

## **Mapping out an obscured South African sport history landscape through Edward Henderson**

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### **Abstract**

The Western Province Baseball and Softball Union (WPB&SU) met for their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Wittebome Civic Center in Cape Town in 1990. Here Edward Henderson was recognised for serving the Union as secretary from 1954 to 1979 and coached the unbeaten softball team from 1957 to 1979. A former Cape Town baseball player remembered Henderson as a big hitter with a unique style of play. Whereas most batters stepped into the ball he would step back. Henderson grew up in the community classified, Coloured. He made a significant contribution in this community towards the formal establishment of South African baseball, softball and badminton at a national level. This meant he and his fellow administrators operated outside mainstream South African sport. A historical overview of his contribution provides historians with an insight into the development of these codes in racially marginalized communities between 1949 and 1979. Henderson's life story brings personal and place names, sport facilities and events to the fore that have eluded sport historians till the present. By placing him at the core of research, it is possible to gain historical insight into the so-called minor South African sports of baseball, badminton and softball in racially marginalized communities.

**Keywords:** South Africa, Apartheid, baseball, softball, badminton.

### **Introduction**

While researching another area of sport history in the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division, a newspaper article about Edward Henderson's contribution to South African baseball and softball was found. A personal interview was conducted with him which became a primary source for this article. It also emerged during the interview that he was instrumental in the development of badminton in the Western Cape. Henderson produced original photographs and newspaper clippings that substantiated his account. Cross-referencing was done by means of books, interviews, newspaper articles and periodicals.

As far as baseball is concerned, his involvement with the Western Province Baseball and Softball Unions was the focus of this study. There were later other baseball unions operative in the 'non-White' community but these were offshoots of the Western Province Union and are subject of other studies. This research places sport in the 'non-White' community at the core and will only make references to race if it is deemed necessary.

## **Edward Henderson**

Edward Henderson was born in District Six, Cape Town, on 26 September 1924 in a middle class income family. The parents Magnus John Henderson and Caroline Sophia Henderson (née Mostert) had children: Oswald, George, Edward and Edna. The Mostert family featured prominently in the YMO Amateur Football club that belonged to the Alliance Football Association that played their games on the Green Point Common (Henderson, 2005). He spent his first few years in District Six and the family moved to Rondebosch - a more affluent area - before he went to school. Magnus was an entrepreneur who was granted a private taxi license, presumably one of a few, in Cape Town. Edward later attended the Zonnebloem Teacher Training School and remained a teacher throughout his entire professional life. During this time he was a co-founder of organised baseball, softball and badminton amongst the Coloured population of South Africa. These efforts were initially concentrated in the Western Cape but soon spread throughout the urban areas of the Union of South Africa and later the Republic of South Africa (Henderson, 2005). This history is ignored in traditional writing.

## **Addressing historical gaps in South African Baseball and softball history**

The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) report on South African sport history mentions nothing on baseball in Black communities but states that “non-whites showed a weak interest in softball in 1948” (RGN, 1982:232). Henderson provides historians with additional information on baseball and softball research conducted thus far (see Brennan, 1915; RGN, 1982:27-31, 231-234 & Smith, 1908). He recalled the names of some Cape Town based clubs (Whites) prior to the Second World War: Comora, Sea Point Cardinals, Nomads and Varsity. The Comora Club was attached to the Latter Day Saints Church in Mowbray and its membership was largely American. A famous pitcher, Stan Smith, and an equally famous catcher, Eric Dalton, came from this club. The Sea Point Cardinals consisted mainly of Hamilton Rugby Club players. Gerry Brand, the famous Springbok rugby player belonged to Sea Point Cardinals. Henderson and his friends watched and supported these clubs at the Rosebank Showgrounds before they formed their own (Henderson, 2005).

## **Historical overview of baseball and softball in the Western Cape**

In 1949 Henderson was influenced by a speech that moved him to convince a group of soccer players that it would be a good thing to keep them together for summer recreation with some vigorous exercise. The speech was given at the prize-giving of the Suburban Junior Football Association (SJFA) and Henderson attended in his capacity as secretary of the St Andrews junior soccer club, associated with the St Andrews Church in Newlands, Cape Town. This parish

had a reputation for developing sport amongst Cape Town's poorer classes. A gymnastic club was active there as early as 1914 (*A.P.O.*, 1914:8).

