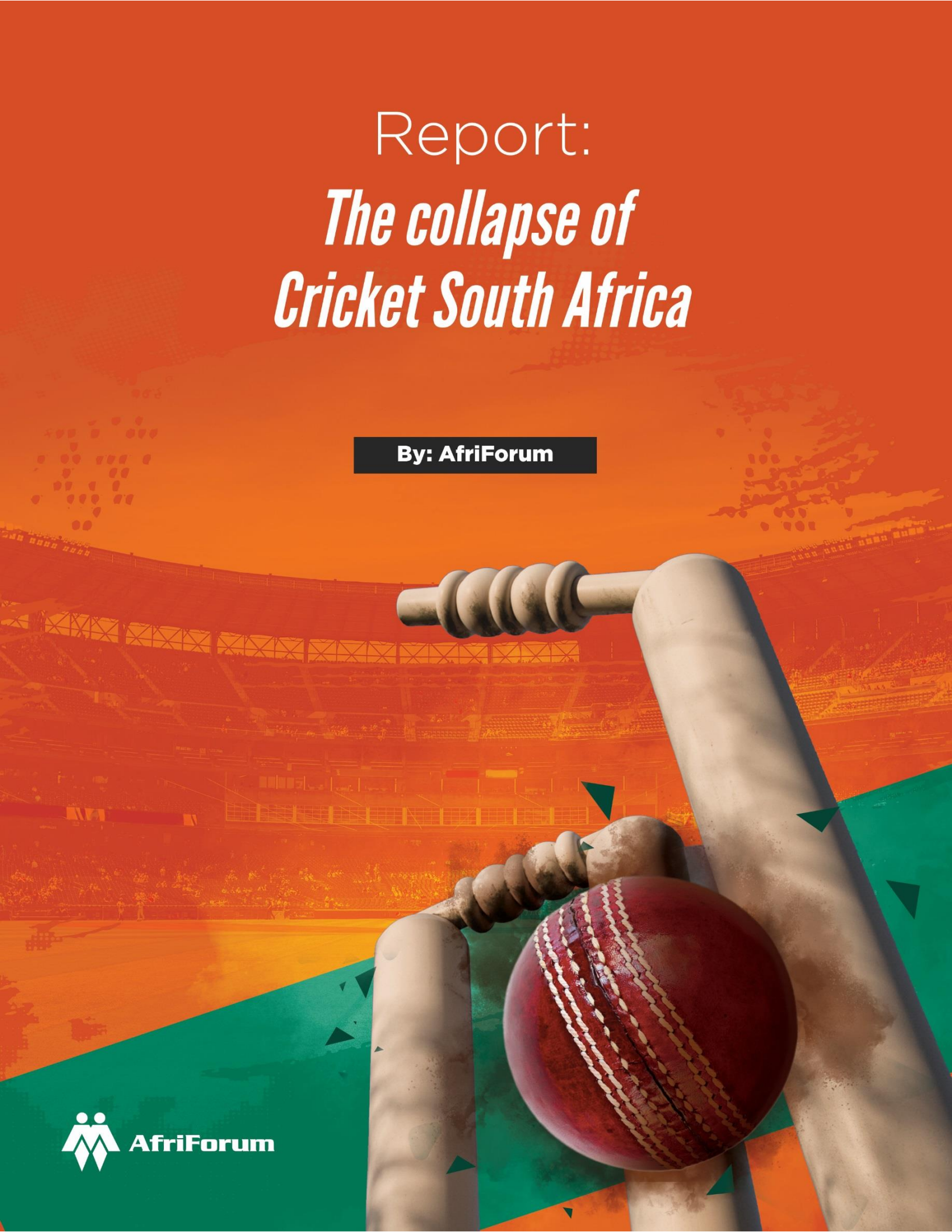


Report: *The collapse of Cricket South Africa*

By: AfriForum



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1. Introduction

After the ANC government took power in 1994, it undertook to increase representivity of people of colour – specifically black people – in not only the economy, but also in sport. Promises to advance development were made, but failed service delivery and widespread corruption hindered this process. The only way to show any form of “progress” was to adopt a top-down approach to transformation. Racial quotas or transformation targets – in cricket specifically – have been the reality in South Africa since 1998 and are the reality still today, as quotas are currently enforced stricter than ever.

This study aims to contextualize quotas in cricket and to examine its effects on the sport. It provides the results of an extensive study of racial quotas in South African cricket and covers specific issues that relate to:

- The evolution of racial quotas;
- The effect on the quality of the game; and
- The effect on players.

Currently, strict racial quotas apply to most levels of provincial and national cricket, including levels for junior players as under 13s. These quotas include:

- National level – an average of 54% (or about six) players of colour for the season, which includes an average of 18% (or two) black African players;¹
- Franchise level – six players of colour for every match, which includes a mandatory three black Africans per game;² and
- Provincial level – seven players of colour form every match, which includes a mandatory four black Africans per game.

2. Definitions

Transformation target – the target average representivity (number or percentage) of black African and/or players of colour over a target period.

Quota – a mandatory number of black African and/or players of colour that are required to be in a side at all times. It also refers to cases where black Africans or players of colour are forced into a team because of political interference

CSA – Cricket South Africa

Black or generic black – persons of colour (POC), including anyone who is not classified as white

¹ AFP. 2016. *Proteas introduce racial quotas*. cricket.com.au, 4 September. Available at <https://www.cricket.com.au/news/south-africa-introduce-racial-quotas-cricket-csa-chris-nenzani-2015-world-cup-philander-abbott/2016-09-04>.

² SA Cricket Mag. 2015. *New team quotas shock SACA*. 26 March. Available at <https://www.sacriccketmag.com/new-team-quotas-shock-saca/>.

Black African – POC, but excluding Coloureds (brown people), Indians, Asians and other races with an African ancestry.

3. Methodology

News reports, interviews and internal documents which related to transformation in sport, decisions taken, controversies, player's views and anything related to racial quotas were collected.

Statistical data was obtained from www.espncricinfo.com to analyse players' batting and bowling performance over time and to compare races.

4. The evolution of racial quotas

1998

Mluleki George, President of the ANC-aligned National Sports Congress (NSC), called for deadlines for major representation of black players at provincial and national level "because the 'so-called' development programmes had failed."³

An all-white team is selected for the test series against the West Indies, sparking criticism from Steve Tshwete, South Africa's Minister of Sport.⁴ Ali Bacher, Managing Director of the United Cricket Board (UCB, now CSA), said that there was disappointment that no players of colour had been selected.⁵ This prompted the UCB to introduce a transformation charter, which would deal with redress and introduce targets at all senior levels as well as for umpires and administrators. Reaction also included the establishing of a special committee within the UCB called the Transformation Monitoring Committee (TMC).⁶ The TMC would have the power to 1) direct selectors to include players of colour, 2) to request a change in the racial composition of teams and 3) direct selectors to include players of colour when an outcome of a match could no longer affect the outcome of a series. The TMC comprised Gerald Majola, UCB Director Imtiaz Patel, ANC member Dr Rashid Salojee, social activist and journalist Dr Ashwin Desai, the Department of Sport's Maxwell Jordaan, Administrator Ray Mali and Chairperson Andre Odendaal.

Lulu Xingwana, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sports & Recreation Committee, complained that the government was "tired of apologizing internationally for all white sports teams that [were] supposed to represent South Africa." She also said that the development programme had failed.⁷

³ Majumdar, B. & Mangan, J.A. (Eds). 2004. *Cricketing cultures in conflict: World Cup 2003*. Abingdon: Routledge.

⁴ Capostagno, A. 1999. South Africa backlash over black players. *The Guardian*, 1 January. Available at <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/1999/jan/01/cricket1>.

⁵ ESPNcricinfo. 1998. *South Africa sport race row intensifies*. 2 December. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/23268410.

⁶ Odendaal, A. 2003. *The story of an African game*. Cape Town: New Africa Books.

⁷ Seale, T. 1998. 'Apartheid lives on' in S African sport. *The Independent*, 13 December. Available at <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/apartheid-lives-on-in-s-african-sport-1191199.html>.

Pat Symcox was dropped for Paul Adams in the fourth test against the West Indies, a series that the Proteas had already won. It is suspected that the decision was prompted by the UCB, who had the right to direct selectors to pick black players when a series had already been decided. Captain Hansie Cronje walked out in protest.⁸

1999

Tour selectors Woolmer, captain Hansie Cronje and vice-captain Shaun Pollock came under fire from quarters inside the UCB executive when they opted for all-white teams for the second and third One Day International (ODI) against New Zealand in Christchurch and Auckland. Woolmer responded that they had picked the teams for cricket reasons and for cricket reasons only: "I am not interested in politics, I have never been interested in politics and nor shall I ever want to be."⁹

Duminsani Zulu, Spokesperson for the Department of Sport, said that they were running out of patience. The development programmes had been in place for almost eight years; yet they were still not seeing the black players. "We are dealing with legacies of the past and are meeting pockets of resistance. The development programmes have clearly not worked, they have failed to bear fruit."¹⁰

Stemming from the Transformation Charter, quotas were introduced at a UCB conference, which would affect teams from schools to provincial levels for players, administrators, coaches, team managers, selectors, umpires and grounds men to achieve equal representation (i.e. 50/50) by the time of World Cup 2003. Quotas for primary school cricket started at the national u/13 level. For high schools, it started at national and provincial u/15 level and higher. At provincial level, the requirement was that three POC must represent all provincial squads for the 1999/2000 season¹¹.

Before this ruling, only Paul Adams and Herschelle Gibbs were playing for the Proteas (1997/1998 Australian tour).

2000

A memo, in which Gerald Majola demanded the resignation of Raymond White, UCB President, was leaked to the press. This came amidst criticisms that he had been hindering the transformation process. White had warned that cricket in South Africa was "fracturing along racial lines" and that the UCB had become "little more than a mouthpiece of the ANC".¹²

The UCB was compelled to hold an emergency meeting. It decided was made that White was to step down. Percy Sonn, UCB Vice-president, then took the position.

⁸ Gemmel, J. 2008. *Paul Adams' Place in the History Books*. Bleacher Report, 10 October. Available: <https://bleacherreport.com/articles/67180-paul-adams-place-in-the-history-books..>

⁹ Colquhoun, A. 1999. Cricket: Woolmer rejects political pressure. *The Independent*, 26 February. Available at <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/cricket-woolmer-rejects-political-pressure-1073317.html..>

¹⁰ Majumdar, B. & Mangan, J.A. (Eds). 2004. *Cricketing cultures in conflict: World Cup 2003*. Abingdon: Routledge .

¹¹ Turner, A. 2007. *Transformation and quotas*. *News24*, 31 December. Available at <https://www.news24.com/news24/transformation-and-quotas-20071226..>

¹² Vahed, G., V. Padayachee & A. Desai. 2006. Beyond apartheid: Race, transformation and governance in KwaZulu-Natal cricket. *Transformation* 61: 63–88.

2001

Kevin Petersen made his debut for Nottinghamshire after becoming frustrated with the quota system. "I was dropped because the quota system was brought into South African cricket to positively discriminate in favour of 'players of colour' and to fast-track the racial integration of cricket in the country," he wrote in his 2006 autobiography.¹³ He would go on to become one of the greatest English cricket players in all formats of the game.

