



ICPOW2025

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON
PARASITES OF WILDLIFE

&

53RD ANNUAL PARSA CONFERENCE

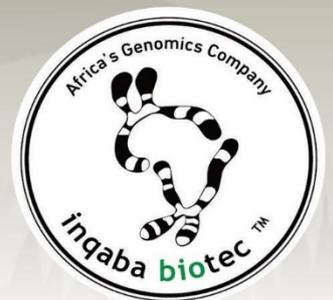
14-18 SEPTEMBER 2025



SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT



SCAN ME





Dear Fellow Parasitologists,

The 5th International Congress on Parasites of Wildlife (ICPOW) will be held jointly with the 53rd annual congress of the Parasitological Society of Southern Africa (PARSA) at the Nombolo Mdhluli Conference Centre in Skukuza, the main congress centre of the world-famous Kruger National Park during 14-18 September 2025.

www.ICPOW2025.co.za

The LOC is delighted to have secured international acclaimed parasitologists that will act as keynote and guest speakers during our 3-day congress. The presentations will cover topics ranging from avian malaria, the role of helminthology in invasion biology, parasite-host evolution, aquatic parasitology and various topics in veterinary parasitology.

We are excited to announce that webinars will be hosted in the months before the congress and will act as lead-up to the congress. The presentations will cover topics of broader interest and will be available for all to attend. The programme, topics and presenters will be announced in the 3rd Announcement of the congress.

The 3rd African Parasite Network Meeting will be hosted as part of the ICPOW and this year the meeting will showcase the recently established "African Network" focus-group of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP-AN). Presentations by researchers that have established successful Africa-Africa collaborations will also be held as part of the programme.

As previously, post-congress workshops will be held as part of the congress programme. Several topics will be on offer. Please note that the workshop offering is dependent on the number of registrations received.

As a reminder, oral and poster presentations by students (up to and including PhD level) will be adjudicated. We have excellent prizes for the individual categories. Prizes and awards will be presented during the closing Plenary session on 17 September 2025. I encourage all to attend the event.

Please remember to book your seat for the Boma braai and the Gala dinner.

As a Society it is our pleasure to host national, regional and international delegates and, together with the local organizing committee, we commit to making this another memorable event.

PROF. SONJA MATTHEE

ICPOW2025 Organising Committee Chairperson

53rd ANNUAL PARSA CONFERENCE



The 53rd annual PARSA conference will be held in combination with the 5th ICPOW.

Presentations submitted for the PARSA meeting will be accommodated in parallel sessions at the same venue.

PARSA delegates will share all social activities with ICPOW. We therefore encourage all PARSA members to attend the congress.

IMPORTANT DATES

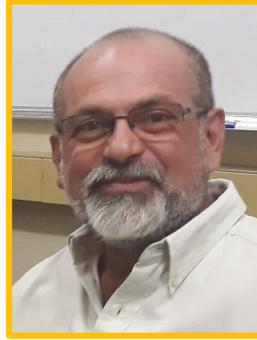


23 January 2025	Registration Open
23 January 2025	Abstract Submission Open
28 February 2025	Special Sessions Deadline
28 March 2025	Abstract submission deadline
25 April 2025	Abstract confirmation notices
27 June 2025	Early registration and payment/PO deadline
16 July 2025	Accommodation booking and payment/PO deadline
01 August 2025	Regular registration and payment/PO deadline
01 September 2025	Late registration and payment/PO deadline

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS



Dr Jenny Dunn
Lecturer in Parasite
Ecology,
Keele University
United Kingdom



Prof. Luis Neves
Professor in Veterinary
Parasitology,
University of Pretoria
South Africa



Prof. Dr Maarten Vanhove
Associate professor in
Biodiversity & Toxicology,
Hasselt University
Belgium

GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr Mamohale Chaisi
Principle Scientist in
Veterinary Parasitology, South African
National Biodiversity Institute
South Africa



Prof. Conrad Matthee
Professor in
Evolutionary Ecology,
Stellenbosch University
South Africa



Prof. Nico Smit
Professor in
Aquatic Parasitology,
North-West University
South Africa

PROGRAMME UPDATE

African Parasite Network meeting: 'Embracing and advancing research in parasitology on the African continent' will be held at the conference venue on Tuesday 16 September, 15:00-16:00.

The preliminary programme will include an information session by representatives of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology – African Network (www.waavpafrika.org) on the function and focus of the network and available opportunities. The programme will also include short presentations on successful Africa-Africa collaborations.

