



South Africa **Yearbook** 2018/19

Sports and Recreation

The Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) is established in terms of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Act 103 of 1994). Its legal mandate is derived from the National Sport and Recreation Act, 1998 (Act 110 of 1998), 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 department's partnership with the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee, which is key to improving South Africa's international ranking in selected sports. The Act also ensures that sport and physical activity contribute to social cohesion by legislating on sports participation and sports infrastructure.

The National Development Plan and national sport and recreation plan recognise sport and recreation as a way to foster nation building and social cohesion. To give expression to the visions of these plans over the medium term, the department intends to continue broadening the participation base in sport and recreation, cultivating sporting talent and encouraging excellence in the international sporting arena, pursuing the delivery of sport infrastructure, and championing transformation in sport and recreation

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.

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. An amount of 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 SASCO'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 department was allocated R1.1 billion for the 2018/19 financial year.

Cultivating sporting talent and encouraging excellence

Young people are given opportunities to showcase their skills at events such as the national school sport championships, which expose South African sporting talent to national federations and talent scouts. Of the projected 42 000 learners who are expected to participate in school sport competitions at the district level in 2019/20, 5 000 are expected to progress to participate at the autumn, winter and summer championships, and as school sport participants at the 2019 national indigenous games festival. School teams began participating in the festival in 2018/19. In 2019/20, this event will form one segment of the championships.

The department has allocated R33.7 million for these events in the Active Nation programme's School Sport subprogramme, and R205 million that is set to be transferred to provinces through the mass participation and sport development grant in

the Provincial Sport Support and Coordination subprogramme. Ministerial sports bursaries are awarded to young, talented athletes to enable them to attend verified schools that focus on sports. These bursaries are available for high school learners and are valid for the duration of their school careers if they maintain their sporting achievements. In 2019/20, a minimum of 50 qualifying learners, including learners already in the programme, are expected to be supported through the payment of school fees, the provision of school uniforms and sport clothing, sport scientific support, and event attendance. R22.6 million is allocated over the MTEF period for this in the Scientific Support subprogramme in the Winning Nation programme.

The department plans to support a projected 40 emerging athletes identified by national federations as having high potential through an allocation of R150.1 million over the medium term in the Scientific Support subprogramme in the Winning Nation programme. In 2019/20, 39 provincial and district sports academies are expected to receive R68.2 million from the mass participation and sport development grant to provide specialist training and sport scientific support to a projected 3 700 talented athletes. Elite athletes preparing to compete in the All Africa Games, the World Games, the Commonwealth Games, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games receive advanced coaching and financial support each year through the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee's high-performance programme. The department plans to transfer R35 million over the medium term to the committee through the Scientific Support subprogramme in the Winning Nation programme to support 40 elite athletes.

Pursuing the delivery of sport infrastructure

The Sport and Recreation Facility Planning subprogramme in the Sport Infrastructure Support programme encourages participation in sport and recreation by advocating for municipalities to deliver community gyms and children's play parks. The department expects to provide 10 community gyms and children's play parks across South Africa in each year over the MTEF period to give community members and athletes in disadvantaged areas access to opportunities to exercise and

improve their health and fitness. An amount of R12 million is allocated over the medium term for the provision of these facilities.

The department facilitates the delivery of specialised, multipurpose sport courts and other infrastructure projects to improve access to sport and recreation activities through a partnership with the Sports Trust. Through a transfer of R75.8 million over the medium term, the trust expects to provide 30 multipurpose sports courts.

An allocation of R33.5 million over the MTEF period in the Sport Infrastructure Support programme will enable the department to strengthen its oversight of and support to municipalities to improve the planning and delivery of infrastructure for sport and recreation. The department, along with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, the South African Local Government Association and municipalities, will ensure that funds earmarked in the municipal infrastructure grant for the provision of sport and recreation facilities are used to provide facilities in areas where they are most needed.

Championing transformation in sport and recreation

It is a national imperative, and a strategic goal of the department, to transform the sport and recreation sector.

To this end, the Sport and Recreation Service Providers subprogramme in the Sport Support programme will continue to fund 60 national federations through an allocation of R345.2 million over the medium term. The department selects a federation each year from the 16 priority sporting codes to receive additional support to implement key priorities. Federations are audited against their own transformation targets. Based on this, a comprehensive transformation report is published annually that reflects the status of transformation as well as a comparative analysis across different federations.

The department intends to expand the mechanisms developed to ensure that recommendations from transformation audits are implemented, including the use of financial rewards for federations that meet transformation targets and non-financial punitive measures for those that fail to do so.

Broadening participation in sport and recreation

To be an active nation, citizens need to get into the habit of participating in sport and recreation from a young age. An estimated 140 892 people are expected to participate in events such as youth camps, the Big Walk, the national recreation day and the national indigenous games festival over the MTEF period. These events are mainly funded by transfers over the medium term to provinces through a R2 billion allocation to the mass participation and sport development grant, and R111 million from goods and services in the Active Nation programme.