The SJFA catered for Under-12, 14 and 16 age groups. Matches were played at the Princeton Grounds in Prince George Drive, Wynberg now known as the William Herbert Sports Ground. A prominent Cape Town sports outfitter, Jack Lemkus, presented the trophies and in his address encouraged officials to endeavour to keep the boys occupied together by doing a summer sport. He suggested that the SJFA do this by starting baseball teams. Lemkus promised to provide a full uniform and a complete set of equipment to the first club started. After Lemkus' speech, Henderson, William George and Archie Hanslo established the St Andrews Baseball Club out of the St Andrews Football Club (Henderson, 2005).

### **The Western Province Baseball and Softball Union**

Being secretary of the senior division of the St Andrews Football Association Club and having some club members spectating at the Rosebank grounds, it was easy for Henderson to gain approval to start a team. At that time there were also other 'non-White' enthusiasts playing the game in Cape Town. Henderson, on behalf of the St Andrews Dodgers, called them to a meeting in May 1949 in Nursery Road, Rosebank, opposite the present day Baxter theatre. He contacted the clubs personally and followed it up with correspondence. The purpose was to discuss the formation of a controlling body (Henderson, 2005). The original clubs and suburb of origin in Cape Town were: St Andrews Dodgers (Newlands), City Wolves (District Six, Cape Town), Olympic Swifts (District Six, Cape Town), Ohio Cubs (Crawford) and Mowbraves (Mowbray) (*Sun*, 1950a:8).

In May 1950 the inaugural meeting was held at the residence of George Davids at No. 3 Nursery Road, Rosebank. The following officials were elected: William George (chairman, Dodgers), Dennis Thomas (secretary, City Wolves) and George Davids (treasurer, Dodgers) (*Sun*, 1950a:8). The Western Province Baseball Union started without any funds. Each club offered to donate 50 pounds to a start-up fund. The first matches were played on a friendly basis at the Council ground in Athlone, – present day Athlone Stadium (*Cape Herald*, 1965:6). Games were played between St Andrew's Dodgers vs City Wolves and Mowbraves vs Ohio Cubs. At that time the Athlone facility was a newly built facility that was opened with a sports meeting on 4 August 1947 (*Torch*, 1947:11). The most used facility was however the Maitland Sports Grounds.

In 1950 the first baseball umpire course was held at the St Phillip's School Hall, Chapel Street, District Six. The lecturers were E.M. Webb and J. Harris of the 'white union' (Henderson, 2005; *Sun*, 1950c:5). Henderson and his compatriots

were confident enough to teach others and spread the game outside Cape Town (Henderson, 2005). A provincial softball union was started in 1951 and the first officials were all women: Sheila Brookes (chairlady); Margorie English (secretary) and Edna Henderson (Edward's sister) (treasurer) (Henderson, 2005). One of the first softball clubs in District Six, Cape Town was Yellow Jackets. This club played a leading role in initiating the formation of the Western Province Softball Union. Although these Unions operated only in 'non-white' communities, they never carried racial identification in their names. Also in 1951, the second baseball and softball union was established, the Cape District Baseball and Softball Union. This Union played its matches at the Princeton Sports Ground (known presently as, William Herbert) in Wynberg (*Sun*, 1951:8). Annual derbies were played between the two Unions, commonly referred to as Board games.

In 1952 the Paarl Coloured Recreation Board started a campaign to introduce more sport codes apart from cricket. Baseball and softball matches were demonstrated and Henderson gave lectures on the fundamentals of these games. This however did not have a long lasting effect because the club that was started, Trojans, lasted for one month only. Two years later, in May 1954, the Western Province Baseball and Softball Unions amalgamated under the name, Western Province Baseball and Softball Union (WPBSU) As people migrated out of the city centre they took the game with them. Sheila Brookes (an original member of the City Wolves Club) was instrumental in establishing the Cape Times Club (Henderson, 2005).

With the assistance of newspaper clippings and a random recollection from Henderson's memory, a list of baseball and softball clubs, affiliated to the Western Province Baseball and Softball Unions was compiled (*Cape Herald*, 1967:12; Henderson, 2005). The American influence can be seen in the names of the clubs. These clubs were family-based but were torn apart when the Group Areas Act scattered people in different directions over the Cape Flats (Lomberg, 2010). None of these baseball and softball clubs are as yet researched in academic literature. Therefore, it is important to recall the names mentioned at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1990, who contributed to the early development of the game in Cape Town. The audience rose to their feet when one of the former players, Billy Mulder, wearing a designer hat to cover his baldness made his entrance. Another former player, Chris van der Watt (and his wife), father of a former local hockey star and soccer player, Colin, walked across the floor with the aid of a walker.

