



# **THE** **SPRINGBOK** **HANDBOOK**

Eddie Grieb & Stuart Farmer

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# THE SPRINGBOK HANDBOOK

EDDIE GRIEB & STUART FARMER

JONATHAN BALL PUBLISHERS  
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## — FOREWORD —

The name Vula Maimuri might not ring any bells for most rugby fans, but it meant a lot to Eddie Grieb.

Maimuri, a Fijian forestry worker from Awanui, one of the northernmost clubs in New Zealand, was drafted into the Highlanders for the Super 12 in 2001.

And it was there, at Carisbrook in Dunedin, that Maimuri won his place in the record books, thanks to the keen memory of a rugby fan – and Eddie Grieb’s dedication.

Early in the 2008 season Keegan Daniel scored an incredibly quick opening try for the Sharks against the Blues at the Absa Stadium. Newspaper reports variously noted that the try had been scored between 15 and 21 seconds after the opening whistle, but Eddie timed the tape himself and established that Daniel touched down in 16 seconds.

Thus Daniel went to the top of list as the scorer of the fastest try in Super Rugby history, displacing Chris Latham who had scored within 21 seconds for the Reds against the Brumbies in Brisbane.

But then, in this wonderful age of instant communication, an e-mail arrived from a New Zealander stating that there had been a quicker try, namely by Maimuri in a match in the 2001 season.

Instead of dismissing the claim, Eddie drove from Pretoria to SuperSport’s studios in Randburg and drew the tape of the match – Highlanders vs Crusaders – from the archive to check for himself.

And there it was, confirmed by the match clock and Eddie’s stopwatch. Maimuri scored in just 12 seconds, and has now duly been credited with the fastest try in the list of Super Rugby records.

Statisticians like Eddie, and his dedicated cohorts throughout the world, perform a vital task in rugby that is seldom acknowledged by the media, even though the scribes make constant use of their facts and figures. And thanks to the statisticians, players whose feats might otherwise go unnoticed and unrecorded, are given due credit.

With *The Springbok Handbook* Eddie has not only produced a fascinating record of Springbok rugby to be picked up and pored over, but has done a great service to the game. I know it will become a valuable reference in my collection of rugby books.

*Dan Retief*  
SuperSport



## — INTRODUCTION —

In *The Springbok Handbook*, Eddie Grieb and Stuart Farmer chronicle the history of South African test match rugby since that first match in 1891 until the Grand Slam tour of the United Kingdom and Ireland in November 2010 – some 395 matches in all. Their meticulous research has revealed even more interesting records and facts than have been unearthed before, and they also recount popular tales and folklore involving South Africa rugby over the intervening 120 years.

The more colourful characters amongst those who have been lucky enough to wear the famous Springbok jersey in combat, and a few who were unlucky not to, are brought to life with stories and anecdotes told and retold over the years.

All that, along with tables, notes and miscellany, makes the book a veritable treasure trove of everything you have possibly wanted to know about South African rugby, its players, its rich heritage, triumphs and tribulations.

## — ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS —

We would like to thank a number of individuals who have aided immeasurably in the production of this book.

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To Ashley Berry for his contributions, and for verifying information.

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Finally to the top-class team at Jonathan Ball Publishers, including Jeremy Boraine and his colleague Francine Blum, for entrusting us with the project.

As with all books of this type, the odd omission and inaccuracy may appear. If any reader has any further information which may be of use, please contact the authors through the publishers.

Happy browsing ...

## — SOUTH AFRICA AT THE RUGBY WORLD CUPS —

South Africa did not take part in the first two Rugby World Cups in 1987 and 1991 due to the country's isolation from virtually all sport as a result of its apartheid policies. In 1994 South Africa became a democracy after the first multi-racial elections and the country has competed in all the Rugby World Cups since then, winning the tournament in 1995 (in South Africa) and again in 2007 (in France).

