 - debut Hong Kong 2010; 80 points (16 tries).

Mastriet is a deadly finisher and normally ends up top scorer in any competition his team plays in. A promising debut on the HSBC Sevens World Series was thwarted after only two tournaments with a call-up to the Vodacom Blue Bulls Currie Cup side. The winger also celebrated his Vodacom Super Rugby debut for the Vodacom Bulls in 2013 with a try.
Albertus (Kwagga) Smit - Forward

Physical: 1.82m & 82 kg

DOB: 11/06/1993, Lydenburg

Education: Lydenburg Primary, HTS Middelburg

Fast Facts: Played for the Junior Springboks in France at the 2013 IRB Junior World Championship as a loose forward. He was also part of the MTN Golden Lions Under-19 team and Under-21 teams that contested the Absa Provincial Age Group Championships. A Steak and Chips meal makes him happy.

Tournaments: - 0- debut Port Elizabeth, 0 points.

Smith has been part of the Springboks Sevens Elite Development squad for the last two years and his elevation into the senior squad was a matter of time. A tireless player around the tackle area with good distribution skills, Smit has all the abilities to stay in the squad for a long time. It is no coincidence that the EPDS has won tournaments in Dubai, Nairobi and George with Smith as a squad member.
Philip Snyman (Forward)

Physical: 1.88m & 98kg; DOB: 26/04/1987, Bloemfontein

Education: Grey College Primary, Grey College Bloemfontein, University of Free State

Fast facts: Nothing gets Snyman going better than the music of U2 and a healthy portion of steak.

Other Squads: Free State (Craven Week Schools, Under-19, Under-21, Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup); Griffons Absa Currie Cup; Toyota Cheetahs Super Rugby.

Tournaments: Debut - Dubai 2010, 17 tournaments, 106 points (15 tries, 15 conversions)

Snyman is another Super Rugby player coming back to sevens and the experience picked up in those competitions will make this fast and strong winger a valuable asset to the Springbok Sevens team. He loves scoring tries at all levels, exactly the contribution coach Neil Powell will be looking for in Port Elizabeth.

Milestones

• Frankie Horne is the only player in the history of the HSBC Sevens World Series to play 50 consecutive tournaments. He will extend that record to 53 when he takes to the field at the NMS Stadium.

• Cecil Afrika will be looking to score 100 career tries in Port Elizabeth.

• Frankie Horne will be looking for 50 career tries in Port Elizabeth
Team Management

Neil Powell – Head coach Powell has a stellar career as a player, representing the Springbok Sevens team in 32 tournament on the HSBC Sevens World Series and captained the side for a number of seasons as well. He also played in the Vodacom Super Rugby competition for the Cats and The Sharks and represented Toyota Free State, Vodacom Blue Bulls and GWK Griquas in the Absa Currie Cup competition.

After he retired from the playing field, he took to coaching and took charge of the Elite Player Development Sevens squad. Tournament wins with this team in Kenya’s Safari Sevens, the International tournament at the Dubai Sevens and the IPL Sevens in George pointed to his affinity in his new role. He also coached the South African Under-18 side to the gold medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Australia in 2013.

Hugh Everson – Physiotherapist Everson has worked as a physiotherapist for several top-class rugby teams, most notably the South African Under-19 team (2002-06) and Griqualand West in the Absa Currie Cup and Vodacom Cup (2004-06). Everson was also the physiotherapist for the SA Schools side in 2003 and for the Griquas U19 and U21 teams (1999-2003).

Allan Temple-Jones – Biokineticist Temple-Jones started out at the Sports Science Institute of South Africa in 2005, but is now full-time with SARU. He did his honours in Sports Science, specialising in biokinetics, and, apart from the Springbok Sevens team, has worked with the SA Under-19 side. “TJ” has also been involved in other sporting codes and has worked with the South African men’s hockey side, the Cape Cobras cricket team and professional football sides like Santos, Mamelodi Sundowns and Moroka Swallows.

Ashley Evert - Team Manager Evert is a former South African Under-21 assistant-coach and won many provincial Under-19 and Under-21 titles with the Vodacom Blue Bulls. He has joined the Springbok Sevens team as team manager two years ago and is hugely responsible for the seamless administration the squad enjoys.

Team Contact details:

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Fast Facts Springbok Sevens

• There have been 151 Springboks Sevens players since the inception of the World Series in 1999 (excluding Sevens World Cups).

• No less than 31 BlitzBokke have gone on to represent the Springboks.

• Current Springbok captain Jean de Villiers is a former Springbok Sevens player and represented his country 11 times in the IRB World Series. Bryan Habana played in two tournaments.

Top Scorers

1. Fabian Juries, 925 points (44 tournaments)
2. Mzwandile Stick, 855 points (37 tournaments)
3. Cecil Afrika, 804 points (26 tournaments)
4. Stefan Basson, 691 points (19 tournaments)

Most tournament appearances

1. Frankie Horne 52
2. Fabian Juries, 44
3. Marius Schoeman, 42
4. Mzwandile Stick, 37
5. Kyle Brown 35