



DENNIS A. MUMBLE

A u t h o r

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Background

Mr Mumble is an author and professional best known for his contributions to the world of football. His rich knowledge and experience in football led to the release of *'Our Football is Broken: How to Fix South African Football's Dispute Resolution System'* in June 2022, a compelling read that offers viable solutions to the challenges of the South African football regulatory framework. He is also known for his literary work, including *'Managing a Football Association Part One'* and *'Managing a Football Association Part Two'*, both of which were published in March 2023. He subsequently published his latest work, *'Red Card for a Stolen Victory'*, in April 2023.

Over the years, Mr Mumble's expertise in football administration has been recognised by several notable institutions. For instance, he served as a Club Licensing Instructor for the Confederation of African Football (CAF) from 2015 to 2017, where he shared his knowledge of CAF's club licensing regulations with several football associations on the African continent. In South Africa, he served as the CEO of the South African Football Association (SAFA) from 2013 to 2018, making him a significant player in the country's football industry. His appointment as CEO was preceded by a stint as the Chief Operating Officer of SAFA from 2011 to 2013, and as the Director of Strategy for the SAFA President from 2009 to 2011.

Mr Mumble's contributions to football extended beyond South Africa's borders. For instance, he served as a General Coordinator during the 2008 Africa Cup of Nations Final Tournament in Ghana, and as Assistant General Coordinator during the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany. Additionally, he held the position of Chief Competitions Officer for the 2010 FIFA World Cup Local Organising Committee from 2005 to 2008, before he returned to the football association at the request of the newly-elected SAFA President in 2009.

Mr Mumble was forced into political exile for 18 years, starting in 1978, after experiencing horrific torture and imprisonment for his trade union activism (in NUMARWSA, the forerunner to NUMSA) and youth organizing work in the Young Christian Workers (YCW) and Young Christian Students (YCS). After meeting Pope John Paul I in Rome, during the Pope's brief reign in September 1978, to report on the crackdown on the Catholic Church and his imprisonment as an anti-apartheid youth leader, he was granted a limited scholarship to study labour studies in the USA. During this time, he secured work first at Empire State College (a college of the State University of New York) from 1979 to 1986, followed by an engagement at Rutgers University from 1986 to 1996, when he returned home following the expiration of his contract with Rutgers University.