Content

HSBC Sevens World Series Schedule
Message from the Coach
Springbok Sevens – Brief history
Tournament information – Japan
Springbok Sevens Player Profiles
Springbok Sevens Management Profiles
HSBC Sevens World Series Schedule 2013/14

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 Sevens 7/8 December 2013 (Winner: South Africa)

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

New Zealand: Wellington Sevens 7/8 February 2014 (Winner: New Zealand)

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

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

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

England: London Sevens 10/11 May 2014 (Defending Champions: New Zealand)
Message from the Springbok Sevens coach

There are a number of players in the squad who have tasted success in Tokyo last year so we will definitely draw on that experience when we play over the weekend.

Many people suggest that the World Series is a two-horse race between New Zealand and us. I do not believe that for one minute.

Yes we are just two points behind leaders New Zealand and it’s a very good position to be in. However, Fiji and England are still in the race and both capable of winning some of the remaining tournaments, including the next two in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

We did not manage to beat New Zealand in their home Cup Final, but we are not going to get caught up in that result. I believe that if we do things right on the field then the result will look after itself.

It’s going to be another tough tournament and it will only get harder as the season progresses.

In terms of our game – we want to tick the consistency box and our main is to reach the semi-final and if we can manage to do that again, then anything is possible.

It is good to have Seabelo Senatla back again after his injury setback which prevented him from playing in Wellington. He was in good form in Las Vegas and is always a threat on attack.

Unfortunately Cecil Afrika is not in Tokyo because of a hamstring injury, which means that Justin Geduld will play flyhalf. Stephen Dippenaar will be our back up in that important position.

With the likes of Kenya, Argentina and Japan we certainly have a tough pool and we will have to focus from the first kick off. We have a good rivalry with Kenya, Argentina is always tough and Japan will launch a strong challenge on their home ground.

We are certainly looking forward to the challenges and hopefully the guys will be able to make us proud once more here in the Far East.

Enjoy the action!

Neil Powell
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 (19)**

Wellington, 2002  
Cardiff, 2003  
Dubai, 2003*  
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  
Port Elizabeth 2013  
Las Vegas 2014

*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 – Tokyo Sevens

Venue: Prince Chichibu Memorial Ground
Capacity: 27,188

Host union
Japan Rugby Football Union
2-8-35 Kita-Aoyama, Minato-ku Tokyo, 107-0061 Japan
Tel: +81-3-3401-3551
Fax: +81-3-5410-5523
jrfu@rugby-japan.or.jp

Website
www.tokyo7s.jp (Japanese and English)
www.jrfu.org (English)

Tickets

Stadium
The Prince Chichibu Memorial Ground
(秩父宮ラグビー場, Chichibunomiya Ragubi-jō)

General enquiries
tokyosevens@rugby-japan.or.jp

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media@rugby-japan.or.jp
Pools 2014

Pool A: New Zealand, Canada, Wales, Portugal

Pool B: South Africa, Argentina, Kenya, Japan

Pool C: Fiji, Samoa, France, United States

Pool D: England, Australia, Scotland, Spain

Past winners

2013: South Africa

2012: Australia

2001: New Zealand

2000: Fiji
Fixtures: South Africa (local time, South Africa)

Saturday 22 March

South Africa v Kenya 05h12
South Africa v Japan 07h52
South Africa v Argentina 12h04

Springbok Sevens Head to Head:

vs Kenya

Played: 34 South Africa: 30 Kenya: 3 Drawn: 1
Points Scored: 916 - 304
Average: 27 - 9

Highest Scores:
South Africa won 49 - 10 George - Plate Semi Final 11 Dec 04
Kenya won 22 - 17 Wellington - Pool Feb 09

Previous encounters in Tokyo - none

vs Japan

Played: 13 South Africa: 12 Japan: 1 Drawn: 0
Points Scored: 495 - 76
Average: 38 - 6

Highest scores:
South Africa won 50 - 0 Wellington - Pool Feb 05
Japan won 24 - 19 Tokyo - Pool Apr 00

Previous encounters in Tokyo: 01.04.00 SA lost 19 - 24

vs Argentina

Played: 43 South Africa: 30 Argentina: 12 Drawn: 1
Points Scored: 894 - 474

Average: 21 - 11

Highest scores:

South Africa won 50 - 0 Wellington - Pool Feb 04

Argentina won 28 - 19 George - Cup Semi Final Dec 05

Previous encounters in Tokyo – none
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 the 2012/13 season due to injury, so he will be keen to make the most his opportunities in 2013/14.

Tournaments: 38 - debut Dubai 2008; 325 points (6 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.

