

A Riveting, Refreshing Approach To Community Sport

15 - 29 April 2026

Eagles Fall with Pride in Varsity Cup Final



By Rorisang Rampheteng

The lights burned bright on Monday at the iconic Tuks Stadium, Pretoria as the NWU Eagles stepped onto the field with belief, pride, and the weight of a dream season behind them. Across from them stood a clinical and determined FNB Tuks side, ready to seize the moment in the Varsity Cup Final.

From the opening whistle, Tuks showed precision and power, building momentum early and capitalising on key opportunities. The Eagles, however, refused to fade. Every tackle, every

carry, every chase spoke of a team that had not simply arrived at the final but had earned it through grit and unity. Despite the scoreboard reading 31-3 at full time, the numbers told only part of the story.

NWU's journey to the final was one of resilience, brotherhood, and unwavering belief. On a tough night, their spirit never wavered. They fought for every inch, embodying what it truly means to wear the purple jersey. The final whistle marked the end of the match, but not the end of their story. As players stood together heads high despite the disappointment they were met with

the echo of support from fans who had walked the journey with them. Through every high and low, that backing became their fuel. This was more than just a game. It was a season that built character, forged identity, and reminded everyone why rugby matters. The North-West University community can stand proud because their team did not just compete, they inspired.

And as the dust settles on this year's campaign, one thing is certain: the Eagles will regroup, they will rise, and they will return stronger, hungrier, and ready to write the next chapter.

Marks of Excellence Reign Supreme at Cashibe Tourney



Potchefstroom

By Sista Masilo

The Cashibe World Cup tournament has finally

come to an end, and what a finale it was! The stadium was electric, with supporters packed in like sardines, as Tiki Taka from Potchefstroom took on Marks of Excellence from Ventersdorp in the ultimate showdown.

The air was thick with excitement, and fans were on their feet the whole time, cheering on their favorite team. The match itself was a thrilling ride, with Marks of Excellence taking an early lead and never looking back.

Despite Tiki Taka's best efforts, the experienced players from Ventersdorp proved too strong, securing a 2-0 win and the 2026 Cashibe World Cup title. Among the VIPs in attendance was JB Marks Local Football Association chairperson, Mr. Mpho Dipheko, who praised the Ikageng community for their unwavering support throughout the tournament.

"I'm proud to be part of this beautiful game," he said. Speaking to The Sports Eye after the match, Marks of Excellence coach Thato attributed their victory to teamwork, saying, "This is a tournament we couldn't miss, and being in the finals is the result of our hard work and dedication." The champions walked away with the trophy, medals, and a handsome prize.





UNDERSTANDING THE PGDS: A ROADMAP FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE

What is PGDS

The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) serves as a blueprint to guide planning and the development trajectory of the North West Province. The PGDS seeks to build an economy that can restore and boost investor confidence, accelerate growth, and create jobs, in line with the objectives of the National Development Plan and the Medium Term Development Plan.

It aligns policies, programmes and resources towards a common vision of sustainable development, ensuring that all efforts are coordinated, impactful and responsive to the needs of our people.

The Executive Council (EXCO) approved the Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) in May 2025, and the PGDS Implementation Plan in November 2025.

What are the key focus areas across the PGDS Chapters

The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS) is structured into 14 chapters, with each focusing on a critical area of development, highlighting sector-specific challenges and proposing targeted interventions to address them. These chapters outline a comprehensive plan to transform the province and improve the lives of its communities. The chapters focus on Social Economic Infrastructure, Integrated and Inclusive Rural Economy Development, Human Settlement and Spatial Transformation, Improving Education, Training, Innovation and Health, as well as Implementation, Communication and Monitoring amongst others.

How will the PGDS be implemented

The PGDS will be implemented through sector-based Working Groups (WGs), structured around the key economic sectors of the North West Province.

These Working Groups will create a platform for collaboration and partnership among Provincial Government Departments, State-Owned Entities, Municipalities and the private sector in driving implementation.

