



DELFOF FC & SWARAJ FC  
PROUDLY PRESENT THE

# Annual Challenge Cup



IN MEMORY OF  
RAJENDRAN KRISHAN



Sunday  
**26<sup>th</sup>**  
November  
2023

10:30am >>  
DELFOF  
STADIUM  
JEWEL STR  
& 19<sup>TH</sup> AVE  
LAUDIUM

PROUD OF OUR PAST &  
CONFIDENT OF OUR FUTURE

# Souvenir Programme

# Rajendran Krishnan: A Sportsman, Musician and Educator



Growing up in humble beginning, in the dusty streets of Marabastad, the streets is where young Rajendran Krishnan Pillay learnt the art of his culture, music and sport. To progress was always hard to come by, however, the streets of Marabi is where everything was learnt and the streets were your coaches against some of the most spectacle and fearers' of competition and revelry, his friends.

Rajendran played music, he enjoyed the tabla, the violin, Accordion, not forgetting the drums where he played in the Hindu Brigade of Marabastad, He was joined by the late Mr Gonaselin Pillay and Natsi. This was all self-taught with the influence of the people around them,

Rajendran Krishnan Pillay dad was the late G Krishnan, a priest and well respected elder in the Pretoria and in many corners of South Africa. Mr G Krishnan spent about 12 years of his youth life in the motherland of Indian and returned to South Africa at the age of 25 years. He later wedded, Mrs Sithalutchmi Krishnan, a quite lady, yet powerful, who played a pivotal role in

organising temple functions supporting her husband, Mr G Krishnan. She also assisted with the cooking of food and preparation of meals for the Rivonia treason trialist. The temple yard was used as the cornerstone for all meetings

Rajendran was born in 1933, in the month of November. Rajendran was the eldest son and had one young brother, the late Mathivan Krishnan and one surviving sister, Ms Raganagai Krishnan Pillay. Rajendran started school at a late age because he had a problem with his birth certificate and the authorities would not accept him at the unconfirmed age of 6 at school. He started primary school at the age of 8 years old.

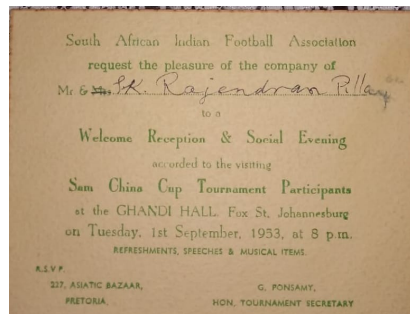
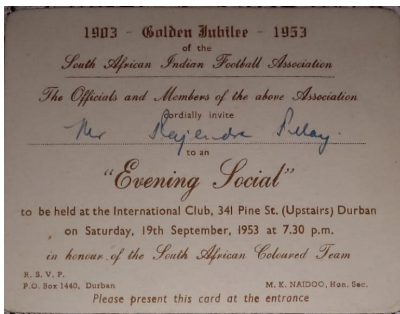
Rajendran attended the Pretoria Indian Boys Primary school in Marabastad, he was a natural sports personality, excelling in cricket and football. He later attended the Kinlerton College in Silverton in order to further his education, he wanted to become a teacher and to help improve and add value to others. Rajendran, represented the school in sports, the PDIFA, he represented Northern Transvaal Indian in Cricket and football. He played football for Swaraj football club, Rajendran was about the tender age of 16 when he played for the senior Swaraj team in the Pretoria District Indian Football Association (PDIFA) and representing the school and colleges at the highest level of the game.

Rajendran was selected to play for Transvaal at the age of 17 going on 18, he participated in the SAM China cup and later, in 1952 was selected to play for his country. The South African Indians Football Association, where they played the SA Coloured's in Johannesburg and Durban. Rajendran was destined for greater sports accolades. Some say at his tender age and understanding of the game, the potential to play in England was on the table.

It was in September of 1953 is where he again got selected again to play in the SAM CHINA CUP in Johannesburg and later that month got called up to play against the South African Coloured's in Durban. Rajendran represented the South African Indian football Association at his young age, noting that he was still in school. He was also invited to the various banquets as people from all the land were beginning to talk about him and wanted to see this young man from Marabastad in the flesh.

It was on the 26th of October in 1953 at the tender age of 20, Rajendran was in matric and at the Kinlerton College in Silverton, "they say boys will be boys", where a group of friends, the late Principal Taghie Reddy, Mr Perry Vello, late Mr Dida Soma, Mr Nadesan (Natsi) decided to bunk school. They went swimming, in Irene at the Pinedene Dam. Rajendran got caught in a world pool and drowned. A month later after his untimely death. He was going to write his matric examination at the end of November, sadly that did not happen. The college approached the family and returned his school fees. He death broke the hearts of the people of Marabastad and the sporting fraternity.

It was in the 2011 in a brief interview with the cousin of Rajendran, Mr Ivin Naidoo (Sarge) said, Rajendran was a talent on the up, with an exception mind for the game. When he was on the playing field, he was a totally different human being, he made the game look so simple and easy. Sarge also went on to tell a funny side which happens to all young playful boys, " Rajendra was such a talent, but extremely lazy, but a soft hearted human being. there were times Rajendran would hide his boot laces and say he forgot them at home or he would hide one boot and say he does not have boots. Sarge said, they understood his mischievous mind and made sure, they were always prepared for Rajendran's tricks.





**RANSVAAL SOCCER TEAM - WINNERS OF THE SAM CHINA TROPHY**

**standing from left:** Rajendra Krishnan, Ivan Naidoo, Paddy Padayachy and Links Padayachy

**middle from left:** John Williams, H. Khan, J. Smith, Patrick Gabriel, Ampin Singh and Rathie Govender.

**front from left:** Hassen Moosa, Anand Moodley, G. Moothoo (Manager), Shumogun Moodley (Captain), Reverend B Sigamoney (Selector), Polla Hoosain and Deva Munien



DELFO'S

# FIXTURES

Game	Teams		Score
1	Delfos Emerald	Swaraj (1st division)	
2	Swaraj	Delfos Yellow	
<i>Lunch</i>			
3	Losers (1)	Losers (2)	
4	Winners (1)	Winners (2)	
<i>Presentation of Trophies</i>			

SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2023  
LAUDIUM STADIUM  
KICK OFF 10.30AM