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Racialism has no Place in Sport



VIC PILLAY
President: Southern Natal Soccer Board

"Life has its cares
And often its dark days of sorrow
But there is always a hope
That the skies will be fair
And the hours happier to-morrow."

This is the beginning and Federation ought to look into the possibility of coercing other international concerns into granting sponsorships on the basis of fair distribution of funds. If it is available for white racial sport, it ought to go to black sport as well and more so to one that's non-racial as that's the theme in world sports forums.

The Federation enjoys a powerful media overseas and it is about time pressure was brought to bear on those establishments that show such scant respect for the ideals of this organisation and their total rejection ought to be used as a lever to expose those who represent international interests in South Africa.

Federation needs to activate itself at the top with a committee assigned the task of pursuing sponsorships. It is bound to succeed and I talk from personal experience as Chairman of Southern Natal Soccer Board. Today we enjoy a substantial support from avenues that were previously closed to the board and the Federation. A little bit of talking pun-

ctuated by a little bit of pressure has resulted in nearly R12 000 being raised for Southnr Natal Soccer Board's sponsored competitions this season. For an amateur organisation the size of Southern Natal Soccer Board this is indeed most flattering.

Now that Datsun are with us, there's hope of a national coaching scheme — if Federation pursues the issue on the basis of sponsorships from establishments that have international connections.

From now on Federation should resolve: "GIVE IT TO US OR WE'LL EXPOSE YOU." I am confident that every success will attend this memorable tournament and that there will be much enjoyment not only for the participants but also for those who will go to watch.

The tournament, embracing as it does, the three large and important sections of our South African people, will undoubtedly do much to cement a spirit of goodwill, friendship and co-operation.

It is my fervent hope that the games that will be played will serve to inculcate into the minds of our young people a feeling of friendliness and harmony and above all, and this is important, it will serve to bring forth a spirit of good sportsmanship and ethics of the South African Soccer Federation first and foremost.

I have no doubt that the matches will be played for the game' sake and in the highest traditions of this glorious game, unblemished by racialism which has no fitting place in any code of sport.

It is seventeen years now since the South African Soccer Federation took the bold step to integrate its soccer and in recapping and retracing the early years of the struggle for recognition, it is very interesting to note that inspite of various attempts to destroy the non-racial character of the Federation, the fight for our sportsman has gone on uninterrupted and greater determination each year.

We have reached a crucial stage in our sporting history and today here at Lenasia Stadium we appear to have finally surmounted one major obstacle in the fight for fairplay and justice. Thanks to the stubborn "no nonsense" approach of Federation's stalwart, Mr. Abdul Bhamjee, that an international concern has agreed to be associated with us in the promotion of non-racial sport.

The decision of Datsun International to contribute a substantial sum to meet the costs of the inter-provincial now being played is timely and most welcome, thanks to DATSUN. It had come to a stage when the Federation was already thinking of changing the biennial nature of the tournament, a plan that had to be shelved for want of financial support. Now it seems the project can get off the ground with an assurance from Datsun that it is quite willing to discuss sponsorships.

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Meld in u antwoord: In reply please quote:

No. 14840/72

7 - 5 - 1976.

REGISTERED AIRMAIL

Mr N.S. Middleton 434 Boom Street PIETERMARITZBURG 3201

Navrae Enquiries

Sir

APPLICATION FOR A SOUTH AFRICAN PASSPORT

I have to inform you that the Minister of the Interior has intimated that he is prepared to accord favourable consideration to your application of 29 March 1976 for a passport to visit the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand on the receipt of a written undertaking by you to the effect that you will not at any stage during your absence from this country with such a passport commit any act designed to prevent any South African sportsman or sportswoman from participating in international sport or to cause any other harm to the Republic.

