

The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society

Editor: Urmilla Bob



Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)

General Editors

Nhlanhla Mkhize; Relebohile Moletsane; Nobuhle Ndimande-Hlongwa;
Sarah Mosoetsa; Stephen Mutula; Labby Ramrathan; Johannes A. Smit

Lead-Editors

Nyna Amin *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Vivienne Bozalek *Cape Peninsula University of Technology*; Denzil Chetty *University of South Africa*; Rubby Dhunpath *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Bekithemba Dube *University of the Free State*; Mari Haugaa Engh, *Norwegian University of Science and Technology*; Maserole Kgari-Masondo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Rembrandt Klopper *University of Zululand*; Simangaliso Kumalo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Sam Lubbe Mangosuthu *University of Technology*; Sadhana Manik *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Cheryl Mohamed Sayeed *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Herbert Moyo *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Priya Narismulu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Maheshvari Naidu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Beatrice Okyere-Manu *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Kunle Oparinde *Durban University of Technology*; Michael Samuel *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Federico Settler, *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Upasana Gitanjali Singh *University of KwaZulu-Natal*; Lilian Siwila *University of KwaZulu-Natal*.

Alternation research groups have made decisive and far-sighted knowledge production contributions in the interdisciplinary Arts and Humanities arena for more than twenty-five years. From 2020, it adds the *Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)* to its research outputs system. Via its incisive thematically-focused inter-, multi-, and trans-disciplinary, as well as digitally-informed, research approaches, the AASBS not only advances the frontiers of knowledge in Africa's institutions of Higher Learning in designated focus areas, but also critically generates scholarship of, by and with the people(s) of our continent. Historically the research draws on the rich traditions of interactive African intellectualisations, from its earliest civilisations, through struggles for liberation and freedom, to independence and growth. It opens up future epistemic opportunities through intellectual initiative and resourcefulness, while critically contributing to the international advancement of knowledge on all relevant levels. Contributing to research-led constructive, transformative and substantial discourse development in our programmes and disciplines, it also aims at impacting the well-being of our people foundationally and all-inclusively in the present. All forms of scientific and social challenge which Africa's societies and communities face, need to be problematised and researched in the Arts and Humanities, in the interest of cooperative and conscientious responsible knowledge generation and foundational conceptual and methodological research impacts. We serve the hopes and aspirations of the people of Africa.

AASBS is committed to the highest levels of inclusive, factually correct and critical, socially-responsive and socially-accountable evidence-based research analyses and outputs. Each chapter is reviewed by at least two independent peer reviewers. Through its editing and peer-review system, each volume also builds research leadership, research expertise, and interactive research acumen, capacity and capabilities.

A list of published and upcoming titles follows overleaf

Alternation African Scholarship Book Series (AASBS)

Ramrathan, L., N. Ndimande-Hlongwa, N. Mkhize & J.A. Smit (eds.).
Re-thinking the Humanities Curriculum in the Time of COVID-19.
Volume #01.

Ndimande-Hlongwa, N., L. Ramrathan, N. Mkhize & J.A. Smit (eds.).
*Technology-based Teaching and Learning in Higher Education during the
Time of COVID-19.* Volume #02.

Mkhize, N., N. Ndimande-Hlongwa, L. Ramrathan & J.A. Smit (eds.).
Teaching and Learning in Higher Education in the Time of COVID-19.
Volume #03.

Smit, J.A., N. Mkhize, N. Ndimande-Hlongwa & L. Ramrathan (eds.).
*Learner and Subject at the Dawn of Digital Research-Led Teaching and
Learning in the Time of COVID-19.* Volume #04.

Manik, S. (ed.). *From High-risk Sports to Sports as High Risk: Crisis,
Capitulation and Creativity during COVID-19.* Volume #05.

Kumalo, S.R., C. Lynch, C. Kimedjo, A. Adomako & M. Penda (eds.).
A Critical Investigation of Humanitarian Aid in Africa. Volume # 06.

Singh, U.G., P.S. Reddy, M.W. Phiri & P. Appavoo (eds.). *Global Trends in
Management, IT and Governance in an E-World.*
(E-MIG 2019 International.) Volume # 07.