The meeting is open to all delegates.



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

The congress programme will be structured to allow for early morning and afternoon drives.

Sunday 14 September:

- Arrival at conference venue. Accommodation will be ready from 14:00.
- Congress registration: 14:00-17:30.
- Welcome reception: start at 18:00, included for all registered delegates.

Monday 15 September:

- Full congress day: 08:00-15:00, arrival coffee/tea/rusk, mid-morning refreshments and lunch included.
- Catered boma-braai: start at 18:30 for all delegates (**NB: this should be booked and paid separately. Limited to 80 guests, based on first come first served basis**).

Tuesday 16 September:

- Full congress day: 08:00-15:00, arrival coffee/tea/rusk, mid-morning refreshments and lunch included.
- 3rd African Parasite Network meeting: 15:00-16:00.

Wednesday 17 September:

- Full congress day: 08:00-15:00, arrival coffee/tea/rusk, mid-morning refreshments and lunch included.
- Close of Congress & Presentation of Awards: 14:10-15:00.
- PARSA AGM: 15:00-16:30.
- Gala dinner: start at 18:30 (**NB: this should be booked and paid separately**).

Thursday 18 September: 07:30 – 12:00. Post-congress workshops (you can only attend 1 workshop, and this should be booked and paid separately)

- Workshop 1: Introduction to Scientific writing
- Workshop 2: What species do I have in my eppendorf tube – a molecular approach
- Workshop 3: The phenomena of radiation and co-evolution in parasites: what are we looking for?

Please note that offering of workshops is dependent on the number of registrations.

PRE-CONGRESS WEBINARS

Webinars will be hosted in the months before the congress and will act as lead-up to the congress. The presentations will cover topics of broader interest and will be available for all to attend. The programme, topics and presenters will be announced in the 3rd Announcement of the congress.



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES



- [CLICK HERE](#) to access the Abstract Submission details on the website.
- Please submit your abstracts, on the online platform.
- The deadline for abstract submissions is **28 March 2025**.
- Abstracts can be submitted for consideration either as oral or poster presentations. Please adhere to the instructions on the form.
- Delegates wishing to submit more than one abstract must please complete a separate form for each abstract.
- Abstracts are limited to 250 words.
- **IMPORTANT: Include 3-5 keywords.**
- Please ensure that the e-mail addresses as submitted are correct as these addresses will be used in all correspondence and acceptance notifications.
- Late submissions will not be considered.
- Oral presentations will be allocated 10 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions.
- Poster sessions form an integral part of the congress, and posters will be displayed on poster boards for the duration of the congress. Poster presenters are requested to stand at their posters during tea breaks.
- Poster Size: A0 - 841mm(w) x 1189mm(h).
- All student poster presenters to submit a pdf of their full poster to corne@savetcon.co.za by 5 September 2024 for distribution to the adjudicators and attendees.

All student presentations (up to and including PhD level) will be adjudicated. Prices and awards will be presented during the closing Plenary on the 17th of September 2025.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Delegates are welcome to propose and develop a session theme that will form part of the congress programme.

Proposals should indicate the theme and lead scientist. Proposals with envisaged speakers, their titles and contact details are encouraged.

Proposals for sessions should be submitted to Sonja Matthee at smatthee@sun.ac.za by **28 February 2025**.

REGISTRATION



All delegates are required to register online.

For more information regarding registrations, [CLICK HERE](#).

There are various categories for congress registrations.

Please be aware of the respective deadlines and ensure that registration fees are paid before the deadlines.

Registration Category
Early Registration* - 23 January 2025 - 27 June 2025
Regular Registration - 28 June 2025 - 01 August 2025
Late Registration & Onsite - 02 August 2025 - 01 September 2025

IMPORTANT:
Payment not received by the advertised due date will automatically be carried over to the next payment category.

** If Purchase Order from academic institutions or organizations are received by this date, the Early Registration Fee will be honoured until payment can be made.*

INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEE

Registration for full congress includes:

- Electronic Programme and Abstract Book.
- Congress bag.
- Arrival coffee/tea/rusks (3).
- Morning break refreshments (3).
- Lunches (3).
- Welcome reception (canapés) on Sunday evening.
- Excluded: Boma Braai and Gala Dinner.

Registration for Day congress includes:

- Electronic Programme and Abstract Book.
- Congress bag.
- Arrival coffee/tea/rusks (on the day of attendance).
- Morning break refreshments (on the day of attendance).
- Lunches (on the day of attendance).
- Excluded: Welcome Reception, Boma Braai and Gala Dinner.