The department will continue to assist provincial departments over the MTEF period by deploying managers to oversee youth camps and provide logistical support to ensure that they are successful. An estimated 1 800 participants from various backgrounds attend these camps, where learners are taught leadership skills, life skills, and the importance of national pride. The department plans to spend R3 million in each year over the medium term on the camps in the Community Sport subprogramme in the Active Nation programme, while each province allocates an additional R3 million each year from the mass participation and sport development grant.

Nine indigenous games frequently played in South Africa are showcased during the National Indigenous Games Festival. The games bring people from culturally diverse backgrounds together as part of South Africa's heritage celebrations in September. All provinces present teams selected from various communities at the games, which are held from community to provincial level. Provincial departments are responsible for the development of indigenous games at the school and community levels, the selection of provincial teams, and the preparation and presentation of teams at the festival. Indigenous games federations have been established at the provincial level, and national structures are being formally constituted for all indigenous games.

The department will provide financial support to sustainable federations once they are established. Developing and hosting the games is expected to result in expenditure of R83.7 million over the medium term in the Community Sport subprogramme in the Active Nation programme.

The department supports school sport leagues in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, and will continue integrating the 16 priority sporting codes and indigenous games, such as morabaraba and jukskei, into the school sport system over the medium term. An estimated 2 500 schools, hubs and clubs are expected to receive equipment and attire in each year over the MTEF period to facilitate sustainable participation. R45 million is allocated over the medium term for these activities in the Community Sport subprogramme in the Active Nation programme. A further R143.1 million over the MTEF period is allocated in the subprogramme for the department's partnership with loveLife to provide youth empowerment programmes at sport and recreation events such as national youth camps and the national school sport championships.

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. The organisation's total budget for 2018/19 was R15 million.

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's 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.
- The institute's total budget for 2018/19 was R30.9 million.

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.

Working with SASCOC, the Free State Provincial Government and through contributions from all provincial sport and recreation departments, the 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
- SASCOC
- 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).

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.

The School Sport sub-programme was allocated R31.9 million in 2018/19, while R199.7 million was transferred to provinces through the mass participation and sport development grant. Of the projected 42 000 learners who were set to participate in school sport competitions at the district level in 2018/19, 5 000 were expected to progress to participate at the 2018/19 provincial training camps.

Major events

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 Sports 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.

The 2018 SA Sports Awards took place in Bloemfontein on 11 November. The awards acknowledge local sporting heroes who have excelled in their respective sporting fields.

Olympic champion Caster Semenya scooped a number of awards, bagging Sports Star of the Year, Sportswoman of the Year and People's Choice awards.

Swimming star, Tatjana Schoenmaker won the New Comer of the Year for her wins at the Commonwealth Games, while Banyana Banyana were voted as the National Team of the Year, following their COSAFA Women's Championship win in Port Elizabeth.

The following winners were crowned:

- Sports star of the year: Caster Semenya.
- Sportsman of the year: Chad le Clos.
- Sportswoman of the Year: Caster Semenya.
- Sportsman of the year with disability: Mdozoi Ntutu.
- Sportswoman of the year with disability: Anrune Liebenberg.
- Team of the year: Banyana Banyana.
- Newcomer of the year: Tatjana Schoenmaker.
- Coach of the year: Samuel Sepeng.
- Volunteer of the year: Linda Hlophe.
- Indigenous games team of the year: Morabaraba Team.
- The Recreation body of the year: Mavu Sport Development.
- National Federation of the year: Softball.
- School team of the year: St Benedict's College.
- Developing school of the year: Machakela-Mamodibo

Secondary School.

- Sport Administrator of the Year: Virginia Mabaso.
- People's Choice Award: Caster Semenya.

National Aquatic Championships

Chad le Clos and Erin Gallagher both posted qualifying times for the Fina World Championships as they struck gold in their respective events on the first day of the 2019 SA National Aquatic Championships in Durban in April 2019.

Le Clos cruised to victory in the 200m butterfly with a time of 1:56.21 as he ensured his qualification the World Championships. He also won the 100m freestyle in a time of 49.75 but fell short of the 48.80 World Championship qualifying time by just 0.95secs.

Ethan du Preez (1:58.24) and Eben Vorster (1:58.44) finished second and third in the 200m butterfly respectively while Ryan Coetzee (49.84) and Zane Waddell (50.28) took home the silver and bronze medals in the 100m freestyle.

In the women's 100m freestyle, Gallagher made a quick start and quickly outpaced her rivals as she clocked a Fina World Championship qualifying time of 54.34 to claim the gold medal. Aimee Canny in 56.33 and Emma Chelius in 56.43 finished second and third respectively in the event.

