



Sport and recreation

South Africans have more than made their mark in international sport. The country has successfully hosted major international soccer events, as well as the Rugby, Cricket and Women's Golf World Cups and will be sure to impress when it hosts the *Fédération Internationale de Football Association* Soccer World Cup in 2010.

Taking part

Government aims to encourage 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. The mass participation programme was launched in 2004/05 with the opening of 60 hubs aimed at getting the youth involved in mass-based sport activities. A further 36 were envisaged for 2005/06.

Facilities

Since 2001, government has built more than 360 basic, multi-purpose facilities and has established some 360 community sports councils. More than 15 500 temporary jobs were created over a four-year period. The 2004/05 Budget provided for 121 facilities to be built or upgraded.

Between 2001 and 2005, funding for upgrading existing facilities and creating new ones came from the Poverty Relief, Infrastructure Investment and Job Summit funds. The allocation for 2004/05 also allowed Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) to undertake projects in the areas where

the 2010 Soccer World Cup matches are planned, to benefit the poor in those urban areas. The projects are, however, not restricted to soccer or to these areas alone.

International achievements in 2005

- In January 2005, world indoor 800-m champion, Mbulaeni Mulaudzi, won the International Association of Athletics Federation's Permit Flanders Indoor race in Ghent, Belgium, in 1:48,05 seconds.
- In January 2005, Oscar Pistorius, the 18-year-old 200-m Paralympic champion and world record holder for double leg amputees, continued his astonishing career at a Gauteng North open athletics meeting at Pilditch Stadium in Pretoria. He set a new global 400-m record in the same category with a time of 47,43 seconds.
- In February 2005, Fancourt Golf Estate near George hosted the Women's World Cup of Golf. The event was won by Japan. The event was won by Sweden in 2006.
- In February 2005, South African cyclist Ryan Cox won the Tour de Langkawi in Malaysia.
- In February 2005, South Africa beat England 4-1 in a seven-match one-day international cricket series.
- In February 2005, Ryk Neethling followed his opening day world record with two more golds at the FINA World Cup short-course swimming competition in New York. He notched a world record in the men's 100-m individual medley and a United States (US) Open record in the 200-m freestyle, finishing in 1:43,12 seconds.
- In April 2005, Makhaya Ntini claimed the best match bowling figures in South African cricket test history to help his team dismiss the West Indies on the final day of the second test at Queen's Park Oval. South Africa won the test series 2-0.

Fast bowler Ntini took seven wickets for 37 as the home team slumped from 170 for five at the start of the day to 194 all out.

In May 2005, *Golf Digest USA* ranked the top 100 golf courses outside the United States of America. South Africa achieved five listings, with Leopard Creek Golf Estate and Country Club coming in at number 25.

The survey covered 1 005 courses worldwide, and was overseen by a panel of over 800 course-rating specialists, 22 editors of *Golf Digest* and its affiliates, and an undisclosed number of other expert panelists.

The five listed South African courses are all regular stops on the Sunshine Tour annual calendar.

Leopard Creek ranked 25th, followed by the Gary Player Country Club, home to the multimillion-dollar Nedbank Golf Challenge and the Dimension Data Pro-Am, at 29th.

The Links at Fancourt, venue of the 2003 President's Cup, was placed at number 59, followed at number 62 by the Durban Country Club. Arabella Estate and Country Club, which plays host to the annual Nelson Mandela Invitational, completed the list at number 100.

- In April 2005, the South African Baby Boks won the 2005 International Rugby Board Under-19 Rugby World Championship title when they defeated New Zealand 20-15 at the Absa Stadium in Durban.
- In April 2005, South African wheelchair athlete Ernst van Dyk won the Boston Marathon for a record fifth consecutive time, coming home almost six minutes clear of his nearest challenger.

Van Dyk's winning time of 1:24:11 was some way off the world record 1:18:27 he posted in 2004.

A week prior to the Boston Marathon, Van Dyk won the Paris Marathon.

- At the beginning of May 2005, Ernie Els recorded his third win of the season in record-breaking style at the Tomson Shanghai Pudong Golf Club in Shanghai. He carded a tournament-best 26-under par 262 to win by 13 shots.
- In May 2005, Natalie du Toit broke four world records in the pool at the Visa Paralympic World Cup in Manchester. Ernst van Dyk won the men's wheelchair pursuit with a time of 4:20:80. He also won gold in the 1 500 m with a time of 3:21:85. Oscar Pistorius followed with gold in the

100 m in a time of 11,23 seconds and gold in the 200 m with a time of 22,01 seconds.