UCB represented a report to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Sport in which it outlined transformation progress since the inception of the 1998 *Transformation Charter* and its future commitments to transformation. Progress included the appointment of Gerald Majola, black CEO of UCB; a black national selector convener; four of the six selectors were black; five of the 10 UCB executives were black; seven of the 11 provincial presidents were black; and 40% of provincial executives were black. At player level, six of the 19 national squad members were POCs; nine of the 18 SA A squad members were black; and 49 black players had played first class in the previous season.¹⁴

2002

Following two big test match losses against Australia, Jacques Rudolph was selected for the final test in place of Lance Klusener. However, Percy Sonn, UCB President, overruled the selectors and forced them to pick Justin Ontong instead. He later stated that he had intervened as a matter of policy.¹⁵ Rudolph, who was named South African Cricket's Annual Cricketer of the Year 2003, admitted the following year that he had seriously considered quitting the game after this "devastating experience".¹⁶ Rudolph would later take a Kolpak deal in 2007 and stated that he did no longer wished to represent South Africa again, but hoped to represent England in future.¹⁷

Following a backlash after this decision, Percy Sonn, who had stated that the decision had been justified as a response to national selectors' discrimination against black players, declared that the number of players of colour in the national side starting XI would be increased from one to two.¹⁸

At a conference held on 7 July 2002 at Kievits Kroon, Pretoria, the UCB resolved to scrap transformation quotas at the level of national teams and senior provincial sides and select teams purely on merit. At the level of B teams and lower, quotas were replaced by two guidelines: 1) all provincial B teams and lower had to comprise at least 50% players of colour; and 2) these teams should contain at least one black African player. The TMC was also dissolved. This was to become known as the Kievits Kroon Resolution.¹⁹

¹³ ESPNcricinfo. 2006. *Racial quotas led Pietersen to leave South Africa*. 30 August. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_id/22992216/racial-quotas-led-pietersen-leave-south-africa.

¹⁴ United Cricket Board of South Africa. 2001. *United Cricket Board of South Africa: Briefing*. PMG, 11 September. Available at <https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/783/>.

¹⁵ *The Guardian*. 2002. South African cricket still seeing arguments in black and white. 7 January. Available at <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2002/jan/07/comment.southafricacricketeam>.

¹⁶ Roebuck, P. 2005. Rudolph the immovable thwarts limp Australia. *The Independent*, 21 December. Available at <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/rudolph-the-immovable-thwarts-limp-australia-755251.html>.

¹⁷ The Dan Nicholl Show. 2020. Season 7 – Episode 9. Available at <https://www.thedannichollshow.co.za/previous-seasons/season-7/season-7-episode-9/>.

¹⁸ Lemke, G. 2002. Whitewash adds to colour problem. *The Independent*, 6 January. Available at <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/whitewash-adds-colour-problem-9252908.html>.

¹⁹ Desai, A. (Ed). 2003. *The race to transform – sport in post-apartheid South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press.

At the conference it was decided to replace *quotas* with *targets*. The difference was explained by an official: "In exceptional circumstances, you don't have to enforce a target. Quotas, on the other hand, are permanent and fixed." KZNCU president Logan Naidoo explained that black and white players felt that quotas resulted, in his view, in a "negative vibe ... We have reached a stage where enough players can walk into sides on merit. We need to stop calling them development."

The resolution did not go down well with Ngconde Balfour, then Minister of Sport, who felt "insulted" that the new guidelines did not mandate the inclusion of an "African" player in the national and provincial A teams. Balfour convened a meeting with UCB, at which the UCB reaffirmed its view that quotas were not needed. However, it committed itself to a minimum of five black players (POCs) in the 2003 World Cup 2003 squad. The resolution also resulted in racial tensions between black, Indian and Coloured stakeholders, as the term *black African*, introduced by the resolution, excluded Indians and Coloureds, while the South African Constitution regarded them as black.

A report on transformation targets was submitted to Minister Balfour. An audit report on transformation since the 1999 introduction of quotas expressed the following concern:²⁰

In the 2000/2001 Supersport [sic] Competition, most of the provinces played the average of three black players per game, which was the minimum quota. It is significant to note that despite the goodwill that allegedly abounds among the cricket affiliates, eight out of the eleven provinces averaged the minimum number of players of colour prescribed in terms of the quota system. The minimum has therefore, so to speak, become the maximum.

2003

The Proteas selected five POCs in the World Cup squad, as committed to by CSA.

Gerald Majola, Chief Executive Officer of CSA, gave a presentation on transformation in the 2002/2003 season to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Sport and Recreation.²¹ He explained that transformation monitoring had been done on a match-by-match, on-the-field basis throughout the season. Intervention had only been required on three occasions. In one instance, a province had requested to field a team below their targets of representivity. In another instance, a province had continued to bat a specialist batsman at number nine. There had been requests from some provinces to field teams at the Women's Inter-Provincial Tournament at less than 50% target and this had been refused. Black (POC) representivity across all formats had been pointed out, including amateur cricket (club cricket), where representivity had been at 52%. Concern had also been expressed that most captains had still been white. For the 2003/2004 season, at franchise level, the quota had been set at four, while at national level the target had been set at four, allowing for some flexibility.

²⁰ Mayet, S. 2006. The progress with transformation in South African cricket since unification in 1991. Unpublished M dissertation. University of Johannesburg. Available at <https://ujcontent.uj.ac.za/vital/access/services/Download/uj:9101/CONTENT1>.

²¹ Majola, G. 2003. *Cricket transformation: 2002/2003 season*. Presentation to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee, Sport and Recreation, 20 May. Available at <https://static.pmg.org.za/docs/2003/appendices/030520majola.htm>.

Claude Henderson became the first South African to sign a Kolpak deal.²²

Citizens of EU countries are allowed to work in any other EU country. The Kolpak rule dictates that citizens of countries which are part of European Union Association agreements – these are free trade treaties between the EU and other countries – also enjoy the same right. Players must give up their right to play for their country for the duration of their deal with a county.²³

Following ten consecutive ODI defeats, Fanie de Villiers called on CSA to “forget transformation”, saying that “the flaws in South African cricket originated below international level”:²⁴

Let's forget transformation and get the most knowledgeable people involved. People like Kepler Wessels [now match referee in Australia], Fanie de Villiers, Pat Symcox, Brian McMillan and Allan Donald [now assistant coach at Kent]. Let's get them together in advisory situations, and when players like Makhaya Ntini and Herschelle Gibbs retire we can get them involved.

How can we struggle for five years to make Neil McKenzie a fulltime international player? The same goes for Boeta Dippenaar, Andre Nel and Mornantau Hayward. Whatever Anton Ferreira and the coaching panel have done has taken South African cricket from No. 1 in the world to No. 6 [in the official Test and ODI rankings].

Mark Boucher was dropped in favour of Thami Tsolekile for the England test series in what was perceived to be a politically motivated selection.²⁵ This came amidst speculation that a number of international players would be making a move to England. These included players like Martin van Jaarsveld, Jacques Rudolph and Andre Nel, who had missed games in the season for “balance”. Tsolekile would go on to play only three tests, failing in all five innings in which he batted. A decade later he received a 12-year ban for match fixing in the domestic Ram Slam competition.²⁶

A UCB and Athletics SA transformation briefing was held with the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Sport and Recreation, where progress on transformation was discussed. Concerns raised included the dominance of Indian cricketers in KZN, as well as the lack of black African players who had made it into the national side.²⁷ CSA's Majola confirmed that at least four black (i.e. POC) players were required at franchise level.

²² Morkel, M. 2020. SA's Kolpak players: What happens next? *SA Cricket Mag*, 15 April. Available at <https://www.sacricicketmag.com/south-african-kolpak-players-what-next-2020/>.

²³ ESPNcricinfo. 2017. *The Kolpak rule explained*. 5 January. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_id/18411981/the-kolpak-rule-explained.

²⁴ Vice, T. 2004. *Forget transformation, urges de Villiers*. ESPNcricinfo, 1 September. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_id/23141184/forget-transformation-urges-de-villiers.

²⁵ News24. 2004. SA's cricketers 'still suffer'. 15 December. Available at: <https://www.news24.com/News24/SAs-cricketers-still-suffer-20041215..>

²⁶ *The Guardian*. 2016. Former South Africa keeper Thami Tsolekile given 12-year corruption ban. 8 August. Available at <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/aug/08/former-south-africa-keeper-thami-tsolekile-12-year-ban>.

²⁷ National Assembly Committee for Sports, Arts and Culture. 2004. *United Cricket Board and Athletics SA transformation: Briefing*. Parliamentary Monitoring Group, 22 October. Available at <https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/4166/>.

2005

Dale Benkenstein signed a Kolpak deal.²⁸

Liryn de Jager investigated the exodus of white cricketers. Her report mentioned that as many as 44 players, who had played in the Nuffield Week (a cricket week for high schools) over the previous five years, were no longer in South Africa. This accusation was denied by UCB, who were quoted as saying that the accusation that young white players had been forced to leave the country in huge numbers over the previous few years as a result of quotas was nothing but nonsense. Moabi Litheko, Media Manager for amateur cricket, described it as “hogwash”.²⁹

HD Ackerman signed a Kolpak deal.³⁰

2006

Lance Klusener signed a Kolpak deal.³¹

Kyle Abbott signed for Lewdown in the UK after not making the Protea's U/19 World Cup squad. Upon arrival, he admitted to Lewdown's Chairperson that he had been “disillusioned by the lack of opportunities in South Africa”. Hughes said:³²

I think the coaches at his then club, due to the quota system, were pro black players. From memory that is what Kyle used to say, anyway.

UK born Dawid Malan signed for Middlesex.³³

Paul Harris signed a Kolpak deal.³⁴

2007

Jacques Rudolph signed a Kolpak deal.³⁵

²⁸ *The Northern Echo*. 2005. Saturday Spotlight: Benkenstein happy to take on the Kolpak challenge. 30 April. Available at <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/6953616.saturday-spotlight-benkenstein-happy-take-kolpak-challenge/>.

²⁹ Static.pmg. 2005. *Cricket players pack bags over quotas. Not so, says Cricket Board*. Available at <https://static.pmg.org.za/docs/2005/050225articles.htm>.

³⁰ ESPNcricinfo. 2005. *HD Ackerman is Leicestershire's new captain*. 12 January. Available at https://www.espn.co.uk/cricket/story/_/id/23116565/hd-ackerman-leicestershire-new-captain.

³¹ Houwing, R. 2008. *Zulu to soldier on*. News24, 22 September. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/zulu-to-soldier-on-20080922>.

³² Holme, T. 2017. *Kolpak beyond the headlines*. *The Cricket Monthly*. 10 July. Available at <https://www.thecricketmonthly.com/story/1104863/kolpak-beyond-the-headlines>.

³³ Turner, A. 2009. *Kolpak censure England's loss*. News24, 19 May. Available at <https://www.news24.com/Sport/Kolpak-censure-Englands-loss-20090519>.

³⁴ ESPNcricinfo. 2007. *SA board not to stop Kolpak move*. 25 June. Available at https://www.espn.cricinfo.com/story/_/id/22893284.

³⁵ *Evening Chronicle*. 2013. *Rudolph deal to be sealed*. 27 February. Available at <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/sport/cricket/rudolph-deal-to-be-sealed-1489866.amp>.

Craig Kieswetter made his debut for Somerset. After being told that he needed to play club cricket for two or three more years, he decided to pursue his career in England. He said:^{36,37}

For the first 18 years of my life I was chosen by my folks to live in South Africa and when I turned 18 I decided I wanted to live here and make my career here - just for the opportunity and fairness of opportunity compared to what is happening in South Africa.

