



AIRPORTS COMPANY SOUTH AFRICA

**DISABILITY TRADE AND LIFESTYLE
EXPO & CONFERENCE**

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

13 September 2011

685 words

ACSA Disability Trade and Lifestyle Expo and Conference

Catch the Sporting Action at ACSA Disability 2011!

Calling all sports enthusiasts! The ACSA Disability Trade and Lifestyle Conference will this year host a number of talented sports stars with disabilities, and also showcase the talents of up and coming youngsters.

ACSA Disability takes place from 6 to 8 October at the Sandton Convention Centre in Sandton, Johannesburg, Gauteng.

Special Olympics

Four leading disability sports organisations will take part in sports demonstrations at this year's show. The action-packed sports programme will see Special Olympics, a newcomer to the show, hosting several events from its sporting codes.

Young Athletes Demonstration: 10h00 – 12h00, 6 October 2011

“Our athletes are from special schools and disability homes,” explains Annemarie van Wieringen, the organisation’s Chief Executive Officer. “They will be playing a number of friendly games in different sporting codes. Our Young Athletes Programme is designed for children from two to seven. It helps promote physical development and strengthens self esteem, and builds the skills the kids need to be eligible to participate in formal sports competition within Special Olympics.”

Special Olympics Basketball: 10h00 – 13h00, 7 October 2011

“We’re inviting everyone to come and watch Special Olympics basketball played by athletes with intellectual disabilities. These youngsters also come from various special schools and centres, and will demonstrate 3-on-3 basketball.”

Special Olympics Football: 15h00 – 17h00, 6 October 2011

“Come and support our Special Olympics athletes as they demonstrate their skill and ability in the 4-a-side football matches.”

Unified floor hockey: 10h00 – 11h00, 8 October 2011

“Our older Special Olympics athletes will demonstrate unified floor hockey, which involves spectators playing with the athletes in inclusive teams. Floor hockey is similar to ice hockey, but is played on a smooth indoor surface and was introduced to Special Olympics as a means of encouraging participation by warmer and drier countries in the Special Olympics World Winter Games.”

Special Olympics is a non-profit organisation that provides year-round training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with an intellectual disability. It seeks to change the lives of its athletes through the power of sport by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual

disabilities, promoting acceptance for all and fostering communities of understanding worldwide.

Wheelchair Tennis South Africa

Sponsored by the Airports Company South Africa, Wheelchair Tennis South Africa (WTSA) will showcase some of South Africa's top players in a series of demonstration matches. "And we will be introducing something completely new and exciting this year; this is not to be missed!" says WTSA's Manager Karen Losch.

Wheelchair Rugby

"Wheelchair Rugby Pretoria will be hosting a series of 3-on-3 games", says Vic Buitendag, the organisation's Head of Development. "It's our first time participating in the show and we're excited to show off our sport to the public."

Wheelchair Basketball South Africa

Several 3-on-3 games will also be hosted by Wheelchair Basketball South Africa (WBSA). "We want to raise public awareness of wheelchair basketball," says Charles Saunders, WBSA's Director of Operations. "The 3-on-3 wheelchair rugby and wheelchair basketball games are played on a half normal size court. Any person with a disability is not limited by that disability, only by failing to accept the challenges thrown at them."

About ACSA Disability

"At ACSA Disability, our aim is not just to inform, but also to engage and entertain – everybody is welcome!" says Bette McNaughton, Event Director at Fair Consultants SA, organisers of the show. "Admission into the expo and sporting events is free and parking is also free for visitors who present the free ticket (available from bettemc@fairconsultants.com)"

The ACSA Disability 2011 expo is aimed at people of all ages with a wide range of physical, sensory and developmental disabilities, their families and caregivers. Admission to the expo and sporting events is free. For the full events programme, visit www.fairconsultants.com.

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/ACSADisability>, or Like us on our FaceBook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/ACSA-Disability-Expo/159922657413995>. Visit our Blog: <http://acsadisability.wordpress.com/>

For more information on exhibiting at or visiting the show, contact: Bette McNaughton, Event Director
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Photos:

Photos and Captions (Photos available in hi-res on request)



Caption: "Budding young athletes will be participating in the opening sports events at ACSA Disability 2011."



Caption: “Athletes with intellectual disabilities from Special Olympics will demonstrate 3-on-3 basketball”



Caption: “Special Olympics athletes will demonstrate unified floor hockey, involving spectators in inclusive teams at ACSA Disability 2011.”



Caption: “4-a-side football matches, hosted by Special Olympics, will be a highlight at ACSA Disability 2011.”



Caption: “Some of South Africa’s top tennis stars will be participating in Wheelchair Tennis South Africa’s demonstration games at the show.”



Caption: "Catch wheelchair rugby in action at ACSA Disability 2011."

Issued by:	CVLC
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