

## World Transplant Games

The 20th World Transplant Summer Games took place from 23 to 30 August in Mar del Plata, Argentina. This biennial event lets transplant recipients from across the world compete in various sports and athletics. Team South Africa left on the 20th of August to once again represent our country among 43 other nations.

Our team, which consisted of 46 athletes, did a fantastic job by finishing third overall and raking in a total of 89 medals – 24 bronze, 24 silver and an incredible 41 gold. Great Britain & Northern Ireland took first place, followed by the host country, Argentina.

The purpose of the games is to visibly demonstrate the benefits of successful organ transplantation. It is also a wonderful way to raise public awareness which not only increases organ donation rates, but also promotes the full rehabilitation and wellbeing of participants.

Executive Secretary & Team Manager of the South African Transplant Sports Association (SATSA), Hermann Steyn said that this event was the perfect platform for athletes to compete at the highest possible level as well as celebrating a second chance at life with more than a thousand people from different nations experiencing the same feeling. At each event he sees reconnecting and forging of friendships characterised by unconditional acceptance.

Hermann also added: "We intend to maintain the high quality of competitiveness and improving on our third position by continuing to maintain the high qualification standards and conducting at least two national training camps after our National Games in 2016 in order to prepare for 2017 World Games in Spain."

