

EDITORS NOTE

Feel It!! It is here!!! they say, of the 2010 World Cup. I wonder how true this ring for persons with disabilities who, like everyone else, loves the game so passionately. For, once you (eventually) manage to get to the game, you are confronted with all sorts of access barriers. From stadia to transport, from accommodation to services, The World Cup organizers, may have impressed the soccer universe but failed to leave this spectator even slightly moved. It will be interesting to hear experiences from the sector come 11 July 2010.

Please let me know

Know Your Rights

STEP BY STEP GUIDE FOR LODGING AN EQUALITY CASE

STEP 1: Approach your nearest Magistrates' court and ask for the Equality court, you will find a clerk of the court who will give you a **Form 2** to complete

1. **Form 2** is the Form to use when commencing proceedings at the equality court.
2. If you need assistance in completing the form, the clerk of the equality court (clerk) will assist you or you can go to the offices of the South African Human Rights Commission or the Commission for Gender Equality near you for assistance.

STEP 2

1. The clerk of the equality court must then notify the respondent (s) (the person (s) against whom you are lodging your complaint) about the complaint within 7 days using **Form 3**.

STEP 3

1. The Respondent (s) has **10 days** within which to reply
2. Should the Respondent wish to state his/ her side of the case he/she will be given a copy of **Form 4** which they must complete and return to the clerk within **10 days**.
3. The Clerk has **7 days** from receipt of the response to notify the complainant of the respondent's response.

STEP 4

1. Within **3 days** of the expiry of the period within which the respondent(s) is meant to reply, the clerk must refer the matter to the Presiding Officer (the Magistrate or Judge who will hear the matter).
2. The Presiding Officer has **7 days** to decide whether the matter is to be heard at the equality court or whether it should be referred to an alternative forum such as the South African Human Rights Commission.

If the Presiding Officer decides to refer the matter to the alternative forum, the clerk must notify the parties of the referral.

The alternative forum must deal with the matter as expeditiously as possible.

If it fails to do so or fails to resolve the matter, it must refer the matter back to the court with a report.

If the matter is referred back, the Court has **7 days** within which to give instructions as to how the matter should be dealt with.

STEP 5

1. If the Presiding Officer decides to hear the matter, the clerk must within **3 days** assign a date for the **directions hearing**.

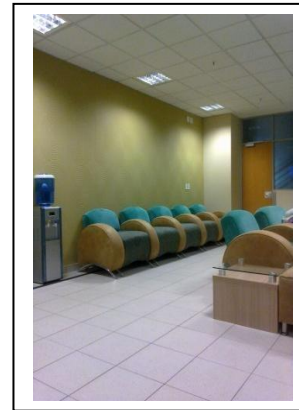
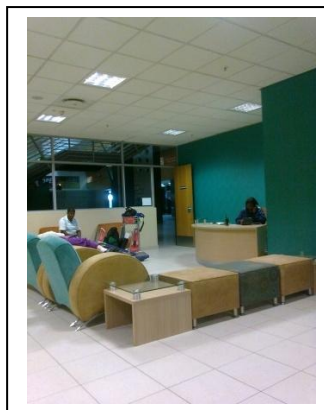
At the directions hearing, the Presiding Officer will sort out issues such as: when can parties come to trial, does anyone need an interpreter, should Assessors be used etc.

STEP 6

Hearing

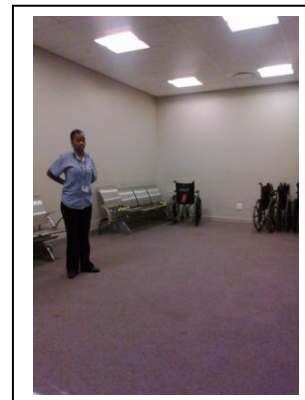
Orchids and....

With the Fifa 2010 Soccer World Cup finally here, we expect a number of visitors to our country. Persons with Disabilities are included in this group. We looked at some facilities that will be available to our visitors when they get here. This is what we found.



A waiting area at Oliver Tambo International Airport for passengers with special needs and assisted passengers

Onions



A waiting area at the Cape Town International Airport for passengers with special needs and assisted passengers

Parking Disk Information

Obtaining Wheelchair Parking Disks seems to be going from bad to worse with a number of traffic departments not wanting to issues these.

I would like to hear your views, experiences on this as end users.

PUTCO LUAUNCHES ACCESSIBLE BUS SERVICE IN TSHWANE

Putco limited is operating an accessible bus service in the Shoshanguve, Mabopane and Pretoria CBD aimed specifically at assisting Persons with Disabilities getting to the city centre and back home on a daily basis.

This service has had a significant impact on the transportation of persons with disabilities in the Tshwane Metro Area. The bus service follows a set route but can, should demand increase, add an additional route

The need for a service of this kind has long been identified by Putco but has not been cost effective due to the small number of users currently making use of this service. The possibility of expanding the service to include more routes exists should the demand for the service increase.

Putco has now contacted NAA with a view to extend this service and we wish to encourage all in the sector to make the best possible use this service.

NAA and Putco are currently exploring ways to maximize the use of this service for the benefit of the disability community in these areas and you are encouraged to make use of the service.

2010 World Cup Snippet

PE stadium 'dangerous'

Article By: Fri, 28 May 2010 12:04

Handrails at Port Elizabeth's 2010 soccer stadium are potentially lethal, according to an architect who has surveyed all the World Cup venues.

Phillip Thompson, who carried out the survey as a consultant for Disabled People SA, told Sapa that the handrails in the 48 000-seater Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium were "fundamentally dangerous". He said the rails were flat, rather than round, and "sharp".

"There's not a handrail as such, something that you could normally grasp on: you've just got this flat section which is not a desirable handrail to start with." But more importantly, because of the nature of the way the section's been laid horizontally, is that if you were forced up against it, it's a bit like being pushed through a potato chipper."

"If there was a crowd that was forced forward onto these handrails people would be mortally injured." He said that as an architect, he was astonished that such railings had been installed.

The stadium architects, Port Elizabeth's Architectural Design Associates, said they were contractually bound to refer questions about the stadium to the municipality.

Municipal communication official Kupido Baron and the city's 2010 office promised comment, but did not provide any.

(News 24online)

Accessibility Workshop Conducted in Jeffreys Bay

I had the privilege to be part of accessibility training in Jeffrey's Bay recently where a new Kouga Branch was launched in the Eastern Cape on 5&6 May 2010.

The workshop introduced participants to the concepts of Universal Access and some design principles and went a long way towards equipping participants with the basic understanding the basic principles and its application in the real world.

The workshop brought together participants from both NCPPDSA and QASA in the Eastern Cape and also included consultants working with the region.

Activities ended with participants doing access assessments on the beach and a guest house to identify, based on the knowledge shared, some typical design elements that hamper persons with disabilities from enjoying freedom of access to various environments.



(Above and Below). Participants at the workshop taking part in access related exercises at the workshop



Write to us:

The Editor (NAA Update)

P.O Box 426

Melville

2109

Jeremy.deysel@ncppdsa.org.za