Amin, N. & R. Dhunpath (eds.). *(Re)Learning to Teach in Contexts of
Crises.* Volume #08.

Bob, U. (ed.). *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on
Sport and Society.* Volume #09.

The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society

Editor
Urmilla Bob

2022

CSSALL
Durban

Published in 2022 in South Africa

CSSALL Publishers (Pty) Ltd
c/o POSTNET SUITE 158
Private Bag X9118
Pietermaritzburg
KwaZulu-Natal
3200 cssall123@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief: Prof J.A. Smit

University of KwaZulu-Natal

smitj@ukzn.ac.za

Alternation African Scholarship Book Series Volume #09
© CSSALL Publishers (Pty) Ltd

Title: *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society*. Durban: CSSALL Publishers. (Alternation African Scholarship Book Series, Volume # 09 – ISBN: 978-0-9869937-0-1.)

BOOK DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29086/978-0-9869937-0-1/2022/AASBS9>

BOOK url: <http://alternation.ukzn.ac.za/books/series/The-COVID-19-Pandemic-Impacts-of-the-Coronavirus.aspx>

Cover: Images from the open web, articulated with the title, *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society*.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright holder and publisher.

CSSALL has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this volume, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Printed and bound by Print Connection, Tel (031) 202-7766; 202-7766

Preface

Sport is one of the most important fitness, leisure as well as income generating systems for people globally. For the corporate world, it is also a global sponsorship, advertising and branding vehicle, and for governments, apart from sponsorships, also revenue generating systems. Sport team brands, in addition to sports clothing brands have also become worldwide phenomena.

So, with the advent of COVID-19, and the resultant lockdowns of communities globally, since the beginning of 2020, to prevent the spread of the virus, the ceasing of sport events and activities globally, severely disrupted the sporting world. From the world's highest paid athletes, to the brand values of sporting codes and to individual world class athletes and the millions of sports men and women, all were impacted by COVID-19 and it is a sample of these impacts that this study examines. Yet, the impacts were not only on the sporting fraternity, but also global, national and local societies and communities. Sporting franchises also have their supporters and spectators and these have also been impacted with numerous innovative initiatives taken by communities

This volume, edited by the renowned sport researcher, Prof. Urmilla Bob, represents a sample of the numerous challenges this event caused for communities globally, as well as innovative and imaginative initiatives amidst the pandemic. It researches challenges differently abled persons and sporting communities have had to engage, the organising of training and sporting activities that have had to accommodate lockdown restrictions and regulations, and the transfer of sport fan and spectator interaction onto digital and social media platforms. It also includes research on personal sporting experiences and institutional strategies to organise and in many cases re-plan and postpone national and international sporting events to the post-COVID era.

The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society is a welcome contribution to the growing body of scholarship on COVID. It succeeds in thematising crucial aspects of the impacts of the coronavirus, and the resultant lockdowns, as well as seminal responses by both local and global sporting bodies. It bristles with relevant data, and also provide windows on very significant societal innovations and critical and constructive scholarly reflections on this very significant event at the

beginning of the 21st century. In some analyses these are truly heroic and in others the importance of healthy living and physical exercise of all are emphasised. The social importance and also the significance of social isolation, not least as an impact on the elderly, are also addressed. The social role of clubs and societies are key to societal wellbeing and very often also active athletes. Athletes thrive on sport fan and spectator support, not least the shouting and cheering who will their champions to the finishing line or to victory. And sporting coaches and managers love to coach and manage winners.

This is a winning book and both the sporting fraternity and the clubs, spectators and society at large, will find much helpful data, and implementable research ideas and approaches, as well as guidelines, recommendations, support, and advice for their own sporting and sporting fraternity endeavours.

Impacts is published in the change from the fully lockdown period, to the partial lockdown and hopefully, in the near future, the lifting of lockdown restrictions both locally and globally. It importantly adds approaches and methodologies to our growing cluster of research approaches, and tools, in respect of the research on, and related to the wide variety of impacts on life, society, and sport and sporting codes, of the Coronavirus.

