

SOUTH AFRICA YEARBOOK 2017/18

Sport and Recreation



The Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) is established in terms of the Public Service Act of 1994.

Its legal mandate is derived from the National Sport and Recreation Amendment Act, 2007 (Act 18 of 2007), which requires it to oversee the development and management of sport and recreation in South Africa.

The Act provides the framework for relationships between the department and its external clients. This includes the SRSA's partnership with the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC). The partnership is key to improving South Africa's international ranking in selected sports. The Act also ensures that sport and physical education contribute to social cohesion by legislating on sports participation and sports infrastructure.

The National Development Plan (NDP) recognises sport and recreation as an effective means of nation building and social cohesion. This is given expression through Outcome 14 (nation-building and social cohesion) of government's 2014-2019 Medium Term Strategic Framework, with which the work of the Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa is closely aligned. As such, over the medium term, the department intends to focus on:

- promoting participation in sport and recreation; supporting the delivery of sport infrastructure;
- fostering transformation in sport and recreation;
- developing talented athletes by providing them with opportunities to excel; and
- supporting high performing athletes to achieve success in the international sporting arena.

Sport and Recreation South Africa

Aligned with the SRSA's vision of an active and winning nation, the department primarily focuses on providing opportunities for all South Africans to participate in sport; manages the regulatory framework; and provides funding for different sporting codes.

The right to participate in sport has been embodied in United Nations (UN) instruments such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. It is recognised as a right

which all governments should make available to people.

The SRSA aims to maximise access, development and excellence at all levels of participation in sport and recreation to improve the quality of life for all South Africans.

Transformation in sport

The latest transformation audit report reflects significant progress since the introduction of the Sports Transformation Charter. Federation commitment to the process, quality, and reliability of data

submitted has consistently improved. Cricket, football, netball, rugby, and tennis are leading the pack in this regard. Change in demographics at administration level is reflected in that more than half of the boards of federations audited are black and have black presidents.

On the field of play, a substantial number of male senior and underage national representative teams, including athletics, cricket, football, volleyball, boxing, and table tennis have achieved the charter targets.

However, women senior and underage national team demographic profiles are lagging behind that of male representative entities, in that charter targets were achieved by only three codes, namely, gymnastics, football, and boxing, reflecting the magnitude of the task to improve women's position in sport. Coaching, referee or umpire, and medical and scientific support structures were found to be more challenging from a demographic change perspective for both men and women. These areas have thus become increasingly under the magnifying glass.

During the 2017/2018 financial year, 66 sport and recreation bodies against a target of 60, were supported financially, this to assist them to transform and develop sport in the country. The gains made on transformation to date show a concerted effort by the sport and recreation sector, to redress the imbalances of the past.

The purpose of the Sports Transformation Charter is to level the playing fields that enable the majority of South Africans to have equitable access and opportunity to participate and achieve in all areas and at all levels of sport.

Nurturing talent and supporting excellence

The SRSA awards ministerial bursaries to learners in grades 8 to 12 who are identified as talented young athletes.

These bursaries are valid for the duration of learners' school careers, and they attend one of the 58 sports focus schools in South Africa, which are selected by provincial departments because of their exceptional sports coaching and facilities.

In 2018/19, a minimum of 60 qualifying athletes, including learners already in the programme, were to be supported through the payment of school fees, the provision of school uniforms and sport clothing, sport scientific support and event attendance. R21.4 million over the MTEF period is allocated for this in the Scientific Support subprogramme in the Winning Nation programme.

An additional 40 emerging athletes identified by national federations as having the potential to compete at the high performance level are also supported by the department each year through specialist training.

Support for these athletes also takes into consideration their circumstances and performance potential.

A further 40 elite athletes receive advanced coaching and financial support each year through the SASCOC's high performance programme to help them prepare and perform at the four major multi-code games: the All Africa Games, the World Games, the Commonwealth Games, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Specialist training and sport scientific support is also expected to be provided to a projected 3 600 talented athletes in 2018/19 by 35 provincial and district sports academies.

Budget and funding

The SRSA's work to increase the accessibility of sport and recreation facilities contributes to the achievement of the National Development Plan's (NDP) goals of nation-building, social cohesion and a healthy national lifestyle, as well as a diverse, socially cohesive society with a common national identity of Government's 2014 – 2019 Medium-Term Strategic

Framework.