But I don't regret it. I don't regret committing myself to England rather than South Africa and I never have. There was the quota thing going on in South Africa and I had the option to play in England through my Scottish mother. I never regretted it.

He would go on to play for England in ODIs and T20s.

Ryan McLaren signed Kolpak deal.³⁸

30 players – including prominent people of colour such as Makhaya Ntini and Ashwell Prince – signed a memorandum calling for the quota system to be dropped because black players (like Ntini and Prince) were tired of being tagged as quota players:³⁹

The young black players that are picked for South Africa or their franchises in the future will never really know if they have been picked on merit or to fill up the quota numbers and thus important for their own self esteem that the quota system is scrapped.

Ntini would again state in January 2020 that quotas devalued the achievements of black cricketers and that South Africa should be able to pick their team solely on merit.⁴⁰

The CSA official confirmed that the quota (i.e. seven POC in a fifteen-man squad) would remain at national level.

Andrew Hall signed a Kolpak deal.⁴¹

South Africa's then Minister of Sports minister, Makhenseki Stofile, confirmed that "quotas are out" and were to be replaced by more investment in sports facilities in deprived areas to help black athletes reach the highest level. This was aimed at reintroducing selection on merit and could begin to slow the exodus of disillusioned whites.⁴² This came after an all-white team had won the Rugby World Cup.

³⁶ James, J.. 2009. The keeper who could be KP. ESPNcricinfo, 20 September. https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/22770330/the-keeper-kp.

³⁷ Dobell, C. 2015. 'I wanted to play a certain way and I can't do that now'. ESPNcricinfo, 22 June. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/20637261/wanted-play-certain-way-do-now.

³⁸ Balachandran, K. 2008. *Losing Private Ryan*. 16 October. ESPNcricinfo, 16 October. Available at https://www.espn.in/cricket/story/_/id/22068711/football/club/_/id/347/cardiff-city/.

³⁹ Turner, A. 2007. *Transformation and quotas*. News24. 31 December. Available at <https://www.news24.com/News24/transformation-and-quotas-20071226>.

⁴⁰ Sky Sports. 2020. Makhaya Ntini says quota system devalues achievements of black South African cricketers. 18 January. Available at: <https://www.skysports.com/cricket/news/12346/11907307/makhaya-ntini-says-quota-system-devalues-achievements-of-black-south-african-cricketers>. Accessed on 27 October 2020.

⁴¹ *The Times*. 2008. Kolpak numbers to be reduced after EU ruling. 22 July. Available at <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/kolpak-numbers-to-be-reduced-after-eu-ruling-okgrjww8cc9>.

⁴² Adamson, M. 2007. South Africa scrap racial quotas proposal. *The Guardian*, 7 November. Available at <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2007/nov/07/rugbyunion.southafrica>.

A dispute took place between Proteas Coach Mickey Arthur and CSA President Norman Arendse prior to the Bangladesh tour. Arendse was unhappy with the number of POC in the squad.⁴³ Arthur mentioned the target of seven POC in the squad, but said it was only a target and not a policy. The Proteas squad consisted of four POC for tests and six POC for ODIs.

Arthur was fired as selector, but the decision was subsequently overruled. A number of Proteas players threatened a boycott if disciplinary action was taken against Arthur. Proteas who threatened to boycott faced calls for dismissal by Sport and Recreation Portfolio Committee Chairperson Butana Komphela.⁴⁴

Charl Langeveld, a POC, withdrew from the India tour in protest of Andre Nel being omitted as a result of quotas. Six POC were chosen for the squad.⁴⁵ Boeta Dippenaar, the new President of the South African Cricketers' Association, called for quotas to be dropped.⁴⁶

Charl Langeveld signed a Kolpak deal.⁴⁷

Andre Nel announced his decision to quit SA cricket amid rumour that he had plans on signing a Kolpak deal after he and Ntini had been dropped from the one-day squad.⁴⁸ Ntini had a poor showing in the 2007 World Cup and since then his form had slipped significantly. Apparently, Ntini complained to senior administrators after being dropped. This culminated in a meeting with Arthur, Njoka and former CSA President Ray Mali, in which Mali apologized to Ntini for being left out.⁴⁹

CSA Chief Executive Gerald Majola announced:⁵⁰

We have decided to continue with the target transformation policy for the next three years, with a review at the end of each year. At the end of the three years, we hope we can then move to merit-based selection across the board.

⁴³ Sport24. 2008. Mickey Arthur facing the axe? News24, 5 September. Available at <https://www.news24.com/Sport/Mickey-Arthur-facing-the-axe-20080905>.

⁴⁴ Zee News. 2008. No action against SA players who threatened boycott. 5 March. Available at https://zeenews.india.com/sports/cricket/no-action-against-sa-players-who-threatened-boycott_8433.html.

⁴⁵ Reuters. 2008. *Langeveldt withdrew due to politics – players' union*. 19 March. Available at <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-cricket-safrica-langeveldt-idUKL1910889920080319>

⁴⁶ Sydenham, R. 2008. *Dippenaar says quota system needs revamping*. Reuters, 1 May. Available at <https://www.reuters.com/article/idINIndia-33352620080501>.

⁴⁷ Sky Sports. 2008. Langeveldt signs for Derbys. 26 April. Available at <https://www.skysports.com/cricket/news/12123/3477364/langeveldt-signs-for-derbys>.

⁴⁸ ESPNcricinfo. 2008. Nel considers quitting over quota selection. 12 March. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/22896485/nel-considers-quitting-quota-selection.

⁴⁹ Mail & Guardian. 2010. Mickey Arthur tells how Ntini played the race card. 6 November. Available at <https://mg.co.za/article/2010-11-06-mickey-arthur-tells-how-ntini-played-the-race-card/>.

⁵⁰ Reuters. 2008. *Majola denies saying South Africa phasing out quotas*. 4 December. Available at <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-cricket-safrica-quotas/majola-denies-saying-south-africa-phasing-out-quotas-idUKTRE4B346120081204>.

2009

Andre Nel signed a Kolpak deal.⁵¹

Makhaya Ntini was left out of the national squad for the test series against England. After a long, successful career in the national squad, his form had been dwindling and he had had a disastrous 2009 season. Coach Mickey Arthur later claimed that Ntini had accused Arthur and captain Graeme Smith of dropping him because they did not want black players in the national team.⁵² Ntini has subsequently retired and received much praise, including from CEO Majola, who compared Ntini to Nelson Mandela:⁵³

The only person I can compare Makhaya to, in terms of what he has done for cricket and for South Africa, is Madiba.

2010

Mickey Arthur resigned as national coach. The next day, CEO Majola fired the entire selection panel.⁵⁴

Neil McKenzie signed a Kolpak deal.⁵⁵

2011

The Ministry of Sport's Fikile Mbalula issued the following statement:⁵⁶

We are, since President Zuma deployed us to lead the Ministry of Sport and recreation, on record that the quota system is both undesirable and a blunt tool that we believe will not bring about meaningful development and transformation in sport as envisaged. Hence our message to all federations is to do away with quota systems and focus on increasing participation and creating access to all especially the disadvantaged so as to create a pool of talent from which we can select a non-racial and inclusive team.

Mbalula announced the imminent implementation of the *Sports Transformation Charter*, which was to apply to all sports organizations. The charter introduced transformation targets to all levels of sports from administrators to players to service providers.⁵⁷

⁵¹ *The Telegraph*. 2009. Andre Nel quits South Africa for Surrey. 25 March. Available at <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/cricket/international/southafrica/5050356/Andre-Nel-quits-South-Africa-for-Surrey.html>.

⁵² *Mail & Guardian*. 2010. Mickey Arthur tells how Ntini played the race card. 6 November. Available at <https://mg.co.za/article/2010-11-06-mickey-arthur-tells-how-ntini-played-the-race-card/>.

⁵³ Hess, S. 2010. A salute to Makhaya Ntini. *The Star Late Edition*, 3 November. Available at <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/the-star-south-africa-late-edition/20101103/282544424681618>.

⁵⁴ Cricket World. 2010. Mickey Arthur resigns, selection panel sacked. 27 January. Available at <https://www.cricketworld.com/mickey-arthur-resigns-selection-panel-sacked/23022.htm>.

⁵⁵ ESPNcricinfo. 2010. *McKenzie signs Kolpak deal with Hampshire*. 29 January. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/22661194/neil-mckenzie-signs-kolpak-deal-hampshire.

⁵⁶ South African Government. 2010. *Minister congratulates Protea selectors*. Available at <https://www.gov.za/minister-congratulates-protea-selectors>.

⁵⁷ South African Government. 2011. *Speech by Minister Fikile Mbalula: The pace of 'transformation' in South African rugby!* Available at <https://www.gov.za/speech-minister-fikile-mbalula-pace-%E2%80%98transformation%E2%80%99-south-african-rugby>.

2012

The soon to be SA national selector, Makhaya Ntini, caused controversy by claiming that Thami Tsolekile "would be playing for the Proteas if he was white". Tsolekile himself responded by saying that he was "shocked" and that on current form he would not include himself in the South African Test XI. "AB is keeping very well – he kept well in England in difficult conditions and I can't see a reason to change the team," Tsolekile said.⁵⁸

In August 2020, subsequent to his match-fixing ban, while giving an interview on Robert Marawa's show, Tsolekile called his omission an act of "pure racism".⁵⁹

2013

Convener of selectors Andrew Hudson was summoned to explain to CSA why Thami Tsolekile had been dropped from the New Zealand test series squad despite being promised an opportunity against New Zealand.⁶⁰ He explained that AB de Villiers was the best choice to succeed Mark Boucher because of his batting abilities. At the same time, acting President Willie Basson revealed that a mandatory quota for black African players was being considered for franchise and national level.

Russell Domingo (a POC), who had no senior level cricket experience, was appointed Proteas coach after Gary Kirsten resigned.⁶¹

Sports transformation indaba held where it was decided that franchise teams field at least one black African player in their starting line-ups for the 2013/2014 season. Teams were to be rewarded financially if they fielded more than one black African player on a consistent basis. The initial proposal was for teams to field at least two black African players in their starting teams, but that it was likely to be reduced to one as squads for the new season - which started on that Friday - had already been finalized.⁶²

2014

CSA set requirement of five POC (of which two were black Africans) at franchise level for the 2014/2015 season. At domestic level, it was set at six POC (of which three had to be black Africans).

Hashim Amla was appointed as the first POC to captain the Proteas. This was despite AB de Villiers being the favourite to take the position, and Amla's previous reluctance to lead. Amla stepped down as ODI

⁵⁸ News24. 2012. *Thami amazed by Ntini's remark*. 18 November. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/proteasinaustralia/thami-tsolekile-amazed-by-makhaya-ntinis-remark-20121118>.

⁵⁹ Burnard, L. 2020. *Thami Tsolekile on Graeme Smith: 'The least I expected was an apology'*. News24. 14 August. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/proteas/thami-tsolekiles-graeme-smith-tirade-ends-with-request-for-apology-20200814>.

⁶⁰ News24. 2013. *CSA: Black players, or else...* 9 January. Available at <https://www.news24.com/Sport/Black-players-or-else-CSA-warns-20130109>.

⁶¹ *Batting with Bimal*. 2013. *Russell Domingo to replace Gary Kirsten as South Africa coach*. Available at <https://battingwithbimal.com/2013/05/27/russell-domingo-to-replace-gary-kirsten-as-south-africa-coach/>.