Professor Johannes A. Smit
Chair: Humanities Institute

Contents

Preface	v
Contents	vii
Contributors	ix

Urmilla Bob

Editorial: The COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts of the Coronavirus on Sport and Society	1
---	---

Suveshnee Munien

Sport Participation among Persons with Disabilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic	9
--	---

Yoga Coopoo and Habib Noorbhai

Guidelines for Physical Activity and Return to Sport after COVID-19 Lockdown and Future Societal Restrictions	29
---	----

Sogo France Matlala

Heroic Actions by Sports Personalities, Clubs and Associations in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic	58
---	----

Rivoni Gounden and Amanda Gumede

Sports Sector Philanthropic Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence of Global Inequalities	79
---	----

Vadivelu Moodley and Dinolen Gounden

Social Isolation, Sport and Exercise Disruptions, and Impacts on the Elderly as a Vulnerable Group	105
--	-----

Raphael Nhongo and Baba Primrose Tshotsho

From the Terraces to Social Media: Reflections of Highlanders Football Club Supporters' Engagement on Facebook during COVID-19 Lockdown	123
---	-----

Terence Tapiwa Muzorewa and Aaron Rwodzi

Southern Africa Pandemic Management in Sports: Observations from the 1918 Influenza and COVID-19.....	140
---	-----

Kamilla Swart and Rauf Mammadov
Planning a FIFA World Cup amidst a Pandemic – The Case of
Qatar 2022 157

Urmilla Bob
Differences in Levels of Participation and Responses to the
Lockdown among Selected Sporting Codes in South Africa 173

Acknowledgment of Reviewers 194



✂Contributors✂

Professor Urmilla Bob is a Full Professor of Geography in the School of Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and University Dean of Research at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

bobu@ukzn.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4256-2488>

Professor Yoga Coopoo is an Honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Biokenetics, Sport and Leisure Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. yogacoopoo247@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5148-1607>

Rivoni Gounden is a Masters graduate in the Geography and Environmental Science discipline, College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal, and a PhD student.

rivoni.gounden@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5414-223X>

Dinolen Gounden is a Masters graduate in the Geography and Environmental Science discipline, College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal, and a PhD student.

dinolengounden@gmail.com; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5414-223X>

Amanda Gumede is a lecturer in the Geography discipline, College of Agricultural, Engineering and Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal. She holds an MSc in Environmental Science (*cum laude*) and is currently completing her PhD in Geography and Environmental Science.

gumedeal@ukzn.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3909-3852>

Rauf Mammadov is in the IE Business School based in Madrid, Spain.

Rauf.Mammadov@student.ie.edu; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0080-782X>

Sogo France Matlala is based at the Department of Public Health at the University of Limpopo, South Africa. France.Matlala@ul.ac.za;

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2291-6779>

Dr. Suveshnee Munien is an Associate Professor in Ecology and Environ-

mental Studies at Florida Gulf Coast University, USA and is a Research Associate in School of Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Science at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. smunien@fgcu.edu; <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1976-234X>

Dr. Terence Tapiwa Muzorewa is based at the Midlands State University in Zimbabwe, Department of Development Studies. terencemuzorewa@gmail.com; <https://orchid.org/0000-0002-9103-7882>

Professor Habib Noorbhai is a Professor and Director of the BEAHT Research Centre at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa. habibn@uj.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9464-6854>

Dr. Vadivelu Moodley is an honorary researcher in the School of Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. moodleyvd@ukzn.ac.za

Dr. Raphael Nhongo is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in English Studies and Comparative Literature at the University of Fort Hare, South Africa. rnhongo@ufh.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5684-8500>

Professor Baba Primrose Tshotsho is an Associate Professor in English Studies and Comparative Literature at the University of Fort Hare, South Africa. BTshotsho@ufh.ac.za; <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4542-1752>

Dr. Aaron Rwodzi has a Ph.D. from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa and is a Senior Lecturer at the Catholic University of Zimbabwe, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. arwodzi@cuz.ac.zw; <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2602-9656>