## — MOST TOURNAMENTS FOR SOUTH AFRICA —

Os du Randt and Joost van der Westhuizen are the only Springboks to represent South Africa at three different World Cups. Here is a list of players who have represented the Springboks at two or more tournaments:

| No | Name                     | Years            |
|----|--------------------------|------------------|
| 3  | Joost van der Westhuizen | 1995, 1999, 2003 |
| 3  | Os du Randt              | 1995, 1999, 2007 |
| 2  | Mark Andrews             | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Naka Drotské             | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Ruben Kruger             | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Krynauw Otto             | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Chris Rossouw            | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Brendan Venter           | 1995, 1999       |
| 2  | Breyton Paulse           | 1999, 2003       |
| 2  | Stefan Terblanche        | 1999, 2003       |
| 2  | Schalk Burger            | 2003, 2007       |
| 2  | Jaque Fourie             | 2003, 2007       |
| 2  | Wayne Julies             | 1999, 2007       |
| 2  | Victor Matfield          | 2003, 2007       |
| 2  | Danie Rossouw            | 2003, 2007       |
| 2  | Bob Skinstad             | 1999, 2007       |
| 2  | John Smit                | 2003, 2007       |
| 2  | Juan Smith               | 2003, 2007       |

| No | Name                | Years      |
|----|---------------------|------------|
| 2  | Albert van den Berg | 1999, 2007 |
| 2  | Ashwin Willemse     | 2003, 2007 |

## — MOST MATCHES FOR SOUTH AFRICA AT RUGBY WORLD CUPS —

Os du Randt, the only Springbok to play in the 1995 and 2007 winning teams, has played in the most matches for South Africa at Rugby World Cups. Here is a list of players who have played in ten or more matches:

| No | Name                     | Years            |
|----|--------------------------|------------------|
| 16 | Os du Randt              | 1995, 1999, 2007 |
| 15 | Joost van der Westhuizen | 1995, 1999, 2003 |
| 12 | John Smit                | 2003, 2007       |
| 12 | Percy Montgomery         | 1999, 2007       |
| 12 | Bakkies Botha            | 2003, 2007       |
| 11 | Juan Smith               | 2003, 2007       |
| 11 | Victor Matfield          | 2003, 2007       |
| 10 | Jaquie Fourie            | 2003, 2007       |
| 10 | Danie Rossouw            | 2003, 2007       |

## — TEAM RECORDS FOR SOUTH AFRICA AT RUGBY WORLD CUPS —

|                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Best performance                | Winner: 1995 and 2007          |
| Biggest win                     | 66 vs Uruguay, 2003 (72–6)     |
| Biggest defeat                  | 20 vs New Zealand, 2003 (9–29) |
| Most points in a match          | 72 vs Uruguay, 2003 (72–6)     |
| Most points conceded in a match | 29 vs Scotland, 1999 (46–29)   |
|                                 | 29 vs New Zealand, 2003 (9–29) |
| Most tries in a match           | 12 vs Uruguay, 2003 (12–0)     |

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|                                      |     |                            |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| Most tries conceded in a match       | 3   | vs New Zealand, 2003 (0–3) |
|                                      | 3   | vs Tonga, 2007 (4–3)       |
| Most conversions in a match          | 8   | vs USA, 2007               |
| Most penalty goals in a match        | 6   | vs Australia, 1999         |
| Most dropped goals in a match        | 5   | vs England, 1999           |
| Most points in a tournament          | 278 | 2007 (7 matches)           |
| Most points conceded in a tournament | 101 | 1999 (6 matches)           |
| Most tries in a tournament           | 33  | 2007 (7 matches)           |
| Most tries conceded in a tournament  | 9   | 2007 (7 matches)           |
| Most conversions in a tournament     | 25  | 2007 (7 matches)           |
| Most penalty goals in a tournament   | 21  | 2007 (7 matches)           |
| Most dropped goals in a tournament   | 8   | 1999 (6 matches)           |