Over the medium term, the SRSA plans to encourage participation in sport and recreation at various levels, facilitate transformation in sport and recreation, and support talented and high-performance athletes in excelling and achieving success in the international sporting arena.

The department's budget allocation for the the 2017/17 financial year was R1 066.6 billion, of which R1 060.4 billion was utilized. This amounted to spending of 99.4% and under-spending of R6 187 million.

The department's goods and services budget has been reduced by R7,2 million in 2017/18, R7,6 million in 2018/19 and R8,1 million in 2018/19 as part of Cabinet's decision to lower the national aggregate expenditure ceiling. These reductions will be absorbed by implementing cost-saving measures in spending on items such as advertising, computer services, contractors, travel and subsistence, and venues and facilities.

Entities

The department administers and controls two public entities:

- Boxing South Africa (BSA), which was established in terms of the South African Boxing Act, 2001 (Act 11 of 2001).
- The South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS), which was established in terms of the SAIDS Act, 1997 (Act 14 of 1997) as amended.

Boxing South Africa

BSA's intention is to ensure effective and efficient administration of professional boxing in South Africa; to create synergy between professional and amateur boxing; and to promote interaction between associations of boxers, managers, promoters, trainers, officials and BSA.

In November 2018, the late legendary Nick 'Mthakathi' Durandt was awarded the Steve Tshwete Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously at the 13th Annual SA Sport Awards held in Bloemfontein.

South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport

The SAIDS, as South Africa's national anti-doping organisation, is mandated to promote participation in sport without the use

of prohibited performance-enhancing substances and methods.

All South African sports organisations and national federations are obliged to recognise SAIDS' authority and to comply with its directives following South Africa's endorsement of the World Anti-Doping Code and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (better known as UNESCO) convention on anti doping.

The organisation's key focus areas are:

- Doping control: The SAIDS is responsible for the development of anti-doping policies. The institute conducts a comprehensive, independent and effective national doping-control programme on South African athletes competing at regional, national and international levels. The SAIDS also conducts in-competition and out-of-competition doping control tests on international athletes on behalf of international sports federations and other international anti-doping organisations.
- Education: The SAIDS provides anti-doping education, information and awareness for athletes, coaches, parents, sports organisations, members of the medical, pharmaceutical and sports science professions, tertiary education institutions and the public.
- Research: The SAIDS conducts sociological research about the knowledge, attitude and use of performance-enhancing drugs among South African sportspeople, for the purpose of planning and implementing effective doping-control and education programmes.
- International collaboration: South Africa is an active participant in the global effort to combat drugs in sport. The SAIDS collaborates closely with counterparts worldwide to improve the of standards and practices in doping control. South Africa is a member of both the International Anti-Doping Arrangement and the Association of National Anti-Doping Organisations. Special assistance and support was given to the South African Doping Control Laboratory in Bloemfontein, Free State, for it to meet the obligations of the new anti-doping code.

Role players

South African Sports Confederation and Olympic

Committee

The SRSA and SASCOC cooperate closely on issues of mutual importance, and the SRSA provides funding to SASCOC for initiatives such as the preparation of elite athletes for international events.

SASCOC is the national controlling body for the promotion and development of high-performance sport in South Africa and consults with relevant sports bodies in this regard.

SASCOC prepares and delivers Team SA to all international multi-coded sporting events such as the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games, African Games, Olympic Youth Games, Commonwealth Youth Games and African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 Games.

SASCOC is also responsible for the awarding of National Protea Colours to athletes/officials who have met the criteria to represent South Africa in different sporting codes and arenas and, in addition, endorse the applications for bidding and hosting of international events, providing the criteria are all met.

SASCOC's different strategies such as the Operation Excellence Programme were designed to offer support to athletes who have the potential to qualify for participation and returning medals at a higher level in the multi-coded events under the organisation's umbrella of sports. It is the premier programme for prospective Olympic and Paralympic medalists. The programme comprises three different tiers that provide varying degrees of funding and support.

The Olympic Committee also collaborates with various stakeholders including other national Olympic committees to ensure that its main mandate is fulfilled.

i In April 2018, South Africa was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson of Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport for a second term. The country continues to play a leading role in the monitoring and implementation of the Kazan Action Plan.

