

# 2017 TuksSport Colours and Awards

*Text: Wilhelm de Swardt | Image: Reg Caldecott*

The 2017 TuksSport Awards saw Akani Simbine, and Kirsten McCann took top honours by winning the Sportsman and Sportswomen of the Year respectively. The prestigious event took place in Pretoria on Wednesday, 18th October 2017 where a total of 368 athletes and officials were honoured.

McCann made South African rowing history by winning the lightweight women's single sculls at the World Rowing Championships in Florida. She is the first South African female rower to win a gold medal at a senior world championship.

Earlier this year McCann set another benchmark when she won the lightweight single sculls-race in Lucerne. It was the first time a South African female rower won a World Cup-race.

Akani Simbine confirmed his status as one of the world's best sprinters with his fifth-place finish at the World Championships in London. In last year's Olympic final he was also fifth.

His best time of 9.92s in the 100 metres is the fourth fastest internationally for 2017 while the 19.95s he ran in the 200m ranks him fifth on the IAAF-list.

Beating the Olympic champion, Justin Gatlin (USA) at the Doha Diamond League Meeting in the 100m was a definite highlight. Simbine is the first South African sprinter to win the 100m at a Diamond League Meeting. He finished third in two other Diamond League races and currently can boast with 15 sub-ten seconds races to his name.

Mr Toby Sutcliffe, Acting Director of TuksSport, believes that 2017 has been an exceptional year for TuksSport due to a culture that embodies excellence.

"At TuksSport we are conscious of the fact that talent is not enough unless it is driven by an unrelenting desire to be the best and this desire is further supported by an uncompromising commitment to excellence in all aspects of your preparation and participation."

TuksSport's successful year in numbers:

- 7 National Coaches and Managers.
- 9 USSA gold medals for athletics cross country, beach volleyball, chess, cricket, golf, hockey (women), judo, swimming and rowing.
- 44 University of Pretoria students were selected to be part of USSA National teams.
- 70 National Federation and Age Group representatives.
- 84 Senior National Protea representatives.
- 163 Senior Provincial representatives.

2017 TuksSport Colours and Awards:

**Student Sports Administrator of the Year:**

Boyani Mphasha (SSC).

**Administrator of the Year Award:**

Paul de Beer (Aikido).

**Student Sportswoman of the Year:**

Nicole van Wyk (Rowing).

**Student Sportsman of the Year:**

Thando Roto (Athletics).

**Coach of the Year – Team sport:**

Inky Zondi (Hockey).

**Coach of the Year – Individual sport:**

Llewellyn van Leeuwen (Golf).

**Sports Team of the Year:**

TuksRowing USSA Team (Rowing).

**Student Sports Club of the Year:**

TuksRowing.

**Sports Club of the Year:**

TuksCricket.

**Principal's Award for Exceptional Performance in both Academics and Sport:**

Izelle Verster (Hockey).

**Principal's Award for Outstanding Performance by a Team Representing the University in Inter University Competitions:**

TuksHockey.

**Sportswoman of the Year:**

Kirsten McCann (Rowing).

**Sportsman of the Year:**

Akani Simbine (Athletics).



Student Sports Administrator of the Year: **Boyani Mphasha (SSC)**



Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Prof Niek Grové and Toby Sutcliffe



Coach of the Year – Team sport: **Inky Zondi (Hockey)**



Administrator of the Year Award: **Paul de Beer (Aikido)**



Student Sportswoman of the Year: **Nicole van Wyk (Rowing)**



Sport Club of the Year: **TuksCricket**



Student Sportsman of the Year: **Thando Roto (Athletics)**





Coach of the Year – Individual sport:  
**Llewellyn van Leeuwen (Golf)**



Sports Team of the Year: **TuksRowing USSA Team (Rowing)**



Student Sport Club of the Year: **TuksRowing**



Principal's Award for Exceptional  
Performance in both Academics and  
Sport: **Izelle Verster (Hockey)**



Principal's Award for Outstanding Performance by a Team: **TuksHockey**



Sportsman of the Year:  
**Akani Simbine (Athletics)**



Sportswoman of the Year:  
**Kirsten McCann (Rowing)**