Archie Hanslo, a long serving president, was also present. Some of the other names mentioned who attended were: Donnie Hermans, Ivan Mehuizen, Toodles and Winnie Kube, Edward "Erra" Mitchell, Attie Botha, Stanley and Shirley October, Wilfie and James Roodt, Tony van Harte, Ronnie and Vivienne de

Kock, Danny Page, Kenny Rorich, Gerald Gooding, Graham and Violet Petersen, Dany and Aileen April, Ronnie Green, Trevor Oldale, Jenny Hendricks, and Shiela Hendricks (néé Brookes) of the City Wolves Softball Club and the Softball Union's first president (Henderson, n.d.).

**Table 1:** Western Province Baseball and Softball Union

Baseball	Place of origin	Softball	Place of origin
St. Andrews Dodgers	Newlands	St. Andrews Dodgers	Newlands
City Wolves	Cape Town	City Wolves	Cape Town
Ohio Cubs	Athlone	Ohio Cubs	Athlone
Olympic Swifts	Cape Town	California	Cape Town
Comets	Cape Town	Silvertree	Cape Town
Woodstock Rangers	Woodstock	Swallows	Maitland
California	Cape Town	Maitland Cubs	Maitland
Lansdowne	Lansdowne	Tanta	Crawford
Hewat Training College	Crawford	Spartans	Wynberg
Thistles	Athlone	Ridgeville	Athlone
Silvertree	Cape Town	Cresta	Kraaifontein
Swallows	Maitland	Senators	Cape Town
Maitland Giants	Maitland	Ramblers	Wynberg
Red Socks	Wynberg	Lincolns	Lincoln Estate
Woodsides	Salt River	Eagles	Woodstock
Mowbraves	Mowbray	Island Roses	Goodwood
Tanta	Crawford	Yellow Jackets	Cape Town
Dynamos	Mowbray	Symingtons	Observatory
Demons	Woodstock	Cape Times	Parow
Red Hawks	Athlone	Sinton High School	Crawford
Spartans	Wynberg	Red Wings	Elsies River
Vikings	Maitland	Albertons	Athlone
		Glenville	Cape Town
		Trojans	Paarl
		Redwing	
		Lincoln	
		Hewat	Crawford
		Blue Birds	Langa

### *The early heroes*

Baseball thrives on 'hero making' and 'big game' elements. During the period under review, the South African black press created heroes if they overcame obstacles of race discrimination and achieved petty bourgeoisie status (Cleophas & Van der Merwe, 2009a:489). By the mid-1950s, the WPB&SU had its icons and "the annual derby between Silvertree and Dodgers became a popular event in Cape Town" (Lomberg, 2010). A considerable number of these icons were petty bourgeoisie who were artisans and teachers. The black press helped in creating heroes. In 1957 the *Post* reported on "one of the finest baseball games at Maitland", the knock-out final between Silvertree and Dodgers which Silvertree

won 4-2. Not a single player stole to second base and the pitching of Bunny Castle and Gerald Gooding was 'out of the ordinary'. The match was tight and it was only in the fourth and fifth frames that runs were scored. In the fifth frame Doug Lombard hit a home run for Silvertree. Other players who shone for Silvertree were Ivan Meihuizen and Bennie Dempers. Henderson scored both Dodgers' runs and made two double plays (*Golden City Post*, 1957:23).

Such excitement made it possible for the press to emphasize success in terms of "dominating others and praising those who make big hits" (Coakley, 2001:360-370). Over time many Capetonian sportspersons who excelled in winter codes, made baseball their summer sport. The first professional soccer team, Cape Ramblers, had two representatives in the Silvertree Baseball Club: Bunny Castle and Doug Lombard. Colin van der Watt and Danny Page also played for Cape Ramblers. George Dempers played for Silvertree Baseball club during the summer while in winter he was a 'popular wrestler in Cape Town' (Lombard, 2010). These early heroes also attracted businessmen and Doug Lombard was employed by Eric Logon in his well known Cape Town sport shop "in order to draw Coloured sportspersons" (Lombard, 2010).

#### *Early officials*

Henderson (2005) recalls the following baseball personalities who occupied prominent positions in the union: Presidents: William George (1950-1954), Oswald George (1954-1957), Christian Kemp (1957-1964), Gerry Martin (1964-1968), and Ronald Lee-Kock (1968-1981); Secretaries: Dennis Thomas (1950-1952), David Anderson (1952-1954) and Edward Henderson (1954 -1981). Other prominent officials with no dates available were: Justin Alexander (Alex) La Guma (treasurer), Oswald George (chairman), Archie Hanslo (treasurer), William Hendricks and Ivan Meihuizen (match secretary).