Biking, mountain biking, cycling

In September 2019, Team Dimension Data for Qhubeka were announced as winners at the prestigious Beyond Sport Global Awards 2019 in New York as the Best Corporate Campaign or Initiative in the Sport for Good category. The award recognises organisations that are using their reach, resources and influence to effect change. The 2019 Beyond Sport Global Awards shortlist represented 37 countries, across six continents and more than 40 sports, all dedicated to creating positive social impact in communities around the world through sport to help achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Boxing

In May 2019, Tulani Mbenge walked away with the big prize at the SA Boxing Awards in Sandton. The International Boxing Organisation welterweight champion won the Male Boxer of

the Year for 2018, with Melissa Miller taking the trophy in the Female category.

Zolani Tete, the Male Boxer for the previous year, was one of four recipients of special achievements. Two of the other three were IBF flyweight titleholder Moruti Mthlale and his stablemate, former International Boxing Federation, World Boxing Association and Ring magazine junior-flyweight champion Hekkie Budler.

The full list of winners:

- Male boxer of the year: Tulani Mbenge
- Female boxer of the year: Mellisa Miller
- Male fight of the year: Mzoxolo Ndwayana v Shaun Ness
- Female fight of the year: Asandiswa Nxokwana v Sherodine Fortuin
- Male prospect of the year: Ayabonga Sonjica
- Female prospect of the year: Simangele Hadebe
- Media person of the year: Thabiso Mosia
- Female ring official of the year: Siya Vabaza
- Male ring official of the year: Alan Matakane
- Most promising ring official of the year: Simphiwe Gceba
- Knockout of the year: Zolani Tete v Siboniso Gonya
- Trainer of the Year: Colin Nathan
- Promoter of the year: Teris Ntutu (Rumble Africa Promotions)
- Most promising promoter of the year: Xolani Mampunye of Last-Born Promotions
- Manager of the year: Colleen McAusland
- Special achievements: Zolani Tete, Hekkie Budler, Moruti Mthlale, Xaba Boxing Promotions
- Lifetime achievement awards: Themba Zulu, Les Andreassen, Gladys Tsenene, Jeff Ellis, Mzoli Madyaka.

Canoeing, rowing

In September 2019, Mike Wessels walked away with the national title at the Macski South African Waveski Championships after a fierce tussle with Border star Bruce Viaene.

Teenage paddling star, Thabo Mahlaba, stunned the South African slalom canoeing championships held on the Liebenbergsvlei river outside Bethlehem by winning the senior title in a near flawless display over three rounds. Mahlaba was the early pacesetter on the Bohlokong slalom course, with Sandile

Makhubo keeping him under constant pressure as the field was reduced to five boats for the final after two rounds of qualifiers.

Golf

In October 2019, Thriston Lawrence came out on top in a tightly contested Vodacom Origins of Golf event in Stellenbosch, where he won by a single shot. Lawrence became the tenth golfer to secure his maiden Sunshine Tour title to date. He had trailed by five shots behind leaders JP Strydom and Deon Germishuys but carded a 7-under final round to win at 15-under.

Ice hockey

The South Africa men's team is ranked 44th in the International Ice Hockey Federation World Ranking.

Netball

Netball South Africa has won the rights to host the 16th staging of the Netball World Cup in 2023. The tournament will be held in the International Convention Centre in Cape Town, widely renowned for its international reputation in hosting sports and other major events. This is the first time the Netball World Cup will be held in the continent of Africa. South Africa's netball team narrowly lost a closely contested semi-final match against the Australian Diamonds at the Netball World Cup In Liverpool in July 2019.

The highly anticipated game ended 55-53 in favour of defending world champions Australia

The Proteas played their first Netball World Cup in 24 years. South Africa went into the semi-final having had lost only one game against England compared to Australia's perfect win record in all of their five games.

In October 2019, the South African netball team were crowned the 2019 Africa Netball Cup champions at the Bellville Velodrome in Cape Town.

The Proteas defeated Zambia 72-53 to win their sixth consecutive game in the tournament and claim the title.

Rugby

In November 2019, Cheslin Kolbe and Makazole Mapimpi produced two match-winning tries to help the Springboks

clinch the Rugby World Cup final by beating England 32-12 in Yokohama.

The Springboks became world champions, 12 years after clinching it for the second time in 2007. They became world champions for the third time, and the first team to ever lose a pool match and go on to win the trophy.

Soccer

Bafana Bafana made it to the quarterfinals of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt, after stunning the hosts with a 1-0 win at the Cairo International Stadium. Thembinkosi Lorch was the hero for South Africa in his first start of the tournament, as he slotted past Egypt goalkeeper Mohamed El Shenawi with five minutes left to send Bafana into the next round. The South African men national team went on to lose to Nigeria in the quarterfinals.

South Africa's national women's soccer team, Banyana Banyana, made history after qualifying for the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup. The team's 2-0 win against Mali in the semi-finals of the African Women's Cup of Nations in December 2018 in Ghana, took them to the finals of the tournament. The win also guaranteed them a spot in the Women's World Cup in France in 2019. It was the first time the team participated in the women's world tournament, making it a victorious moment in South African sporting history.

Volleyball

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

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.

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