The Kazan Action Plan was adopted on 15 July 2017 by UNESCO's Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, MINEPS VI.

At the adoption of the Kazan Action Plan, it was declared that: Active schools, in which physical activity is placed at the heart of the school, support the establishment of healthy lifestyles, behaviour and learning. In addition, quality physical education is a necessary component of primary and secondary education.

Working with SASCO, the Free State provincial government and through contributions from all provincial sport and recreation departments, SRSA set aside an amount of approximately R68 million per year, over the Medium Term Expenditure Framework period, to strengthen the National Training Centre (NTC) based at the Free State Sport Science Institute.

The NTC is an Olympic preparatory institution for Team South Africa and forms part of the National Academy System for elite and high-performance sports.

The centre prepares national teams and athletes with scientific, medical and sport-specific support.

African Union Sports Council Region Five

The AUSC Region 5 is one of the five regions entrusted with the responsibility to develop sport under the AU. This follows the dissolution of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, under which Region 5 was known as Supreme Council for Sport in Africa Zone VI.

World Anti-Doping Agency

The World Anti-Doping Agency aims to bring consistency to anti-doping policies and regulations within sport organisations and governments across the world.

The World Anti-Doping Agency's NO! to Doping campaign, which has been running since 2010, has become the leading awareness campaign for most sporting codes around the globe.

National sport federations

The various sporting codes in South Africa are governed by their own federations and associations. These include:

- Aero Club of South Africa
- AFL South Africa
- Amateur Fencing Association of Southern Africa
- Anglers and Casting Federation of Southern Africa
- Archery South Africa
- Athletics South Africa
- Badminton South Africa
- Baseball Union of Southern Africa
- Basketball South Africa
- Bowls South Africa
- Boxing South Africa
- Bridge Federation of Southern Africa
- Canoeing South Africa
- Chess South Africa
- Clay Target Shooting Association of South Africa
- Confederation of Cue Sport South Africa
- Cricket South Africa
- Cycling South Africa
- Dance Sport Federation of Sport South Africa
- Darts South Africa
- Deaf Sports Federation of Southern Africa
- Federation Bocce
- Fitness Sport Aerobics Federation of Southern Africa
- Handball Federation of Southern Africa
- Judo South Africa
- Jukskei South Africa
- Karate South Africa
- Korfball Federation of South Africa
- Lifesaving South Africa
- Majorette and Cheerleading Association South Africa
- Martial Arts and Games Committee of South Africa
- Masters Sports Association of Southern Africa Mind Sports South Africa
- Modern Pentathlon Association of South Africa Motorsport South Africa
- National Amateur Bodybuilding Association of South Africa
- National Horseracing Authority
- National Pigeon Organisation of Southern Africa
- National Boxing Organisation of Southern Africa
- Netball South Africa
- Orienteering Federation of Southern Africa
- Parachute Association of South Africa
- Physically Disabled Association
- Powerlifting Federation of South Africa
- Powerboat South Africa
- Ringball South Africa
- Roller Sport South Africa
- Rowing South Africa
- SASCO
- Scrabble South Africa
- Sheep Shearing Federation of Southern Africa
- Shooting Sport Federation of South Africa
- Snooker and Billiards South Africa
- Snow Sports South Africa
- Squash South Africa
- Soaring Society of South Africa
- Softball South Africa
- South African Amateur Fencing Association
- South African Bodyboarding Association
- South African Deep Sea Angling Association
- South African Figure Skating Association
- South African Fly Fishing Association
- South African Football Association
- South African Gold Panning Association
- South African Golf Association
- South African Gymnastics Federation
- South African Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
- South African Hockey
- South African Ice Hockey Association
- South African National Archery Association
- South African National Equestrian Federation
- South African Polo Association
- South African Practical Shooting Association
- South African Rugby Union
- South African Sailing
- South African Shore Angling Association
- South African Sports Association for the Intellectually Impaired
- South African Tennis Association
- South African Underwater Sports Federation
- Surfing South Africa
- Swimming South Africa
- Table Tennis Board of Southern Africa
- Taekwondo Federation of South Africa
- Tenniquoits Board of South Africa
- Tenpin Bowling Association of South Africa
- Transplant Sports Association of South Africa
- Triathlon South Africa
- Tug of War Federation of South Africa
- University Sport South Africa
- Volleyball South Africa

- Water Ski Federation of Southern Africa
- Weightlifting Federation of Southern Africa
- Wrestling South Africa
- Wushu Federation of Southern Africa.

