

HOUDINI

Houdini came to us when a litter of five 7-8month old Cheetah cubs were caught by farmers in the Kalahari. Their mother was nowhere to be found and these five big-eyed cats were still too young to survive on their own. The came to The Ann van Dyk Cheetah Centre where they were looked after until they were old enough to be released.

Houdini, was found non-releasable due to not being capable to hunt for himself anymore as he had lost an eye. But he has become part of our permanent family at the Centre and is already showing interest to bond with another male next door. We cannot wait to see what a stunning, big male he will become!



PHINDA

This beautiful boy, was an orphan cub that survived the loss of his mother at 6 months of age around 2017. In September 2018 he was found severely lame with serious bite wounds and a severed triceps tendon.

He underwent field surgery and his triceps tendon was reattached to the olecranon. He and his brother hunted successfully with an occasional slight limp from time to time and in June 2022 he was seen with a sudden severe limp on the same leg that had been injured as a cub, the elbow was exposed through the skin lesion.

He was immobilized and moved with his brother to the Boma where the elbow was assessed and radiographs were taken. The elbow was deemed to be unsalvageable for a wild free roaming cheetah.

Early September we were contacted enquiry about a new home for this Cheetah.

After the necessary permits and permission's were obtained, Phinda (named after his place of origin) has found his forever home with us.



JULES

Jules is our most adorable King Cheetah born in May 2015. She had a rough start when there was a rare strain of Parvovirus that broke out on the farm. Most of the cubs that year did not make it due to the parvovirus. Jules has an extraordinary sweet personality and it just takes one glance from her to melt your heart. She has joined the league of running cats here at the centre, and is running at impressive speeds that continue to make us proud every day.