The Six Working Groups that will coordinate the planning and monitoring of implementation of the PGDS are as follows:-

Working Group	Lead Department
1. Agriculture	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
2. Tourism	Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism
3. Industrialisation	Office of the Premier - (Economic and Investment Advisory Council)
4. Human Settlements and Spatial Transformation	Department of Cooperative Government, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs
5. Education	Department of Education
6. Health	Department of Health

What are the main PGDS Implementation Priorities by District

The implementation of this strategy will be driven at the provincial level through the District Development Model, with Bojanala Platinum District identified to drive the economy through mineral beneficiation, industrialisation and tourism.

The revitalisation of mining towns particularly in Dr. Kenneth Kaunda District, will find expression through agro-processing hubs, innovation and skills development linked to digital economy opportunities.

For Ngaka Modiri Molema and Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti Districts, the priorities will include agricultural expansion and rural development, cross-border trade opportunities, and infrastructure development to unlock economic corridors.

How will the PGDS implementation plan be monitored

The Office of the Premier will be responsible for constituting the Working Groups and monitoring the Terms of Reference of each Working Group.

This will be done through the EXCO Committees and Inter-Governmental structures such as North West Premier's Coordinating Council to consider progress reports on PGDS implementation, provide strategic guidance, and intervene where necessary.

A message from the Premier of the North West Province - Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi

"The Provincial Growth and Development Strategy represents our collective commitment to building a capable, inclusive and prosperous province. It is a call to action for government, business, and communities to work together in unlocking opportunities and addressing the challenges that confront us.

Through the PGDS, the North West Province commits to a transformative economic development agenda that will leverage investments in technology and human capital.

The Office of the Premier will be seized with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of the PGDS to ensure that all our intended objectives yield desired outcomes.

To achieve this, we will strengthen the implementation plan through District-based delivery models, public-private partnerships, clear performance targets across all departments and municipalities, as well as quarterly public reporting and accountability".

The PGDS is more than a policy; it is a shared vision for the future.

Building a North West Province that Works For All.



Orbit College in Trouble: Relegation Fears Grow After Costly Miss Against Siwelele



By Rorisang Rampheteng

a real and growing concern.

Orbit College FC are finding themselves in deep trouble as their Betway Premiership campaign continues to slip away, with relegation now becoming

Coming into the season, there was hope that Orbit College could hold their own among the league's established teams. However, inconsistency and missed

opportunities have haunted their campaign, leaving them struggling near the bottom of the table. Their latest match against Siwelele FC summed up their season perfectly. In a tightly contested encounter, Orbit College were given a lifeline through a penalty a golden chance to secure a much-needed victory.

But the opportunity went begging as they failed to convert, and the match ended in a draw. It was a moment that could define their season. Despite showing moments of resilience and effort, Orbit College have struggled to turn performances into results. Their attack has lacked sharpness when it matters most, while defensive lapses at key moments have cost them valuable points.

The reality is clear on the log. Orbit College currently sit in 15th position, dangerously close to the relegation zone, with only a few matches left before the season comes to an end. Every point now is crucial, and there is very little room for error. What makes the situation even more worrying is that matches are running out. The pressure is mounting, and the missed penalty against Siwelele may come back to haunt them as the fight for survival intensifies.

If Orbit College are to avoid the drop, they will need to find consistency quickly, take their chances, and show the mental strength required in high-pressure situations. For now, the warning signs are there and unless things change fast, Orbit College's stay in the Betway Premiership could be coming to an end.

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SAFA celebrates the appointment of Tom and Siwela to the 2026 FIFA World Cup



The South African Football Association (SAFA), the National Referees Committee (NRC) and the Referees Department are immensely proud to announce that referee Abongile Tom and assistant referee Zakhele Siwela have been officially nominated by FIFA to represent South Africa at the upcoming FIFA World Cup 2026.

This prestigious selection to the tournament, to be

hosted in the United States of America, Canada and Mexico from 11 June to 19 July 2026, serves as a testament to the world-class calibre of match officiating in South Africa. Having our officials once again called to the highest stage of global football reinforces South Africa's standing as a premier producer of technical excellence on the continent and beyond.