Yours faithfully

INTERIOR SECRETARY FOR

MR. MIDDLETON REPLIES TO THE ABOVE LETTER

Mr. Middleton quite rightly has refused to accept a conditional passport. In his reply to the Government he states:

The Secretary for the Interior, Department of the Interior, Private Bag 9048, CAPE TOWN 8000

re: APPLICATION FOR A SOUTH AFRICAN PASSPORT:

N. S. MIDDLETON: YOUR REFERENCE NO. 14840/72:

I wish to acknowledge your letter dated 7th instant in reply to my application for a South African passport, and to advise you as follows: That I am of the firm opinion that the issue of a passport to any citizen of any country, is an individual right and not a favour with conditions attached to it. You state in your letter that I may not at any stage during my absence from this country with such a passport, commit any act designed to prevent South African sportsmen and women from participating in International sport. I see no need at all for me to give such an undertaking as I have always strived precisely to ensure that every South African sportsman and woman irrespective of colour of their skin or race, may fully participate in national and international sport purely AS SOUTH AFRICANS. It is in fact your present Government's policy in sport that is the cause of preventing South African sportsman and woman from international sports.

It is because of your sports policy which discriminates purely on the basis of the man's colour of skin and race that South Africa is almost completely isolated from international sport. The end result of this policy being that, only the so-called White people can in fact be allowed to enjoy international sport as South Africans. Only White people enjoy the best of sport facilities. Only the White people get the bulk of your Government's financial assistance, and only the White people and sports organisations get the bulk of sponsorship. For these reasons alone, beside many others, I cannot defend your Government's sports policy here, or anywhere else in the World.

My intention if ever I am allowed to visit overseas countries, are to tell them the truth and nothing but the truth in regard to sports policies in this Country. I can never be a party to the false impressions that are created through your propaganda overseas. I refuse to be a stooge nor a Judas whilst the Black people are suffering.

In your letter you go on to say that I may not cause any other harm to the Republic of South Africa. In this regard, I want to remind you and your Government that I regard myself as a true South African, born in this Country. May I further remind you that I was one of those true and dedicated South Africans who were prepared to die for South Africa in the 1939/45 World War, where I defended South Africa as a soldier against NAZISM, FASCISM and COMMUNISM; whilst many of the now privileged Whites were sabotaging our War efforts against these evils. Am I the man to be reminded of not harming South Africa?

In your letter you do not even have the moral fibre to guarantee me a passport in return for the desired undertaking. But even if you had that moral courage, because of all that I have said above, I regret therefore that I am not prepared to sign the underetaking required from me as per your letter in order that you may "CONSIDER" the issuing of a passport to me. As a South African, I regard this request from you as an insult to me, which amounts to the selling of my birth right.

Yours faithtfully, N. S. MIDDLETON



Mr. N.S. Middleton (President of SASF) and Mr. George Singh (HLVP-SASF) with Mr. Harry Cavan (Vice President of FIFA).



The kind of of insurance your future demands

MESSAGE: MAHOMED SIBDA Continued from Page 7

SPONSORSHIPS:

Boycott is a deadly weapon and will have to be used effectively against those companies who refuse to sponsor or assist us.

We shall suffer in the process by having to do without their product. But this is the struggle one has to undergo in an endeavour to achieve your goal. These firms or companies that are reluctant to pump anything back into non-white sports must be exposed both locally and overseas and their products or sales be boycotted.

DATSUN—NISSAN THANK YOU!! for the SPONSORSHIP of this Tournament. Your generous contribution to sports will be rewarding and I pray a happy and cordial relationship will always exist between your company and the many under privileged BLACK sportsmen of this country.

Finally to our great live wire, General Secretary Abdul Bhamjee for his foresight, co-ordinated, bold and untiring efforts in securing the DATSUN sponsorship, the best accommodation and facilities to make every one's say as comfortable and memorable.

It is for the oppressed that ABDUL puts in, his very best fight and the determined will to attain without reward or remuneration a satisfaction, for the very ideals and principles of the South African Soccer Federation which he steadfastly maintains.

To all those that contributed one way or another in making this grand tournament a success.

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Message from: GEORGE SINGH.

Patron: S.A. Council of Sport (SACOS)
A founder, Life Member of the S.A.S.

A founder, Life Member of the S.A.S.F. Secretary of the S.A.S.F. from its inception in 1951 to 1961.

President of the Durban Golf Club.

A sports administrator for over 30 years.

The S.A. Soccer Federation, as the only truly non-racial national body controling soccer in South Africa, is fully deserving of the compliments paid to it by persons and organisations throughout the world, for its consistent and persevering efforts to free the game from all signs of racial discrimination.

