

Rowing Profile 2011

James Anthony Fraser-Mackenzie

Jamie was born on the 17th May 1993, and at 18 years of age is 188 cm tall, and weighs 80 kgs. For a rower, endurance and power (watts per kilogram of weight) are very important. His 2 kilometer ergo score is an impressive 6 minutes, 23 seconds.

His personal best time on the water in a single scull over 2 kilometers is 7 minutes and 6 seconds. Conditions on the water vary from race to race with both wind and rain to contend with. Tenacity, perseverance and hard work combine to make a good rower.

Jamie showed early promise in endurance with middle distance running, winning junior cross country events and he presently holds the Saint George's College record for cross country. In 2011, he won the trophy for best middle distance runner at school.

Rowing only started as his main passion in Form 3 as a member of Saint George's College Boat Club. A year later in 2009, Jamie was chosen to represent Zimbabwe at the Junior World Rowing Championships in France in a double scull with Stephen Cox. They were coached by Kerrie Mackie and came 20th, breaking the Zimbabwe record with a time of 6 minutes and 51 seconds. The following year 2010, he captained the Zimbabwe team at the Junior World Rowing Championships in the Czech Republic.

It was in 2011, that Jamie started being noticed on the international stage, taking two Gold medals at the South African Junior Championships in the single scull and double scull with Peter Purcell Gilpin. He was coached by Rachel Davis.

Kerrie Mackie, the National coach, took our elite U19's on a training camp to the UK in April 2011 where the boys and girls were invited to race in the British U19 trials at Dorney Lake, Eton. Jamie surprised the British Coaches by coming third against their top scullers. In August he again captained the Zimbabwe team at the 2011 Junior World Championships at Dorney Lake in the UK coming 8th overall in the single sculls.



At home Jamie was Headboy of Saint George's College in 2011 and had to manage juggling a successful academic performance with his rowing schedule at the same time. He was awarded Academic Colours as well as Full rowing Colours at school. He also has Zimbabwe Rowing Colours.

In the middle of his 'A' levels in November 2011 Jamie went up to Alexandria, Egypt with Coach Rachel Davis to compete in the African Olympic Qualifying Regatta.

On the second day of competition he wrote an entrance exam for Oxford University and then went on to come second in the single sculls thus earning a place at the Olympics in 2012.

Jamie's long term goals are to continue an Olympic dream to win a medal, if not at these games, then the next, and to study Engineering at Oxford University. Of course he would like to row in the Oxford- Cambridge Boat Race. Although his academic and rowing career may take him abroad for a time his long term dream is to come home to Zimbabwe to live and work and to give something back to Zimbabwe.