- In May 2005, South African ski paddler Oscar Chalupsky won a record 11th Molokai Challenge, widely regarded as the unofficial world surf ski championship.
- In June 2005, South African game ranger Sibusiso Vilane summited Mount Everest. Vilane, who was the first black African to reach the top of Everest in May 2003, summited with fellow mountaineer Alex Harris.
- On 16 June 2005, Sipho Ngomane won South Africa's annual premier athletic event, the Comrades Marathon.
- In June 2005, South Africa defeated Australia 24-20 to win the Under-21 Rugby World Championship.
- Also in June 2005, South Africa defeated the French 27-13 in Port Elizabeth to clinch the rugby test series. The first test was drawn 40 all.
- In July 2005, second seeds Cara Black of Zimbabwe and Liezel Huber of South Africa won the Wimbledon women's doubles title by defeating Amelie Mauresmo of France and Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia 6-2, 6-1 in the final.

Sports of most interest to adult South Africans, June 2004

Sport	June 2004	Feb 2003	June 2000	May 1999
	%	%	%	%
	Multi-mention	One only	One only	One only
Soccer	78	45	49	47
Rugby	47	10	14	12
Cricket	39	16	14	16
Wrestling	25			
Athletics	22	4	1	3
Tennis	22	2	2	3
Boxing	18	2	1	4
Motorsport	12			
Golf	12			
Netball	11	4	3	3

Source: SABC Markinor

South Africa's Wesley Moodie teamed up with Australia's Stephen Huss to beat Bob and Mike Bryan, the American second seeds, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3, 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, to become the first qualifiers to clinch the title.

- In July 2005, South African golfer Tim Clark holed a 20-foot birdie putt at the last to shoot a four-under 67 and clinch his third European Tour title by two shots at the Scottish Open in Loch Lomond.
- In July 2005, Roland Schoeman set a world record in the semi-finals of the men's 50-m butterfly at the World Championships in Montreal. He went on to win South Africa's first world swimming title by setting another new world record in the final of the men's 50-m butterfly. He also won the men's 50-m freestyle final in 21,69 seconds, the second-fastest time in history and only 0,05 outside Russian Alexander Popov's world record of 21,64. South Africa returned home with five medals in total.
- In July 2005, the Springbok rugby team ensured that the Nelson Mandela Challenge Plate stayed in South Africa by beating Australia 33-20 at Ellis Park stadium in Johannesburg. Two weeks earlier they went down 12-30.
- At the end of July 2005, South Africa beat Australia 22-16 in the first match of the Tri-Nations rugby tournament. A week later they also beat the All Blacks 22-16 at Newlands in Cape Town.
- In August 2005, Retief Goosen overcame the American Brandt Jobe to win the Golf International at Castle Rock, Colorado.
- In October/November 2005, South Africa won the one-day international cricket series against New-Zealand.
- In November 2005, Ernst van Dyk won the New York Marathon.
- In November 2005, Ryk Neethling won six gold medals at the FINA World Cup Series in Durban.

South African sports awards

At the South African Sports Awards 2005 function held on 24 November 2005, rugby player Bryan Habana and cricketer Jacques Kallis were named as the joint winners of the SA Sportsman of the Year award. Natalie du Toit scooped the SA Sportswoman of the Year title. Lucas Radebe was named Sports Personality of the Year and Makhaya Ntini the Bonitas Sports Star of the Year. Team Shosholoza (sailing) clinched the Sports Team of the Year title.

The President honours exceptional achievement in sport and recreation through the national orders. President Thabo Mbeki bestowed the Order of Ikhamanga (silver class) to Fanie Lombaard (Paralympic gold medallist) and Lucas Radebe (soccer) in September 2005.

Sports tourism project

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

South Africa will host the 2010 Soccer World Cup, which is expected to attract some 400 000 visitors. It is the first Soccer World Cup to be held in Africa. An economic-impact study predicts that 2,72 million tickets will be sold, generating revenue to the tune of R4,6 billion.

South Africa has hosted a number of international sporting events since 1994:

- Rugby World Cup 1995
- African Cup of Nations 1996
- IAAF World Cup in Athletics 1998
- All Africa Games 1999
- Cricket World Cup 2003
- President's Cup 2003
- Women's World Cup of Golf 2005 and 2006
- Women's World Cup of Cricket 2005

It is estimated that capital expenditure to upgrade stadiums and other infrastructure will amount to R2,3 billion and the event will lead to direct expenditure of R12,7 billion, while contributing R21,3 billion to the country's gross domestic product. Some 160 000 new employment opportunities will be created and some R7,2 billion will be paid to government in taxes.

Television coverage of the Soccer World Cup will bring South Africa into the homes of new tourism markets such as Brazil, Argentina, eastern Europe, Russia, Japan and South Korea.

Sports administration

The South African Sports Commission (SASC) Act, 1998 provided for a commission to administer sport and recreation under the guidance of the Minister of Sport and Recreation. By May 2005, a Repeal Act was before Parliament to de-establish the SASC. The functions of the SASC are now shared between SRSA and the newly established South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee that will take responsibility for high-performance sport in South Africa.

Disability Sport South Africa (DISSA)

DISSA aims to promote, manage, administer and co-ordinate the competitive and recreational participation in sports activities by disabled South Africans.

It is responsible for the selection and funding of South African national teams attending the Paralympic Games or any world championships recognised by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). It is the South African member of the IPC.