Both Abongile Tom and Zakhele Siwela have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to their refereeing careers. Their path to this nomination has been built on hard physical training and a clear understanding and application of the laws of the Game. This is coupled with an exceptional ability to maintain composure under the immense pressure of not only national, but also international competition. Their consistency on the field is a direct result of their personal discipline and their drive to remain at the pinnacle of the profession.

While the spotlight shines on our two nominees, the NRC acknowledges that this achievement is the product of a strong support system. This success would not be possible without the tireless "behind-the-scenes" efforts of our dedicated team:

- The Assessors' evaluations and honest feedback ensure that our officials never settle for mediocre performances
- The instructors, who work around the clock to translate complex technical directives into actionable skills, ensure that our officials are always aligned with

international thinking

- The Technical instructors provide the framework and resources necessary for our officials to thrive in a rapidly evolving professional landscape.

"We are bursting with pride to see Abongile and Zakhele carry the South African flag to the North American continent. Their selection is not just a personal milestone, but a victory for our entire development pathway. It proves that the hard work put into our training programs and the rigorous standards set by our instructors are bearing fruit. We have no doubt they will officiate with the integrity and excellence that have become their trademarks," said SAFA in a statement.

"The presence of South African referees at the FIFA World Cup is a significant milestone that confirms our ongoing investment in official development. These nominations prove that our programs are successfully aligning domestic talent with global standards."

As Abongile and Zakhele prepare for this historic tournament, the Referees Department and the National Referees Committee stand fully behind them, confident that they will continue to inspire the next generation of South African match officials to reach the world stage.

Our progress is made possible by the ongoing support of the South African Football Association. Their commitment to the development of match officials ensures that South African refereeing remains aligned with international excellence.



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South Africa Investment Conference Drives Economic Growth



By William Baloyi

When a new factory opens its doors, its impact reaches far beyond the production line. It acts as a spark for an economic chain reaction that breathes life into the surrounding community. What starts as a single investment quickly creates a wave of opportunities, enabling households to meet their basic needs and aspire to a better future.

As wages flow into the community, this new income is spent at local spaza shops, paid to taxi operators, and reinvested in small businesses, the backbone of many neighbourhoods. Local retailers, seeing a surge in demand, often hire more staff and expand their offerings to serve growing needs. These ripple effects extend even further. Suppliers increase production, logistics companies move more goods, and the momentum builds. When multiplied across towns, cities, and provinces, such investments weave together into a powerful national story of growth, job creation, and social development.

Every new investment whether a manufacturing plant,

a digital hub, or a transport corridor adds a vital spark to our economy. This vision lies at the heart of government's investment drive and took centre stage at the successful conclusion of the sixth South Africa Investment Conference (SAIC) in Johannesburg last month. The event marked a significant milestone, bringing together more than 1000 delegates from over 50 countries to engage directly with South Africa's investment opportunities. The strong turnout from both domestic and international investors served as a decisive vote of confidence in the country's potential, reaffirming South Africa's appeal as a compelling destination for business and investment.

At the core of this momentum was the announcement of nearly R900 billion in new investment commitments. These span 81 projects across all nine provinces and represent a transformative step forward in further uplifting our economy. Of this amount, R415 billion is confirmed fixed investment, with a further R474.8 billion allocated towards direct fixed investment.

Sourced from 22 global markets, these commitments are projected to create more than 230,000 permanent jobs. Each job supports families, boosts local consumption, and strengthens the broader economic ecosystem. In this way, investment becomes far more than a financial transaction, it serves as a catalyst for inclusive growth and meaningful social progress. The expansion of factories, manufacturing capacity, and service industries is essential to sustaining our nation's employment cycles.

Since 2018, when President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the country's investment drive, approximately R1.56 trillion in investment commitments have been mobilised, exceeding the original target by 26%. Since the SAIC began, a total of 317 investment pledges have been made. Over R628 billion has already flowed into the economy, 137 projects valued at R400 billion have been completed and 84 projects worth R417 billion are currently under construction.

These investments have undoubtedly bolstered resilience in our labour market. Throughout 2025, the country saw a steady recovery in formal employment and a notable rise in worker earnings. By the fourth quarter, a net gain of 18,000 jobs was recorded, a clear sign that the foundations for long-term growth are

being rebuilt.