## — INDIVIDUAL RECORDS FOR SOUTH AFRICA AT RUGBY WORLD CUPS —

|                                    |     |                                    |
|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| Most points in a match             | 34  | Jannie de Beer vs England, 1999    |
| Most tries in a match              | 4   | Chester Williams vs W Samoa, 1995  |
|                                    | 4   | Bryan Habana vs Samoa, 2007        |
| Most conversions in a match        | 6   | Jannie de Beer vs Spain, 1999      |
|                                    | 6   | Percy Montgomery vs USA, 2007      |
| Most penalty goals in a match      | 6   | Jannie de Beer vs Australia, 1999  |
| Most dropped goals in a match      | 5   | Jannie de Beer vs England, 1999    |
| Most points in a tournament        | 105 | Percy Montgomery, 2007 (7 matches) |
| Most tries in a tournament         | 8   | Bryan Habana, 2007 (7 matches)     |
| Most conversions in a tournament   | 22  | Percy Montgomery, 2007 (7 matches) |
| Most penalty goals in a tournament | 17  | Percy Montgomery, 2007 (7 matches) |
| Most dropped goals in a tournament | 6   | Jannie de Beer, 1999 (5 matches)   |
| Most appearances                   | 16  | Os du Randt (1995–2007)            |
| Most points in a career            | 111 | Percy Montgomery (12 matches)      |
| Most tries in a career             | 8   | Bryan Habana (7 matches)           |
| Most conversions in a career       | 22  | Percy Montgomery (12 matches)      |

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|                                |    |                               |
|--------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| Most penalty goals in a career | 17 | Percy Montgomery (12 matches) |
| Most dropped goals in a career | 6  | Jannie de Beer (5 matches)    |

## — RUGBY WORLD CUP TEAM RECORDS —

|                                      |     |                                         |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------|
| Best performance                     |     | Australia – Winners in 1991 and 1999    |
|                                      |     | South Africa – Winners in 1995 and 2007 |
| Biggest win                          | 142 | Australia vs Namibia, 2003 (142–0)      |
| Biggest defeat                       | 142 | Namibia vs Australia, 2003 (0–142)      |
| Most points in a match               | 145 | New Zealand vs Japan, 1995 (145–17)     |
| Most points conceded in a match      | 145 | Japan vs New Zealand, 1995 (17–145)     |
| Most tries in a match                | 22  | Australia vs Namibia, 2003 (22–0)       |
| Most tries conceded in a match       | 22  | Namibia vs Australia, 2003 (0–22)       |
| Most conversions in a match          | 20  | New Zealand vs Japan, 1995              |
| Most penalty goals in a match        | 8   | Argentina vs Samoa, 1999                |
|                                      | 8   | Australia vs South Africa, 1999         |
|                                      | 8   | France vs Ireland, 1995                 |
|                                      | 8   | Scotland vs Tonga, 1995                 |
| Most dropped goals in a match        | 5   | South Africa vs England, 1999           |
| Most points in a tournament          | 361 | New Zealand in 2003 (7 matches)         |
| Most points conceded in a tournament | 310 | Namibia in 2003 (4 matches)             |
| Most tries in a tournament           | 52  | New Zealand in 2003 (7 matches)         |
| Most tries conceded in a tournament  | 47  | Namibia in 2003 (4 matches)             |
| Most conversions in a tournament     | 40  | New Zealand in 2003 (7 matches)         |
| Most penalty goals in a tournament   | 32  | Argentina in 1999 (5 matches)           |
| Most dropped goals in a tournament   | 8   | South Africa in 1999 (6 matches)        |
|                                      | 8   | England in 2003 (7 matches)             |