Stephan Dippenaar (Utility)

Physical: 1.88m & 94kg, DOB: 03/01/1988, Moorreesburg

Education: Dirkie Uys Primary & Paul Roos Gymnasium (Stellenbosch)

**Fast facts:** Dippenaar has won a Vodacom Super Rugby title with the Bulls. His favourite food is pizza and steak and he loves to listen to rock music.

Other Squads: Western Province (Schools Academy, Under-19); Blue Bulls (Under-19, Under-21, Vodacom Cup; Absa Currie Cup); Bulls (Vodacom Super Rugby); South Africa (Under-19, Junior Boks)

Tournaments: 18; Debut – Wellington 2011/12, 125 points (25 tries)

As one of the young stars of South African rugby at the time, Dippenaar’s decision to move to sevens was a massive boost to the code. This friendly and outgoing player is a popular squad member amongst the fans. He has grown into his role of senior player and will be very influential on attack.

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 Springboks 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 among the backs being a great benefit. Dynamite comes in small packages and Du Preez certainly provides just that with his explosive pace and lightning breaks. He missed a large part of the 2012/13 season though injury and it was no co-incidence 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 looseforward in the 15-a-side 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: 33 - debut Adelaide 2010; 295 points (59 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 scored 21 tries last season and reached 50 career tries at the 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.
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: 55, Debut - Dubai 2007/08, 260 points (52 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 56 this weekend.

**Steven Hunt (Backline)**

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 to listen to music while cooking his favourite dish - Basil Pesto Pasta.

Other Squads: Eastern Province Academy Schools, Under-19; DHL Western Province Under-21, Absa Currie Cup

Tournaments: 21; Debut George 2010 - 216 points (42 tries, 3 conversions)

Hunt is one of the veterans in the team, but also one of the more influential ones. He has suffered some injuries that halted his progress on the circuit, but has shown good determination to fight back and regain his place in the squad. A versatile player that can play anywhere in the backline, the former winger in fifteens has not lost his appetite for scoring tries, but in recent years, has played the role of playmaker with great success.
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: 5, Debut – London 2013 (55 points, 11 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. He scored the winning try in the 2014 Las Vegas final against New Zealand.

Seabelo Senatla (Backline)

Physical: 1.86m & 77kg, DOB: 10/03/1993, Welkom

Education: Koppie Alleen Primary, Riebeeckstad High, Central University of Technology, Free State

Fast facts: Senatla was a sprinter at high school where he was picked up by rugby scouts.

Other Squads: Griffons Craven Week Schools, CUT Varsity Cup, Junior Springboks 2013.

Tournaments: 6; Debut - Wellington 2013: 105 points (21 tries)

Senatla is one of the rising stars in South African rugby and already represented his country at the Rugby World Cup Sevens in Moscow and the Junior World Championships in France in 2013. A prolific try scorer with searing pace and great footwork, Senatla is set to be a major trump card for the Springbok Sevens team in the remainder of the HSBC Sevens World Series.

Albertus (Kwagga) Smith - 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 looseforward. 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: - 2- debut Port Elizabeth, 15 points (3 tries).

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, Smith has all the abilities to stay in the squad for a long time. 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.

**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: 20; Debut - Dubai 2010: 111 points (16 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 Japan.

**Jamba Ulengo (Forward)**

Physical: 1.85m & 88kg, DOB: 7/01/1990, Vryburg

Education: Fauna Primary, Jim Fouchê High, University of Free State (Bloemfontein)

**Fast Facts:** Ulengo is a big soul music fan, never far away from a smile and loves pizza.

Other Squads: Toyota Free State (Craven Week Schools, Under-19 Provincial competition, Under-21 Provincial Competition; Vodacom Cup, Absa Currie Cup); FNB Shimlas Varsity Cup.

Tournaments: 9; Debut Edinburgh 2012 - 75 points (15 tries)

One of the most promising young wingers in the country, Ulengo has embraced the opportunities that came his way. He was always in representative teams and has played in all Free State representative age group sides since he was 15. He is big, strong and fast and once he gets the hang of the World Series, will be a huge player on the circuit.
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 56 this weekend.

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 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 152 Springboks Sevens players since the inception of the World Series in 1999 (excluding Sevens World Cups).

• No less than 31 BlitzBoks 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, 849 points (28 tournaments)
4. Stefan Basson, 691 points (19 tournaments)

Most tournament appearances

1. Frankie Horne 55
2. Fabian Juries, 44
3. Marius Schoeman, 42
4. Kyle Brown 38
5. Mzwandile Stick, 37