⁶² *SANews.gov.za*. 2013. *Mbalula talks tough on transformation, unveils sports awards nominees*. 16 October. Available at <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/mbalula-talks-tough-transformation-unveils-sports-awards-nominees>.

vice-captain and as Dolphin's captain the year before.⁶³ Convener of selectors, Andrew Hudson, brushed off talk of political intervention.

Colin Ingram signed a Kolpak deal.⁶⁴

2015

Before the Cricket World Cup semi-final against New Zealand, Kyle Abbott – in form and the Proteas' best bowler of the tournament – was dropped the night before in favour of injured Vernon Philander as a result of political pressure (i.e. quotas) from the top: The Chairperson of CSA, Haroon Lorgat. South Africa lost the semi-final, largely due to a poor performance by Philander (who was not even fit to field) and a match-winning knock from South African born Kiwi Grant Elliot, who had left the country after being advised that his future might be affected by quotas. Despite CSA denying that race had played a part (the CSA board labelled the media's allegations as "mischievous", while Lorgat rejected the claim), AB de Villiers confirmed in his autobiography that racial quotas had played a part and that the team had to include four POC. Regarding quotas he stated: "It depressed me to think of my team-mates in these outdated racial terms."⁶⁵ Without Philander, there would have been only three POC in the side. Abbott later admitted that he had come close to quitting as a result of the debacle.⁶⁶

Following the fallout at the World Cup, CSA announced new quotas at franchise level for the 2015/2016 season. The requirement changed to six POC (of which three had to be black Africans) for all games. The requirement at domestic level is seven POC (of which four had to be black Africans).

For the U/17 national level, the quota was six POC (of which three had to be black Africans fielded all the time) for all games, while for U/19 it was relaxed to five POC (of which three had to be black Africans fielded all the time). For U/13 and up (provincial and national sides), the quota was six POC (of which three had to be black Africans). This resulted in players being awarded school colours for being selected for national or provincial duty, even though they had not played for their first teams.

CEO of CSA Haroon Lorgat issued a statement.⁶⁷

At the outset let me say that both the board and myself are not satisfied with the current pace of transformation, specifically with reference to the development of black African talent.

Former CSA President Dr Mtutuzeli Nyoka was one of many South Africans who spoke out about the lack of black African cricketers in the World Cup squad. Fanie de Villiers facilitated talks between Hardus

⁶³ Ananth, P. 2016. *Hashim Amla may have been South Africa captain, but wasn't a leader*. Cricket Country, 13 January. Available at <https://www.cricketcountry.com/articles/hashim-amla-may-have-been-south-africa-captain-but-wasnt-a-leader-377363>.

⁶⁴ BBC. 2014. *Glamorgan sign South African international batsman Colin Ingram*. 21 November. Available at <https://www.bbc.com/sport/cricket/30150534>.

⁶⁵ Scroll.in. 2016. *South African quota system 'depressed me', writes AB de Villiers in his autobiography*. 1 September. Available at <https://scroll.in/field/815435/south-african-quota-system-depressed-me-writes-ab-de-villiers-in-his-autobiography>.

⁶⁶ CricBuzz. 2017. *Nearly quit international cricket after 2015 World Cup: Abbott*. 9 February. Available at <https://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/92150/kyle-abbott-south-africa-cricket-player-nearly-quit-international-cricket-after-2015-world-cup-cricbuzzcom>.

⁶⁷ Naik, S. 2015. *Cricket transformation 'must be seen to'*. IOL, 1 September. Available at <https://www.iol.co.za/sport/cricket/proteas/cricket-transformation-must-be-seen-to-1843690>.

Viljoen and Central Districts in New Zealand and told the media that he believed Viljoen would have better opportunities in New Zealand. He said:⁶⁸

Patriotism is out the door. He's been the leading wicket-taker over the last few seasons, but he hasn't played for South Africa because of the dynamics of the team. Hardus is a very strong and a very good fast bowler who can bowl at 150kmph and he will be sought after in New Zealand and Australia.

Viljoen was second on the Sunfoil Series bowling charts in the previous season, with 39 wickets at 20.43. He was sixth the season before that (2013/2014), with 33 wickets at 30.51, and eighth in the 2012/2013 summer, with 31 wickets at 21.51.

Linda Zondi – who had played only three first class matches – replaced Andrew Hudson as Chairperson of selectors.⁶⁹ Zondi's selection committee (comprising Zondi, Hussein Manack, Errol Stewart and Lux Qoboshiyana) had the mandate to choose the squad and starting eleven, while the captain and coach's voting rights were revoked. They could now only express their opinions.

2016

Hashim Amla shocked everyone as he stepped down as Proteas captain following self-doubts about leading the team and is replaced by AB de Villiers.⁷⁰ Amla has the Proteas' worst test captaincy record since readmission and a poor ODI captaincy record.

During a Momentum One Day Cup match between the Highveld Lions and the Titans at SuperSport Park, an injury to one of the Lions' black players meant they were unable to meet the quota of three black players.⁷¹ Coach Toyana was compelled to field until CSA – presumably the TMC – was requested permission to field only two black players. The match went ahead after a white amateur cricketer, who was watching the game, came on as a replacement.

Sports Minister Fikile Mbalula announced his decision to revoke the privileges of four major sporting federations – Athletics South Africa (ASA), Cricket South Africa (CSA), Netball South Africa (NSA) and South African Rugby (SARU) – to host or bid to stage any major international events in the country because these organisations had failed to meet their transformation targets.⁷²

Trade union Solidarity received transformation documents from the Sports Ministry after announcing that it would be making an application in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000 (the PAIA) to compel the Ministry to disclose information about its transformation targets.⁷³ Transformation targets for cricket required all national teams (U/18, U/19,

⁶⁸ News24. 2015. *Quotas, money drive Viljoen to NZ?* 21 April. Available at: <https://www.news24.com/Sport/quotas-to-drive-viljoen-to-nz-20150421>.

⁶⁹ Sport24. 2015. Zondi replaces Hudson as selection chief. News24, 3 June. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Cricket/Proteas/Zondi-replaces-Hudson-as-selection-chief-20150603>.

⁷⁰ Sport24. 2013. Amla quits as vice-captain. News24, 21 February. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/pakistaninsa/amla-quits-as-vice-captain-20130221>.

⁷¹ Sport24. 2016. Quota system creates dilemma for Lions. News24, 18 February. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Cricket/OneDayCup/quota-system-creates-dilemma-for-lions-20160218>.

⁷² IOL. 2016. *Mbalula drops a transformation bombshell*. 25 April. Available at <https://www.iol.co.za/capeargus/sport/mbalula-drops-a-transformation-bombshell-2014015>.

⁷³ *BusinessTech*. 2017. New race quotas for SA rugby, cricket and netball revealed. 2 March. Available at <https://businesstech.co.za/news/lifestyle/161391/new-race-quotas-for-sa-rugby-cricket-and-netball-revealed/>.

U/21 and the Proteas) to comprise 60% (i.e. seven) POC by 2020, with the Proteas starting at 54% in 2013 and moving 2% up each year. For black Africans, the target was 27% (i.e. three) for the Proteas, starting at 18% (i.e. two) and increasing 2% each year. For the under junior teams the black African target was 40% by 2020.

CSA announced plans to introduce quotas at national level, with an average of 54% (i.e. six) POC (an average of 18% (i.e. two) black Africans).⁷⁴

The *New Zealand Herald* reported that CSA had “confirmed that by arrangement with the Sports Ministry” at least six of the starting XI to face the Black Caps “must be deemed black or coloured players”.⁷⁵ This resulted in Stiaan van Zyl, Wayne Parnell, Chris Morris and Kyle Abbott not playing in either of the two tests.

CSA announced new quotas at national level of an average of 54% (i.e. six) POC (an average of 18% (i.e. two) black African) in all three formats of the game.

Simon Harmer signed a Kolpak deal. He said that his decision to go the Kolpak route had less to do with the financial rewards and more to do with being given the opportunity to play more cricket. The then quota system in South Africa's domestic franchise competitions ruled that teams had to field at least six POC and Harmer admitted that, as a white player, this made it increasingly difficult to be selected:⁷⁶

There's obviously been quite a few guys that have signed and have been seen as the “black sheep” of South African cricket. A lot of the media attention has been about how lucrative it is. I do not think that is necessarily the case. I think it's more about fair competition and playing for eleven spots in the team because I think currently, you're playing for five spots.

Harmer is currently the best spinner in England.

Stiaan van Zyl signed a Kolpak deal.⁷⁷

Hardus Viljoen signed a Kolpak deal.⁷⁸

⁷⁴ *BusinessTech*. 2016. New quota system for South Africa's cricket team. 1 August. Available at <https://businesstech.co.za/news/lifestyle/132103/new-quota-system-for-south-africas-cricket-team/>.

⁷⁵ Leggat, D. 2016. Cricket: Proteas transition good and bad for NZ. *NZ Herald*, 3 August. Available at <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/sport/cricket-proteas-transition-good-and-bad-for-nz/UMOKNOCBG2RLUC55CAK3EU7QAI/>.

⁷⁶ Alberts, D. 2017. Harmer still has hopes of playing for Proteas. *EWN*. Available at <https://ewn.co.za/2017/02/17/harmer-still-has-hopes-of-playing-for-proteas>.

⁷⁷ Agence France-Presse, A. 2016. *Stiaan van Zyl signs 3-year Kolpak deal with Sussex; ends his Test career*. CricketCountry, 10 November. Available at <https://www.cricketcountry.com/news/stiaan-van-zyl-signs-3-year-kolpak-deal-with-sussex-ends-his-test-career-545158>.

⁷⁸ CricketCountry. 2016. *South Africa speedster Hardus Viljoen signs 3-year Kolpak deal with Derbyshire*. 7 December. Available at <https://www.cricketcountry.com/news/south-africa-speedster-hardus-viljoen-signs-3-year-kolpak-deal-with-derbyshire-554905>.

2017

Colin Ackermann signed a Kolpak deal.⁷⁹

David Weise, Kyle Abbott, Rilee Rossouw and Dane Vilas signed Kolpak deals.⁸⁰ There was speculation that Marchant de Lange would also have signed a Kolpak deal, but in March he made the move by using his spouse's UK passport.

The requirement then was seven POC (of which three had to be black Africans) at provincial level and six POC (of which three had to be black Africans) at first class level. Two black African players must also bat in the top six. These quotas were non-negotiable. The then requirement was 54% (i.e. six) POC (of which 20% (i.e. two) black African) at national level, but this quota was flexible, meaning that it could be achieved on average over the course of a season. This was confirmed in the 2017/2018 CSA integrated report, which states on page 14 that the Proteas achieved 52,1% POC against a target of 54% and 19,8% black African against a target of 20%.

The Eastern Cricket Premier T20 Competition was halted because two of the four semi-finalists (Kempton Park and Alberton) did not meet the minimum requirement of two players of colour (of which one had to be a black African). It was then decided that all teams could compete, but that the non-compliant teams may not advance to the CSA Community Cup.⁸¹

2018

Andile Phehlukwayo replaced Theunis de Bruyn, who had been tipped to play in the dead rubber 3rd test (South Africa 2-0 up at the time) against India, after alleged intervention by CSA.⁸²

Morne Morkel was dropped for the must-win third ODI against India in favour of Lungi Ngidi under suspicious circumstances.⁸³

CSA disqualified Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool (Affies), Centurion High School, Hoërskool Menlopark (two-time previous winners) and Hoërskool Waterkloof from its annual Coca Cola T20 national schools' competition for failing to comply with the quota of two black players. This occurred two days before the quarter finals. Centurion High School only had two POC in the entire school who played cricket, one of them younger than 14. Hoërskool Menlopark had no black players at all.⁸⁴

⁷⁹ Reeves, A. 2017. Warriors star signs Kolpak deal. *The Herald*. 17 February. Available at <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/the-herald-south-africa/20170217/282432758913056>.