— RUGBY WORLD CUP INDIVIDUAL RECORDS —

|                                    |     |                                                 |
|------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------|
| Most points in a match             | 45  | Simon Culhane (New Zealand) vs Japan, 1995      |
| Most tries in a match              | 6   | Marc Ellis (New Zealand) vs Japan, 1995         |
| Most conversions in a match        | 20  | Simon Culhane (New Zealand) vs Japan, 1995      |
| Most penalty goals in a match      | 8   | Gonzalo Quesada (Argentina) vs Samoa, 1999      |
|                                    | 8   | Matt Burke (Australia) vs South Africa, 1999    |
|                                    | 8   | Thiery Lacroix (France) vs Ireland, 1995        |
|                                    | 8   | Gavin Hastings (Scotland) vs Tonga, 1995        |
| Most dropped goals in a match      | 5   | Jannie de Beer (South Africa) vs England, 1999  |
| Most points in a tournament        | 126 | Grant Fox (New Zealand) in 1987 (6 matches)     |
| Most tries in a tournament         | 8   | Jonah Lomu (New Zealand) in 1999 (6 matches)    |
|                                    | 8   | Bryan Habana (South Africa) in 2007 (7 matches) |
| Most conversions in a tournament   | 30  | Grant Fox (New Zealand) in 1987 (6 matches)     |
| Most penalty goals in a tournament | 31  | Gonzalo Quesada (Argentina) in 1999 (5 matches) |
| Most dropped goals in a tournament | 8   | Jonny Wilkinson (England) in 2003 (6 matches)   |
| Most appearances                   | 22  | Jason Leonard (England) between 1991 and 2003   |
| Most points in a career            | 249 | Jonny Wilkinson (England) (15 matches)          |
| Most tries in a career             | 15  | Jonah Lomu (New Zealand) (11 matches)           |
| Most conversions in a career       | 39  | Gavin Hastings (Scotland) (13 matches)          |
| Most penalty goals in a career     | 53  | Jonny Wilkinson (England) (15 matches)          |
| Most dropped goals in a career     | 13  | Jonny Wilkinson (England) (15 matches)          |

## — SOUTH AFRICA AT THE THIRD RUGBY WORLD CUP: SOUTH AFRICA 1995 —

Games and scorers:

### Pool A

| Date   | Opps      | Venue          | Result  | Scorers                                                        |
|--------|-----------|----------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25 May | Australia | Cape Town      | W 27–18 | Stransky, Hendriks. C: Stransky. P: Stransky (4). D: Stransky. |
| 30 May | Romania   | Cape Town      | W 21–8  | T: Richter (2). C: Johnson. P: Johnson (3).                    |
| 3 June | Canada    | Port Elizabeth | W 20–0  | T: Richter (2). C: Stransky (2). P: Stransky (2).              |

### RWC Pool A Table

| Nation       | P | W | D | L | PF | PA | TF | TA | PTS |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|-----|
| South Africa | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 26 | 6  | 3  | 9   |
| Australia    | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 87 | 41 | 11 | 3  | 7   |
| Canada       | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 45 | 50 | 5  | 5  | 5   |
| Romania      | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 97 | 1  | 12 | 3   |

### Quarter-final

|         |       |              |         |                                                                    |
|---------|-------|--------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 June | Samoa | Johannesburg | W 42–14 | T: Williams (4), Andrews, Rossouw. C: Johnson (3). P: Johnson (2). |
|---------|-------|--------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Semi-final

|         |        |        |         |                                          |
|---------|--------|--------|---------|------------------------------------------|
| 17 June | France | Durban | W 19–15 | T: Kruger. C: Stransky. P: Stransky (4). |
|---------|--------|--------|---------|------------------------------------------|

### Final

|         |             |              |          |                                   |
|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 24 June | New Zealand | Johannesburg | W 15–12* | P: Stransky (3). D: Stransky (2). |
|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|

\* After extra time.

### Squad and Appearances

Coach: Kitch Christie. Manager: Morné du Plessis.

Captain: François Pienaar. Assistant Coach: Gysie Pienaar.