Ever since its inauguration on the 30th September, 1951 the S.A.S.F. has not waivered from its principles and, in fact, has set an example to the administrators in other codes of sport.

As a founder member of the S.A. Council of Sport (SACOS) the S.A.S.F. has proved a source of inspiration and has put SACOS in the forefront in the struggle to bring equal opportunity and true merit selection within the reach of all South African sportsmen, Black and White.

It pains one to see South Africa being continually harassed and suffering the disastrous effects of international isolation in sport, but, I must say, the remedy is in our hands. If only the White sport administrators shake off the cloak of insincerity and join hands with their Black counterparts in true brotherly fashion, South Africa will soon be able to play its full part in the international sphere.

All Black sportsmen want this to happen and the majority of White sportsmen clamour for the same ideal.

One therefore asks: What are the White administrators waiting for?

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How can you play in such conditions?

by AMEEN AKHALWAYA

A couple of years ago, during an interprovincial cricket match at Tills Crescent, Durban, a famous Springbok player remarked: "How can you play in such conditions?

If he was shocked, one wonders what his reaction would have been had he seen the Queenspark grounds in Vrededorp, Johannesburg.

For Tills, despite its shocking state, was one of our better grounds. At least it had turf, however neglected it might have been.

The regally-named Queenspark, sandy, dusty and bumpy, with broken glass sprinkled all over the place, is a sportsman's nightmare.

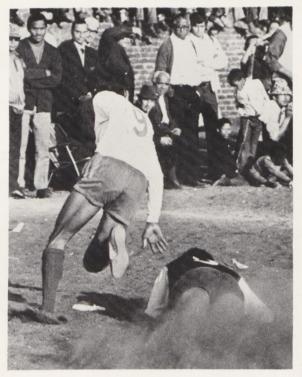
Yet across the road stands another ground in striking contrast. A lush carpet of grass which stands almost empty throughout the year. The difference is that that ground is in a White area, and Queenspark in a Black suburb.

Black sportsmen, for as long as they can remember, have been performing in atrocious conditions and it is amazing that they have continued when it could have been so simple to give up in despair.

And if the players must be given all the credit for keeping sport alive, the officials must deserve high praise for maintaining the enthusiasm.

There has been a gradual and stumbling advance for Black sportsmen in recent years. But facilities leave a lot to be desired and when Black officials point out that Black sportsmen cannot hope to reach international





standards without equal opportunities, they are accused — you might not believe it — of bringing politics into sport.

When one talks about non racial sports, one highlights how sport is played throughout the world. And indeed, it cannot be played in any other way.

Can one imagine Pele and Paulo Caesar playing for Black Brazil and Rivelino and Garrincha playing for White Brazil? It would seem farcial

Black officials have battled on, holding out for better conditions for their players, And one must express admiration for men like those in the Transvaal Soccer Board who have battled against tremendous odds to fight for a better deal.

They have had to put up with racial and sectional bigotry, much of it from Black people themselves, and cater for the ever-increasing number of teams with limited facilities available.

Yet they have gone from strength to strength as more people have begun to realise that you cannot judge a sportsmen's ability by the clothes he wears, whether he is good-looking or not, and by the colour of his skin.

He is either good or he is not and his physical appearance is immaterial.

Genuine sportsmanship, irrespective of the unnatural restraints placed upon it, is not far off in South Africa. When that happens, officials will salute the Black players of today and the past for their unstinting perseverance.



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GIVE ME THE GOOD OLD DAYS



R. N. NAIDOO

I always used to listen with a great deal of cynicism to my father's accounts of soccer played in his day which, according to him and many of his contemporaries, was far superior to the soccer my generation was playing. He used to describe most vividly the brilliance and genius of stars belonging to various teams. And from this I gathered that the success or failure of a team depended largely on the form of a star player. To me, this sounded incredible and far-fetched and soon I took all his reminiscences with a pinch of salt.

Now, when I witness the so-called soccer that is being played by the present generation, I (and many of my contemporaries) cannot find anything exciting or praiseworthy about it. And I feel a certain amount of remorse at having been sceptical about my father. This is because I feel exactly the same way now about present-day soccer as my father felt about soccer in my day.