⁸⁰ Sport24. 2017. Another Protea signs Kolpak deal. *News24*, 27 January. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Cricket/another-protea-signs-kolpak-deal-20170127>.

⁸¹ Green, L. 2017. Lack of transformation halts semi-finals of T20. *Kempton Express*, 23 October. Available at <https://kemptonexpress.co.za/159500/cricket-transformation-whip-cracked/>.

⁸² Mphahlele, M. 2017. Andile Phehlukwayo handed his Proteas test debut against Bangladesh. *Times Live*, 28 September. Available at <https://www.timeslive.co.za/sport/cricket/2017-09-28-andile-phehlukwayo-handed-his-proteas-test-debut-against-bangladesh/>.

⁸³ Moonda, F. 2018. *SA set to miss 2017-18 transformation target*. ESPNcricinfo, 21 March. Available at https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/_/id/22856887/south-africa-set-miss-2017-18-transformation-target.

⁸⁴ *SA Cricket Mag*. 2018. Failing the standard. 14 March. Available at <https://www.sacricketmag.com/failing-the-standard/>.

The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University side NMU Madibaz was forced to field only 10 players in a league game after they had failed to meet the transformational requirements for the national tournament. Two black players had become unavailable through franchise duty and injury.⁸⁵

Heino Kuhn signed a Kolpak deal.⁸⁶

Morne Morkel signed a Kolpak deal.⁸⁷

CSA presented its 2017/2018 annual report to parliament. One of the concerns was that Black African players, particularly batsmen, needed development.⁸⁸

The inaugural Mzansi Super League took place. The teams were required to field two black African players at all times and two foreign players must be in each starting 11.⁸⁹

2019

Springbok captain Siya Kolisi's controversially comments that Nelson Mandela would not have supported quotas in sport.⁹⁰

Duanne Olivier signed a Kolpak deal.⁹¹

CSA announced that there would be no quotas for the World Cup in May.⁹² Despite this, the Proteas averaged exactly five POC for the tournament – with only variations in the first two games – and no less than two black Africans featured throughout the competition, despite there being only three in the squad.

The Institute of Race Relations released a representative sampled poll with results showing that 82% of black people do not want quotas.⁹³

⁸⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/remano.october/posts/1775932725751085>

⁸⁶ SA Cricket Mag. 2018. Kuhn signs Kent Kolpak deal. 8 March. Available at <https://www.sacricketmag.com/kuhn-signs-kent-kolpak-deal/>.

⁸⁷ Sport24. 2018. *Morkel signs 2-year Kolpak deal in England*. News24, 10 April. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Cricket/morkel-signs-2-year-kolpak-deal-in-england-20180410>.

⁸⁸ National Assembly Committee on Sports, Arts and Culture. 2018. *Cricket South Africa 2017/18 Annual Report & T20 Tournament*. Parliamentary Monitoring Group, 28 October. Available at: <https://pmg.org.za/committee-meeting/27372/>.

⁸⁹ Sport24. 2018. *Relaxed transformation targets for Mzansi Super League*. News24, 16 October. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/relaxed-transformation-targets-for-mzansi-super-league-20181016>.

⁹⁰ Sport24. 2019. *Kolisi: Madiba wouldn't have supported quota system*. News24, 7 January. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Rugby/Springboks/kolisi-madiba-wouldnt-have-supported-quota-system-20190107>.

⁹¹ ESPNcricinfo. 2019. *Duanne Olivier to quit South Africa after signing Kolpak deal with Yorkshire*. 26 February. Available at https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/_/id/26083365/duanne-olivier-quit-south-africa-signing-kolpak-deal-yorkshire.

⁹² Sport24. 2019. *No quotas at World Cup for Proteas – CSA boss*. News24, 4 April. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/Cricket/Proteas/no-quotas-at-world-cup-for-proteas-moroe-20190404>.

⁹³ Institute of Race Relations. 2019. *Reasons for Hope 2019*. Available at <https://irr.org.za/reports/occasional-reports/reasons-for-hope-2019-unite-the-middle#:~:text=Join%20us-,Reasons%20For%20Hope%202019%20%2D%20Unite%20The%20Middle,major%20issues%20of%20the%20day>.

Rising star Leus du Plooy signed a Kolpak deal with Derbyshire. Du Plooy, born a year after the end of apartheid, told Netwerk24 in February 2020 that the reason he had signed a Kolpak deal with Derbyshire was that “the system we have disadvantages young, white players in particular”.⁹⁴

Fikile Mbalula bizarrely tweeted: “There are no quotas in cricket.”⁹⁵



At the annual CSA Awards, the Scorers Association of the Year award was given to the Gauteng Cricket Scorers Association by default as none of the other associations had met their race quotas.

2020

CSA announced that their new hiring policy was that only black consultants would be considered.⁹⁶

In October Sports Minister Nathi Mthethwa asked the CSA board to step aside so that the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC) could established a task team to investigate the administrative problems at CSA.⁹⁷ As a result, the entire CSA board resigned.⁹⁸

5. The effect on the quality of the game

The strict enforcement of racial quotas has meant that race, and not ability, has become the primary selection criterium, which compromises the quality of the game. From the charts below, it is evident that the representivity of POC and black Africans have increased over the last decade in two of the largest competitions, namely the Momentum One Day Cup and the Sunfoil Series (previously called SuperSport Series). It is important to note that the increase in representivity of these players is not the result of

⁹⁴ Moonda, F. 2020. *CSA to consider reparations to players discriminated against in the past*. ESPNcricinfo, 28 August. Available at https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/_/id/29759164/cricket-south-africa-give-reparations-players-discriminated-past.

⁹⁵ Mbalula, F. 2019. [Twitter]. 24 July. Beskikbaar by @MbalulaFikile.

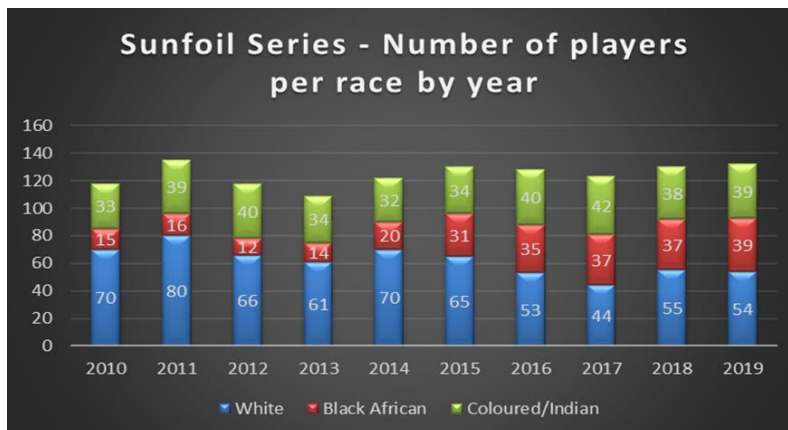
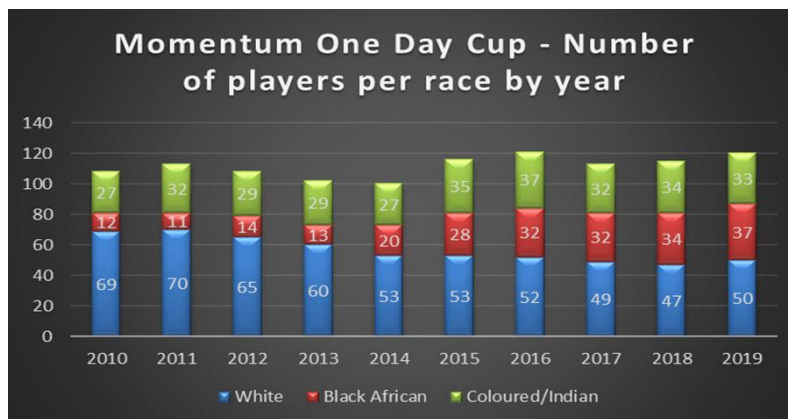
⁹⁶ Burnard, L. 2020. *CSA commits to hiring black consultants exclusively in effort to speed up transformation*. News24, 1 September. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/proteas/csa-commits-to-hiring-black-consultants-exclusively-in-effort-to-speed-up-transformation-20200901>.

⁹⁷ Ray, C. 2020. *CSA on a sticky wicket as Nathi Mthethwa plays hard ball*. *Daily Maverick*. 17 October. Available at <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-10-17-csa-on-a-sticky-wicket-as-nathi-mthethwa-plays-hard-ball/>.

⁹⁸ Sport24. 2020. *Entire CSA board steps down, task team set to be assembled*. News24, 26 October. Available at <https://www.news24.com/sport/cricket/proteas/entire-csa-board-steps-down-task-team-set-to-be-assembled-20201026>.

development at grass roots levels as promised by the government, but largely due to forced racial quotas. Significant movement in the numbers include:

- 2012/2013 – 2013/2014 season: Quota rule is that one black African must be included in the starting side for every match;
- 2013/2014 – 2014/2015 season: Quotas increased to five POC, of which two must be black African;
- 2014/2015 – 2015/2016 season: Quotas increased to six POC, of which two must be black African; and
- 2016/2017 – 2017/2018 season: Quota rule stipulates that there must be three black Africans in the side for every match.



An analysis of the racial composition of sides in these two competitions over the past season confirms that no exceptions to the rules were allowed and quotas were strictly adhered to. In certain cases, schools and university sides were disqualified from competitions because they were unable to meet the quotas. It is also noted that, in the vast majority of matches in these two competitions, the minimum quotas were attained. This is a clear indication that team selection is substantially based on race.