Registration for full congress accompanying person includes:

- Arrival coffee/tea/rusks (3).
- Morning break refreshments (3).
- Lunches (3).
- Excluded: Welcome reception, Boma Braai and Gala Dinner.

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	Early Registration Payment must be received by 27 June 2025 [#]	Regular Registration Payment must be received by 01 August 2025 [#]	Late Registration Payment must be received by 01 September 2025 [#]
FULL CONGRESS			
PARSA Members - Delegates	R 6,500.00	R 7,150.00	R 8,350.00
PARSA Members - Students	R 3,100.00	R 5,150.00	R 6,350.00
PARSA Members - Pensioners	R 4,500.00	R 5,150.00	R 6,350.00
Non-PARSA Members - Delegates	R 7,150.00	R 7,800.00	R 9,000.00
Non-PARSA Members - Students	R 5,300.00	R 5,950.00	R 7,150.00
Non-PARSA Members - Pensioners	R 5,300.00	R 5,950.00	R 7,150.00
DAY REGISTRATION			
PARSA Members - Delegates	R 2,180.00	R 2,400.00	R 2,900.00
PARSA Members - Students	R 1,550.00	R 1,770.00	R 2,150.00
PARSA Members - Pensioners	R 1,550.00	R 1,770.00	R 2,150.00
Non-PARSA Members - Delegates	R 2,400.00	R 2,650.00	R 3,200.00
Non-PARSA Members - Students	R 1,800.00	R 1,950.00	R 2,400.00
Non-PARSA Members - Pensioners	R 1,800.00	R 1,950.00	R 2,400.00
ACCOMPANYING PERSONS			
Full Congress attendance	R3,250.00	R3,250.00	R3,250.00
Per Day attendance	R1,090.00	R1,090.00	R1,090.00
SOCIAL FUNCTIONS			
Welcome Reception - Accompanying Persons	R 450.00	R 450.00	R 450.00
Catered Boma Braai - All Delegates	R 450.00	R 450.00	R 450.00
Gala Dinner - All Delegates	R 600.00	R 600.00	R 600.00
PROMOTIONAL ITEMS			
Branded Buff	R 100.00	R 100.00	R 100.00
Branded Socks (sizes 3-9)	R 140.00	R 140.00	R 140.00
POST-CONGRESS WORKSHOPS			
18 th September, 7:30-12:00	R850.00	R850.00	R850.00

ICPOW2025 Branded Buffs and Socks are available to purchase on the registration site ([view items here](#))

Deadline to receive orders and payments are 09 August 2025.

ICPOW 2025 Socks



ICPOW 2025 Buffs



VENUE, TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

DAILY CONSERVATION FEES

Conservation fees are applicable from day of arrival to day of departure.

E.g. if you arrive on the 14th and depart on the 18th, fees are applicable for 4 days (14, 15, 16 and 17th).

Members of SANParks' loyalty programme WILD do not pay conservation fees provided that proof of Identity and their WILD card are shown on arrival.

Category	Adult Rate per Day	Child Rate per Day
South African Citizens and Residents (with ID)	R128.00/day	R61.00/day
SADC Nationals (with passport)	R257.00/day	R128.00/day
Standard Conservation Fee (internationals)	R535.00/day	R267.00/day

VENUE

The congress will be hosted in the Kruger National Park Skukuza Camp and will take place during tourist season.

We are holding a block-booking at the Skukuza Camp for 14-18 September, therefore all accommodation must be booked through the congress organizers via the [ONLINE BOOKING FORM](#). If you book directly through Sanparks, you will not find any availability for our congress dates. **All accommodation needs to be booked and paid at the latest by Wednesday 16 July 2025** for us to keep the block reservation. **Payments not received by this date will be released.** All rooms held on the block-booking will be released after this date.

We know there are challenges with some of the academic institutions and government departments and would like to accommodate all delegates as far as possible. If needed, we recommend that you make provision for an advance to settle your accommodation and registration fees in time. **Purchase orders should also be processed and paid by 16 July 2025** to secure your accommodation booking and conference registration. Please check the procedure with your financial department to adhere within the timelines. Quotes, Invoices and Statements are available on the online registration system.

Please note, the PCO can only manage accommodation reservations for the period of the congress (in on 14 September and out on 18 September). Any pre- or post-congress bookings should be made directly with Sanparks at www.sanparks.org.

