



SOUTH AFRICAN MASTERS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

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❖ THE MASTERS VOICE ❖

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER - SAMS

REPORT NOVEMBER 2009

7th WORLD QUADRENNIAL MASTERS GAMES, Sydney Australia 10 – 18 October 2009.

Previous venues:

- 1985 – Toronto, Canada
- 1989 – Denmark (Aalborg, Aauhus & Herning)
- 1994 – Brisbane, Australia
- 1998 – Portland, USA
- 2002 – Melbourne, Australia
- 2005 – Edmonton, Canada

Sydney's OLYMPIC PARK (Olympic Games 2000) was the main and most ideal venue for the World's biggest multi sports event for participants, 28 292 Athletes, (Australia 19 729 participants, other countries 8 563) from 95 countries, participated in 28 sports codes at 72 different venues (Most venues at Olympic Park). A total of 45 000 sport enthusiast, including 6 000 voluntary workers, managers, medical personnel, administrators, coaches, umpires and companions.

Minimum ages: 30/35 years as determined by individual codes, (swimming 25) Participation in age categories, 5 or 10 years.

Youngest competitor: Facundo Chernikov, Swimmer (male) from Canada and oldest competitor, Lawn Bowler, Reg Trewin, 101 years from Australia. Other remarkable veteran performers: All Australians, Margot Bates, swimming 98 years. Dorothy De Low, Table Tennis 99. Ruth Frith, Athletics (shot put, javelin hammer & discus) 100. John Gordon sailing 82. Ralph Howard, Rowing 91. Eric Doughty, Cycling 88. Canadian, Olga Kotelko, Athletics (long jump & discus) 90.

Average age at Games, 30 – 101 years, (all competitors) – 50 years.

A FAMILY AFFAIR at the GAMES 77 year old dad, Don Smith together with his six sons, ages 48, 47, 46, 45, 41 and 40 participated in the age categories in swimming, 3 of the sons lined up with Don in the men's 4 x 50 Freestyle.

SWIMMING – total competitors 1 962, had the most entries in the 70 years + age groups.

Many Ex-World class – Gold, Silver and Bronze medallists from past Olympics, World Championships and Commonwealth Games participated in various codes in great style.

The OPENING CEREMONY at the ANZ stadium kicked off in spectacular fashion with the competitor parade as thousands of participants waving their country's flags entered and filled the huge stadium.

The GAMES most appropriate MOTTO: 'FIT FUN AND FOREVER YOUNG'

The organization of this vast event was superbly handled by all partners involved. Principal partners: Australian Government, NSW Government, the International Masters Games Association, City of Sydney, Clubs NSW. Followed by the Media, sponsors, local governments, clubs and communities. An unforgettable experience of a lifetime to every sport men and women involved in the biggest ever multi-sport event, for participants, in the world, to date.

SOUTH AFRICAS PARTICIPATION:

Approximately 125 masters entered in the following sports codes: Athletics (most entries) Baseball (one men's team) Lawn Bowls (individuals) Hockey (2 men's teams) Netball (Individuals joining Australian Teams) Softball (2 Ladies Teams, Gauteng and WP) Swimming (5 individuals) Tennis (individuals)

Many South Africans, living in Sydney, visited the various venues. The SA participants were easily spotted in our well known Green & Gold tracksuits together with our Flag.

SAMSAS Advert regarding our 2011 7th Masters Games was proudly displayed in the Games Guide pg 91. (More info next newsletter)

GAMES RESULTS: All results on Games website: www.2009worldmasters.com ± 17 pages.

PARTICIPANTS TOTAL COMPETITORS LIST:

Archery - 286	Hockey - 1075	Squash - 449
Athletics - 2824	Lawn Bowls	Surf Lifesaving - 64
Badminton - 853	Netball - 1161	Swimming - 1962
Baseball - 977	Orienteering - 1159	Table Tennis - 283
Basketball - 1615	Rowing - 2079	Tennis - 659
Canoe/Kayak - 866	Rugby Union - 447	Touch Football - 82
Cycling - 1125	Sailing - 476	Volleyball - 1181
Diving - 86	Shooting - 408	Water Polo - 302
Football - 2909	Softball - 2547	Weightlifting - 461
Golf - 744		

NEXT VENUE 8th World Masters Games 2013 in Europe

(first time): Torino Italy 'SPORT FOR LIFE, SPORT FOR ALL' Venue that hosted XX Winter Olympics in 2006. Closer venue to South African Masters, start saving!! SAMSA welcomes all new and young masters who qualified during 2009 as future participants.

The Masters Voice is distributed by e-mail / fax to all masters.

Kindly submit your e-mail / fax to SAMSA office:

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'THE CHALLENGE NEVER ENDS!'

Rita Oosthuizen

President