Some of these officials were also visible in other community organizations. Oswald George served as secretary on the first executive of the Western Province Senior Schools Sports Union (Cleophas & Van der Merwe, 2009b:708). La Guma played a prominent role in left-wing politics in Cape Town. In 1948 he joined the South African Communist Party (SACP) and was a listed communist by the Apartheid regime in 1950. He served a five-year banning order during the early 1960s under the Suppression of Communism Act. He rose to national prominence in the anti-Apartheid movement in the latter half of the 1950s after becoming a founder member of the South African Coloured Political Organistaion (SACPO) (Adhikari, 1997:7). Christian Kemp was the chairman of the Woodsides Amateur Soccer Club that played in the Cape and District Football Association (CDFA) in Wynberg. William Hendricks was the chairman of the Western Province Football Association (Coloured) that was established in 1904. Gerry Martin was a member of the California Rugby

Football Club that was affiliated to the City and Suburban Rugby football Union (Henderson, 2005).

### *The struggle for facilities*

Finding a venue for matches posed a problem since most fields were used for cricket. After being refused permission by the CDFA in Wynberg, the Kensington Sports Board in Maitland, under the leadership of William Hendricks, made a portion of the fields, not used for cricket, available. This facility was used for three seasons. However, these fields were far away from the players homes and most of them did not own cars. The WPB&SU then obtained the use of the CDFA Grounds in Wynberg (Henderson, 2005). The condition of the playing fields was far below standard compared with the Rosebank Showgrounds and influenced the style of play in a particular direction (Lomberg, 2010).

Henderson (2005) recalled certain incidents from his playing days: In a match at Maitland sportsground, the batter hit the ball over the ground into a factory yard, scoring a home run off a lost ball amongst coal stones. A player also scored a home run at the Princeton Grounds because a snake prevented the outfielder from picking up the ball. On another occasion the ball got stuck in a mole hole. According to Lomberg (2010) the Maitland and Wynberg Grounds were hallowed football and cricket grounds and consequently there was no gravel at the batters box.

### *Effects of Apartheid*

One of outflows of the Apartheid policy was the forced removal of people, through the Group Areas Act, from their homes and this affected sports clubs also. The Group Areas Act forced the City and Suburban Rugby Union to vacate their playing fields in the suburb of Mowbray. They were granted grounds in Crawford - presently known as City Park. Many baseballers also played rugby at City Park and it was quite appropriate that the major baseball venue of the WPB&SU should be City Park. A senior official of the City and Suburban Rugby Union, Abe Appel, approached Henderson and asked him to move his baseballers to City Park. (Henderson, 2005). Another outflow of the Apartheid policy was the government's obsession with race that affected sport contact. The WPB&SU consciously avoided applying for the official permits when it engaged in non-racial sport. When the WPB&SU applied to the government authorities for permission to visit Robben Island to play a baseball match against the political prisoners, they were told to apply for a permit. The WPB&SU called off the visit. During Henderson's tenure, an American warship docked in Cape Town Harbour. A Coloured Affairs Department (CAD) official, Dr Gow, contacted Henderson with the purpose of arranging a baseball match. Gow

informed Henderson that state policy dictated that only Black crew members would be allowed to play. The WPB&SU and the ship's captain terminated the proposed game (Henderson, 2005).

A 1955 article in the *Golden City Post* portrays the attitude of the White South African Baseball Board towards 'non-White' baseball. The president of that Board, G.R. Williams, compiled "A guide to South African manners, morals and customs" for the touring American baseball team. One paragraph read: "On no account must you mix with the Native, classed as Black, or the Coloured, the half-cast or half-White person. The Coloureds and the blacks are servants to the Whites and there the association ends" (*Golden City Post*, 1955:2).

