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www.nbaanamibia.com

October 16, 2017

## **NBAA National World Championships Team 2017**

### **Captains Report**

### **Black Bass World Championships - Vaal River - South Africa**

#### **To whom it may concern:**

The Namibia Bass Angling Association (NBAA) facilitated the participation of the Namibia National Bass Angling Team in the 13<sup>th</sup> Black Bass World Championships angling tournament hosted at the Vaal River, Gauteng Province in South Africa from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2017. The event was hosted by SABAA (South African Bass Angling Association) in conjunction with FIPsed (Fédération Internationale de la Pêche Sportive) & CIPS (Confédération Internationale de la Pêche Sportive).

This tournament is currently the biggest international team bass fishing tournament in the world and is a very prestigious event with anglers from Namibia, RSA, Zambia, Zimbabwe, United States of America, Spain, Germany, Russia, Italy, Mexico, Croatia and Swaziland competing for the title of World Champion. The event received media coverage from local South African press and highlights of the event will be broadcast on SuperSport. The event also received social media coverage as well as internet coverage from all the countries participating. The weigh in for all 3 tournament days was broadcast live on social media and thousands of supporters, friends and family from all corners of the globe were tuned in to watch the 2 hour long live weigh in broadcasts daily. The broadcasts are still available on [www.Youtube.com](http://www.Youtube.com) for viewing under the 'Just Fishing' channel.

Namibia took this event extremely seriously and could send some of the team to the venue to practice before the two-week cut off. Team members traveled at their own expense to go and fish the venue for 4 days. I would like to thank anglers that went to the practice as I know it took time away from work as

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#### ***Executive Council:***

*Richard Grant (Chairman) • Alec Williams (Vice Chairman) • Collette Carstens (Secretary) • Neels van Tonder (Treasurer)  
James van Rooyen (Tournament Director) • Hendrik Pretorius (Conservation Officer) • Anton de Wit (Development Officer)  
• Andrew Hall (Public Relations Officer)*



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well and added additional expenses which were paid out of the anglers own pockets. During practice, certain patterns were established which proved to be extremely valuable information for when we competed.

The team arrived at Emerald Resort on Sunday the 2nd of October 2017. This was after traveling more than 1500km with boats to get to the venue. Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> was the official registration day and Tuesday and Wednesday were the official practice days. Team Namibia went out on the two practice days to try and improve on the pattern established during the practice prior to the cut-off date, fish were found and we felt confident with our pattern and the size of fish we were getting.

Tournament Day 1: We woke up to a very different Vaal river, it was raining and cold from the outset, we decided to stick to our game plan even with the different weather. Fishing in these conditions were very tough and I want to congratulate my team for their perseverance in these conditions. All boats managed to catch a limit and we could go in search of bigger fish. After the end of day one Namibia was lying in a very respectable 5<sup>th</sup> place and one place above the mighty USA team.

Tournament Day 2: It was decided to stick to our game plan as the weather was much better. Fishing was a lot more difficult and our boats were struggling to catch a limit, the team worked together to try and get all the boats full and in the end, we succeeded. Unfortunately, my boat had our biggest fish die with just minutes before cut off, we were unable to find a replacement and had to go to the scales with only four fish. This really hurt our chances and Namibia dropped to 8<sup>th</sup> position overall.

Tournament Day 3: Our game plan on day three was to get limits on all boats as we believed fishing would be even tougher and the weather turned bad again, all our boats filled up and we got a 5<sup>th</sup> place for day 3 again. Unfortunately, day two cost us a couple of places and Namibia finished in 7<sup>th</sup> overall.

Congratulations to the South African Team that won as well as our own Max Pieper and Ricardo Abrantes who finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the individual standings. Congratulations to Max Pieper again who caught the 4<sup>th</sup> biggest fish of the tournament weighing an impressive 2.26kg.

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The Namibian National Team consisted out of the following anglers.

Alec Williams (Captain)  
Max Pieper  
Ricardo Abrantes  
Jacques Marais  
Richard Grant  
Anton de Wit  
Jürgen Geiger (reserve)  
André van Vuuren (Manager)

A special thanks to our manager André van Vuuren who did a stellar job.

I would like to thank and congratulate my team members for their support and effort throughout the tournament. Namibia can be proud in the way that these anglers conduct and carry themselves. I would also like the team for their spirit and teamwork which was even mentioned at the prize giving ceremony.

As captain of the team I would like to thank all our wonderful sponsors who support the NBAA and the team this year and for many previous years. I will attach a list of these sponsors to the report at a later stage for the fear of leaving some one out.

I would also like to thank the EXCO of the NBAA for their support and guidance.

Regards  
Alec Williams

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From Left to Right:

André van Vuuren (Manager) ; Anton de Wit ; Alec Williams (Captain) ; Richard Grant ; Jacques Marais ; Jürgen Geiger (Reserve) ; Max Pieper

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Ricardo Abrantes (Left) Max Pieper (Right)



Richard Grant (Left) Jacques Marais (Right)

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Alec Williams (standing) ; Anton de Wit (Seated)

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