Momentum One Day series

White players per game						
	(Cape Cobras)	(Dolphins)	(Knights)	(Lions)	(Titans)	(Warriors)
Game 1	4	5	5	5	5	5
Game 2	5	5	5	5	5	5
Game 3	4	5	5	5	5	5
Game 4	4	5	0	5	0	5
Game 5	3	5	5	4	5	5
Game 6	4	0	0	4	5	5
Game 7	4	5	5	4	0	0
Game 8	4	0	5	0	5	5
Game 9	3	5	5	5	3	4
Game 10	3	5	5	5	4	3
Game 11	3	5	0	0	5	5
Game 12	0	5	0	0	5	0
Average	3.7	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.7

Black African players per game						
	(Cape Cobras)	(Dolphins)	(Knights)	(Lions)	(Titans)	(Warriors)
Game 1	3	3	3	3	3	4
Game 2	3	3	3	3	3	4
Game 3	3	3	3	4	3	4
Game 4	3	3	0	4	0	5
Game 5	3	3	3	5	3	5
Game 6	3	0	0	5	5	4
Game 7	3	3	3	5	0	0
Game 8	3	0	3	0	3	4
Game 9	3	3	3	4	3	3
Game 10	3	3	3	4	3	4
Game 11	3	3	0	0	3	5
Game 12	0	3	0	0	3	0
Average	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.1	3.2	4.2

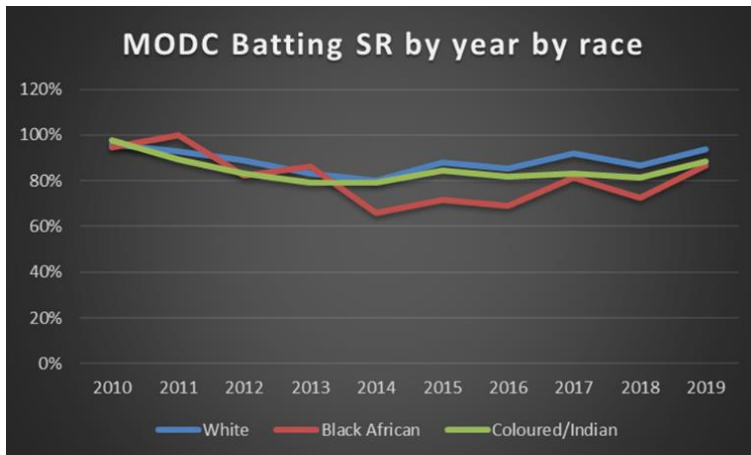
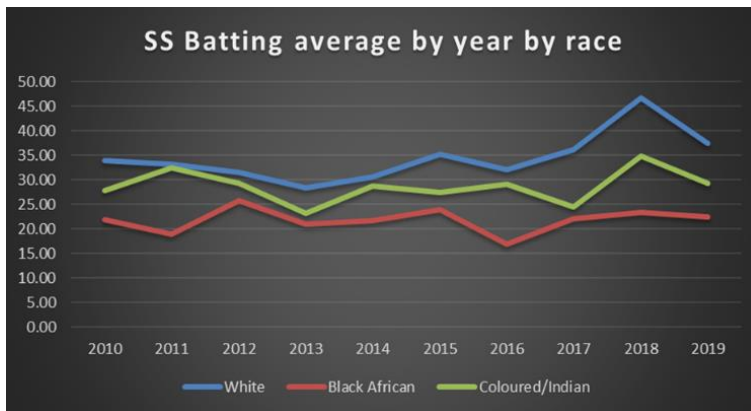
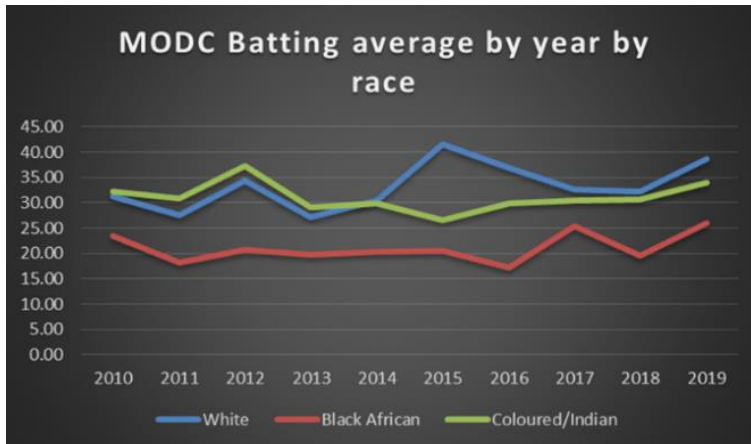
Sunfoil Series

White players per game						
	(Cape Cobras)	(Dolphins)	(Knights)	(Lions)	(Titans)	(Warriors)
Game 1	4	4	5	5	5	4
Game 2	4	5	4	5	5	5
Game 3	4	5	5	4	5	5
Game 4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Game 5	4	5	5	5	5	5
Game 6	3	5	5	5	5	4
Game 7	4	5	5	5	5	4
Game 8	3	5	4	5	5	4
Game 9	4	5	5	5	5	4
Game 10	4	5	0	5	0	4
Average	3.8	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	4.4

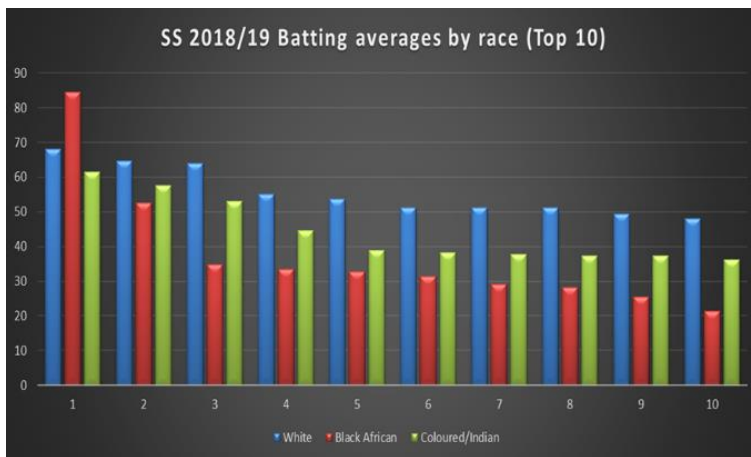
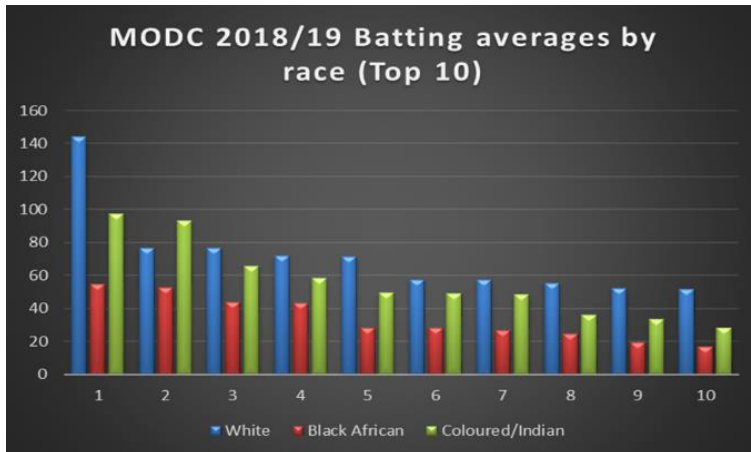
Black African players per game						
	(Cape Cobras)	(Dolphins)	(Knights)	(Lions)	(Titans)	(Warriors)
Game 1	3	3	3	4	3	4
Game 2	3	3	3	3	3	4
Game 3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Game 4	3	4	3	3	3	3
Game 5	3	4	3	3	3	3
Game 6	3	4	3	3	3	3
Game 7	3	4	4	3	3	3
Game 8	3	4	4	3	3	3
Game 9	3	3	3	4	3	3
Game 10	3	3	0	4	0	4
Average	3.0	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.3

The nature of cricket is such that it is more of an individual sport than a team sport: For example, players are constantly measured in terms of how many runs they score or how many wickets they take. The aim of this study is not to highlight performance differences between races; however, the forced implementation of racial quotas calls for the effects of this policy to be examined. Statistics examined included the batting and bowling average by race, as well as strike rates by race. The simple analysis of averages found various differences in performance, while further means tests confirmed statistically significant differences (p-value less than 0,05). The graphs below indicate the differences on an average level. In terms of batting during the 2018/2019 domestic season, there was a significant difference in averages between white batsmen and black batsmen ($p = 0,00026$ for the MODC; $p = 0,0000269$ for the SuperSport series), but no significant difference between white batsman and coloured batsmen ($p = 0,3238$ for the MODC; $P = 0,076$ for the SuperSport series). While there are significant differences on a total level, there are outstanding performers across all races, particularly when looking at the performers in the top 10. This affirms AfriForum's view that there are indeed many POC and black Africans who could be selected purely on merit. However, towards the middle and lower end of the spectrum, the gap in performance between races widens significantly, which may indicate that many POC, particularly black Africans, are selected mainly to comply with racial quotas.

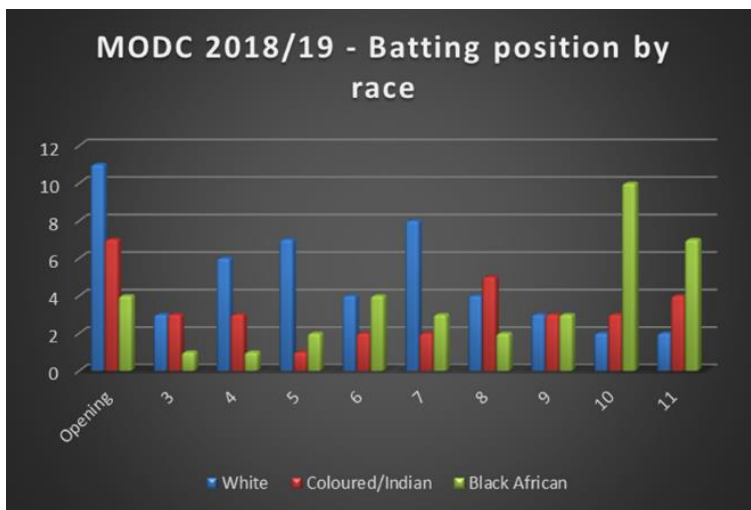
When measuring performance (averages) of batmen by race over time, the significant differences identified through statistical means tests persisted. The difference can be twofold: either 1) black Africans, in particular, tend to be bowlers and therefore bat down the order and/or are not as skilled at batting in general, or 2) there is an inherent difference in the development of batsmen between races.

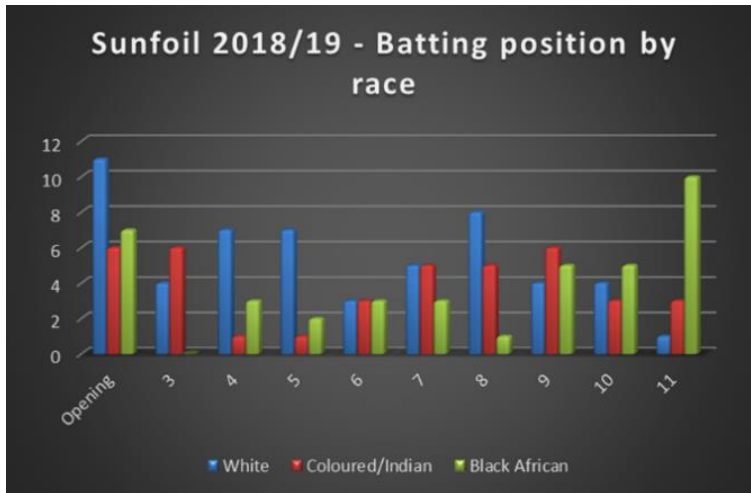


In terms of performances of the top 10 batsmen in the last Momentum Cup (average multiplied by strike rate) and SuperSport series (average), the differences across races is evident. It must be noted that there are standouts amongst all race groups, for example Rapulana and Qeshile in the SuperSport Series.

