



REPORT ON SA MASTERS BASEBALL TWENTYSECOND ANNUAL INTER-PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT 2014

Venue & Hosts. The SA Masters Baseball Association's (SAMBA) 2014 Inter-Provincial Tournament (IPT) was conducted at the Toti Cardinals Baseball Club in Amanzimtoti from Tuesday 14th to Saturday 18th October. The tournament was hosted by the KZN Masters Baseball Association who did an excellent job. Age groups were aligned with international norms i.e. Masters, aged 35 to 44, and Vets aged 45 and older. There was no Junior Masters tournament.

Teams Entered. A total of 14 teams participated, consisting of 10 Masters and 4 Vets teams. In comparison, in 2013 in Benoni 16 teams entered, 13 Teams in Despatch in 2012, 18 teams in Pretoria in 2011, 18 teams in Somerset West in 2010 and 17 teams in Johannesburg in 2009. This 2014 tournament was the second occasion since the inception of Junior Masters in 2002, that this division was not contested. Participating districts in the 2014 tournament were KZN (three teams), WP (three teams), SWG (one team), Gauteng (three teams), Northerns (one team), Easterns (two teams) and Mandela Bay (one team).

The Vets division was contested by 4 teams. The Masters division was split into Elite and Social Sections with 4 teams in the former section and 6 in the latter. The Elite Masters Section played a Triple-Round and a final, the Vets played a Double-Round, playoffs and final, and the Social Section played a double round, followed by a final. Fixtures were scheduled daily every two hours from 08h30 to 16h30 (some days games started at 10h00) inclusive, on four fields. There were no fields with floodlights available, thus no night games could be scheduled. It is again confirmed that, based on the average numbers of team entries during the past number of years, regions planning to host tournaments should realise that a tournament demands a minimum of 4 to 4½ days, four fields with at least four games per field per day and good weather (i.e. no delays). A standard dimension for all fields is also of importance.

Results and 2015 Seeding

Masters Elite Section (35-44).

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Runs For	Against	Points
Easterns	9	6	3	0	91	59	12
Western Province	9	5	3	1	52	58	11
KZN	9	4	3	2	66	45	10
Gauteng	9	1	7	1	42	89	3
Totals	36	16	16	4	251	251	36

The final was contested between WP and Easterns with WP emerging as the winners 13 – 6.
Seeding for 2015: 1 = WP. 2 = Easterns. 3 = KZN 4 = Gauteng.

Masters Social Section (35-44).

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Runs For	Against	Points
Mandela Bay	10	7	2	1	173	67	15
WP	10	7	2	1	114	80	15
Easterns	10	6	3	1	125	104	13
KZN	10	4	4	2	91	110	10
Gauteng	10	2	8	0	69	147	4
SWG	10	1	8	1	89	153	3
Totals	60	27	27	6	661	661	60

Final: WP 17 – Mandela Bay 16.

Seeding for 2015: 1 = WP. 2 = Mandela Bay. 3 = Easterns A. 4 = KZN. 5 = Gauteng. 6 = SWG.

Vets Section (45+).

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Runs For	Against	Points
Western Province	6						
KZN	6	Data	To	Be	Confirmed		
Northerns	6						
Gauteng	6						
Totals							

Playoff Fixtures: 3rd vs 4th : Northerns 8 – Gauteng 1 (Game 1).

1st vs 2nd : WP ? – KZN ? (Game 2).

Winner G1 vs Loser G2 : Northerns 6 - KZN 24 (Game 3).

Final: Winner G2 vs Winner G3 : WP 18 – KZN 9.

Seeding for 2015: 1 = WP. 2 = KZN. 3 = KZN. 4 = Easterns. 5/6/7 – EP/Gaut/SWG if entered.

On completion of the tournament 66 games of baseball had been played with exception to a few games which were called off due to the weather. Virtually all of the Elite Masters games were called by official umpires and assisted by players on bases. Player-umpires officiated in most of the Social Masters and Vets games. The Selectors completed their selections on the evening of Fri 4 October.

The prize giving ceremony took place after the final fixtures on Sat 18th October at approx. 13h00.

The SA Masters Select team, as selected from the participating Elite teams, was announced during the prize giving.

2013 SA Masters Select Team

NAME	SURNAME	FIELDING	PROVINCE
Gavin	Jeffries	Pitcher	WP
Sean	Swartz	Catcher	Easterns
Paul	vd Merwe	1 st Base	WP
Richard	Greenslade	2 nd Base	Easterns
Roger	Lombard	3 rd Base	WP
Mark	Pressly	SS	Easterns
Keith	Singe	Left Outfield	KZN
Bongani	Mthembu	Center Outfield	Gauteng
Chris	Van Toner	Right Outfield	WP
Jacques	Groenewald	Utility	Gauteng
Grant	Arbuckle	Utility	Gauteng
Dion	Desauniois	Utility	KZN
Gareth	Selars	Utility	WP
Brian	Lombard	Coach	WP
TBC	TBC	Manager	WP

Conclusion. The fields and facilities at Amanzimtoti were in very good condition. The layout of the grounds lends the facility to hosting national tournaments again.

The support and catering provided by the LOC under the guidance of Andrew Meaker was excellent.

The change rooms, showers and toilets were all well maintained. The Lords and Legends Restaurant and Pub provided all the catering.

The extra effort that Toti Cardinals and KZN Masters went to, to make the tournament a success, is acknowledged and commended.

SAMBA conveys its sincere thanks to all the official scorers and umpires (convened by Les Cook and Grant Rabie respectively) for their many hours of hard work during the tournament.

SAMBA's congratulations are extended to the winning teams and the members of the Select Squad.

2015 Tournament. The 2015 SA Masters Baseball Tournament is scheduled to be hosted by SWG Masters in October 2015. Further details will be promulgated at www.samastersbaseball.co.za.

Yours in baseball,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dion Desauois', with a stylized, looped design.

(DION DESAUNOIS)
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

(With Inputs made by Convener of Scorers Lesley Cook)