Programmes and projects

National Sport and Recreation Plan

The National Sport and Recreation Plan (NSRP), a blueprint for sport and recreation in South Africa, aims to reconstruct and revitalise the sport and recreation sector towards the attainment of an active and winning nation, whilst improving the quality of life of all South Africans.

The management sub-programme of the department provides strategic guidance, interpreting the direction set by the Minister, and oversees the performance of the department, the success of which is annually assessed by means of a management Performance assessment tool (MPAT). SRSA received a composite score of 2.7 out of a possible 4 in 2017/18.

Although MPAT is a moving target because of its annual tightening of standards, areas for improvement to “MPAT 1.6” were identified and pursued in 2017/18 in an effort to better serve the recipients of SRSA services. Reviewed focus will go into managing the findings of MPAT 1.7.

School Sport Programme

The Schools League Programme, which is the main project for the School Sport Programme, starts in February and runs until June every year.

Part of the league comprises schools competing in intra-school and interschool league competitions prior to the National School Sport Championships, which take place towards the end of each year.

Other key elements of the School Sport Programme include:

- the capacity development programme, which involves the training of educators and sport volunteers in sport-specific programmes
- providing sport equipment and sport attire support to disadvantaged schools
- providing cluster coordinators to aid the delivery and support of sport

- identifying of sport-focused schools in which athletes can be placed to further their sport development
- the support to school sport structures at local, district, provincial and national levels.

There are more than 25 000 schools in South Africa and around 19 000 are registered to participate in the league system.

National Sports Volunteer Corps

Talented players, athletes, coaches and administrators across different sporting codes have contributed immensely towards South Africa being recognised as one of the best sporting countries worldwide.

The purpose of the National Sports Volunteer Corps is to provide a platform through which sport greats and interested South African citizens can use their experience, expertise and passion for sport to contribute towards the development of future sport stars.

A school sports bursary, which offers R100 000 towards covering the cost of education and support required by pupils, opened many opportunities for sports veterans and attracted retired sportspeople who had registered with the department to offer their help as coaches, officials and sports administrators.

Major events

Seven major events received either ministerial or cabinet approval and related support in terms of the bidding and hosting regulations:

- 7 to 12 August 2017, Durban: 2017 Commonwealth Lifesaving Festival
- 2 to 26 August 2017, Durban: 10th International Forum on Elite Sport
- 9 to 15 July, Tlokwe, NW: 2nd World University Powerlifting Championships
- 31 August to 3 September 2017, Pietermaritzburg: UCI Para Cycling World Championships
- 4 to 10 September 2017, Pietermaritzburg: World Canoe Marathon Championships
- 10 to 19 September 2017, Potchefstroom: Commonwealth Powerlifting and Bench Press Championships
- 4 to 11 November 2017, Langebaan, WC: 2017 Shore

Angling World Cup.

Transnet Rural and Farm Schools National Tournament

Established in QwaQwa in 2002, the Transnet Rural and Farm Schools Development Programme is one of the flagship projects within the Transnet Foundation's sports portfolio.

The Rural and Farm Schools Sport Development Programme focuses its efforts on sports development and the South African Football Association Transnet Football School of Excellence. The programme targets communities around Transnet's key expansion areas.

South African Sports Awards

The South African Sport Awards are part of SRSA's commitment to promote social cohesion, nation-building and the quality of life among all South Africans through sport and recreation.

The key objectives of the Sports Awards is acknowledging and celebrating sport excellence, reward sport achievement in and off the field of play.

The South African Sport Awards were initiated in 2004 in partnership with SASCOC and the South African Broadcasting Corporation as well as a host of other generous stakeholders and sponsors.

World champion athletes Luvo Manyonga and Caster Semenya won the respective South African Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year awards at the annual South African Sports Awards in November 2017.

Long jump champion Manyonga won silver at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games and gold at the IAAF World Championships in London in 2017.

