

## Sports24 awards announced

Sports24 has announced that Tshabalala, the man who scored the first goal of the FIFA World Cup, has won the Sport24 Performance of the Month for June. A variety of other awards were also given.

The dreadlocked midfielder powered an awesome left-footed strike into the top corner of the onion bag in the opening match against Mexico to send the whole of South Africa into frenzy. This duly earned him 50.9 percent of the 7038 votes.

Proteas all-rounder Jacques Kallis also reached 11 000 Test runs at St Kitts in the West Indies, becoming the first South African to do so. This earned him second place with 14.84 percent of the votes. Kallis' teammate Dale Steyn bowled himself into third spot (14.19 percent) with a Player of the Series award against West Indies, which included the strike bowler becoming the fourth-fastest bowler ever to reach 20 Test wickets.

### Playing away

Springbok lock Andries Bekker was playing away from home. Surely if you are 2.08 metres tall, it's difficult to sneak into a public park with a girl who is not your wife without being caught out, as 52.91 percent of the readers agreed and awarded him the Sport24 Plonker of the Month.

Most pundits would have expected Rowen Fernandez to make the final World Cup squad, but the goalkeeper, along with his partner in crime Benni McCarthy, wrecked his "once in a lifetime" participation in the tournament by being collared for having entertained women in the early hours of the morning in the team's Sandton hotel. He not only got cut from the final World Cup squad, but also earned 22.49 percent of the Sport24 reader votes.

### Rare double

Dale Steyn made history with a rare double as the Phalaborwa Express found himself third in both categories this month. He was forced to surrender his entire match fee for the final Test against the West Indies in Bridgetown after appearing to spit in the direction of opponent Sulieman Benn. His spitting mad act earned him 9.51 percent of the votes.

For more information on the Sport24 awards, contact David Brooke [dave@sport24.co.za](mailto:dave@sport24.co.za)