The positive sentiment has extended to our equity market, with South Africa, according to the latest Bank of America Global Research Equity Strategist report, emerging as the premier investment destination within the Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa. The country outpaced Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Poland, Türkiye, Hungary, Greece and Qatar to the top spot. The Bank of America attributes our market leadership to a sustained strengthening in dividend yields and highly supportive valuations relative to historical benchmarks.

The outcomes of the sixth SAIC signal more than immediate gains, they mark the formal start of South Africa's second investment cycle. With an ambitious target of R2 trillion in new pledges over the next five years, the nation is entering a new phase of economic dynamism, driven by greater policy certainty and aggressive structural reforms. The conference also highlighted South Africa's competitive advantage in high-growth sectors, including manufacturing, mining beneficiation, digital infrastructure, agriculture, and green industrialisation.

These are the industries with the greatest potential to drive sustainable development and job creation. As these investments take root, they will advance key national priorities: creating jobs, reducing poverty, and addressing inequality. Beyond the numbers, lies a profound social impact. This economic growth enables the state to reinvest in schools, roads, and hospitals, the very foundations that support further progress. Young people gain clear pathways into the economy, communities become more stable, and a sense of shared progress begins to take hold.

South Africa's investment drive offers a blueprint for strong economic renewal. When investment flows, opportunity follows, and when opportunity grows, so too does the nation. In turn potential at every level of society is unlocked, restoring dignity, strengthening families, and building confidence in a brighter future for all.

**Baloyi is the Deputy Government Spokesperson at the Government Communication and Information System.*

Banyana defeat Algeria in the first of 2 friendlies



Sasol Banyana Banyana defeated Algeria 1-0 in an international friendly match at the Princess Magogo Stadium in KwaMashu, near Durban, on Tuesday.

Nthabiseng Majiya found the back of the net in the 35th minute with a delightful goal from the edge of the penalty box, giving the Algerian goalkeeper no chance. Banyana Banyana had several chances to increase their lead but could not convert them and the match ended

with the solitary strike. This was the first of two friendly fixtures between the two countries, who are using the exercise to ramp up preparations for the 2026 CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) that has been postponed to July.

"I am happy with the result, but we can still improve on the performance. But it was not an easy game as we have not played together since last year, yes some were

involved in the COSAFA Cup but not all of them, so it was important to give other players minutes. This was also key because local players have not played league football, with the exception of Linda in Scotland and Hilda in Spain," said Banyana Banyana coach Dr Desree Ellis.

"We will obviously look at what we are going to do in the next game because we want to utilize these matches not just to play these players but to work on other things in the game." The first clash against Algeria was also a game that marked South African defender Bambanani Mbane's 100th appearance for the country. She made her debut in 2016 in a 3-0 win over Botswana at the Makhulong Stadium in Tembisa and becomes the 12th Banyana Banyana player to reach the milestone.

South Africa will next be in action on Friday when they face Algeria in the second clash of the two-match series at the King Zwelithini Stadium in Umlazi.

Kickoff is at 15h00.

Deputy President Mashatile praises the role of rugby



Deputy President Paul Mashatile has praised South African rugby for its role in promoting unity and nation-building, saying the sport continues to inspire national pride and social cohesion. "These sportsmen teach us that through shared purpose and collective sacrifice, South Africans can overcome challenges and achieve greatness together.

Their example underscores the importance of unity in nation building. "We must remember that nation building is an ongoing process, one aimed at uniting a once deeply divided society into an equitable and cohesive nation. Even today, sport continues to play a vital role in the transformation of our society by promoting inclusivity and expanding opportunities," the Deputy President said.

Deputy President Mashatile was speaking during the South Africa National Rugby Union (SARU) Player of the Year Awards held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, on Thursday evening. Springbok hooker Malcolm Marx was awarded the prestigious SA

Rugby Men's Player of the Year Award, while Nadine Roos was named SA Rugby Women's Player of the Year for a second successive season.