Regarding booking accommodation:

- Congress Registration is a pre-requisite for booking accommodation.
- All accommodation bookings must be paid, or Purchase Order received, within 30 days of receiving an invoice. Payments not received by the 16th of July 2025 will be released. All bookings/ payments after this date will be based on availability.
- All accommodation fees include a 1% Community Fund.
- Conservation fees are excluded and payable on arrival at the Kruger.
- Delegates wishing to extend their stay in Kruger Park, i.e. enter the park prior to 14 September 2025 or leave the park after 18 September 2025 should book that specific accommodation separately and directly with SANParks (www.sanparks.org).
- Accommodation payments can be made via PayFast (online) but is subject to a 4% processing fee to cover credit card charges. Electronic transfers are free of charge and no processing fee will be added.
- All cancellations will be subject to a R250 administration fee.

Please note: The congress officially ends with the Gala dinner the evening of the 17th of September. Due to the gate closures, you will be required to stay over on the night of 17 September and only depart the next day (18th September 2025).

Kruger National Park and Camp gate times (for September)

- All Park entrance gates open @ 06:00
- All Camp gates open @ 06:00
- All gates close @ 18:00 (late arrivals are allowed for emergencies only - T&Cs apply)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The booking reservation code is [R9398481](#) and must be presented to security personnel at the entrance gate.
- Proof of identity, identity document, passport or alternative valid identification e.g. driver's license card is required for scanning upon entering/exiting the Park.
- On entrance to the Kruger National Park, you will receive an "Entry permit".
- On arrival at Skukuza camp, please proceed to the Congress Venue Reception to collect your room key.
 - Before finally exiting the Park, you need to get an "Exit permit" from the Camp Reception office. It is advisable that you obtain the "Exit permit" the afternoon before departure. Please be aware of the relevant office hours

of the Camp Reception. **Please note you will not be allowed to exit the Park gates if you are not in possession of an "Exit permit".**

GETTING THERE

By Air*

- Airlink operates daily scheduled flights between Johannesburg, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein and Cape Town to the Skukuza Airport, located a short distance from the Skukuza Rest Camp. www.flyairlink.co.za
- FlySafair offers limited weekly flights from Johannesburg (twice per week) and Cape Town (three times per week) to Kruger Mpumalanga International in Nelspruit. www.flysafair.co.za

* *Shuttle or transfer services would need to be pre-arranged from both airports.*

Transfers from Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport and Skukuza Airport

Kruger Transfers offers airport transfers from Skukuza (SZK) and Kruger Mpumalanga International (MQP) in Nelspruit. They also offer transfers from OR Tambo International Airport to Skukuza. [CLICK HERE](#) for rates.

KRUGER TRANSFERS

Tel: +27 71 351 7294 Fax: +27 86 541 0457

www.krugertransfers.co.za

For transfer reservations, send an email to:
res@krugertransfers.co.za

By Road - Paul Kruger Gate (from OR Tambo airport)

- Take Jones Rd and get on the R21 in Jet Park, Boksburg
- Follow N12 and N4 (the N4 heads towards Mbombela (also known as Nelspruit)) to R36 in Mpumalanga Province. Exit from N4/R36
- Take the R539 to the N4.
- Follow the N4. Exit from N4
- Then take the R40 to Hazyview via White River.
- From Hazyview, take the R536 to the Kruger gate.
- Allow between 5 to 6 hours for the total trip (OR Tambo airport to Kruger gate).
- Skukuza Camp is 12 km away from the Kruger Gate. Allow about 30 minutes for the drive to the camp.

Activities & Facilities

- Skukuza Camp offers adventure in the form of guided bush walks and game drives, all under the supervision of well informed and keen professional field guides. Important to note is that children under the age of six are not permitted on game drives, and children under the age of twelve are restricted from game walks.
- The Stevenson-Hamilton Memorial library, Lake Panic Bird Hide and a nine-hole golf course provide entertainment for guests, along with seasonal kid's educational programs and wildlife films screened daily (barring Sundays)
- Facilities at the camp include information at the reception area, public telephones, a post office, a bank, car hire, two restaurants, shops, a deli with an internet cafe, shops, a laundromat, filling station, communal kitchens and bathrooms, cutlery and plate hampers available from reception, a garage with a workshop, a car wash, basic on-site first-aid assistance, auditorium and conference facilities, a day visitor picnic area outside the camp with its own swimming pool, and a further two swimming pools in the camp which are available to overnight residents only). Cell phone reception is also fully available, and limited channel access DSTV televisions in the luxury units. The Skukuza indigenous nursery is also open to visitors.
- If you would like to extend your stay, you can book further accommodation directly through Sanparks, www.sanparks.org.

