



THE GARY KIRSTEN FOUNDATION



The focus of the Gary Kirsten Foundation (GKF) is to provide quality **infrastructure to township schools** and to create **sustainable cricket programmes** that are facilitated by **trained and accredited GKF community coaches**.

To date South Africa has only produced one Black African Protea cricketer who has been fully educated in a township school. The **vision of the GKF is to produce a ‘Township Centre of Cricket Excellence’**, where local players who don’t get a scholarship to a mainstream elite school can **benefit from a high-quality sporting programme**.

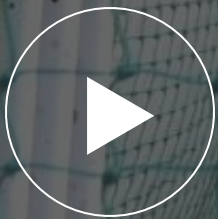
CURRENT PROJECTS

TOWNSHIP SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE BUILD AND CRICKET PROGRAMME

The Gary Kirsten Foundation has supplied 5 Township Schools with newly constructed artificial cricket nets, complete kit bags with cricket equipment and a full-time cricket coach, under the guidance of Gary Kirsten Cricket.

The locally-sourced and accredited coach benefits from this job opportunity through further coach development programmes and an ongoing income.

Each year, more than 300 children from Khayelitsha are introduced to cricket and have the opportunity to take part in the programme through regular practices and matches.



WATCH

[The impact of the GKF cricket ecosystem on Khayelitsha Players](#)

