

## Message from the CEO continues ...

Today, years down the line, we can boast the delivery of 3 of the 6 medals won at the 2012 Olympic Games in London, with a Gold, Silver and Bronze through our Rowing 'Oarsome Foursome', Caster Semenya and Bridgitte Hartley. This year also saw our athletes winning five medals at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, with Cornel Fredericks, Khotso Mokoena and Zack Piontek all winning Gold, a Silver by Kate Roberts and a Bronze by Jacques van Zyl.

Further to this our rowing squad qualified four Olympic-class boats for the A-finals at the World Rowing Championships and Olympic gold medallists James Thompson and John Smith were crowned world champions in the men's lightweight double sculls posting a world-best time in the final, and the heavyweight pair of Shaun Keeling and Vincent Breet were placed 3rd.

At the Senior African Athletics Championships in Marrakech, Morocco the hpc sponsored athletes Cornel Fredericks, Wenda Nel, Lebogang Shange, Khotso Mokoena and Orazio Cremona all won gold in their respective disciplines while Khotso added a Silver in Long Jump to his medal tally.

Bridgitte Hartley claimed a bronze medal in the K1 Women's 500m World Canoeing championships in Russia and Zander Lombard came second in the British Open Amateur Golf Championships. A number of our Judokas went on to win their respective African Championships and in swimming Karin Prinsloo won a number of events in the Mare Nostrum world swimming events. These are but just a few of the excellent performances by our athletes in 2014.

All of these international championships were a great stepping stone on the Road to Rio and gave us a good indication of just where our sponsored athletes currently are in their preparation for Rio 2016, two years from now.

The most exciting part of the journey that the hpc has travelled over the last 12 years is yet to come and, whilst we acknowledge what we have achieved, we also understand that the world of international sport is an ever changing world and that there will always be areas where we can improve upon. We also understand that with technological advances taking place on a daily basis we need to stay abreast of these latest developments or risk being left behind.

We will from the hpc's sport science & medical unit, in partnership with the Institute for Sports Research and the Sports Medicine department of the University of Pretoria, which consists of some of the finest scientists and practitioners in South Africa, ensure that our athletes receive all the support and assistance they need to perform at the highest level.

For the hpc to continue to help our athletes perform at this level we will be striving to secure new corporate sponsorships in the year ahead, as this will give the hpc further financial stability it requires to widen the net and nurture more athletes and assist South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SACOC) and Team South Africa in bringing home more medals. I would therefore like to challenge Corporate South Africa out there to get behind the hpc athletes and in so doing ensure that these young sportsmen and women be given every opportunity to perform at the highest level.

Would you not like to be part of a winning culture and sit back and watch our athletes perform at top international events and be able to say to yourself, I have made a difference and I am part of this winning solution to South African sport?

Toby Sutcliffe  
CEO