Today, soccer has become so technical and mathematically precise, that it almost seems computerised, with the result that it has now become so plastic that all the magic has gone from it. We now hear about a four-two-four formation, and a five-three-two combination, with some player being referred to as the "sweeper" in the team. So much so that they are so busy concentrating on all these newfangled formations, that they have forgotten how to play "the game.

Nothing has worked as well as the good, old-fashioned "W" formation where each

player had his position and specialised in that position. Unlike today, it was the player who did all the work and not the ball, so that we could see and appreciate the genius of a really good player. Today the ball moves from player to player without any great physical demands or inate skill being required from an individual. It is for this reason that we don't see brilliant goals being scored from — say thirty yards out. The idea, today, seems to be to walk the ball into the net and this, to my mind, steals all the glamour from soccer. We want to see that centre forward collect the ball near the centre line. We want to see him dribble past 2 or 3 defenders, and we want to see him slam in a sizzler of a goal from outside the 18 area.

Where are those hardworking inside forwards who pick up the ball in their own goal area and dribble it all the way up past the centre and then execute a long and accurate pass to one of the wingers who will move like lightning along the touch-line and send over a well-placed pass right onto the waiting centre forwards head or boot?

Give me the days of Links Padayachee, Deva Moonian, Hassim Rasdien, Paulie de Jong, Bob Pillay, and other geniuses who, I am sure will share my nostalgia with me for the good old days of individual brilliance and good, hard soccer.

You know, the way the game is being planned and played to-day, we may as well sit back and leave it all to the computers.

The Whipping Boys of Soccer YUSUF COOVADIA Treasurer: Transvaal Soccer Board

"What a referee!" — "Open your eyes, ref.!" — "OFFSIDE."

How many times have I heard such cries from the crowd. Such outbursts came only from the adults, but in recent years the youngsters have been joining in. No doubt you have had a go at the referee yourself from time to time—fair enough, but may I suggest that before you abuse the man with the whistle you first make sure that you know what you are shouting about?

For example, have you ever actually read the laws of the game? I doubt it — and that goes for the majority of supporters, and even players too. Incredible though it may seem, many professional players have gone through a long career in the game without even a glance at the laws.

Although we all agree that a referee is expected to know the laws and interpretations inside out before being put into charge, one must know the laws even better before entering into an argument with a qualified referee.

The law which seems to cause the most trouble concerns the "OFFSIDE LAW" and this should be studied carefully:

Before vocalising your emotional feelings, remember it is virtually impossible from where you sit, to be able to judge "Off-side". The linesman, who is level with the most advanced forwards, is the best person to judge accurately whether a player is offside or not.

Let us take cognisance of the fact that a refee's lot is not an easy one. He has to deal with 22 players of differing temperaraments and yet apply the law to the best interest of the game. Too often have they become the "WHIPPING BOYS" when a decision goes foul. "A teams poor performance" is often blamed on the Referee. It is about time, that we hearten to the fact that our referees, "THE BOYS IN BLACK", have come

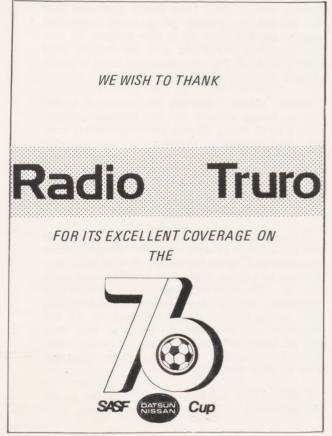
far in this field and are doing an admirable job. Their job can even be easier, if all the **players, coaches, officials** and spectators give them their fullest co-operation. Admittedly, Referees might not be the best, and they too have a lot to learn, but they are offering a valuable service.

Often the most vociferous among us, are the least knowledgeable on the laws of the game, and are only bringing the game into disrepute. Violence against a referee cannot be condoned at any level — so "Lets Give Them A Chance" — Lets begin to say among ourselves "WELL DONE BOYS." This spirit will surely improve the standard.

