



## Sport and recreation

South Africans have more than made their mark in international sport – in soccer, cricket, rugby, boxing, golf, swimming, tennis, athletics, and many other codes. Recently, the country has successfully hosted major international soccer, rugby and cricket events (the world cups of the latter two sports) and will be sure to impress when it hosts the *Fédération Internationale de Football Association* Soccer World Cup in 2010.

### Taking part

A key aim of government is encouraging all South Africans (particularly the historically disadvantaged) to take part in organised sport for the sake of social integration, health and the sheer enjoyment of it.

#### FACT

In 2000, sport and recreation contributed 2% to South Africa's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), generating R15,9 billion of economic activity. Including capital expenditure, that figure rises to R16,7 billion or 2,1% of GDP.

### Facilities

Between 1994 and 2001, the Reconstruction and Development Programme Fund resulted in the completion of 138 basic outdoor sports facilities costing R49,5 million, and one indoor facility in each province at a total cost of R40,7 million.

Other noteworthy achievements in bringing sports infrastructure to ordinary (and potentially world-class) people were:

- 26 projects with a total value of R1,2 million were completed between 1994 and 2001 with resources from the Central Sport and Recreation Fund
  - the 2002/03 departmental budget provided for the upgrading and building of 85 facilities, creating 5 500 jobs
  - 100 community sports councils and clubs were established and empowered to run and manage their facilities.
- Since 1993, Sport and Recreation South Africa has spent some R450 million on building and upgrading facilities countrywide.

In the last two years, 142 facilities were completed.

## International achievements

South African teams and individuals enjoyed a mixed year in 2003. The Springbok rugby team disappointed supporters by exiting the World Cup in the quarter-finals, and the country's national cricket team failed to win the Cricket World Cup on home soil. But there were many highlights, notably:

- High jumper Hestrie Cloete was elected female World Athlete of the Year with 22 wins in 26 competitions.
- Jacques Freitag won the men's high jump at the World Athletics Championships by clearing 2,35 m.
- Makhaya Ntini was the world's top cricket wicket-taker in 2003.

### South African Olympic medals: 1992 – 2000 and finalists

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1992: 3 medals/3 finals (2 for men's doubles tennis)

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1996: 5 medals/10 finals (includes men's marathon gold)

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2000: 4 medals/26 finals

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Finals reached by doubles or teams counted as single events

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## South Africa's top golf courses, 2003

According to SA Golf Digest

1. Gary Player Country Club, Sun City, North West
2. Leopard Creek Country Club, Mpumalanga
3. Fancourt (Montagu course), Southern Cape
4. Durban Country Club, KwaZulu-Natal
5. Arabella Golf & Country Estate, Western Cape
6. Fancourt (Outeniqua)
7. River Club, Gauteng
8. The Links at Fancourt
9. George Golf Club, Southern Cape
10. Pecanwood Golf and Country Club, Gauteng.

- In November 2003, the Fancourt Golf Estate near George hosted the Presidents Cup between the United States of America and an international team. In a sensational finish, the sides tied and shared the trophy. In the same month, Trevor Immelman and Rory Sabbatini won the World Golf Cup.
- Boxer Corrie Saunders scored a second-round knockout win over Vladimir Klitschko in Germany in March to claim the World Boxing Organisation heavyweight title.
- The 40-athlete strong South African Special Olympics team brought home 37 medals, including eight gold, from the Special Olympics.

### Sports Tourism Project

South Africa's hosting of the 2003 Cricket World Cup attracted 20 000 foreign fans over 44 days, who spent R1,1 billion and generated 3 500 jobs during the hugely successful event.

### Sports administration

The South African Sports Commission administers sports and recreation under the Minister's guidance. It co-ordinates the provision of facilities via a national plan.

The budget allocation to the Commission rose from R24,7 million in 2002/03 to R28 million in 2003/04.

The Commission is responsible for, among other things, improving South Africa's international performance, the quality of international events hosted by this country, and identifying talent and priority sports for investment.

South Africa predicts that by hosting the 2010 Soccer World Cup it will:

- sell 2,75 million tickets
- entail capital expenditure of R2,3 billion
- contribute R21,3 billion to the economy
- create 159 000 jobs
- bring in R7,2 billion in taxes.

#### Sports of most interest to adult South Africans, 2003

Soccer	52,5%
Cricket	22,3%
Dancing	19,9%
Boxing/wrestling	18,6%
Rugby	17,8%
Athletics	16,7%

Source: South Africa Advertising Research Foundation

#### Junior Dipapadi

This programme aims to give all children aged three to 14 the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation. Children are introduced to a variety of sports codes through play at beginner level. The project kicks off with the Super Start Programme which promotes participation in games to encourage learning and social integration, through to Modified Sport which introduces children to adult games in such a way that they can enjoy the sports while developing skills and experiencing success.

Playsport teaches primary-school children basic skills and gives teachers the resources to effectively enhance their motor skills.