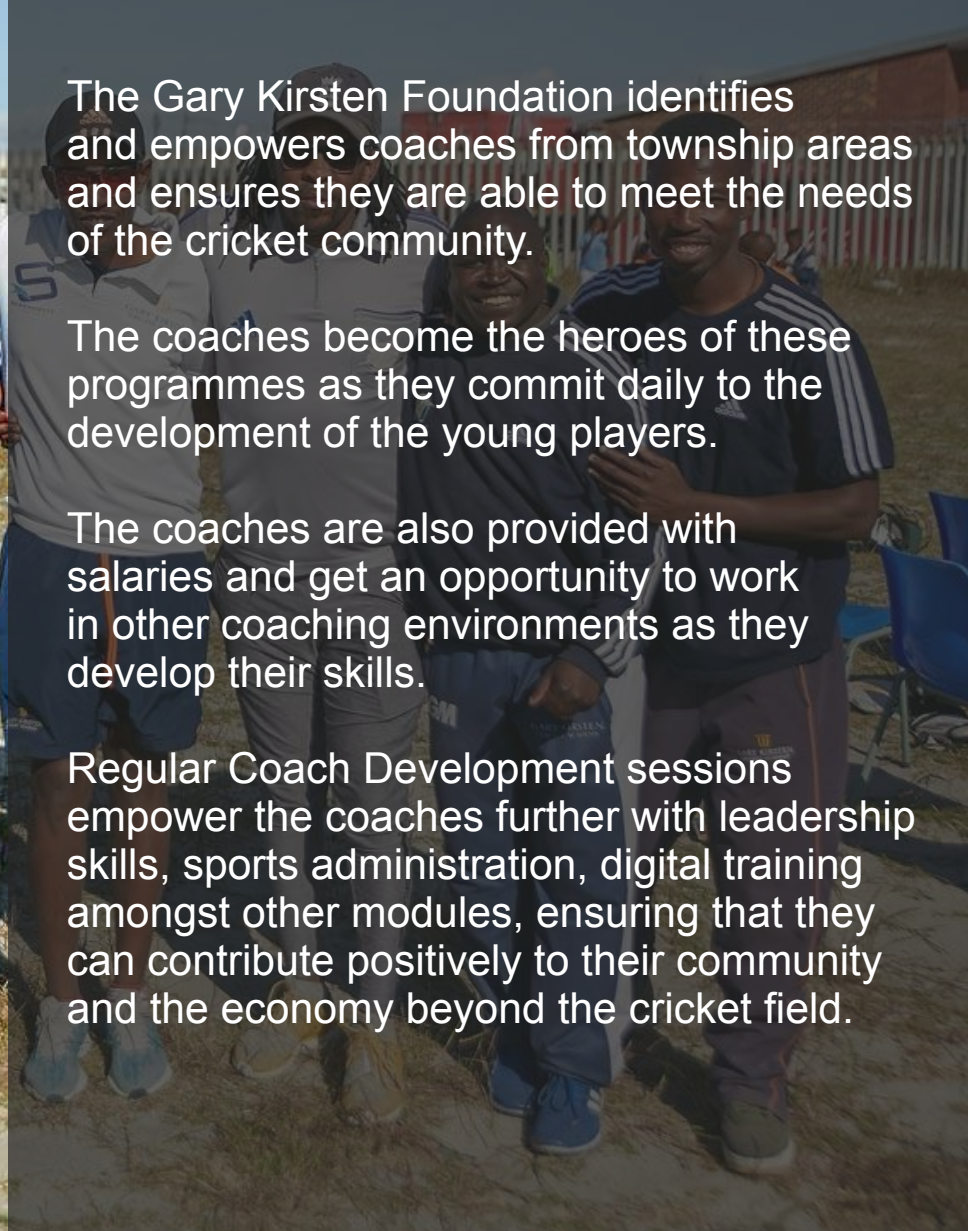
COACH DEVELOPMENT

The Gary Kirsten Foundation identifies and empowers coaches from township areas and ensures they are able to meet the needs of the cricket community.

The coaches become the heroes of these programmes as they commit daily to the development of the young players.

The coaches are also provided with salaries and get an opportunity to work in other coaching environments as they develop their skills.

Regular Coach Development sessions empower the coaches further with leadership skills, sports administration, digital training amongst other modules, ensuring that they can contribute positively to their community and the economy beyond the cricket field.

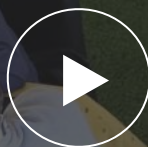


ONLINE COACH EDUCATION

The coach education pipeline is thwarted with red tape and barriers to entry and hence Gary and the team set out to create 'CoachEd', a platform for coaches to develop and learn their profession with a deeper understanding. This is done through an accessible online course, which aims to teach aspiring coaches the fundamentals of coaching a cricket team.

The Gary Kirsten Foundation offers an opportunity for coaches to develop their coaching toolbox in this unique tool, which blends Practical, Theory and Online Learning. This tool creates the potential for Township Coaches to upskill themselves and become accredited Gary Kirsten Cricket coaches, who can further their career in coaching both in and beyond the GKF. Given the infrastructure restraints in Township areas, connectivity and regular training workshops need to be provided to ensure the effectiveness and scale of the online tool.

WATCH



[Township Coach Education Workshop 2021](#)

KHAYELITSHA CENTRE OF CRICKET EXCELLENCE

Township schools like Chris Hani High School in Khayelitsha are not able to compete against mainstream schools as they have limited sporting infrastructure.

Centre' at Chris Hani, including a full size artificial cricket oval has created a sustainable, multi-purpose sporting ecosystem and world-class venue to host matches and tournaments.



Watch: [GK Foundation artificial field launch](#)



Along with the artificial field, an indoor cricket training centre, complete with internet connectivity, provides access for cricket training and coaching workshops to continue throughout the year.



TOWNSHIP LEAGUE & TOURNAMENTS

The construction of the 'Centre of Cricket Excellence' facility creates a unique opportunity to create a high-quality and competitive environment for township players and schools.

Previous festival-type tournaments have been held within Khayelitsha, providing important game time for these young players to test and execute all the skills they learn during practice. The recent GK Foundation 'U/13 Cricket Sixes' was a huge success and there was significant media coverage, including on Supersport's cricket programme 'Inside Edge'

The creation of a formal league will help foster sustainable competition for players to improve their skills be selected for higher honours.

The league and Festival Tournaments will provide opportunities for sponsors and media to be involved and learn more about the cricket programmes in the township.

READ [Cape Times: Cricket a hit with youngsters in Khayelitsha](#)

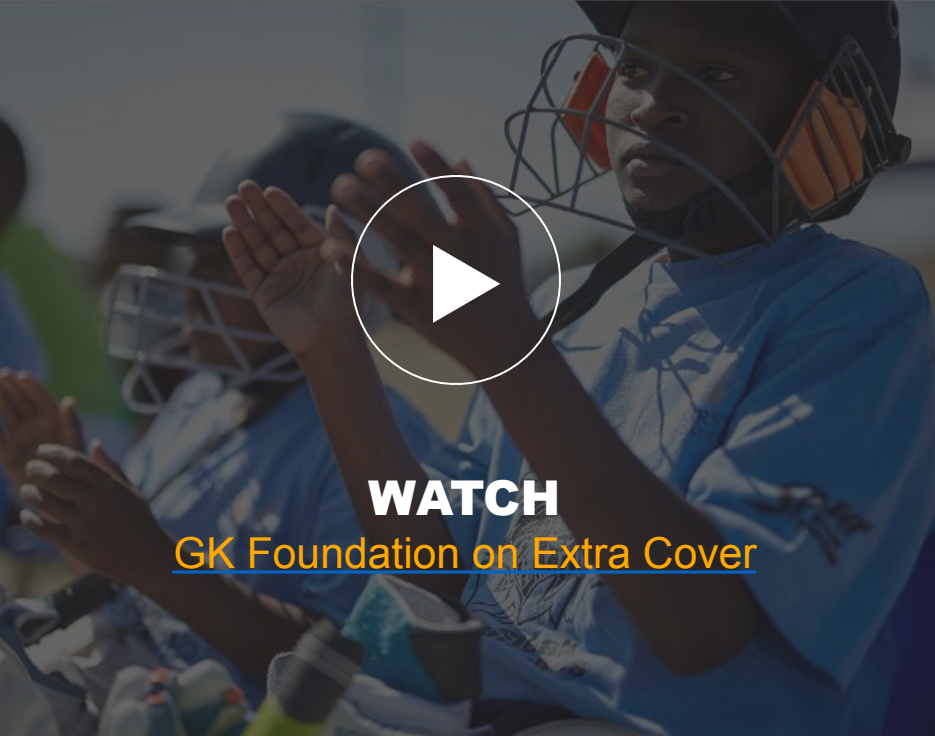
Watch: GK Foundation World Cup Tour 2019