### **The national development of baseball and softball**

In 1955 Henderson contacted Mogamad Agerdien telephonically in Port Elizabeth who was a prominent figure in softball (men and women) there. Arrangements were made for a goodwill softball visit to Port Elizabeth in January 1956. Henderson, Oswald George and Doug Lomberg traveled by train with the Western Province contingent to Port Elizabeth. A rudimentary selection process was followed where each club submitted one player for the Western Province team. Henderson was the manager/coach while Doug Lomberg acted as assistant coach. Lomberg later captained the first professional soccer team in Cape Town, Cape Ramblers (Alegi, 2004; Lomberg, 2010). Henderson and his team stayed in the economic depressed township of South End. Here the facilities available to them ranged from rudimentary to non-existent. Henderson's team therefore played at the Victoria Park Grounds in the suburb of Walmer (Henderson, 2005). That year the first meeting of the South African Baseball and Softball Federation (SABSF) was held. The first elected officers were: Dennis Brutus (president), Mogamat Agerdien (secretary) and Moegamat Noor Moerat (treasurer).

The newly formed federation catered for administrators with diverse persuasions. Moerat and Oswald George were teachers at South Peninsula High, a newly established school in Cape Town and were members of the leftist organization, the Teachers' League of South Africa (TLSA) (Henderson, 2005). George was also a graduate of the University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape (Van der Ross, 2010). Brutus was a poet and school teacher with Marxist views. He was later elected president of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC) in 1963 and spent three months in detention on Robben Island before seeking exile in London. There he became president of the SANROC again and campaigned for South Africa's isolation from world sport (Archer & Bouillon, 1982: 170). On the other end of the political spectrum, also present at the inaugural meeting, was Allan Hendrickse (Henderson, 2005). Brutus remained active in left wing organizations outside government. Hendrickse, on

the other hand, was a member of the Labour Party of South Africa that worked within government structures (Davenport, 1991: 211). He was also instrumental in starting the Sinton Softball Club for girls in Cape Town (Henderson, n.d.).

The inaugural meeting of the SABSF was held in the Union Holding office and the use of proxy delegates was introduced. Tournaments were held every two years when Federation officers would be chosen from officials of the host union. Later a unit from Kimberley and the Cape District Baseball and Softball Union affiliated to the Federation. When the Group Areas Act, through forced removal of people, began taking its toll on families in District Six and other areas in Cape Town, many players were forcibly dislocated from their clubs. A new Union was then formed in Mitchells Plain, on the outskirts of Cape Town, and joined the Federation.

The permit system of the Apartheid policy rendered the attempted contact between different 'racial' groups unsuccessful not only on club level but also nationally. The Apartheid regime classified people into categories of African, Coloured, Indian and White. In the African community the game was limited to softball (for men and women) and the Native Affairs Department (NAD) largely sponsored softball in that community. The NAD, was part of the Apartheid machinery and this led to feelings of mistrust and suspicion from the SABSF, who followed a non-racial policy (Henderson, 2005). The SABSF never received huge sponsorship and was dependent on the goodwill of sympathetic individuals. The first sponsorship was in the form of two trophies that the Coca Cola Company donated to the Western and Eastern Province softball units. This came about after Agerdien wrote to the Coca Cola Company in the United States of America, requesting sponsorship. The Coca Cola Company (USA) worked through a Mr Dagget, a local marketing agent who played for the Nomads Club. At the time of Henderson's retirement, the SABSF consisted of the following units: Western Province, Cape and District, Mitchell's Plain, Griqualand-West and Eastern Cape (Henderson, 2005).

### **Badminton**

The Western Province Badminton Union (WPBU) was formed in 1950. Prior to this date, two teams, Simon's Town and St Paul's Church in Cape Town, played the game for quite a few years, meeting occasionally in inter-club games. A relative of Henderson, Harry Hardisty, lived in Simon's Town and worked in the dockyard. The Henderson family often visited there and made acquaintances with the local people. Hardisty and his wife were both badminton players and invited Henderson to attend matches. In turn Henderson, being present at these friendly games, started a club at the St Paul's Church in Rondebosch.

The infamous Group Areas Act forced the 'non-White' residents of Simon's

Town out of their homes and some settled in the suburb of Heathfield. In this way the St Anthony's club was started at the Roman Catholic Church in Heathfield. At that time a number of Catholic churches had badminton clubs: St Ignatius in Claremont; St Agnes in Woodstock; Holy Cross in Searle Street, Cape Town; St. Augustine's in Elsies River and St Mary's in Athlone. The Anglican Church, also had clubs: St. Johns in Wynberg, St. Marks in Cape Town and later Zonnebloem College started a club, Collegians in Cape Town (Henderson, 2005). These clubs formed the nucleus of the formation of the WPBU.