Rassie Erasmus and the Springboks were honoured with Coach and Team of the Year. Addressing rugby administrators, players and sponsors, the Deputy President said the awards celebrated excellence while reflecting the deep cultural significance of rugby in South Africa. "Tonight, we honour a legacy deeply ingrained in our country's culture and unity, while celebrating extraordinary excellence in rugby," he said. The Deputy President reflected on the historical significance of rugby in the country, noting that the sport once symbolised division during the apartheid era. "Looking back, rugby in South Africa was historically intertwined with the power structures of the apartheid era. It stood as a symbol of exclusion and a reminder of the inequalities that shaped that time," he said.

However, a turning point came during the 1995 Rugby World Cup when former President Nelson Mandela

wore the Springbok jersey in a powerful act of reconciliation. "When the late President Nelson Mandela walked onto the field wearing the green Springbok jersey, a symbol that once divided us instantly became a symbol of unity and national pride," Deputy President Mashatile said. He said the victory that followed reflected South Africa's broader journey of reconciliation and resilience. "The victory that followed reflected South Africa's broader journey of resilience and reconciliation. It demonstrated how shared purpose can inspire national cohesion and pride," he added.

The Deputy President highlighted the country's continued success on the global stage, including victories at the 2007 Rugby World Cup, 2019 Rugby World Cup and 2023 Rugby World Cup. "The 2023 triumph in particular, which secured a historic fourth title, cemented the Springboks as the most successful team in rugby history," he said. The Deputy President called for greater investment in grassroots sport, particularly in rural and underserved communities, to ensure broader participation and development."

Investment in grassroots sport remains one of the most powerful catalysts for social cohesion, youth development and economic transformation in our country," he said. He concluded by congratulating all nominees and award recipients, saying their achievements bring pride to the nation and reinforce rugby's enduring place in South Africa's story.

The awards were attended by leadership of the South African Rugby Union, including President Mark Alexander and CEO Rian Oberholzer, as well as government representatives and members of South Africa's national rugby teams.

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Small business to come to the fore at LED Summit



Unlocking opportunities for small, medium, and micro enterprises (MSMEs) will come to the fore as the two-day National Local Economic Development (LED) Summit gets underway.

President Cyril Ramaphosa will address the first day of the summit, which is being held at the Birchwood Hotel in Gauteng. "Deliberations will focus on strengthening the implementation of local economic development, improving intergovernmental coordination through the District Development Model (DDM), and unlocking opportunities for small, medium, and micro enterprises

(MSMEs)," The Presidency said ahead of the start of the summit.

The summit serves as a high-level national platform that brings together government, the private sector, academia, development finance institutions and other key stakeholders to advance coordinated and practical solutions for inclusive local economic growth. The gathering is convened by the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD), in partnership with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA).

"The gathering takes place at a critical juncture as government seeks to reposition local economic development as a central pillar of South Africa's developmental agenda. This focus aims to accelerate economic growth, support job creation and strengthen the resilience of local economies, particularly in townships and informal sectors such as rural areas," said The Presidency. According to the DSBD, CoGTA and SALGA, the summit builds on the Review of the White Paper & Funding Model for Local Government, and the outcomes of the 2017 National LED Summit, with a renewed emphasis on implementation, coordination and measurable impact.

"Key discussions will focus on formalising Local Economic Development as a funded and mandated core function of local government, while assessing the

implications of the White Paper on Immigration and the Business Licensing Bill on local economic stability. The summit will also explore strategies to unlock infrastructure constraints through a multi-sectoral approach to service delivery and economic growth, and to address deepening spatial inequalities between metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipalities.

"Deliberations will further emphasise strengthening the coordination and implementation of the DDM to enhance cooperative governance, examining sustainable financing models for LED, and unlocking strategic partnerships between development finance institutions, public investment, and energy infrastructure to drive inclusive growth," said the departments and SALGA. Additionally, the summit will promote innovation, investment facilitation, and digital transformation as key enablers of competitive and resilient local economies, while serving as a platform to deepen intergovernmental coordination and strengthen partnerships with the private sector and development partners.