Semenya, a double gold medallist in the 800m at both the Rio Olympics and World Championships, walked away with the coveted Sportswoman of the Year award.

The full results were as follows:

- Sportsman of the Year: Luvo Manyonga
- Sportswoman of the Year: Caster Semenya.
- Sports Star of the Year: Luvo Manyonga
- People's Choice Sports Star of the Year: Caster Semenya
- Sportswoman with a disability: Ilse Hayes

- Sportsman with a disability: Dyan Buis
- Newcomer of the year: Sokwakhana Zazini
- Team of the Year: Springbok Sevens
- Coach of the Year: Jean Verster
- Volunteer of the Year: Samuel Maduwa
- Indigenous Games of the Year: North West Kho-kho team
- National Federation of the Year: Lifesaving SA
- Recreation Body of the Year: In-touch Community Support Group
- Photographer of the Year: Simphiwe Nkwali
- Journalist of the Year: OG Molefe
- School Team of the Year: St Mary's School Waverley
- Developing School Team of the Year: Hlangabeza Primary School Under-13 Chess
- Sports Administrator of the year: Sanelisiwe Khuzwayo.

National Aquatic Championships

The 2017 National Aquatic Championships took place in Durban with a total of 24 junior and eight senior FINA World Championships qualifications, as well as four Deaf Olympics and seven World Para Swimming Championships qualifiers.

Chad le Clos celebrated the confirmation of his third qualification time for Hungary in the 100-m butterfly when he clocked a fast 51,29 seconds, followed by Ryan Coetzee (53,29 seconds) and Ralph Goveia (54,30 seconds), while Brad Tandy and Zane Waddell were all smiles in the 50-m freestyle final, claiming the gold and silver in FINA World Championships qualification times of 21,97 seconds and 22,41 seconds, respectively. Douglas Erasmus won the bronze in 22,63 seconds.

Finishing over two seconds ahead of the pack, Brent Szurdoki scooped the gold in the 1 500-m freestyle with a FINA World Championships Qualification time of 15:11:22 to the 15:12:79 requirement, while Jarryd Baxter and Chad Michau booked their place to the Junior competition in the United States of America (USA) in qualifying times of 15:36:22 and 15:58:81, respectively.

Rebecca Meder's outstanding performance in the 400-m individual medley earned her the top spot in the event with a FINA Junior World Championships qualification time of 4:48:49, ahead of Samantha Randle in 4:55:12 and Kate Beavon in

4:57:63.

The 200-m breaststroke was a very rewarding race for five of Mzansi's youth hopefuls when Daniel Swanepoel, Duncan Rudolph, Bailey Musgrave, Likith Prema and Michael Houlie all confirmed their junior qualifications. Swanepoel won the race in 2:15:83 to Rudolph's 2:18:09, Musgrave's 2:18:26, Prema's 2:19:41 and Houlie's 2:19:63.

In the ladies' 200-m breaststroke, Tatjana Schoenmaker was victorious in 2:26:20, while Kaylene Corbett, Christin Mundell and Hanim Abrahams all added the event to their list of Junior Qualifiers in 2:30:07; 2:31:46 and 2:33:98, respectively.

In the 100-m freestyle, Erin Gallagher scooped the gold in 56,28 seconds ahead of Emma Chelius in 56,75 seconds and Seychelles' Felicity Passon in 56,90 seconds, while 14-year-old Olivia Nel, who despite finishing fourth, added her name to the FINA Junior World Championships list by a mere 0,02 seconds when she touched the wall in 58,06 seconds to the 58,08-second requirement.

Gallagher was back in the water to receive the gold for the 50-m butterfly, clocking a winning 27,35 seconds to Chelius' 27,90 seconds and Kenya's Emily Muteti in 28,40 seconds.

Martin Bindell, Neil Fair and Ruan Ras made up the 200-m backstroke medal podium in 1:59:69; 2:01:47 and 2:04:10, respectively, while 15-year-old Luan Grobbelaar was more than happy with his silver medal in the 400-m individual medley in a FINA Junior World Championships qualification time of 4:29:59 ahead of Ruan Breytenbach (4:35:39) and behind Ayrton Sweeney (4:20:41).