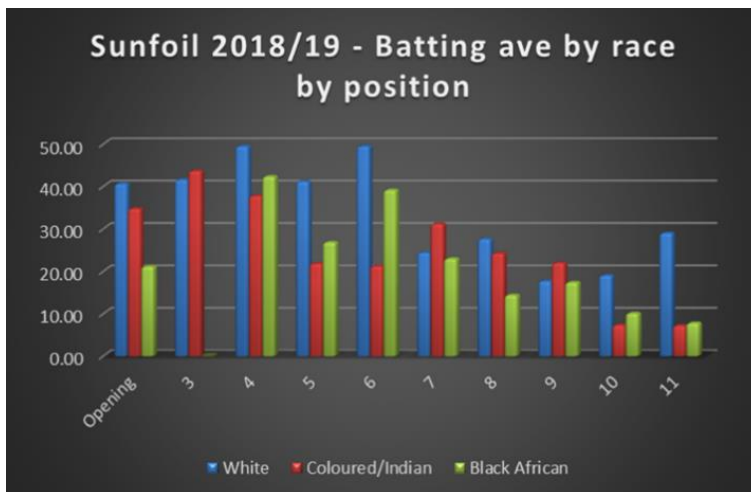
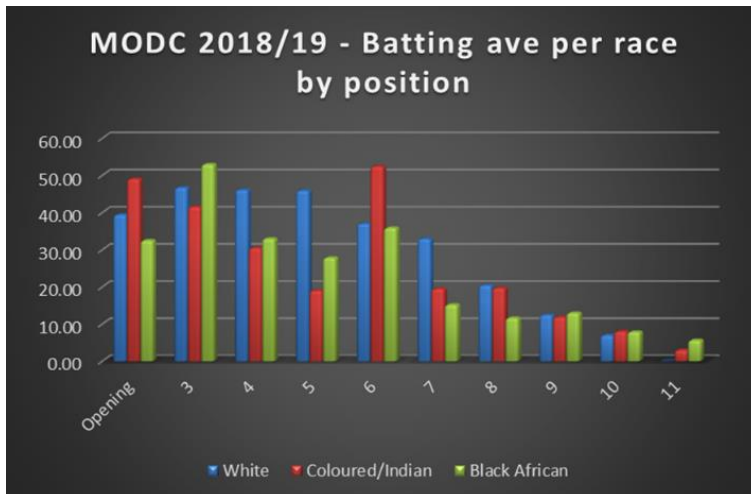


Considering the data for the 2018/2019 season, it is evident that especially black Africans are most often picked as bowlers and bat lower down the order, as can be seen from the graphs below.

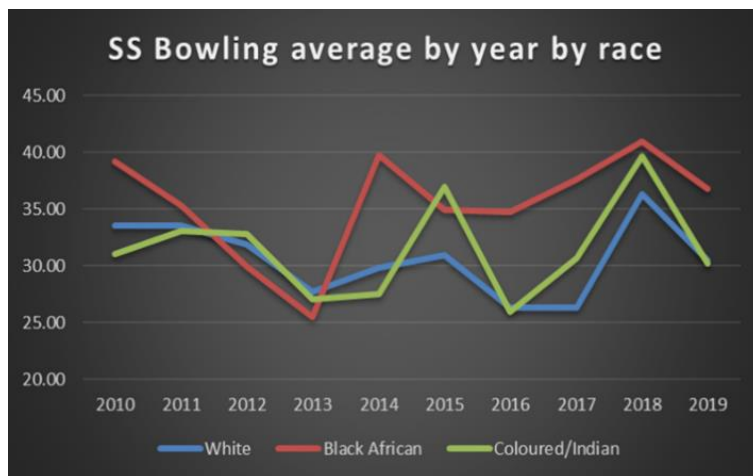
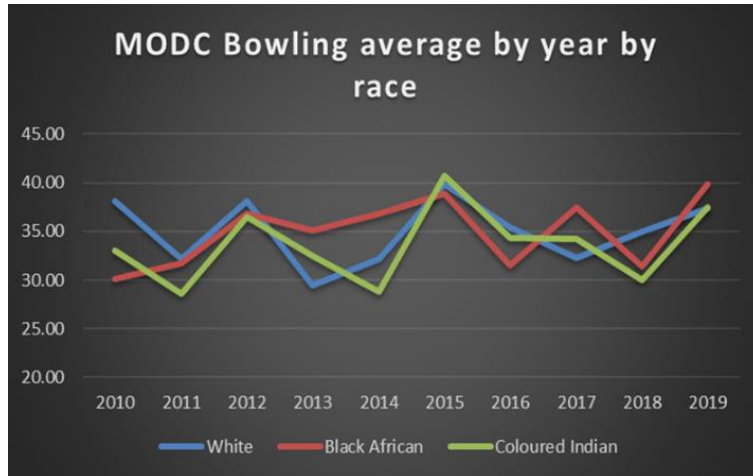




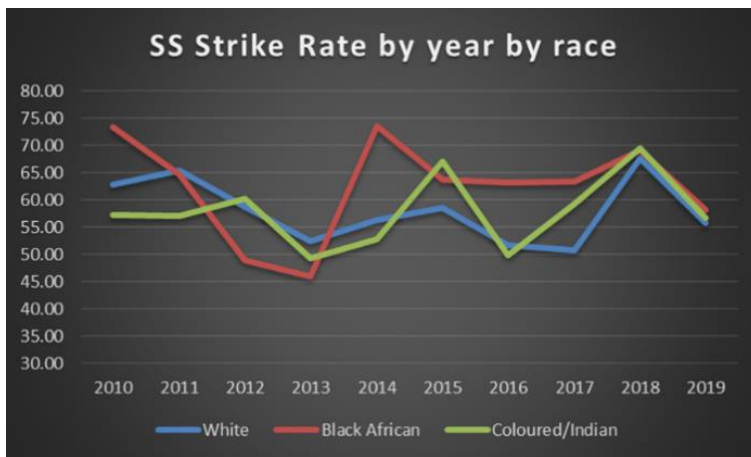
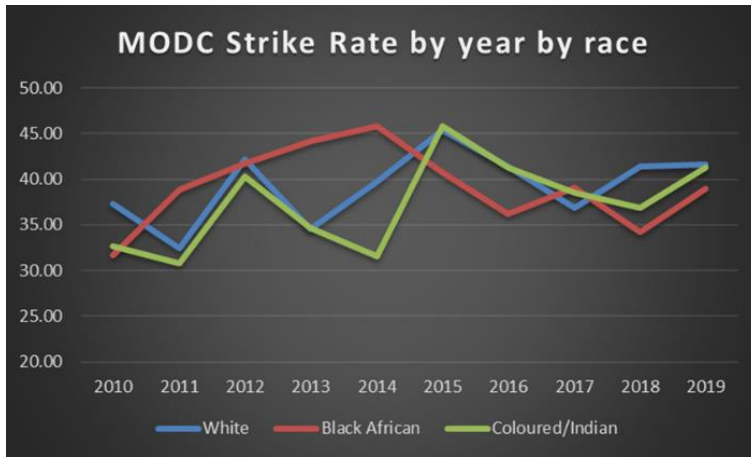
In terms of performances (averages) by batting position, there seems to be differences across the races, particularly when comparing whites/Coloureds/Indians with black Africans.



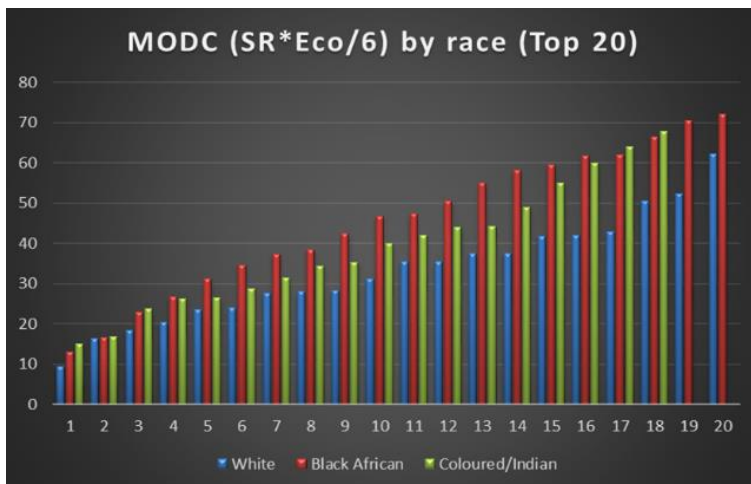
In terms of bowling, the gap in performance (average = the number of runs conceded per wicket obtained) between races is less significant than with batting performance. The means test found that there was a statistically significant difference in the bowling averages of white bowlers and black bowlers ($p = 0,0166$ in the MODC; $p = 0,001447$ in the SuperSport series) as well as between white bowlers and coloured bowlers ($p = 0,01028$ in the MODC; $p = 0,0168$ in the SuperSport series).

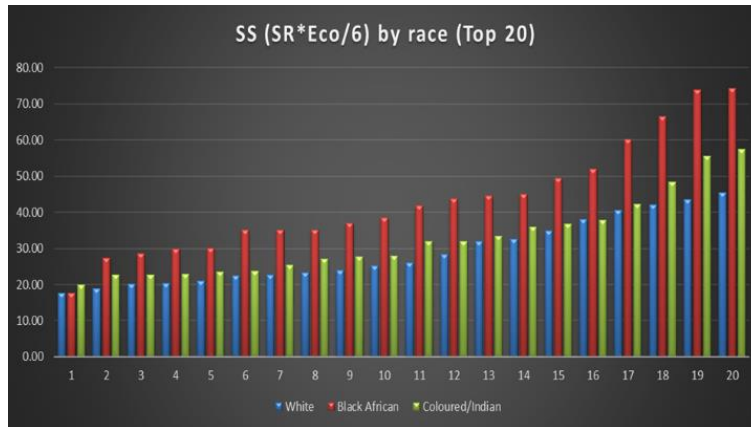


In terms of bowling strike rates, the gap in performance in the latest MODC between white bowlers and black bowlers is not significant in the shorter format and in fact fails the test for significance ($p = 0.21$; $\alpha = 5\%$). In the longer format (SuperSport series), the significant gap has closed in the last two seasons and there was no significant difference in bowling strike rates between white bowlers and black bowlers ($p = 0,747$; $\alpha = 5\%$). For those not familiar with "bowling strike rate", it is the number of balls bowled per wicket taken.



In terms of bowling, when factoring in averages and strike rates, the gap in performance (strike rate (SR) multiplied by economy rate (Eco), divided by 6 balls) in the shorter format is small amongst the top bowlers. However, if you move down the ranking of the 20 top bowlers, the gap widens exponentially. In the longer format, there is no difference in performance between white bowlers and Coloured/Indian bowlers.





As mentioned, CSA has expressed concern over the development of black African batsmen. In fact, Dr Janine Gray, CSA's cricket research consultant, conducted an experiment to study the visual-motor skills of provincial U/15 batsmen from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds from across the country. Dr Gray and her team discovered a causal link between poor upbringing and diminished visual-motor skills. Children from poorer socio-economic backgrounds were significantly slower. It is also noteworthy that the few black African children who come from comparatively wealthy homes produced results similar to that of their white counterparts.

Dr Gray says:⁹⁹

When we publish our findings we may not even raise the ethnicity of the children, as there is a danger that some people may use that to suit their racial biases. But you'd have to be blind not to know how the different races are impacted by inequality. Having said that, our findings help explain why we're not producing as many black batsmen as we are bowlers.