WARNING



- Kruger National Park is a malaria area.
- Use ABCD approach to prevention:
 - Awareness of risk
 - Bite prevention - use insect repellent, covering arms and legs at dawn and dusk
 - Check whether you may want to use malaria prevention tablets
 - Diagnosis - immediate medical advice for malaria symptoms after trip
- Also read: [Heading to a region with malaria?](#)

For more information, visit:

<https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/>

<https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/camps/skukuza/images/maps/skukuza.jpg>

<https://www.safari.com/kruger-national-park/self-catering/skukuza-restcamp/>

ACCOMMODATION

Units available	Details	Base Rate per night	Base Pax per night	Max per Unit	Rate for additional person
SELF-CATERING BUNGALOW (utensils are provided in all units, and has a communal kitchen)					
18	BE2 - 1 bedroom with 2 single beds, no smoking, sink, WC* and shower	R1,725	2	2	n/a
26	BE3 - 1 bedroom with 3 single beds, no smoking, sink, WC and shower	R1,725	2	3	R335 - adult R167 - child
5	LB2D - 1 bedroom with 2 single beds, DSTV (limited Channels), no smoking, no view, sink, WC and shower	R2,110	2	2	n/a
SELF-CATERING BUNGALOW (utensils are provided in all units, and has its own kitchen)					
8	BD2 - 1 bedroom with 2 single beds, hotplate, no smoking, sink, WC and shower	R1,885	2	2	n/a
4	BD3 - 1 bedroom with 3 single beds, hotplate, no smoking, sink, WC and shower	R1,885	2	3	R335 - adult R167 - child
5	LB3 - 1 bedroom with 3 single beds, closed veranda, hotplate, luggage rack, microwave, no smoking, outside table, sink, WC and shower	R2,240	2	3	R603 - adult R301 - child
1	LB2K - 1 bedroom with 2 single beds, closed veranda, hotplate, luggage rack, microwave, no smoking, outside table, sink, WC and shower	R2,240	2	2	n/a
SEMI-LUXURY COTTAGES (utensils are provided in all units, and has its own kitchen)					
1	GC6 - 2 bedrooms, each with 3 single beds, no smoking, WC and bath, WC and shower	R3,375	4	6	R603 - adult R301 - child
5	GC6D - 2 bedrooms, each with 3 single beds, no smoking, WC and bath, WC and shower	R3,375	4	6	R603 - adult R301 - child
1	GMS (MONI GUEST HOUSE) - 1 bathroom with bath, shower and WC, 1 separate shower, 3 bathrooms, each with w/c, basin and bath, 4 bedrooms, each with 2 single beds, Air-conditioned, Kitchen, No smoking	R8,761	8	8	n/a
1	GJM (JAMIE MULHOVO GUEST HOUSE) - 1 ensuite bathroom with bath and shower, 5 ensuite bathrooms with shower, 6 bedrooms, each with 2 single beds, Air-conditioned. Kitchen one: oven, stove, microwave, utensils. Kitchen two: four plate gas stove, microwave, utensil, No smoking One of the bathrooms is accessible by the disabled	R12,315	12	12	n/a
SAFARI TENT (No utensils, and has a communal kitchen and communal ablutions)					
9	CCT2 - 1 bedroom with 2 single beds, fan, fridge, no smoking, no utensils	R856	2	2	n/a
9	CCT4 - 1 bedroom with 4 single beds, fan, fridge, no smoking, no utensils	R856	2	4	R221 - adult R111 - child
SAFARI LODGE HOTEL (all rooms are bed & breakfast included, with free Wi-Fi)					
	Single Room: 1 double bed, air-conditioned, breakfast included, first floor unit, no smoking, WC and shower	R3,570	1	1	n/a
	Sharing Room: 2 single beds, air-conditioned, breakfast included, first floor unit, no smoking, WC and shower	R2,380 per person sharing			
	Breakfast: for all guest staying in the camp, you are welcome to book for breakfast at the Safari Lodge	R220 (tbc)			

*WC is a water closet (a formal or polite term for a toilet or a room that contains a toilet).

!! The Base Rate amount is charged for any number of guests occupying a unit not exceeding the base number for that accommodation type. Any additional Adults and Children exceeding the base capacity are charged in addition to the base rate amount per persons up to the number of beds or guests allowed in the unit.

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For more information, contact the congress secretariat through



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corne@savetcon.co.za