"The LED Summit 2026 provides a strategic opportunity to address systemic barriers facing MSMEs and cooperatives, promote innovation and digitalisation, and advance inclusive growth in townships, rural areas, and informal economies," the departments and SALGA noted.

SAnews.gov.za

Young learner hosts successful Boys Camp at Trim Park



Omphile Hlahatsi

By Sista Masilo

Potchefstroom

A 16-year-old Omphile Hlahatsi is making waves in his community by hosting a boys' camp at Potchefstroom Trim Park. Driven by a desire to help other boys become responsible and respectful individuals, Omphile's vision is taking shape through his Boys Heaven Foundation. "I want to help boys from different backgrounds learn discipline, responsibility, respect, and how to be helpful to others," Omphile shared.

Raised by his grandmother, Omphile credits her for teaching him valuable life lessons that he's now passing on to others. The 3-day camp was packed with activities like group games, running, gym, and soccer, aimed at building teamwork and character. Omphile's goal is to provide a safe space for boys to open up and share their struggles without fear of judgment.

"Peer pressure can lead to substance abuse, but when we're here, we can speak up without being judged," he said. Over 30 boys attended the camp, and they're all eager to take what they've learned back to their communities. Omphile's dream is to expand his foundation and provide resources for boys who need help with school and other essentials. The future looks bright for this young leader and the Boys Heaven Foundation.



PUBLIC NOTICE: INVITATION TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE SUBMISSION OF INPUTS TO THE 5TH GENERATION IDP/ BUDGET (2026/2027)

The Integrated Development Plan (IDP) is based on community needs and priorities. Communities have the chance to participate in identifying their most important needs. The IDP process encourages all stakeholders who reside and conduct business within a JB Marks municipal area to participate in the preparation and implementation of the 5th Generation integrated development plan.

Section 151(1) (e) of the South African Constitution requires municipalities to encourage the involvement of communities and community organizations in local government. Section 16(1) of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 requires the municipality to develop 'a culture of municipal governance that compliments formal representative government with a system of participatory governance'

Chapter 5 of Municipal Systems Act Section 25(1) says, each municipal council must within a prescribed period after the start of its selected term, adopt a single, inclusive and strategic plan for the development of the municipality. The Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 requires municipalities to prepare and adopt a process to guide the planning, drafting, adoption and review of the IDP; it further requires promotion of community participation. These community engagement processes are part of the planning for the 5th Generation IDP 2022-27.

It is against this background that **The Honourable Mayor of JB Marks Local Municipality Councillor Gaba Thithiba Ka Qhele** would like to invite the community of JB Marks Local Municipality to participate in the IDP community engagements (2022-2027) in terms of section 21(1) (a, b, c) of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 (Chapter 4).

IDP PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

WARD	DATE	VENUE	TIME	WARD COUNCILLOR
06,08,11 & 14	Monday, 13 April 2026	Ga-Matlabe Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. S. Tloome, Ald. H. Mokgethi, Cllr. R. Buti, Cllr. I. Derbyshire
09,10 & 12	Tuesday, 14 April 2026	Govan Mbeki Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. M.M. Kasale, Cllr. G. Hennicks, Cllr. G. Molutsi
04,16 & 19	Wednesday, 15 April 2026	Lusaka Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. L.J. Zerwick, Cllr. D.T. C. Moalusi, Cllr. S.M. Moretsi
02,03,05,07, 15,22,23,24, 25 & 28	Thursday, 16 April 2026	Madiba Banqueting Halls	17:00	Cllr. E.J.J. Laing, Cllr. A. Van Onselen, Cllr. H. Hodgson, Cllr. A. Kloppe, Cllr. M.D. De Bruin, Cllr. Z. Van Rensburg, Cllr. W.N. Van Onselen, Cllr. S.D. Trautman, Ald. A.A. Le Roux, Cllr. M.J. Moyo
29 & 30	Monday, 20 April 2026	Extension 02 Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. M.P. Mokone, Cllr. J.L. Links
32,33 & 34	Tuesday, 21 April 2026	Extension 04 Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. T. Tsamai, Cllr. I.T. Meya, Cllr. I. Moilwa
31	Wednesday, 22 April 2026	Goedevonden Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. L.M. Mkhabela
01,18,20 & 27	Thursday, 23 April 2026	Chris Hani Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. R.D. Maloganye, Cllr. W.M. Manzini, Cllr. R.M. Ramalisa, Cllr. K.R. Manja
17,21 & 26	Tuesday, 28 April 2026	O.R. Tambo Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. R. Kgobane, Cllr. R. Makousa, Cllr. T. H. Mogorosi
13,17 & 21	Wednesday, 29 April 2026	Promosa Community Hall	17:00	Cllr. L. Abrahams, Cllr. R. Kgobane, Cllr. R. Makousa