GK FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL TOURS

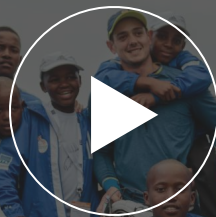
In June 2019, the GK Foundation gave Township players and coaches the opportunity of a lifetime - to go on a tour to the UK. They played cricket against top schools, met their Protea heroes and attended matches at the biggest event of the sport that they love - the Cricket World Cup.

The tour was a massive success and GKF will be leading further tours to International Cricket Tournaments and destinations in future.



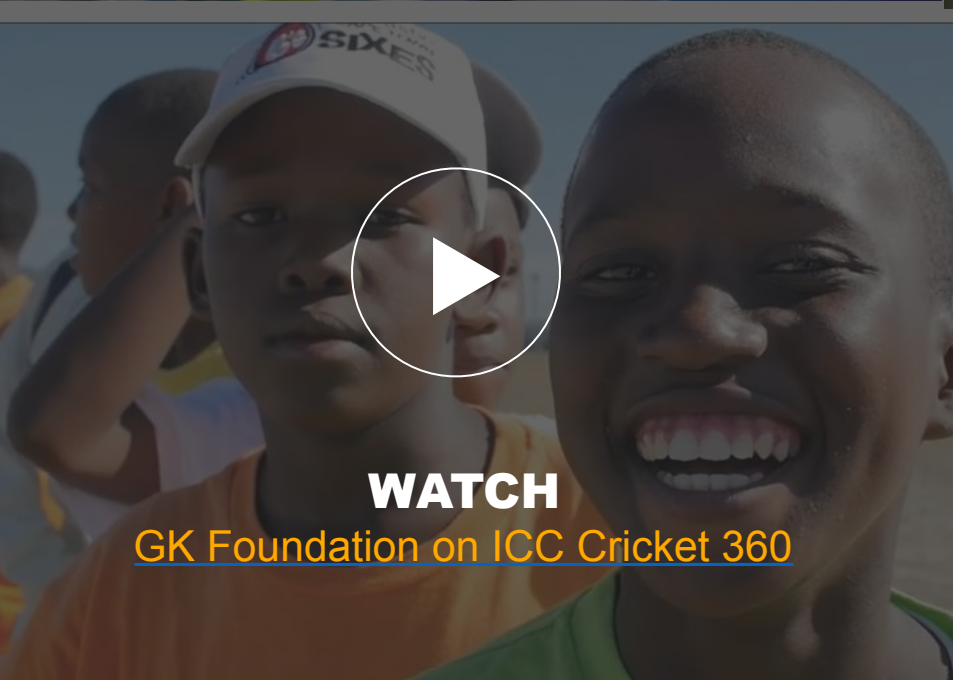
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[GK Foundation on Extra Cover](#)



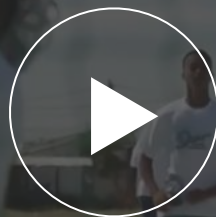
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[GKF at the Cricket World Cup](#)



WATCH

[GK Foundation on ICC Cricket 360](#)



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[GKF on the Dan Nicholl Show](#)



The **Gary Kirsten Foundation** team would like to **thank you** for the opportunity to discuss these initiatives. We look forward **to working with you to empower young people in township communities** and develop this partnership.

The **Gary Kirsten Foundation** has made great strides in making an impact on young people in Khayelitsha, and it would be fantastic to **have you as a partner to help increase our reach, visibility and impact on township communities** across the country.