The Administrators are well aware that the standard of our referee's need to be lifted to International Standards and in this regard Federation should seriously think of sending say four of our referees to the UK for about three months on a course and these referees then to coach and lecture all our referes.

The Transvaal Soccer Board intends featuring a series of articles on "KNOW THE GAME" or "LAWS YOU SHOULD KNOW" in the form of leaflets or programmes to be distributed at every Professional, Semi-Professional and Amateur Game in the Transval, to enilghten everybody concerned on the knowledge and the laws of the game.

This will be in diagrammatic form and will be interesting and informative. Finally, before you scream at the "Man in Black" the next time, hesitate for a second, think first, maybe he is right and you, yes you maybe wrong.



OUR EIGHT YEARS OF PRO. FOOTBALL

By S. K. CHETTY

A church hall and a funeral parlour when taken together can hardly be identifified with growth. Yet ironically, it was first in a church hall and later in a funeral parlour that the South African Soccer Federation Professional League was born and nurtured.

To an extent this symbolises the nature of the struggle. When the South African Soccer League had to go out of existence as a result of the taking away of the Natalspruit Ground and other factors, it seemed that all was lost and that we would never be able to revive pro football. The sceptics and our detractors sat back smugly thinking that we had been delivered a death blow. How wrong they were They forgot that when one is motivated by a noble cause he cannot easily be put down. The Federation is founded on a principle enshrined in the Constitution of the Federation Internationale de Football Association, (FIFA), — the principle of non-racial football. This principle has been a blazing torch of inspiration, so much so, that whatever the problems and difficulties — people would always be there to carry forth the cause. So it was with us.

Initially the problems were so acute and the difficulties so formidable that the revival of pro football did not seem feasible. For a start, it was not easy to obtain a sponsor an understable situation because no one, not even the most optimistic among us could guarantee business houses of sufficient mileage, let alone the survival of the League. were fortunate, therefore, that Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries with genuine concern for the development of sport, decided to sponsor us to the tune of R4 000 per year over three years. The League was launched at a meeting in a Kimberley church hall at which it was clear that the spirit of the adherents of non-racialism would forever remain undaunted and challenging. Seven teams, namely, Aces United, Maritzburg City, Verulam Suburbs, Chatsworth Rovers, Manning Rangers, Transvaal United and Avalon Athletic formed the new League. There was not enough funds to have an independent office and the League had to be administered from a Durban Undertakers office, free of rental. When the cause is noble, such gestures are always forthcoming.



Secretary - SASF Pro. League Treasurer - South African Soccer Federation

Naturally crowd support was poor but there were certain die hard fans who would never desert us even in our darkest hour.

Slowly their ranks swelled and support grew all over the Republic and suddenly teams were clamouring for affiliation. In a few short years the picture changed dramatically and the League not only moved into its own office, new teams were accepted — Cape Town Spurs, Glenville and Port Elizabeth United from the Cape, Bluebells United, Dynamos United, Swaraj and Sundowns from the Transvaal and today we have eleven teams and the sponsorships has increased considerably, the total being R35 000 this season, with the promise of more to come. More and more teams are clamouring for affiliation but our biggest problem — that of a shortage of grounds is holding us back.

The evidence is there — the people are behind the South African Soccer Federation and that applies not only to people in this country but soccer lovers throughout the world. The Federation has won respect and admiration for its courageous stand and it will not be long before we enter the arena of international participation. We must in the meanwhile do everything in our power to be ready when that time comes — this is why, among other considerations, it is so vital this Datsun Tournament is another major success, as I am sure it will be. Best of luck, gentlemen, let's keep Federation's flag flying.

LENASIA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION 1967 TO 1976

In 1967 the Lenasia Football Association celebrated its tenth anniversary; this marked the turning point in the history of the Association. The affairs of the Association was now controlled by the youth who were of a different school from their predecessors. The driving force behind this was the dynamic Vincent Naidoo.

However there was a dramatic change in 1968. The Bluebells United F.C. withdrew from the Association and as a result Vincent Naidoo and his colleagues resigned. This was a great set back for the Association. Although the power of control was still in the hands of the young men, the old school had tremendous influence over them.