In the multi-disability races, Cornell Loubser claimed the top position in the S14-15 200-m individual medley in 2:40:86; with the S1-13 winner was Alani Ferreira in 2:52:03.

In the men's S14-15 medley event, Aaron Putz won the gold in 2:32:38, while Christian Sadie came first in the S1-13 category with a World Para Swimming Championships qualification time of 2:45:59.

The staging of this event was made possible through the support provided by Swimming SA partners, the SRSA, SASCOC, the National Lotteries Commission, Arena and Rand Water.

Biking, mountain biking, cycling

The third round of the South African National MTB Cup Series XCO took place in Bloemfontein at Happy Valley Conservancy in May 2017. Team Spur's Alan Hatherly took the top honours in the Elite Men's race and OMX Pro Team's Mariske Strauss took the Elite Women's title.

The penultimate race of the national series attracted a fair amount of international riders as well, with eight nations represented during the highly competitive event.

At the South African National Track Omnium Championships, held at the Bellville Velodrome in the Western Cape in April 2017, David Maree rode an impressive four rides to come out on top with the points to seal the Omnium title.

Nolan Hoffman fought hard to an impressive second and Gert Fouche finished in third. The omnium discipline of track cycling is typically made up of six events and held over two days, but the Track Commission held four events for the Omnium National Title. Maree won the first and second Elite Men's Omnium events of the day – the scratch and tempo races, and found himself in second place in the elimination event.

Boxing

In May 2018, Newlands boxer, Hector "Hekkie" Budler, became the first South African boxer to hold three major world crowns simultaneously when he won the WBA, International Boxing Federation (IBF) and The Ring magazine titles after one fight against another Japanese boxer, Ryoichi Taguchi in Tokyo.

Canoeing, rowing

The South African Sprint Canoe Championships came to a conclusion in April 2017 with a number of the country's best sprint paddlers rising to the surface. Donna Hutton and Louis Hattingh claimed the overall women's and men's paddlers prizes, respectively.

While some of the events attracted relatively small numbers of entries, the quality of the various age categories was high and the racing went right down to the wire with a number of the category prizes decided right at the end.

The event boasted the likes of Bridgitte Hartley, Chrisjan Coetzee, Stuart Maclaren, Esti van Tonder and Melanie van

Niekerk, all paddlers that have represented South Africa in various disciplines.

The performance of the competition came from Donna Hutton. The young star who competed in two A Finals at the 2016 Junior and Under-23 Sprint World Championships showed her dominance as she finished with two wins, a second and a third in the K1 events.

Hutton's impressive efforts were highlighted by the fact that she did not compete in any K2 events, yet she still finished with the highest number of points in the ladies competition.

Esti van Tonder powered her way to victories in the crucial Olympic disciplines of the 200-m K1 and the 500-m K1 events.

The men's victor ludorum was keenly contested with two paddlers in the mix going right up to the end of the competition; however it was the experienced Louis Hattings who was too strong as he claimed the overall spoils ahead of Stuart Maclaren by two and a half points.

Maclaren was in top form in the K2 events where he came out on top in all four of the events, the 5 000-m, 1 000-m, 500-m and 200-m. Maclaren had three different partners for the four races, partnering Chrisjan Coetzee twice to win the 500-m and 200-m K2 events.

Caitlin and Christie Mackenzie battled it out for the junior girl's honours. Eventually, it was Caitlin who pipped Christie to the line by four points despite the latter's absence from the K2 events.

Alex Masina powered his way to the under-18 boys' title ahead of Callum Davis and Hamish Lovemore. Masina racked up 92,5 points as opposed to 50 points from Davis and 49,5 points from Lovemore.

Golf

Almero Theron defeated tournament favourite Ryan Dreyer in a dramatic play-off to lift the South African Mid-Amateur Stroke Play Championship title at Sun City in May 2017.

Central Gauteng's Marco Steyn joined an illustrious list of champions including Charl Schwartzel, Brandon Stone and Haydn Porteous when he won the Oxigen Prince's Grant National Amateur Invitational. Steyn won by four strokes on a tournament total of 286 and with a final round of 70.

Hockey

In July 2017, the South African national women's hockey team qualified for the 2018 FIH World Cup in London after winning in the FIH Hockey World League. South Africa beat Japan 2-1 in the fifth place play-off match played at the Wits hockey stadium in Johannesburg.

