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Le Clos to spearhead South African team in Glasgow

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Chad Le Clos, golden boy of South African swimming, finished the trials for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland with seven gold and one silver medal, qualifying in five events for the Games. Karin Prinsloo was the top woman swimmer bagging five gold medals and qualifying for four events. It was a week of up and downs as some events delivered disappointing results but in all nine swimmers qualified for the Games in 17 events. Graham Hill, national coach of Swimming South Africa (SSA), was disappointed after he expected at least 12 swimmers to qualify at the trials in the Kings Park pool in Durban.

"The final night was a big disappointment as I expected at least another two or three qualifying times tonight. I thought Rene Warnes (400m individual medley) and Myles Brown (1500m freestyle) should at least have qualified as they came so close. I expected to have 12 swimmers overall to qualify for the Commonwealth Games, but now we only have nine," said Hill.

It is going to be hard for the team to deliver the 19 medals that the swimming team achieved at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi, winning eight gold, four silver and five bronze medals for a total of 19 medals.

"Chad will probably swim in six individual events at the Games and all three the relays," said Hill who is also coach of Le Clos.

"I will still decide what events, but all the butterfly and both individual medleys are on the cards, but I want to add the backstroke as I qualified in the event. I will also swim in all the relays," said Le Clos after the event.

The provisional swimming team for the Commonwealth Games (to be confirmed by Sascoc):

Men: Chad le Clos (100m and 200m butterfly, 200m backstroke, 200m and 400m individual medley); Dylan Bosch (200m butterfly and 200m individual medley); Cameron van der Burgh (100m breaststroke); Sebastien Rousseau (400m individual medley); Myles Brown (400m freestyle); Roland Schoeman (50m freestyle); Brad Tandy (50m freestyle).

Women: Karin Prinsloo (100m and 200m freestyle, 100m and 200m backstroke); Tara Nicholas (100m breaststroke).

Relays:

Men:

4x100 freestyle: Chad le Clos, Brett Walsh, Leith Shanland, Caydon Muller.

4x200 freestyle: Chad le Clos, Myles Brown, Dylan Bosch, Calvyn Justus.

4x100 medley: Darren Murray, Cameron van der Burgh, Chad le Clos, Brett Walsh.

Women:

4x100 freestyle: Karin Prinsloo, Erin Gallagher, Trudi Maree, Marlies Ross.

4x100 medley: Jessica Ashleigh-Cooper, Tara Nicholas, Marne Erasmus, Karin Prinsloo.