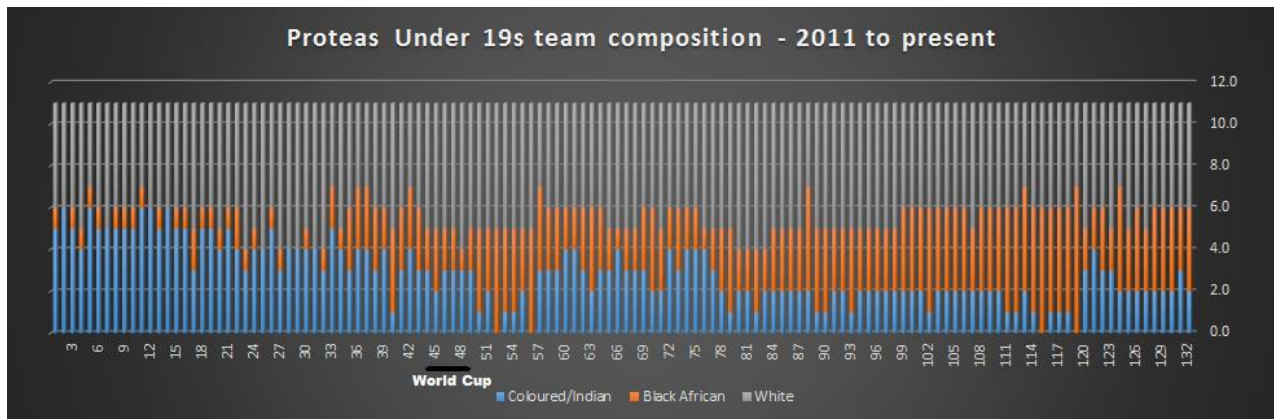
South Africa U/19s

In a closed system, it is difficult to assess if the standard of cricket has deteriorated – as indeed many claimed to have happened.¹⁰⁰ This includes Jonathan Trott's claim that he had "seen the standard of domestic cricket, and as a consequence, the nation's international cricket, drop as guys are pushed into the first team before they are ready or when they are simply not up to it."¹⁰¹ To assess the possible impact of quotas in an open system with a high attrition rate of players, an analysis of the racial composition and performance of the South African U/19 side was also conducted, which is set out in the graphs below.

⁹⁹ Gallan, D. 2018. Where are South Africa's black African batsmen? *The Cricket Monthly*, 10 September. Available at <https://www.thecricketmonthly.com/story/1157728/where-are-south-africa-s-black-african-batsmen>.

¹⁰⁰ One World of Sport. 2017. *South Africa's domestic cricket in decline*. 7 April. Available at <https://oneworldofsport.com/south-africas-domestic-cricket-in-decline/>.

¹⁰¹ Trott, J. 2016. *Unguarded: My autobiography*. London: Sphere.



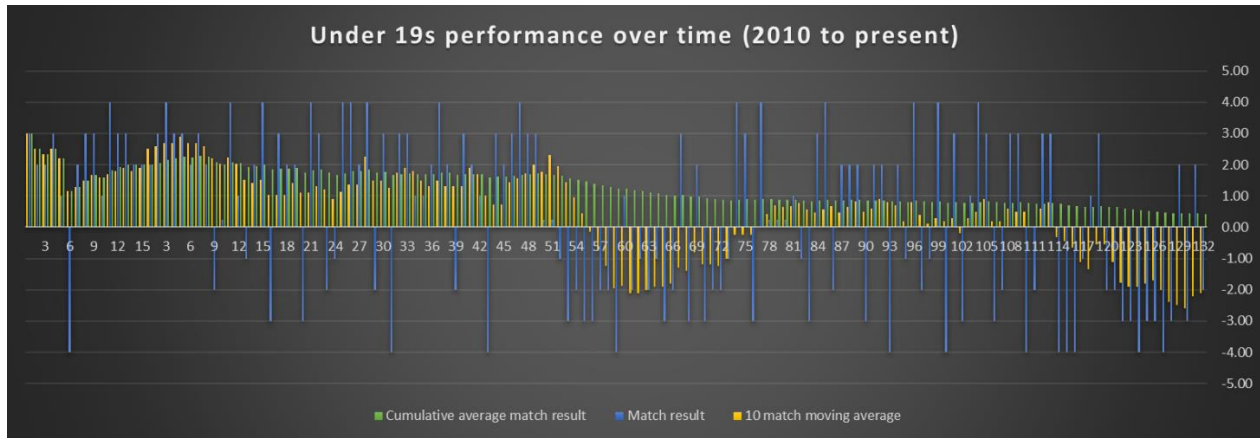
At the beginning of 2011, they were the best performing U/19 side in the world, winning 84% of their 67 internationals in all formats under coach Ray Jennings. Immediately after their World Cup triumph in 2014, the inexperienced Lawrence Mahatlane replaced Jennings as part of transformation plans. Their performance started to deteriorate at an alarming rate.¹⁰² They won only 35% of games and drew 8% of games, winning only two of fifteen series. Losses included –

- A 5-0 whitewash to England in an away ODI series;
- A 6-1 thrashing to Bangladesh in an away ODI series (the home series was lost 5-2); and
- A 7-0 whitewash to Pakistan in a home ODI series.

Their decline coincided with the firing of their successful coach as a result of a racial policy, as well as increasing race quotas over this time, black Africans gradually replacing Coloured and Indian players. Their performance was analysed by using the Superbru rating scale,¹⁰³ which allocates a score of 1 to 4 (for a win) and -1 to -4 (for a loss) according to the magnitude of the win/loss, where a 1 (or -1) is "narrow", 2 (or -2) is "comfortable", 3 (or -3) is "easy" and 4 (or -4) is a "thrashing". Therefore, a narrow Proteas win would equate 1, while a thrashing of the Proteas would equate -4. The severe decline in performance is indicated in the next graph, particularly after the World Cup and the sacking of Jennings. This is a further indication that race-based policies compromise the quality of cricket in South Africa.

¹⁰² Press Trust of India. 2014. Ray Jennings 'devastated' after being sacked as South Africa U-19. *Cricket Country*, 26 April. Available at <https://www.cricketcountry.com/news/ray-jennings-devastated-after-being-sacked-as-south-africa-u-19-coach-130500>.

¹⁰³ See <https://www.superbru.com/home/index.php>.



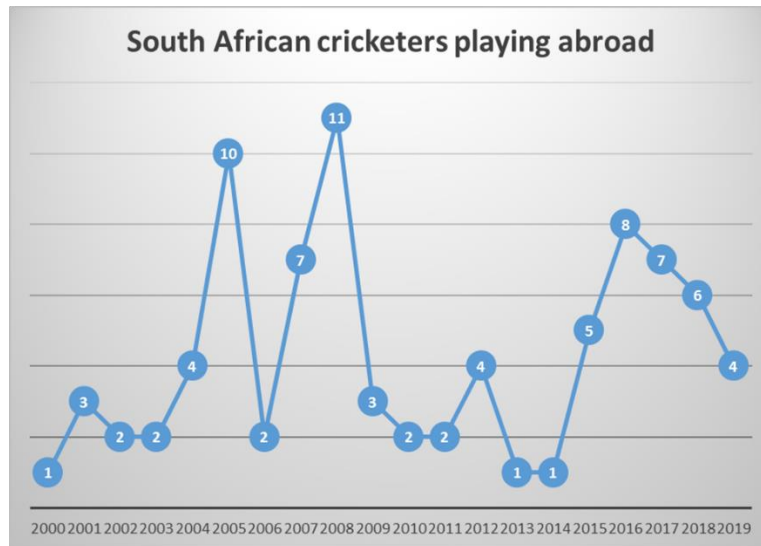
6. The effect on players

It has been reported that the implementation of racial quotas has a largely negative psychological effect on players.¹⁰⁴ Many white players who are omitted as a result of this policy may feel discriminated against, whereas many black players who benefit from this policy may feel that their selection is always questioned, as some of the players quoted in this study indicated. The racial selection policy resulted in a number of conflicts between players and also between players and administrators, which negatively affected the spirit of the players.

The Kolpak crisis

The implementation of race quotas resulted in the mass exodus of mostly white players, who chose to take advantage of the Kolpak rule, which allows them to play in Europe (mostly England) at the cost of giving up their eligibility of playing for the national side. This resulted in an outflow of quality players, which in turn reduced the overall quality of the domestic game as the pool of quality players diminished. Despite denial by senior cricket administrators that this exodus is a direct result of the racial quotas system, an analysis of players relocating abroad shows how the exodus over time coincides with either the implementation (2002/2003 season) or the increase of quotas (after the 2010/2011 season). As is evident from the quotes of several players included in this study, the race-based policy was either solely or significantly responsible for their decision to leave the country.

¹⁰⁴ Dove, M.A. 2009. *What South Africa's top cricketers have to say about quotas*. The Conversation, 18 November. Available at <https://theconversation.com/what-south-africas-top-cricketers-have-to-say-about-quotas-127042>.



In his autobiography *Unguarded*, Jonathan Trott hypothesises that the influx of Kolpak players during the mid-2000s helped contribute towards England’s most successful period in memory,¹⁰⁵ which saw them ascend to the number one test rankings.¹⁰⁶ In his words, the swell of higher quality players into the system “helped narrow the gap between the domestic and international game”. Many South Africans continue to lead the runs and bowling statistics, including Kyle Abbott, who was infamously dropped from the World Cup 2015 semi-final in the eleventh hour in favour of an injured Vernon Philander, who was not even able to field and did not bowl well either. Abbott, who had also been at the receiving end of racial quotas early on in his career, was the Protea’s top performer up until that point in the tournament.

7. Conclusion

Research findings by the Journal for Sports Medicine released in 2016 found that successful senior black African cricketers were indifferent to quotas.¹⁰⁷ There was no consensus as to whether targets should be in place at U/19 to franchise level. The majority of respondents felt that targets should be in place at the junior levels, but not at national level. The respondents felt that targets may provide opportunities to black African players that may otherwise not be given them, but there was concern for the psychological effects as a result of labelling and lack of quality from being fast-tracked. Respondent 10 said: “Quotas are enabling administrators to avoid doing proper development. It’s a numbers game.”

¹⁰⁵ Trott, J. 2016. *Unguarded: My autobiography*. London: Sphere.

¹⁰⁶ Ehantharajah, V. 2017. County cricket's Kolpak crisis brings ECB's priorities into question. *The Independent*, 16 January. Available at <https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/cricket/kolpak-ecb-priorities-question-peter-moores-jonathan-trott-alex-wakely-a7530011.html>.

¹⁰⁷ Dove, M.A., Draper, C.E., Taliep, M.S., & Gray, J. 2016. Transformation in cricket: the black African experience. *South African Journal of Sports Medicine* 28(1):21–22.

It is often argued that when players are fast-tracked and thrown into the deep end without the required experience and without following the natural order of progression that most professionals follow, it can have a negative impact on players' careers, as the risk for failure is higher.

It appears that racial quotas caused far more harm than good to cricket as a whole, and appear to be in place mostly to serve political agendas and as a fallback for failed service delivery, as is evident in the Department of Basic Education's own admission that only 6% of public schools have cricket facilities.¹⁰⁸ It is expected that the performances of all international sides, including the Proteas, will continue to decline as more promising talent leaves and quality at grass roots remains substandard. Besides the effect on performance, the ethics of racial discrimination must be challenged, as quotas are surely unconstitutional.

It is AfriForum's position that race-based selection policies such as quotas are discriminatory and violate the International Cricket Council's (ICC) code of conduct. The ICC code of conduct states that the game should be free from discrimination and political interference, which unfortunately is the situation in South African cricket, as this report outlines. We therefore have commenced with a process of putting pressure on the government to refrain from interfering in the sport and that race-based selection policies be immediately withdrawn.

¹⁰⁸ Institute of Race Relations. 2020. *Save SA cricket from politics, failure, and racism*. Available at <https://irr.org.za/campaigns/save-sa-cricket#campaignForm>.