

# Making Sense of 2010 for Churches —The Role Players



## FIFA

These are the guys who love soccer and who want everyone else on the planet to do the same. They make the regulations, award the world cup to countries whose President was in prison and make sure these countries build enough stadiums for everyone with a ticket to come and watch it. They officially take ownership of the stadiums a month before kick-off next year and from then on they rule like kings. This also goes for what's in the immediate vicinity of the stadiums like who is allowed to sell hamburgers how thick they must be, how they are wrapped etc. You can get their official hamburger guide at:

[www.fifa.com/worldcup/index.html](http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/index.html)

Compiled by Pierre van Wyk for the churches in Uitenhage and Despatch. [outreach@global.co.za](mailto:outreach@global.co.za)



## Local Government.

We all know them. They charge us big bucks for using their water and electricity. But it doesn't end there. The moment the soccer fans start to arrive they see to it that they get around on whatever transport is available, all potholes are covered in time, and they make sure that enough flowers and trees are planted so that all the fans think it is the closest place to paradise. They network with business and tourism to make sure that every fan leaves with no money and lots of photos. They also make sure that there are enough beds without bugs for every fan to sleep in and if they do get bitten that there are enough doctors to treat them. They also liaise with the police to make sure there are enough cells for all the fans who think you get biltong by slicing up an Englishman. In short they have their hands full. If you need more info you can get their number from your last water and electricity account or check out their website with all the World Cup links at: <http://www.nelsonmandelabay.gov.za/fifaworldcup/>

## SASCOL

Thank God for these guys. Lets give them a more formal voice and let them speak for themselves:"

**SASCOL** (South African Sports Coalition) is an initiative by predominantly church leaders representing the majority of church denominations in South Africa. SASCOL operates under the mandate of the International Sports Coalition (ISC). SASCOL strongly believes the 2010 soccer event offers Africa the best opportunity to combat the destructive giants of HIV and AIDS, the breaking up of the family unit, poverty, corruption, violence and ethnic strife". We need guys like these to keep everyone in the country who wants to be involved, on the same page. They are very formal, go to bed with their laptops, sit in meetings most of the time and use a lot of red ink and paper. They are so busy they don't even have a website to check them out. This is the official side of their work.

The fun stuff is in the next column. One must remember that the World Cup after all is about soccer, sport and having fun and an enjoyable time for everyone involved. They have left this mainly for others to do. Jenny Cape is the official representative and you can phone her at the TCN office at: 0415815750 or [theultimategoal@tcn.org.za](mailto:theultimategoal@tcn.org.za)



## TUG

This is not a boat. It stands for The Ultimate Goal, sort of

analogy for letting us think what life is all about and it is the official project of SASCOL for the World Cup. TUG is not so much an organization but rather a "movement" and the driving force behind giving the Church a creative platform from which to reach out to all the soccer fans with the message that there is much more to life than just soccer and English Draft. But they are not only concerned about the overseas fans and kept in mind that there are millions of soccer fans all over the country that also would like to kick a soccer ball like Ronaldhino. So they developed an ingenious curriculum teaching players some fancy footwork and in the process, learning some cool life skills. They are also using some arty stuff like bands and singers and artists to make sure lots of people have an enjoyable time leading up to the World Cup. Finally, once the fans start arriving they make sure that they feel at home and that they will have a shoulder to cry on if they need one. Actually, they have some great ideas but its not them that are going to do it. They want you and me to do it. So check out all their great ideas: [www.theultimategoal.com](http://www.theultimategoal.com).



Ubalalo is the brain child

of the very well known and energetic Cassie Carstens. He is the kind of guy who goes to bed with one vision and wakes up with two more. The vision of Ubabalo Africa is mean, as in mean. It stretches way beyond the borders of South Africa and way beyond the World Cup, aiming to train 1,3 million soccer and life skills coaches for well into the future on the continent. Each person being trained will not only be able to find the net much better but will also be able to handle the pressures and demands of life better by tying a soccer skill to a life skill, and they in turn will be able to mentor others in the same way. This makes a lot of sense. There is some common ground here with the TUG programme and it seems as if the two will work closely together. Tobile Sonjica is the contact guy in the Metro. You can find him at 0849815902.



## TCN

(Transformation Christian Network)

We are getting closer to home turf now. To be able to keep everything together in our own backyard you need some wise guys who can think strategically, plan accordingly and get things done to the benefit of all the churches in the Bay and still manage to have a shot at a soccer ball themselves. So if anyone in the Metro wants to know more, they most probably are going to end up here. TCN was officially appointed to coordinate SASCOL's TUG strategy locally. So they have taken all of the official stuff and applied it to the local needs and context and now it makes sense to everyone. If you like documents there are a lot of them on their website, very strategically written but once you have read them you will have a better idea of what is strategy and that for which you actually need a strategy to get a strategy implemented. Enough strategy for now! Please get in touch with the TCN office or your local church if you want to get involved, want to know more or want to learn to play soccer. The TCN office is located in Main Road Walmer next to the Methodist Church. Get in touch: 0415815726 or [info@tcn.org.za](mailto:info@tcn.org.za) [www.tcn.org.za](http://www.tcn.org.za)