Enquiries in this regard can be forwarded to (IDP Office) Mr. L.R. Madisha or Mr. J. Simango telephonically on 018 299 5216 or via email at madishal@jbmaks.gov.za or josephs@jbmaks.gov.za and Mr. S. Tyatya at SpeakerAdmin@jbmaks.gov.za or Tel: 018 299 5105. Postal Address: 35 Cnr. Wolmarans and Sol Plaatje Avenue, Potchefstroom.

MR. K. KUMBE
Municipal Manager
Notice No. 25/2026

Marks of Excellence

Leopards in Deep Waters as SA Cup Season Turns into Survival Battle



By Rorisang Rampheteng

The Leopards' SA Cup campaign has been nothing short of a struggle, and the log tells the full story. After five matches, they sit in 9th place with just 7 points, having managed only one win against four defeats. It has been a season where

consistency has been hard to find, and the scoreboard has often told a painful tale. The Leopards have scored 99 points but conceded a massive 251, leaving them with a worrying -152 points difference.

Defensively, the Leopards have been heavily

exposed, leaking points at a rate that has made it difficult to stay competitive in matches. Conceding 39 tries and 251 points overall shows just how often opponents have broken through their defensive line. On attack, while the 99 points scored suggest moments of promise, they have not been enough to offset their defensive weaknesses. Too often, good attacking phases have been undone by lapses at the back.

With only 7 points from five matches, the Leopards find themselves in a crowded battle near the bottom of the table alongside teams like the Griffons, Valke, and Eastern Province. However, their points difference sets them further back than most. Every remaining fixture now carries extra weight—not just for pride, but to restore belief in a season that is slowly slipping away.

The challenge for the Leopards is simple but difficult: tighten the defence, reduce errors, and turn competitive moments into wins. Without that shift, the gap between them and the top half will only grow wider.

For now, the SA Cup has been a harsh teacher and the Leopards will need a quick response if they want to change the narrative before the season slips beyond reach.



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SAFA Dr Kenneth Kaunda Girls Head to National Soccer Stage



By Sista Masilo

Potchefstroom

Dr Kenneth Kaunda Region will be proudly represented at national soccer level this year after five girls from the region were selected to represent North West Province. Last month, three Local Football Associations from Dr Kenneth Kaunda — JB Marks, Matlosana, and Maquassi Hills — hosted trials to select teams that would represent the region at provincial level.

The regional trials were held at Alabama Stadium. A total of 18 players, both boys and girls in the U/15 age group, were chosen to travel to Montshiwa Stadium in Mahikeng, Ngaka Modiri Molema Region, for the provincial trials. From that group, four girls from the Dr Kenneth Kaunda Region impressed selectors and earned spots on the North West provincial team that will compete nationally. The selected players are: Nadia

Dube, Lemohang Paraffin, Kediemetse Mooki, and Ntandokazi Ncokazi. Matlosana LFA secretary, Mr Donald Moses, confirmed that all players were selected fairly and in line with SAFA regulations. "Every player was given a chance to participate and prove that they can represent their teams, region and province," Moses said. He added that all SAFA rules were strictly followed during the process.

Key requirements included – All players must be born in the year 2013. Coaches must hold at least a FIFA Level 1 Safeguarding Certificate, Boys' teams must be coached by men and girls' teams by women. While the girls have already secured their provincial spots, the U/15 boys' team traveled this month for the final national selection. This marks a major achievement for Dr Kenneth Kaunda football development, showing that local talent continues to rise through SAFA structures to provincial and national stages.