

economic class dispensation. The BFA given its roots and principles will always fight for the poorest in our communities. However what we are looking for is those parents to support their children. Hundreds of our kids come to the fields, never seen by parents.

Then, there are the other social challenges to compete with, television, play stations games, dstv, mobile phones, drugs, promiscuity are all the problems that has clearly affected the numbers of kids playing football especially the 15-19 year olds. A few years ago our U17 team was so strong they were invited on 3 occasions to play in the UMBRO Academy Competition hosted at the University of the Western Cape. They acquitted themselves admirably. There are virtually no U17 teams anywhere anymore. Why? The kids are still there? Parents must take responsibility for the inactivity of their children.

The decision to stop active sport at schools was clearly a mistake. Now 20 years later there is a huge problem trying to reskill teachers to re-introduce sport to our children at an early stage. The BFA had a program running to introduce small sided games at the 12 primary schools looking after 10 000 children in the area. This program had to be stopped because of a lack of funding. Help us find funding to fund these programs.

The BFA has many programs initiated through the TRANSFORMATION document that cannot be implemented because it needs funding, and we do not have the sustained funding we need to provide all our kids with the services and association football structure they deserve. The BFA has a rich history of producing not only great players but administrators, referees and coaches. Imagine what we can achieve with some sustained sponsorship?

Our illustrious history has shown us that we cannot simply give up and walk away. Our task is however much bigger than before. We need to re-orientate people and convince our people that the fight for total emancipation was not won in 1994. The fight to build a community in which our children and grandchildren can thrive is not over. We must again take up the fight for social change, facilities to be provided and maintained and the right to share in the spoils of our new democracy.

SACOS coined a slogan NO NORMAL SPORT IN AND ABNORMAL SOCIETY. It is our responsibility to now build that society.

#### **WHERE DO WE BEGIN?**

We believe this needs a collective effort from all role players in the community.

#### **DEFINITION OF "SPORT"**

In a development context the definition of sport usually includes a broad and inclusive spectrum of activities suitable to people of all ages and abilities, with an emphasis on the positive values of sport. In 2003, the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace defined sport, for the purposes of development, as "all forms of physical activity that contribute to physical fitness, mental well-being and social interaction, such as play, recreation, organized or competitive sport, and indigenous sports and games." This definition has since then been accepted by many proponents of Sport for Development and Peace.

#### **SPORT AS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT**

The right of access to and participation in sport and play has long been recognised in a number of international conventions. In 1978, UNESCO described sport and physical education as a "fundamental right for all". But until today, the right to play sport has too often been ignored or disrespected.

##### **Sport as a Powerful Tool**

Sport has a unique power to attract, mobilize and inspire. By its very nature, sport is about participation. It is about inclusion and citizenship. It stands for human values such as respect for the opponent, acceptance of binding rules, teamwork and fairness, all of which are principles which are also contained in the Charter of the United Nations.

#### **YES THERE IS A WAY FORWARD.**

The establishment and re-establishment of clubs is the most fundamental task in rebuilding association football. We appeal to the community and legends, elders to rebuild the club structures. Doing so will bring greater self-pride, increased discipline additional parentage and at the same time promote a healthy lifestyle. We have a whole generation of children out there that do not know what is like to belong to a club. We call on churches and community organisations to help in this process. Change it, you have the power. Look at Dazzlers transformation in 1 year. More volunteers, coaches administrators and they win 4 K/O cups.

If the BFA has more properly structured clubs with additional manpower and a real sense of volunteerism we can deliver all the programs we have conceptualised to raise the level of our football that will be unsurpassed in the country.

We can then deliver administration, constitutional awareness, coaching,

refereeing, first aid courses, and life skills courses to our people. We can empower people in the community with all these skills if they are willing to work and restore the sense of volunteerism that guided us through the dark days of apartheid. We can deploy students to schools to introduce non-competitive Small Sided Games to the primary schools boys and girls.

We can skill coaches to then introduce specialised SSG coaching to the 6-10 year olds and then to the 4-5 years olds as well. A High Performance program for those skilled to go to another level is then a reality. Attracting scouts and giving our kids an opportunity to live their dream. Our qualified coaches tell us they need 3-4000 hours of proper training to prepare a child in 160 skills for the top ranks of football. We must strive to those standards, without forgetting that the most fundamental is providing an activity to the masses. Only 2% makes it to the highest levels.

More importantly we must together build a community centred on providing sport and recreation for our children. Creating the alternative to the scourge of drugs and alcohol abuse, teenage promiscuity and all the social ills we are now faced with. This trend can be reversed dramatically if we all work together. The BFA accepts the responsibility to play that role to make this change. But then all people, churches and community organisations must support the efforts to building our communities for our children and grandchildren.

We have fought for far too long and hard for our freedom to then simply give up because we faced some challenges along the way. That's not what our forefathers taught us. It is easy to blame someone else for the problems. Let us together stand up and make a difference to our community and society. Let us also ensure that we hold the various tiers of government responsible and accountable for delivering the very freedoms we fought for. Let us aspire to then challenge and reverse all the problems that were clearly made during the unification processes that has clearly disenfranchised so many of the sports codes in our community.

To this end we remind people of the existence of the Ward 82 and Ward 70 sports forums. Our fight for improved facilities is drawing to visible results. What is now required is that sport in our areas are revived to use those facilities to its maximum.

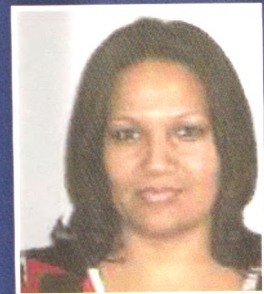
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Touch the World  
Build a better future**

**Michael Kahn**  
Deputy Chairperson

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