In 1969 the Association participated in the Sam China Tournament in Natal. On returning the officials of the Association, who were present during the tournament, reported that the whole affair was farcical and that it would be fruitless for us to maintain our ties with the South African Indian F.A. The delegation strongly recommended that we should re-examine the situation.

In February 1970 a delegation from our Association attended a meeting at the Nana Memorial Hall. The meeting was convened by the trustees of the Witwatersranr F.A. The purpose of the meeting was to form one controlling body in the Transvaal and affiliate to the South African Soccer Federation. Those present at the meeting indicated that they were in favour of this. However, it was pointed out that such a body already existed; namely the Transvaal Soccer Board. It was consequently decided that the S.A.S.F. representatives inform the T.S.B. to convene a meeting and invite all those units not affiliated to it and outline the importance of all footballers playing under one controlling body.

In March 1970 a delegation from the Lenasia Football Association attended a meeting between the various sporting bodies in the area and the City of Johannesburg (Coloured and Asian Division). The Football Association was informed that all soccer grounds in the Johannesburg area are allocated only to those associations that are affiliated directly or indirectly to the Football Association of South Africa. The delegation reported back accordingly. The Association's desire to affiliate to the SASF was thus dispelled.

On returning from the 1971 Sam-China Tournament the delegates once more reported on the unsatisfactory manner in which the SAIFA conducted its affairs and emphasized that the tournament was farcical.

At its A.G.M. in 1972 the Association decided to take a firm stand and not affiliate to SAIFA. As a result the playing fields in the area were not allocated to the Association. The footballers decided under no circumstances would they give in. The Association also supported the Bluebells United F.C. in their fight to play at the Lenasia Stadium. But unfortunately there were certain individuals who were not in agreement, and were in the process of forming another Association. The L.F.A. decided that it would not be in our interest if this happens. It was thus decided that we affiliate to SAIFA and continue our fight from within. Thus after being without football for three months the L.F.A. reaffiliate to SAIFA.

In 1973 the L.F.A. received a letter from the City of Johannesburg wanting to know if we would object if the Bluebells United F.C. staged their National Professional Tournament at the Lenasia Stadium. The Association replied that it had no objection. In August that year another letter was received from the Council wanting to know if the Association would object if the Lenasia Stadium is made available to Bluebells to complete their fixtures. The Association strongly supported the Bluebells application.

In October 1973 a meeting was convened between representatives from the SASF, Swaraj F.C., Lenasia Management Committee and the Lenasia Football Association. At this meting the Lenasia Management Committe assured us that if we affiliate to the SASF they would ensure that the playing fields are allocated to us.

At the A.G.M. in 1974 the L.F.A. unanimously decided to affiliate to the SASF. This resulted in the Assocciation's numbers increasing overnight

The number of teams increased from 16 in 1973 to 40 in 1974 and more than 80 in 1976. Today the Lenasia Football is regarded as one of the largest Association in the Transvaal. And above all any football or irrespective of race, colour or creed can play in the Association.

M. KOLLAPEN Honorary Secretary L.F.A.

Message from ...

Dr. A. M. Halim

President, African Football Confederation (Executive Member F.I.F.A.)

On behalf of all Sportsmen from all over Africa may I seize this opportunity of cogratulating the S.A. Soccer Federation on its firm and uncompromising stand against Apartheid in sports.

Organising a national tournament under so many difficulties is indeed a great achievement, and Mr. Abdul Bhamjee and his Transvaal Soccer Board should be complimented on their excellent efforts.

The S.A. Soccer Federation's Footballers have resisted great temptation to join races football bodies. And they have refused to join forces with apartheid. For this they receive the highest accolade from all footballers in Africa.

With this type of determination, the stanc'ard of football, although high now, must inevitably rise all the time.

We are certain that in the near future the S.A. Soccer Federation will take its rightful place with the rest of Africa, in the African Football Confederation.

My best wishes for a successful tournament.

Mr. Samba Rammsamy

CHAIRMAN

South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee

May I again reiterate out total support for the South African Soccer Federation which have continued, since its inception, opposition to the races structure with great courage and determination.

With the changed situation within FIFA, it has become clear that the policy which the S.A.S.F. has always supported, will be attracting the full backing of the whole world.