### **Western Province Badminton Union**

The first executive was: Harry Hardisty (chairman), Cynthia Anderson (secretary), A. Muller (treasurer), Edward Henderson (vice chairman), Henry Burggraaf (secretary), N. Anderson (assistant secretary), Mr Craig (treasurer), Alf Harris (match and record secretary), Chris Wolhuter (assistant match and record secretary), W. Smith and Cas Miller (auditors), as well as Henry Davids and Leonard Marsden (executive members) (*Sun*, 1950a:8).

Most of these officials lived in the better off suburbs of Cape Town. The addresses of three executive members were. Hardisty: "Hillrise" High Level Road, Simon's Town; Henderson: 29 St Andrews Avenue, Rondebosch; Burggraaf: Princess Vlei Road, Diep River and Harris, Goran Road, Wynberg (*Sun*, 1950a:8). Hardisty, Henderson and Burggraaff were forced to vacate their residencies when it was declared a White Group Area. At least one official, Alf Harris, was also involved administratively at a senior level in another sport code. He was the senior convenor of the Western Province Table Tennis Board (Henderson, 2005).

The first clubs to affiliate to the WPBU were St Paul's (Rondebosch), Simon's Town (Simon's Town), St Anthony's (Heathfield) and St John's (Wynberg). Two individuals, Hardisty and Joe Rosario, donated trophies for a league and knock out competition and five more were sought for a provincial competition in September of 1950 (*Sun*, 1950a:8). There were no inter-provincial tournaments during Henderson's involvement in the game. Badminton was only played in the southern suburbs of Cape Town and one club in the northern suburbs in Elsies River (Henderson, 2005). Syd Lotter was made patron of the Union.

He brought with him a rich experience in the world of sport. In 1950 his curriculum vitae included: Vice-chairman of the Crofton Harriers Athletic Club (1923-1924); founder member of the Cape Peninsula Junior Football Association and secretary for many years; Vice-president of the Mellville Cricket Club; President of the Ashley Rangers AFC; President of Hotspurs AFC (1938-1950); President and founder member of the Olympic Card Union; Chairman of the

Western Province Table Tennis Union since 1939; Chairman of the Utopian Table Tennis Club; Runner-up in the Western Province table tennis championship in 1950; President of the South African National Table Tennis Board; President of Perthshire Table Tennis Club; Vice-President of Ashley Table Tennis Club; Vice-President of Durban and District Table Tennis Union; Ex-secretary of Western Province Football Board; Vice-President of Alliance Football League; Organising secretary of the 1950 mass soccer tournament held in Cape Town; Founder member of the Cape Peninsula Lawn Tennis Association; Founder member of Nil Desperandum Lawn Tennis Club and Chairman of Walmer Tennis Club (1932-1940). Besides these, he was also an active trade unionist (*Sun*, 1950b:8). In 1951 the popularity of the game had grown to the extent that the *Sun* reported that “badminton had surpassed table tennis as the Cape’s indoor sport” (*Sun*, 1951b:8).

Harry Hardisty served as president from 1950 until 1956. Henderson succeeded him and held this office until 1965. In that year, the Western Province Badminton Union consisted of the following clubs: Simon’ Town, St Paul’s Rondebosch, St Anthony’s, St Paul’s Cape Town, St Ignatius, St Agnes, St Mary’s, Holy Cross, Collegians, St Marks and St Augustine’s. Each of these clubs had two teams. The league was drawn up to allow for matches consisting of two gents’ singles, two ladies’ singles, two gents’ doubles, two ladies’ doubles and two mixed doubles (Henderson, 2005).

## **Conclusion**

This research highlighted personal and place names, sport facilities and events that are obscured from 21<sup>st</sup> century sport historians. The obscurity was due to imposed racism by the Apartheid regime and does not imply that the organizations and individuals mentioned in this study were unimportant. This research also highlighted how sport administrators persevered in their endeavours despite the hardship, personal and communal, caused by the Apartheid policy. It is also apparent the sport cohesion was largely determined by family ties. Further, the research placed sport in the ‘non-white’ community at the core and made minimal reference to race. In this way an obscured but important historical figure, Edward Henderson, serves as an intricate link in the network of 20<sup>th</sup> century South African sport. This is a departure from traditional sport history writing that deals with South African ‘non-White’ sportspeople, placing them on the outskirts of mainstream sport. The research also scratched the historical surface of two sport codes that may be regarded as minor compared to athletics, cricket, rugby and soccer. There is a need to dig deeper into the history of these ‘minor’ codes by means of formal analytical research. In this way more obscure South African sport historical data will be brought into focus.

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