South Africa is 13th on the world rankings. By mid-2017, the current SA Women's Hockey National Coach, Sheldon Rostron, had been appointed as the Interim Head Coach for the SA Men's side. Rostron was put in charge of the SA Hockey Men for their World Cup qualifying bid at the African Hockey Cup of Nations in Egypt in October 2017. The appointment was a first for SA Hockey as the Men and Women will have a Joint Team Management Structure for the tournament.

Rostron has been the Head Coach of the Women's National team since 2014.

Ice hockey

The South Africa men's team is ranked 40th in the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Ranking and competes in Division II B.

Motorsport

Defending champion Michael Stephen won his first GTC victory of the 2017 season. Mathew Hodges and Simon Moss completed the podium. First race winner Gennaro Bonafede had to start from the back of the grid and slowly worked his way through the rest of the field to start the final lap in second place.

At the Classic Racing at Zwartkops, the day's headline event was the 45-minute Castrol Tourist Trophy race for Pre-1968 Le Mans Sports and GT cars. Sarel van der Merwe's co-driver, Mike Briggs was involved in a first corner incident that saw their Daytona Coupe stranded on the side of the circuit.

A number of competitors took advantage of the safety car period that followed to make their compulsory pit stops. This proved to be the correct strategy for Peter Bailey as he ended up with a comfortable lead which he held to the flag.

Netball

The 2018 Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League took place,

at the Ellis Park Indoor Arena in May. Matches were played every Friday, Saturday and Sunday for six weeks culminating into the finals that were held at the University of Pretoria.

Rugby

History was made when the Springboks came from being 3 – 24 behind at Ellis Park, to beat England 42 – 39 in the first of three Tests in June 2018.

Siya Kolisi celebrated becoming South Africa's first black Test captain by leading the team to a thrilling 42 – 39 triumph over England in the first Test in Johannesburg. Trailing by 21 points after 18 minutes, the Springboks staged a magnificent rally to lead 29 – 27 at half-time and held off a late England charge to succeed in a ten-try thriller. A 60-metre penalty from full-back Elliot Daly in the third minute served an early warning to the Springboks that the visitors were desperate to snap a three-match losing streak.

Soccer

Banyana Banyana is ranked in the Top 50 of the FIFA Women's World Ranking. The team won the 2018 COSAFA Women's Championship crown after defeating Cameroon at the Wolfson Stadium in Port Elizabeth.

In 2017, this South African national football team was ranked in the top 100 by the FIFA World Ranking system.

Volleyball

As part of the 2017/18 Federation Intensive Support Programme, the department supported Volleyball South Africa in implementing the Inaugural Volleyball League held in Durban every weekend from 2 to 25 March 2018.

The indoor matches were held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Westville Campus and the beach volleyball matches were held at the New Beach (South Beach).

A combined total of 188 female and male players participated in the Volleyball League.

Softball would be the recipient of this extra support in 2018/19. The plan is to establish a Softball League.

Softball

As part of the programme of intensive support to Softball for the 2018/19 financial year, the department was expected to provide technical support and additional financial support of R10 million to Softball South Africa. This will enable Softball South Africa to establish a Softball Premier League wherein women's and men's teams from all provinces will participate. The Softball Premier League will take place over a four-week period.

In addition to the Premier League, Softball South Africa was expected to launch a Softball Regional League. Limpopo, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, North West and Free State would participate in the Regional League, which will culminate into a Super Cup.

The league will start at provincial level and the top-two teams will represent their province in the National League.

Surfing, surfski, sailing

In March 2017, the Cape Town Surfriders Grommet Team made it six wins in a row when they took overall honours at the 2017 Billabong SA Grommet Games presented by Sea Harvest and supported by the SRSA. The four-day event was completed in perfect weather and choppy two-foot surf at Pipe Beach in Port Elizabeth.

The inaugural Nelson Mandela Bay Surf Pro presented by Billabong wrapped up three days of high performance surfing action in April 2017, with Michael February and Crystal Hulett taking the men's and women's titles, respectively, while Jake Elkington and Kayla Nogueira clinched the pro junior men's and women's crowns. The first internationally rated World Surf League Qualifying Series events to be staged in Port Elizabeth enjoyed contestable but testing surf and great weather for the three days and featured 128 competitors, including South Africa's top exponents and entrants from the USA and Australia.