This points the way to a complete victory in South Africa for the majority of Sportsmen, and the total defeat for those who have tried to impose their crazy Racial decisions on the Sports fraternity of our land.

The world is aware that we have among us stooges, and also officials who have given in to the pressures of the Government, and have agreed to collaborate with racial Football organisations.

It is obvious that in the long run they will gain nothing from this collaboration and that their true interest lies with the aims and aspirations of the S.A. SOCCER FEDERATION.

Within a few years our determined efforts to uphold Non-Racial Football will pay great dividends in Africa, and International Football.

May I take this opportunity of wishing all the Players and Officials a very successful Tournament.

Dated 3rd July, 1976.

Western Province



Border

4



Standing: S. Swartz, M. Smith, C. Lazarus, S. Naidoo, J. Gamiet, R. Klassen, K. Devereaux Sitting:

A. Von der Hoven, L. Gamiet (Captain), S. (Boy) Poovan (Manager/Trainer), V. Chetty (Vice Captain),

G. Moonieya.

Front: T. Joubert, S. Francis T. Morris, M. King. Absent:

Sport is a pastime, a diversion, a play and an action for amusement. People all over the world, speaking different languages, however they may worship, whatever their colour, creed or race indulge in sport.

There are over ninety codes of sport. Some played only during winter, some during summer. South Africa too, indulges in sport but with a difference.

For several decades the white sportsmen and women of this country, sponsored by large industrial and commercial organisations, assisted by municipal grants, subsidized by the government of this country participated in sport organised locally and fixtured by International bodies.

When South Africa was a member of the British Empire and the Commonwealth, its contigent of sportsmen and women (all white) represented the country in the several games that were held since 1930 and thereafter every four years until it relinquished its membership. During that times its white athletes won a total of 59 gold, 44 silver and 45 bronze medals.

Although there is no law prohibiting a black from taking part in sport and to represent the country of his birth this was denied and the blacks were a neglected lot.

The South African all white contingent participated in most events organised by the Olympic Games and did so until it was finally expelled from its membership with the IOC.

Since then white South African sportsmen have been either debarred, suspended or expelled from several codes of sport. Yet today white South Africa still enjoys membership of more than 50 International sports bodies; and of these 16 are Olympic disciplines.

According to information at our disposal South Africa will be opening a "hospitality" centre in Montreal for the Olympic Games, during July of this year. Its aim is to "create a better understanding of South African sport." It "would provide refreshments and information material on sport in the Republic to participants, officials and visitors to the Olympcs," says racist Olympic Committee in Johannesburg.

South Africa deprived of competitions in most overseas countries, the whites have switched their efforts from international participations to organising "Multi-National" competitions inside South Africa, luring international athletes by providing all expenses and visits to tourist attractions. Whilst nearly all the Africans, Asians and Socialist countries boycott these "Maxfactorized" apartheid games, there are still very heavily supported by sportsmen of Western European and some Latin American countries. During April of this year about 15 athletes from Britain, Belgium and Switzerland took part in the apartheid South African Athletics championships in Bloemfontein. A secret Hockey team visited Ireland and Europe

and this was known only upon their return to this country, and the news media praised white South Africa's triumph overseas.

The South African regime has greatly increased its financial assistance to the white sports bodies which are on the offensive in nearly every field of sport. In fact it is reported that the racist are preparing more than sixty top government officials and sports administrators for the Montreal Olympics to improve the image of South Africa over the whole range of its policies and to lure as many Olympic participants as possible to their proposed "multi-nationals" in early 1977. It is also reported that the South African Department of Information is planning special showings of a series of films at the "hospitality" centre.



SPORT

M.N. PATHER
Secretary
South African Council on Sport

The propaganda by South Africa is greatly enhanced by the establishment of the hilarously named "Committee for Fairness in Sport" and the Department of Information spent over \$250,000 on advertisements in the British National newspapers alone. Similar campaigns were carried out in the German Federal Republic, New Zealand, Australia and the United States of America. A prominent South African Mr. Luis Luyt has given R30,000 to the Committee for Fairness in Sport and the noted Gary Player has donated R5,000 to spread the gospel of separateness in Sport.

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