Hank McGregor claimed victory in both the singles and doubles clash at the South African Surfski Championship at the Pete Marlin Surfski Race in the Eastern Cape.

In the women's singles race, Nikki Russell pipped Hayley Nixon in a battle up front, handing her a second while Jenna Ward, Kyeta Purchase and Chloë Bunnnett rounded out the top five.

Swimming

The South African swimming team claimed the top spot on the medal table with a total of 78 medals (39 gold, 23 silver and 16 bronze) at the CANA Zone 3 Swimming Championships in November 2018.

Keagon Mnyaka (15) and Kaydn Naidoo (15) won an impressive thirteen medals between them. Mnyaka and Naidoo claimed the gold and silver in both the 200m freestyle in 2:09.46 and 2:12.41 and the 100m butterfly in 1:02.61 and 1:04.32, while Naidoo went one better in the 200m individual medley and the 50m butterfly, clocking a winning time of 2:27.28 and 27.15, respectively.

Mnyaka followed with the silver in 2:29.85 in the medley and 27.67 in the butterfly race, while Naidoo also finished first in the 400m freestyle in 4:50.18, the 50m freestyle in 25.73 and the 200m backstroke in 2:28.73. Mnyaka also won two bronze medals in the 200m backstroke in 2:42.72 and the 100m breaststroke in 1:16.78, while Tully Njoroge won a gold medal in the breaststroke event, touching the wall in 1:14.58.

Kuhlekonke Mkhize (14), added four gold medals to his tally in the 200m freestyle (2:14.85), the 50m freestyle (27.18), the 200m backstroke (2:37.84) and the 200m individual medley (2:31.48), and won silver in the 400m freestyle in 4:55.63, the 100m breaststroke in 1:19.27 and the 100m butterfly in 1:14.61.

On the women's side, Erica Sibande (15) was named the top swimmer in her age group after scooping an additional seven gold medals. Sibande topped the 200m freestyle in 2:36.10, the 50m butterfly in 36.09, the 200m breaststroke in 2:49.33, the 50m freestyle in 31.26, the 100m breaststroke in 1:40.92, the 400m freestyle in 5:26.78 and the final 3km Open Water race.

Leah Christie (13) won the gold medal in the 200m freestyle in 2:28.67 and 2:35.18. Lerato Thobeha won the gold medal 100m butterfly in 1:15.64

Tennis

South Africa's Women's 45+ Team of Jackie Booth, Lettica Venter, Annerie Wessels and Ronel Pieterse earned a silver medal in the Young Seniors World Team Championships in Cape Town in March 2017.

The KIA South African Davis Cup team had a bittersweet end

to their Davis Cup tie against Estonia at the Irene Country Club in Pretoria in February 2017.

In a dead rubber final days play, South Africa won and lost a reverse singles giving them an overall 4 –1 victory over Estonia in their Euro/Africa Group 2 first round tie.

Raven Klaasen and Ruan Roelofse won the tie for South Africa by clinching the doubles rubber in four sets. Singles players Lloyd Harris and Nik Scholtz also won their respective rubbers.

In January 2017, South African junior tennis players impressed in Namibia and were named the top-performing nation in the ITF CAT Southern Africa Championships in Windhoek. A 14-and-under and 16-and-under girls and boys team represented the country in the championships.

In the individual competition, South Africa won four titles and reached two finals in the eight events played. Thando Longwe-Smit seeded five in the boys 16-and-under won the sole singles title when he upset top seeded countryman Pierre Malan 3-6 6-2 6-3.

In the three doubles titles won by South Africans, Rohan Loubser teamed up with Namibian Connor Van Schalkwyk to lift the 14-and-under boys title, while Pierre Malan and Charl Morgan won the 16-and-under boys title with Delien Kleinhans and Makayla Loubser winning the 16-and-under girls title.

In September 2017, Kevin Anderson made the finals of the US Open. He is the first South African player to make the final of a major tennis championship since 1994. Anderson produced an historic run at the US Open, before finally losing out to Spain's Rafael Nadal in straight sets 6-3 6-3 6-4 in the title decider.